

AIRLIFTER

SOONER

June 2010

WRANGB members, families prepare to deploy

By 1st Lt. Jessica Chapa
137 ARW/PA

About 20 members of the 205th Engineering Installation Squadron deployed to Southwest Asia in support of Operation Enduring Freedom in April.

The Airmen will support forward deployed units by installing and upgrading satellite communications, fiber optic and copper wiring solutions, internet networks, paging systems, ground-to-air communications, computer design drawings and mapping services.

Many families were in attendance to see their loved ones off. April Burnett, wife of Staff Sgt. Matthew Burnett, knows she has many people to help take care of their family. "We are very proud of him, but very scared."



Photo by Airman 1st Class Kaleena Higa
Master Sgt. J.C. Ogle and Master Sgt. Jeff Woodall prepare to go through security at WRANGB.

This is Staff Sgt. Burnett's first deployment. "Just knowing she has to be the main person of the house is hard," he said, "but we have friends here that will help take care of them."

Before members departed, Major General Myles Deering, Adjutant General of the Oklahoma National Guard, visited with members and their families.

"It's easier on those going down range than it is on the ones left behind," Maj. Gen. Deering explained. "Everything is being done to ensure the safety of your loved ones."

To Airmen, he continued, "You continually execute the jobs we ask you to do, but you do it with expertise. I know you will make us all proud."



Photo by Airman 1st Class Kaleena Higa

Airman 1st Class Scott Mosher, his wife Amy, and their two sons, Nathan and Mark, found some comfort with deployment in Daddy Dolls. Each soft pillow has a full-size photo of the service member and holds a 30 second voice box inside. Airman 1st Class Mosher was able to record a personalized message for each of his sons. These items are available at www.daddydolls.com.

Family Support Contacts

Family Emergencies

Contact the Red Cross
Toll free 877-272-7337
Local 405-228-9500

137th Airman and Family Readiness Program Manager - Jennifer Lain
Office 405-686-5683 Cell 405-517-2835
Email: Jennifer.Lain@ang.af.mil

Websites

Military OneSource - www.militaryonesource.com
NGB Family Programs - www.jointservicessupport.org
Tricare - www.tricare.osd.mil

'Stand Down 2010' to be implemented over June UTA



By Col. Glen Baker,
137 ARW
Base Vice Commander

Due to a number of recent fatal mishaps and suicides, the Chief of Staff of the Air Force has directed all United States Air Force units to conduct a half day stand down called "Stand Down 2010".

The objective of Stand Down 2010 is to call attention to the tragic loss of Airmen to private motor vehicle accidents, to call attention to the rise in Air Force suicides, and to reenergize the Wingman concept as the foundation approach to unit safety and suicide prevention.

Stand Down 2010 is designed to encourage wingmen to be vigilant of these and other dangers by devoting time for structured unit discussion of these important topics.

Leading the Stand Down will be your commanders and their subordinate leaders who are best positioned to meet the needs of their units and to lead small group discussion amongst Airmen who work together.

All members will use this time to reinforce preventive strategies and to emphasize proper wingman values.

The concept of operations for Stand Down 2010 includes the Message Home Video and guided small group discussions amongst peers. This will encourage Airmen to strengthen the Wingman Concept, and help members make better choices that will reduce the number of private motor vehicle mishaps and suicides.

This half day is not intended to be burdensome. Time and resources should be devoted primarily to these small group discussions and emphasize awareness, accountability, team building, communication, and interaction, not one-sided lectures.

I encourage each member to take these small group discussions seriously, identify their wingman, and re-embrace the Wingman Concept.

It is often said that the greatest asset in the Air Force is its people. Let us prove this undeniably true at the 137th Air Refueling Wing by doing our part to protect that asset.

(U.S. Air Force graphic)



Avoid the reckless behaviors that lead to motor vehicle accidents like, excessive speed, alcohol, and fatigue.

Be vigilant in looking for the warning signs of distress, watch out for your wingman, and know that your supervisors can connect members with services available to help, before a problem becomes a crisis.

137th Air Refueling Wing Public Affairs Staff

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Public affairs officers: 1st Lt. Cody Hawkins, 1st Lt. Jessica Chapa and 2nd Lt. Paul Blankenship; NCOIC: Senior Master Sgt. Kevin Tucker; public affairs specialists: Staff Sgt. Lindsay Roe and Airman 1st Class Patricia Baker; information manager: Airman 1st Class Kaleena Higa; photographers: Master Sgt. Roberta Thompson and Senior Airman Caroline Hayworth; videographers: Master Sgt. Jun Kim and Staff Sgt. Ben Flint.

Protect your family against trafficking at home

By Lt. Col. Tracey Hale

137 ARW/OGI Chief of Intelligence

Law enforcement is discovering that the Internet is not only used by traffickers to market children for sex, through venues such as private chat rooms, but traffickers are also using the MySpace and Facebook to lure kids by posing as friends.

Through a process called “grooming”, traffickers work to gain children’s trust for up to one year, until they can get them to come and meet in person. Then the trafficker initiates them into the world of drugs, pornography and commercial sex.

Consider the following tips in regards to internet safety:

1. If you become aware of the transmission, use or viewing of child pornography while online, report it to your local or state law enforcement agency, the FBI, and the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children. You may also notify your online service.

2. Consider keeping the computer in a common area of the house instead of a child’s bedroom for easy monitoring.

3. Encourage your child to tell you if they receive any information that causes them to feel uncomfortable.

4. Do not allow children to arrange a face to face meeting with someone they met online independently. If a meeting is arranged, arrange to be in public and accompany your child.

5. Spend quality time with your children. Computers should not be used as babysitters.

6. Encourage your children not to respond to messages that are obscene, belligerent, threatening, or which makes them feel uncomfortable.

7. Communicate with your children about sexual victimization and potential on-line danger.

From Oklahomans Against Trafficking Humans

<http://www.oathcoalition.org/blog/category/Online-Predators.aspx>

Simple steps to wrap up UCI preparations

By Maj. LeeAnn Tumbson

137 ARW Chief of Staff

This is the last drill before the Unit Compliance Inspection. Every member from airman basic to colonel must be proactive with last minute preparation. First impressions can set the stage for the entire inspection, so the wing must put its best foot forward.

G.I. PARTY: Everyone should take a walk through their squadron and work centers. Remove clutter, and discard unnecessary equipment or paperwork. Dust and clean work surfaces and sweep hallways. Are there any potential safety hazards? Fix them on the spot or elevate concerns to a supervisor. Is privacy act and sensitive information properly marked and protected?

YARD PARTY - Look outside around buildings with a sharp eye.

Ensure lawns, parking lots and sidewalks are in good shape and free of trash.

WALLPAPER DAY - Bulletin boards, white erase boards anything else hanging on the wall should be current and relevant

PAPERWORK POLISH – Dress up continuity books and ensure all documentation is neat and readily available. Any remaining issues should be handled now!

DEVELOP A UCI INBRIEF – Be prepared to greet your inspector with information about your section including: the organization structure, manning, personnel experience, etc. and facilities. Describe how the mission is being accomplished and how the unit is complying with instructions. Identify improvements or plans made to solve shortfalls and limitations.

End on a positive note by showcasing best practices. What does the unit do that is above and beyond the mission requirements? Briefing should be 10 minutes or less and move right into showing your program.

LOOK IN THE MIRROR – Ensure your uniform is sharp and ready to go. Ensure patches, nametags and rank are correct and serviceable. The uniform of the day on Mondays is blues, be prepared.

TAKE OWNERSHIP – Regardless of rank or position, everyone has a significant role to play in the wing’s success. Don’t walk away from an issue thinking, “That’s someone else’s job.” If you see something out of line, fix it. If you don’t know how, elevate it. Together, the members of the 137th Air Refueling Wing will succeed!

'Can I kiss you' event reminds us to be good wingmen

By Maj. Liz Kettler, 137 ARW
Sexual Assault Response Coordinator
Message from WRANGB SARC,

Thank you to all who participated in the events during Sexual Assault Awareness Month, April 2010. We had almost the entire base in denim April 21, in support of Denim Day, one of the TAG-directed SAAM events.

Two SAAM events held at Tinker AFB included training on "sexting" and a show put on by Mike Domitrz, (one of the leading experts on healthy dating, consent,

and sexual assault awareness,) called "Can I kiss you?"

If you missed them, know that for sexting issues, you should use every opportunity that presents itself to talk to your kids about sexting on cell phones.

The "Can I Kiss You?" show was awesome, and the program promoted asking first before you engage in kissing, being a good wingman/bystander, and opening a door for survivors. For more information about SAAM or any of the activities, contact Maj. Liz Kettler at 405-686-5564.

Motorcycle safety training provided at WRANGB

By Senior Master Sgt. Adam Cline
137 ARW/SEG

Anyone operating motorcycles, motor scooters, or mopeds on Air Force installations, MUST complete a motorcycle safety course.

Q: WHEN IS TRAINING REQUIRED?

A: Motorcycle safety training is required for all military personnel, prior to riding any motorcycle anywhere. For Department of Defense civilians and any other persons desiring to ride a motorcycle on any base or installation, motorcycle safety training is required.

Q: HOW MUCH DOES IT COST?

A: All Motorcycle Safety Classes taught at Will Rogers Air National Guard Base are provided at no charge. Comparable classes in the Oklahoma City area range from \$125 to \$150.

Q: WHAT KIND OF MOTORCYCLE SAFETY TRAINING DO I NEED?

A: There are three courses taught: the basic rider course, the experienced rider course and the sport bike course. All courses provide classroom and hands-on training. You must provide your own motorcycle and the required protective equipment which includes: helmet, eye protection, long-sleeve

shirt, full-fingered gloves, pants, over-the-ankle boots, brightly colored upper body garment and reflective material during night and low visibility conditions.

The basic rider course is given to individuals who have little or no experience on motorcycles, motor scooters or mopeds. Class length is two days, from 7:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

The experienced rider course is given to individuals who have at least 6 months of current riding experience. Class length is one day, from 7:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

The sport bike course is for riders who have attended a BRC more than six months prior to the planned sport bike course or who have attended an ERC course. Class length is one day, from 0700-1600. Courses are conducted in accordance with applicable Air Force and Motorcycle Safety Foundation requirements.

Q: WHEN IS TRAINING AVAILABLE?

A: Motorcycle safety training is conducted March through November (weather permitting). The schedule for motorcycle safety training is available at the 137 ARW Safety Community of Practice website.

This month's schedule... Basic rider

course: June 19-20 and July 17-18.
Experienced rider course: June 24.
Sport bike course: June 11 and June 25.



Q: HOW DO I GET SCHEDULED FOR MOTORCYCLE SAFETY TRAINING?

A: Call the 137 ARW Wing Safety Office at 405-686-5228.

Q: WHERE IS TRAINING CONDUCTED?

A: Motorcycle Safety Training is conducted at Will Rogers Air National Guard Base on the WRANGB motorcycle training range at 5307 SW 57th, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma. The range is located in the parking lot north of the 205th Engineering Installation Squadron (Bldg 1008). Classes are conducted in Bldg 1046, Room 304 during the week or Bldg 1035, Room 113 on weekends.

Tech. Sgt. Terry Bohn

Unit/Position...137th ARW/MXS Hydraulics Technician
In the Air Guard...for six years

Job Duties...On a typical drill weekend, I assist the shop chief in work assignments, train and orient new troops, check work-in-progress and offer solutions to any problems that may occur. During the rest of the month, I interview perspective troops, maintain bench stock and troubleshoot.

Time in this position...four years

Career goals...To be a mentor to those under me and to maybe someday become a hydraulics instructor

Hobbies...Flying model helicopters, woodworking, fixing up old cars and planes

Advice for new Airmen...The best advice I think any new Airman could use is listen to those that have already traveled down the road they are now traveling. They can guide you through some of the pitfalls that will sooner or later come everyone's way.

One of your most rewarding experiences...Watching how close a family everyone in the Air Guard is and continues to become. Everyone is so willing to help you and it's simply to someone who has come from the outside.

AIRMAN SPOTLIGHT



Photo by Senior Master Sgt. Kevin Tucker

Proactive ways to protect your children

By Lt. Col. David Snow 137 ARW/ Security
Forces Squadron Commander,
Courtesy of CJCS Guide 5260

- Know where your children are at all times and never leave young children alone or unattended. Be certain children are in the care of a trustworthy person.
- If it is necessary to leave children at home, keep the house well lighted and notify a trusted neighbor.
- Instruct children to keep doors and windows locked and to not allow strangers inside.
- Teach children how to contact the police or neighbor in an emergency.
- Maintain recent photographs of your children. The photographs should display a clear view of the child's head.
- Instruct your children to:
 - Never leave home without telling you where they will be and who will accompany them.
 - Travel in pairs or small groups.
 - Avoid isolated areas.
 - Use locally approved play areas where recreational activities are supervised by responsible adults and where police protection is readily available.
 - Refuse automobile rides from strangers and refuse to accompany strangers anywhere on foot even if the strangers say mom or dad sent them, or said it was "okay." Children should similarly be aware of strangers offering gifts, food, or using small animals to get them into a vehicle.
 - Report immediately to the nearest person of authority (parent, teacher, or police) anyone who attempts to talk to or touch them in any way that makes them feel uncomfortable or scared.
 - Never give information about family members over the phone, e.g., parent's occupation, names, or future family plans and dates.

Civil engineer



Photo by Master Sgt. Jennifer Shubert

Airman 1st Class Nathan Lee, Readiness and Emergency Management flight, checks out the tray from a JPS for a possible positive hit on one of the tickets. The JPS is a air sampling device that checks for biological agents in the air.



Master Sgt. Weldon Nesbitt and Staff Sgt. Salem AB, Kuwait.



Photo by Master Sgt. Edward Pulver

Staff Sgt. Allen Manley and Tech. Sgt. Kevin "the Auger" Owen install new sink in the dining facility at Ali Al Salem AB, Kuwait.

ers in action



Photo by Master Sgt Edward Pulver
Allen Manley replace a sewer line at Ali Al



Photo by Master Sgt. Edward Pulver
Staff Sgt. Keith Griesel inspects water tank pipes at Ali Al Salem AB, Kuwait.



Photo by Tech. Sgt. Robbie Cruze

Master Sgt. Daniel Norton (left) uses a Dynamic Cone Penetrometer while Staff Sgt. Justin Jacox (right) records. The DCP calculates the California Bearing Ratio of the ground for a new road to be built.

Will Rogers says farewell, honors retiring Airmen

Stories and photos by Airman 1st Class

Patricia Baker 137 ARW/ PA



Lt. Col. Paul Dean, the installation inspector general for the 137 Air Refueling Wing here, celebrated his retirement at a ceremony held on base during May drill.

Dean dedicated his time and efforts to over 27 years of military service. He began his military career by enlisting in the active-duty Air Force on Nov. 5, 1976. Initially, he enlisted with the rank of airman basic and went to technical school to receive his training as a general accounting specialist. He joined the Air National Guard in 1989 after spending some time in the Army National Guard.

From serving Oklahoma to devoting efforts to his deployment to Iraq, Dean said that the things he would miss most about the Air Guard would be the people and being able to be involved with the base and its missions. One of his favorite experiences during his career in the Air National Guard was becoming commander for the aerial port on base, he said. The experience was a matter of meeting his career goals, and by assuming command he did just that.

“I don’t really want to go,” Dean said, “but I guess there comes a time when everyone’s got to.”

Senior Master Sgt. Randy Cameron, a loadmaster for the 137 Air Refueling Wing here, celebrated his retirement during a ceremony held in Mayberry Hall during May drill.

Cameron served in the Air Force for over 36 years. He joined in June 1973 and reported to loadmaster technical school in October 1973.



“It doesn’t seem like it’s been that long,” Cameron said.

Throughout his career he accrued 10,333.6 flying hours in various aircraft. Some of these hours were spent in the C-130 Hercules A model, the first series of the modern day “Herc.”

Cameron said that he dedicated his time and military service to missions in various countries including South Africa, Germany and Saudi Arabia. In 1975, he played a role in a mission that assisted toward relocating South Vietnamese refugees. Cameron said he would not trade the experiences he had with the Air Guard for anything.



Senior Master Sgt. Larry Medina, superintendent for the 137 Air Refueling Wing student flight here, celebrated his retirement at a ceremony held on base during May drill.

He served over 33 years of military service and drove 1,000 miles round trip from his home near San Antonio, Texas, every guard drill weekend.

Medina said that from supervising court marshals as part of the judge advocate general core, to contributing to the relief efforts of the Murrah Building bombing in Oklahoma City, to seeing the northern lights in Iceland, the Air Guard gave him the opportunity to explore a wide variety of tasks and accomplishments.

“I could never repay the Air Guard,” said Medina. “I owe the Air Force everything.”

Each person that spoke about Medina at the ceremony told of his service, selflessness and the tremendous contributions he gave to WRANGB and the Air Force.

Personnel Updates

Enlistments:

Airman Basic Bono Stewart
 Airman 1st Class Brandon Brumley
 Airman 1st Class Michael Duffiney
 Airman 1st Class Austin Juerqens
 Airman 1st Class Kristopher King
 Airman 1st Class Megan McGuire
 Airman 1st Class James Parman

Promotions:

Airman 1st Class Jeremy Davis
 Senior Airman Jarius Williams
 Staff Sgt. Dustin Condren
 Staff Sgt. Walter Heitman
 Staff Sgt. Jason Throckmorton
 Tech. Sgt. Kyle Crafton
 Tech. Sgt. Mark Frymire
 Tech. Sgt. Christopher Gilbert
 Tech. Sgt. James Henson
 Tech. Sgt. Adam Hinsperger
 Tech. Sgt. Andrea Johnson
 Tech. Sgt. Christy Kinslow
 Tech. Sgt. Christina Rincon
 Tech. Sgt. Lesley Thomas
 Master Sgt. Derrick Johnson
 Master Sgt. Michael Johnson
 Master Sgt. Lynn Larrison
 Master Sgt. Bryan Robinson
 Master Sgt. Michael Stogsdill
 Senior Master Sgt. Dustin Mercer
 1st Lt. Kyle Bain
 1st Lt. Zachary Shuster
 Capt. Attila Bogdan
 Capt. Darryl Jackson
 Capt. Debbie Jacobsmeier
 Capt. Charles Johnson
 Maj. Joe Breeding
 Maj. Lewis Hagler
 Lt. Col. Patrick Donaldson
 Lt. Col. Bruce Hudson
 Lt. Col. Bruce Hunt
 Lt. Col. June Oldman

Retirements:

Master Sgt. Dewey Beene
 Senior Master Sgt. Randy Cameron
 Senior Master Sgt. Larry Medina
 Lt. Col. Paul Dean

2010 Drill Dates

June	5-6
July (UCI 23-28)	24-25
August	14-15
September	11-12
October	2-3
November	6-7
December	11-12

Christian Worship Services

205th classroom, 10 a.m.

Saturday:
 Catholic Mass

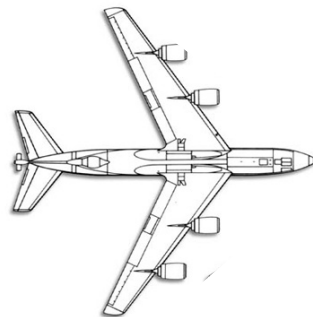
Sunday:
 Protestant Worship

Menu

Saturday (Lunch)
 Fried catfish, grilled chicken,
 vegetables, salad bar, dessert

Sunday (Lunch)
 Country fried steak,
 chicken cacciatore,
 vegetables, salad bar, dessert

Pilot Board September UTA



The 185th Air Refueling Squadron will conduct interviews for potential pilot candidates during September UTA.

Point of contact is Maj. Justin Walker, 185 ARS Aircrew Training, at justin.walker@ang.af.mil or 405-686-5562.

Oklahoma National Guard Family Programs Office launches internet talk show:

Blog: On Guard in Oklahoma

Tracy Poindexter (Army National Guard) and Jennifer Lain (Air National Guard) have joined forces to bring you live internet shows featuring guests, information and resources you can use. Call-in, chat or subscribe to their podcast through www.blogtalkradio.com/ogok.

TRICARE Reserve Select benefits Guardsmen

By Maj. Carrie Clear
JFHQ/Public Affairs

TRICARE Reserve Select health insurance is available for traditional Guard members and their families at affordable rates, according to the Oklahoma National Guard TRICARE manager.

First Lieutenant Richard Belicek sees millions of dollars in claims process through the state. "If you don't have health care insurance, this is one of the best options," he said.

"TRS is available to Guardsmen in any drilling status that is not eligible for Federal Employees Healthcare Benefits. It works like any other insurance, with a large network or the option to go to a military hospital on a space available basis," he added.

Oklahoma City has 268 primary care managers within a

20-mile area, according to Lt. Belicek. Tulsa has more than 300 and Muskogee over 100. A list of providers is available on the TRICARE website.

Rates for individuals are less than \$50 a month and families are \$197.65. Deductibles are based on rank and run between \$50 and \$300. Premiums cannot be deducted from your military pay check, but online payment options are available on the TRICARE website.

Prescription coverage is the same as for active duty members. "You can get a 90 day supply of medications filled free at a Military Treatment Facility," he said. "You can also use the mail order pharmacy or a network retail pharmacy."

Information on TRS benefits and enrollment forms are available on the TRICARE website, <http://www.humana-military.com>, or call 1-800-444-5445 or 1-877-298-3408.

WRANGB Guardsman gives church good rap

By Staff Sgt. Lindsay Roe
137ARW/PA

Combining military duty with a civilian job can be a balancing act; but throw in parenthood, church leadership and rapping and life is never boring for Staff Sgt. Lesley Thomas, a chaplain assistant for the 137 Air Refueling Wing here.

Thomas produces the music for the rap group Mobsters of Light, along with performing and writing lyrics.

"My music comes from my personal relationship with God and utilizing the gifts and talents that he's given me," Thomas said.

Growing up in a family passionate about music, he was exposed and participated in many areas of music.

"I have played the drums, strings and piano my whole life; and I rap but definitely cannot sing," laughed Thomas.

Mobsters of Light began in 2004 and the original six members of the group remain.

Recognized as national recording artists in 2006 for their album

"Church Shaka," MOL performs across the United States at churches, alternative schools and juvenile centers.

"With youth in today's society, 'Amazing Grace' is not as effective now as it was 50 years ago," he said. "Hip-hop has taken over and has been a negative influence on our youth. We take hip-hop and use it as a positive influence."



Photo by Senior Master Sgt. Kevin Tucker

Staff Sgt. Lesley Thomas and his rap group's most recent album, "Church Shaka."

Besides impacting his own children, Les age 11 and Leilah age 8, Thomas and his wife, Mary, lead the youth group at Integrity's Voice of Victory Church in Oklahoma City.

His passion for youth comes from his own past. "I had normal problems that an inner city kid faces. Now I can use those experiences to help others that may be in a similar situation," said Thomas.

Songs address topics such as encouragement, holiness, faith, breaking religious stereotypes, how to overcome, and choosing to make it through tough times.

"The most rewarding experience is when someone comes up to you and tells you that you've given them hope for someone else with a hard past," Thomas said, as he recalled several situations where parents and spouses shared their admiration in regards to the example that he is for others.

MOL is slated to release a new album entitled "Make it Rain" this fall. Visit www.myspace.com/mobstersoflight for more information.

What do you want the most out of life?



By Chaplain Capt. Jeremy Sampson, 137th ARW

A common expression is used throughout life to comfort friends and loved ones when they are passing through difficult situations: "Just be patient...it will all come together soon."

You and I tend to want things done our way, right now. Whatever happened to the notion of waiting? Every month, the high speed internet bill comes in the mail. Every morning, the fast food drive-thru is full. Often our impatience is driven to its breaking point.

Today, my fellow airman, I encourage you to think like a farmer, to think in terms of seasons. There is a season for planting and a season for harvesting. There are times to invest in the stock market and times to pull out of it. There are times when parents raise and take care of their children, and times when children return to take care of their parents.

In other words, all things have a best season and timing. Farmers don't rush the harvest. They simply expect that it will come and wait for the right moment to do so.

A farmer knows that all of the planting and husbandry is not in vain and will pay off with big dividends at just the right time.

Not all answers to the questions of life come when we most desire to see them. Often we are perplexed for years not knowing what tomorrow may bring, or why something tragic has happened. Sometimes life brings an unexplained delay and one is left wondering what its purpose was.

I encourage you today to think about what you want most out of life. Be patient and willing to wait for it. Know that God has your best in mind. He knows your heart's desire and is constantly working to make it happen for you in your life.

His timing is often different from ours, but rest assured, when your deepest need is at hand, God is there to see that it occurs. He is able to make a clear path for you in a dense forest or a bridge over a raging river, just for you. Trust him. He will do it.

He knows the particular songs to play on your heart strings. Let him encourage you today. Let him reassure you.

I believe there are many sweet surprises that await you in your lifetime. You will see that often the most satisfying elements of life are those that have been patiently waited on. Patience builds steadiness in your life, giving you a steadfast drive towards your desired result.

It's like a climber that's halfway to the top of a rock face. The climb itself is not the funnest part, nor the easiest! But to reach the top makes the climb worth it!



This month in Air National Guard History...

Portsmouth Air Force Base in New Hampshire formally opened June 30, 1956. In 1957, it was renamed Pease Air Force Base in honor of New Hampshire native Captain Harl Pease, Jr., who posthumously earned the Congressional Medal of Honor for heroism during World War II.

Pease AFB was the home of the 100th Bombardment Wing and the 509th Bombardment Wing. The mission of these wings was to develop and maintain operational readiness to permit the conduct of strategic warfare in

the event of war. From 1956 until its closure in 1991, Pease AFB maintained a combat-ready force for long range bombardment operations. B-47, KC-97, B-52, KC-135 A/E/R, C-130, and FB-111 aircraft were based at Pease at various times.

Portions of the base now serve as Pease Air National Guard Base, home of the 157th Air Refueling Wing, flying the KC-135R Stratotanker air refueling aircraft.

Visit <http://www.globalsecurity.org/military/facility/pease.htm> for more information.





Photo by David Nockels

Staff Sgt. Cale Nockels (right), a member in the 137 Air Refueling Wing command center here, gives a thumbs up during the Oklahoma City Memorial Marathon held April 25, as a tribute to the victims, family members and survivors of the 1995 Murrah Building bombing in Oklahoma City. This year marks the 10th anniversary of the marathon, which provides financial support to the mission of the Oklahoma City National Memorial. Nockels, along with several other Airmen from Will Rogers Air National Guard Base, participated in the event.

Air Force Core Values

Integrity First
 Service Before Self
 Excellence In All We Do

WILL ROGERS MISSION STATEMENT

“To enhance global reach by serving our nation, state and community through the unique capabilities of the 137th Air Refueling Wing, the 205th Engineering Installation Squadron, and the 146th Air Support Operations Squadron.”

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To the family of: