

AIRLIFTER

April 2012



Photo by Tech. Sgt. Roberta Thompson

Members of the 137th Air Refueling Wing arrive at the base flight line March 11, after deploying to Alpena, Mich. for an Operational Readiness Evaluation. The 137th, 459th and 507th Air Refueling Wings joined forces in preparation for an upcoming Operational Readiness Inspection. See photo story pages 4 and 5.

Airmen practice operational readiness

By Capt. Jessica Chapa
137 ARW Public Affairs

After months of preparation, more than 700 members joined together from three wings to form the 124th Air Expeditionary Wing in an Operational Readiness Exercise last month at Alpena, Michigan.

Airmen participated in a simulated deployment to Fukuoka, Japan, as the 124 AEW was evaluated on its ability to deploy, operate and redeploy.

Positive attitudes and proficiency in Air Force Specialty Code spe-

cific tasks were among demonstrated strengths while Airmen faced numerous scenarios throughout 24-hour shifts.

"The process of actually deploying is half the battle and this is really the only time to practice that entire scenario. It does closely resemble many facets of deployment," said Senior Master Sgt. Douglas Mason, 137th Air Refueling Wing Bioenvironmental Engineering NCOIC.

The ORE also gives Airmen the opportunity to test basic knowl-

edge such as self-aid and buddy care as well as chemical biological radioactive nuclear and explosive responses.

"The ORE was a key element to ensure success for the ORI," said Master Sgt. Scherryl Coulter, Force Support Squadron Education and Training NCOIC. "If you aren't willing to learn, you aren't willing to progress and succeed."

The 137 ARW, along with the 507 ARW and 459 ARW, will participate in an ORI June 2012.

Actions, attitudes affect future outcomes



By Col. Douglas Hayworth, 137th Maintenance Group Commander

The possibility of time travel captures our imaginations and has been the subject of movies and books.

Seriously, who hasn't thought about it and wouldn't it be interesting to travel through time? Sometimes you would like to travel back in time. You may want to go back to a younger age in life, live in a different era or relive past glories.

You may want to go back to an old mission or maybe that really cool TDY. Often times, you just want to go back to the way things were. There's nothing wrong with wanting to go back in time, and we should relish our memories of the past. In fact, in a large way

our past is what makes us who we are today.

If we don't want to go back in time, we want to go forward in time. We want to know what the future holds for us. Am I going to be successful in what I'm doing? What will I be doing in the future? What missions will I have? What opportunities will I have? We are preparing for an ORI. Will we do well? We're experiencing budget cuts. How will that affect us?

Regrettably, time travel either forward or backward is not possible. We can't change our past, but we can certainly learn from it and use it to teach others. We can't see into the future, but we certainly can and should make efforts to plan for it.

Keep in mind that no matter how well we make future plans, "life" will happen and the plans will change. Ultimately there is very little certainty in the future. But don't despair! You do have some control.

You can control your actions and attitudes. In fact I'll make you a guarantee. If you will always give life your best, you will very rarely be disappointed. And on that ORI? Give those inspections an OUTSTANDING effort and you'll have an experience worthy of remembering.

The 137 SFS will be accepting applications for an officer position through COB April 15.

Position manages security forces functions. Interviews will be conducted during May UTA. For more information call Maj. LeeAnn Tumblson at 686-5218.

The 137 CF will be accepting applications for a Traditional 17D Cyberspace Operations Officer through COB June 28.

The position executes cyberspace and information operations. For application information contact Maj. Robert Pelley at 686-5606.

The 146 ASOS is accepting applications for Traditional Air Liaison Officer Positions.

These are ground combat positions and by SECDEF Policy are currently limited to male personnel. For application information call Lt. Col. Kenneth Kleid at 686-5596.

137th Air Refueling Wing Public Affairs Staff

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For consideration, all submissions must be provided to the PA Office, at 137ARW.PA@ang.af.mil or in Bldg. 1046, 686-5227, no later than 10 a.m. Saturday of drill weekend. The PA Office distributes the Airlifter according to training needs.

PA Officers: Capt. Jessica Chapa, 2nd Lt. Jennifer Lavin; NCOIC: Senior Master Sgt. Kevin Tucker; public affairs specialists: Senior Airman Patricia Baker, Airman 1st Class Kasey Phipps; photographer: Tech. Sgt. Roberta Thompson; videographers: Master Sgt. Jun Kim, Airman Dustin Wheeler.

Personnel Updates

Newcomers:

Airman Wyatt Lankford
 Airman Gary Shultz
 Airman Devin Summerlin
 Airman 1st Class Ashley Benoit
 Airman 1st Class Dwayne Clary
 Airman 1st Class Hollie Clear
 Airman 1st Class Christopher Dysinger
 Airman 1st Class Kara Hoopell
 Airman 1st Class Jeremy Long
 Airman 1st Class Ryan Templin
 Airman 1st Class Tyler Nair
 Airman 1st Class Kasey Phipps
 Airman 1st Class Kimberly Wall
 Senior Airman Antonio Pereira
 Senior Airman Daniel Weaver
 Staff Sgt. Matthew Doyal
 Staff Sgt. Elizabeth Genzler
 Staff Sgt. Amanda Good
 Staff Sgt. Matthew Heine
 Staff Sgt. Vanilla Nixon
 Tech. Sgt. David Tanner

Promotions:

Senior Airman Thomas Hines
 Tech. Sgt. John Deem
 Tech. Sgt. Nicholas Donaldson
 Tech. Sgt. Joshua Freeman
 Tech. Sgt. Larissa Howell
 Tech. Sgt. Diketrick Montgomery
 Master Sgt. Terry Bohn
 Master Sgt. Tony Bushee
 Master Sgt. Matt Connel
 Master Sgt. David Dehart
 Master Sgt. Darlene Foreman
 Master Sgt. Jeffrey Jilek
 Master Sgt. Scott Kenney
 Master Sgt. Jeremieh Murphy
 Master Sgt. John Phillips
 Master Sgt. Stephen Rogers
 Master Sgt. William Smith
 Master Sgt. Rex Sollers
 Master Sgt. Glenn Stephens
 Master Sgt. Alberto Velazquez
 Senior Master Sgt. Lawrence DeSalle
 Senior Master Sgt. Scott Irwin
 Chief Master Sgt. Steven Herron

Retirements:

Master Sgt. Brian Self
 Master Sgt. Jeffrey Hillburn
 Staff Sgt. Bryan Melrose

2012 Drill Dates

March	10-11
April	14-15
May	5-6
June	7-10
July	N/A
August	18-19
September	15-16
October	13-14
November	3-4
December	1-2

April Menu

Saturday

Steak, fried chicken, potatoes,
 rice, gravy, beans, chicken
 noodle soup, salad and dessert

Sunday

Box lunches with a sandwich,
 chips and cookie

Reminders

First Sergeant application
 deadline is 15 April.

Senior NCO Academy,
 in residence, application
 deadline is 6 May.

Connect to the **137th Air Refueling Wing** on Facebook or visit us on the web at www.137arw.af.mil

Worship services

Wing conference room, 10 a.m.

Saturday: Catholic mass

Sunday: Protestant worship

Numbers to know

(Area code 405)

Angie Cunningham

(Psychological Health): 686-5145

Security Forces: 686-5301

Emergencies: 911, then 686-5117

ID card appointments: 686-5212

Medical appointments: 686-5245

Comm Help desk: 686-5000

Sexual Assault Prevention and

Response Hotline: 686-5561

Mishap reporting: 686-5555

Chaplain's office: 686-5145

Base information line: 686-5627

SAPR information... If you have been a victim of a sexual assault contact the SAPR hotline 24/7 at 686-5561.

If you want an investigation, your case will be unrestricted which means command is notified and an investigation will be initiated. You are also entitled to make a restricted or confidential report about the sexual assault. The Sexual Assault Response Coordinator, Victim's Advocate, Health Care Provider or a Chaplain can all help you confidentially.

Talk to your SARC, Capt. Jessica Chapa, 686-5039, for more information.

New guard recruiting rewards program is underway

Guardsmen can visit
www.refer2ang.com

to get information, to create an account, and to get started with the new referral rewards program.

ORE: One step closer to



Master Sgt. Wade Vakulick, member of the 137th Air Refueling Wing, directs Master Sgt. John Schulze, member of the 507th Air Refueling Wing, on a front-end loader as members from the civil engineering flight repair a simulated runway after an air attack. During the ORE troops were tested on their quick response to simulated accidents and casualties.



Senior Airman Matt Pearsall, assigned to the 507th Air Refueling Wing, services an accumulator during the ORE in March. While participating in these exercises, all Airmen must deal with simulated war situations as well as maintain the day-to-day functions of their base area.



Members of the 507th Air Refueling Wing provide first aid to a simulated casualty after a missile attack on their wing during the 2012 Business Exercise March 9, at the 124th Air Refueling Wing, 137th, 459th, and 507th Air Refueling Wings. The exercise tests the wings' ability to effectively adapt to war-like situations through the use of first aid and buddy care skills gained through training and applied to field situations.

o an outstanding ORI



Photos by Tech. Sgt. Roberta Thompson

ng perform self-aid and buddy care to a work center during an Operational Readiness Expeditionary Wing in Alpena, Mich. The Wings joined forces in preparation for an action. Airmen must be able to quickly yet they encounter during these exercises. Self-aid training and inspections can be directly

ch. Sgt. Shandie Choate gets help from her wingman Master Sgt. John Mills, both from the 137th Air Refueling Wing, upon notification of a mission oriented protective posture level 4, alarm red simulated base attack during the ORE. Operational readiness exercises and inspections help to ensure airman are ready and able to complete real-world deployment missions safely and effectively. Being able to use chemical warfare gear and equipment efficiently is one aspect of this training.



Tech. Sgt. Kevin Owens, member of the 137th Air Refueling Wing, annotates accountability after a missile attack on his work center during the ORE.



Aeromed squadron receives top marks

By Senior Airman Patricia Baker
137 ARW Public Affairs

The members of the 137th Aeromedical Evacuations Squadron passed their health services inspection with top marks and were recognized for this achievement during December drill on base.

These inspections and others like them happen periodically all across the country to ensure the operational readiness of units and members in the Air National Guard.

All members of the Will Rogers unit worked hard to achieve top marks during



Photo by Tech. Sgt. Roberta Thompson

Members of the 137th Aeromedical Evacuation Squadron are recognized for their achievements during their health services inspection in December.

the inspection, said Senior Airman Jay Vinnedge, an aeromedical evacuation technician for the 137th Aeromed. Squadron.

"This was a big inspection," said Vinnedge, "we had to do well."

He said they were able

to score top marks with minimal staffing at home base while a majority of the unit was deployed to various locations in country and overseas participating in training and real-world emergency medical flight missions.

At Will Rogers, in the months leading up to the inspection, each member of the unit was involved with preparation and preparedness to ensure success during the inspection even though many members were deployed at inspection time, Vinnedge said.

"Every person plays a piece in the puzzle. Every person is an important part of the team. We need every person in order to make sure all requirements are good to go and where they should be," he said.



AIRMAN SPOTLIGHT

Airman 1st Class Brandon Bain



Unit/Position... 137th Logistics Readiness Squadron, Flight Materials Management Apprentice

In the Air Guard... Two years

Job Duties... Out-process deployers, provide everyday clothing/uniform requirements, maintain stock control and inventory.

My job includes ensuring troops have what they need from our shop to deploy and to be successful and complete the mission.

Career goals... I was hired on as a full-time air guardsman, and I want to continue training and rank up. Career-wise I want to strive to be the best I can be and become as efficient as possible to support the mission.

Outside of guard ... I work at my dad's tire shop working on cars and fixing them up.

Hobbies... In my free time I like working on my truck, playing basketball, hanging out with friends, hunting and fishing, basically, a lot of manly stuff.

Advice to new Airmen... My advice to new Airmen would be to work hard every day. Never stop working hard and always show a positive attitude and always "want" to learn.

Never do anything half-way. Give it your all.

Be able to take criticism on the chin and just go with it.



Photo by Senior Airman Patricia Baker

Six realistic steps for gaining optimism



**By Angela Cunningham,
137th ARW Wing Director
Psychological Health**

It is possible to learn to change the lens through which you view the world. There are six key steps to maintaining a perspective of realistic optimism.

Step 1: Make sure you view the world as it really is. Don't think about what could happen, but pay attention to what is actually going on around you.

Step 2: Focus on things that are positive. Even if life isn't perfect, it's important to focus on the things that work out well.

Step 3: Resist the urge to complain. It usually

makes you feel worse. Complaining will push away the positive people in your life and attract people who further encourage frustration and negativity.

Step 4: Decide for yourself what's possible and what's impossible. Question beliefs you have that something "can't be done." There are many things we dismiss too easily.

Step 5: Be FOR things, not against them. When you are against something you are focused on tearing it down. When you are FOR something you are focused on improving it, and creating new ideas and new opportunities.

Step 6: Laugh at yourself. See the humor in your mistakes. Humor helps us take our guard down and not take ourselves too seriously. We all make mistakes, most mistakes are an opportunity to learn and grow.

Laughing at ourselves is an important tool to improve our mood, change our perspective and relieve stress.

Airman receives Bronze Star for service

**By 2nd Lt. Jennifer Lavin
137 ARW Public Affairs**

Recently promoted, 2nd Lt. Christopher Schutte of the 146th Air Support Operations Squadron, was awarded the Bronze Star during an open house event in March at the Academy of Military Sciences, Montgomery, Ala.

Lt. Col. Kenneth Kleid, acting commander of 146th ASOS, presented the award. Schutte is the first to receive such an award while at officer training school.

"It was exciting to find out that I'd be awarded the Bronze Star at AMS, because I'd have my family there, my commander, the director of operations, not only family and co-workers, but my peers from



2nd Lt. Christopher Schutte

AMS. That was nice to have," said Schutte.

The Bronze Star is a combat medal and the fourth-highest award

for bravery, heroism or meritorious service.

Schutte earned the medal for actions he took while serving as the enlisted battalion air liaison officer and lead joint terminal attack controller in support of the 1st Battalion, 179th Regiment, 45th Infantry Brigade Combat Team. He and his team engaged in ground combat in the Laghman and Nuristan Provinces, Regional Command-East, Afghanistan, during Operation Enduring Freedom from July 13 to Dec. 12, 2011.

"It was a good deployment," he said, "We had a lot of people that were very motivated. Everybody wanted to be a part of this deployment."



Photo by Senior Master Sgt. Kevin Tucker

Airmen help to renovate the gym in building 1001 on base in February. The gym is one of two fitness centers located at Will Rogers and is slated to be open for troops to use by April drill. During the renovation, the center received a new floor, sound system, free weights, benches, power cages, medicine balls, a rowing machine and more. An additional gym is in the fire department and has treadmills and ellipticals to meet your cardiovascular needs.

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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