

## 146th ASOS debuts training simulator



Photos by Army Maj. Geoff Legler/JFHQ Public Affairs

*Staff Sgt. Justin Hamilton participates in training utilizing the Air National Guard Advanced Joint Terminal Attack Controller Training System during an unveiling of the first operational AAJTS in the nation at Will Rogers Air National Guard Base in Oklahoma City. The AAJTS is designed to meet the requirements for unit training at Air Support Operations Squadrons and Special Tactics Squadrons.*

### **By Army Staff Sgt. Christopher Bruce, JFHQ Public Affairs**

Members of the Oklahoma Air National Guard's 146th Air Support Operations Squadron, located at Will Rogers Air National Guard Base in Oklahoma City, are training on the first simulator designed specifically for their mission.

The Air National Guard Advanced

Joint Terminal Attack Controller Training System is the only simulator to train Joint Terminal Attack Controllers. The system simulates virtually any environment and most aircraft and weapons system utilized by the JTACs.

"Everything is very realistic," said Chris Johnson, Logistical Support for QuantaDyn, the company that created

AAJTS and based in Sterling, Virginia.

"If a JTAC operates unsafely and pulls his aircraft in too close, they'll get shot down. It's better to do that in a simulator than in real life."

The ASOS mission is to provide ground commanders with proper coordination and control of close air support missions.

**To *SIMULATOR* page 4**

# Changes in the Air Force: friend or foe?



**By Col. Peter Browning,  
137th OG Commander**

The U.S. military has some difficult times ahead. I'm sure all of you are actively watching and reading the news. The military is dealing with sequestration, reduction in forces, potential Base Realignment and Closure actions, reducing fiscal budgets, retiring of aircraft, and changing missions across the board.

This is nothing new; after every major conflict the military has reduced its size. If the budget is approved, the Army will be the smallest it's been since 1940. The Air Force is mandating a reduction in forces of 25,000 personnel and retiring some aircraft, and the Navy will cease all new ship building and refurbishments.

This wing finds itself with change on the horizon; the National Defense Authorization Act is converting this wing from KC-135's to a new Intelligence, Surveillance and Reconnaissance platform. There is a lot of work ahead for this wing to gain its new mission; an influx of new personnel, relocation of the 137th MXG and 185th ARS,

preparing buildings to receive the new personnel, the logistics of moving all the equipment from Tinker AFB to WRANGB, and preparing for flight operations to resume at WRANGB.

During the BRAC actions of 2006, converting the wing from C-130s to KC-135s, I put a quote on a bulletin board; "In times of change, learners inherit the Earth, while the learned find themselves beautifully equipped to deal with a world that no longer exists." We can choose to see change as an ally or an enemy, and it will respond accordingly. The challenge then is to embrace change whether it is in our personal or professional life.

First, we need to organize, set a list of priorities and attempt to make the process as programmatic as possible. Stay fit mentally, physically, and spiritually. Mentally rely on your fellow squadron members and your family to stay fresh. Use your authorized workout time to burn off those daily frustrations that come with change. Keeping your faith, in whatever form that may take will help you stay spiritually fit.

Finally, teamwork will ease the stress of change. Communication with our teammates is the one thing that is completely under our control. Encourage two-way communications, stressing the need for original, creative thinking and when things go awry, ensure that everyone understands and tries to fix the problem. Communication with your peers and supervisors is vitally important as we make this change.



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## *Upcoming Officer Boards*

**Undergraduate Combat Systems 205 EIS Officer Board  
Officer (UCT) Board**

August 2014 and September 2014

Lt. Col. Scott L. Miller  
DSN 720-5797

July UTA

for more  
information contact:

Lt. Col James Snow  
(405) 686-5404

### **137th Air Refueling Wing Public Affairs Staff**

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## Personnel Updates

### Incoming:

Airman Basic Brody Black  
 Airman Basic Stacey Louks  
 Airman Basic Daniela Martinez  
 Airman Basic Taylor Mitchell  
 Airman Basic Bailey Moser  
 Airman 1st Class Kyle Baxter  
 Airman 1st Class Kevin Douglas  
 Airman 1st Class Matthew Gibson  
 Airman 1st Class Jeffery Hutchens  
 Airman 1st Class Russell Morton  
 Airman 1st Class Damien Perter  
 Airman 1st Class Tabitha Spalding  
 Airman 1st Class Keifer Venable  
 Airman 1st Class Andrew Walker  
 Airman 1st Class Gibson Zamarripa  
 Senior Airman Destin Johnson  
 Staff Sgt. Bradford Beltz  
 Staff Sgt. Robert Collier  
 Staff Sgt. Michael Langly  
 Staff Sgt. Courtney McClellan  
 Staff Sgt. Justin Sheperd  
 Tech. Sgt. Scott Lair  
 Tech. Sgt. Trisha Smeenk  
 Tech. Sgt. Paris Triplet  
 Tech. Sgt. Brent Welch  
 Master Sgt. Christopher Johnson

### Promotions:

Senior Airman Joseph Fellin  
 Senior Airman Jacob Suddath  
 Senior Airman Carlos Vergas  
 Tech. Sgt. Tasha Boatman  
 Tech. Sgt. Devin Waddell  
 Master Sgt. Nicholas Donaldson  
 Master Sgt. John Lucas  
 Master Sgt. Samuel Medina  
 Capt. William Wirstrom Jr.  
 Maj. Judd Kroener  
 Lt. Col. Elizabeth Kettler

### Retirements:

Tech. Sgt. Earl Marker

## June Menu

Saturday  
 10:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

Boxed Lunch

## Sunday

10:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

Swadley's Barbecue

## 2014

### Drill Dates

June	7-8
July (Flex Drill)	12-13
August	2-3
September	6-7
October	4-5
November	15-16

Conduct personal business online instead of visiting Force Support Squadrons during drill weekend! Available personnel online services found at:  
**www.mypers.af.mil**

## VetNet

Veterans can plot and organize career moves after the military with Veterans Network.

Visit:  
**www.vetnethq.com**

## 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:** 686-5334  
**Base information line:** 686-5882  
**Jennifer Lain, Airman & Family Readiness:** 686-5683

**For more Oklahoma National Guard news go to:**

<http://www.oklahomafrontline.com/>

### Job Opportunities at WRANGB

Visit: <http://www.ok.ngb.army.mil/> and mouse over *Employment*, then click on *Technician Vacancy Announcements* for more information.

### New Promotion Requirements for E-8

Beginning October 2015, members being submitted for promotion to Senior Master Sgt. will be required to have a Community College of the Air Force degree. For more information on obtaining a CCAF degree, contact Senior Master Sgt. Tina Connel 686-5471.

### Stay Connected and



at

**137th Air Refueling Wing**





*Master Sgt. Christopher Johnson flies a simulator during a training scenario, utilizing the AAJTS. The AAJTS system encompasses high fidelity visual displays, geo-specific visual data bases, equipment emulators, and associated hardware and software.*

*“This [simulator] allows us to go back to the basics and do it over and over until we don’t make any mistakes.”*  
*- Lt. Col. Waltermire*



*Tech. Sgt. Larry Mansell explains the training scenario utilizing the AAJTS. The AAJTS is a high-fidelity, fully-immersive simulator designed to support Air National Guard Joint Terminal Attack Controller and Combat Controller squadron level continuation, qualification and mission rehearsal training.*

### **From *SIMULATOR* page 1**

The AAJTS provide a way for Airmen to make mistakes when it’s not so costly.

“Airplanes only have a certain amount of fuel, so you can’t just stop a training if it’s not going well,” said Lt. Col. James Waltermire, the 146th ASOS commander. “With this system, we can reset and get it right before going to a live range.”

The system is comprised of a large dome projection screen, a control station and an aircraft simulator station. The dome contains 14 high-end projectors that encapsulate the Airmen and place them in the action as realistically as possible. It is also capable of projecting infrared images for virtual nighttime operations.

“If you are under NVGs (Night Vision Goggles), the image looks as close as possible to actually being outside,” Johnson said. “It’s a huge leap for simulators in that capacity. This is the first simulator to offer NVG capability.”

QuantaDyn Corporation developed AAJTS in 28 months and each system costs \$2 million, but that cost is easily paid for by the reduced cost of real-life missions according to Waltermire.

The simulator not only reduces costs, but also allows the Airmen to train in situations not possible in real life.

“It gives us the ability to train against moving targets that are out there in a simulated environment and gets my guys used to seeing things move that you can’t see on a range when your dropping live ordinance,” Waltermire said.

The simulator is also capable of networking with other simulators across the world. This way, the JTACs can communicate and train with real-life pilots on their own aircraft simulators hundreds of miles away.

# Have a purpose when walking through life



**By Capt. Joseph D. Baker  
137th ARW Wing Chaplain**

I hope you had a chance to watch the recent movies and shows on the Bible. We had Noah played by Russell Crow. There were the series of shows on the Bible on the History Channel. They were all wonderful in their own Hollywood sort of way. But they failed to help people understand their purpose. Most watched these productions to be entertained.

Walk with God as Noah did; when the flood came, Noah was saved amidst the scorn and rejection of his neighbors. Walk with God as Moses did, in the solitude of the desert;

when the hour of judgment fell upon Egypt, Moses was prepared to lead his people to victory.

Walk with God as David did as a shepherd boy; when he was called to rule his people he was prepared for the task of kingship.

Walk with God as Daniel and his three young friends did in the palace of Babylon's king; when the fiery furnace and lion's den came, God was beside them and delivered them.

No, God didn't always deliver His saints from adversity or even death, nor does He today. But because they had learned to trust Him in the light, they were prepared to follow Him in the darkness.

God has not promised to deliver us from trouble, but he has promised to go with us through the trouble, "Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil; for You are with me" (Ps. 23:4).

Do you have a purpose when you walk through life?

*My eyes shall be on the faithful of the land, that they may dwell with me.*

*Psalms 101:6*

## 137th AES assists in joint medical exercise

**By Airman 1st Class Kasey Phipps,  
137 ARW Public Affairs**

The 137th Aeromedical Evacuation Squadron at Will Rogers Air National Guard Base participated in a joint training exercise at the Metro Aviation Career Campus Oklahoma City, April 14, 2014.

The exercise, hosted by the Department of Veteran Affairs, exposed both civilian medical personnel from Veterans Affairs and newer 137 AES members to the National Disaster Medical Service (NDMS) and the U.S. Air Force Aeromedical Evacuation System.

The NDMS supplements an integrated national medical response capability to assist local and state authorities in dealing with the medical impacts of major peacetime disasters

and provides support to the military and the Department of Veterans Affairs.

The exercise began with a simulated activation of the Oklahoma City NDMS Federal Coordinating Center in response to a hurricane threat to the Louisiana Coast. The mission comprises evacuating simulated patients out of the Coastal Parishes to the Oklahoma City FCC.

Instruction from the 137 AES included how to use and load litters into a C-130 Hercules, familiarization with AES medical equipment, acquaintance aircraft technology and experiences with disaster elements of patients, said Maj. Carla Walker, 137 AES health systems specialist.

Though most 137 AES members participated as instructors, more

inexperienced members participated in the exercise, gaining knowledge of patient evacuation and transport, she said.

"It was good for us because it provided the opportunity to interact with civilians in a medical capacity, as well as provide us feedback in our interactions," Walker said.

Other civilian agencies that provided medical personnel include the Integris Baptist Medical Center, the University of Oklahoma Medical Center, the Department of Medical Affairs, Mercy Hospital and the Oklahoma City Emergency Medical Services Authority.

**For photos of this story and more,  
visit our Facebook page at  
137th Air Refueling Wing.**



Photo by Senior Master Sgt. Kevin Tucker

*A select group of cadets from Edmond North High School's Air Force Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps (JROTC) participated in an incentive flight in a KC-135R "Stratotanker" on April 24, 2014.*

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**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."