

ON FINAL

MAY 2016

THE OFFICIAL MAGAZINE OF THE 507TH AIR REFUELING WING



**DIGITAL
FLIGHT DECK**

**KC-46A
SCOPING
MEETING**

**513TH ACG
GROUND BREAKING**

COVER

KC-135 BLOCK UPGRADE

Lt. Col. Eric Wilks and Lt. Col. Marvin Ashbaker, pilots with the 465th Air Refueling Squadron, conduct pre-flight checks aboard the Air Force Reserve Command's first KC-135 to be upgraded with Block 45 May 5, 2016, at Tinker Air Force Base, Okla. Block 45 provides a digital display of engine controls, an updated autopilot, a new altimeter and software upgrades, ensuring that the KC-135 can perform well into the future as the workhorse of the air refueling fleet.

COVER PHOTO by Tech. Sgt. Lauren Gleason

VIDEO: CHANGE OF COMMAND

6

KC-46 SCOPING MEETING

16

THIS MONTH

Air Force Reserve Recruiting
5

On the Okie Radar: Important Dates
7

Okies Sports Schedules
8

Cluser Look:
Master Sgt. Andrew Cole
10

May Promotions
11

513th Groundbreaking
12

Super UTA
18



WING COMMANDER
Col. Douglas E. Gullion

WING COMMAND CHIEF
Chief Master Sgt. Stephen A. Brown

PUBLIC AFFAIRS

CHIEF, PUBLIC AFFAIRS
Maj. Jon Quinlan

SUPERINTENDENT
Master Sgt. Grady Epperly

PHOTOJOURNALISTS
Tech. Sgt. Lauren Gleason
Tech. Sgt. Charles Taylor

Contents of On-final are not necessarily endorsed by or the official views of the U.S. Government, the Department of Defense, or the Department of the AF. Published by The Journal Record Publishing Company, a private firm in no way connected with the U.S. Air Force, under exclusive written contract with the 72nd Air Base Wing commander or 507th Air Refueling Wing commander. This civilian enterprise Air Force newspaper is an authorized publication for members of the U.S. military services. Contents of the Tinker Take Off and On-final are not necessarily the official views of, or endorsed by, the U.S. Government, the Department of Defense or the Department of the Air Force. The appearance of advertising in this publication, including inserts or supplements, does not constitute endorsement by the Department of Defense, the Department of the Air Force or The Journal Record Publishing Company of the products or services advertised. Everything advertised in this publication shall be made available for purchase, use or patronage without regard to race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, marital status, physical handicap, political affiliation or any other non-merit factor of the purchaser, user or patron. The editorial content is edited, prepared, and provided by the 507th Air Refueling Wing's public affairs office, which is located at 7435 Reserve Road, Suite 114, Tinker Air Force Base, Okla., 73145-8726. All photographs are Air Force photographs unless otherwise indicated.

DESIGN BY TECH. SGT. LAUREN GLEASON

507TH AIR REFUELING WING
PUBLIC AFFAIRS
7435 Reserve Rd, Suite 114
Tinker Air Force Base, Okla. 73145
Phone: (405)-734-3078
Email: 507ARW.PA2@US.AF.MIL
URL: WWW.507ARW.AFRC.AF.MIL

AFRICAN LION

Master Sgt. Ricky Buettner, 507th Security Forces squad leader, instructs a Royal Moroccan Armed Forces member on how fire the M203 grenade launcher during Exercise African Lion 16, April 19, 2016, at Tifnit Military Base, Morocco. African Lion is an annual U.S.-Moroccan exercise designed to improve interoperability and mutual understanding of each nation's tactics, techniques and procedures. (U.S. Marine Corps photo/Lance Cpl. Melissa Martens)

Reserve RECRUITERS



Chief Master Sgt. Steven Fousek
Flight Chief
Tinker AFB, OK
Office (405) 734-5331
Cell (405) 409-4784

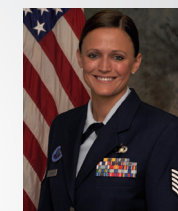


Master Sgt.
Derrick Mills
In-Service Recruiter
Tinker AFB, OK
Cell (405) 409-5170

Master Sgt.
Colin McDonald
In-Service Recruiter
Tinker AFB, OK
Office (405) 734-5555
Cell (405) 409-4784

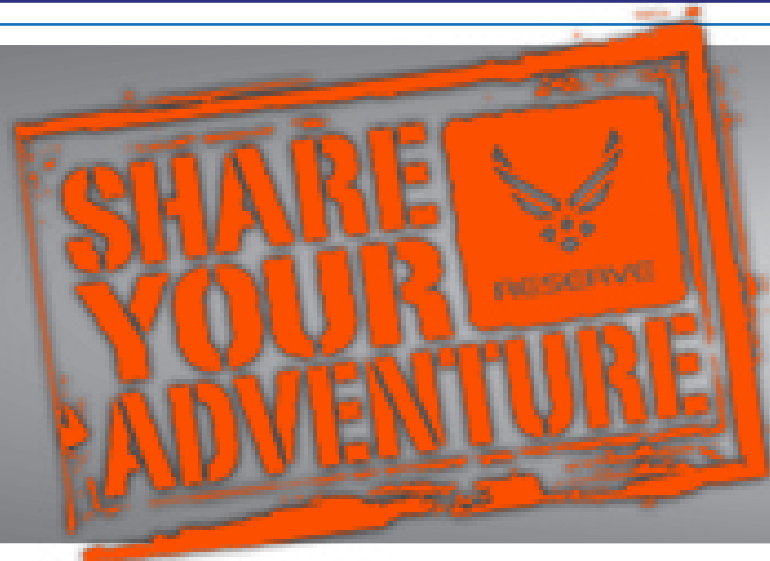


Tech. Sgt.
Keith Hassell
Line Recruiter
Midwest City, OK
Cell (405) 409-5811



Tech. Sgt.
Nিকেlette Parrish
Line Recruiter
Moore, OK
Cell (405) 409-6311

For information on opportunities in the AF Reserve,
give one of our team members a call today.



EVERY RESERVIST IS A RECRUITER // Click the logo for more information

The Get 1 Now Program is a great way for Reservists to keep the Air Force Reserve strong by recommending qualified people with whom they wish to serve. You can refer someone you believe will make a good member of the Air Force Reserve. Once your referral is verified as a qualified lead, you become eligible for one of many awards.



VIDEO RESIDENT "OKIE" TAKES COMMAND



Story By Maj. Jon Quinlan

Col. Douglas E. Gullion took command of the 507th Air Refueling Wing here April 2, 2016, at a ceremony presided over by Maj. Gen. John C. Flournoy Jr., 4th Air Force commander.

Gullion served as the 507th Operations Group Commander here for 18 months before taking command of the wing from Col. Brian S. Davis.

Flournoy highlighted the high-level of operational and leadership experience coming from the wing's new leader, who will lead the largest Air Force Reserve Command flying wing in Oklahoma. "He's now leading the best team, right here in the 507th," said Flournoy. "He is bringing a lot of expertise in industry, building teams and working processing projects. He is a really, really smart guy."

Gullion graduated from Purdue University in 1983 and went to work as an electrical engineer in the automotive electronics industry. He entered the Air Force Reserve in 1987 and received his commission through USAF Officer Training School.

Gullion expressed his excitement about taking com-

mand of the 507th ARW Okies. "I'll show up with my coffee pot, with a spring in my step and a smile on my face," said Gullion. "And I will do what I can to help you with your personal and professional goals. I know if we take care of all that, missions and inspections are all going to take care of themselves."

Gullion became an Air Reserve Technician and served in various leadership positions at the flight, squadron and wing levels at Grissom Air Reserve Base, Ind., before arriving at Tinker AFB. He has deployed six times in support of Operations Desert Shield/Desert Storm, Allied Force, Enduring Freedom and Iraqi Freedom. He is a Command Pilot with more than 6,500 military flying hours.

As the change of command ceremony concluded, Flournoy gave the new wing commander some words of encouragement.

"Every one of these people in this room are going to help you be successful," Flournoy said to Gullion as he gestured toward the audience of Airmen and distinguished visitors. "I guarantee it."



MAY UTA MAY 14-15

-COMMANDER'S CALL @ 1500
BASE THEATER MAY 15

-TREAC MEETING @ 0900
IN THE WING CONF. ROOM MAY 15

-COMBAT DINING-IN MEETING @ 1000
IN THE WING CONF. ROOM MAY 15

AUGUST UTA AUG 6-7

-COMBAT DINING-IN @ 1700
IN HANGAR 1030
AUG. 6

-COMMANDER'S CALL @ 1500
BASE THEATER
AUG. 7

JUNE UTA JUNE 4-5

-JUNE OPERATIONAL EXERCISE
(JOE 16) JUNE 4-5

SEPTEMBER UTA SEP. 10-11

*DATES AND TIMES SUBJECT TO CHANGE. FOR UPDATES, CHECK THE 507TH WEBSITE [HERE](#).

JULY UTA MOVED TO APRIL

-RIMPAC EXERCISE
JULY 1-31

Okies defeat Thumpers in 100th game

By Staff Sgt. Caleb Wanzer

The 507th ARW intramural softball team defeated the 513th ACG on April 28th by a score of 12 to 4.

It was the first time since August 9th, 2012, that the Okies have beaten the Thumpers, after 10 consecutive losses to their arch-rivals over the course of the last four years.

Ironically, it was the 100th game the two teams have played against each other since their heated rivalry began in the summer of 2001.

Due to deployments and other conflicts, neither team fielded a full 10-person squad for the game.

The Okies played with nine players, while the Thumpers began the game with seven, adding



Members of the Okies softball team pose for a group photo May 12, 2016, at Tinker Air Force Base, Okla. Photo by Tech. Sgt. Lauren Gleason

another player later in the contest.

“It did feel good finally putting a loss on the Thumpers” said Okie team captain Dustin Staude, “but it was an empty win due to the lack of players on both teams.”

Thumper team captain Dan Gibb, who took the loss in his softball coaching debut, echoed Staude’s sentiments.

“The spirit of the Okie Thumper War was there, but it somehow felt broken.”

The victory gave the Okies their 45th win over the 513th, compared to 55 wins for the Thumpers.

The 101st meeting will be a rematch on June 2nd at 1730 hours on Field One.

Okie boom operator’s art to be exhibited

Courtesy story

Senior Master Sgt. Darby Perrin, 465th ARS boom operator, artist, and member of the American Society of Aviation Artists, has been honored with the acceptance of his work in the ASAA 2016 International Aerospace Art Exhibition at the James C. Weston Gallery at the Arts Council of Greater Kalamazoo, Kalamazoo, MI.

Perrin was one of thirty-six artists from around the world whose work was selected from over 100 entries. The display opens 1 June and runs through 25 July. His works, “Sinis-



“Fueling the Night Fight” by Darby Perrin

ter’s Wingman, “Fueling the Night Fight” and “American 787”, are three of his best, and depict a combination of military and commercial aircraft.

The American Society of Aviation

Artists was formed in 1986 to bring together, in one professional body, artists who are acknowledged leaders in the field for the purpose of recognizing and promoting interest in aviation art as a fine art form.

SPORTS Schedules

tuesday night flag football



Tues., May **17** Tues., May **24**

@ 7:15 p.m.

@ 5:15 p.m.
@ 6:15 p.m.

WHITE vs. GOLD

CHAMPIONSHIP GAMES

tuesday night softball



Tues., May **17** Tues., June **7**

Double Header

Double Header

@ 5:30 p.m.

@ 5:30 p.m.

@ 6:30 p.m.

@ 6:30 p.m.

TDs vs. Cowtippers

TDs vs. 72 MDG

thursday night softball



Thurs., May **19** Thurs., June **2**

Double Header

@ 5:30 p.m.

@ 5:30 p.m.

@ 6:30 p.m.

OKIES vs.

AMXS vs. **OKIES**

Thumpers

A CLOSER

LOOK



Master Sgt. Andrew Cole

**507TH MEDICAL SQUADRON
AIR RESERVE TECHNICIAN
SECTION CHIEF, AEROSPACE MEDICINE**



WHAT IS A LITTLE KNOWN FACT ABOUT YOU?

I play kickball in an adult kickball league. I also was top honor graduate in BMT when I attended.

WHEN DID YOU JOIN THE MILITARY?

I joined the Air Force on Sept. 23, 2003.

WHAT IS YOUR CAREER GOAL?

As an Airman, my goal is to become a commissioned officer, and on the civilian side, I would like to move a management position to further enhance my knowledge and experience.

AS A KID, WHAT WAS YOUR DREAM JOB?

I wanted to be an astronomer, a forester, an environmental engineer or a nurse. My current aspiration is to become a leader who takes care of people.

WHAT IS THE BEST PART OF YOUR JOB?

Working with amazing people and being able to take care of Airmen.

WHAT DO YOU DO FOR FUN?

I actually like to run and I also love to play video games.

May PROMOTIONS

HYMES, CHRISTINA, 507 MDS
SHOWALTER, BRADLEY P., 507 ARW
YOUNG, FARREL J., 507 SFS

MASTER SERGEANT



BUTLER, PAUL S., 513 AMXS
JONES, LYNDON S., 513 MXS
JUONI, JOSHUA C., 970 AACs
MCMILLEN, DAVID P., 507 CES
MULLINGS, HANNAH R., 507 MXG
MURRAY, DERRICK J., 507 SFS
NELL, TRAVIS H., 507 SFS
THORNTON, SEAN E., 507 SFS



TECHNICAL SERGEANT

BAIN, KAREN M., 507 FSS
BANKS, SANCHEZ T., 507 MXS
JARRETT, JUSTIN N., 507 SFS
LOPEZ, JAMES W., 513 MXS
SANDERS, CHRISTOPHER, 513 MXS
SIAH, KALEB A., 507 SFS
STEVENSON, CHRISTOPHER L., 72 APS

STAFF SERGEANT



CLARKE, NICHOLE K., 507 CES
WILLETT, NOEL B., 507 MDS



SENIOR AIRMAN



513th BREAKS Ground

ON NEW FACILITY

By Tech. Sgt. Lauren Gleason

Officials from the 513th Air Control Group, Tinker Air Force Base, Air Force Reserve, Fortis Networks, Inc. and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers gathered to break ground on the new operations facility April 14 during a ceremony in the field east of the 72nd Air Base Wing Headquarters, Bldg. 460.

The groundbreaking date coincided with the 68th birthday of the Air Force Reserve. The Air Force Reserve was created as a separate component on April 14, 1948, when the Army Air Corps Reserve was transferred to the Air Force.

At the ceremony, Airmen from the 513th ACG discussed the importance of the facility's role in future Air Force Reserve command and control operations.

"It is meaningful to go from being eliminated two short years ago, to being written back into the budget and getting a new building as well," said Col. David Robertson, commander of the 513th ACG. "It emphasizes the importance and the legacy that the 513th has when it comes to supporting the command and control mission for our country."

The 32,000 sq. ft. facility is scheduled to be completed by January 2018.

It will allow the currently physically separated units to have a consolidated Air Control Group Headquarters, Operations Support Flight and Airborne Air Control Squadron facility.

Project Manager, Joe Wade, 507th Civil Engineer Squadron, said he initiated the military construction project back in 2010 once the need was determined

"The new building is a sign that the 513th will be around for the long term."

A rendering of the future 513th Air Control Group facility. (Courtesy graphic)



Officials from the 513th Air Control Group, Tinker Air Force Base, Air Force Reserve, Fortis Networks, Inc. and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers gathered to break ground on the new 513th ACG operations facility April 14, 2016, during a ceremony in the field east of the 72nd Air Base Wing Headquarters, Bldg. 460. The 32,000 sq. ft. facility will allow the currently physically separated units to have a consolidated Air Control Group Headquarters, Operations Support Flight and Airborne Air Control Squadron facility. (U.S. Air Force photo/Maj. Jon Quinlan)

for a larger and more up-to-date facility.

"It's a big project," said Wade. "We planted the seed for this new facility six years ago. It was deemed a priority and has steadily gained traction. Now, here we are at the groundbreaking stage."

According to 513th ACG Executive officer, Lt. Col. Ralph Hawkins, combining the units within the 513th under one roof to get them closer to their associated active duty unit, the 552nd Air Control Wing, is a step in the right direction.

The 513th ACG is an associate Reserve unit, which augments the 552nd with crews and maintenance personnel for the E-3 Sentry, Airborne Warning and Con-

trol System, also known as AWACS.

The 513th Air Control Group was activated in 1996 to provide theater and Air Force commanders with trained aircrews and maintenance personnel and systems for airborne surveillance, warning and control of U.S. and allied military aviation assets.

The Tulsa District of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers is scheduled to manage the construction through their military construction program.

Hawkins said the new construction is a good omen for the future of the unit.

"The new operations building is a sign that the 513th will be around for the long term," said Hawkins.

Local citizens invited to voice concerns

Story and photos by Tech. Sgt. Lauren Gleason



Local resident Phyllis Klein is greeted by Tim Taylor, an Environmental Health Specialist with the 72nd Air Base Wing Civil Engineer Environmental Compliance Office, at the KC-46A public scoping meeting April 21, 2016, at the Sheraton Reed Conference Center in Midwest City, Okla. (U.S. Air Force photo/Tech. Sgt. Lauren Gleason)

Air Force officials held a KC-46A scoping meeting April 21 in Midwest City, Oklahoma, where the public and interested state and federal agencies were invited to ask questions and provide feedback regarding the process of choosing a Reserve-led KC-46A third main operating base, or MOB 3.

The preferred alternative location for the KC-46A MOB 3 mission is Seymour Johnson Air Force Base, North Carolina, while the three reasonable alternative locations are Tinker AFB, Oklahoma, Grissom Air Reserve Base, Indiana, and Westover ARB, Massachusetts.

The Air Force is projected to receive up to 179 KC-46A aircraft between 2017 and 2028, with the

possibility of 12 tankers coming to one of the four Air Force Reserve Command unit locations. This is part of an effort to replace the Air Force's aging tanker fleet to maintain the service's global reach for the future.

"This scoping meeting is not about presenting results or findings," said Tom Daues, a contractor working for the Air Force. "We are here to solicit feedback from citizens in the local community tonight to be placed in the draft Environmental Impact Statement for consideration."

The environmental impact analysis process, or EIAP, is the Air Force's program for complying with the National Environmental Protection Act. As part of process, an EIS assesses the potential en-

vironmental consequences of basing and operating the KC-46A tanker aircraft, associated infrastructure and manpower at any location. The purpose of the MOB 3 bed down is to provide a fully capable, combat operational AFRC and Air Mobility Command KC-46A air refueling squadron to accomplish aerial refueling and related missions. The KC-46A MOB 3 bed down is needed to support the recapitalization of the Air Force's aging refueling aircraft fleet.

Contractors and representatives from the Air Force Reserve and Tinker AFB were on hand to explain the EIAP process. They presented large posters explaining each step of the process, as well as information on the KC-46 Pegasus.

Hamid Kamalpour, Air Force program manager

of the KC-46 MOB 3 EIS from the Air Force Civil Engineer Center at Joint Base San Antonio-Lackland, Texas, said the draft EIS is scheduled to be completed at the end of the summer and will be published online and sent to local libraries in the four communities near the bases.

"It's important to note that the opportunity to provide feedback about the impact to Tinker and the surrounding area is not just limited to this time," said Mr. Kamalpour, a federal employee with 25 years of service.

According to Kamalpour, the team will return to Tinker and the other bases selected as reasonable alternatives in the fall to hold public hearings, where a general analysis of EIS results will be available.

Tim Taylor, an Environmental Health Specialist with the 72nd Air Base Wing Civil Engineer Environmental Compliance Office at Tinker Air Force Base, Okla., briefs a local reporter at the KC-46A public scoping meeting April 21, 2016, at the Sheraton Reed Conference Center in Midwest City, Okla. (U.S. Air Force photo/Tech. Sgt. Lauren Gleason)



FIRST AFRC KC-135 GOES DIGITAL

Lt. Col. Eric Wilks and Lt. Col. Marvin Ashbaker, pilots with the 465th Air Refueling Squadron, conduct pre-flight checks aboard the Air Force Reserve Command's first KC-135 to be upgraded with Block 45 May 5, 2016, at Tinker Air Force Base, Okla. Block 45 provides a digital display of engine controls, an updated autopilot, a new altimeter and software upgrades, ensuring that the KC-135 can perform well into the future as the workhorse of the air refueling fleet. (U.S. Air Force photo/Tech. Sgt. Lauren Gleason)

The 507th Air Refueling Wing here is the first Air Force Reserve Command unit to receive the new KC-135 Block 45 upgrade, an improvement to the flight deck that provides flight crews with an updated autopilot and digital panels that eliminate analog instrument gauges by consolidating the outdated controls onto one large LCD screen.

The 465th Air Refueling Squadron took the newly upgraded jet on its first flight April 21.

Four of the eight jets in the wing's fleet are scheduled for the upgrade by September 30, according to the Block 45 Program Manager at the Air Force Life Cycle Management Center here, Capt. Anthony Konakowitz.

"The average upgrade takes 50 to 55 days to complete, but some aircraft have been upgraded in as few as 43 days," said Konakowitz.

Staff Sgt. Daniel Swinehart, a guidance and control technician with the 507th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron here, said eliminating the older technology saves maintenance hours by cutting down on troubleshooting time and provides a highly reliable system by reducing the amount of avionics components that could potentially fail.

"Rather than us trying to troubleshoot and figure out what's wrong with the system, the system is now better able to tell us exactly what's wrong with it and what we need to replace," said Swinehart. "Instead of analog gauges trying to talk with digital signals, it's all digital now, so we don't have to convert from one to the other."

Maj. Michael Waters, a pilot with the 465th Air Refueling Squadron here, said the new autopilot is comparable to that of a commercial aircraft and should alleviate stress during flight and increase performance.

"Our flight deck workload should decrease with a more conventional automation," said Waters. "It will just take some time to adjust to the new layout and procedural changes."

As with any upgrade, additional training is required. Flight crews must complete two four-hour blocks of flight simulator training at McConnell Air Force Base, Kansas, followed by a flight in order to be certified to fly aircraft with the recent up-
Since the analog components have been removed and the dials have been placed on

See DIGITAL on page 20

Citizen Airmen of the 507th Air Refueling Wing here participated in the second annual Super Unit Training Assembly April 2-5 to accomplish ancillary training requirements.

The Super UTA consists of two UTA weekends performed back-to-back over four consecutive days.

“We need our Citizen Airmen trained and ready to deploy, but we must balance that with our civilian careers and family life,” said Col. Douglas Gullion, 507th Air Refueling Wing Commander.

“The Super UTA allows us to get training accomplished efficiently and give time back to our Airmen.”

Briefing topics ranged from self-aid and buddy care to suicide prevention and anti-terrorism awareness.

“Operationally and administratively, the Super UTA provides an opportunity for us to complete specific ancillary and functional job training that is critical to our mission readiness,” said Lt Col. Kimberly Howerton, 507th Air Refueling Wing Process Improvement Manager.

In addition to briefings, the hands-on portion of the Super UTA consisted of identifying unexploded ordnances and contamination control during an Emergency Management rodeo. The rodeo tested personnel on their ability to continue operations under any circumstances.

“Completing the majority of our ancillary training at one time means UTAs for the rest of the year can focus on mission and job training,” said Howerton.



What's so super about the Super UTA?

Story by Master Sgt. Grady Epperly

Members of the 507th Air Refueling Wing review their Airman's Manual to identify an unidentified explosive ordnance during a Ability to Survive and Operate course, April 3, 2016 at Tinker Air Force Base. The 507th ARW held the ATSO course as part of the Super Unit Training Assembly which was held April 2-5. The extended training allowed all Reservists to complete annual training during one UTA weekend. (U.S. Air Force photo/Maj. Jon Quinlan)



Meet the commander: 507th Operations Group



Colonel Christopher T. Amend is the Commander, 507th Operations Group, Tinker Air Force Base, Oklahoma. The group operates eight KC-135R “Stratotanker” aircraft and manages reserve C-17 and KC-135 flight training. The group supports Air Mobility Command’s airlift and air refueling requirements, United States Strategic Command’s alert and emergency war order requirements as well as C-17, KC-135 and in the future, KC-46 training requirements at a geographically separated unit at Altus Air Force Base, Oklahoma.

Colonel Amend received his commission through the Reserve Officer Training Corps in 1986 as a graduate of Pacific Lutheran Uni-

versity, earning a Bachelor of Arts degree in elementary education. He entered pilot training at Reese Air Force Base, Texas, and was assigned to the 906th Air Refueling Squadron, Minot Air Force Base, North Dakota. He transferred to the Air Force Reserve in 2001, where he has flown KC-135s and has been assigned to numerous operational, command, and staff positions. He is a command pilot with more than 6,000 flying hours and has deployed in support of Operations Desert Shield, Desert Storm, Northern Watch, Southern Watch, Provide Comfort, Iraqi Freedom And Enduring Freedom. Prior to his current position, he was the Commander, 349th Air Mobility Wing, Detachment 1, Beale AFB, California.

507TH AIR REFUELING WING'S COMBAT DINING-IN

DATE: Saturday, August 6, 2016
TIME: Wingman Hour 5:00 p.m., Combat Begins at 6:00 p.m.
PLACE: Hangar 1030
ATTIRE: Flight Suits, BDUs or ABUs, new, old or modified R.s.v.p. by July 22

 [View Invitation](#) 



E-1 THRU E-4 \$6.00	CATERING PROVIDED BY BJ'S Chicken wings French fries Soft drinks
E-5 AND E-6 \$12.00	
E-7 THRU E-9 AND O-1 THRU O-4 \$15.00	
O-5 AND ABOVE \$20.00	

Please complete your R.s.v.p. first, then see a First Sergeant/Representative to purchase admission:

507 AMXS: MSgt Kimberlee Koldste, 739-5375	507 LRS: MSgt Tom Lord, 739-2288
507 CES: MSgt Juan Escobar, 734-7428	507 OSF/465 ARS: MSgt Robin Moseley, 734-3269
507 FSS/MSG/HQ: SMSgt Ronald Pyles, 734-6408	513 ACG: MSgt Angela Leddy, 582-6730
507 MDS: MSgt Donald Clevenger, 582-6702	35 CBCS: MSgt Darrin Oglesby, 734-0108
507 MXG: SMSgt Jay Smith, 734-0108	72 APS: MSgt Chris Brigan, 739-2081
507 SFS: MSgt Robert Mussyal, 734-9161	

DIGITAL (Cont'd from p. 17)

one screen, the digital display allows the pilot the ability to rearrange the dials as needed.

“The modernization provides redundancy for automation, as well as some changes to the layout of our instrumentation,” said Waters. “The new components are more reliable, and now there is a backup display screen right below the main screen. This should last us until the KC-46 comes on line.”

Block 45 is the third series of modifications to the KC-135 fleet, ensuring the aircraft are modernized in order to maintain their status as the workhorse of the air refueling fleet during the Air Force’s transition to the KC-46A Pegasus.

The \$910 million dollar modification program has upgraded 29 aircraft to date.

FY17 UNIT TRAINING ASSEMBLY SCHEDULE

Oct. 15-16 2016
Nov. 5-6 2016
Dec. 3-4 2016
Jan. 7-8 2017
Feb. 2-5 2017
March 25-26 2017
April 1-2 2017
May 6-7 2017
June 3-4 2017
July 8-9 2017
Aug. 5-6 2017
Sept. 9-10 2017

CHAPLAIN'S CORNER



By Ch (Lt. Col.) Dwight Magnus



What is your concept of God? Yes, there are the atheists and agnostics among us that don't believe in God's existence or relevance. But the large majority of people have some concept of God.

Some of today's contemporary Christian music leaves the impression that God is our buddy—a great pal to have in a pinch. A film star once said of God, “He's my great Big Daddy upstairs.” One pop song asks, “What if God were just a slob like us?” That is not the biblical view of God. That is a human being's feeble attempt to make God relevant.

The Jews that made copies of the Old Testament, revered the name of God so much they used a special pen just to write his name. When reading the word for God we know as Yahweh, they found that name so holy that they would say “Adonai” or Lord.

The Puritans, that rigorous people of old, possessed a solidly biblical concept of God. Do you know why it is so crucial for us to recover such a respectful understanding? Because a shallow view

of God leads to a shallow life. Cheapen God and you cheapen life itself. Treat God superficially, and you become superficial. But hold God in profoundest respect, and it is remarkable how deep the roots of your spiritual life grow.

God is holy. Exalted. He is the only wise God, the Creator, the Maker, the sovereign Lord. He is the Master. He tells me what to do, and I have no safe option but to do it. He offers no alternative, no multiple choice. We have but one directive, and that is to do His will. We reaffirm that truth in our times with Him.

But not today. Today He's our pal, our understanding buddy, our ever-available bellboy. No, He is not! The Lord is our God. He does not bow to our hurried pace, but in silence He waits for us to meet His demands. And once we slow down enough to meet Him, He is pleased to add incredible spiritual depth to our otherwise shallow lives.

What has been your concept of the Lord? Who is your God?



Lt. Gen. James "JJ" Jackson, Chief of Air Force Reserve, and Commander, Air Force Reserve Command, listens to a briefing given by the 507th ARW's maintenance and operations personnel regarding the KC-135's recent upgrade to Block 45. The 507th Air Refueling Wing was the first Air Force Reserve Command unit to receive the upgrade on the KC-135. Photo by Master Sgt. Grady Epperly