



Vol. 1, No. 11

Tyndall Air Force Base, Fla. Training Expeditionary Airpower Experts

Oct. 15, 2007

In Brief

CFC kick-off

The 2007 Team Tyndall Combined Federal Campaign runs Sept. 17 to Oct. 29. For more information, call Capt. Edward Mangual at 282-4317 or 1st Lt. Patrick Wilkinson at 283-4858.

USPO new hours

Tyndall's United States Post Office has changed their hours to 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Monday through Friday.

CFC bowling

A bowling tournament to benefit the Combined Federal Campaign will be held Oct. 19. For more information, call Tech. Sgt. Donna Moses at 282-4390 or Master Sgt. Robbie Dickey at 282-4756.

FY08 NCOLRP

Due to a demand in some AFSCs and AFSC mergers, the Air Force has a need to reclassify a limited number of Airmen back into previously held specialties.

The program is designed to allow Airmen who hold a current, specified valid skill level, other than their control AFSC, such as a secondary or tertiary AFSC, to be administratively reclassified back into their "old" AFSC.

For more information, call Staff Sgt. Avery Purington at 283-4144.

Air Force legends take trip to Tyndall

STAFF SGT. TIMOTHY CAPLING

325TH FIGHTER WING PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Men from the (callsign) "Misty" Forward Air Controllers (FAC) of the Vietnam War visited Tyndall Air Force Base Friday as part of their five-day reunion event in Destin, Fla.

The Misty FACs were an F-100F fighter squadron and part of a top secret mission to disrupt the transfer of enemy supplies and equipment on the Ho Chi Minh trail from 1967 through 1970. Twenty-two percent of the 155 Misty pilots were shot down; three were killed in action and four became prisoners of war.

Among the visitors were retired Col. George "Bud" Day, Medal of Honor winner and the highest decorated living American veteran.

"It's wonderful to get back together with the people you went to combat with," Mr. Day said. "We have an extremely tight bond."

Mr. Day was shot down on a Misty mission in August 1967 and captured by the North Vietnamese. After five days of captivity, he escaped and evaded the enemy for more than two weeks when he was captured again and held in the "Hanoi Hilton" prisoner of war camp for five years with Sen. John McCain—who has credited his survival of the camp to Mr. Day.

Retired Maj. Gen. Don Shepperd, former head of the Air National Guard, was also in attendance.

"It's great to see what the Air Force has become," Mr. Shepperd said. "The planes we flew were 'Model-T's' compared to the Raptor."

The squadron had several other members who went on to career success to include two Air Force chief of staffs and six general officers.

Friday's tour began with a greeting from Brig. Gen. Tod Wolters, 325th



Photo by Staff Sgt. Timothy R. Capling

Retired Col. George "Bud" Day examines the cockpit of an F-22 fighter during a tour with the Misty FACs here Friday.

Fighter Wing commander, and continued with an F-22 briefing from the 43rd Fighter Squadron's chief of Standardization Evaluation and event coordinator, Capt. Daniel Lee.

"Everyone in the 43rd was honored to have the Misty FACs here,"

Captain Lee said. "The real gift is us learning from their incredible experience. Though the technology of warfare has changed, many of the rules the Misty's learned the hard way are still used today."

• SEE MISTY PAGE 2


Airman First Class Brittany Doran


Airman 1st Class Anthony J. Hyatt

Airman Doran, 325th Air Control Squadron, coordinates with Air Traffic Control agencies as she supports a live control team by maintaining safety of flight for Tyndall flyers during live missions.

Airman Doran inprocessed, briefed and mentored 60 Airfield Battle Manager students. She also maintained the commanders' spouses roster and earned credit toward her CCAF degree by taking English 101 and Time Management through Troy State.

Duty title: Aerospace Control and warning systems journeyman

Hometown: Cincinnati, Ohio

Time on station: Two years

Time in service: Two years and four months

Hobbies: Swimming, shopping, watching movies and hanging out with friends

Goals: To receive my CCAF and make the rank of staff sergeant the first time testing

Favorite thing about Tyndall AFB: The beach

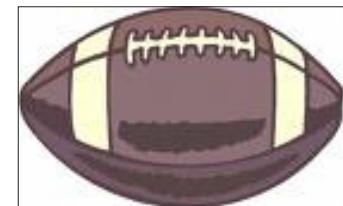
Favorite movie: Billy Madison

Pet Peeves: People chewing with their mouth open

Proudest moment in the military: Graduating from basic military training

The Checkertail Salute is a 325th Fighter Wing commander program designed to recognize Tyndall's Warrior of the Week. Supervisors can nominate individuals via their squadron and group commanders. Award recipients receive a certificate, letter from the commander and a one-day pass.

2007 Standings Flag Football



(as of Oct. 15)

| Team | Win | Loss |
|--------|-----|------|
| AMXS | 8 | 1 |
| SFS | 7 | 1 |
| SVS | 6 | 1 |
| MDG | 8 | 2 |
| COM | 6 | 2 |
| MOS | 7 | 3 |
| OSS | 4 | 2 |
| ACS | 4 | 3 |
| MXS | 4 | 4 |
| MSS/FW | 3 | 6 |
| 601st | 2 | 6 |
| CES | 2 | 7 |
| 53rd | 2 | 7 |
| 823rd | 1 | 5 |
| CONS | 1 | 6 |
| AFRL | 0 | 9 |

• FROM MISTY PAGE 1

"The Misty's represent a great part of our Air Force heritage," said Col. William Mott, 325th Operations Group commander. "It's been an honor to have them here and to show them the best aircraft the Air Force has to offer, as well as the men and women who fly and work on them."

The tour concluded with a static display of an F-22 for the men to examine, followed by a flight demonstration where they got to see the Raptor in action.

"Watching that airplane was quite an experience," said Mr. Day.

"I still can't believe I saw what I saw," said retired Lt. Col. Jack Doub, former Misty pilot and reunion planner.

"I've been planning the reunions since 2005 and I'm so thankful to the guys here at Tyndall on behalf of the Mistys," he said. "I don't know how we can top this in reunions to come."

After the tour, the Mistys got a chance to interact with some of Tyndalls' fighter pilots in the 43rd Fighter Squadron's heritage room and share experiences.

"Words cannot describe the honor and privilege that we feel in hosting the heroes that make up the Misty group," said Lt. Col. David A. Krumm, 43rd Fighter Squadron commander. "These great Americans' legacy of service, sacrifice and excellence are part of the unswayable foundation of our great Air Force and we were ecstatic to show them how we are continuing their great traditions with Airmen who are committed to those same core values."



Identify this ...

Can you identify this object?

If so, send an e-mail to editor@tyndall.af.mil with "Identify this" in the subject line.

Three correct entries will be chosen at random and drawn from a hat to determine the final winner. The prize can be claimed at the Public Affairs office.

Tech. Sgt. James Leonard, 325th Fighter Wing, correctly guessed the Oct. 8 "Identify This" as a number five button on a phone. Congratulations Sergeant Leonard.

Air Force Retiree puts “spin” on life

STAFF SGT. TIMOTHY CAPLING
325TH FIGHTER WING PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Retired Capt. Mackey Tyndall, descendent of Lt. Frank B. Tyndall, the man Tyndall Air Force Base is named after, is fighting a new battle these days by training for long distance races on his two state-of-the-art racing wheelchairs on the streets of Tyndall Air Force Base.

Mr. Tyndall suffers from spinal stenosis and severe arthritis. As a result of injuries received while on active duty, he's had two total hip replacements and has a metal rod along with multiple screws inserted

into his back.

He was medically retired from the Air Force in 1990 due to his injuries. Before retirement, he spent five of his active-duty years as an instructor at the Weapons Controller Training School here, now the 325th Air Control Squadron.

Before his injury, he was an accomplished wrestler and won the National Collegiate Athletic Association Championship for his weight division while attending college.

“When I had my medical problems, I fell into a psychological hole,” Mr.

Tyndall said. “Eventually I became upset with my weight. My son bought me a weight bench and I gradually began to lose some of that weight.”

To further his healing process, Mr. Tyndall started racing local five and 10 kilometer races in 2005.

“Then I felt I needed more of a challenge, so I started competing in Olympic distance triathlons and duathlons,” he said.

He started competing in races using a standard wheelchair. Now he competes in the races by using two different styles. One is a hand cycle, his

equivalent of riding bicycle due to the different gears used. The second is a push chair which requires so much endurance and constant pushing to operate it, that it is physically comparable to running.

Mr. Tyndall has had recent success with his racing, winning the U.S. Nationals last summer in the “N.Y.C. Nautica Triathlon.”

Currently he's training for the world championship in Richmond, Va. Oct. 21; followed by the New York City marathon two weeks later. His goal is simple:

“I just want to say I entered

the world championship and finished,” he said. “Everything else is gravy.”

Mr. Tyndall said the thing he enjoys the most about racing is the sense of freedom it provides.

“After being house bound for four-years, racing is quite an adrenaline rush,” he said.

His doctors encourage his activity.

“They said, ‘Go for it. Do all you can, it's not hurting you,’” he said. “The most rewarding thing is being able to do this on my own. Being able to say I did this without anyone's help.”



Photos by Airman 1st Class Anthony J. Hyatt



Donate blood, save a life

Left: Staff Sgt. Patricia Rodriguez, 81st Medical Operations Squadron at Keesler AFB, Miss., checks the blood pressure of Capt. Darren Stastny, 325th Security Forces Squadron operations officer.

Bottom left: Sergeant Rodriguez take blood from Staff Sgt. Doug Maleski, 82nd Aerial Target Squadron.

Bottom right: Staff Sgt. Melissa Prickett, 81st MDOS, checks on Tamsyn Medina, Tyndall Credit Union employee.



Commander's Commentary: Our oath and the constitution



Lt. COL. EDWARD FARLEY
325TH MDOS COMMANDER

In 2004 President Bush declared Sept. 17 Constitution Day and Citizenship Day. This is a good time to review what he and every one of us in uniform vowed to support and defend.

Airmen's Roll Call had a great quote commemorating the observance: "When we raised our hands as Airmen, we swore our allegiance to support the Constitution of the United States of America. We joined the pioneers and legends who blazed the skies before us to defend our nation, its ideals, and the freedoms embodied in the Constitution."

More than 220 years ago, on Sept. 17, 1787 the Constitutional Convention held their final meeting. They only had one item on the agenda that day; signing the brand-new Constitution of the United States of America.

The 55 delegates had met almost daily since May 25 in the State House, otherwise known as Independence Hall; in Philadelphia to revise the Articles of Confederation.

By the middle of June, they realized that just updating the articles wasn't going to be enough. Instead, they would have to write an entirely new document designed to clearly define and separate the powers of the central government, the powers of the states, the rights of the people, and how the representatives of the people should be elected. What they came up with was the Constitution.

So what is a "constitution" and how does it affect military personnel? A constitution embodies the fundamental principles of a government. Our constitution was adopted by the sovereign power (we the people) and can be changed by that power only. All laws, executive actions, and judicial decisions must conform to it because it is the creator of all the powers exercised by every department of our government.

Our Constitution has been classed as rigid because it is a written document which cannot be legally changed with the same ease and the same way as ordinary laws. The unwritten British Constitution can be changed any time by an act of parliament.

The legendary early 19th century British prime minister, W. E. Gladstone, famously remarked that "...the American Constitution is, so far as I can see, the most wonderful work ever

struck off at a given time by the brain and purpose of man."

The Constitution remains brilliant in its overall design. The founders devised a political system that separated the powers of government, placed mutual checks on the powers each branch held, and ensured certain civil and human rights. Any new Constitutional initiatives cannot infringe upon these bedrock principles of American government.

Almost every new Constitution throughout the world has been modeled after ours.

Two years after the Constitution was signed, the first bill in the first session of the first Congress on 1 June 1789 was passed into law. It was statute 1, chapter 1 and it was titled: "An act to regulate the time and manner of administering certain oaths, which established the oath required by civil and military officials to support the Constitution".

The founding fathers agreed that the most important loyalty that officials had was their loyalty to the rule of American law, and not other men. There was almost no debate as this statute was unanimously passed.

Although the wording of the military oath has changed several times in the past two centuries, the basic foundation has withstood the test of time. The current oath is much more than a mere formality, it provides a foundation for leadership decisions. All members of the U.S. Armed Forces swear an oath to this document. The oath requires us to support and defend the Constitution,

not the president, not the country, not the flag, and not a particular military service. Yet, at the same time, the Constitution symbolizes the president, the country, the flag, the military, and much more.

The Constitution was built on a series of checks and balances that distribute power across the executive, legislative, and judicial branches. And military members must give their allegiance to all three entities- despite the fact that the chain of command leads directly to the president.

These checks and balances create inefficiencies inherent in the rest of America's democratic system. This can be frustrating for military personnel trying to defend a nation. That said, the U.S. has a pretty impressive track record of military success against quite a few enemies, both foreign and domestic in spite of our form of government. And I don't think Americans would want it any other way.

So no matter how much we argue about the details of its meaning today, most people agree that Constitution represents the greatest expression of statesmanship and compromise ever crafted. In just four hand-written pages, the Constitution gives America's Airmen the technical orders for honorable and excellent service to the greatest form of government the world has ever known.

For more information about Constitution Day and Citizenship Day, visit <http://constitutionday.cpmis.osd.mil>.



Photos by Isaac Gibson



Bye, bye

Lt. Col. Henri Castelain, 28th Test and Evaluation Squadron at Eglin AFB, Fla., and Lt. Col. Collin Smith, Det. 2 commander here, furl the Det. 2 flag Sept. 26 during an inactivation ceremony here. Det. 2 was officially inactivated Oct. 1.