TIP OF THE
SWORD
Sept. 16, 2005
Incirlik Air Base, Turkey

Fueling the fight

LRS meets increased mission demands head on

TIP OF THE SWORD

Volume 34 ◆ Number 35 ◆
http:source/39ABW_PA/html/tos.html

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On the cover:

Staff Sgt. Brandon Kline, 39th Logistics Readiness Squadron, fuels an aircraft on the flightline here. The first month the cargo hub stood up, the fuels flight issued 8.5 million gallons of fuel. See related article, Page 8. (Photo by Airman 1st Class Renae Saylock.)

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Air Force Birthday: *Celebrating 58 Years of Legacy and Service*

By Gen. Robert H. "Doc" Foglesong
Commander, U.S. Air Forces in Europe

RAMSTEIN AIR BASE, Germany – Fifty-eight years ago on Sept. 18, 1947, W. Stuart Symington was sworn in as the first Secretary of the Air Force; at that moment the Air Force became a distinct and separate U.S. military service. Just one year later, U. S. Air Forces in Europe would play a vital role in Operation Vittles, later known as the Berlin Airlift, by airlifting more than 2.3 million tons of food, fuel and medical supplies to the blockaded city of Berlin.

Today, USAFE Airmen are engaged in a wide range of U.S. and NATO real-world contingencies and exercises across the globe. We are furthering democracy in places such as Iraq and the former Eastern Bloc nations as USAFE people engage in Operations Iraqi Freedom and Enduring Freedom, partnership for peace exercises, military-to-military contact programs and other activities.

To all of the members of the Air Force – Active Duty, Guard, Reserve, civilian, retired and families – thank you for your dedication and commitment. Because of your effort and determination, we continue to be the most respected and feared air and space force in the world. We salute you for bringing your courage every day – thanks for all you do!

Action Line caller concerned about lack of pre-school programs here

Question: I am writing to you because of my concern for the lack of preschool programs on Incirlik. From my understanding, the only thing the CDC offers is an enrichment program. I believe that this program is only two days a week for two and a half hours and is not academic but does promote social interaction and early exploration. This program was cancelled for the summer and has now been postponed for the fall due to construction. Is it possible for the enrichment program to be moved to another building during the construction? I would appreciate any information that you could give to me concerning this issue.

Response: Some alternative programs available on Incirlik, which meet Air Force child development goals include peewee camps, youth center dance classes, and playgroups, just to name a few.

If these do not meet your needs, there is always the option of enrolling your child full time in the CDC.

If you're not interested in full time care and can find no other acceptable options, our SVS Family Member Program flight is willing to work with individuals on a case-by-case basis to develop enrichment curriculums, tailored to a particular age group that can be implemented at home. Please call Ms Vicky Haskins at 6-6689 to explore this option further or with any other child care questions you have.

The CDC enrichment program was curtailed for the summer due to PCS of CDC personnel and the USAFE hiring freeze. These factors, plus the onset of the CDC roof construction caused SVS leadership to postpone resumption of the program to early October. At this time they are actively recruiting qualified teachers.

Parents who are interested in registration should call the CDC at 6-6553.

The 39th Air Base Wing Public Affairs staff prepares all editorial content in the *Tip of the Sword.* The 39th ABW Public Affairs Office (Unit 7090, Box 135, APO AE 09824-5153) is located in Building 833, Room 274. **Submissions:** The editor or other *Tip of the Sword* staff will edit or re-write material for clarity brevity or to conform with the Associated Press Style Guide, local policy and Air Force style as required by Air Force Instruction 35-101. Contributions for the Tip of the Sword can be made through e-mail to tip.sword@incirlik.af.mil. The editor can be reached at 676-6060. **Deadlines:** Submission deadlines are Wednesday, nine days, prior to publication date. If submissions are publishable, they run based on space available and priority. **Disclaimer:** The *Tip of the Sword* is printed by Kemal Matbaasi, a private firm in no way connected with the U.S. Air Force, under exclusive written agreement with the 39th Air Base Wing. This funded Air Force magazine is an authorized publication for members of the U.S. military overseas. Unless otherwise noted, photographs are Air Force photos. The *Tip of the Sword* uses information from the Armed Forces Information Service, Air Force News Service, U.S. Forces in Europe News Service and other sources. Contents of Tip of the Sword are not necessarily the official views of, or endorsed by, the U.S. government, Department of Defense or Department of the U.S. Air Force. 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. **Contact Information:** To reach the 39th Air Base Wing Public Affairs staff, call 6-3217, fax 6-6492, e-mail tip.sword@incirlik.af.mil or stop by Building 833, Room 274.

Commander's Comments

By Col. "Tip" Stinnette
39th Air Base Wing commander

Put safety first

It takes all of Team Incirlik to stop the poor judgment calls that lead to many of the mishaps on and off base. The safety office has implemented the Knock it Off program to give each one of us a way to recognize when there is a potential for a mishap and stop it before it happens.

Remember the five Ss when it comes to mishap prevention: **Start** – say "Knock it Off"; **Safe** – Stop the activity; **State** – state your concern; **Solicit** – get inputs; **Solve** – state and discuss solutions; and **Settle** – find an agreement everyone is comfortable with. Always play it SMART!

Combat Intro/Exit

The goal of Combat Intro/Exit is to make the out-and in-processing process as close to one-stop as possible. I believe we have a good handle on the in-processing part and would like to focus on doing the out-processing part better.

Please help us help you to get your orders earlier than 60 days prior to your PCS date. Make sure you are taking care of the prerequisites for getting your orders well in advance of the 60 day point. Engage the 39th Mission Support Squadron early on if you are running into problems.

Customer College

Have you ever walked into an office, asked for help and been handed the "sorry, but this is not my problem" card? I am sure we all have and can remember how poor customer service made us feel.

The objective of the Customer College program is to deliver the training, resources, tools and initial skills required for customer service professionals to provide comprehensive care that exceeds customer expectations. Take advantage of the course offered here. Let us all help each other out and kick customer service up a notch or two.

Our Vision

To project the most respected and versatile mission support capability in U.S. Air Forces in Europe

Our Mission

To provide full spectrum, world-class forward operating base support to expeditionary forces while developing the professional talents of our men and women

Our Goals

Focused Mission Support

•Expand mission support capabilities for expeditionary operations

•Maintain fully compliant guardianship of all resources

Develop Professional Talents

•Develop expeditionary competencies

•Expand and support multiple dimensions of fitness

Improve Community Services

•Increase community outreach programs

•Integrate deployment and redeployment support

Your Turn

Where were you on 9/11?

"I was in English class at Dunde Crown, Ill., when an announcement came over the loud speaker telling us that the World Trade Towers had just been attacked."

— Airman 1st Class Joseph McEvilly, 817th Expeditionary Airlift Squadron, McChord AFB, Wash.

"I was in my living room, watching it happen on TV. That very same day, my family discovered that my grandmother had died."

— Senior Airman Jarrod Getz, 39th Security Forces Squadron

"I was going to the night shift seven-level school at Keesler AFB when I received a call from my wife after arriving back at my room."

— Tech. Sgt. David Gardner, 39th Communications Squadron

"I was at Beale AFB, on my way to work, when I heard it on the car radio."

— Master Sgt. Raul Ruiz, 39th Medical Squadron

"I was at work on Charleston AFB. We were having a shop briefing when the news spread throughout the building."

— Tech. Sgt. Randal Halstead, 39th Civil Engineer Squadron

To submit a question for "Your Turn," call 6-6060 or e-mail tip.sword@incirlik.af.mil

Airman Information File

September 2005

Having Passion for What We Do

"I … do solemnly swear that I will support and defend the constitution of the United States …"

These are more than just words to those of us in the profession of arms. Our oath commits us to a noble journey; a journey towards a more perfect union, to provide for our common defense, and to secure the blessings of liberty for our nation and our posterity. Our efforts require us to be committed to our nation's strategic goals and prepared to make great sacrifices in their defense. Having passion for what we do is not an option — it's essential to our Nation's future.

President John F. Kennedy, in his inaugural address in 1961 said, "Let every nation know, whether it wishes us well or ill, that we shall pay any price, bear any burden, meet any hardship, support any friend, oppose any foe, to assure the survival and success of liberty." These truths are being tested today in every corner of the world. Our enemies are often difficult to identify and may walk among us. Make no mistake, we are in the fight of a lifetime; a protracted and asymmetric struggle that will challenge our resolve — our passion — in a way no other has.

Expertise, confidence, enthusiasm, and conviction are hallmarks of passion. We must demonstrate our passion in everything we do! From building roads to launching aircraft, from Theater Security Cooperation activities to taking care of your Wingman, believing in what we do is essential for mission success. We must continue to believe America will always prevail regardless of the challenge. Passion gives us the power to persevere, and the moral and physical courage to act boldly on our beliefs — it's the manifestation of our spirit through action.

Passion is contagious! Leaders, bolster your teams with vision and enthusiasm. Followers, bring your expertise and conviction to every facet of the mission. Have the courage to lead by your actions and to leave your fingerprints behind.

"When there is an enemy to fight in open combat … many serve, all applaud, and the tide of patriotism runs high. But when there is a long slow struggle, with no immediate, visible foe, your choice will seem hard indeed." Kennedy's immortal words have never been more appropriate. As we continue to forge ahead in the global struggle for freedom, ensure all you do contributes to mission success and lead by your actions — have passion for everything you do!

General Doc Foglesong

CMSgt Gary Coleman

"Bring Your Courage"

Incirlik celebrates Hispanic American Heritage Month through Oct. 15

Hispanic American Heritage Month is through Oct. 15. This year's theme is "Hispanic Americans: Strong and Colorful Threads in the American Fabric." Many question the importance or necessity of cultural and special observances. Although Congress has approved and mandated timeframes for recognition of specific ethnic groups, it is important people understand the real significance of the observances.

Military members should be aware of the history, contributions and traditions of the diversified men and women who comprise our armed forces and our nation. The active-duty servicemembers represent many different ethnic and cultural groups. Hispanics have contributed to the military and American society as far back as the American Revolution in the 1700s.

When people promote education and awareness of the cultural background of diversified people like Hispanic Americans, they also build teamwork and cohesiveness. Just as there is strength in numbers, there is also strength in diversity. Take time to learn more about people like the first Hispanic NASA space shuttle astronauts, Ellen Ochoa, Franklin R. Chang-Diaz and Sid Gutierrez; Former Congressman Bob Martinez of Florida; and baseball legend Sammy Sosa.

Also, strive to learn more about the proud Hispanic men and women of the Incirlik community. These individuals, like all who proudly serve the nation, are committed to excellence, consistently put service before self and take pride in maintaining the integrity of this great nation.

Throughout Hispanic American Heritage Month, everyone will have opportunities to expand their knowledge and awareness of the Hispanic cultures. The base library will have a display to support the observance with a list of suggested reading material. Consider attending the Hispanic Heritage luncheon at the club Thursday at 11:30 a.m.

(Courtesy of the 39th Air Base Wing Military Equal Opportunity Office.)

Incirlik asked to take AF Climate Survey

Survey helps 'provide actionable feedback to leaders at all levels for the purpose of improving their units'

By 1st Lt. S.J.B. Bryant
39th Air Base Wing Public Affairs

Incirlik people can logon to the 2005 Air Force Climate Survey Oct. 1 through Nov. 23 to give their feedback on 13 factors that impact units and work centers.

The Web site, https:\\afclimatesurvey.af.mil, will allow eligible Airmen to participate in the survey 24 hours a day, every day of the week from practically any computer.

Established in 1991 as the Chief of Staff's Survey, the assessment is the prime tool of the Chief of Staff of the Air Force's to "provide actionable feedback to leaders at all levels for the purpose of improving their units." Air Force officers, enlisted and civilians as well as Guard and Reserve can provide feedback on organization issues across the Air Force, according to Tech. Sgt. Dana Bridges, 39th Air Base Wing 2005 Air Force Climate Survey coordinator.

While Sergeant Bridges maintains the survey is a valuable tool to commanders, she advises those who take it of what it is not.

"This is not a quality-of-life or military equal opportunity survey. Nor is it a health or unit climate assessment," she said. "And it is certainly not to be used as a witch hunt or report card.

This survey assesses factors that impact the overall health of the base like leadership, supervision, resources, training, development, teamwork, core values and job enhancement," she added.

People can take the survey online on any computer with internet access; both dot mil and non-dot mil. If using a non-dot mil computer, they will be asked for their social security number and date of birth for verification of Air Force affiliation.

"There is a reason the Air Force conducts a climate survey every year," said Col. "Tip" Stinnette, 39th Air Base Wing commander. "We do this survey, which is quite different from a unit initiated survey because our senior leadership needs to take periodic temperature readings of the force. This is a great opportunity for us to tap into our senior leaders and provide them with an honest assessment of what the force thinks."

"We hope to beat last year's participation by 25 percent," said Sergeant Bridges. "Incirlik reported 78.3 percent participation in the 2004 survey. When compared to United States Air Forces in Europe's 58 percent participation rate that put Incirlik first in the command. I think we can still do better than that."

'How is my organization doing?'

The Air Force Climate Survey begins Oct. 1 and runs through Nov. 23 and can be completed online at http://afclimatesurvey.af.mil anytime during the survey period. The Web address is not dot-mil restricted.

In the News

Birthday Blast

The base will celebrate the Air Force's 58th birthday with a barbecue and squadron sports competition at Leisure Time Park Saturday for any person over the age of 18. Events will begin at 4 p.m. with dinner being served at 6 p.m. The cost for dinner is $5 per person. Other events include an Ironman competition, water war games and a fear factor contest. Tickets are available from unit first sergeants.

Katrina info sources

There are a number of organizations collecting funds for victims of Hurricane Katrina, which hit the southern states of Louisiana, Alabama and Mississippi Aug. 29. Below are organizations collecting funds specifically for these victims.

The Air Force Aid Society, the American Red Cross, Friends of the Family Support Center (Randolph AFB, Texas), DSN 314-652-5321, The Network for Good, the Federal Emergency Management Agency and the Salvation Army.

Hometown Holiday taping

The AFNEWS Hometown Holiday Greetings Team will videotape holiday greetings Wednesday through Sept. 23 at the Official Document Center from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Walk-ins are welcome.

Commissioning

The Education Center will host a briefing Sept. 23 at 10 a.m. for anyone interested in learning about Air Force commissioning opportunities. Appointments requested but drop-ins are welcome. For more information, call Frank DiNatale at 6-4289.

Combat Touch is a program to infuse enthusiasm to passionately pursue matters of the spirit in our community through active participation in base programs. The primary goal of the program is to ensure Airmen and family members are aware of the programs, services, and expertise available to aid spiritual growth. For more information about the program and upcoming events, call the chapel at 6-6441.

Thousands mark 9/11 with freedom walk

'It is a day to remember the first responders and all those who came to the rescue.'

By Steven Donald Smith
American Forces Press Service

Sept. 11 marked the fourth anniversary of the terrorist attacks on the United States, and to commemorate that tragic event the Defense Department held the first "America Supports You Freedom Walk."

"This is a day for us to remember all those loved ones who were lost, and everyone who suffered so much that day," said Gordon England, acting deputy secretary of defense. Officials estimated that thousands took part in the walk to honor American servicemembers, past and present, and to embrace this country's freedom.

"It is a day to remember the first responders and all those who came to the rescue," Mr. England said, "and a day to remember all those who wear the cloth of our nation around the world, who protect and defend the freedoms and liberties that we so cherish."

The walk participants began assembling in the Pentagon parking lot at 8 a. m.

Bill O'Donnell was one of the first to arrive with his wife, Darlene, and daughter, Amber. "I work in the Pentagon, and I was here on 9/11. And I thought this would be a good way to both commemorate the event and support our troops," Mr. O'Donnell said. "I think it's very important that everybody needs to remember exactly what happened that day and the sacrifices our military make to maintain our freedom and liberty."

Photo by Master Sgt. David Byron

Secretary of Defense Donald H. Rumsfeld was among thousands of people who participated in the first "America Supports You Freedom Walk" Sept. 11. The two-mile walk began at the Pentagon and ended at the National Mall.

At 9:37 a.m. there was a moment of silence to commemorate the exact instant the terrorists drove American Airlines Flight 77 into the Pentagon, killing 184 people.

The two-mile walk began promptly at 10 a. m., with participants pouring out of the parking lot. The walkers crossed the Memorial Bridge from Virginia into Washington, and ended their commemorative trek at the JFK Hockey Field adjacent to the World War II Memorial on the National Mall.

As the walkers arrived on the mall, they were treated to a free musical tribute to the troops from the group "Little Big Town" and country music star Clint Black.

Dwight Richard said he was walking to show his support for American servicemembers. "We need to support the troops, regardless of our political affiliation," Mr. Richard said. "It is wrong what happened to the troops who came home from Vietnam."

"The troops put their lives on the line for us, so they deserve our support," said Lou Valencia.

Plans are already underway for next year's walk, with the goal of starting an annual tradition to commemorate 9/11 by having each state to hold its own "America Supports You Freedom Walk."

America Supports You is a nationwide program launched by the Department of Defense to highlight how Americans across the country are supporting the men and women of the armed forces.

Double time

One C-17 Globemaster III prepares to take off as another lands on the flightline here. Cargo hub operations began at Incirlik more than three months ago, carrying cargo to Iraq in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom.

Photo by Airman 1st Class Renae Saylock

39th MDS hosts change-of-command Wednesday

By Senior Airman Stephanie Hammer
39th Air Base Wing Public Affairs

The executive nursing fellow for the Assistant Surgeon General, Nursing Services, Office of the Surgeon General, Headquarters U.S. Air Force, Bolling Air Force Base, D.C., is scheduled to take command of the 39th Medical Squadron Sept. 21 at 2 p.m. at the Consolidated Club.

Col. Kimberly Cox will succeed Lt. Col. Amy McDaniels, 39th MDS commander, who will be reassigned as the Associate Director of Nursing and Associate Chief of Modernization and Optimization of the Air Force Medical Support Agency, a field operating agency located at Bolling.

Colonel Cox has been the executive nursing fellow since July 2004. Prior to that, she was the 15th Medical Group deputy commander at Hickam Air Force Base, Hawaii.

Colonel Cox received a direct commission in the Air Force Nurse Corps in 1982. Her assignments range from clinical nursing to recruiting, management, administration and command. She served as an officer accessions flight commander of one of the largest recruiting areas in the country, a deputy medical group commander and twice as a squadron commander.

During her 23-year Air Force career, Colonel Cox has earned the Meritorious Service Medal with four oak leaf clusters; the Air Force Commendation Medal with one oak leaf cluster; and the Air Force Achievement Medal.

For more information about the ceremony, call Master Sgt. Jeff McWaine at 6-6104.

CFC history explains uniformity of today's solicitation efforts

By 1st Lt. S.J.B. Bryant
39th Air Base Wing Public Affairs

Imagine an office where a hat was passed by your desk to collect money for a charity of which you have never heard. Or, imagine that hat got passed around numerous times in a week. This was a common scenario before the Combined Federal Campaign program was officially formed in 1961 and revised throughout the years.

As early as the 1940s, government employees were often solicited for various charitable donations and fundraising was practically a "free-for-all" concept, according to the CFC Web site at http://www.opm.gov/cfc/html/cfc_hist.asp.

But in 1948, the Federal Personnel Council (composed of agency personnel directors) attempted to stabilize the fundraising efforts. The intention was good but there was one problem – enforcement. It would be another six years before federal employee's dissatisfaction and lack of uniformity would be formally addressed.

It was Philip Young, the President's Advisor on Personnel Management and chairman of the Civil Service Commission who spent 1954 to 1956 conducting extensive discussions with leaders of charitable organizations and managers throughout the federal establishment. His research was rewarded when President Eisenhower allowed him to develop and administer a uniform policy and program for fundraising within the federal service.

On Sept. 6, 1957, new regulations established by Mr. Young were given the authority to identify charitable organizations, stabilize on-the-job solicitations and designate times of the year solicitations could occur. The first participating charitable organizations were The American Red Cross, which campaigned in the spring; Local Community Chests, United Funds, or Federated Groups, which campaigned in fall; The National Health Agencies (an ad hoc group of nine health-related voluntary organizations, now known as Community Health Charities) campaigning in the spring; and International Voluntary Agencies (later known as International Service Agencies) campaigning in the spring.

There was still dissatisfaction with the program because each of the charities were given a specific solicitation period. It was only in 1964, after President Kennedy made federal employee fundraising authorized in 1961, that the first "combined" campaigns — officially called the Combined Federal Campaign — were conducted as experiments in six cities. The result was a 20 to 125 percent increase in contributions as well as a highly favorable response within the federal community. And by 1971 all campaigns had become "combined."

President Nixon announced March 3, 1971, that the CFC would be the uniform fundraising method for the federal service and that payroll deduction would be used to make contributions. Again, contributions greatly increased – from $12.9 million in 1964 to $82.8 million in 1979.

Significant changes to the CFC regulations in April 1980 expanded participation in the CFC (the number of charities grew from 23 in the 60s to 33 in the 70s). These regulation changes, as well as reviews, revisions and research during the 1990s, has helped shape what is seen on the campaign brochure today – more than 20,000 nonprofit charitable organizations worldwide.

Contributions have also increased and in 2001, despite the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks, the campaign collected $241 million, the largest increase in 12 years. By 2003, that number grew to $250 million.

The CFC is the largest workplace charity campaign in the country, according to the Web site. This annual fall fundraising drive allows nearly four million federal employees and service members to contribute to thousands of local and national nonprofit organizations. Contributions can be in cash, check or by payroll deduction. Donors may designate which charity, or charities, receives their money by filling out a pledge card.

CFC unit representatives will be visiting offices Oct. 3 through Nov. 30 as Incirlik conducts its CFC program.

"Last year, Incirlik took in $101,435 with a 32.69 percent participation rate," said Maj. Michele Stone, 39th Air Base Wing 2005 CFC project officer. "We're hoping the participation rate will rise higher this year, especially in the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina. People often give during the first rush of a disaster, but the need often goes months and years after the initial impact. By giving through CFC, the victims will receive long term sustainment."

Photo by Airman 1st Class Renae Saylock

Senior Airman Micheal Perrino, 39th Logistics Readiness Squadron Fuels Flight, deployed from Misawa Air Base, Japan, prepares to fuel an aircraft on the flightline here. Since June, the members of the flight have pumped an average of eight million gallons per month.

Fuels brings hydrants to fight

By Capt. Denise Burnham
39th Air Base Wing Public Affairs

The fuels operations here has taken off since the cargo hub stood up June 1. As far as people and missions being affected by the new cargo hub operations, fuels is one of the highest impacted areas.

Since June, the members of the 39th Logistics Readiness Squadron Fuels Flight have pumped an average of eight million gallons per month, a 300 percent increase from their previous day-to-day operations.

"Prior to the hub, Incirlik issued a quarterly average of eight million gallons of fuel," said Tech. Sergeant Sandy Sais, 39th Logistics Readiness Squadron NCO in charge fuels hydrants. "The first month the (cargo) hub stood up, we issued 8.5 million gallons."

Routing the fuel to Incirlik is a process in itself.

Fuel comes to Incirlik via a NATO pipeline from Mersin. Barges off-load at the Mersin port and the fuel is transported here by the pipeline. The fuel that arrives here is owned by the Defense Energy Support Center. This is the same organization providing all the fuel on base, including fuel for vehicle use.

"DESC owns all the fuel and we are the caretakers of it," said 1st Lt. Carlos Caceres, 39th LRS deputy fuels operations officer.

Once it arrives on base the operations element receives the fuel from the pipeline. If the fuel is not immediately used, it is moved to a few tanks in storage. From storage, the fuel is transferred to hydrants. Hydrants then transfer it to strategically located pump houses and tanks on base.

Once the fuel is distributed, it takes the support of 17 TDY personnel from Langley and McConnell Air Force Bases, Kadena Air Base and Mildenhall RAF to pump it.

They work six days a week, which is pretty normal for any deployed location, according to Lieutenant Caceres.

"I fuel heavy aircraft here and fighters at my home station," said Airman 1st Class Brandi Gale, 39 Logistics Readiness Squadron fuels distribution operation, deployed here from Kadena. "Here, we dump a whole truck of (fuel) on one plane. I pump more in bulk here."

"It takes a lot of coordination between the resource control center and the AMOC to prioritize the aircraft. So far, we haven't had a single delay since June 1 when the cargo hub stood up," said Lieutenant Caceres. "We managed to meet this mission head on with the folks we have. It's really incredible how they manage to provide a flawless execution of it all."

The flight is responsible for refueling C-17s, KC-135s, C-130s, transient aircraft and British aircraft.

Many times, it takes the entire team, leadership included, to accomplish this mission. There are days when everyone goes out onto the flightline and fuels the jets.

"One day we had a C-17 that took five trucks worth of fuel," said Airman Gale. "We were so busy that all of us were on the line pumping fuel."

"It's like hot kids drinking grape Kool-Aid on a hot summer day; that's how they drink our gas," added Sergeant Sais.

Combat weather flight keeps eye on sky at Incirlik

By Capt. Denise Burnham
39th Air Base Wing Public Affairs

When people stationed at Incirlik think of "weather" they may think of balmy, sunny Mediterranean skies. The 39th Operations Squadron combat weather flight here conjures up other images when it comes to weather:

Received 07/1755Z
KQDG METAR 1755Z 14003KT 9999 SKC 25/16 ALSTG 29.88 RMK BLU
(1012) TEMP:77 DP:62 RH:59 PA +276 DA +1731 55/MM;

It may look like gibberish, but the above code is from an official Air Force weather report generated here, and it is crucial to aircraft flying missions in this part of the world.

Combat weather flight's mission is to produce weather observations at least once every hour. The 11-member flight is responsible to brief local aircrews, such as KC-135 Stratotanker crews, British C-17 Globemaster IIIs and even Turkish aircrew. The team is divided into 24 hour a day shifts, and normally covers at least eight briefings per day.

"It can vary from day-to-day," said Staff Sgt. Michael Miller, 39th OS weather forecaster. "We stay pretty busy though."

The refuelers take care of aircraft from downrange over the Black Sea region. The refuelers could be refueling fighters, C-17s, or other friendly aircraft within the Incirlik area of responsibility.

The flight's area of responsibility includes all of Turkey, the Eastern Mediterranean, Black Sea areas, and eastward to include Manas, Afghanistan, Saudi Arabia, Bahrain Kuwait and Iraq.

The weather team also briefs Turkish Air Force pilots before missions. "I briefed them today before they headed out on a mission to Norway," said Sergeant Miller. "We brief them on the average about once per month."

The flight's responsibility does not stop with the mission at Incirlik, they also are responsible for briefing transient aircrew.

The weather flight here works in conjunction with operational weather squadrons in Sembach, Germany, and Shaw AFB, S.C. A certain portion of the briefings go through the head squadron located at Sembach. Some of the briefings produced for downrange are produced by the Shaw weather squadron.

"Pretty much Shaw, Germany and us produce the weather products for downrange," said Sergeant Miller.

Like any organization on base, when "weather" gets busy it rains and pours.

"When we have thunderstorms in the area, such a torrential rainfall or any kind of severe weather, hail, winds or lightening it really gets busy in here," he said. "The worst season for thunderstorms is the spring and we get more starting in October.

"Summer is a great season for the lack of weather at all," he added. "The aircrews here love summertime."

Photos by Airman 1st Class Renae Saylock

(Top) Senior Airman Javier Gonzalez, a Weather Forecaster with the 39th Operations Squadron, takes a wind reading outside the weather flight office here Monday. A Weather Forecaster is responsible for keeping the base updated on the current weather conditions.

(Bottom) Airman Gonzalez replenishes the water tank on the Heat CAT machine outside the weather flight office.

Weather ramps up again in December due to low clouds and normal wintertime weather.

"If we have a thunderstorm warning out, to be within five miles of the base, the aircraft won't land here and they'll circle around," he said. "If the warning doesn't end within an hour the aircraft may be forced to divert to land in another location such as Ankara."

The combat weather flight is a little office with a big mission, to keep aircrew safe and advised of the weather in the sky.

Ask Mehmet

By **Mehmet Birbiri**, *Host Nation Adviser*

Question: I took a bus to Ankara recently. They served some snacks and drinks during the ride. But before serving the snacks, a man came around with a lemon-smelling liquid for people to wash their hands and faces with. I also see this in restaurants and in Turkish friends' homes. What is the significance behind the liquid, and why do the Turks use it instead water?

Answer: Cologne is used very widely in Turkey and has become part of our culture. You will be offered cologne in almost every Turkish house and office during a social visit. It is practiced more commonly in cities, especially those with warm weather like Adana and Izmir.

Splashing or rubbing cologne on your hands, face, neck and hair helps to refresh the air and gives you a fresh feeling.

Millions of Turkish men use cologne as aftershave. Many Turkish women use cologne in place of perfume.

You can purchase cologne from every market and pharmacy in Turkey. The price of it varies depending upon the brand and scent. Cologne in a regular size glass container costs about five dollars.

Cologne has an alcohol base. Thus, it evaporates immediately after you rub it. You do not have to wipe or dry it off. The lemony content washes away the grimy feeling.

You will be offered cologne at a restaurant after finishing your meal and right before leaving the restaurant. The reason is the same; to wipe and cleanse your hands of food particles.

Cologne originated in the city of Cologne, Germany. The name of the city was given to that nicely smelling liquid. While lemon cologne is the most common and most popular one in Turkey, we also have colognes scented with rose, lily, jasmine and other flowers and plants, even tobacco.

Offering cologne during bayram (Ramazan and Sacrifice festivals) visits is a must. There will be lines of people buying cologne in front of cologne stands on the eves of bayrams.

File photo

The oriental-style toilet above is common throughout the Turkish countryside.

Question: I always see a metal pipe in toilet bowls in Turkey. What is this, and how does this thing work?

Answer: There is water that comes from that pipe, and it is used for cleansing yourself after you have finished using the toilet. If you look carefully, you will see the tap mounted closely to the bowl to turn the water on and off.

Traditionally, oriental-style toilets are used in Turkey. Oriental-style toilets have two platforms on which to put your feet and squat with a hole in the middle in which to do your business. You will also see a small tap on the wall and a small bucket underneath it. It is quite challenging to use oriental toilets for most foreigners.

Cleansing yourself is done with water after you have finished using the toilet. Cleansing cannot be completely done with toilet paper, which is why it is not widely used in Turkey. That is why we have that metal pipe in the with western style toilet bowls. You might not always find toilet paper in public toilets, but always water and soap. Therefore, I recommend you keep a roll of toilet paper with you if you are traveling in Turkey.

In large cities, western style toilets are found almost everywhere. But throughout the countryside at gas stations and road side stops, oriental toilets are the norm. There are always separate sections for men and women. Sometimes you have to pay to use public toilets; the charge is minimal though. Public toilets are always better at hotels and restaurants.

While old Turkish houses have only oriental-style toilets, the new ones have both styles. The young generation prefers to use the western-style and older generation prefers to use the oriental toilets.

When you visit a Turkish house you will notice a pair of plastic slippers by the entrance of the toilet. Those slippers are to be worn while using the toilet and the idea is that you do not wonder around the house with the same shoes or slippers that you wore into the toilets.

In Turkish

kolonya - cologne
(co-lohn-yeah)

tuvalet - toilet
(to-vah-let)

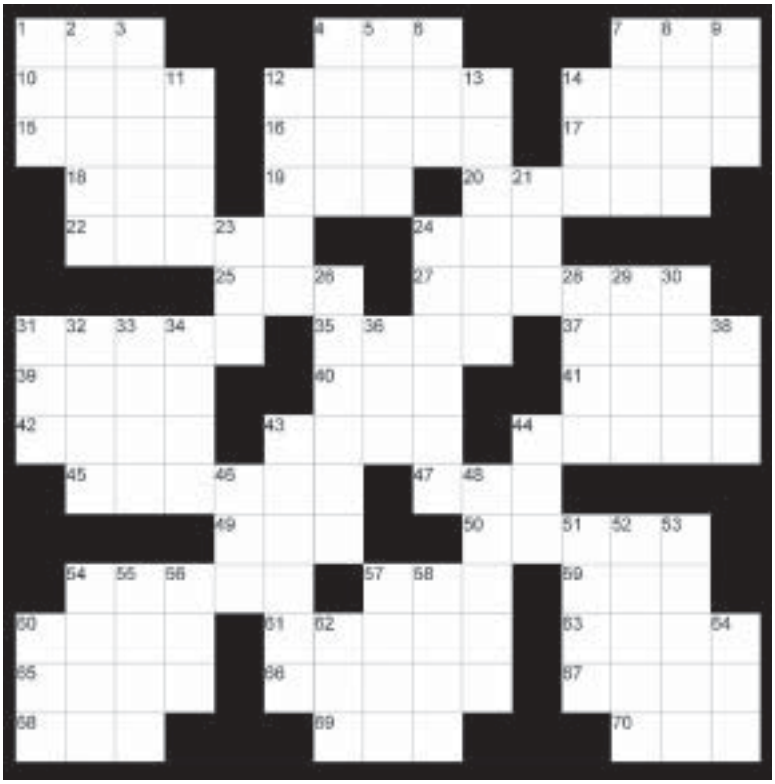
tuvalet kagidi - toilet paper
(to-vah-let kah-eh-de)

sabun - soap
(sah-boon)

buralarda temiz tuvalet var mi?
Is there a clean toilet around here?
(booh-rah-lahr-dah ta-meez to-vah-let vahr-me?)

Do you have a question about something Turkish? Ask Mehmet. To submit a question, call 6-6060 or e-mail mehmet.birbiri@incirlik.af.mil.

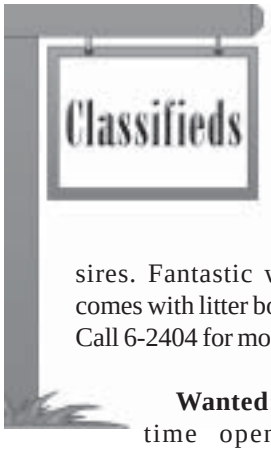
Happy Birthday USAF



By Capt. Tony Wickman
Alaskan Command Public Affairs

ACROSS
1. Commercials
4. Federal org. concerned with drugs
7. ___ vs. Wade
10. Category
12. Cpl. Vernon L. __; first enlisted pilot in 1912
14. Gen. ___ Spaatz; first Chief of Staff of the USAF
15. Recount
16. French cubist artist Fernand
17. Pilots with 5+ kills
18. Bro's sib
19. Donkey
20. Gen., Maj., CMSgt, SSgt, A1C, etc.
22. Plant stem
24. Kunsan AB host country currency
25. Dowel
27. Gen. Henry H. ____; only five star general in USAF history
31. Frederick I. ___; charter member of the Order of Daedalians
35. ___ on; encourages
37. Jacob's first wife
39. Film ____
40. 2000 movie ___ of Honor
41. SE Florida county home to Homestead JARB
42. Repeated 3X for title film about Pearl Harbor attack
43. Sally ____; first U.S. woman in space
44. Estimate
45. Banderole
47. Galloped
49. Stat for 48 DOWN
50. Dallas team
54. Uniform material, once
57. Tom Brady stat
59. Former command developed by Gen. Curtis E. LeMay, in brief
60. Ache
61. Ralph ___; American lawyer, consumer protectionism pioneer
63. Smooth out
65. For Your Eyes ____
66. Simultaneous release of a rack of bombs from an aircraft
67. Current MAJCOM for training
68. Snakelike fish
69. Vote in favor
70. Comm. person in the field

DOWN
1. MCI competitor
2. William E. ___; WWII pilot & Bataan death march escapee
3. Break in two
4. Fees
5. Units of energy; equal to work of a force of one dyne/cm
6. Period
7. Medieval torture tool
8. Mining goals
9. Golfer Ernie
11. Designer Schiaparelli
12. Ester McGowin ___; first woman to enlist in Air Force
13. Mistakes
14. Able
21. Cape ___; northeast Massachusetts peninsula
23. Dr.'s asst
24. Lt. Boyd ____; first American USAAF ace of WWII
26. NASA space program
28. Brig. Gen. Robin ___; rated a triple air ace (WWII/Vietnam)
29. Lawns
30. Art movement
31. Uzal G. ___; 2AF commander in WWII, led Operation Tidal Wave
32. Blunder
33. Italian currency, once
34. Middle East country
36. H.S. diploma equivalent
38. Word of surprise
43. Augustine Warner ___; father of modern USAF logistics
44. Picnic pest
46. Bother
48. Houston player
51. Continent home to Osan AB
52. Scarcer
53. Cpl. Frank ___; first enlisted man to die in aircraft accident
54. Citizen ___
55. Ployer P. ___; test pilot killed in original B-17 crash
56. ___ *Given Sunday*
57. Sit ___ by; do nothing
58. Actress Campbell
60. Writer Edgar Allen
62. Auto club
64. Considered "backbone" of USAF



Free pet: Five-year old, gray, female cat. Already spayed with all shots up-to-date. We will have her de-clawed if her new family desires. Fantastic with children and comes with litter box, carrier and food. Call 6-2404 for more information.

Wanted: Immediate part-time opening for WICO Wellness Counselor. BA/BS in nursing/dietician or Home Ecominics required. Call 6-1237 or DSN 226-9016 for details.

PCS sale: RCA 36-inch wide-screen, stand included, $300. Panasonic 600w Dolby PL Receiver with 100-disc changer, both dual voltage, $300. Kenwood DVD, dual voltage, $30, five-shelf black bookcase, $30. Five piece luggage set, $50 and two-piece American Traveler matching luggage, $50. Set of men's left golf clubs with bag, $60. For more information, call Erik at 6-8282 or 6-5139.

Wanted: The home schooling group is looking for an experienced person to teach a class on art or music. Teacher needs to have experience working with childern. We will provide flexible hours for the classes. If you have any art skills such as drawing, sketching, crafts, pottery, etc., call Jackie at 6-2360 or Jason at 6-8075 or e-mail welovejesus247@yahoo.com.

Wanted: A children's 12 volt power wheels toy in decent condition (no cosmetic damage) faded paint is acceptable, possibly Barbie jeep or Big Foot . Call Corey at 6-8411/2441.

EVERY INCIRLIK TEAM MEMBER HAS THE RIGHT TO CALL KNOCK IT OFF

FOR QUESTIONS CALL WING SAFETY AT 6-SAFE

Combat, Special Interest Program

Free education

The U. S. Air Force will foot the tuition bill for any active-duty Airman to earn an associate's, bachelor's and master's degree as well as an official certificate program. That is four opportunities to advance educationally for free. This offer is also open to National Guard and Reserve members who are activated for 90 days or more. Also offered free of charge are CLEP program tests as well as DANTES education support tests. For more information, call the education office at 6-3211.

Customer College

A program educating people on how to best take care of customers. For more information, contact unit training managers or Richelle Kemper at 6-8289.

Combat Touch events

Mid-week Bible Study is 6:30 p.m. Wednesdays in the Chapel Annex. For more information, call 6-2188.

The Crossroads Café is opened Friday 7 p.m. for 18 years and older. The cafe will be open Saturday 6 p.m. for all ages.

Hours for Sunday worship services at the base chapel in building 945 are:

Protestant:
8 a.m. – Traditional worship service
11:15 a.m. – Gospel worship service
6 p.m. – Contemporary service

Catholic:
9 a.m. – Reconciliation
9:30 a.m. – Mass

Daily Mass is 11:30 a.m. Tuesdays through Fridays. The chapel also has points of contact for other religions.

Personal checks written to the chapel require the sponsor's social security number on them and should be made out to USAFE Chaplain's Service. For more information, call 6-6441.

The Protestant Women of the Chapel are hosting a monthly fellowship dinner Sept. 26 at 6:30 p.m. at the club. Call Renesa Smith at 6-2053 for more details.

Photo by Airman Dawn Duman

Jonathon Lucas, age 12 and the son of John Lucas, 39th Logistics Readiness Squadron, tries to knock down a troll while playing the troll toss game Sept. 9 at Arkadas Park before the Touch n' Go end of summer concert.

At the Oasis

Today

7 p.m. – Fantastic Four (PG-13) – Starring Ioan Gruffudd, Jessica Alba. When an experimental space voyage goes awry, four people are changed by cosmic rays. (123 minutes)

9:15 p.m. – Dark Water (PG-13) – Starring Jennifer Connelly, John C. Reilly. Dahlia is determined to put her relationship with her husband behind her and devote herself to her daughter, but her situation takes a turn for the worse. (105 min)

Saturday

5 p.m. – Herbie: Fully Loaded (G) – Starring Lindsay Lohan, Justin Long. Max, a 10-year-old is an outcast who has become lost in his own fantasy world. But Max realizes the characters in his imagination might be more real than anyone else believes. (98 minutes)

7:30 p.m. – The Island (PG-13) – Starring Ewan McGregor, Scarlett Johansson. Lincoln is a resident of a seemingly utopian but contained facility in the mid 21st century. Like other inhabitants of this controlled environment, Lincoln hopes to be chosen to go to the "The Island" - reportedly the last uncontaminated spot on the planet. (115 minutes)

Sunday

7 p.m. – The Island (PG-13) – Starring Ewan McGregor, Scarlett Johansson. (115 minutes)

Thursday

7 p.m. – Dark Water (PG-13) – Starring Jennifer Connelly, John C. Reilly. (105 min)

At the M1

Cinerella Man (PG-13) — 12:30 p.m., 3:30 p.m., 6:30 p.m., 8 p.m., 9:30 p.m. and 11:45 p.m. (144 minutes)

Godsend (PG-13) — 11:45 a.m., 2 p.m., 4:45 p.m., 7 p.m., 9:15 p.m. and 11:45 p.m. (110 minutes)

Skeleton Key (PG) — 1 p.m., 5:15 p.m., and 9:30 p.m. (104 minutes)

Movie listings are subject to changes. On-base listings are courtesy of the Army and Air Force Exchange Service Web site at http://www.aafes.com/ems/euro/incirlik.htm; For more Oasis information and updates, call the movie recording at 6-6986 or the theater office at 6-9140.