

# The NORTHWEST AIRLIFTER

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McChord Air Force Base, Wash.

Connecting Team McChord with the Combat Airlift Mission

February 6, 2009

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# McChord receives Elmendorf Airmen, aircraft

By  
**Tyler Hemstreet**  
Staff writer

McChord welcomed eight aircraft and nearly 200 Airmen from Elmendorf Air Force Base, Alaska, Jan. 31 through Monday as part of a precautionary redeployment in light of increased activity associated with Mount Redoubt volcano, located approximately 100 miles from Elmendorf.

Three Air Force Reserve Command C-130J Hurricane Hunter aircraft on assignment from Mississippi to Alaska relocated to McChord Jan. 31, and five Elmendorf-based C-17 Globemaster IIIs arrived late Sunday and early Monday.

"Our ability to quickly receive additional air power on short notice and continue to support the nation's worldwide strategic airlift requirements is a capability long-associated with McChord," said Col. Jeffrey Stephenson, 62nd Airlift Wing commander. "We've supported evacuations in the past, and we will gladly



Photo by Abner Guzman

Airmen from Elmendorf Air Force Base, Alaska, complete paperwork during a morning briefing from Lt. Col. David Almand, 517th Airlift Squadron commander, in the 8th Airlift Squadron auditorium Monday.

See **ELMENDORF**, Page 4



Photo by Abner Guzman

## Airpower hero

Former Army Air Corps Captain Joseph Moser, center, salutes Col. Jeffrey Stephenson, 62nd Airlift Wing commander, left, after receiving the Distinguished Flying Cross at the 62nd AW Annual Awards Banquet Jan. 29. Mr. Moser waited 65 years to receive the award after unknowingly earning it in 1944. For more coverage of the awards banquet, see pages 8-9.

## Wings integrate at ORI tabletop

By  
**Tyler Hemstreet**  
Staff writer

McChord hosted an interactive table top discussion Jan. 30 at the Chapel Support Center in a move to better position three participating airlift wings for success in the upcoming Operational Readiness Inspection.

Participating Airmen from the 62nd and 446th Airlift Wings and the 319th Air Refueling Wing at Grand Forks Air Force Base, N.D., gathered and discussed the upcoming flyaway via the Defense Connect Online program, which allowed Airmen at Grand Forks to view slides simultaneously and hear discussions in the group setting.

"The DCO allowed us to fully integrate Grand Forks as a partner in this exercise and walk them through the process," said John Schmedake, 62nd AW deputy chief of plans and programs.

According to wing officials, the table top was the first interactive event of its kind here used to prepare for an ORI.

"It allowed us to lay down a game plan for the flyaway and get everyone on the same page," said Capt. Derek Gallagher, 62nd AW deputy chief of ORI preparation.

Prior to actually walking through the exercise scenario, each unit made a presentation detailing its role in the exercise.

"Everyone involved got to see the processes and the communication flow up and down the chain of command," Captain Gallagher said. "It gave everyone a chance to see what the other functions are doing during the exercise."

Seeing how each unit fit into the exercise gave the Airmen involved a better understanding of what their role is so they aren't operating blindly, he said.

The tabletop also reinforced the

See **ORI**, Page 4

### Weekend Weather

FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
Hi: 46 Low: 35	Hi: 46 Low: 36	Hi: 42 Low: 33

Forecast generated at 7 a.m. Thursday  
Courtesy of the 62nd Operations Support Squadron

### Countdown to success

Rodeo .....	<b>164</b> days
Operational Readiness Inspection .....	<b>262</b> days

### Don't miss it ...

## MOBEX

Mobility exercise begins today.

# Airman's Roll Call: National African American History month



Each February, the nation recognizes National African American History Month to highlight the triumphs and contributions African-Americans have made to the nation's cultural and political landscape.

The first celebration to commemorate the contributions to the nation made by people of African descent occurred Feb. 12, 1926. For many years, the second week of February was set aside for this celebration. In 1976, as part of the nation's bicentennial, the

week was expanded into Black History Month. Now the nation marks February as National African American History Month.

Some other African-American history facts:

- Frederick Jones, an African-American, held more than 60 patents — most of them dealing with refrigeration. His portable air conditioner was used in World War II to preserve medicine and blood serum.

- The Tuskegee Airmen were the first African-American pilots

in the U.S. armed forces. Beginning in 1941, groups of extensively tested and rigorously trained African-Americans received flight training at the Tuskegee Institute in Alabama.

- Elijah McCoy invented an automatic lubricator for oiling steam engines in 1872. The term "the real McCoy" is believed to be a reference about the reliability of Elijah McCoy's invention.

- George Carruthers invented the far ultraviolet electrographic camera, used in the 1972 Apollo

16 mission. This invention revealed new features of Earth's far-outer atmosphere and deep-space objects from the perspective of the lunar surface. Carruthers was inducted into the National Inventor's Hall of Fame in 2003.

*Airman's Roll Call is designed for supervisors at all levels to help keep Airmen informed on current issues, clear up confusion, dispel rumors, and provide additional face-to-face communication between supervisors and their teams.*

## Persistent attention to detail yields continuous excellence

By

**Lt. Col. John Andrus**

62nd Medical Squadron commander

Throughout Air Mobility Command and the Air Force, McChord Air Force Base has a well-deserved reputation of excellence.

Our recent Nuclear Surety Inspection results further validate that reputation. A key to our success with the NSI and other inspections has been our attention to many minute details. It is this attention to detail that brings excellence in all we do. On the other hand, inattention to even one small detail can bring disastrous results.

Many have heard the saying that if a job is worth doing, it's worth doing well. Guarding freedom and justice is a job

worth doing and we are fortunate to be on a team that does it incredibly well. However, we must remain vigilant and never relax our guard. This is easier said than done. Our mission is challenging, the pace unrelenting and we find ourselves constantly prioritizing tasks and shifting resources to get the job done. In this environment it is easy to rush from one task to the next so quickly that we can become careless, missing a key step.

Regardless of how busy we become we must stay focused. Whether fueling an aircraft, planning a mission, repairing a downed electrical line, preparing a meal, measuring blood pressure, writing a performance report, scheduling personnel or even planning an evening out, performing each step of the process correctly is essential to

success. Establishing and using standardized procedures and following checklists and technical orders are effective tools to help stay focused and ensure nothing is forgotten. This is true both on and off duty. Another effective technique is to use a team approach to perform a task or have a team member double check or proofread your work. Computer programs can help with spell-check or tracking functions.

Paying attention to detail is an attribute of the professionalism that characterizes Team McChord. It's an essential element of safe, effective mission accomplishment. As busy as we are, it's essential that we continue to take the time to pay attention to detail, using checklists and a team approach to ensure we do not falter nor fail.

## The Sharp Airman knows...

the enlisted force is comprised of three distinct and separate tiers, each correlating to increased levels of training, education,

technical competence, experience, leadership, and managerial responsibilities.

The Sharp Airmen also knows and understands their specific roles and responsibilities as found in Air Force Instruction 26-2618, the enlisted force structure.

## Professionals of the week

### 62nd Communications Squadron

#### Staff Sgt. Stephen Cousins

**Duty title:**  
Network infrastructure technician

**Duty section:**  
Network management

**Hometown:**  
British Columbia, Canada

**Why he's super:**

Sergeant Cousins was hand selected for the U.S. Air Force Academy's exchange program, mentoring cadets for future leadership roles. He also coordinated network installations for the mobility exercise, configuring five switches and building a deployment kit in preparation for the 2009 Operational Readiness Inspection. Additionally, Sergeant Cousins quickly responded to a network outage effecting the 62nd Airlift Wing Plans and Programs office. He isolated and rapidly repaired a broken converter, restoring mission essential service. Finally, Sergeant Cousins set up and tested alternate paths for the Executive Airlift Communication Network, ensuring command and control reliability for the president of the United States.



#### Tech. Sgt. Kevin Williams

**Duty title:**  
NCOIC, ground radio communications maintenance

**Duty section:**  
Ground radio maintenance

**Hometown:**  
Lawrence, Kan.

**Why he's tops:**

During his three years at McChord AFB, Sergeant Williams has been responsible for the training and supervision of 16 tech school graduates while maintaining radio communications equipment supporting the Western Area Defense Sector's homeland defense mission, as well as the base giant voice early warning system. Additionally, he successfully coordinated over 300 public address requirements for events including Air Mobility Command Rodeo, the 2008 McChord Air Expo, and a briefing from the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff. The consummate professional, Sergeant Williams was recognized as an outstanding performer during the 2008 Unit Compliance Inspection and received the First Sergeants' excellence in leadership award.



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# Tax help now available for Airmen

By  
**Tyler Hemstreet**  
Staff writer

McChord's tax center is now open, offering free assistance to Airmen, retirees and spouses of deployed Airmen.

Located in Room 3007 of Bldg. 100, the center is open 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. daily. Most tax services at the center are through appointment only, which can be made by calling 982-6857. Each Wednesday the center also offers free walk-in filing to Airmen with a single W-2 form.

The walk-in service is mainly to help young Airmen eager to file their tax returns, said Patty DeCamp, 62nd Airlift Wing legal office tax reviewer.

"We're here to save them money so they don't have to go off base and pay to get their return done," said Ms. DeCamp, adding that it often costs at least \$75 to file a return off base.

Service on walk-in days is first come, first served.

The following documents and information are needed to complete a tax return:

- Military I.D.
- All W-2, 1099INT, 1099R, 1099DIV and 1098 forms.
- Proof of a bank account if direct deposit is desired.

- Receipts for deductible expenses if itemizing deductions.
- Proof of childcare expenses.
- Amount of any advanced child tax credit received.
- Social Security numbers and dates of birth of your spouse and/or dependents.
- Stimulus check amount.
- Previous year's tax return and any other tax-related documents.

If Airmen bring all their documents and file for their refund to be deposited into their checking or savings account, they will usually get their refund in two weeks, Ms. DeCamp said.

Airmen who can't make it on the walk-in days are encouraged to visit their squadron's Volunteer Income Tax Assistant representative. Each VITA representative is IRS-trained and certified. A complete list of VITAs can be found on the Share Point site at the 62nd AW Legal Office page: <https://62aw.mcchord.af.mil/awstaff/JA/default.aspx>.

Airmen interested in getting in touch with their squadron's VITA representative can also contact their first sergeant. If the specified VITA is unable to assist, Airmen may contact a VITA from another unit.

Airmen who have multiple business entities to report on their taxes should seek help from a paid preparer, Ms. DeCamp said.

## Legal documents: get it done early

By **Tyler Hemstreet**  
Staff writer

Establishing a power of attorney, drawing up a will and getting legal advice are things the 62nd Airlift Wing Legal Office can help Airmen take care of before they deploy.

Airmen can receive assistance by calling the legal office at 982-5512 to set up an appointment several weeks ahead of time.

The legal office can help Airmen appoint a person to whom they wish to give power of attorney privileges to help take care of domestic matters.

By establishing a "limited and very specific" power of attorney, Airmen can have the piece of mind that the person looking after their belongings isn't authorized to act outside the parameters set in the agreement, said Master Sgt. Mark Ackerson, 62nd AW Legal Office.

Powers of attorney can also determine who will watch over and make medical decisions for the deployed member's family. Family members of deployed Airmen can also visit the office for legal assistance should landlord or tenant issues arise, or to bring questions regarding the Servicemembers Civil Relief Act.

The office can also advise Airmen and spouses on family matters such as adoptions, paternity suits and divorce.

Airmen should set aside at least two-and-a-half hours during their appointments to make wills. This time frame gives Airmen enough time to meet with a military attorney, fill out a will worksheet and answer questions, Sergeant Ackerson said.

The legal staff will then process the data and produce the will, giving Airmen the signed and notarized documents.

## Do you have a story idea?

Spread the news in *The NW Airlifter!*

Call Public Affairs at 982-5637 or

e-mail us at [northwestairlifter@mcchord.af.mil](mailto:northwestairlifter@mcchord.af.mil)



From ELMENDORF, Page 1

support our fellow Airmen from Elmendorf as long as they need us.”

McChord’s own C-17 strategic airlift mission made the base ideally suited to host the relocated aircraft and allow the Elmendorf Airmen to continue to meet their mission requirements. Both visiting units resumed flying operations out of McChord on Tuesday, completing a combined three missions and one local sortie by Wednesday.

“Given that we are continuously in support of (U.S. Transportation Command) taskings, the only way that we can guarantee continuous missions — with the instability and unpredictability of the volcano — was to go ahead and redeploy down here,” said Lt. Col. David Almand, 517th Airlift Squadron commander at Elmendorf.

“We’ve gotten outstanding support from (the 62nd AW) in allowing us everything we need on the operations and maintenance side from the wing commander on down to the lowest level,” said the colonel.

The 517th AS provides airlift for theater deployed forces and resupply of remote Alaskan long-range radar sites in support of (U.S. Pacific Command), (North American Aerospace Defense

Command) and TRANSCOM. The volcano has the potential to “cause a disruption to airflow,” and potentially disrupt missions, Colonel Almand said.

“The importance of integration is to share our resources, ensuring that Elmendorf operations continue from here just as they would at home, and just as if they were another squadron here,” said Col. Joseph Wiley, 62nd Operations Group commander.

It was a big chore to pick up nearly everything and move operations on short notice and Master Sgt. Stephen Santos, 703rd Aircraft Maintenance Squadron first sergeant, was helping his Airmen get acclimated to their temporary workplace as well as their lodging arrangements in nearby Lacey, Wash.

“We brought the back shop, flightline maintainers, aircrews, plus the whole operational side,” Sergeant Santos said. “It’s the first time we’ve moved an entire operational function to another base.”

McChord leadership anticipates the redeployment to last at least two to four weeks.

“Our goal is to seamlessly integrate Elmendorf operations into those of McChord while simultaneously supporting the objectives of TRANSCOM and PACOM,” said Col. Jon DeClerck, 62nd Operations Group deputy commander.



Photo by Abner Guzman

Three C-17 Globemaster III aircraft from Elmendorf Air Force Base, Alaska, sit on the runway here Monday.

From ORI, Page 1

fact everyone involved must be precise when it comes to communication within the unit and other exercise participants, said Capt. Samuel Aston, 62nd Logistics Readiness Squadron.

“The biggest thing our guys realized is that you have to be very detail-oriented when it comes to relaying information to

the Operations Control Center and to other Airmen because sometimes things can get lost in translation,” said Captain Aston, whose unit is responsible for transportation, fuels, supply support and the redeployment during the exercise.

“I think everyone definitely walked away (from the tabletop) with a sense of comfort,” Captain Gallagher said.

### 0-0-1-3

The medical standard is one drink for women or two drinks for men if a daily drinker.



For periodic drinking, the standard is to keep the blood alcohol level or blood alcohol content under 0.05.

**0 Drinks under age 21**  
**0 DUI's**

**Max 1 drink per hour**  
**Max 3 drinks in one night**

*Use personal risk management*  
*Use situational awareness*  
*Use your wingman*  
*Use a friend*

**DON'T DRINK AND DRIVE**



# McChord Airman puts life on line around world

By

**Tech. Sgt. Nick Przybyciel**  
446th Airlift Wing  
Public Affairs

MCCHORD AIR FORCE BASE, Wash. — Think Rambo armed with a stethoscope instead of a 30-inch knife, and you get Tech. Sgt. Christopher Hamel from the 446th Aeromedical Staging Squadron.

The volunteer work this McChord Reservist does in his spare time has actually been more perilous than his two military deployments to Iraq. As a member of the non-profit organization Volunteer Medics Worldwide, Sergeant Hamel has literally risked his own life on several occasions to bring medical care to the poorest of the world's poor.

There was the time in Ethiopia where he had to bribe a policeman to protect him from a frenzied mob. On a separate mission to Tibet, he was arrested and detained by Chinese police.

The good days aren't that much better. Traveling through the Third World requires sleeping in squalid hotel rooms without heat or even any electricity, being extorted by unscrupulous locals, and contracting a whole slew of exotic illnesses, all on a daily basis.

If this sounds like an insane way to spend your free time, it only gets crazier.

Sergeant Hamel loves the volunteer work he does with VMW so much that he actually pays for what

many would call misery - nearly \$5,000 to date for two separate missions. What he gets in return is something money cannot buy.

"It really changes your perspective on life, when you put forth your own money and hard work to help others. When you spend time in a country where people make less than \$1 per day, it does change the way you look at things and makes you realize what's important," he said.

After reading about VMW, Sergeant Hamel knew he'd found his calling. The non-profit organization is dedicated to providing basic needs for individuals around the world by providing medical care, food services and education. As a medical professional and someone who "always had a wanderlust for travel," VMW was right up Sergeant Hamel's alley.

Founded and led by a former Marine Corps machine gunner-turned-doctor, VMW organizes free medical care clinics in some of the world's poorest and most dangerous areas.

"We go almost anywhere one could imagine, but we won't go anywhere there is a possibility that we would be helping terrorists," said Gerald Flint, VMW founder.

VMW operates on a shoestring budget, with its members often investing their own money on supplies and travel costs. Missions typically last two to three weeks, but some can last a few months.

Volunteers have served across the world, from Peruvian villages on the

Amazon River, to war-ravaged cities in the country of Georgia.

Getting to where help is most-needed can be perilous. Sergeant Hamel's travel journal is replete with stories of terrifying flights in rickety aircraft and white-knuckled taxi rides through the streets of India. Along the way he's been harassed by nearly anyone you could think of, from corrupt government officials to armed militias.

Once VMW volunteers like Sergeant Hamel actually make it to their destinations, they establish and run clinics that offer basic medical and educational services, focusing on ophthalmology and preventing blindness. While decent eyesight may seem like a trivial issue compared to some of the other disorders plaguing the third world, it's actually an issue with huge consequences.

"Blindness is so prevalent in the Third World, but it's such a treatable thing," Sergeant Hamel said. "One thing a lot of people don't realize is the impact that blindness can have on someone like a woman in Africa. A lot of them use their hands to make things, and that income can support their whole family. If they can't see what they're doing, they can't work and their entire family could go hungry as a result."

However, there's a very easy and cheap solution that VMW offers. By setting up free eye clinics and providing villagers with donated glasses—the same ones you can buy at a grocery store for about \$1 - poor people can continue to work and

make a living.

"Most people think that if you donate \$1 for rice, once someone eats that rice it's all gone and nothing has really been changed as a result. But, by donating a \$1 pair of glasses, you're enabling a poor person to continue to work and provide food for the family. It's a cheap, sustainable solution," Sergeant Hamel said.

In order to provide this critical service, VMW relies on a loose network of volunteers and donors. Many of them are either former or current military members.

"Many of our volunteers are former military members from all branches, and from several other nations as well," said Mr. Flint. "The military teaches a person attention to detail, situational awareness and how to basically survive and operate in very difficult environments. My own prior military service and the skills I learned in training have been of great use to myself and our teams in the field."

Conversely, the experience Sergeant Hamel has gained by volunteering with VMW also helps in his military career. Not only has he honed his medical skills while on the missions, but has also gained the respect of his leadership as a result, receiving the Presidential Volunteer Service Award last year in recognition of his service.

And that could be the best thing about volunteering - it's a sacrifice that benefits everyone, even the one doing the actual sacrificing.



McChord Airmen

# AROUND THE WORLD



Courtesy photo

**BAGRAM AIRFIELD, Afghanistan** – Col. Frank Rechner, 62nd Mission Support Group commander, right, and Lt. Col. Jackie McClelland, Defense Logistics Agency combat support team commander, proudly display rolls of concertina wire used for force protection during a recent deployment in support of Operation Enduring Freedom.



Courtesy photo

**BAGRAM AIRFIELD, Afghanistan** – Chief Master Sgt. John Heasley, 62nd Aerial Port Squadron, assists in loading a C-130 Hercules on a Russian Volga-Dnepr AN-124 long-range heavy transport aircraft during a recent deployment in support of Operation Enduring Freedom.



# 2008 Annual Awards Banquet

**Editor's note:** The following individuals were selected as the 62nd Airlift Wing's annual award winners during a ceremony Jan. 29 at the McChord Clubs and Community Center.



Airman – Senior Airman Winnie Otieno, 62nd Comptroller Squadron

Airman Otieno is a financial management technician, 62nd CPTS. She hails from Nairobi, Kenya, and has served three years in the Air Force.



NCO – Tech Sgt. Carlos Damian, 62nd Aircraft Maintenance Squadron

Sergeant Damian is an integrated avionics specialist, 62nd AMXS. He hails from San Francisco, Calif., and has served 11 years in the Air Force.



Senior NCO – Master Sgt. Eileen Rodriguez, 62nd Operations Support Squadron

Sergeant Rodriguez is the deputy airfield manager, 62nd OSS. She hails from Honolulu, Hawaii, and has served 24 years in the Air Force.



First Sergeant – Master Sgt. John Rogers, 62nd Civil Engineer Squadron

Sergeant Rogers hails from Church Point, La., and has served 22 years in the Air Force.



Junior CGO - 2d Lt. Adanto D'Amore, 62nd Security Forces Squadron

Lieutenant D'Amore is the operations flight commander, 62nd SFS. He hails from Chapel Hill, N.C., and has served two years in the Air Force.



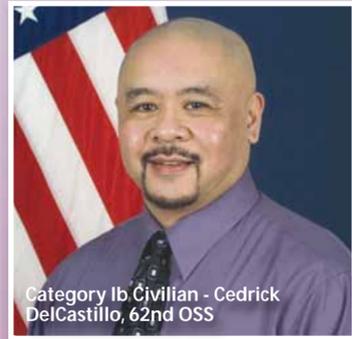
CGO - Capt. Patrick Carpizo, 62nd Aerial Port Squadron

Captain Carpizo is the deputy operations officer, 62nd APS. He hails from San Diego, Calif., and has served six years in the Air Force.



Category Ia Civilian - John Solomon, 62nd Logistics Readiness Squadron

Mr. Solomon is the material expeditor and functional systems administrator for supply, 62nd LRS. He hails from Saipan, Marianas Pacific, served four years active duty in the Air Force and is currently is a member of the Washington Air National Guard.



Category Ib Civilian - Cedrick DelCastillo, 62nd OSS

Mr. DelCastillo is the aircrew flight equipment foreman, 62nd OSS. He hails from San Francisco, Calif., served 23 years in the Air Force and has served three years in civil service.



Category IIa Civilian - Ronald Glickman, 62nd CES

Mr. Glickman is the assistant chief of training, 62nd Fire & Emergency Services flight, 62nd CES. He hails from San Leandro, Calif., and has served 19 years in civil service.



Category IIb Civilian - William Bravo, 62nd Airlift Wing

Mr. Bravo is the chief installation anti-terrorism officer, 62nd AW staff. He hails from Chicago, Ill., served 24 years in the United States Army and has served four years in the civil service.



Category III Civilian - Jerry Mollerstuen, 62nd Maintenance Squadron

Mr. Mollerstuen is the maintenance director, 62nd MXS. He hails from Oak Harbor, Wash., and has served 26 years combined active duty Air Force and civil service.



Phoenix Spouse - Elaine McPherson, 62nd SFS

Mrs. McPherson's hails from Richmond, Va., and she has served one year as a Phoenix Spouse.



Photos by Abner Guzman

Nominees gather for a group photo at the banquet in the McChord Clubs and Community Center.



Carla Richards, center, receives the Bryce Lilly Service Award for 2008 from Col. Jeffrey Stephenson, 62nd Airlift Wing commander, left, and Chief Master Sgt. Cary Hatzinger, 62nd AW command chief.



Laurel Taft, 62nd AW Protocol, a nominee for the Category IIa Civilian award, passes under the sabers of McChord Honor Guard members. All award nominees proceed under the sabers when making their formal entrance at the banquet.



Former Army Air Corps Captain Joseph Moser enjoys the rest of the awards banquet after receiving the Distinguished Flying Cross.

Photo by Abner Guzman



## '1v1 Two's In'

Col. Jeffrey Stephenson, 62nd AW commander, details the new wingman campaign, "1v1 Two's In" at an Airman's Call Wednesday at the base theater. The new program encourages supervisors to individually meet with each direct-reporting Airman, look them in the eyes and have a personal discussion on responsible drinking behavior and wingman responsibilities as they relate to Air Force core values and the Airman's personal career and life goals.



# McChord Airman hand-picked for new expeditionary squadron

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By

**Staff Sgt. Jason Wing**  
455th Air Expeditionary Wing

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BAGRAM AIR FIELD, Afghanistan — Officials at Bagram Air Field activated the first expeditionary aerial port squadron in the region during a squadron activation and assumption of command ceremony Jan. 29.

The expansion of the aerial port flight to a squadron comes on the cusp of a new strategy outlined by President Barack H. Obama and Secretary of Defense Robert M. Gates

to dramatically increase American military forces in Afghanistan within 18 months.

The squadron handles everything from aircraft load planning and cargo palletizing to air terminal operations and passenger service.

“Our squadron separated from the logistic readiness squadron so that we could focus entirely on aerial port operations, increase our throughput capacity and maximize the efficiency of our processes and capabilities here,” explained Colonel Flores, 455th Expeditionary Aerial Port Squadron commander.

The lieutenant colonel said the new

455th EAPS includes several one-year leadership positions that will go into effect this summer with the goal of improving continuity and experience shared within the squadron.

Chief Master Sgt. John Heasley, deployed from the 62nd Aerial Port Squadron, is filling one of the new leadership positions that will become a one year billet this summer, as the 455th EAPS Air Terminal Manager.

Colonel Flores said the chief was hand picked for the job based on his experience coordinating airlift operations for Operation Iraqi Freedom.

“He has about five years of deployed experience supporting Operations Iraqi

Freedom and Enduring Freedom and is credited with setting aerial port operations at seven bases in the area of responsibility,” Colonel Flores explained.

Chief Heasley, a 27-year Air Force veteran, said his goal is to standardize the use of airframes to move personnel and equipment throughout the theater.

“[In December] we moved 4,000 more passengers and 5,000 tons more cargo using 300 less aircraft,” explained Chief Heasley. “The faster we can get troops processed through the system, the faster we can get troops down range like turn-style airlift.”



**Peanut recall**

Updated information on the recall of peanut-containing products is available at the U.S. Food and Drug Administration Web site: <http://www.fda.gov/oc/opacom/hottopics/salmonellatyph.html>.

The Public Health office here is coordinating recalls with base food establishments. According to Public Health officials, recalled items have been pulled from shelves and no illnesses at McChord have been attributed to affected food items. For more information, call the Public Health office at 982-3717.

**Thrift shop bag sale**

A "\$5 bag sale" is 9:30 a.m. Saturday at the McChord thrift shop. For more information, call 982-2468.

**Combined Protestant Chapel service**

Due to the mobility exercise, a combined Protestant service is 11 a.m. Sunday, followed by a potluck. The normal Protestant service schedule resumes Feb. 15.

**New hours at wing self-help store**

Effective Monday, the wing self-help store hours of operation are 8 a.m. to noon weekdays. It will be closed on holidays and Air Mobility Command Family Days.

**OSC Annual dessert auction and social**

The McChord Officer Spouses' Club's annual desert auction is 7 p.m. Feb. 13. A pre-auction social begins at 6:30 p.m. To RSVP, or for more information, call 292-0191.

**ALS graduation**

Graduation for class 09-B of the

Julius A. Kolb Airman Leadership School is 6:45 pm. Thurs. at the McChord Clubs and Community Center. A pre-graduation social begins at 6 p.m.

**2009 women's conference**

Registration remains open until Feb. 14 for the 2009 women's conference March 13 at the Stone Education Center at Fort Lewis. Childcare registration continues until March 6. The event is open to all Department of Defense ID card holders. For more information, e-mail [Ft.LewisWomensConference@yahoo.com](mailto:Ft.LewisWomensConference@yahoo.com) or call 407-4071.

**Honor Guard appreciation and awards breakfast**

The annual Honor Guard appreciation and awards breakfast is 7:30 a.m. Feb. 20 at the McChord Clubs and Community Center. For more information, visit <https://einventions.afit.edu/HonorsLongie/anim.cfm> or call 982-3775.

**Flu shots now available**

Flu vaccine is now available for active duty family members and retirees at the Immunizations Clinic here. For more information, call 982-5189.

**Online GTC registration**

Online registration for the new CITI Bank government travel card is at available at: <https://home.cards.citidirect.com/CommercialCard/Cards.html>.

Online statements for cardholders will not be available before the client receives their first paper statement. The cardholder must enter their card number, account name and address

information in the exact format as it appears on the paper statement. For example, words like court, street, or road must be input exactly as they appear on the paper statement, either abbreviated or spelled out. Cardholders will also need their complete zip code, as displayed on the paper statement.

**MTI briefings**

Wing Career Assistance Advisor hosts Military Training Instructor duty briefings 7:30 a.m. and 4 p.m. March 18 in the Airman Leadership School auditorium of Bldg. 851. For more information, call 982-3395.

**Correction**

In last week's edition, Airman 1st Class Leanne Gomme was identified as a member of the 62nd Mission Support Squadron. Airman Gomme is from the 62nd Mission Support Group.

**Madigan Annex TBI Program classes**

Traumatic Brain Injuries Program Education Series classes for educators and healthcare providers are offered Thursdays at the Madigan annex. For more information, call the TBI Nurse Educator, Lindy Peterson, at 968-3161.

**New housing gate hours**

The Woodbrook housing gate is open 6 a.m. to 6 p.m. weekdays. For more information, call the 62nd Security Forces Squadron at 982-5100.

**FTAC in-processing now online**

All first-term Airmen arriving from technical training must register via the Team McChord Professional Development Community of Practice at <https://afkm.wpafb.af.mil/ASPs/CoP/OpenCoP.asp?Filter=AM-DP-00-6682>. For more information, call 982-6682.

	<b>McChord Chaplain Corps Faith &amp; Worship Programs</b>		For more information on Chapel services and programs, please call 982-5556. To contact Duty Chaplain after duty hours, contact the Command Post at 982-2635
	<b>CATHOLIC SERVICES and RELIGIOUS EDUCATION:</b> All Catholic services are in chapel two. <b>Saturday:</b> 4 p.m. Confession: Chapel 2, Bldg. 181 5 p.m. Mass: Chapel 2, Bldg. 181 <b>Sunday:</b> 9:30 a.m. Mass: Chapel 2, Bldg. 181 11 a.m. Mass: Chapel 2, Bldg. 181 12:30 p.m. Why Catholic? Small Group Study: Chapel Support Center, Bldg. 746 <b>Monday:</b> 12:00 p.m. Why Catholic? Small Group Study: Chapel Support Center, Bldg. 746	<b>Wednesday:</b> 6:30 p.m. Faith Formation: 1st, 2nd & 3rd Wednesday of the month: Chapel Support Center, Bldg. 746 6:30 p.m. Why Catholic? Small Group Study: Chapel Support Center, Bldg. 746 <b>PROTESTANT SERVICES and RELIGIOUS EDUCATION:</b> <b>Sunday:</b> 8:30 a.m. Liturgical Worship: Chapel 1, Bldg. 180 9:45 a.m. Sunday School: Chapel Support Center, Bldg. 746 11 a.m. Traditional Worship: Chapel 1, Bldg. 180 11 a.m. Contemporary Worship: Chapel Support Center, Bldg. 746	<b>JEWISH SERVICES:</b> <b>Friday:</b> 6 p.m. Every 1st, 3rd & 5th Friday of the month: Ft Lewis, Chapel 5, Bldg. T-2270 <b>OTHER PROGRAMS:</b> The following Chapel programs take place at the Chapel Support Center, Bldg. 746. <b>Tuesday:</b> 9:30 a.m. Mothers of Preschoolers (MOPS); 2nd & 4th Tuesday of the month 6 p.m. Mothers of Preschoolers (MOPS) Bible Study; 1st, 3rd & 5th Tuesday of the month <b>Wednesday:</b> 11 a.m. Adult Bible Study



# Base housing town hall addresses progress

By  
**Tyler Hemstreet**  
Staff writer

Base leaders, Equity Residential representatives and base housing residents gathered last week at Heartwood Elementary School here to discuss progress of the housing privatization project.

More than 40 residents participated in a question and answer session with Col. Jeffrey Stephenson, 62nd Airlift Wing commander, and Col. Cynthia Murphy, Fort Lewis garrison commander.

The forum served as an opportunity for residents to foster a sense of community and voice their concerns as the neighborhood evolves, said Donna Dahlstrom, 62nd Civil Engineer Squadron housing asset manager.

"With the onset of the construction it is exciting to experience first-hand the vision of a new neighborhood and the long term benefit our families will gain," Ms. Dahlstrom said.

Details of the housing plan include demolishing 590 housing units, constructing 250 new homes and renovating 268 existing housing units over the next eight years. The newly developed neighborhood will include 90 existing

Olympic Grove homes with a total end state of 608 homes. The construction standards for the new houses call for larger living space, an attached two-car garage, double-wide driveways and covered patios.

Speakers gave progress updates concerning timelines for demolition and renovation of various housing areas. Equity Residential is currently in the process of salvaging items from unoccupied houses and preparing them for environmentally smart demolition.

Demolition is scheduled to start toward the end of the month or in early March, said Cal Lovering, 62nd CES housing privatization project support contractor.

During this time residents can expect an increase in traffic volumes brought on by the project, he said.

Equity Residential representatives also provided updates on their newly implemented policies that included use of existing fire extinguishers, new restrictions on selected dog breeds that will affect future residents, safety awareness (relating to parking and speeding) and the transition to cluster mailboxes.

More town hall meetings will be scheduled in the future to inform residents as the project moves into later stages.

For more information on McChord's housing



Photo by Gaylord Higa

Col. Jeffrey Stephenson, 62nd Airlift Wing commander; Col. Cynthia Murphy, Fort Lewis garrison commander; Fort Lewis Command Sergeant Major Matthew Barnes and Command Chief Master Sgt. Cary Hatzinger, McChord's command chief; from left, speak to base housing residents Jan. 28 at a town hall meeting.

privatization, visit: [https://62msg.mcchord.af.mil/62CES/Housing\\_Privatization/default.aspx](https://62msg.mcchord.af.mil/62CES/Housing_Privatization/default.aspx).





**Names to Note**

62nd Airlift Wing Safety recently received the following Air Mobility Command annual awards:

- AMC explosives safety individual of the year - **Master Sgt. Dean Siebert**
- AMC distinguished ground safety award (large/composite wing)
- AMC distinguished nuclear surety award
- AMC operational risk management achievement award
- AMC safety office of the year award
- AMC distinguished explosives safety award

62nd Airlift Wing Public Affairs recently received the following AMC annual awards:

- 1st place, sports writing - **Tyler Hemstreet**
- 2nd Place, Radio Spot Production - **Tech. Sgt. Oshawn Jefferson and Maj. Douglas Edwards**, 8th Airlift Squadron



Photo and graphic by Tyler Hemstreet

**Two's company**

McChord phone users must now dial the complete 982-XXXX extension when placing phone calls on base.

