



Tallil Times

Vol. 1, Issue 22

332nd Air Expeditionary Wing, Tallil Air Base, Iraq

Friday Oct. 10, 2003

NEWS BRIEFS

Octoberfest

The 332nd Expeditionary Services Squadron is hosting an Octoberfest celebration Monday in Tallil's Tent City. There will be a bazaar from noon to 5 p.m. featuring camel rides, a cultural fair and shopping. From 7 to 9:30 p.m. an Octoberfest extravaganza featuring food, beer, wine and dessert bars will be available. As a reminder, the Tallil Tavern will close one hour early, at 6 p.m., due to this event.

Potable Water

The Tallil Tent City water supply has been tested and approved for consumptive purposes, such as oral hygiene, food preparation and ice production. Though the water is safe to drink, members may notice a chlorine taste to the water. Base medical officials recommend people continue to drink bottled water simply because it is readily available.

Smoking Areas

Tallil Tent City residents are reminded to smoke only in authorized areas. These areas are clearly marked with an approved sign placed by the 332nd ECES Fire Department. While some members have created ad hoc smoking areas – remember, if there is not an official sign at the location, it is not an approved smoking area.

Tent City Rules

Tallil Tent City residents are required to read and adhere to the tent city rules while deployed to Tallil Air Base.

C-130 units arrive at Tallil AB



Photo by Master Sgt. Kenneth Velez

▲ WELCOME HOME: A C-130 from the 914th Airlift Wing arrives here at Tallil Air Base Monday. The unit is moving its operations here from Al Jaber Air Base, Kuwait. The 914th AW will be joined by two other units over the next 10-14 days, giving Tallil additional capability to support airlift operations.

by Master Sgt. Don Perrien

332nd AEW Public Affairs

The Tallil Air Base flightline is a bit more crowded this week as the 332nd Air Expeditionary Wing made room for an additional three C-130 units to base their operations here.

The planes and personnel of the 914th Airlift Wing, based out of Niagara Falls, N.Y., started arriving earlier this week from Al Jaber Air Base in Kuwait. They will be joined by other units over the next week, making Tallil the hub of airlift support for southern Iraq.

"Once these units are in place, Tallil will be moving people and material like they never have before" said Col. Merle Hart, 332nd AEW Expeditionary Operations Group commander. "We'll be moving anything that fits on a C-130 throughout the AOR."

Even as the units arrive at Tallil, their mission is already underway. Actually, it never stopped, according to the first arriving C-130 unit.

"We never stopped flying our missions," said Lt. Col. Mark Murphy, 914 AW commander. "We just set up duplicate operations at both here and Al Jaber."

According to Colonel Murphy, establishing operations out of Tallil Air Base has been challenging – but re-

warding in seeing a job well done.

"It's been a lot of hard work, basically just picking up an entire flying squadron while continuing to operate," Colonel Murphy said. "But thanks to the hard work of everyone involved, especially the Mission Support Group here, we've made it happen."

Making it happen involved the help of almost every unit deployed to Tallil. The C-130 flying units will add almost another 300 people to the Tent City population, and these people would need places to live, work and eat.

Most of the work fell to the 332nd AEW Expeditionary Mission Support Group, who put in hundreds of hours of labor creating a new subdivision in Tent City, maintenance operations on the flightline, an ops squadron building, and stepped up to support the new residents of Tallil Air Base.

"I can't say enough about the hard work performed each and every day by this outstanding group," said Lt. Col. Manny Hidalgo, 332 EMSG commander. "The Civil Engineers really went the extra mile providing the C-130 folks an exceptional place to work. The Communications Squadron set up the communication (NIPR/SIPR) support in a matter of days, the Logistics Readiness Squadron provided transportation, the Security Forces provided force pro-

tection and the Services Squadron turned a bare spot of land into a place for them to live. I'm very proud of their selfless service."

Once the dust settles, the C-130 units look forward to continuing their flying operations from a new home. According to Colonel Murphy, Tallil offers a number of both obstacles and opportunities for the flying units.

"Tallil can be a challenge for our pilots and maintainers," he said. "The weather here can be a concern at times, and obviously the facilities aren't as nice as the ones back home."

"The workload isn't going to be easy either – we're the planes tasked to fly into those locations where they don't want to send other aircraft," Colonel Murphy said. "But we're trained, ready and equipped for the mission. This is our fourth base in the fourth different country this year, and I know we'll get the job done here in Iraq just like we did in Saudi, Oman and Kuwait."

"But the one thing I've found here more than any other place we've seen is a sense of family among all the units," he said. "Everyone, from the people at the dining hall, to the person who makes our line badges, has made us feel at home at Tallil. With support like that, I'm confident we'll have no problem completing our missions here."



Commander's Corner

I can't say enough about all the hard work I see going on around base this week. From the new C-130 subdivision in Tent City, to all the improvements in office spaces throughout the area, each of you are making a visible difference here on Tallil Air Base.

Keep up the good work, and set the bar high for the AEF Silver rotation. Your efforts are making a difference, in both quality of life and mission effectiveness.

Bedding down the new flying units has been good practice for receiving all the new personnel expected to arrive over the next few months. I'm impressed with your efforts and dedication – thanks again.

Triage boxes make tent city debut, courtesy of EMDG

by **Airman 1st Class Kara Philp**

332nd AEW Public Affairs

The 332nd Expeditionary Medical Group has recently placed five triage boxes throughout tent city as a readiness measure.

The boxes, each containing 10 litters, 20 litter straps and a bag of dressings, have been placed through out tent city.

"We wanted the boxes centrally located to serve various locations in tent city," said Maj. Wiley Roberts, 332nd EMDG aeromedical staging facility officer in charge. "The boxes have been distributed evenly and are accessible from anywhere in tent city."

In the event of an emergency, anyone can access the triage boxes.

"The supplies (in the boxes) are designed for self-aid and buddy care procedures," said Staff Sgt. Kent Willette, 332nd EMDG independent duty medical technician. "These boxes are intended to stabilize patients and prepare them for transport."

According to Major Roberts, moving patients quickly is an important factor.

"Rapid transport is what saves lives," he

said. "If we can save just one life by rapid intervention, then that is our goal."

"This is a critical part of medical readiness," Major Roberts said. "It was something that needed a light shown on it, and it's a great plan to help us move forward. It's a perfect example of people in the trenches having a great idea that goes up and gets acted upon."

Sergeant Willette brought the idea to Tallil.

He has been putting together triage boxes at various bases for the past four years – 19 this year alone.

"These supplies only require battle field basics," he said. "Anyone can do it. We've all been trained, and none of this should be foreign to anyone."

The 332nd EMDG plans to offer self-aid and buddy care refresher classes for individuals extending in theater and are asking Tallilians check their training records to ensure their self aid and buddy care certification has not expired.

In order to keep the new boxes serviceable, the 332nd EMDG staff asks if a box's content is used, report which box has been used so the supplies can be restored.

ACTION LINE

332AEW.actionline@tlab.aorcentaf.af.mil

The Commander's Action Line is the direct link to the 332nd AEW Commander, Col. Marke F. Gibson. It's your opportunity to make Tallil Air Base a better place to live, work and play.

First give your chain of command and the appropriate base agencies a chance to solve the problem, but if you don't get a satisfactory answer, send an e-mail to 332AEW.actionline@tlab.aorcentaf.af.mil.

Items of basewide interest may be published in the Tallil Times.

Q: I'd like to have one of my airmen featured in the Tallil Times. How can I do that?

A: The Tallil Times is always looking to recognize our outstanding performers and we have several avenues to accomplish this goal. First, the wing's first sergeants manage the "Warrior of the Week" program, highlighting one of our people on Page 3 every week. In addition, we're always looking to feature people and units making a difference Air Force wide. Feel free to call us at 459-0014 with any questions.



Photo by Master Sgt. Don Perrien

◀ **MEASURING UP:** Staff Sgt. Mike "Blue-Tick" Davis, a combat carpenter with the 332nd Expeditionary Civil Engineer Squadron measures out a design for an air duct in the Wing Operations Center here. The 332nd ECES has created and repaired numerous facilities throughout the AEF Blue rotation, improving safety and quality of life for everyone assigned to Tallil Air Base.

EDITORIAL STAFF

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The TALLIL TIMES accepts stories, photographs and commentaries, which maybe submitted to the PA

staff located in the Wing Operations Center (WOC) or can be sent directly to the newspaper at tallil.times@tlab.aorcentaf.af.mil

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The Tallil Times

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IN BRIEF

All times are local.

AF Worship Services

Worship is at 332nd AEW Chapel, unless otherwise noted.

Catholic

Daily Mass: Monday through Friday, 6 p.m.
Vigil Mass: Saturday, 6 p.m.
Confessions: 5 to 5:40 p.m. in the Blessed Sacrament Room
Sunday Mass: 8 a.m.
POC: Ch. Eugene Theisen at 459-0038

Protestant

Noon Prayer/Praise
Monday through Friday, 11 to 11:15 a.m.
Lutheran/Episcopal Communion: Saturday, 7:30 p.m.
Traditional Sunday, 9:30 a.m.
Liturgical Communion Sunday, 10:35 to 11:15 a.m.
Gospel Service Sunday, 11:45 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.
Contemporary, "nondenominational"
Sun, 7 p.m.
POC: Ch. Rodger Ericson, 459-0038

Latter Day Saints

Lay-Led Service Sunday, 2 p.m.
POC: Staff Sgt. Hager, 573-1107

Jewish

Lay-Led Service Friday, 8 p.m.
POC: Ch. Ericson, 459-0038

Muslim

(LSA Adder Chapel) Prayer 12:30 p.m. and sunset daily

Bible Studies

Women's Tuesday, 7:30 p.m. (chapel)
Men's Tuesday, 7:30 p.m. (Chapel annex)
Catholic (RCLA) Thurs, 6:30 p.m. (chapel annex)
Catholic Sunday, 6:30 and 7:30 p.m. (Chapel annex)
Men and Women Thursday 7:30 p.m. (chapel annex)
LDS Study Thursday, 7:30 p.m. (chapel annex)
Chaplain Led Saturday, 6 p.m. (chapel annex)

AF and Army Notices

Morale Calls

Do not use workplace phones for morale call purposes.

Driving on Base

Speed limits on base are 20 mph. Helmets are required in all tactical All-Terrain Vehicles (ATV's) and "Gators."

Run Routes

Running in groups of two or larger is authorized in two locations: from the BX/PX parking lot and off the main gate road toward the burn pit. The required uniform is T-shirt and shorts or pants. Running is not authorized on any other road.

Ammunition Storage

The 38th Ordnance Group provides ammunition storage for units on Tallil Air Base. Contact Mr. Matheson at 573-1258 for more information.

Ziggurat of Ur

Visits to the Ziggurat require a pass. For information, U.S. Army personnel may call 573-1107.

Air Force Services has expanded its tour schedule to include two afternoon visits to the Ziggurat. For more information, call the Air Force Rec. Center at 459-0121. The schedule is as follows:

Saturdays, Tuesdays, Thursdays: 10 a.m. (show time of 9:30 a.m. at the Rec. Center).

Sundays and Wednesdays: 2 p.m. (show time of 1:30 p.m. at the Rec. Center).

For more information on trips to the ziggurat, see pages 4 and 5.

AF Volunteers needed

Volunteers are needed for 5K Fun Runs. For more information, call A1C Bret Lockerbie at 459-0118.

Volunteer drivers are needed for Ziggurat Tours. For more information, call Bernard Ashlock at 459-0117.

332nd ESVS News

"The Hot Spot" Rec. Center

Bingo is scheduled for 7 p.m. tonight at the outdoor theater.

A bazaar, including camel rides, is scheduled for Monday from noon to 5 p.m. in the parking lot beside the 332nd AEW Contracting Squadron. Vendors will have jewelry, blankets, chess boards and rugs for sale.

What's playing?

Tonight: Good Advice (indoor at 8 p.m.) Variety Music (outdoor at 8:30 p.m.)
Saturday: Proof of Life (indoor at 6 p.m.) NCAA Football (outdoor at 8 p.m.)
Sunday: NFL (indoor at 8 p.m.) NFL (outdoor at 8 p.m.)
Monday: Tallil's first-ever Oktoberfest celebration will include German food, beer and wine bar and desserts at the outdoor theater 7 to 9:30 p.m.) and musical entertainment (8 p.m. to midnight)

"Muscle Beach" Fitness Center

The Oktoberfest Sports Challenge schedule, Saturday through Monday.

Saturday	
5K/2 mile run	6:15 a.m.
Mile relay	7:15 a.m.
Tug of War	5 p.m.
Dizzy Bat	6 p.m.
Basketball	7:15 p.m.
Volleyball	7:15 p.m.

Sunday	
Ping Pong	1:45 p.m.
Darts	2:45 p.m.
Billiards	3:45 p.m.

Monday	
Long Jump	7:15 a.m.
3-point Shoot Out	8 a.m.
Egg Toss	8:15 a.m.
Water Ball	8:45 a.m.
Foosball	10 a.m.
Talent Show	6 p.m.

332nd AEW Warrior of the Week

Staff. Sgt. Scott Williams

Unit and duty title:

332nd Air Expeditionary Operations Squadron weather forecaster

Home unit: 39th Air Base Group Operations Support Squadron, Incirlik Air Base, Turkey

Why other warriors say she's a warrior:

"Sergeant Williams has done an outstanding job as the assistant weather station chief and has excelled in his additional duties and community work," said Master Sgt. James Nelson, 332nd EOSS first sergeant. "From helping with computer issues to working flight reservations for the upcoming rotation -- when he volunteered to help CE with the concrete flooring project, he still made it a point to stop in and see if there were any computer issues or flight reservation changes that needed to be done. It has truly been a pleasure to work with such an outstanding junior NCO."

Hobbies: Reading, computers, travel, photography and working on my car and truck





Escaping Tallil: Redeployment do's, don'ts

What YOU need to know before you GO by 1st Lt, Dan DuBois

332nd AEW Public Affairs

Within weeks, hundreds of Tallilians will begin the long-awaited journey of heading home – wherever home might be. The desert wind and scorching heat of southern Iraq will soon be a distant memory for many deployed here. Nevertheless, one big question stands in the way: how do I get from Tallil Air Base to “Fort Livingroom” without any problems?

The key to success when redeploying rests in knowing how the system works. Talking to your supervisor is the first step.

It is the supervisor's and ultimately, the commander's responsibility for ensuring that the mission does not suffer due to rotations, Captain Debbie Horne, PERSCO team chief said. It is not a question of when members want to leave, but rather when their replacement arrives.

Some positions have a required turnover time of two to 15 days and other positions only need someone “on the way” to be released, Captain Horne said.

Generally speaking, the more senior the position, such as senior NCOs and unit commanders, the more face-to-face turnover time required.

Once you have coordinated with your supervisor, found out when you will be replaced and determined the turnover time required, locating your unit's redeployment manager should be your next priority.

Each unit on Tallil has a redeployment manager, Staff Sgt. Virginia Race, 332nd AEW redeployment manager said. The redeployment manager helps members by: securing their first leg of travel, briefing the proper procedures for the final leg of travel and assisting in the outprocessing of the base.

According to Sergeant Race, once a member gives her a firm earliest departure date, she works with the 332nd AEW Traffic Management Office to secure

travel from Al Udeid to Baltimore Washington International Airport or other appropriate destinations. She then works with logistics plans, securing travel from Tallil to Al Udeid.

There are several important things to consider, in particular, when scheduling the flight from Al Udeid to BWI and other appropriate destinations.

“Allow a day or two wiggle room in case your replacement gets held up somewhere along the way here,” Race said. “(Also), remember that whatever date you are confirmed to leave Al Udeid, you will leave Tallil up to three days earlier.”

The final step after coordinating with your supervisor and your unit redeployment manager is booking the flight for the final leg of your journey.

“There are basically three recommended ways to do this,” Master Sgt. Charles Anderson, traffic management superintendent said.

Members can contact their home station TMO for

assistance or get a non-availability letter from the TMO here and purchase a ticket with their government travel card upon arrival at BWI, Sergeant Anderson said.

The TMO here also may soon make reservations, said Anderson. Members will be able to confirm their reservations before leaving Tallil. Those interested in this option should contact the TMO office.

There is also another program recently developed for departing Tallilians.

Beginning Monday, PERSCO will conduct the first ever Right Exit Briefing, said Horne. It is a mandatory briefing designed for successfully transitioning members from Tallil to home.

The final voyage from Tallil can be an exciting adventure – a long-awaited break from months of hard work. With careful planning, the trip home can be a smooth transition from the stinging sands of Iraq to the warm fellowship of family and friends.

332nd EMDG prepares troops for flu season

by Tech. Sgt. Yolanda Hagen

332nd EMG Public Health

It is that time of year where military members are required to be immunized for Influenza, even while deployed at Tallil Air Base.

This year the 332nd Expeditionary Medical Group's Public Health Flight has scheduled to get the Influenza immunization program started here Oct. 15 – contingent upon the arrival of the vaccine.

The 332nd EMG Public Health Flight will be doing a traditional “road show” for the larger squadrons, while reserving specific days for the smaller squadron's members to stop by the Immunization clinic during their clinic's normal operating hours of 8 a.m to 4 p.m. Monday to Saturday.

Members are reminded, to bring their immunization record or print out (DD form 2766C) or preferably both, during the day your squadron is scheduled.

Date	Unit	Time	Location
Oct. 15	EMSG	8 a.m. to 4 p.m.	Immunization Clinic
Oct. 15	EMEDS	8 a.m. to 4 p.m.	Immunization Clinic
Oct. 15	AEW	7 to 9 a.m.	WOC Conf. Rm.
Oct. 16	PERSCO	8 a.m. to 4 p.m.	Immunization Clinic
Oct. 16	ERS	6 to 7:30 a.m.	ERS medical Clinic
Oct. 16	ECES	8 to 9:30 a.m.(other times/locations TBA)	CE Main Compound
Oct. 17	OSI	8 a.m. to 4 p.m.	Immunization Clinic
Oct. 17	EOG	8 a.m. to 4 p.m.	Immunization Clinic
Oct. 17	EFS	7 to 8:30 a.m.	A-10 Ops
Oct. 17	EMXG	TBA	TBA
Oct. 17	EMXS	TBA	TBA
Oct. 17	EAMX	TBA	TBA
Oct. 18	ESVS	8 a.m. to 4 p.m.	Immunization Clinic
Oct. 18	EOSS	6:30 to 8:30 a.m., 6 to 8 p.m.	OG Conf. Rm 2nd fl.
Oct. 20	ESFS/FP	10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., 2:30 to 4:30 p.m.	ESFS medical clinic
Oct. 21	ECS	7:30 to 8:30 a.m., 7:30 to 8:30 p.m.	Main compound
Oct. 22	ERQS	5:30 to 9 a.m	Rigger's tent
Oct. 23	ELRS	2 to 5 p.m	Supply bldg. Rec. Rm.



Hovering over the battlefield, this aircraft is capable of destroying everything moving below it.

Now appearing at an airfield near you, this is the inside story of the plane nicknamed the Warthog.

A-10



Photo by Senior Airman Greg L. Davis

by Master Sgt. Don Perrien

332nd AEW Public Affairs

The A-10 Thunderbolt II aircraft you see on the Tallil Air Base flightline today, aren't exactly what the Air Force had in mind when the aircraft was first envisioned. They're a whole lot better.

In the mid-1960s, during the Vietnam conflict, the Air Force felt it needed a dedicated airframe for close air combat support.

Legend has it, that the A-10 is a result of someone's idea of getting the biggest gun you can into the air – and build the rest of the plane around it, as cheaply as possible. While not exactly true, it's a pretty good idea of the concept that would eventually take flight as the Warthog.

In 1967, the Air Force submitted a request for a low-cost attack aircraft to more than 20 companies. According to the original specifications, the aircraft only needed to operate in daytime operations, in fair weather, with sufficient firepower to destroy a single piece of enemy armor.

Needless to say, the specifications were soon

changed to meet more realistic mission needs. In 1970, the updated request was sent to six companies and two, Fairchild-Republic and Northrop, were contracted to build prototype aircraft. Three years later, the aircraft Fairchild-Republic's A-10 aircraft beat out Northrop's A-9 for the final production contract. The first A-10 entered operational service in 1975.

The Fairchild-Republic A-10 was based upon the General Electric GAU-8 Avenger cannon. The 30mm weapon provided more than twice the range and delivered more mass, more accurately than any other close air support weapon before it. Even today, the spinning barrel of an A-10 is quite often the last thing an enemy tank commander sees.

Many military analysts believed that the role of the A-10 would be obsolete after the Cold War. The attack aircraft could be easily replaced with other weapons systems, since after the

breakup of the Soviet Union, no other country would try to engage in a heavy tank battle with the United States. Those analysts were proven wrong in the early 1990's as the first Gulf War was planned and waged across the Arabian Peninsula.

Saddam Hussein's infantry and armored divisions were decimated by the A-10 aircraft. According to captured Iraqi troops, the A-10 was among the most feared aircraft in theatre –

its ominous sound and distinctive profile causing tension and terror in the ranks.

Today, more than 25 years after the first plane flew for the Air Force and 10 years after the start of the first Gulf War, the A-10 aircraft is still considered the best close air support aircraft in the world. Tallil's Warthogs help the 332nd Airlift Wing provide unmatched support for American and coalition ground troops throughout Iraq and the Southwest Asia Area of Responsibility.



A-10 Thunderbolt II



Safety First

by Staff Sgt. Leo Hendricks

332nd ECES Fire Department

Fire Prevention Week

National Fire Prevention week is underway. It is a time for firefighters across the nation, and world, to spread the word of fire safety.

We do this, not only by our words, but our actions. Contrary to many beliefs, the number one killer of all fires in our homes is not actual fire, but the smoke and toxic fumes that are omitted.

Everyone must take the responsibility to prevent these situations from occurring. The Tallil Air Base Fire Department would like to remind everyone to change out the battery in their tent's smoke detector and check the fire extinguisher as well.



The smoke detectors are our first notification of fire and should be inspected at least once a week in our current environment. The fire extinguisher is our first line of defense against small, confined fires.



We also recommend that members contact your families and remind them to check their smoke alarms and fire extinguishers as well. Here at Tallil, we are surrounded by many dangers and threats already. Please help reduce the additional threat of fire — our supervisor's goal is to get everyone home safe and sound to our loved ones.

If you have any questions about smoke detectors or fire extinguishers, please call the Base Fire Department at 459-0511 and we will be more than happy to help you. Be safe and always think fire safety.

Officials set holiday mailing dates

by Staff Sgt. C. Todd Lopez

Air Force Print News

WASHINGTON — The dates for mailing items to and from overseas locations in time for the holidays are fast approaching, and Military Postal Service Agency officials have suggestions for ensuring packages and letters arrive on time.

In fact, customers who mail early may save money and still have an on-time delivery, said Mark J. DeDomenic, chief of operations at the agency.

"As we get closer to Christmas, the mail volumes get higher, and therefore mail takes longer to be delivered," he said.

The recommended mail deadlines for sending mail from the United States to all overseas military mailing addressees for the holidays are:

- Parcel post: Nov. 13
- Space-available mail: Nov. 28
- Parcel-airlift mail: Dec. 4
- Priority and first-class letters or cards: Dec. 11

DeDomenic said these dates can also be observed by customers sending mail from overseas locations to the United States.

Customs forms are required on all international mail, and shipments should be properly packaged before sending them overseas, DeDomenic said.

"Customers should always remember to ensure they package their parcels in strong boxes and use a lot of packing material," DeDomenic said. "Popcorn or newspaper makes for great

packaging material."

He also suggested customers use a nylon-fiber reinforced tape to bundle up their packages.

"Keep in mind that packages going to military addresses overseas are handled many times and travel long distances. Therefore strong boxes and good internal packing is important," DeDomenic said.

While the United States has restrictions on mailing items such as poisons and weapons, other countries have their own restrictions for what can be mailed, DeDomenic said. Postal customers need to consider the length of the journey overseas and the final destination when considering what to send.

"I would advise customers to not mail perishable items and to ensure they do not mail things such as batteries, hazardous materials or weapons," DeDomenic said. "Items such as coffee or tobacco are restricted to certain locations. If there is any doubt as to the mailability of particular items, customers should always check with their local post office."

Because of security restrictions, mass-mailing operations such as Operation Dear Abby or the "Any Servicemember" mailing program are not being supported by the agency, DeDomenic said.

Postal agency officials encourage servicemembers to support the publicly available Web sites that allow the American public to write supportive letters to them.



Photo by Senior Airman Karolina Gmyrek

▲ OPEN FOR BUSINESS: Chief Master Sgt. Gerardo Garcia, 332nd Expeditionary Communications Squadron superintendent, visits the 332nd Expeditionary Services Squadron's new library (located behind EMDG) during the grand opening Wednesday. The library offers a lounge area, study booths, Internet access and a cappuccino bar from 10 a.m. to noon and an open microphone from noon to 1 p.m. daily.



Helmet Patch Immortalizes WW II troops

by Army Pfc. Chris Jones

40th Public Affairs Detachment

MOSUL, Iraq, Oct. 2, 2003 — Clad in desert camouflage uniforms and modern battle gear, soldiers today look nothing like they did in World War II. But the 101st Airborne Division (Air Assault) is slowly reviving the spirit of its lineage with the reinstatement of unit distinctive helmet emblems similar to those worn 60 years ago in Europe.

The 501st Signal Battalion joined the 101st's three infantry brigades in the resurrection of its World War II unit helmet patch in a ceremony recently at the Division Main command post in Mosul. From the invasion of Normandy to the end of the war in Europe, soldiers of the 501st wore helmets with a box and a small tick mark on each side. The same emblem will now be worn, but with a lightning bolt in the center of the box symbolizing the technological advancements which have made the unit more efficient, said 501st commander Lt. Col. Welton Chase, Jr.

The designs for the 101st's helmet patches in World War II were based on a deck of cards. The 502nd Airborne Infantry Regiment wore a heart; the 327th Glider Infantry Regiment wore a club, and the 506th Airborne Infantry Regiment wore a spade. After World War II, the three regiments abandoned the patches. However, the 187th Infantry Regiment "Rakkasans," which used the Japanese Torii, continued to use the symbol, and it has since become the defining mark of the Rakkasans.

Before leaving Fort Campbell, Ky., the home of the 101st, in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom, the 502nd and the 327th joined the 187th in reinstating their World War II symbols.

To prepare for the invasion of Normandy, soldiers sewed their unit emblem on their

helmet so they could find members of their unit after the invasion left them inevitably scattered across the French shoreline and in the woods, Chase said.

"Wherever they went in combat, the helmet was always the defining mark," Chase said. "Normandy left many soldiers scattered, so the symbols on their helmet helped them trace down other guys from their unit. On the battlefield, you can look and see immediately where a soldier is from. The same idea from World War II applies today. Everything that's done in the field goes faster if you can identify a soldier's unit just by looking at their helmet."

Reinstating a unit's helmet patch remains a commander's decision, and Chase said he doesn't feel it's unlikely other units will come around to sewing their legacies on their helmets as well.

The ceremony marked the first time 501st soldiers have worn the symbol since World War II.

"We use this distinct patch to link our past to our present, and it offers a bridge to the future of the 101st Airborne," Chase said. "Wherever we go in Iraq, our soldiers will remember with honor who fought and died before us."

Maj. Gen. William Lee, the first commander of the 101st, said before the division's entry into World War II, "The 101st has no history, but it does have a rendezvous with destiny."

After World War II, the 101st had rung his words true, becoming the first and only division to be awarded the Presidential Unit Citation. Command Sgt. Maj. Linza Chapman, 501st command sergeant major, said this history should not only be known, but shown.

"We've got a history," Chapman said. "We might as well tell it - might as well show it."



U.S. Army photo by Pfc. Chris Jones

▲ HEAD'S UP: Two soldiers with the 501st Signal Battalion, 101st Airborne Division display the patch the battalion's troops wearing on their kevlar helmets.

United States Air Force Services Presents

50 Years tops in blue

Celebrating A Century of Powered Flight and 50 Years of Entertainment

October 19, 8 p.m. Tent City Recreation Area

The Air Force Premier Entertainment Showcase • Family Entertainment Tonight

Joining The Best Of The Best • The Force Entertainment Experiences



USAFE airmen restore piece of AF history

by JO2 Mat Sohl

Iceland Defense Force Public Affairs

NAVAL AIR STATION KEFLAVÍK, Iceland (USAFENS)— This year, as civilian and military aviation enthusiasts throughout the world celebrate the “Centennial of Flight,” airmen from the U.S. Air Forces In Europe 85th Group here completed a meticulous project to preserve and showcase a piece of Air Force history in Iceland.

Recently, more than 60 airmen, sailors and civilians helped transport a restored F-4 “Phantom” museum-piece from the flightline here to its pedestal in front of the 85th Group’s command building.

A year ago, members of the 85th Group’s Maintenance Squadron removed the Phantom due to extensive corrosion on the aircraft. The aircraft had been on the display here since the early 1990s.

Despite the money and time needed to restore the museum piece, project coordinator Master Sgt. Leroy Lewis had no problem completing a task that many told him would be impossible.

“Despite what many had told me, this project was by no means a logistical nightmare; it was a great success,” said Lewis. “People came out of the woodwork to help out — everyone from around the community.”

It took a year of work and thousands of volunteer man-hours to bring the aircraft up to Air Force Museum standards. But it took only a single afternoon to restore the 17,000 pound display to its place of honor.

Members from the 85th’s Maintenance Squadron, responsible for the upkeep of all of the base’s helicopters and fighters, worked on the F-4



U.S. Navy Photo by JO2 Mat Sohl

▲ **PUTTING THE PHANTOM IN PLACE:** Airmen from Keflavik’s 85th Group remove the tow bar connected to an F-4 Phantom being put on display in front of the 85th Group Command Building. The aircraft, which has been on display there since the early 1990s, was removed from its pedestal last year due to extensive corrosion.

during any down time that they had.

“There are certain standards that you have to follow when restoring a museum piece,” said Staff Sgt. Charles May, assistant project coordinator. “We have to follow all standards set by the Air Force Museum, which owns the aircraft.”

The U.S. Air Force Museum located at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, Dayton, Ohio, manages the worldwide Air Force Museum System that maintains accountability for all U.S. Air Force historical property, including the F-4 museum piece here.

In keeping with the standards set

forth by the museum, the airmen working on the F-4 here were required to restore the aircraft to the condition that it was in when it was last flown — minus the engines and electronics.

“We wanted to make the aircraft as accurate as possible,” said Staff Sgt. John Trinidad, one of the project painters.

To accomplish this task Trinidad, along with his cohort Senior Airman Michael Cotter, researched the color and patterns of other F-4’s from the early 1990’s.

“The last time that it was painted was 1995,” said Trinidad. “At that time the technology wasn’t available

to perform the detailed work that we can now do.”

Using an advanced computer graphics program, the duo of painters were able to recreate the original graphics using pictures of other Air Force F-4’s during that generation.

“It’s great to be able to be able to show the beauty of that aircraft,” said May. “I take great pride in being able to drive by it and say, ‘I was a part of that.’”

The F-4 is one of two aircraft showcased here. Aside from its aesthetic value, students and historians from around Iceland visit the aircraft when studying U.S. military history.

This Week In History

October 13, 1942

332nd Fighter Group Stands Up

Under pressure from President Roosevelt, the Army Air Force reluctantly agrees to train “negro pilots” who will see combat in WW II. But where will they train? Maj Gen “Hap” Arnold claims Randolph, Maxwell, and Moffett Fields are too “congested” to support a negro training facility. He proposes Tuskegee Field — and the 332nd Fighter Group is born.





Staff Sgt. Robert Grande

▲ **TWO BY TWO:** U.S. Army Blackhawk helicopters form a line across the horizon in the early days of Tallil Air Base.



Photo by Tech. Sgt. Steve Carwile

▲ **CLOUDS IN MY COFFEE:** A bit of a weather change came with the time change last week as clouds filled the Iraqi sky for the first time all summer.

BEST — Give Us Your — SHOT



Photo by Senior Airman Angeline Dibernardo

▲ **FIRE IN THE HOLE:** The 332nd Expeditionary Civil Engineer Squadron's Explosive Ordnance Disposal team shows off what they're made of as the smoke cloud from a detonated FAB250 bomb rises one bright Tallil morning.

Here's How:

We want to see Tallil Air Base and the surrounding areas from the inside and out and we need your help. If you've got a digital camera, then we want to talk to you!

Send us your best digital photo for the week and we'll chose the top shots to be published in the next issue of the *Tallil Times*.

When submitting photos, make sure they are of reasonable quality and in any PC compatible format. Next, make sure you provide us with an accurate description of the event and **COMPLETE** names of all persons pictured.

Photos without complete information cannot be considered. Photos must be in good taste and not compromise safety or security in any manner.

If you have questions, contact the Public Affairs Office at DSN 459-0014 or send your questions directly to tallil.times@t1ab.aorcentaf.af.mil.



Firefighters claim intramural volleyball title

by Staff Sgt. Terry Jones

332nd ESVS

If there was any question if the 332nd Expeditionary Civil Engineering Squadron is the best intramural volleyball team on Tallil, that question was answered Oct. 2 in impressive fashion.

The Firefighters capped a perfect season by defeating the 332nd Expeditionary Communications Squadron Team #1, 15-10, 15-10 to win the base championship.

After an 11-0 record during the regular season, the Firefighters knew they had a target on their backs, and seven other teams would be shooting for the bullseye.

Focused and unfazed by the pressure, the Firefighters ripped off three straight playoff victories and finished with an unblemished record in 14 appearances this season.

In game one of the finals, both teams fought to a seesaw battle in

the early going, with neither team able to gain much of an advantage.

ECS put together a rally to forge ahead 10-7. But the Firefighters fought back, scoring four points in a row to take an 11-10 lead, prompting ECS to call a timeout.

Following the timeout, the Firefighter's serve went into the net, but ECS failed to take advantage of the situation, which proved costly.

The Firefighters scored the next four points on some outstanding teamwork with precise hitting and salted away the first game 15-10.

The Firefighter's big, powerful hitters continued where they left off in the first game, staking them to an 8-0 lead in the second game.

But ECS, which finished with a 10-1 regular season record and was

the number two seed in the playoffs, roared back like the Chicago wind in December and scored eight of the game's next nine points, cutting the Firefighter's lead to 9-8.

ECS then scored twice more, taking a short lived 10-9 lead.

After knotting the score at 10, the Firefighters went back to

their strength, with great sets and powerful finishes.

The result was another 15-10 triumph and the championship.

Firefighters coach Jacey Acol reflected on the win.

"Our strategy was to keep the ball in play and let the other team make mistakes, but they hardly made any," he said. "The game was much closer than the score indicated. Our height was an

advantage, but Comm was scrappy, which made for much longer rallies."

Acol described his team's mindset after blowing an 8-0 lead in the second game.

"We called a timeout to try to break their spirits, but they came back and were even leading 10-9," he said. "We had no more timeouts, so we had to dig deep and play ball. Both teams played outstanding — our hats are off to Comm."

ECS coach George Wolfe talked about his team's strategy for the finals.

"We tried to take one player and isolate him," he explained. "We were looking for one player to isolate. But it (the game) kind of slipped out from under us."

When asked about ECS' size disadvantage, Wolfe commented, "Our size was a disadvantage in tonight's game. When you come up with players that are a half foot taller than you, it's hard to block them."



Intramural Basketball

Playoffs begin Tuesday

As intramural basketball's regular season comes to an end, teams prepare for playoffs.

Playoff games are scheduled to begin Tuesday at 7 p.m.

Tiebreakers in standings will be head to head competition, then point differential.

If a tie still exists, there will be a coin flip to decide seedings for the playoffs.

The top eight teams will advance to the playoffs.

League standings

(as of Thursday)

Team	Wins	Losses
Security Forces	9	1
Services	8	1
Logistics Readiness	7	2
Maintenance	7	4
Civil Engineers	6	4
EMDG	5	4
39TH QM	4	5
Firefighters	4	6
OSS	3	6
COMM	3	7
Aircraft Maintenance	2	7
Wing Staff	0	9



Photo by Senior Airman Karolina Gmyrek

▲ "POINT" GUARD: Cameron Clark, 332nd Expeditionary Communications Squadron readies a jump shot as members of the 332nd Expeditionary Maintenance Squadron prepare to defend in an intramural basketball Tuesday night. The 332nd EMX defeated 332nd ECS 39-36.