



# Tallil Times

Vol. 1, Issue 26

332nd Air Expeditionary Wing, Tallil Air Base, Iraq

Friday Nov. 7, 2003

## NEWS BRIEFS

### Tent City Rules

Tallil Tent City residents are required to read and adhere to the 332nd Air Expeditionary Wing's tent city rules and General Order 1 while deployed to Tallil Air Base. The complete set of rules are available on the wing's intranet home page, under the link entitled "Tallil Air Base Policies."

### Uniform Recycling

Members departing the AOR who want to get rid of their old Desert Camouflage Uniforms may donate them to the 332nd AEW's uniform recycling program. These uniforms will be re-issued to members deployed to the AOR without DCU uniforms. A collection box for donated DCUs is located in front of the 332nd ESVS Rec. Tent. Members are reminded to wash and remove all name tapes, rank and uniform insignia from their DCUs before placing them in the box. For more information, contact the program coordinator, Airman 1st Class Kara Philp at 459-0014.

### Morale Calls

Tallil Tent City residents are reminded that individuals are allowed two morale calls each week, not to exceed 15 minutes each. Calls are logged and violators may be forwarded to their unit first sergeant for repeated violations. If you have a legitimate need for a longer call to your family or home station, unit first sergeants can authorize longer calls from their offices – contact them for more details.

## 379th EAED moves to Tallil AB "Flying Hospital" provides tactical AE support for Iraqi ops



Photo by Senior Airman Karolina Gmyrek

▲ **READY FOR TAKEOFF:** Senior Airman Jimmy Maloney (left), 379th Expeditionary Aeromedical Evacuation Detachment, AE Medical Technician, briefs an Army patient on flight procedures prior to a mission leaving from Tallil Air Base. The 379th EAED provides tactical AE support for injured service members supporting Operation Iraqi Freedom.

### by 1st Lt. Daniel DuBois

332nd AEW Public Affairs

Tallil Air Base now has a "flying hospital," providing aeromedical assets to Operation Iraqi Freedom where they are needed most – closer to the troops.

Jumping from Kuwait City International Airport to Tallil, the 379th Expeditionary Aeromedical Evacuation Detachment provides aeromedical crews for injured soldiers throughout Iraq.

"We play a critical role in OIF," Crowe said. "Our presence gives frontline soldiers the reassurance that if anything happens, we're there to support them with the finest medical care available."

According to Maj. Jim Crowe, the unit's officer in charge, they are the key unit responsible for patient transfer to higher care facilities. Of course, these transfers normally happen after several other steps have already taken place.

Whenever a soldier is wounded, self-aid and buddy care should be the first action in the field, Major Crowe said. Following this vitally important initial care, injured servicemembers are taken to a casualty collection point. From these collection points, the patients are transported to an expeditionary medical facility.

When soldiers, sailors or airmen require even higher-level care, they call us, he said.

For example, the 379th EAED can transport patients from Tallil to a strategic aeromedical evacuation unit, who in turn, could transfer the patients to Germany, Crowe said. Strategic AE units usually use the C-17 Globemaster III or the C-141 Starlifter, while tactical AE units such as the 379th use the C-130 Hercules.

Normally, flight crews for the 379th's tactical AE units consist of one flight nurse and two medical

technicians, but can vary according to the needs of the mission.

Tending to the needs of wounded and injured servicemembers often tugs at the heart strings of the 379th EAED flight crews.

Crowe explained that anytime they take care of wounded soldiers it is memorable. The unit clearly understands their role of supporting the soldiers in the field. Of course they hate seeing any soldier get wounded, but they are glad they can be there for these injured servicemembers.

"The men and women assigned to the 379th Expeditionary Aeromedical Evacuation Detachment are some of the finest AE professionals in the Air Force," said Col. Merle Hart, 332nd AEW acting vice commander. "While no one ever wants to be hurt in the field, the care these AE units provide help us tend our wounded with care and efficiency."



### Commander's Corner

I am impressed by the excitement and energy the wing's newest members are showing while performing their duties.

The entire base seems to be alive with new ideas and ways to make the base better and the mission even more successful. I appreciate everyone's 'can-do' attitude, and their actions to back it up.

The departing folks from AEF Blue have set quite a high standard. However, as I talk to the people coming into Tallil as part of AEF Silver, many of you are telling me you're ready to 'Take our game to the next level.'

I'm looking forward to it.

## 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:** The floors in the new Cadillac showers are dirty and slippery, can we fix this problem?

**A:** Our Civil Engineers are aware of the wet floor problem in the Cadillac showers. They have placed mats on the floor of one of the Cadillac showers and have ordered mats for the others. In the meantime, please follow these safety practices. First, pay attention, and watch your step. Next, minimize the water poured on to the floor. Keeping the shower curtains inside the stalls will help reduce this hazard. Also, dry off quickly in the stalls. Lastly, we are placing mops in the showers, so conscientious people can clean up after themselves. If you have any questions regarding our facilities, please contact our 24-hr CE Customer Service office at 459-0660.

# Tallil Tent City residents urged to conserve water



Photo by Staff Sgt. John Barton

**▲ IN PLACE:** Cadillac shower units have contributed significantly to the recent increase in base water usage. Members are reminded to conserve water and prevent restrictions on water usage.

### by Master Sgt. Don Perrien

#### 332nd AEW Public Affairs

In the past two weeks, water usage has risen sharply in Tallil Air Base's Tent City. As a result, base officials urge residents to conserve water or face restrictions on water usage.

Several reasons are given for the increased usage, including a larger population due to the current rotation of AEF Blue and Silver, increased user consumption since the water is now potable, and opening of new facilities in the tent city area.

However, the biggest single reason appears to be with the recently installed Cadillac shower units. Since their installation two weeks ago, the base's water usage has risen more than 40 percent.

"Water usage continues to increase, and at this rate our civil engineers can't keep up," said Senior Master Sgt. Israel Ocasio, 332nd Expeditionary Mission Support Group first sergeant.

"There is serious talk about implementing strict water hours for showering in tent city. This would mean the water would be shut off during the day, and showers would only be available during specified hours."

According to base officials, the easiest solution to the base's water problems is conservation. Members are reminded that combat showers (30 seconds on, lather up, two minute rinse) are still in effect. In addition, members should minimize water use for other activities such as brushing teeth as well. No water source should be left running, even for a few seconds.

"Conserving water is important, especially in a deployed environment such as Tallil," said Col. Merle Hart, 332nd Air Expeditionary Wing acting vice commander. "It's up to each and every member to ensure our water supply is used efficiently. If we work together, we can continue to improve the quality of life here without placing limits on water usage."

### EDITORIAL STAFF

The Tallil Times

Vol. 1, No. 26 Nov. 7, 2003



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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: Chapel Staff, 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 (RCIA)*  
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

#### 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).

### 332nd ESVS News

**"The Hot Spot" Rec. Center**  
Bingo is scheduled for 7 p.m. tonight at the outdoor theater.

#### "Muscle Beach" Fitness Center

A Veteran's Day 5K run/2-mile walk is scheduled for 6:30 a.m. Tuesday. Meet in front of the finance building at 6 a.m. Registration is available to the fitness center and also after the race.

A 3-on-3 basketball tournament is scheduled for 6 p.m. Nov. 15.

A 4-on-4 volleyball tournament is scheduled for 6 p.m. Nov. 15

Aerobics classes are coming soon to the Muscle Beach fitness center. See the Nov. 14 issue of the Tallil Times for a detailed schedule.

Muscle Beach fitness center is looking for volunteers

#### Volunteers Needed

The 332nd ESVS fitness center is currently looking for volunteer referees for the upcoming Intramural Volleyball season.

Certified aerobics instructors who are interesting in teaching classes starting Nov. 18 contact Senior Airman Tia Thomas or Staff Sgt. Eddie Tacub at 459-0118 or via e-mail.

## 332nd AEW Warrior of the Week

### Tech. Sgt. Mario Maiorana

**Unit and duty title:** 332nd Expeditionary Aircraft Maintenance Squadron specialist section maintenance expiditer

**Home unit:** 23rd Aircraft Maintenance Squadron, Pope Air Force Base, N.C.

**Why other warriors say he's a warrior:** "As a maintenance expiditer, Sergeant Maiorana has significantly contributed to the units over 95 percent 8-hour aircraft repair rate" said Master Sgt. Norman Evans, 332nd EAMXS first sergeant. "His attention to detail led to the discovery of a faulty engine compressor variable stator vane actuator, preventing a failure of the engines compressor."

**Hobbies:** Going on weekend trips with my wife and restoring classic cars.



## REMEMBER ...

throwing your DCUs away is a force protection concern. If you don't want to pack them home, donate them to the **Uniform Recycling Program.**

Call 459-0014 for details



Photo by Special Agent Michael Freund

▲ **TRIBUTE:** Some members of AFOSI FOL 19 take some time out of the busy duty day for a photo as the sun sets over Iraq.

# ‘MISSION: Possible’ for Tallil’s OSI team

by **Airman 1st Class Kara Philp**  
332nd AEW Public Affairs

Your mission, should you choose to accept it – make Tallil Air Base a more safe and secure place for everyone. That’s the mission OSI members here have chosen to accept.

From improving the quality of life to taking off and landing on Tallil’s runway, each and every unit assigned to Tallil has an important mission. The Air Force Office of Special Investigations’ Forward Operating Location 19 is no exception. The only difference is their duties take them ‘outside the wire.’

“The job of a special agent is to go outside the wire everyday,” said Maj. Richard Sotro, FOL 19 commander. “We go to all the little villages surrounding the base – we see a different side of Iraq.”

The special agents at FOL 19 provide counterintelligence support to force protection – countering or stopping intelligence collection efforts inside and outside the gate.

In order to complete their mission, the agents spend a great deal of time visiting with local families, vendors, sheiks, political figures, and police chiefs. People in the local community talk with the agents, and, as a direct result of their working relationship, let them know if there is a potential threat to the base.

“People know us by our first names – that makes it easier for them, we establish a personal relationship with these folks,” Special Agent Jesse Garcia said. “We meet their families, have dinner with them and listen to their stories.”

Things like eating Iraqi-style meals with locals, securing explosives found in the local area

and even showing children how to use a toothbrush, all play directly into the OSI mission.

“The locals realize that most Americans are not familiar with their customs and are very understanding and willing to explain,” said Special Agent Seth Volk. “We try to help them by removing UXOs (unexploded ordinances) from their backyards, and they reciprocate by sharing information about suspicious individuals or events.”

Dealing with weapons and explosives has become common practice for the agents, it’s one of the things that make their assignment here different than most other deployments. In most respects, outside the wire is a dangerous place.

“It’s a unique environment here, there are not many places where there is always a RPG or bullet waiting with your name on it,” Garcia said.

OSI agents have worked closely with the 332nd Civil Engineer Squadron Explosive Ordinance Disposal Flight to identify and dispose of weapons and explosives that litter the local area.

“On the way to An Nasiriyah you may see kids waving mortars at you as you drive by,” Sotro said. “We have to stop and take it away.” EOD, the 332nd Expeditionary Security

Forces Squadron and the Army’s 302nd Military Police Battalion are just some of the units OSI works with on regular basis to ensure force protection.

“We pull everything together, but we couldn’t do that without the support of others,” Sotro said. “We have a small staff, but our efforts can really be effective.”

Like many other jobs, teamwork is key to mission success.

“You have to be a team player,” Garcia said. “It’s a dangerous, high-stress job. We have to put that aside to get the mission done.”

Days go by where agents work from sunrise to midnight, weeks go by where agents don’t get a day away from the office.

Despite the demands of the job, the agents agree it’s extremely rewarding — for some agents the smile on a child’s face is a great reward for the long, dedicated duty days. Others find satisfaction in knowing they have made Tallil and the surrounding area a bit more safe and secure.

“To have been able to take a lot of weapons off the streets that could have been used against us is extremely rewarding,” Garcia said.

Although you won’t find agents bragging about their successes, the facts are clear.

“There are fewer terrorists working against the coalition as a direct result of this unit,” Sotro said.

Mission accomplished.





## Wing pilot logs more than 4,000 A-10 flight hours

by Master Sgt. Don Perrien  
332nd AEW Public Affairs

If you think being deployed for 120 days to Tallil Air Base is tough, try flying in an A-10 for more than 166 straight days at 24-hours a day, 7-days a week. That's a lot of flying hours.

Only a handful of pilots in the world have logged more than 4,000 hours flying the A-10 Thunderbolt II, but Col. Dan Peabody, 332nd Expeditionary Operations Group commander joined that exclusive club Nov. 1 while flying a combat mission over central Iraq.

"I never had a goal of flying for 4,000 hours, just to fly as much and for as long as I can. The 4,000 hours just happened," Colonel Peabody said. "This was not just another day up there for me. Other than that (breaking the 4,000 hour mark), it was a 'no-kidding, for real' mission supporting our Army troops on the ground in Iraq."

Colonel Peabody knew he wanted to fly even before he joined the military, earning his private pilot's license while still in college. His path to the A-10 cockpit led him to enlist in the Air National Guard, working as a F-100 crew chief at the 103rd Fighter Wing in Bradley, Conn. More than 25 years later, he still calls the 103rd FW his home unit.

Peabody received his engineering degree from Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute in 1977 and was commissioned in 1978. He was one step closer to becoming a pilot, but it was a very big step.

At the same time, the 103rd FW transitioned over from the older F-100s to the new A-10. "Back then, there was a pilot's board only once every year or two," Peabody said. "The competition for the slots was tough, but I was selected for UPT

(Undergraduate Pilot Training) at Vance AFB, Oklahoma."

Returning back to the 103rd after initial training, Peabody flew the first of his 4,000 hours in the A-10 in the fall of 1979. Since then, he has flown more than 20 combat missions including sorties in Iraq and in Bosnia, supporting Operation Deliberate Force, where one of the most memorable of Peabody's missions took place.

"We were flying in support of French forces who were meeting heavy resistance on the ground," he said. "As my flight lead turned in to engage the enemy, we were attacked by about 10-12 MANPADS (Man Portable Air Defense Systems). When I rolled in to strafe the threat location with my 30MM gun, after about 80 rounds, my gun blew up.

"So I held high and directed my lead to the targets on the ground, while keeping an eye on the sky around us for additional threats," Colonel Peabody said. "It turned out well, but I didn't know how well until six months later when I met some of the Legionaries we helped that day.

"With the shape my plane was in, we didn't have time for a good BDA (Battle Damage Assessment) at the time," Peabody said. "But the Frenchmen did. They told us later that we took out the threats, the tank and the artillery pieces that were in their way, and they were very grateful."

The Air Force's newest member of the Warthog 4K club calls flying the plane a challenge, but an enjoyable one.

"The A-10's a pretty basic aircraft, and it requires the pilot to be very involved," Peabody said. "You spend a lot of the time in the air reading maps and plotting coordinates, there's not as much computer assistance as in some other aircraft. I like



Photo by Staff Sgt. John Barton

**▲ WARTHOG WARRIOR:** Col. Dan Peabody, 332nd Expeditionary Operations Group commander stands by his A-10 Thunderbolt II aircraft following a mission here at Tallil. He recently logged his 4,000th hour in the airframe.

the fact that it's a simple plane. In that regard, it's a real pilot's plane."

Compared to some of the newer aircraft in the Air Force inventory, the A-10 doesn't look as fast or sleek as some other models. However, according to Colonel Peabody it's looks are part of the plane's mystique.

"It's not a real glamorous aircraft, but you can tell by looking at it – it means business," he said. "The A-10 was never built to be pretty. It's built rugged to give a beating and take a beating and it has proven time and again that it does both exceedingly well."

Peabody says the A-10 mission is one of the most important in the military, and flying here is one of the most satisfying parts of his military career.

"Our mission is real-world, real-

time, supporting the guys on the ground," he said. "These people in the field are in the most intimate need of help when they call, and with the A-10, we give them the help they need. I can't imagine feeling anything more gratifying than successfully completing a close air support mission."

Following his tour here in Iraq supporting Operation Iraqi Freedom, Colonel Peabody plans to return home to the 103rd FW – just in time to help the unit prepare for its Operational Readiness Inspection.

"I'm not sure if the inspectors are going to care if I've got 4,000 hours in the A-10," he said. "But if experience means anything, I guess I'm more than ready for any challenges down the road."



# Safety First

Walk on by ...

by Lt. Col. Paul Roberts

332nd AEW Chief of Wing Safety

Many of you reading this are new arrivals at Tallil Air Base. You are settling into your routines – finding the “best” shower, the quickest path to the dining facility, directions to the post office, etc.

With limited transportation, sometimes we have to use our feet to get where we need to go.

Walking (and sometimes running) at Tallil is dangerous. Last week, one Army soldier was hit by a 10-ton Army dump truck. He survived his injuries, a broken right hip and a fractured right wrist, and was evacuated out of theater.

He learned the hard way that Tallil can be an unsafe place to walk if you’re not careful and paying attention.

While the dangers of walking at Tallil vary, here’s a short list of things to watch out for and be aware of as you’re traveling around base.

- Narrow, uneven dirt and gravel roads with a few open communication manholes
- Reduced visibility – especially during dust storms
- Limited lighting at night
- Amount of traffic – heavy at times especially at lunch and dinner
- Types of traffic – Assorted Army vehicles that are much larger than most normal traffic we are familiar with
- Coalition Drivers – They have different training and experience than you and I. A four-way stop sign is as foreign to them as their language is to us.

Members can mitigate the hazards of walking at Tallil with some simple measures.

- Always walk facing the oncoming traffic. This will provide you a visual of the threat (driver and vehicle) and warn you if you need to make an escape maneuver.
- Use the “sidewalk” when available.
- When the sun goes down, the hazard to pedestrians goes up. To increase visibility, wear a reflective belt and carry a flashlight.
- Remember, using headphones outside of Tent City is prohibited.

These are just some simple rules to walk by. Take heed and remain vigilant during your rotation.

# 171st ASG Garrison Command Cell changes commander, support staff

by Spc. Larry Adrow

171st Area Support Group

Army Lt. Col. Michael Hampton and his staff took command of the 171st Area Support Group Garrison Command Cell here at Tallil Air Base Oct. 25.

The 171st ASG’s command cell provides command and control of garrison specified base operations and base planning such as Morale Welfare and Recreation programs, land management, billeting, property accountability, and building renovations.

The Army’s newest additions to Tallil are looking forward to working with soldiers and airmen alike, helping units from around the base accomplish their mission.

“As the garrison commander, I am charged with many responsibilities ranging from repairing and renovating the buildings here at Tallil to providing top flight AAFES services for our soldiers and airmen,” Colonel Hampton said.

“I have set some very high goals for improving this base,” he said. “But I know I can not reach my goals without my staff and you. I need everyone’s help to make this a safe and comfortable place to live.”

The other assigned members of the Garrison Command Cell share their commander’s goals, and stress the importance of supporting the Army’s continuing mission in Iraq.

“Our mission continues to be important,” 1st Sgt. Luis Barraza, Garrison Command Cell NCOIC said. “Our presence makes a difference to those Iraqi civilians who were once suppressed and is one of the keys to this whole operation.”

According to the members of the newly assigned unit, they’re looking forward to supporting the men and women assigned to Tallil Air Base.

“The sacrifices that every leader, soldier and airman is enduring while in this deployment will be rewarded sometime in your life,” Sergeant Barraza said. “Be patient, pick up energy from your reserve tank and continue to do good things. And most importantly — Always lead from the front.”



▲ TALLIL'S NEW ARMY ARRIVALS: Members of the Army's 171st Area Support Group's Garrison Command Cell arrived at Tallil this week. From left to right, 1st Lt. Allan Keit, Lt. Col. Michael Hampton, Command Sgt. Maj. Machen, Spc. Larry Adrow and 1st Sgt. Luis Barraza.

## What is the Garrison Command Cell responsible for? While not all inclusive, here's a short list ...

- Producing and updating the weekly Tallil Master Planning Executive Summary
- Road Maintenance
- Building renovation
- Post Newspaper
- Emergency services
- Land Management/Billeting
- Coordinate/determine internal escort needs
- MWR/Sports and recreation Support AAFES
- Work with KBR operations; DFAC, showers, laundry.
- Working with Coalition forces on Tallil

## The Tallil Times

is available on the World Wide Web at:

<http://www.afnews.af.mil/internal/tallil/Tallil.pdf>



# Technology boosting survival rate in Iraq

**□ Soldiers injured in OIF are much less likely to die from their wounds than in previous armed conflicts**

**by Eric Cramer**

*Army News Service*

Wounded soldiers are much more likely to survive their injuries today than in past wars, so say numbers from the U.S. Army Medical Command office of medical history.

John Greenwood, chief of the office of medical history, said of the 1,077 soldiers injured in Operation Iraqi Freedom and Operation Enduring Freedom, only 18 have died of their wounds, a rate of only 1.6 percent.

This is less than half the 3.68 death rate for wounded soldiers in Vietnam. The rate for the 1993 Persian Gulf War, in which 354 soldiers were wounded, but only two died of wounds, was about one-half of one percent.

Greenwood said a combination of new technologies and changes in procedures have driven the improvement.

The improvement was noted in an Oct. 27 article by Dave Moniz in USA Today. Moniz stated that since the war in Iraq began, only one U.S. service member has been killed for every seven injured; and that's more than three times better than World War II when one died for every two wounded.

Another reason Soldiers' survivability has improved lies in the body armor they wear, according to Col. John Norwood, project manager for soldier equipment. He said the current armor, the Small Arms Protective Vest, is a big improvement over older systems.

"It's really a three-part system," Norwood said. "The outer vest looks a lot like the older flak vests, but it's made out of a Kevlar weave. It can stop 9 mm ball ammunition."

He said the vest is lined with four plates of boron carbide ceramic material.

"These are backed with Spectra Shield, and can stop a 7.62 bullet, at muzzle velocity. So if a Soldier is hit by an AK-47, which fires a 7.62

round, this vest can stop it," Norwood said.

Feedback from Soldiers using the vest has been anecdotal, but positive, Norwood said.

"What we're hearing from the field is that troops love the vest and are wearing it. We have the specific report of a private first class in Afghanistan who was hit in the chest while wearing his vest. He got up and continued the mission until he was hit in the chest a second time, then he decided not to expose himself to fire again," Norwood said.

The private was uninjured and never needed to see a doctor, Norwood said, and has since been promoted to specialist.

When a soldier needs medical care, Col. John Holcomb, commander, U.S. Army Institute of Surgical Research, Chief Trauma Division, said positioning of surgical teams on the battlefield has been an important factor in improving the survival rate.

"Surgical teams have been 'forward' since World War II," Holcomb said. "In this conflict, there was a lot of attention paid to where they were placed."

Holcomb said planners had forward surgical teams in positions that made it easier to get Soldiers to medical care as rapidly as possible. He said medical forces on the battlefield are also better trained and have more experience in dealing with trauma than in the past.

"The trauma training and trauma experience were a key factor in OIF," Holcomb said. "They respected the 'golden hour' and that led to better survival of Soldiers."

Holcomb said the "golden hour" is the first hour after a person is injured.

"The idea is, within one hour, if you need an operation, you're getting an operation," Holcomb said.

He said new technologies are also making it easier to stop bleeding on the battlefield.

"Bleeding is the leading preventable cause of death on a battlefield. We've developed better tourniquets, better bandages and better resuscitation techniques to deal with that problem," Holcomb said.



*U.S. Army Photo*

**▲ PROTECTIVE MEASURES KEEP SOLDIERS SAFE:** Kevlar vests, such as the ones worn by soldiers at this checkpoint, have helped improve the survival rate of soldiers in Iraq and Afghanistan.

Older resuscitation techniques sometimes caused soldiers to become "over hydrated," contributing to further bleeding. Holcomb said new techniques keep that from happening.

Although they have only been deployed on an experimental basis, the Army has also fielded new bandages that help control bleeding.

"Fibrin" bandages contain a protein that helps blood to clot. "Chitosan" bandages are coated in an adhesive, derived from shrimp shells, that helps close wounds, promoting healing, and preventing bleeding. The experimental bandages have seen only limited use but are expected to increase the survival rate for wounded soldiers.

## ***Words for Warriors***

***"War is an ugly thing, but not the ugliest of things. The decayed and degraded state of moral and patriotic feeling which thinks that nothing is worth war is much worse. The person who has nothing for which he is willing to fight, nothing which is more important than his own personal safety, is a miserable creature and has no chance of being free unless made and kept so by the exertions of better men than himself."***

**— John Stewart Mill**



# Airmen bring fallen firefighter home

CHANNEL ISLANDS AIR NATIONAL GUARD STATION, Calif. (AFPN) — Two of the pallbearers who carried the casket bearing the body of California firefighter Steven Rucker had fought alongside him as he defended a house from the Cedar Fire. Another two had served as his captains in the Novato Calif. Fire Protection District where he worked.

The pallbearers brought the casket into the cargo area of an Air Force C-130 Hercules.

The C-130 and its crew are from the California Air National Guard's 146th Airlift Wing. They flew Rucker's body to Santa Rosa, Calif. on Nov. 3. from Gillespie Field Airport.

Rucker died Oct. 29 during fires that devastated four Southern California counties, leaving more than 20 people dead, destroying more than 3,500 structures, and burning 743,000 acres.

As the firefighters set the flag-draped casket down on the floor of the airplane, they wept. They turned and consoled one another as they prepared to return their fallen comrade to his wife and two children, his friends, family and colleagues.

"(Returning the body) gives closure to the folks back home," said Tom Keena, who served as Rucker's captain in Novato. "And it's good for the folks in San Diego, too."

The loss seemed to be felt across the firefighting community — and beyond.

People of the local community lined the street outside the fence at Gillespie, some standing in their truck beds to get a better view, as hundreds of local, state and federal fire-protection professionals saluted their fallen comrade.

"The firefighting effort put out by these men and women was a heroic effort," U.S. Rep. Duncan Hunter said. "They need to know that every Californian, every family has been made safer by the efforts of this hero."

"The request to carry a civilian was a unique request," said Col. Steven Friedrichs, 146th Airlift Wing commander and the pilot of the C-130. "It's not common...but we were honored to do it."

There's a special bond between the Guard and the firefighting and law enforcement communities, because many firefighters and police officers are in the Guard," he said.

The bond might be especially strong between the 146th AW and the public safety community because the wing is one of only four Air Force units across the nation that flies an aerial firefighting mission.

Nearly 200 airmen and eight C-130s from California, Colorado, North Carolina and Wyoming aided firefighting efforts on the ground in Los Angeles and Ventura Counties,



Photo by Staff Sgt. Alex J. Koenig

▲ **A FINAL SALUTE:** Firefighters salute as the casket of firefighter Steven Rucker is taken from an Air Force C-130 Hercules as it arrives at Santa Rosa County Airport, Calif.. Rucker, an engineer with the Novato Fire Protection District, died Oct. 29 in San Diego County's Cedar fire.

making retardant drops against the Simi fire from Oct. 27 to 29.

The four wings have been assisting lead agencies such as the National Interagency Fire Center and the California Department of For-

estry and Fire Protection for decades, but like many people engaged in the recent firefighting, some of the California Guardsmen were defending their own neighborhoods and homes.

(Article courtesy Air Force Print News)

## This Week In History

November 2, 1944

**Lt Feymoyer earns Medal of Honor**



While on a bomber mission over Germany, three anti-aircraft shells seriously damage the B-17 carrying navigator 2nd Lt. Robert E. Feymoyer. Despite extreme pain and loss of blood, 2nd Lt. Feymoyer refuses morphine in order to keep his head clear. The crew props him up so he can see his charts & instruments, and Feymoyer directs the navigation of the lone bomber for two and a half hours until it reaches protected airspace near England. He dies shortly after being removed from the plane and is posthumously awarded the Medal of Honor.





▲ **ROUGH LANDING:** The remains of an Iraqi F-4 decorate Tallil's junkyard.

*Photo by Master Sgt. Don Perrien*

# BEST — Give Us Your — SHOT



▲ **END OF THE DAY:** Sunset falls over the 332nd AEW fire department as seen from the top of one of the many bunkers in Tallil Air Base's tent city.

*Photo by Tech. Sgt. Jamie Dufrene*



*Photo by Airman 1st Class Alecia Moore*

▲ **TWO FEET OVER IRAQ:** A member of the 332nd Air Expeditionary Wing captures a shot of the Iraqi landscape from hundreds of feet in the air.

### 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@tlab.aorcentaf.af.mil](mailto:tallil.times@tlab.aorcentaf.af.mil).



# Peterson claims 8th and final 5K victory



Photo by Master Sgt. Kenneth Velez

▲ **CLOSE RACE:** Mel Peterson, 332nd Expeditionary Operations Support Squadron claimed his eighth and final victory at Tallil in the Oct. 31 Fun Run with a time of 16:53.

**by Airman 1st Class Kara Philp**

*332nd AEW Public Affairs*

Tallilians gathered in the early hours of Halloween morning — not for trick-or-treating, but for the 332nd Expeditionary Services Squadron's 5K run/2-mile walk Friday.

To no one's surprise, Mel Petersen robbed the competition of first place in yet another 5K run

with an impressive time of 16:53. Unfortunately, it was Petersen's last race at Tallil.

Since his arrival in July, Petersen has been the fist runner to cross the line in eight races.

Although the Tallil legend is on his way home, the show must go on.

The next 5K/2-mile walk is scheduled for Veteran's Day at 6:30 a.m. Show time is 6 a.m. in front of the finance building.

### 5K top five finishers

1 Mel Petterson	16:53	EOSS
2 David Dominguez	18:06	ECS
3 Jeffery Yost	18:49	EFS
4 Stephen Renner	19:57	EFS
5 Arthur Tsepelin	20:13	Estonia

### 2 mile walk top five finishers

1 Maurice Barfield	24:14	ECS
2 Aditya Arora	24:53	EMDG
3 Melissa Hudson	25:30	EMXG
4 Lea Kuehn	25:30	ECES
5 Angelia Messer	26:18	ELRS

# ESVS offers Tallilians 'November to Remember'

## Silver rotation offers new events, new improvements for deployed members

**by 1st Lt. Jay E. Bolden**

*332nd AEW Wing Staff*

As the winds of November blow in, so does a brand new Services crew.

The AEF Silver team for the 332nd Expeditionary Services Squadron hails from Offutt, Shaw and Kadena Air Force bases.

Along with these new faces comes the new face of the Muscle Beach Fitness Center.

In the past week, the Fitness Center staff has added another tent section to the cardiovascular area increasing area and an even larger selection of cardio and aerobic equipment.

According to the Fitness Center staff, even more improvements are in the works.

"Continue to expect upgrades to Muscle Beach throughout AEF Silver" says Master Sgt. Mark D'Amico, Fitness and Recreation Superintendent.

Sergeant D'Amico says the

new Services members are always ready to listen to their customers for ways they can improve Tallilian's quality of life while at Tallil AB.

"If there are suggestions or recommendations on any improvements we can make to your fitness center, please feel free to drop a comment card in one of our boxes or simply let our staff know," he said.

### Fitness Center Schedule November 2003

- ▶ 11 Nov. - Veterans Day 5K Run/2 Mile Walk; 6:30 a.m.
- ▶ 15 Nov. - 3 on 3 Basketball Tournament; 6 p.m.
- ▶ 16 Nov. - 4 on 4 Volleyball Tournament; 6 p.m.
- ▶ 21 Nov. - Sports Advisory Council Meeting; 2:30 p.m.
- ▶ 22 Nov. - 3 pt. Shootout and Freethrow Contest; 6 p.m.
- ▶ 27 Nov. - 5K Run/2 Mile Turkey Trot; 7 a.m.
- ▶ 29 Nov. - Tug of War; 2 p.m.



Photo by Airman 1st Class Kara Philp

▲ **LIGHTS, CAMERA, ACTION:** Staff Sgt. James Justice, 332nd Expeditionary Civil Engineer Squadron electrical systems craftsman, prepares a light system outside the 332nd Expeditionary Services Squadron Fitness Center's addition to the cardio room Thursday.