

# THE *Airstream*



• 910th Engineers Build "New Horizon"  
in Guyana, South America  
Also Inside: YARS Veterans Salute

# FROM THE TOP

## 910th AW transitions to UCI mode as leaves, seasons change

**Col. Karl McGregor**  
910th Airlift Wing Commander

As I look out my office window, the leaves are colored red and burnt orange on the sugar maple trees and fall is clearly upon us. Also, everyone appears to be wearing their hat, thank you. As we transition between summer and winter with the harvest season, there's time to reflect back as we did in last month's article to the great things we did in 2009, and

also to look forward to the new year.

As always, the 910th stands ready to supply the best trained and equipped personnel to the combatant commanders, be it in support of U.S. Africa Command (AFRICOM) with aircraft, aircrew and maintainers or U.S. Central Command (CENTCOM) with our civil engineers or security forces. We truly and fully support the theater needs with the best group of Airmen anywhere.

This we will continue to provide, but at the same time, we will have a

major inspection challenge as well.

In the spring we'll host approximately 125 members of the Air Force Reserve Command Inspector General's team for our compliance inspections. As we did for the Operational Readiness Inspection, we will show them that we're the best wing in any command.

I have asked our inspection "khan", Lt. Col. Perry Sorg, 910th Operations Commander, to craft expectations, set plans and fully prepare the Wing.



## Formal Compliance Inspection overview: way to UCI success

**Lt. Col. Perry Sorg**  
910th Operations Group Commander

The 910th will go through five compliance inspections April to July 2010. The Unit Compliance Inspection (UCI), Maintenance Standardization Evaluation Program (MSEP), Aircrew Standardization and Evaluation Visit (ASEV), Health Services Inspection (HSI) and Logistics Compliance Assessment Program (LCAP) are all command-level inspections to see if we are in compliance with federal laws, Department of Defense (DoD) regulations, Air Force Instructions (AFI) and supplements, and to receive guidance from our respective command.

### **Strategic Keys to Inspection Success**

Our attitude, dress, appearance, customs and courtesies will determine the first impression we give to the inspection teams and set the tone for their interaction with us. The inspections begin with our e-mails, conversations and telephone communication with Inspector General (IG) team members and AFRC Functional Area Managers (FAM) before they even get here. Inspection continues through the formal IG team in-brief slated for April 28. Then, inspectors will spend as much time as possible walking to and from inspection locations on base to get a "feel" for 910th people, culture and military bearing.

The inspectors will use the inspection interviews to evaluate the following:

- Do we respond to questions with openness, respectful discussion and a desire to improve what we are doing?
- If a deficiency is identified, do we seek understanding and then take actions to fix it on the spot?
- Are we taking care of our people IAW AF programs?
- Are we giving our people the best training we can?
- Are we accomplishing the mission safely and IAW laws, regulations, instructions and guidance?
- Are we properly documenting training, programs and requirements?

### **Ten Tactics, Techniques and Procedures (TTPs) for Compliance Inspection Success**

1. **AFIs, AFRC Supplements, AF Manuals, AF Pamphlets:** Inspectors have an obligation to inspect using current, relevant AF documents. They must also reference all observations, deficiencies and findings in their report. If we know and understand the written, approved regulations, instructions, manuals and pamphlets that apply to our function and mission and meet the requirements in those documents we will do well.
2. **Past Inspections and Staff Assistance Visits:** All 910th squadrons and units should have hard or electronic copies of the June 2009 Staff Assisted Visit (SAV), 2005 UCI and 1999 UCI. It is very important to ensure that all observations, findings and deficiencies in those reports are not repeated.
3. **Counterparts with recent UCIs (Niagara Falls and Colorado Springs):** Now is a good time to contact your counterparts at wings that have recently had formal inspections that we are preparing for. Your 22nd AF FAM can help you with this.
4. **Squadron/Unit/Function Self Inspection (SI) Program:** All units on base must use Management Internal Control Toolkit (MICT) to the fullest extent possible. This means accomplishing all appropriate MICT checklists in a thorough manner during our two self inspection periods every year to include commander checklist review and closeout. See your group SI monitor for help. Operations Group: Lt. Col. Coburn, Maintenance Group: Chief Master Sgt. Kirk Neulieb, Mission Support Group: Capt. Scott Allen, Airlift Wing: Capt. Wendy Prokop and Medical Squadron: Capt. Lance Williams and Staff Sgt. Scott Smith.
5. **Programs that always need extra attention in every unit:** Training/Unit Training Manager (UTM), family care and first sergeant, deployment and Unit Deployment Manager (UDM), government travel card and time and attendance. Units should apply their best people that are available to these programs between now and April.
6. **Involve as many of your best people as possible:** Key leaders in the unit (commanders, operations officers, Air Reserve Technicians, first sergeants and superintendants) develop a plan to ensure that the right

- people are engaged in the programs that will be inspected. These people must have the availability to bring the program up to inspection ready and make the required documentation as required.
7. **Readiness Management Period (RMP) 40A Telecommute:** Col. McGregor has authorized RMP 40A Telecommute agreements to be used for inspection preparation. This means that your people can work the inspection from home. They can do self inspection in MICT, reference AFIs and accomplish Computer Based Training..
  8. **Use of Annual Tour:** If funding is available, mandays may be able to be applied to inspection preparation. Applying part or all of the annual tour of your inspectable program managers is also appropriate to prepare. These inspections are a type of "Wing Report Card" and the UCI results will stay with us for five years. It is better for all of us to do well, thorough preparation now than to answer to findings for several years.
  9. **Squadron/Unit/Function Program Managers:** These program managers must be here from April 29 to May 2, so they can engage the inspectors, showcase their programs, answer all questions and have an opportunity to fix any findings the inspectors give them an opportunity to fix. Having these program managers in place before April 29 can also help a unit.
  10. **Communicate with your NAF and AFRC FAM:** There is no better time than now to develop a working relationship with the Numbered Air Force (NAF) and AFRC FAMs for your function. They have valuable insight and inspection knowledge that you need to be successful on a compliance inspection. Be sure you save e-mails or documents that affect the upcoming inspections because you may not be inspected by someone who has been informed of any waivers or guidance AFRC has granted or given to your unit and its mission.

By following this guidance while preparing for these upcoming inspections, the Airmen of the 910th can help make this inspection as successful as any event the wing has set out to accomplish in the last few years. Thank you for your cooperation in this highly important matter.

# PRESIDENT OBAMA VISITS YARS



Photo by Master Sgt. Bob Barko Jr.

## 910th commander greets commander in chief

Col. Karl McGregor, commander of the 910th Airlift Wing, shakes hands with President Barack Obama in front of Air Force One, shortly after the president arrived at Youngstown Air Reserve Station, Sept. 15, 2009. The president was in northeast Ohio to visit the General Motors Assembly Complex in nearby Lordstown, Ohio, to speak with autoworkers about a variety of issues including the economy. After talking with Col. McGregor for a moment, the president waved to those gathered near the flightline at YARS and, along with a group of Ohio legislators, boarded an aircraft from the Presidential Helicopter Squadron to fly to the GM plant.

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*This funded Air Force Reserve newspaper is an authorized publication for members of the U.S. military services. Contents of The Airstream are not necessarily the official view of, or endorsed by, the U.S. Department of Defense or the Department of the Air Force. The editorial content is edited, prepared and provided by the Public Affairs Office of the 910th Airlift Wing. All photos are Air Force photos, unless otherwise indicated.*

### *On the cover...*

**Tech. Sgt. Kevin Dillon, a structural technician with the 910th Civil Engineer Squadron, drives a fastener into the steel frame of a school being constructed as part of New Horizon Guyana. Members of the 910th CES spent approximately six weeks in the South American country working on the project. See the story and photos on page 5.**

# 910<sup>th</sup> CES builds 'new horizon' for Guyana children

**Maj. Brent Davis**  
910th Airlift Wing Public Affairs

The summer of 2009 was unseasonably cool and pleasant for northeastern Ohioans. It was common to walk through neighborhoods and smell outdoor fires burning during summer evenings. However, thousands of miles away, near the equator in the country of Guyana, South America, the climate was much different.

Intense heat, humidity and bouts of heavy rainfall greeted the Servicemembers of the 910th Civil Engineer Squadron (CES) as they arrived in Guyana to work on a summer-long project. The mission: Build a school for a group of local fifth and sixth-grade children.

The school, housing approximately 60 students, was built between June and August as part of New Horizons Guyana, according to Master Sgt. David Gurnak, an electrician supervisor with the 910th Civil Engineer Squadron.

New Horizons is an annual series of joint and combined humanitarian assistance exercises that U.S. Southern Command conducts in Latin American and Caribbean nations. The exercises improve joint training readiness of U.S. Engineer, medical and combat service support units through humanitarian and civic assistance activities and usually involve construction of schools, clinics and water wells.

Approximately 50 members of the 910th Airlift Wing took part in the nearly \$250,000 project near the community of Bel Air in the city of Georgetown, Guyana.

As the school project progressed, there were other opportunities for the Airmen to aid the residents of Bel Air.

"This project had a heart moving moment when we were passing out school supplies and clothing to the children and teachers," said Tech. Sgt. Robert Metts, a power production supervisor with the 910th CES. "They were very grateful for what they were receiving."

"The average wage there is \$10 a day," Sergeant Metts said. "The things that are average stuff here just aren't available there. Instead of firing a weapon to defend helpless people, we're swinging hammers to make a difference."

Sergeant Gurnak, who returned from the six-week mission with superior performance awards, described an impoverished country where trash was strewn along the coastline and horse and buggy brought supplies to the working Servicemembers.

According to the Airmen, they worked 10 hours a day and had midnight curfews, but the Reservists were able to spend time with the residents and sample some local foods. During their time off, some of the Airmen took a trip to see Kaieteur Falls. Located deep in the rainforest, the waterfall has a drop of more than 700 feet, making it one of the largest waterfalls in the world.

In addition to aiding some of the residents of Guyana, this humanitarian project also helped some of the participating Reservists.

Sergeant Gurnak said he works in the construction business, but work has been scarce lately. This project provided him needed income for his day-to-day life.



Photo by Maj. Brent Davis

**Above:** 910th Civil Engineer Citizen Airmen lift a truss that will complete the roof assembly of a school in the community of Bel Air, Guyana, South America, July 16. Approximately 50 YARS Servicemembers helped build the school that will house more than 60 students as part of New Horizons, a joint humanitarian mission.

**Right:** Tech. Sgt. Robert Metts, an electrical power production technician with the 910th Civil Engineer Squadron, paints the exterior of the newly constructed school in Guyana, July 30.



Photo by Airman 1st Class Megan Tomkins

## Pen pals between Americas

**Airman 1st Class Megan Tomkins**  
910th Airlift Wing Public Affairs

Before the 910th Civil Engineers began building the Bel Air Primary School (BAPS) in Georgetown, Guyana, a Servicemember and his wife had an idea to communicate with the children in Guyana.

Staff Sgt. Dan Dylag, a utilities system journeyman with the 910th Civil Engineer Squadron and his wife Kara, a fourth-grade teacher at Saint Ignatius of Antioch Elementary School, Ohio, asked students there to write letters to the students at the BAPS.

Sergeant Dylag delivered more than 100 letters written by the students, 8 to 12-year-olds in third through sixth-grade, to the BAPS children.

"It is always a great idea to brush up on the writing skills of students, so my husband suggested writing to the Guyana students and he would hand deliver them," said Mrs. Dylag. "The students really enjoyed writing the letters."

Sergeant Dylag said his main focus was for the students from both schools to become friends and pen pals to see how each of the schools learn.

He presented the letters to Sharon Smith, a native of Guyana and second in charge of BAPS, during a small ceremony at the school.

Ms. Smith said she was impressed with the building of the school.

"(We've) been waiting a very long time for this to happen," she said. "It's a dream come true."

Ms. Smith also said the students would be thrilled to receive the letters.

"When school opens, we will show them (the letters)," she said.

"It was excellent," said Sergeant Dylag about the presentation of the letters to Ms. Smith. "It was moving."

Mrs. Dylag said that correspondence will continue among the children at the two different schools.

"I am very excited about this partnership we have created and know that it will continue," said Mrs. Dylag. "It is a great way to learn about different cultures of the world. I feel that our students ... will find out how fortunate they really are while learning about the students in Guyana."

"(It) is just awesome that a piece of paper and a pen could create such attention and continue to blossom with new found friendships," she added.

# Yesterday's warriors, today's performers

Seasoned YARS hands lend expertise to mission

**Maj. Brent Davis**  
**Tech. Sgt. Dennis Kilker**  
910th Airlift Wing Public Affairs



The 910th Airlift Wing is home to many people who began careers by serving their country. Some of these civilian employees distinguished themselves in their service as far back as the Vietnam era. Because of their unique skills and dedication to the military, their veteran experience helps make the Youngstown Air Reserve Station what it is today.

The following photos represent only a handful of the 910th team member veterans who have served honorably in the armed forces and currently help make a difference at YARS.

"Then" photos and illustration were contributed. "Now" photos by Maj. Brent Davis and Master Sgt. Bob Barko Jr.



**Adrian "Nino" Vintila**

**Then:** Mr. Vintila served in the U.S. Navy on active duty, 1967 to 1976, as a gunner's mate, paralegal, and with Naval Investigation Service during Operation Frequent Winds.  
**Now:** Mr. Vintila is a patrolman with the 910th Security Forces Squadron.



**Keisha Marie Adler**

**Then:** Ms. Adler served in the U.S. Navy on active duty, 1989 to 1992, as a yeoman for the Master Chief Petty Officer of the Navy and was awarded a Navy Achievement medal.  
**Now:** Ms. Adler is a human resources technician with the 910th Civilian Personnel Flight.



**Edward McAtee**

**Then:** Mr. McAtee served in the U.S. Navy on active duty, 1967 to 1970, as an aircraft boatswain and a cook. He served during the Vietnam War in the gulf of Tonkin.  
**Now:** Mr. McAtee is an engineering technician with the 910th Civil Engineer Squadron.



**Shirley Johnson**

**Then:** Ms. Johnson served in the U.S. Air Force on active duty, 1974 to 1978 and 1980 to 1984, as a histopathology technician.  
**Now:** Ms. Johnson is the chief of travel and military pay with the 910th Airlift Wing Financial Management Flight.



**Dennis Yoho**

**Then:** Mr. Yoho served in the U.S. Army on active duty, 1976 to 1996, as a military police officer, customs inspector, investigator, traffic accident investigator and physical security inspector.  
**Now:** Mr. Yoho is the chief of information protection for the 910th Airlift Wing.



**Walter Jenkins**

**Then:** Mr. Jenkins served in the U.S. Army on active duty, 1968 to 1969, as an artillery specialist during the Vietnam War and was awarded a Bronze Star medal for bravery.  
**Now:** Mr. Jenkins is a YARS Goodwill Industries custodian.

## YARS Airmen can expect changes to dress, appearance

The Air Force approved updates to the dress and appearance guideline, Air Force Instruction 36-2903, June 10, 2009.

The updates, slated to take effect on Oct. 1, 2010, unless otherwise stated, are as follows:

- Airmen will be able to use a cellular telephone while in uniform and walking. The mobile phone must be of a conservative color and can be worn on either the left or right side. However, customs and courtesies must be observed at all times, and salutes take precedence to talking on the phone. Hands-free devices will still be unauthorized for use while walking in uniform.

- Airman Battle Uniform/Battle Dress Uniform/Desert Combat Uniform trousers must be tucked into boots while maintaining a bloused appearance.

- Boot laces must be tucked into the boots, to include the tips of the boot laces. Wrapping the lace around the boot will still be authorized.

- The green fleece jacket, part of the All-Purpose Environmental Clothing System, will be authorized as an outer-wear garment. Airmen can sew on name, rank and service designators, though these items are not mandatory.

- Enlisted chevrons must be sewn on the sleeves of the light-weight blue jacket. The metal insignias on the collar will no longer be authorized. This update takes effect Jan. 1, 2010.

- The lower leg pocket on the ABU trousers will be extended by approximately ½ inch.

- Upper-sleeve pockets will be authorized for fire-resistant clothing used in the Central Command region.

- Airman who have earned and were awarded the Army Parachute Riggers badge will be authorized to permanently wear it on all uniform combinations. For ABUs and BDU, the badge will be blue; for DCU, the badge will be brown.

- The Army Air Assault black badge will be authorized for wear with ABUs upon graduation from the Air Assault School.

- Organizational ball caps will not be authorized to be attached to the cargo pockets on BDU trousers.

- Female ABU trouser buttons will be the same as the men's trouser.

## Marrow Donor Program seeks to register Servicemembers

Saving lives as a Servicemember doesn't always require deploying to a conflict zone. Through the C.W. Bill Young Department of Defense Marrow Donor Program, all active duty military members and their dependents, DoD civilians, Coast Guardsmen, National Guardsmen and Reservists, ages 18 to 60 and in good health, can register with the National Marrow Donor program (NMDP). Volunteers can register at NMDP donor recruitment drives or one of the organization's walk-in sites, listed on the program's Web site.

Registering with the NMDP is a simple process and consists of providing a brief medical history and genetic samples.

Registering gives you no obligation to donate marrow should a match be found. If your registration yields a potential match with a patient in need of a bone marrow transplant, the C.W. Bill Young DoD Marrow Donor Center will contact you and request you as a preliminary match, proceeding from there, only with your consent. For more information on the donor process, visit <http://www.dodmarrow.org>.

Look for upcoming opportunities to register with the NMDP at YARS, as a donor recruitment drive is being planned for the near future.

## Servicemember's checklist for suicide awareness, prevention

Every 16 minutes a suicide occurs in the U.S. No less than six other people are intimately affected by those losses. Most people who are thinking about suicide exhibit certain signs, symptoms and behaviors that can be detected by people who are familiar with those threatening signals.

### **Good leadership is good prevention**

- Create an atmosphere of trust and a work climate that fosters communication.

- Know your people, walk around your duty section every day, talk to Airmen about their personal lives and interests, and spend time listening to their concerns.

- Encourage healthy lifestyle choices by role modeling healthy behavior and values.

- Encourage Airmen to look out for each other and be great Wingmen.

- Publicly encourage help-seeking behavior and emphasize that asking for help is OK.

- Know critical warning signs like depression, hopelessness and social isolation.

- Ask tough questions about life, distress, suicidal ideation and alcohol use.

- Express caring and hope. Compassion isn't weak or lack of resolve.

### **Wingmen look out for each other**

- Put the Wingman ideal into practice every day.

- Take responsibility for one another and act decisively when you see someone in crisis.

- Don't miss an opportunity to make a critical difference to someone who may be suffering in silence.

- For those struggling with suicidal thoughts and feelings help is available through your chain of command, your local medical treatment facility and your mental health clinic.

- Reach out to someone you can trust and ask for help.

Information is available on the Air Force Suicide Prevention Program Web site at <http://.afsp.afms.mil>. Local support and information can be obtained from the chaplain or Col. Karen Nagafuchi, the Air Force Reserve Command Region I Psychological Health Advocate at 937-902-9854.

## YARS pandemic flu policy

Col. Karl McGregor, commander of the 910th Airlift Wing, has released the following policy in regards to pandemic influenza:

In anticipation of the fall influenza season, it is critically important that we strengthen our efforts to protect the workforce and ensure the continuity of operations. Telecommute can be an important tool in two ways. First, as the pandemic influenza approaches and intensifies, telecommute can be used in advance of any formal evacuation orders and requires employees to work at home. Second, if an evacuation is ordered and designated employees must work at home, pretesting of telecommute capabilities should be exercised to meet mission needs.

With this in mind, I give the respective commanders the authority to determine the essential individuals needed to continue mission operations. Commanders should predetermine the employees whose services are essential and coordinate with the communication squadron to ensure proper remote connectivity and resolve any issues in advance.

Commanders should consider flexible combination of work schedules, sick leave, annual leave and other appropriate leave. Managers, employees and organizations will have to remain flexible with each other and their work and will have to adapt to the changing environment. Please coordinate any significant leave issues through the Civilian Personnel Office.

# PROMOTIONS



Joel M. Commins, 910th Services Squadron  
Steven M. Gonzales, 910th Aircraft Maintenance Squad.  
Nathan B. Moffitt, 910th Maintenance Squadron  
Andre D. Moore, 910th Medical Squadron



Scott F. Clokey, 910th Maintenance Squadron  
Cody A. Radsick, 910th Maintenance Squadron  
Brendan J. Uhlir, 910th Security Forces Squadron  
Pierre A. Wearren, 910th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron



Jeffrey A. Eastern, 910th Medical Squadron  
John M. Kachursky, 76th Aerial Port Squadron  
Mark A. Marino, 757th Airlift Squadron  
Marcus M. Miner, 910th Maintenance Squadron



Marcus T. Gilmore, 910th Services Squadron  
Timothy A. Hammonds, 910th Maintenance Squadron  
James M. Haupt, 910th Operations Support Squadron  
Zachary H. Mcleish, 76th Aerial Port Squadron



Anthony A. Adams, 910th Services Squadron  
Iris M. Rucker, 910th Medical Squadron  
Nicholas E. Sexton, 910th Civil Engineer Squadron



Christopher R. Luka, 76th Aerial Port Squadron  
Alvin Trapp Jr., 910th Civil Engineer Squadron

# NEWCOMERS

Capt. Sophia R. Dailey, 910th Logistics Readiness Squadron  
Airman Jonathan C. Soda, 910th Maintenance Squadron

Airman Basic Corey M. Logan, 910th Logistics Readiness Squadron  
Airman Basic Sandra Thompson, 910th Logistics Readiness Squadron



Photo by Senior Airman Brenda Haines

Col. Karl McGregor, commander of the 910th Airlift Wing, administers the Air Force Oath of Enlistment to 35 recruits during a Mass Enlistment ceremony in Hangar 302, Oct. 3. Implemented in 2005, the Air Force Reserve Command's Mass Enlistment is a program that signifies the beginning of the training year. The new recruits, the largest group at the Youngtown Air Reserve Station since the program's inception, will join YARS and serve alongside more than 70,000 Air Force Reservists worldwide.

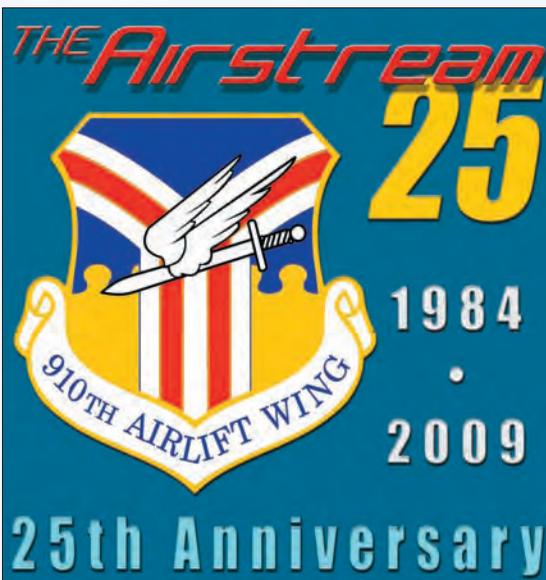
“Winger,” a cartoon by Master Sgt. Bob Barko Jr., public affairs superintendent, will return in the next issue.

# 910TH TEAM RUNS USAF MARATHON



Photo by Master Sgt. Bob Barko Jr.

Some members of the 910th Airlift Wing U.S. Air Force Marathon team pose for a photo near the event finish line, Saturday, Sept. 19, at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, Ohio. Members of the 24-person YARS team ran in the marathon (26.2 miles), the half-marathon (13.1 miles) and the 10-kilometer (6.2 miles) races. They were among more than 9,900 participants in this year's event, with each receiving a medal for completing their race. 910th Airmen had the chance to attend a Sports and Fitness Expo and tour the U.S. Air Force Museum. Results from the 2009 race and information about the 2010 event, set for Sept. 18, 2010, are available at [www.usafmarathon.com](http://www.usafmarathon.com).



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