

# *Air Force Missileers*

The Quarterly Newsletter of the Association of Air Force Missileers

Volume 19, Number 3

*"Victors in the Cold War"*

September 2011

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*AAFM is collecting stories from members, family members and friends about experiences during the Cuban Missile Crisis. Add your story to our collection, which we will publish in a special book as part of our 2012 commemoration of this historic event*

The Mission of the Association of Air Force Missileers -

- Preserving the Heritage of Air Force Missiles and the people involved with them
- Recognizing Outstanding Missileers
- Encouraging Meetings and Reunions
- Keeping Missileers Informed
- Providing a Central Point of Contact for Missileers



# Association of Air Force Missileers

## Membership Application

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Breckenridge, CO 80424

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Annual (\$20) \_\_\_\_\_ Active Duty Enlisted/Student (\$5) \_\_\_\_\_  
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 Awarded Missile Badge - Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

Member Number \_\_\_\_\_

Name				Home Phone	
Address				E-mail	
City	State	Zip Code	Rank/Grade	Active Duty <input type="checkbox"/>	Retired <input type="checkbox"/>
Can AAFM release this information-only to members and missile organizations? Yes _____ No _____				Reserve or Nat Guard <input type="checkbox"/>	Discharged/ Separated <input type="checkbox"/>
Signature				Civilian <input type="checkbox"/>	

Summary of your missile experience - used in the AAFM database - attach bio if you have one

<b>Missile Systems and Units</b>		Matador _____ Units _____	Blue Scout _____ Unit _____	Titan I _____ 568 _____ 569 _____ 850 _____ 851 _____ 703/451SMW _____	Titan II _____ 308 _____ 381 _____ 390 _____	GLCM _____ JCMPO _____ 38 _____ 303 _____ 485 _____ 486 _____ 487 _____ 501 _____ Dugway _____ 868TMTS/G _____
Navaho _____	Thor _____ Units _____	Mace _____ Units _____	Atlas D _____ E _____ F _____ 548 _____ 549 _____ 550 _____ 551 _____ 556 _____ 567 _____ 576 _____ 577 _____ 578 _____ 579 _____ 706/389SMW _____		Minuteman I _____ II/Mod _____ III _____ Peacekeeper _____ 44 _____ 90 _____ 91/455 _____ 321 _____ 341 _____ 351 _____ 4062 (MM Train) _____ Small ICBM _____	
Snark _____ 702SMW _____	Bomarc _____ Units _____	ALCS _____ 2ACCS _____ 4ACCS _____		<b>Airlaunch</b> _____ AIM _____ AIR _____ AGM _____ SRAM _____ ALCM _____ ACM _____ AAMRAM _____ RPV/Drone _____ Hounddog _____ Quail _____ Skybolt _____ Other Airlaunch Systems _____ Airlaunch Units _____		
Jupiter _____ Italy _____ Turkey _____	<b>Space Systems</b> _____ Thor _____ Atlas _____ Titan II _____ Titan III _____ Titan IV _____ Delta _____ Nike _____ Vanguard _____ Scout _____ EELV _____ Apollo _____ Mercury _____ Gemini _____ MOL _____ Agena _____ ABRES _____ Ranger _____ Shuttle _____ Skylab _____ Sat Control _____ SpaceSurv _____ BMEWS _____ DSP _____ DMSP _____ DSCS _____ GPS _____ PavePaws _____ Other Space System _____ 21SW _____ 30SW _____ 45SW _____ 50SW _____ Other Space Units _____					

Headquarters/Numbered Air Force/Specialized Units (Check only if assigned to the headquarters level)

JCS/DOD/SECAF _____ Air Staff _____ AFIG _____ AFOTEC _____ SAC or JSTPS _____ AFSPC _____ TAC _____ ACC _____ STRATCOM _____ PACAF _____ USAFE _____ EUCOM _____ NATO _____ or AAFCE _____ AFSOUTH _____ AU _____ AFMPC/AFPC _____ DTRA/OSIA _____ Other MAJCOM _____	HqARDC/AFSC _____ WDD/BMD/BSDB _____ BMO _____ SAMSO _____ SMC _____ WTR _____ ETR _____ 6555 _____ 6595 _____ SACSO _____ SATAF _____	HqAFLC _____ AMC _____ Ogden _____ SBALC _____ SAALC _____ SMALC _____ AGMC _____ SACLO _____
HqATC or AETC _____ CTTC _____ LTTC _____ STTC _____ VAFB ATC _____ 381TRG _____ 392TRS _____ 532TRS _____ 533TRS _____	NAF 2 _____ 3 _____ 5 _____ 8 _____ 14 _____ 15 _____ 16 _____ 17 _____ 20 _____	Division Hq _____ 4 _____ 12 _____ Other _____
Other Units _____		Vandenberg Units 1MsIDiv _____ 1STRAD _____ 392 _____ 394 _____ 395 _____ 576 _____ 4315 _____ 3901 _____ Other VAFB Units _____

Specialties Operations \_\_\_\_\_ Maintenance \_\_\_\_\_ Munitions \_\_\_\_\_ Comm \_\_\_\_\_ Facility Mgr \_\_\_\_\_ Safety \_\_\_\_\_ Civil Eng \_\_\_\_\_ Support \_\_\_\_\_  
 Research/Devel/Test \_\_\_\_\_ Instrumentation \_\_\_\_\_ Security \_\_\_\_\_ Contractor \_\_\_\_\_ ( ) Other \_\_\_\_\_

Missile/Space Competition Participant \_\_\_\_\_ Years \_\_\_\_\_

Commander -Sqdn \_\_\_\_\_ Group \_\_\_\_\_ Wing \_\_\_\_\_ Other \_\_\_\_\_

Other Information \_\_\_\_\_  
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# Air Force Missileers

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Comp Patches - 1967 and 2011

## The Global Strike Challenge - The 44th Anniversary of the The First Competition - by Col (Ret) Charlie Simpson, AAFM Executive Director

In early November, missile crews, bomber crews, maintainers, munitions experts, helicopter crews and many others will gather at Barksdale AFB, LA, for the second Air Force Global Strike Command Challenge, the latest reincarnation of what we used to call “the missile comp.” For missiles, it all started in 1967 - the SAC bombers had been competing in the “bomb comp” for many years before that. From that first year, when a few missileers from each of the nine Minuteman and Titan II wings gathered at Vandenberg AFB, CA, for “Curtain Raiser,” until the last SAC comp in 1992, the event grew in many ways. After the first event, the name became “Olympic Arena” except for a couple of years when it was simply the “SAC Missile Combat Competition.” Many more participated, as more crews, more maintenance teams, communications maintenance teams, civil engineering facility teams and security forces made the annual trek to the west coast to determine the “Best of the Best.” Wing outstanding airman, local area civilian supporters and people from other services and commands and even other nations were guests at many of the comps. Wings developed themes, mascots, noisemakers, symbols and much more to increase the motivation and excitement. SAC skipped the event only one year - 1968 - due to funding and the demands of the war in Viet Nam. From the very first year, the most important trophy was the Blanchard - won by the best wing in SAC - the overall winner of the annual event.

In 1993, after SAC went away, Air Combat Command ran the event, in the same format as it had been for years and at Vandenberg. The only major change over the years from 1967 to 1993 was the phaseout of the Titan II wings in the 1980s.

When the ICBM force moved to Air Force Space Command, it was time for a new name and a new format. The comp became “Guardian Challenge,” or the Space and Missile competition, and the missile wings were joined by the space lift, space surveillance and space operations units from the command. Trophies were added to recognize the best in these other disciplines, but for missileers, the Blanchard was still the prized trophy. Between 1994 and 2009, the number of missile wings shrank as Ellsworth, Whiteman and finally Grand Forks fell victim of the nuclear treaty force reductions. But the teams from each wing grew, as helicopter operators and maintainers and site chefs were added to the mix.

Through 2002, the competitors still traveled to Vandenberg, with the missile folks actually competing there in the missile procedures trainers and silos. The space folks ran their competitive exercises before the actual comp dates, much as all the competitors do now. In 2003, the event was cancelled due to the budgetary constraints and the demands of the war in Iraq and Afghanistan. It was then held in 2004, 2006 and 2008 as an “every other year” event - and then the missile force moved again, to the newly created Air Force Global Strike Command, to join the nuclear bomber force in an all-nuclear com-

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## Challenge - Continued from Page 1

mand. The first commander of AFGSC, Lt Gen Frank Klotz, a missileer and long time AAFM member, announced that the new comp - the combined bomber and missile competition - would be conducted in 2010, with competitive events conducted at or from the home bases for the units, with the competitors gathering at Barksdale for a symposium and the two day score posting ceremonies. During the Space Command days, the comp had moved into the electronic age, with video scoreboards and computer posting. Gen Klotz brought back many of the old SAC traditions, including a big blue scoreboard posted by several noncommissioned officers who like to play games with the numbers as they put them up. The Blanchard continues to be the primary trophy for the missile units.

The 2010 event was a great success, with the competing missile and bomb wings really getting into the spirit of the comp at the scorepostings. The 2011 event promises to be even better, as the "best" from each of the missile and bomb wings gather at Barksdale to once again determine the "best of the best."

AAFM will be as involved as ever, as a sponsor of the symposium, a provider of memento coins to all participants and represented by a number of board members during the comp.



*Target and Alignment Team - 1967*

## Missile Comp - The Winners

1967 - 351 SMW, Whiteman  
 1969 - 321 SMW, Grand Forks  
 1970 - 44 SMW, Ellsworth  
 1971 - 351 SMW, Whiteman repeats  
 1972 - 381 SMW, McConnell  
 1973 - 90 SMW, Warren  
 1974 - 321 SMW, Grand Forks repeats

1975 - 381 SMW, McConnell repeats  
 1976 - 341 SMW, Malmstrom  
 1977 - 351 SMW, Whiteman's third win  
 1978 - 91 SMW, Minot  
 1979 - 390 SMW, Davis-Monthan  
 1980 - 381 SMW, McConnell wins for a third time  
 1981 - 351 SMW, Whiteman takes its fourth trophy  
 1982 - 44 SMW, Ellsworth wins its second  
 1983 - 381 SMW, McConnell now has four wins  
 1984 - 90 SMW, Warren's second win  
 1985 - 308 SMW, Little Rock wins in its last year of operation  
 1986 - 341 SMW, Malmstrom finally repeats  
 1987 - 321 SMW, Grand Forks has its third win  
 1988 - 91 SMW, Minot repeats  
 1989 - 351 SMW, Whiteman takes number five  
 1990 - 341 SMW, Malmstrom wins for the third time  
 1991 - 341 SMW, Malmstrom is the first wing to win two in a row  
 1992 - 44 MW, Ellsworth wins, two years before closing  
 1993 - 351 MW, Whiteman wins its sixth award in its last competition  
 1994 - 742 MS, Minot, Blanchard, 91 MXS, Minot, Leffler, 319 CS, Grand Forks, Randerson  
 1995 - 10 MS, Malmstrom  
 1996 - 319 MS, Warren  
 1997 - 320 MS, Warren  
 1998 - 341 SW, Malmstrom  
 1999 - 341 SW, Malmstrom  
 2000 - 91 SW, Minot  
 2001 - 91 SW, Minot  
 2002 - 341 SW, Malmstrom  
 2004 - 91 SW, Minot  
 2006 - 341 SW, Malmstrom  
 2008 - 341 MW, Malmstrom  
 2010 - 90 MW, Warren



*The Winners, 90 MW - 2010*

## Global Strike Challenge - Articles from each Competing Missile Wing



*Capt Megan Steele (front) and 2nd Lt Brianne Seymour practice scenarios in the missile procedures trainer in preparation for the upcoming Global Strike Challenge competition Sept.. The two were selected to represent the 10th Missile Squadron. (U.S. Air Force photo/Airman 1st Class Katrina Heikkinen)*

### Meet the Malmstrom Ops Team - by AIC Katrina Heikkinen, 341 MW Public Affairs

The second phase of the Global Strike Challenge kicked off in September as members of the 341st Operations Group (OG) prepared for the challenge in hopes of bringing home the Blanchard Trophy to Malmstrom. Teams from the 10th Missile Squadron, 12 MS and 490 MS will be representing the 341 MW in Intercontinental Ballistic Missile Operations. New this year is the addition of the 40th Helicopter Squadron to the OG portion of the competition.

#### 40th Helicopter Squadron

Chosen to represent the 40 HS in the Challenge are Capts Leo Gracik and Michael Scott, UH-1N pilots, and SSgt. Michael Frank, UH-1N, flight engineer.

The helo team is competing in the Challenge for the first time, and although most of their training is classified, there's one thing all members of the team are proud to announce - what they look forward to the most out of the competition. "The one thing we're excited for is bringing hardware back to 'Blanchard Country,'" Gracik, Scott and Frank said in unison.

#### ICBM Trainers

The trainers for the ICBM operations teams are Capt Adam Sears, ICBM combat flight commander and 1st Lt Brian Marlow, ICBM deputy combat crew commander, both with the 490 MS.

"We're basing a lot of what we're doing on last year's Challenge," Marlow said. "In August, we trained

at night and in September, we are training in the morning. Anytime we can find - we're working on perfecting every single checklist required. Each crew is doing a 2-hour simulated ride; from there we do classroom training."

The instructors have decided to integrate a different strategy this year- individualized training. "We're focusing our training (as instructors) on specific crews and what they need help with," Marlow said.

#### 10th Missile Squadron

Representing the 10 MS are Capt Megan Steele, missile combat crew commander and 2nd Lt Brianne Seymour, ICBM deputy combat crew commander.

A previous competitor in the Challenge, Steele's experience is sure to help teammate, Seymour.

"Individually, I am studying with my crew partner and working on areas that need improvement," Steele said. "As a team, we are taking rides in the missile procedures trainer almost every day and critiquing each other on areas to improve on before the next ride."

Both plan on attending the score posting, and they anticipate the competition itself.

"I look forward most to the competition ride in September, then score posting would be next and then taking home the Blanchard," Steele said.

#### 12th Missile Squadron

Selected to represent the 12 MS are 1st Lts Adam Hamlin, ICBM combat crew commander and Zachary Kushner, ICBM deputy combat crew member.

Individually, they have focused much of their time on self-studying. However, now that the competition is just days away, the primary training involves riding in the missile procedures trainer.

"The great majority of the training involves taking MPT rides as a crew," Hamlin said. We have to balance Challenge training and whatever else we need to work on with four to five alert actions per month. In any case, we'll do what it takes to be ready come competition time."

The duo looks extremely forward to the Challenge and especially hopes to take some hardware home after score posting at Barksdale.

"I'm looking forward to doing something different for a while," Kushner said. "I enjoy new challenges and this is definitely one."

"I'm excited for the score posting at Barksdale," Hamlin said. "Last year was a good time, despite the fact that we ended up being unsuccessful in the ops portion of the competition. This time around though, leaving with some hardware would make it great."

#### 490th Missile Squadron

Representing the 490 MS in the Challenge are ICBM combat crew commanders 1st Lts Matthew Ditson and John Malek. As a crew, the duo is focusing their time on studying technical orders and practicing any possible scenarios.

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## Wings - Continued from Page 3

“There is a lot of self-study that goes into being individually prepared for the ride as well as studying with my crew partner so we can learn each other’s strengths and weaknesses,” Ditson said. “We also have group sessions so there is constant talk between all members of the ops team.”

Malek echoes Ditson’s emphasis on working together with the whole ops team. “The entire ops team is helping out by assisting with the training rides in the MPT,” Malek said. “My partner and I also quiz each other and try to help each other improve.”

Chosen as alternates are Capt Jordan Tabayoyon, ICBM combat crew commander with the 10 MS, and 1st Lt Daniel Hejde, deputy combat crew commander with the 341st Operations Support Squadron. Together, they have played a large role in aiding the crews that make up ops.

“Besides the usual memorization, I try to challenge my mind and think outside the box,” Tabayoyon said. “I think up unusual scenarios, and then write training scripts based on those scenarios. These scripts become the basis for training rides and discussions for the whole ops team.”

The positive, not competitive, support from the alternate crew is sure to help the Ops team in the Challenge.

“I am looking forward to seeing the primary crews perform to the best of their abilities,” Hejde said. “I know they won’t let us down, but if needed I hope I can do just as well!”

The meticulous training involved for the operators is sure to help them in the competition. The trainers bring fresh ideas and new strategies -and for one trainer, a positive attitude goes a long way.

“The competitors will tell you they look forward to bringing the trophy back to its rightful home,” Sears said. “I won’t lie, that’s a big motivation for me, too; however, I’m looking forward more to finding innovations and changes in procedures that are really going to benefit the crew force as a whole.”

## Warren Ops Ready for Global Strike Challenge

- by SSgt Mike Tryon, 90th MW Public Affairs

The 90th Operations Group (OG) is currently training for the operations portion of Global Strike Challenge in hopes to secure the Blanchard Trophy for the second year in a row. The Challenge is a competition held between the ICBM and bomber wings under Air Force Global Strike Command.

“We’re spending anywhere between six and 12 hours a day, six days a week performing practice sessions in the missile procedures trainer, studying all the ins and outs of missile operations,” said Capt Paul Hendrickson, 320th

Missile Squadron missile combat crew commander and first year competitor. “Our amazing trainers are dedicating countless hours developing complex and stimulating scenarios, forcing us out of our comfort zones and solidifying our ability to react to any contingency.”

Being named the best ICBM wing is no easy feat, but Warren’s operators are preparing to bring home that title, as well as the Blanchard Trophy.

“The 90 OG is dedicated to keeping the Blanchard Trophy by working as a closely-knit team to repeat [being named] the best missile operations group,” said 1st Lt Paul Comaroto, 320 MS deputy missile combat crew commander and first year competitor.

Warren’s operators were scheduled to compete in the MPTs in September. The scores Warren receives from this, the helicopter, maintenance and security forces portions of competition will be announced at Barksdale during the score posting in November.

## Airmen Selected for Global Strike

Challenge - by A1C Jessica McConnell, Minot AFB Public Affairs

Minot Airmen from both the 5th Bomb Wing and the 91st Missile Wing are slated to participate in this year’s second annual Air Global Strike Challenge leading up to the score posting in November.

Team Minot brought home seven awards and trophies from last year’s competition, and Col James Dawkins, 5 BW commander, believes this year’s competitors will perform just as well. “The goals of this Challenge are to showcase the world’s premier bomber and ICBM force and to recognize outstanding AFGSC personnel and teams,” said the colonel. “Last year, Minot performed exceptionally well. Every day, Team Minot Airmen display excellence through their dedication to the mission and demonstration of nuclear deterrence. Their constant vigilance is the reason why I have no doubt in my mind that our Airmen will prove to the world why Minot Air Force Base is the place where ‘Only the Best Come North’.”

Team Minot will be pitted against all other AFGSC wings, including the 90 MWing at Warren, the 341 MW at Malmstrom, the 509 BW at Whiteman, and the 2 BW at Barksdale.

The 5th Maintenance Group team: SSgt. Jason Eilo, SRA Derek Mitchell, A1C Chaz Guerro and A1C Zachary Kienert for the nuclear load team. The conventional load team includes TSgt Tyrell Arthur, SSgt Jesse Rushing, SRA Philip Branscum, and A1C David Johnson. The five crew chiefs competing will be SSgt Eric Thomas and SRA Kent Bode. The 5th Munitions Squadron ammo builders team include SSgt Lydell Abrams, SSgt Joseph Hess, SSgt Derek Holman, SSgt. Waylon Lunde, SSgt Douglas Mullins, SSgt Casey Raduski, SRA Dennis Barnett, SRA Ryan Heagy,

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## Wings - Continued from Page 4

SRA Javier Williams, A1C Christopher Sheets, and A1C Jason Vanover.

The 5th Operations Group team: The 23rd Bomb Squadron team members are Capt Bryant Harrison, Capt Ryan Hefron, Capt Christina O'Neil, 1st Lt Alex Brewste, and 1st Lt Mark Nielson. Competing for the 69 BS are Lt Col Michael Cardoza, Capt Nicholas Kamon, Capt Ryan Loucks, Capt Michael Pyle, Capt Earl Schaller and Capt Charles Sigman. Competing for the 5th Operations Support Squadron are Maj Bradley Dyer, Capt Cody Moore, Capt Samuel Moore, Capt Jarred Prier and Capt William Schuh.

The 91st Operations Group team: Competing for the 740th Missile Squadron are 1st Lt James Douglas and 2nd Lt Shawn Burnside. Competing for the 741 MS are Capt William Wood and Lt Kevin Johnson. Competing for the 742 MS are Capt Jared Miller and 1st Lt Charles Bennett. Competing for the 54th Helicopter Squadron are 1st Lt Mary Bonaventure, 1st Lt Matthew Walker, TSgt. Jason Powers and SRA Caprice Heines.

The 91st Maintenance Group will be represented by TSgt Dean Novasad, SSgt Kenton Roberts, SSgt Malcolm Salyards, SSgt Ryan Stocker, SRA David Frost, SRA Johan Riley, and SRA Laura Trombley. Also participating are TSgt Ananh Torr, TSgt Travis Wolflick, SSgt Michael Archer, SSgt Richard Knight, SSgt Matthew Mendez, SSgt Donald Nelson, SSgt Jonathan Sims, SSgt Adam Urban, SRA Samuel Hollis, SRA Haisen Exon and A1C Timothy Welter.

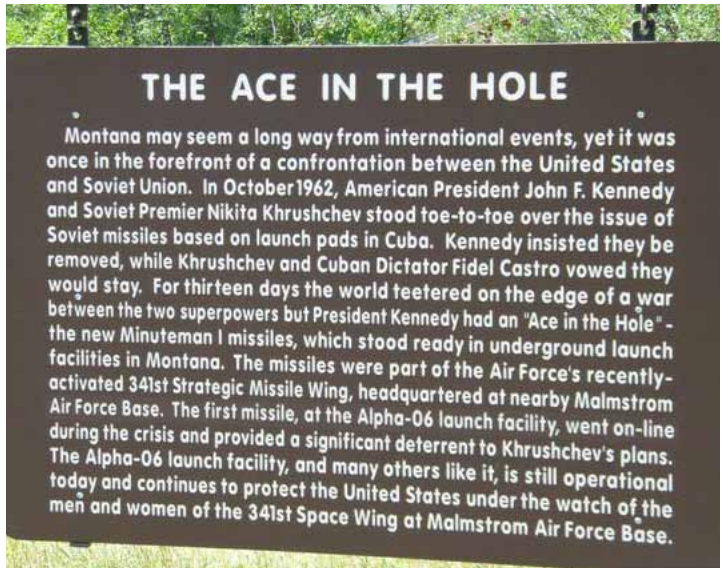
Security Forces teams for both the 5 BW and the 91 MW were chosen by a competition recently.

Also participating in the Challenge are Air Combat Command's 7 BW from Dyess AFB, Texas, and 28 BW from Ellsworth, Air Force Reserve Command's 307 BW at Barksdale, the 377th Security Forces Squadron from Kirtland, the 219 SFS from the North Dakota Air National Guard and the 131 Bomb Wing from the Missouri Air National Guard.

Bomber operations and weapons load competitions were held in June to September. Missile and helicopter operations and missile maintenance competitions were scheduled for September through October. Security forces combat skills competitions are slated for November, as is the official score posting.

## AAFM's 2012 National Meeting

You have read about our upcoming meeting in Great Falls - the 2012 AAFM National Meeting - 10-13 October 2012. Full details of the specific events we will have during the meeting are on the inside back page of this issue and on our web page. A number of members have already registered. Incidentally, one does not have to be a member to attend - we welcome anyone who is interested.



*The Sign at A-06*

We are planning a number ways to commemorate the two important anniversaries in October 2012, the 50th anniversary of the Cuban Missile Crisis and the first Minuteman missile on alert. We will conduct a special ceremony at 341 MW site A-06, where the first Minuteman I went on alert on 27 October 1962.

Warren Neary, whose painting was used for 50 years of ICBMs is working on a new painting to commemorate the event. We will use his painting as a basis for a poster that will be available during the 2012 meeting.

Member John Kiereck submitted an idea for a patch for the meeting. AAFM has asked member Greg Ogletree and Monte Watts to look at John's idea and suggest the best way to make it into a patch. We are working several versions and will finalize the patch soon. We will probably also use the patch as the front of a commemorative coin. Both the patch and coin will be available for the meeting.

We have been asking for your Cuban Missile Crisis stories now for several months, and have received a number of them. Member David Bath is assembling these stories into a book which we will publish and make available for all next year. We can still use more stories - and we want them from you no matter where you were on those tense days. We have several now from spouses and children, others from members who weren't yet on active duty. Any of us who were alive that year had some recollection of the impact of this historical event on us. Get your stories in now. You can email or mail them, and photos are welcome. Try to keep your story to a single page.

You can email stories to [aafm@q.com](mailto:aafm@q.com) or mail to AAFM, PO Box 5693, Breckenridge, CO 80424.

We are working with the folks at Malmstrom to ensure we commemorate these two events in the most significant manner that we can. We will keep you advised as we get closer to the October 2012 date. AAFM hopes you will join us in Great Falls.



*Minuteman Maintenance*

## Alert, Maintenance - and a Lot More -by Col (Ret) Charlie Simpson, AAFM Executive Director

All of us who have served or serve now in Air Force missiles know that while our primary jobs revolved around the missiles themselves, there is a lot more to serving in the Air Force than just our primary tasks. Those of us in ops pull alert (does anyone know why we “pull alert?” - a good topic for a future issue). In maintenance, we replace parts, run tests or repair systems. The facility managers keep the missile alert facility (launch control facility for some of us) up and running. Chefs keep us fed, cops guard our sites, comm folks keep our many systems on line, munitions troops build up our reentry vehicles. No matter what job you had or now have, you did something to operate, maintain or support the missile system you are assigned to. And these tasks took most of our working time.

But there is - and always was - a lot more than our primary duties. We are trained, tested and briefed. We study, we go to class, we qualify on weapons and much more. And then there are the “additional duties,” even many of us were told over and over that being on a missile crew - or being on a maintenance team - meant we would not be assigned any of these duties.

In this article, we will look at the myriad of things that are piled on top of all the primary tasks relating to our specialty - the things that either fill our unscheduled time, make us work extra hours or are just things we want to do besides sitting on alert or climbing down the ladder into a launch facility.

### Tasks Relating to the Job

We haven’t invented immediate transport, like they have on Star Trek, so even to do your primary task, whether it is to go on alert, head to a site to bring a missile back to alert or any other task involving the sites, we need a vehicle. The routine can vary, but the “prep work” usually involves a predeparture briefing - and maybe even a pre-predeparture briefing - of some kind.

In ops, it usually means reporting in about an hour to an hour and half before scheduled departure. In some systems and units, it first means a “pre-pre” with the squadron ops officer commander. That is followed by the pre-D brief for all the departing missile crews, which at the very least, involves the wing briefing officer telling everyone about the weather, the current intelligence situation, and special events, exercises, visitors or other activity, safety and any other topic relevant to the upcoming tour. The wing commander or the operations group commander (we used to call him then DO or deputy commander for ops) may talk to the force. There may have been some other pre-D activity (see “testing” below) for some of you. The departing crew probably has to pick up the vehicle, maybe meet with the facility manager or a chef who is accompanying them to the site, pick up parts or supplies or some other related task before departing the base. In a good part of our history, many of us also traveled to alert by either helicopter or big blue bus - those modes of transport just add more steps that have to be completed before the real job begins.

Of course, all that is followed by an hour or two drive to some remote location on the Great Plains - not many of our missile sites are close by. Of course, if you were at Whiteman, you might have been lucky enough to be assigned to Oscar, right there on base. Or maybe you were in one of the systems, like Matador, Mace, GLCM, or BOMARC and the base was your alert location - unless you were in a tactical system that might suddenly be dispersed to the “field” like GLCM could be. In any event, you didn’t just leave your quarters and show up at the alert console.

Even after you arrive on site, you aren’t on alert yet - you still needed to check out topside, even in the early Atlas and Titan, and depending on the system, talk to security, the FM and the chef - and then head down for changeover. The alert tour isn’t yours until you and the off-going crew have completed that process, your locks are on the safe and the old crew is out the door. Now you can start your 24, 36, 40 or 72 hour alert tour. At the end of that period, it all reverses



*Minuteman crew on alert*

## And More - Continued from Page 6

- you greet the oncoming crew, head topside, drive, ride or fly to the base, turn in your transport, stop by the squadron and deliver anything that had to be brought back "home." Then, finally, you are on CCRR - or C-squared - officially known as "combat crew rest and relaxation." Of course, during those 12, 18, 24 or 36 hours, you are untouchable - well, maybe not - see more later about this.

For the maintainers, the process is similar. Depending on the job at hand, you probably had to stop by one of the shops, talk to your boss, pick up some parts, configure a maintenance vehicle, get a safety and weather briefing and a few other preparatory items that had to be completed before you left the base. In my day, as a Titan I maintenance officer, my office was at the site. After the required briefings, we boarded a bus - about 45 of us - and headed to work. The specialists who worked out of the shops came out just for specific tasks, as we do now in Minuteman. But we had a lot of "full time maintenance" folks on site every day - pad chiefs, power house operators, plumbers, facility techs - and more. Of course, in Titan we also had cooks (they weren't called chefs yet) and security.

The Minuteman maintenance folks don't have face-to-face meetings with the ops crews like we did in Titan - hard to do when the launch facility is separate from the crew. The entry process is long and complicated, there are lots of security steps and a lot of radio and telephone coordination is part of each site entry and departure. When the maintenance task is finally completed - or another team relieves your team to finish it - you reverse the process, too, like in ops. Clear security, travel back to the base, turn in the vehicle, put away the tools and get de-briefed - and finally you are "off duty."

All of these procedures don't even include the security part - which has varied over the years. In the Titan I days, we had to stop by Keys and Codes, a security police office, and be told the passwords, challenge words and dress codes that would either get us on site or get us spread-eagled with guns pointing at us. In the early days of Minuteman, we went to Keys and Codes and got our "one time code pads" that we used to authenticate for site entry, either for the launch control facility or for maintenance at a launch facility. Once again, you had the opportunity to be spread-eagled by the cops if you made a mistake, but at least at an LF you had a few minutes to wait until they showed up, guns drawn. Of course, you also had to dispose of those little coded pieces of paper. That task was always fun when the temperature was 40 below, the wind was 40 knots and the burn barrel was all by itself out in the open.

## Rest and Relaxation

We can't work all the time, so the Air Force found



*Pre-D in the 1970s*

various ways to ensure we got some time off. For ops, it has been called Combat Crew Rest and Relaxation for many years. The concept is that the crew member gets half the time he or she spent on alert "off duty" immediately following an alert tour. Which often meant, after spending three to four hours getting from home to the red chair at the console down under ground, then 24 hours guarding the country and providing nuclear deterrence, followed by another three or four hours getting home, you were off and untouchable for 12 whole hours. There were always exceptions. I once came off alert at Grand Forks with my three man crew, and we were told to "stop by the wing commander's office before going home." There we were told to "go home, shower, put on your dress blues and come back to the wing." We had been selected to give a certification brief the Commander, 2nd Air Force that afternoon. So much for CCRR.

During many periods in the history of missile alert, due to a shortage of combat ready crews, we pulled "back to back" alerts. There have been instances of crews performing 12 or more alerts in a single month - which doesn't leave much time off. A true "back to back" was an alert on Monday, getting home Tuesday afternoon, and then back in pre-D Wednesday morning. Fortunately, the normal alert load was a lot less than that.

For the maintainers, before the advent of "time-lines" a dispatch could last what may have seemed like an infinite time. In the early liquid systems, and even in the early years of Minuteman, the maintenance teams headed to the site and worked until the job was done. In Titan I, we caught cat-naps when we could - sometimes we stayed on site 48 or 72 hours trying to solve a complex maintenance problem. In Minuteman, some teams would "RON" or remain over night at a nearby launch control facility, only to return to a nearby missile to finish a task after a short rest and a meal. For the maintainers, the scheduling varied a lot more than it did for ops crews, driven by the type of maintenance teams in a specific system, the manning, the complexity of the tasks and other factors. Some teams had what some might consider a "regular" schedule - but probably not many. Maintenance scheduling has always been driven more by the system and

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## And More - Continued from Page 7

how well it works instead of some paper schedule. Maintainers got time off - and there has always been that elusive "compensatory time off" that was more or less up to your boss - if you worked long hours, you might be rewarded with a day off on occasion.

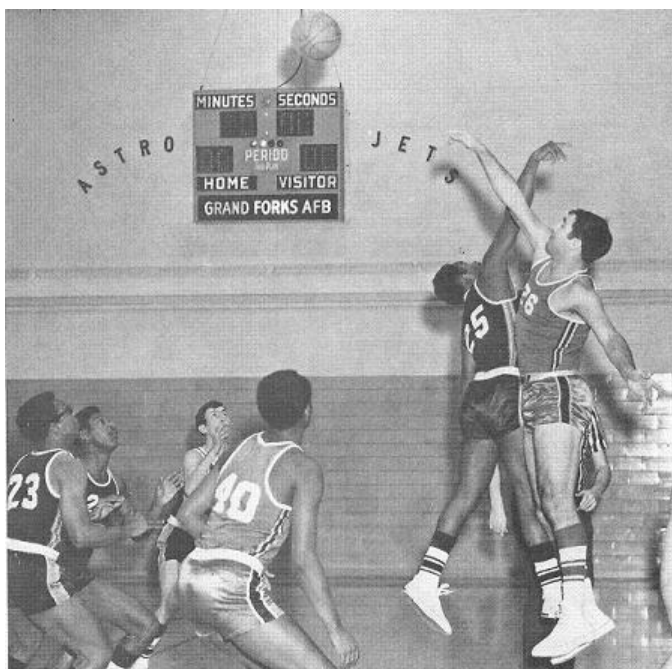
All of these comments relate, in some way, to all the other folks who are involved in the operation, maintenance security and support of our missiles. The cops, the cooks, the civil engineers - anyone who went to the sites - had similar stories, procedures and long days at work.

## Testing, Evaluation and Training

Of course, we couldn't just pull alert or dispatch to the field for maintenance. We had to stay current in every aspect of the job, no matter what the job was. That usually entailed a number of other "work days" added to the alert or maintenance schedule.

The operators had monthly emergency war order (EWO) training at least for one day per month. The class could be for an hour or two or all day - depending on the complexity of the EWO procedures at the time. And of course, it always involved testing. During most of our time on the crew force, we endured written and tape tests every morning at pre-D, and the only acceptable score was 100%. Any error at all either on the multiple choice questions on EWO procedures and two officer policy, or a mistake while copying, decoding and authenticating voice messages meant two things - no alert that day, and a trip to the wing commander's office. Not a good way to start the day, or progress in your career.

The monthly EWO classes also ended with tests, and



*Intramural Basketball - 1968*

again, the passing score was usually 100%. The complexity of the EWO training varied significantly during the life of various systems. The peak of complexity for the EWO "season" probably began in late 1967, when revision C (we called it Rev C) came into being for the Single Integrated Operational Plan (SIOP) and Minuteman execution entered a new dimension. We went from the simple launch terms of "salvo" or "ripple," meaning either all of the missiles at once or all at staggered times, to a complex set of messages and procedures that resulted in multiple key turns, selective targeting, launch holds, delays and continuations and terminations. It helped to have an advanced degree in math and clock reading - no small number of crews failed evaluations due to errors in calculating key turn times or deciding which missile went north and which stayed home.

The ops crews also got to practice EWO, along with weapon systems procedures, once a month or more in the missile procedures trainer (MPT), also known as the simulator or the "box." Trainer rides could be anywhere from a couple of hours to what seemed like half a day, especially in the period of three man crews in Minuteman, since all three crew members had to have time in the red chairs. Most places, the MPTs ran 24 hours a day, so you might be lucky enough to have the daylight hours off so you could spend four hours in the middle of the night in an MPT session.

And don't forget that one of those training sessions could suddenly turn into an evaluation ride - it was always fun to show up at the MPT and be met by a standardization evaluation crew for your annual check. Some no-notice evals started on site, too. So a routine alert could also turn into one phase of your evaluation. In the early days of Minuteman, an eval had many parts and could be either scheduled or no-notice. The eval included the on-site phase, usually done during an alert tour, but sometimes by a special trip to the site by the crew and the evaluators. There was a written test for a few years, usually open book with the tech order, and a complete A-page check of each crew member's tech order. The longest and most difficult part was the trainer ride, which was, for part of the time, up to six hours in duration. During the three man crew period, that meant 12 hours in the MPT for the AMCCC, a really long work day, especially when the pre-brief and critique were added to the ends.

But there was even more than the EWO and the evals - ops crews need training on the weapon system, two man policy, security, intelligence, code component handling, missile safety, nuclear safety, driving safety and all those little things relating to these major topics. Naturally, many of these ended with a test of some kind, just to make sure you really learned what was being taught.

So, for those of us who were crew members, we could look forward to two to four days of training each month in between the alert tours.

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The maintainers fared about the same. Training and evaluation is just as much a part of maintenance as it is operations. Technicians had to be trained on new systems, modifications and procedural changes. The training Launch Facility is a busy place in a missile wing, whether it is the real training site on base or one designated in the field. And the maintenance evaluations (Quality Control and Evaluation) are as sneaky as the ops evaluators - they can surprise you on site at a dispatch, or can be there when you report for duty to follow along as you complete the tasks scheduled for the day. All of those “other” topics also relate to maintenance. They have to be just as knowledgeable when it comes to two man policy, safety, codes and the other areas related to missiles.

It is no different for all the other folks directly or indirectly involved with the mission - every specialty, from munitions, comm, civil engineers to security and food service has to be keep current not only in job related procedures, as well as all those other tasks.

### The “Other Training”

There is a whole lot more to any specialty or any individual. We had to be trained and qualified on a weapon - a .38 pistol, an M-16, a Beretta or some other “piece.” Your military driver’s license didn’t get renewed automatically - you usually got some routine safety training and maybe some special “cold weather driving” techniques. And don’t forget all those classes that were once in the “Social Actions” category. We all need to be up to speed when it comes to race relations, drug abuse, alcohol abuse and other issues relating to “getting along with others.” Many of these classes only involved us once or twice a year, but it still was a day or two in class with other folks.

We all have participated in many aspects of professional military education (PME), probably both in local

classes, temporary duty schools like squadron officer school or Non Commissioned Officer Academy or even as part of a permanent change of station to the Air War College or some other senior leadership school. Many PME courses were and are learned through the Extension Course Institute (ECI) by correspondence or in local seminars using ECI materials. ECI courses weren’t just for PME. There are still today more than 400 different ECI courses available for officer and enlisted members in both the PME and technical areas.

Don’t forget all that other “Education” that most of us were or are involved in. Throughout the history of the Air Force, we have been able to almost be full time college students while we do our primary jobs. Every base offers a wide variety of courses, usually by several different institutions, to earn a degree or even a master’s or doctorate. Troy State and Embry-Riddle are names well known to many of us, but there were and are many more. And all of us who served in Minuteman ops in the 20th century had access to the Minuteman Education Program (MMEP), allowing us to earn a master’s degree while meeting our alert duty requirements. The MMEP program varied among the bases, but it basically was part of a crew member’s schedule. For example, at Grand Forks in the early days, crew members who were enrolled were scheduled for six days of alert and related duties and two days of classroom - we lived an eight day week for a couple of years.

Another “class” that combines training with general “information” is the commander’s call. Almost all squadron commanders gather their troops monthly or quarterly to review programs, pass out awards, accomplish special training requirements, get feedback and maybe even ensure everyone gets a flu shot on the way out the door. Most places, the Top Three (the three senior enlisted ranks) have a session once

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## **And More - Continued from Page 9**

a quarter or so with the senior base leadership, a chance for the senior commanders to have some direct feedback from the senior sergeants who are the key to making the Air Force work.

### **Additional Duties and Other Duties**

The military has never been manned to provide people to accomplish every task that need to be done - there has always been a need to assign "additional duties" to officers and enlisted members to ensure all the peripheral tasks are accomplished. During transition periods, these type of duties seem to multiply.

There have been periods in history where these "additional duties" were important enough to warrant special mention in officer and enlisted effectiveness or performance reports. For many years, the officer effectiveness report, the forerunner of the officer performance report, even had a special block to list these duties.

Most of us who were part of either a brand new system or one being phased out have found that we have lots of time with no real job. In the early days at Grand Forks, when the missile wing was being built up, but the sites were still being constructed, the troops who got there first had all kinds of special jobs. In the first missile squadron in the 321 SMW, new crew members who were waiting slots in class at Chanute were put in charge of tree planting (assisted by maintainers who were in similar wait status), parade planning, commander's call programming and all kinds of other "keep busy" tasks. Officers and NCOs were detailed to the Site Activation Task Force (SATAF) to do the acceptance checks on new missile silos and control centers. Many folks were detailed to other base offices and shops to "assist" the people there, from personnel to security, and everything in between. There were usually more parades during those periods, too - just something to keep us all away from the base gym or the pool.

Once the squadrons, both ops and maintenance, were up and running and we were all involved in our normal alert and maintenance duties, there were still lots of requirements for "additional duties" in the units. While the size of the "staff" in the squadrons has varied over the years, even in the days when an ops squadron had a commander, five operations officers, an adjutant and several clerks, there were never enough people to handle all the day to day details of the personnel (now human) reliability program, crew scheduling, tech order maintenance, safety and all the other administrative duties, so crew members always ended up with these additional duties. It is no different in maintenance, munitions, comm or support units - the real staff is small in comparison to the tasks that need to be done.

But that isn't all - and some of this has changed over

the years, sometimes several times. As officers and enlisted members, we are asked to represent our units on committees (the commissary and exchange are two examples), working groups (communications requirements, vehicle authorizations, etc.) special projects (base open house, change of command ceremony, etc) and "drives" (Combined Federal Campaign, Bond Drives, etc.). And then there are party committees (going away, promotion, holiday, etc.) and special events. Many of us got involved as the base or unit representative for the chapel, Boy Scouts, social and professional organizations like Toastmasters, Rotary and others. If you were fortunate enough to be in a historical part of our country, you might have found that the base supported a lot of local parades and celebrations. How many of you have had the opportunity to lead a flight of troops up Bunker Hill? Many members get involved as part of the Honor Guard, and some of us have had to represent the service and country at a funeral detail for a local fallen hero. And of course, when the mighty Souris (or the Red or some other river) floods, many base folks quickly volunteer to help with flood control.

A few of us who served when the Air Force Academy was still new got to be the base representative to raise money to build the new stadium and the chapel. Try selling stadium seats ("Your Name on a Brass Plaque") for \$50 to an Airman Basic who is making \$78 per month.

### **Those "Special Duties"**

Most went away some years ago, but before we had instant communications, many of us got to perform "special duties" that made sure the base survived when most folks weren't working. Officers were tasked for duty as the "Officer of the Day" or OD, and noncommissioned officers played their part as the "Staff Duty NCO (SDNCO)." Even second lieutenants got to be OD - when your executive director was a still "very wet behind the ears" brown bar, with only a few weeks on station, he got to be the OD - and luckily had a mature, experienced master sergeant as the SDNCO, to keep him out of trouble. The OD got to wear a special arm band, with "OD" in big, block letters. He also got to carry a weapon - either a .45 automatic or a .38 revolver. The OD and SDNCO sat at a desk in the base headquarters, staying on duty overnight to respond to any serious problem or to inform the proper authority when necessary. We could do a whole article about boards, courtmartials and investigations.

Those missile crew members who were rated (we had lots of pilots and navigators on missile crews in the early days) got to be the Aerodrome Officer (the AO), and, along with a duty aerodrome NCO, sat in base operations overnight to "monitor" the flight line and any aircraft traffic.

There were a lot of others - and each of you probably had some special "additional duty" you got involved with - we will print your stories, tales and remembrances in future issues.



*NWRM Team: From viewer's Left to Right: Ann Melby Effertz, AIC John Sickau, Mr. Sean Rainey, Mr. Peter Degenstein, SSgt Phenice Cooper, and SSgt Kacee Mercado*

## Logistics Perspectives - Nuclear Weapons-Related Material - *Captain Mieke D. Bruins, Operations Officer, 90th Logistics Readiness Squadron, Warren AFB, WY*

The odds are good that if you have been in or around the missile field for more than a minute, you have had some contact with Nuclear Weapons-Related Materiel (NWRM). But before this article appeared you may not have considered what it is and what potential it has to make or break not only careers, but the maintenance and readiness of the weapon system itself. As you will discover, NWRM and its correct storage, distribution, and disposition affect your daily life in more ways that you can imagine and knowing and understanding how that happens will give you a greater comprehension of the logistic processes of the nuclear enterprise.

### **NWRM Defined**

There are two basic definitions for NWRM. OSD (Office of the Secretary of Defense) defines it as classified or unclassified assemblies and subassemblies (containing no fissionable or fusionable material) identified by the Military Departments (MILDEPs) that comprise or could comprise a standardized war reserve nuclear weapon (including equivalent training devices) as it would exist once separated/removed from its intended delivery vehicle (OSD, 2008). The Air Force makes the definition more specific in AFI 20-110, Nuclear Weapons-Related Materiel Management. It states that NWRM is select nuclear combat delivery system components that are design sensitive and needed to authorize, prearm, arm, launch, release, or target a nuclear weapon. For example, NWRM includes such items as a forward or aft section, missile guidance control set, or nosetip.

### **A Little History**

NWRM has had a bit of a turbulent past in recent years. In 2006, a mis-shipment of intercontinental ballistic missile components were sent to Taiwan labeled as "helicopter batteries". This incident was a blow to the

confidence the Senior Department of Defense leadership had in the Air Force's ability to account for its nuclear components. That incident originated at FE Warren AFB with detrimental impact still being felt by those involved. The turbulence continued the following year in 2007 when nuclear warheads were transported via B-52 from Minot AFB to Barksdale AFB. Not only were those shipments sent without accountability, but were unsecured on the ramp for over 36 hours. After numerous investigations, it was revealed that there were serious erosions of

focus, expert mission readiness and discipline in the nuclear weapons enterprise. It was the accumulation of errors that led to the downfall of not only the AF Chief of Staff and Secretary of the Air Force, but senior leaders from wing level down. The result...strict and unyielding measures put in place to account for, store, distribute and dispose of NWRM.

### **Changes**

There are several changes outlined by the OSD in his memo dated 16 October 2008. Included in those changes were proper accounting of NWRM items utilizing their Unique Item Identifiers (UII) that meet the requirements in the Item Unique Identifying (IUID) Standards for proper accounting (DoDI 8320.04). All NWRM items must be marked with machine-readable or virtual UII's according to IUID policy. Once complete, an automated identification process will be implemented to maintain positive inventory control. With the technology now available, this process is being enacted with great success at FE Warren AFB.

### **Why is This so Important?**

One of the most crucial findings from the Taiwan and the B-52 incidents was the lack of accountability. Accountability of property in the possession of the Air Force is the responsibility of every Airman. The Air Force took the accountability a step further by pulling a proven practice from the past to help solve NWRM accountability issues of the present. How did the AF do that? By making the Logistics Readiness Squadron Commander the NWRM Accountable Officer (NWRMAO). Since the position also includes being the Accountable Officer for all supplies and equipment on an installation, this completes the picture in regard to chain of custody so crucial in this process. Accountability is critical in every phase of the NWRM process to ensure property is not lost, stolen, misplaced, etc. NWRM assets enter and exit the installation through the supply/transportation channels before they are placed in stock, issued to the maintenance or munitions customer, or shipped to the depot for repair.

Maintaining accountability is so critical that FE

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## NWRM - Continued from Page 11

Warren AFB is the only base in the Air Force that conducts NWRMAO directed special monthly inventories on NWRM property. Lt Col Jondavid DuVall, 90th Logistics Readiness Squadron Commander said, "The enthusiasm for a pursuit of daily excellence speaks for itself at FE Warren AFB. Since July 2010, monthly NWRM inventories have consistently attained 100% inventory accuracy. It is absolutely amazing watching our Airmen and Civilians tackle this challenge with passion and rigor. They knock it out of the park every-day!"

In addition, anyone handling NWRM must be properly trained to include computer based training, OJT, and strict adherence to MILSTD 129 (proper marking for shipment and storage) and MILSTD 2073-iE (DoD Standard practice for military packaging). The process of distribution is primarily handled by the dedicated Airmen in the cargo section, a part of the Logistics Readiness Squadron, who are specially trained and ready to act as part of a team designed to ensure all policies and procedures are adhered to in dealing with NWRM. According to SSgt Kacee Mercado, "proper NWRM packaging is important because it provides physical protection, asset security and asset accountability to the item being shipped".

The importance of proper training cannot be overemphasized. Ms. Suzanne Barto, Flight Chief for Distribution flight at FE Warren AFB, has a very comprehensive training program including Computer Based Training, Special Expertise Identifier (SEI) skill-training, On the Job Training (OJT) including guided hands-on training, periodic skill testing, and training for personnel who package or handle NWRM even outside of the Logistics Squadron. She states, "The NWRM training program is the solid foundation on which Airmen's on-the-job training and daily success is built." The results of the training program are evident by the lack of transportation discrepancy reports and the high inspection pass rate.

As a part of maintaining the correct standards, she includes materials posted where the Airmen actually work with examples of proper packaging and marking. These training aids are included not only in the cargo area, but also in binders at each facility that may package even one of their own materials. This training and emphasis on having more than one fail-safe in place have led to a remarkable 3,255 shipments with zero Transportation Discrepancy Report (TDR) rate and is indicative of the level of focus required to avoid another Taiwan mis-shipment.

Personnel from FE Warren AFB were critical in developing and defining Maj Gen C. Donald Alston's (20th Air Force (20 AF) and Task Force 214 Commander) vision for a standardized 20 AF NWRM Master Training Plan that

spanned across the Air Force Specialty Codes (AFSCs) involved in the NWRM process. SSgt John Foster attributed this training to his unit's success and understanding the impact of logistics to the nuclear enterprise. "Proper logistics in the long run keeps our nation's strategic deterrence credible in the eyes of our adversary."

## Why do I Need Logistics Personnel?

At some point or another, nearly every person on base has asked themselves that question. Why is a "loggie" so important in the process? Easy. Without trained and specialized Logistics personnel implementing sound policies and processes, maintaining positive control of inventory would be impossible. What is the effect of what we do? The STRATCOM commander relies on Logistics, Operations, Security Forces, and Maintenance personnel to make sure the mission does not fail. Without Logistics the Combatant Commander would not receive support or that support would be delayed to the point of mission failure, and in our business, we cannot afford mission failure. Picture this: the ICBM goes off, all necessary functions are alerted, Maintenance needs a part, but due to lack of accountability and good practices, supply can't find the part needed. The result is mission failure which equals lives lost, property destroyed and all out devastation. Loggies ensure the parts are available when and where they are needed, from storage to distribution and on to demilitarization in order to support Missile and Munitions Maintenance personnel. If we support the Missile and Munitions Maintenance personnel correctly, we ensure that their focus is on maintaining one-third of the nation's ICBM force and they are combat ready 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, 365 days a year.



*A Minuteman LF prepared for a SELM test door opening - next issue will feature an article about SELM*

**Are your dues, mailing address and email address current with us? If you aren't sure, contact AAFM at [aafm@q.com](mailto:aafm@q.com) or by phone at 970-453-0500**

## Missile Maintainers - A new Poem by Robert A. Wyckoff, AAFM Mbr No A0181, Lompoc, CA

This new poem came from the author of "Missileer," the well known and often published poem that Bob Wyckoff wrote many years ago. We have added this new poem to our AAFM poetry collection.

In the missile wings across the northern tier,  
There is a special breed of airmen whose performance has no peer.

In conditions oft' demanding, both ambient and professional,  
It appears that these maintainers truly are exceptional.

They qualify for a TS clearance and pass the PRP,  
At an age when most are still deciding what they want to be.  
They learn their discipline from those who went before,  
To fulfill their basic duty of deterring nuclear war.

The FMTs are "Buttcracks", the EMTs chase sparks,  
The MMTs are "Knuckle Draggers" in maintainers' rude remarks.

But it's just a way among them to try to keep things light,  
As they labor at maintaining our nation's missile might.

Their day begins at 0-4-hundred dark,  
They get their tools and briefings; then deploy in weather stark.  
They reach their destination in early morning light,  
And begin the age-old ritual to penetrate the site.

They clear away the snow and start the B plug down,  
When done, they wait for the OZ set before heading back to town.  
But between these waits there's a challenge they must meet,  
To preserve the "ready" status of our aging missile fleet.

With fatigue and cold turning minds and bodies numb,  
"Do your job and get it right," is their constant rule of thumb.  
When work is done--across time's grinding span,  
They turn in their tools, debrief; then go fuel and wash their van.

Although they are invisible but to some precious few,  
These unsung men and women are to selves and nation true,  
They, from within, their pride and strength renew.

*Written at the request of Col Michael Lutton (completed 21 June 2011) to honor all Maintainers and the 532nd Training Squadron.*

## Warren Conducts Simulated Electronic Launch-Minuteman Test - by

SSgt Mike Tryon, 90 MW Public Affairs

Airmen from the 90th Missile Wing conducted a Simulated Electronic Launch-Minuteman, also known as a SELM, 16-18 August 2011.

Air Force Global Strike Command conducts SELM tests twice yearly. The tests are part the command's on-going program to evaluate the operational readiness of Minuteman III intercontinental ballistic missiles. This SELM, named Giant Pace 11-1M, confirmed that a test configured missile launch facility will respond to launch and other critical commands from a launch control center, as well as the airborne launch control center. This test reinforces AFGSC's commitment to a safe, secure and effective strategic deterrence. In addition to testing the response of a LCC, during this SELM, a launcher-closure door will be activated - an event that occurs only during one test every other year.

"SELMs provide the most complete test of ICBMs from day-to-day operation to issuance of first stage ignition signal," said Lt Col Anita Feugate Opperman, 320th Missile Squadron commander and SELM test support manager. Success of a SELM is due to the involvement of many on-and off-base agencies.

"This is truly a joint effort," Feugate Opperman said. "The 576th Flight Test Squadron, Vandenberg AFB, CA is involved from the initial planning stages to the completion of the final report. On-base agencies and personnel which provide support include the safety office, command post, bioenvironmental, civil engineers, logistics readiness and maintainers."

This differs from test launches at Vandenberg in that a SELM tests ICBMs in their deployed locations at operational bases without actually launching a missile. An Operational Test Launch is an actual test launch of a missile, but uses test launch facilities and LCCs at Vandenberg.

Both OTLs and SELMs are overseen by the 576 FLTS and are components of the ICBM Force Development Evaluation (FDE) program. The FDE program is used to verify the operational effectiveness and reliability of the weapon system.

"It has been great working with Lt Col Feugate Opperman and her team of SELM points-of-contact in the different groups as well as with all the members of the 90th who have helped to prepare for this test," said Capt Alana Arnot, 576 FLTS.

The next SELM for Warren is scheduled to take place next year, and is slated to be conducted by the 321st Missile Squadron.

## Minuteman III Test Launch Terminated Due to Anomaly - Air Force Press Release

Air Force controllers conducted a Minuteman III intercontinental ballistic missile test launch from Vandenberg AFB, CA, which they safely terminated in flight over the Pacific Ocean early on 28 July 2011

The missile test launch program helps evaluate the Minuteman III system and gather data to keep systems safe, reliable and effective, said Lt Gen James Kowalski, the commander of Air Force Global Strike Command (AFGSC).

All test launches provide valuable information to Headquarters Air Force, AFGSC, US Strategic Command and the Department of Energy to manage the platform's lifecycle.

"We learn from every test launch, whether it is a successful launch or, in this case, where an anomaly occurred," Kowalski said.

A successful launch is when the vehicle leaves the launch pad and achieves all phases of powered flight. Controllers observed an anomaly during the last portion of the mission, prompting them to terminate the test early for safety reasons. An anomaly is any unexpected event during the test. Since anomalies may arise from many factors relating to the operational platform itself, or the test equipment, careful analysis is needed to identify the cause.

A launch analysis group has been formed to investigate. The LAG will include members from the 576th Flight Test Squadron, 30th Space Wing safety office, Air Force Nuclear Weapons Center and Northrop Grumman, among other organizations.

The current Minuteman III configuration has a reliable test and evaluation track record, with 22 of 24 fully successful flight tests. The last test to be terminated by mission controllers occurred in 1998.

The Minuteman III weapon system is extremely reliable with an exceptional safety record, according to command officials.

The 576th FLTS, at Vandenberg AFB, CA, is responsible for planning, preparing, conducting and assessing ICBM ground and flight tests.

*One thing missing from the article was a reference to the missile wing and crews involved with this test launch - the "contollers" cited didn't launch the missile - a missile crew did. None of the articles reviewed mentioned the wing involved in this operational test.*

## Global Strike Command Celebrates Two Years of Success - by Lt Gen

*Jim Kowalski, Commander, AFGSC*

On 7 August, it was two years since Air Force Global Strike Command (AFGSC) was activated to be "a new major command focused and dedicated to the nuclear and conventional global strike mission - a key component of strategic deterrence."

When we set out on this path two years ago we understood the need to organize our force to drive discipline and professionalism consistent with the highest standards required of us as stewards of nuclear weapons. We were confident that, over time, we would have a force that not only understood the demands of this mission, but embraced the special trust and responsibility the nation has given us.

At this point we cannot declare victory. Developing an enduring culture requires a long-term commitment by all in this command, and by Air Force and Department of Defense senior leaders.

We are incredibly proud of the gains made by our Airmen and civilians, and echo the words of Lt Gen Frank Klotz when he said, "Our successful stand-up was possible because of the commitment, innovative spirit and sheer hard work of Global Strike Command Airmen."

We also need to thank Secretary of the Air Force Michael Donley and Chief of Staff of the Air Force Gen Norton Schwartz for their unwavering support. They recognized that long range strike and nuclear deterrence were Air Force core functions from our earliest days as a separate service, and those functions remain critically relevant in a multi-polar and uncertain global security environment.

As we have improved our nuclear processes, we have not forgotten our significant conventional responsibilities. The command's conventional global strike and command and control capabilities were used to powerful effect during the beginning days of Operation Odyssey Dawn over Libya. We must continue to have both the discipline and flexibility to balance nuclear and conventional requirements.

Our work in our core mission areas is not without challenges. One of the biggest challenges came just last month when more than 1,200 Airmen and family members were forced from their homes in Minot, ND, as a result of flooding.

The support to the flood recovery efforts from across the command and the Air Force was, and continues to be, amazing. The steady and tenacious headquarters staff efforts along with individual and organizational donations provide the most vivid definition of the phrase "Air Force family."

Thank you for all you have done over the past two years to 'To Deter and Assure'...it's my honor to serve with you!

## First New START Inspection - by Air-

*man 1st Class Jose L. Hernandez, Minot Air Force Base Public Affairs*

Minot AFB successfully completed its first New Strategic Arms Reduction Treaty (NST) inspection 23 August when the 91st Missile Wing was selected for a NST Missile Base Type One Inspection.

As part of the treaty implementation, a team of ten Russian Federation inspectors, escorted by eight Defense Threat Reduction Agency Escorts from Travis AFB, CA, conducted a Type One Inspection, designed to confirm the accuracy of the declared data on the number and types of deployed Intercontinental Ballistic Missiles at Minot.

New START, which entered into force 5 February 2011, calls for the US and the Russian Federation to significantly reduce their strategic offensive armaments. It also allows for verification of data via national technical means (satellites) and onsite inspections.

According to the Minot Arms Control Office, there are two types of inspections outlined in NST. A Type One Inspection focuses on operational systems (such as the ICBMs and bombers at Minot) and Type Two inspections focus on non-operational systems (such as those at a storage facility).

Under the treaty, Minot is subject to up to four short-notice NST inspections per treaty year, two for the 91 MW and two for the 5th Bomb Wing.

Mr. Patrick Travnicek, treaty compliance officer, said once the base was notified of the inspection, the US had 24 hours to get the inspectors on base. He added his team of experts were in charge of facilitating the overall inspection and ensured everything ran smoothly. He said it was important for the entire inspection sequence to flow adequately and to ensure everything went as scheduled. "We built a schedule and timeline and were able to follow it successfully throughout the entire inspection," said Travnicek.

Col Stephen Davis, 91 MW commander, said he was proud of the inspection's success because it reinforces the country's trust in our Airmen to be stewards of America's nuclear deterrent capabilities.

"It's imperative to meet our treaty obligations, and Team Minot has done that in a superb fashion given the ongoing flood recovery," said Davis. "This success will help strengthen confidence between our great Nation and the Russian Federation."

Travnicek attributed the success of the inspection to the hard work of all Team Minot members who always put forth their best at all times. "The Minot Air Force Base team has spent countless hours writing and practicing plans," said Travnicek. "We did anything from tabletop discussions to mock inspections in preparation for the first New START inspection." With more New START inspections likely to follow in the future, Mr. Travnicek said his team of experts

will continue to make sure the base is ready to comply with the specific treaty obligations that affect base activities.

## Newsletter Articles

We have covered many topics in the AAFM Newsletter in the almost nineteen years of issues since we started in 1993. Many of you have provided interesting, informative and entertaining articles and stories for those issues. We have covered a lot of history - all about the many missile systems, how we operate, maintain and support them, what we drove or flew in, what we ate, how we dressed and much more.

All of you AAFM members are the real experts in those topics - and we need your stories and articles. We have listed some topics below that we would like to cover in future issues - send us your personal story or use your technical expertise to describe some event, procedure or system. We can accept articles and stories in almost any format - electronically or on paper. Photos are encouraged and original photos will be returned after we scan them.

Here are some ideas for future issues:

How do we install a missile - any type - big or little? It is and was a complex procedure, especially for the really big ones.

How did you prepare for a maintenance dispatch to the field?

What was it like to RON at an LCF/MAF?

Did you ever get lost trying to find a site?

What training and testing did your job involve on a daily, weekly, monthly or annual basis?

What was it like to work in job control, the command post, TCC or some other control center?

How did you train for the competition?

What was it like on a Glory Trip?

What was your training like at Chanute, Sheppard, Lowry or Vandenberg - or other places?

What was it like being on the receiving end of an IG or SMES evaluation?

How did you stay busy during slow alert tours?

What was it like to deploy to the field in GLCM?

What was it like to be part of the reconstitution force in Minuteman?

What was it like to work on some of the lesser known systems, like Thor, Jupiter, BOMARC, Matador, Mace or any of the airlaunched systems?

You get the idea - we could go on for pages with lists of specific topics. No matter what your experience is, you have a story. Share it now with the members of our association. You write the stories and it makes the editor's job much easier - you are the experts - you know the language - and we know that the 3,500 plus members will find what you provide us well worth the read.

You can email articles to [aafm@q.com](mailto:aafm@q.com) or mail them to AAFM, PO Box 5693, Breckenridge, CO 80424.

## A Word from the Association

**Board of Directors** - Next spring, we will have four board positions up for election or reelection. If you are interested in being considered to be a member of the AAFM board, please submit a one page summary by mail or email to AAFM. Summarize your military missile experience, other experience and other qualifications and submit the summary by the end of January. We start the process over each election, so if you submitted a summary for an earlier period, please resubmit it so we know you are still interested.

**National Meetings** - Your executive director is looking at two locations for our 2014 National Meeting. After the end of the Global Strike Challenge in November, I will tour facilities in the Shreveport area. Later in the year, I will visit the Hill AFB, UT area. Both locations give us the opportunity to tour missile-related and other Air Force facilities. Barksdale AFB, as the home of AF Global Strike Command, is the headquarters for the ICBM force and would give us an excellent opportunity to get updated on the nuclear enterprise. Hill continues to be the logistics support center for ICBMs, as well as the home of some major contractors involved with the force. And both offer a lot of local area attractions for us to visit.

**Mailing Addresses** - All of us who served or now serve in the military move on occasion, and your moves impact us here at AAFM. The US Postal Service has recently raised the fees for correcting addresses. It can now cost over \$3 per address to get an update - and many times all AAFM gets is an "unable to forward" response. Help AAFM conserve postage funds by keeping your address current with us. We have lost track of a number of members over the years, including some who joined as lifetime members. You can also save us postage costs by selecting the electronic version of the newsletter - you will get your issue sooner, in color and save us a couple of dollars per year per member.

**Your Photos and Documents** - Many of you send photos or documents, articles and letters to AAFM. We scan all of these into our collection and add the contents to the CD or DVD collection that is appropriate. If you don't ask to have the photos or documents returned, we donate the originals to a museum like the one at Peterson or Warren. The collections on both DVD and CD continue to grow and we welcome anything you send. Making these collections available to members has helped us raise money for our programs, since the cost of producing the DVDs and CDs is low. You can find a whole lot about the history of almost every US Air Force missile system in our collection, and the disks are great resources for research or just for curiosity. A reminder that our collections are put together solely for these uses and not for commercial purposes.

## Letters to AAFM

*Address your letters to AAFM, Box 5693, Breckenridge, CO 80424, or send by e-mail to [aafm@afmissileers.org](mailto:aafm@afmissileers.org). Letters may be edited to fit - content/meaning will not be changed.*

**Missile Guidance** - I really enjoyed the missile guidance articles in the latest newsletter. Having been one of the original members of the Atlas Mod III Guidance, 576B site who were trained at GE Defense Systems Division at Syracuse, NY (Feb-Aug 1959), I paid particular attention to the Atlas D information. I was very surprised when I read the last sentence on the CEP. I do not dispute your figure. But for the last 52 years I have believed it to be 2 miles as we were told then. But I'm willing to accept your latest information, especially when it shows a much better accuracy in the CEP. Also, will the Cuban Missile Crisis book be available to those of us who don't attend the National Meeting? *Don Glantz, AAFM Mbr No A2036, New Palestine, IN*

*You can find a wide range of CEP figures for Atlas, from 2,000 feet to 2 miles - it just depends on the source selected. The half mile CEP in the newsletter is probably a generous figure but does appear in several documents. And yes, we will make the Cuban Crisis book available to all.*

I have just read your superb, all inclusive articles on missile guidance systems in the latest edition of the AAFM Newsletter. Being a guy with a brain hard-wired to the nuts and bolts, technical side of things, I thoroughly enjoyed this edition. Thanks for referencing our book, "US Air Force Tactical Missiles 1949-1969, The Pioneers," in the articles. *Robert (Bob) Bolton, AAFM Mbr No A1199, Lawrenceville, GA*

**Chanute** - I recently took a mid life crisis road trip to Chanute AFB (missile school) and Whiteman (where we served) in June with a old AF buddy. I have sent pictures several locations at both, including the MM III trainer and White Hall (where missile training was) at Chanute as it was in 1976 and 2011 and some decommissioned LF/ LCFs. It is really sad how some of the LCF's have degraded. The appearance of the former Chanute AFB is a crime, a beautiful, historic facility now slowly recycling itself. *James M. Rossi, AAFM Mbr No A1951, Durham, CT.*

*We have added Jim's photos to our CD collecton.*

**Warren Atlas** - I had the pleasure of being joined recently by two Air Force veterans that I served with fifty years ago. The event was an open house at former 566th Strategic Missile Squadron Atlas E Site 8 in Greeley, CO. We all were members of the 389th Missile Maintenance Squadron at FE Warren AFB, WY, on the Atlas D missile from 1961 to 1964.

*Continued on Page 17*

## Letters - Continued from Page 16

A1C Carl Spencer was a Missile Mechanic with a 564 SMS Launch Crew then in the 389 MMS Calibration Lab and was also one of my roommates. MSgt Lee Buesing was a Missile Engine Mechanic, and we both were members on the Sergeant Frank's Launch Maintenance APCHE Checkout Team. There were approximately 300 plus visitors including other veterans and a lot of kids to the Open House. We shared our missile experience and photographs with the visitors, and answered many questions regarding the Cuban Missile Crisis. We were also joined by 2nd Lt Tannon Temple of the 320th Strategic Missile Squadron at Warren. Lt Temple was also our photographer. It was a pleasure to be with two of my old Air Force buddies from fifty years ago and a new active duty Lieutenant. Carl, Lee, and I are a little shorter and now move much slower than our last time together. *Jim Widlar, AAFM Mbr NO L0007, Boulder, CO*

*Jim Widlar is also working with the US Army Corps of Engineers, helping get the story straight on how we disposed of hazardous fluids in the Atlas days.*



*Carl, Jim and Lee at the Greeley Atlas Site*

## New LeMay Book

Former board member Jim Burba recently told us about a new book, "General Curtis LeMay and the Countdown to Nuclear Annihilation" by L. Douglas Keeney and Ron Rosenbaum. Jim says the book is a very good summary of SAC history and not an "expose" as the title might suggest. We have not seen the book yet - it is on order and should be in hand by the time this issue is published. We found it available on amazon.com.

## 2011 Missile Heritage Grants

We recently mailed out the grant applications to more than 20 museums for our grants for this year. To date, AAFM has donated more than \$160,000 to museums for missile-specific displays. Member support of these grants comes from your dues and the donations you make through our Donations/Store area. We provide these grants each year in memory of AAFM members who have passed away. To date, we have honored 184 AAFM members.

Many of you are involved with these museums as volunteers, docents, board members or other positions. AAFM encourages you to get involved with your museum and the grant process, and make sure the museum applies for one of our grants. In the last couple of years we have only had a few applications submitted, so the process has not been very competitive. For some reason, some museums have difficulty defining a single, simple display project. Several years ago, your executive director offered a museum director a check for up to \$3,500 on the spot if he could define a specific missile related need. Even though we at AAFM knew of several potential projects for that museum, the museum director was unable to define a project and walked away without a check.

We clearly define our requirements in our annual grant request letter. You can help your museum by reinforcing these requirements with them. First, grants in the \$1,000 to \$3,000 range fare better with our selection committee. Normally, the committee, made up of AAFM board members, prefers to give several grants in this range instead of one or two larger grants. Second, the grant request needs to be for a specific missile-related display. It is one thing to ask for money to "restore our Thor missile" and another to ask for funds "to clean bird droppings off our displays." Believe it or not, we have gotten more than one request like the second one.

Finally, make sure your museum doesn't waste funds by using an overnight service to get the application to us. Use regular mail - we will wait. It is amazing how many museum directors waste funds by spending \$10-\$15 to overnight a letter when a single 44 cent stamp would do the job. We insist that applications be only a single page in the format we provide - the process isn't that hard.

We mailed the grant applications in mid-September and have a submission deadline of 30 November. Funds will be distributed at the end of December. We encourage you to work with your museum staff now to put together a proposal for a grant and get it in the mail.

We have funded 71 projects over the years at museums all over the country. When we started AAFM in 1993, there were not a lot of good missile displays at museums. Your support of AAFM programs has done a lot to improve the way the missile story has been told at museums around the United States.

## Minuteman I added to Missile and Space Gallery - by Sarah Swan, National Museum of the U.S. Air Force

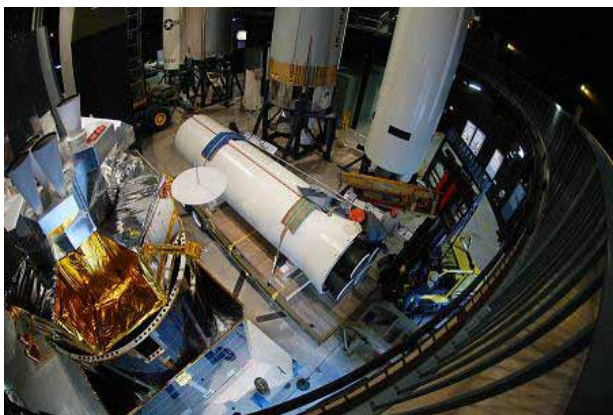
Restoration staff recently installed the Boeing LGM-30A Minuteman IA in the Missile and Space Gallery.

The missile came to the museum in 1971 and was displayed outdoors for several years. To prepare the missile for indoor display, four restoration specialists repaired the outer layer and the cableways, in addition to cleaning and treating the rocket section attach points.

The Minuteman missile concept pushed rocket technology to a new level, and it vastly improved U.S. nuclear strategic deterrence. The first Minuteman missiles became operational in late 1962, and the one now on display at the museum is a symbol of those early missiles.

"Minuteman represented a significant advance in USAF ballistic missile technology when it came into service in 1962," said Dr. Doug Lantry, a research historian at the museum. "It was America's first solid-fuel intercontinental ballistic missile, and it was quicker to launch and easier to protect and maintain than its contemporaries. The Minuteman system was a mainstay of Cold War nuclear deterrence, and through a long series of improvements, Minuteman remains operational today."

The Minuteman IA joins seven other missiles on display in the Missile and Space Gallery -- Jupiter, Thor, Titan I, Titan II, Thor Agena A, Minuteman III and Peacekeeper. Current plans call for two other missiles to eventually be added to the gallery.



*The Missile Gallery at the NMUSAF*

**Are you planning a unit reunion? Join AAFM in Great Falls - have your own meeting combined with the National Meeting and let AAFM do all the work. A number of units have joined us in the past. Contact AAFM now for further information.**

## Taps for Missileers

**Col (Ret) Calvin Chasteen**, an AAFM life member, served in GLCM in the 485 and 486 TMW and lived in Newberry, SC.

**Richard Ciampi**, an AAFM member, served in the 579 SMS in Atlas and lived in Liverpool, NY.

**Brig Gen (Ret) Gerald Fall**, an AAFM life member, served in Titan II in the 390 SMW, as commander of the 321 SMW, 341 SMW and 4 AD, and at Vandenberg in the early days, and lived in Frisco, TX.

**Col (Ret) Jack Hyslop** lived in Banning, CA.

**CMSgt (Ret) Robert Ketchum**, an AAFM member, served in Atlas E in the 548 SMS, Minuteman at the 351 SMW and the 321 SMW, in space systems and at Hq SAC, and lived in Aurora, CO.

**Lt Col (Ret) Harold D. Kochenderfer Jr.** served in Atlas E in the 389 SMW and lived in Riverside, CA.

**Lt Col (Ret) William Neighbors**, an AAFM life member, served in operations and munitions in Titan II in the 390 SMW, in the 3901 SMES and in 1 STRAD, and lived in Moreno Valley, CA.

**Lt Col (Ret) Jim Ruscitto** served in the 351 SMW in the late 1960s and early 1970s as the wing safety officer.

**Ray Russell**, a civilian employee at in missile logistics support at Ogden ALC, Hill AFB, UT.

**Col (Ret) Carl D. Smith**, an AAFM member, lived in Richardson, TX.

**Col (Ret) Barry Martin Teitler**, served in Atlas, in Titan II in the 308 SMW, 381 SMW and SAC IG, and lived in Bellevue, NE.

**Maj (Ret) Frederic Usui**, an AAFM life member, served in Titan II in the 381 SMW, at Hq SAC, and lived in Honolulu, HI.

## AAFM Logo Shirts

You will find both golf shirts and long sleeved dress shirts on our Donations/Store web page and on the following two pages of this newsletter. Recently, we have begun using Land's End as our source for shirts. We can order from Land's End in small quantities, have access to a wider variety of sizes and colors and are guaranteed good quality products.

The down side of this change is that you will see a small price increase for shirts in some sizes. The price of \$30 we have had for over 15 years no longer covers the cost of the product and shipping so it was necessary to establish the new price structure.

Note that we keep golf shirts in stock in the sizes listed - we can order other sizes. Land's End offers shirts from the most petite to the largest sizes. If shirts are not in stock, we can usually deliver in three to four weeks.

Land's End also offers a wide variety of other outerwear - if you are interested in a pullover, jacket or fleece, let AAFM know and we will provide pricing.

# Donate to AAFM Missile Heritage and Enlisted Recognition Funds

Select logo and collector's items from below for your donation

Missile Badge and Space Badge lapel pins - silver, inch and quarter

Circle Choices - \$5 each or any 6 for \$25

Total Amount for Missile Badge and Space Pins \$ \_\_\_\_\_



\_\_\_\_\_                                                        
Indicate Quantity of each



\_\_\_\_\_                             
Indicate Quantity of each



AAFM Coin - \$10 each

Quantity \_\_\_\_\_

Total \$ \_\_\_\_\_



2010 AFSGC Challenge Coin

\$5 each

Quantity \_\_\_\_\_

Total \$ \_\_\_\_\_



AAFM Golf Cap

\$15 EACH

Quantity \_\_\_\_\_

Total \$ \_\_\_\_\_



AAFM Lapel Pin

\$5 each or 6 for \$25

Quantity \_\_\_\_ Total \$ \_\_\_\_

AAFM Patch

\$5 each or 6 for \$25

Quantity \_\_\_\_ Total \$ \_\_\_\_



Subterranean Sentinels Patch

\$10 each or 6 for \$50

Quantity \_\_\_\_ Total \$ \_\_\_\_



New Manufacture Original Missile Badges  
Original Non-shiny finish except two smaller with ops designator  
\$10 Each Total \$ \_\_\_\_\_



\_\_\_\_\_                                                        
Indicate Quantity of each (Small basic badge on order)

AAFM CD Collections - for research and historical use only -  
Photos, Tech Orders, articles, publications, other data - For example, Atlas is 8 CDs of data  
- CIRCLE CHOICES



AAFM Poplin Dress Shirts

Call or email for colors, sizes and prices or visit our web page for details and to order



AAFM Golf Shirt

Blue \_\_\_\_ White \_\_\_\_

S-\$25 M-\$30

L-\$35 XL-\$35

Other sizes available



New Manufacture Combat Crew Badge

\$10 Total \$ \_\_\_\_\_

AAFM and Historical Data CD set - \$10	Early and Airlaunched CD set - \$10	Minuteman CD set - \$10
Atlas CD set - \$10	GLCM CD set - \$10	Titan CD set - \$10
Competition and Peacekeeper CD set - \$10	Matador and Mace CD set - \$10	All Eight CD sets - \$50

# Donate to AAFM Missile Heritage and Enlisted Recognition Funds

*Select logo and collector's items from below for your donation*

**AAFM DVD Collections - for research and historical use only - Collections of films and videos from various sources, including documentaries that AAFM advised on** **CIRCLE CHOICES**

AAFM Historical DVD set - \$10	Competition DVD set - \$10	Minuteman DVD set - \$10
Air Force Space DVD set - \$10	Early/Airlaunched DVD set - \$10	SAC DVD set - \$10
Atlas and Titan DVD set - \$10	GLCM DVD set - \$10	All eight DVD sets - \$50

**Bill McKee's Cartoon Book, "Missile Business" - \$5**      **Greg Ogletree's "History of the Missile Badge" - \$5**

**1998 AAFM Book, "Air Force Missileers" - \$30**      **SAC Memorial DVD - Dedication at Dayton - \$10**

**Randy Mayse signed print for Malmstrom 25th Anniversary - TE on site - \$25**

**Signed/numbered Art Project Print "Countdown - 5,4,3,2,1" - \$20**

**Bob Wyckoff's Collection of Poems - printed on photo paper for framing with background graphics - \$10**

Olympiad, The Unsung, Elegy to a Silo Queen, Birthright, Excellence, Liftoff, Cold War, Victors in the Cold War, Missile Maintainers plus AAFM's "We are Missileers" For the poem Missileer - choose graphics preference - one, more or all  
 Original Missile Badge - Basic Senior Master Missile Badge with Ops designator Basic Senior Master  
 Space Badge Basic Senior Master

**Missile Models - Minuteman I, II and III models - available in white or real colors**

**Delivery time about two months**

**\$200 each - call AAFM for details and to order or go to our web page to order**

**Reproduction Patches - Made for reunions and donated to AAFM - \$10 each Total - \$\_\_\_\_\_**



**341 SMW**

**341 MIMS**

**321 OSS**

**576 SMS**

**6555 ATW**

**SAC**

**SAC with Stripe**



**SAC Lapel Pin**  
 \$5 each or  
 6 for \$25  
 Total \$\_\_\_\_\_



**AAFM Brief Case**  
 \$10 each  
 Total \$\_\_\_\_\_



**2006 Guardian Challenge Coin**  
 \$5 each  
 Total \$\_\_\_\_\_



**2008 Guardian Challenge Coin**  
 \$5 each  
 Total \$\_\_\_\_\_

**The AAFM Web Page Donations/Store has all items shown here plus many patches, books and other collectibles that are available on a limited basis.**

**You can order and pay online using our web page with a credit card and Paypal**

**Complete the form below and send your check to AAFM to the address below - shipping included**

Name:
Address:
City, State, Zip code:
Total Donation

**Association of Air Force Missileers, PO Box 5693, Breckenridge, CO 80424**

# AAFM Tenth National Meeting, Great Falls, MT, 10-14 October 2012

Commemorating the 50th anniversary of the Cuban Missile Crisis and 50 years of Minuteman alert  
**Register On-Line, and use a Credit Card, at <http://afmissileers.org> on the Reunions and Meetings Page**

**Registration** - You must register using the form below no later than 9 September 2012. SORRY - NO WALK-INS

**Reservations** - Make your hotel reservations directly with the Best Western Heritage Inn ensuring you say you are with AAFM. Rate is \$77 single/\$86 double, including breakfast for each morning. You must make reservations before 5 September 2012. Call 406-761-1900 or 800-548-8256. A limited number of rooms available three days before or after our dates for the same rate.

**Not Staying at the Hotel?** - If you are staying in a motor home, other hotel or with friends, or live in the area, you can attend any or all of the events. Complete the reservation form for the events you would like to attend. Note that you can attend the breakfasts for \$8 - see the note on the registration form.

**Hospitality Suite** - Open every day when no other activities are scheduled, with snacks and refreshments. Registration fee covers suite operation and mementos.

**Attire** - Casual dress for all events. Banquet business casual (open collar shirts, coats optional, no jeans)

**Refunds** - Registration fees can only be refunded if you cancel by 5 September 2012. Inform us immediately if you have to cancel.

**Special Needs** - Let us know of any special diet needs, handicapped access, etc.

## Schedule of Events -

**Wednesday, 10 October** - 1300 - Registration, Hospitality Suite open

1800 - Welcome Reception - Stand up buffet and pay as you go bar, \$23 per person.

**Thursday, 11 October** 0700 - Breakfast (included in room rate)

0830 - Depart hotel for tour of Malmstrom AFB - lunch and special program at the base \$30 for bus and lunch.

1800 - Dinner at the Great Falls Airport - Italian buffet - \$30 per person including bus

**Friday, 12 October** 0700 - Breakfast (included in room rate)

Golf Tourney (location TBD) - depart from hotel at 0800 - \$90 per player for golf, cart, range balls, box lunch and prizes

Tour of Lewis and Clark Interpretive Center and Charles Russell Museum, lunch. Depart for tour at 0830, return to hotel at 1530, \$42 per person.

1630 - Dinner at the hotel - Western Buffet - \$26 per person

**Saturday, 13 October** 0700 - Breakfast (included in room rate)

0900 - General Membership Meeting 1100 - Board of Directors meeting - open to all. Lunch on your own.

1200 - Optional Town Trolley Tour - \$20 per person

1200 - Buses depart for Alpha-06 for Commemorative Ceremony - \$10 per person for bus

1800 - AAFM Banquet with featured speaker and special program. - \$34 per person, choice of prime rib or chicken

**Sunday, 14 October** 0700 - Breakfast (included in room rate), Depart hotel

## Registration Form - 2012 National Meeting

Mail with check to AAFM, PO Box 5693, Breckenridge, CO 80424

<b>Name</b> _____	Number	Amount
<b>Address</b> _____		
<b>City, State, Zip</b> _____		
<b>Phone</b> _____	<b>Number Attending</b> _____	
<b>Spouse/Guest Name</b> _____		
<b>Arrive</b> _____	<b>Depart</b> _____	
<b>Special Requirements</b> _____		
<b>(Enter names as preferred on name tags)</b>		
<b>Saturday Banquet choices - Prime Rib</b> _____	<b>Chicken</b> _____	
<b>Breakfast for non-hotel attendees - \$8 each - number each day</b>		
<b>Thur</b> ___	<b>Fri</b> ___	<b>Sat</b> ___
<b>Sun</b> ___		
	<b>Total Amount</b>	_____

For Base Tour - SSN or Driver's License No - member \_\_\_\_\_ guest \_\_\_\_\_

**Association of Air Force Missileers**  
**PO Box 5693**  
**Breckenridge, CO 80424**

**NON PROFIT ORG**  
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**Leesburg, FL**  
**34748**  
**Permit # 1040**

**Address Service Requested**

## **Reunions and Meetings**

**341 SMW/MW Maintenance Reunion**, 10-12 August 2012, Great Falls, MT, contact Sheryl Yocom at lonnie267@min.midco.net

**390th SMW Reunion**, 26-30 September 2012, Tucson, AZ, contact John/Susan Lasher at redsnooty@comcast.net or 520-886-7157 or 520-886-3430

**485 TMW (Florennes) Reunions**, 2012 in Alabama, 2013 reunion in Florida and 2014 reunion (25th anniversary of base closure) in Belgium - details to follow

**4 ACCS Reunion**, 15-17 June 2012, Rapid City, SD, contact Hank Carriger, 25006 McBride Drive, San Antonio, TX 78255-2337, phone 402.639.1033, email henrycarriger@gmail.com

**51 MMS Reunion**, 29 Sept - 2 Oct 2011, Dayton, OH, contact Peter Taylor, email petertaylor@att.net

**579 SMS 50th Anniversary Reunion**, 3-6 May 2012, Roswell, NM, contact Terry Doyle, 580-228-2409, terry.doyle@juno.com

**SAC Airborne Command Control Association**, 22-26 August 2012, Washington, DC, contact William Curtis, 804-740-2290, wcurtis135@aol.com

**Association of Air Force Missileers 2012 National Meeting** will be in Great Falls, Montana in 10-14 October 2012. Registration inside this issue or go to <http://afmissileers.org> to register on-line.

**Get your meeting notices to AAFM as early as you can for posting - email to [aafm@afmissileers.org](mailto:aafm@afmissileers.org)**

AAFM is a non-profit, tax-exempt organization under section 501c(3) of the IRS Code. The Newsletter is published quarterly, printed by Leesburg Printing, Leesburg, FL.

### **Board of Directors -**

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