

THE YEAR IN REVIEW

2007



YEAR IN REVIEW

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The mission of the 129th Rescue Wing is to provide highly trained and well-equipped rescue resources, able to respond to and sustain the state mission of furnishing trained personnel for state emergencies, such as natural disasters, and to assist civil authorities in the enforcement of the law.

When called to active duty with the Air Force, we provide manpower, material and equipment resources to conduct and complete combat and search rescue operations world-wide. We provide manpower, material and equipment to conduct and complete peacetime search operations.

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Col. Wayne Albright
Vice Commander

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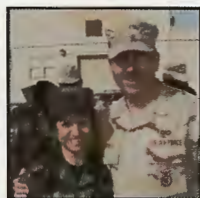
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Table of Contents



Leadership and Airmen of the Year 3



Departures and Deployments 8



Awards, Promotions and Decorations 14



Operations and Maintenance 16



Unit Training 18



Friends and Families 20



Your Photos 22

Cover photo: Families wave flags and cheer on the C-130 crews as they do a low level fly over Moffett after returning from a deployment to the Horn of Africa.



Col. Amos Bagdasarian
Wing Commander

I'm proud to remind everyone of the glowing achievements that kept rolling in throughout the year. 129th personnel continued the wing's tradition of professionalism and excellence. Chief Master Sgt. Rodney E. Lockett, 129th Security Forces Squadron, Master Sgt. Gary A. Flossmann, 129th Military Equal Opportunity office, and Master Sgt. Christopher Underwood, First Sergeant for the 129th Maintenance Squadron, all received national-level awards that spotlighted their dedication to the 129th mission, professional development, mentorship, and the improvement of their communities. The 129th Security Forces Squadron and the crew of 129th Rescue Squadron's Jolly 92 were also recognized for their outstanding work and dedication to our motto, "That Others May Live."

Even with our tradition of achievement and excellence, we face some challenges ahead. Our Civil Engineering Squadron was downsized from more than 60 Airmen to about 13. The MPF was also hit with manning cuts. To help dampen the impact of the cuts, we're using contracted services and various self-service online applications. The bottom line is that we must be smarter and more efficient about how we do business. But we are perseverant and hardworking - we will keep achieving.

This is bound to be a very busy year, so relax and take advantage of the down time, and again, please be safe so we have a successful 2008!



CMSgt Liliana Ramos
Command Chief

As I end my career, I think of all the wonderful and talented people that I have met in the last 33 years. I think of the things I wish I had listened to or known when I first started out. I would like to share some of these thoughts with you, and perhaps help you reach for the stars and make a difference to others.

Whether you are just starting in your career or seeing it draw to a close, you should ask yourself; "Have I made a difference?" You might be thinking "I'm just an a Junior Enlisted; or - I'm just a Master Sergeant; or - I'm just a Traditional." I want to share with you that no one is "just a." Everyone of you makes up the backbone of our organization. You are an integral part of what makes this wing work. Our full-time force brings experience and continuity that may seem difficult to duplicate for a Traditional. Yet a Traditional brings in experience from the community that enhances or compliments our full-time force.

Together we're a team that has three dimensions - military, family and community. Today's Air Force relies more on the Guard and Reserves; providing us with opportunities to excel. How can YOU make it better? Live up to the Air Force Core Values and the Enlisted Core Structure; embody them; make them your own. Be ready for the opportunity that might come when you least expect it. Get your CCAF degree.

If you already have your degree make sure it's in your military records. Complete your PME course because you want to make yourself a better leader that contributes to the mission, to others and the community; not because you want to get promoted. If you are able to take a satellite Airman Leadership Course and the NCO Academy course or attend in-residence for any of the academies, the experience will be even more rewarding. Attending Airman Leadership School, the NCO Academy, the Senior NCO Academy or the Chiefs Leadership Course in residence are opportunities to become a better leader which will enable you to make a difference in people's lives. YOU are responsible for your career, for your life and for your personal interactions. We only have one chance in this world. Make it a good one! It's been an honor and a privilege serving our country next to the most professional people that I have ever met.

LEADERSHIP



Col. Amos Bagdasarian is the Commander of the 129th Rescue Wing, California Air National Guard, Moffett Federal Airfield, Calif. He is responsible for over 900 military and civilian personnel in 14 subordinate groups, squadrons and flights. He also provides resources and support to an additional 700 personnel at three geographically separated locations.

He enlisted in the California Air National Guard and entered basic training in August 1971. Col. Bagdasarian was commissioned through the Air National Guard Academy of Military Science in 1974 and graduated undergraduate pilot training at Reese Air Force Base, Texas in 1975.

Col. Bagdasarian has served in a variety of leadership positions at the squadron and group levels. He deployed in support of Operation Southern Watch in flight and maintenance operations, and has served as the Continental NORAD Region Battle Commander. Col. Bagdasarian is a command pilot with more than 4,000 hours in eight different aircraft.



Col. Wayne H. Albright is the Vice Commander of the 129th Rescue Wing, California Air National Guard, Moffett Federal Airfield, Calif. Along with the wing commander he is responsible for more than 900 military and civilian personnel in 14 subordinate groups, squadrons and flights, and also provides resources and support to an additional 700 personnel at three geographically separated locations. Col. Albright directs maintenance of mission readiness and compliances with directives.

He enlisted in the New Mexico Air National Guard in February 1970. Col. Albright was commissioned through the Air National Guard Academy of Military Science in May 1985.

Col. Albright has held a wide variety of maintenance-related assignments, including tours as avionics maintenance officer, munitions maintenance officer, organization maintenance officer and commander. He has also participated in numerous exercises including Coronet, Red Flag, Pitch Black, Operation Joint Guard and Operations Northern and Southern Watch.



Chief Master Sergeant Liliana L. Ramos is the ninth Command Chief Master Sergeant of the 129th Rescue Wing, Moffett Federal Airfield, Sunnyvale, Calif. Chief Ramos has served in the United States Air Force for a total of 30 years, 28 of them in the California Air National Guard.

Chief Ramos is a native of the Republic of the Philippines who immigrated to the United States of America in 1967. She entered the United States Air Force and attended Basic Training at Lackland Air Force Base, Texas.

Upon qualification as an Inventory Management Apprentice, the Chief was assigned to Travis AFB where she served until the end of her active-duty tour in 1977.

In February 1977, Chief Ramos joined the California Air National Guard and has served in a wide variety of positions in increasing responsibility, culminating in her appointment as Command Chief Master Sgt. in 2001.

AIRMEN OF THE YEAR



Senior Airman Emmanuel Matsamura Jr. is an Intelligence Specialist assigned to the 129th Operations Support Flight. Immediately after being assigned to the Intelligence Section, he deployed in support of Operation Enduring Freedom, extending his tour for an additional 60 days in support of critical mission requirements. Airman Matsamura sought out key tactics personnel to better prepare himself, improve his professional knowledge, and provide more comprehensive aircrew intelligence support. His professionalism and skills were further demonstrated when he was asked to provide intelligence briefings to personnel assigned to the CENTAF Combined Air Operations Center. Airman Matsamura's commitment to Professional Military Education resulted in completion of Airman Leadership School by correspondence while deployed to Afghanistan. Senior Airman Matsamura has clearly established himself as a young professional and is highly respected by his peers and superiors.

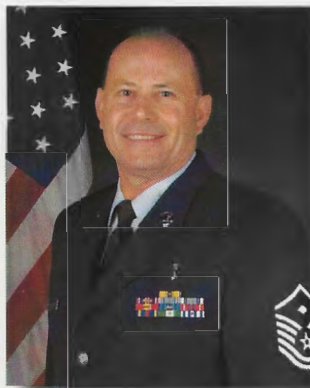


Staff Sgt. Maria L. Tubergen is an Operations Personnel Apprentice in the 129th Rescue Squadron. She is currently pursuing a Master's Degree in Nursing and would eventually like to qualify as an Air Force Flight Nurse. Sgt. Tubergen has served as an Operations Group Personnel Specialist at home station and overseas in support of Operation Enduring Freedom. In 2007, she also deployed with the 130th Expeditionary Rescue Squadron to Camp Lemonier, Djibouti, Africa. She refined and implemented an alert paging system that resulted in a more effective notification process which was critical to the success of two search and rescue missions. Sergeant Tubergen worked to achieve a 20 percent reduction in time and materials required for inprocessing and outprocessing of personnel.

Her formal military awards include the Air Force Achievement Medal, Air Force Outstanding Unit Award with Valor Device and the Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal.



Master Sgt. Steven Beaulieu is the NCOIC of the Avionics Section in the 129th Maintenance Squadron. He joined the Wing in February 2001 where he worked on MC-130 and HH-60 aircraft. He quickly established himself as an extremely proficient avionics system troubleshooter with the ability to quickly diagnose and repair communication and radar system problems. With his strong work ethic, he rose to the position of shop leader and instilled a team atmosphere. Sergeant Beaulieu has deployed to Operations Southern Watch, Enduring Freedom, and Iraqi Freedom in support of the Combat Search and Rescue mission. He has completed the both the NCO and Senior NCO correspondence courses. He holds a Bachelor of Science Degree in Business Management from the University of Phoenix and a Community College of the Air Force degree in Avionics Technology.



Master Sgt. David W. Burkhalter is the First Sergeant of the 129th Medical Group. As a traditional Guardsman, Master Sgt. Burkhalter dedicates over 25 hours per week of personal time analyzing and solving problems for the group and ensuring 100 percent member deployability. As First Sergeant, he works closely with unit support personnel and often directly intervenes to assist deployed members and their families with personal, family, or financial matters. During a deployment to the Caribbean region, he quickly responded to a major shortfall in billeting, transportation and meals, making last minute arrangements downrange in minimum time. Additionally, he established a command post and instituted an optimum 24/7 work/rest cycle to minimize limitations caused by limited transportation and geographically separated work sites.

He is widely recognized and respected by his peers as an outstanding First Sergeant who takes care of his people!

CHIEFS



James Alsobrook, CF



Teresa Blanchard, MSF



Keith Cantrell, MXG



Al Cortez, MXS



David Dunlap, 130 RQS



Leif Eirksson, 131st RQS



Ray Estrella, MOF



Daryll Graves, MXS



Louis Hernandez, 129 RQS



Ken Huntley, 130 RQS



Stuart Loux, 130th RQS



Rodney Lockett, SFS



Betty Maldonado, OSF



Dave Morrison, 130 RQS



Dennis Pereira, CF



Jeff Perkins, LRS



Uwanna Perras, AMXS



Warner Ratliff, CES



Liliana Ramos, RQW



Scott Simpson, 131 RQS

1ST SERGEANTS



Jacki Alsobrook, LRS



Jennifer Brouillard, SFS



Dave Burkhalter, MDG



Mike DeAngelo, CES



Rick Epps, MSG



Kevin Montgomery, AMXS



Chris Underwood, MXS



Byron Yerzy, 561st Band



DEPARTURES AND DEPLOYMENTS



The Cargo Deployment Function team with an AN-124 after loading the HH-60 helicopters, spare parts and all the necessary equipment for a deployment to the Middle East.



The local media were out in force reporting on the 129th deployment.



1st Lt. Doug Lutz ensures the helicopter is properly secured and ready to load into the transport aircraft.



Lt. Col. Steve Spillane leads his chalk onto the aircraft for deployment.



(L) Master Sgt. Lionel Broussard and Senior Airman Brian Wilkes check their last minute paperwork before deploying.



Tech. Sgt. Tim Theodoroff carries his bags onto the aircraft.



Staff Sgt. Raul Lopez signs his paperwork before boarding the plane.



The hardest part of deploying.



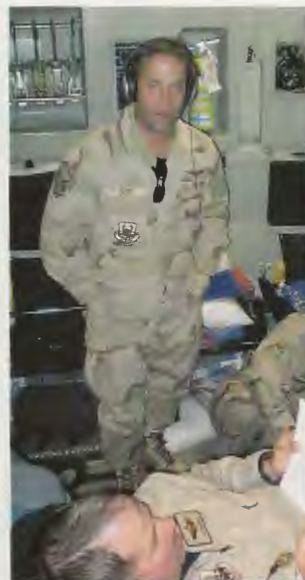
The AN-124 departs Moffett with the helicopters and supplies.



Staff Sgt. Richard Gates and Lt. Col Taft Aujero.



Sleeping the trip away.



(L) Master Sgt. Steve Burt and Maj. Tom Keegan pass the long hours in the C-17. (A) Tech. Sgt Brian Cantrell sleeps the trip away.



The MC-130 leaves Moffett for their Horn of Africa deployment.



Staff Sgt. Darren Pon and Airman 1st Class Craig Gabert travel light at the Baltimore Airport.



The C-17 carries the HH-60 crews, supplies and spare parts to Baghran AB, Afghanistan.



Capf. Nate Nowaski does his best Superman.



Dr. (Maj.) Kathryn Hodge and her family sending her off to deployment.

129 RQS



Senior Airman Christina Matthews



HH-60G Pave Hawk helicopters on the flight line at Baghram AB, Afghanistan.



Senior Master Sgt. Paul Bryant



Tech. Sgt. Trey Hicks



Staff Sgt. Tiejie Jones



Capt. Andy Butte



Capt. Dave Wiedman



Master Sgt. Jason Red



129th Maintenance teams keeps the helos flying and themselves cool.



"These things we do that others may live."

130 RQS



Senior Master Sgt.
Bill Wunderlin



(L to R) Master Sgt. Dave King, Senior Airman Ian Freeman, Tech. Sgt. Aaron Phillip, Capt. Mike Wagle, Capt. Tim Barber, Maj. Rob Fenrick and Master Sgt. George Granada while deployed to the Horn of Africa.



Staff Sgt. Eric Valdez



Master Sgt. Christopher
Dattolico



Staff Sgt. Amy Self



Senior Airman Tom Beall



Staff Sgt. Charlene Conlan



Tech. Sgt Aaron Phillip

(L to R) George Granada, Rob Fenrick, Jennifer Johnson and Maria Tubergen volunteered time at an orphanage in Djibouti.



131 RQS



Staff Sgt. Darren Pon and Airman 1st Class Craig Gaber



Pararescue teams from California and New York in Afghanistan.



Capt. Damon Foss



Staff Sgt. Erik Blackburn



Senior Master Sgt. Larry Hiyakumoto



1st Lt. Tristan Grell and Senior Master Sgt. Bob Simmons



Tech. Sgt. Klay Bendle



12 Staff Sgt. Joshua Webster



This seemed like a good idea at the time!

"These things we do that others may live."

HOME



Staff Sgt. Mark Stokes is welcomed home by his wife Master Sgt. Rosemarie Stokes and their family.



(L) Lt. Col. Jack and Roray Oneill. (R) Mr. Ralph Otte welcomes home Tech. Sgt. Aaron Fillip.

The Herc returning flying the colors.



Staff Sgt. Carlomagno Orino holds his nephew Marcus.



Staff Sgt. Ian Overbey and his girlfriend Cyndee.



The sign says it all.



Capt. Tim and Kyle Barber



Maj. Tom and Anna Keegan

AWARDS, PROMOTIONS AND DECORATIONS



Chief Master Sgt. Rodney Lockett received the Blacks in Government award from Mr. Albert James and Angela Thorpe-Harris, Chair, National Board of Director Blacks In Government.



Master Sgt. Chris Underwood, with his wife Myah, received the 2007 NAACP National Recognition Award.



Master Sgt. Gary Flossman received the Outstanding Military Service award from the League of United Latin American Citizens.



Air Force Association Chairman Robert Largent (left) and Lieutenant General Craig McKinley, Director Air National Guard (far right) present the Earl T. Ricks award for Outstanding Airmanship to the crew of Jolly 92; Pilots Capt. Matt Redmond, Major Tom Keegan, Door Gunner Senior Airman Sean Pellaton and Flight Engineer Tech. Sgt. Trey Hicks at the Annual Air Force Association awards banquet in Washington D.C. The crew received the award for their diligent actions to save the HH-60 when the refueling boom separated from the aircraft and oscillated wildly during a night in-flight refueling in the Central Valley. They landed the helo safely at a civilian airport and avoided total disaster.



Lt. Col. Steve Spillane was awarded the Bronze Star for outstanding leadership while commanding the 129 ERQS in Afghanistan.

Editors note: There were hundreds of awards, promotions and decorations given to deserving 129th Airmen throughout the year. These pages are a representation of all awards given. Congratulations to everyone who excelled in 2007!



Col. Mark Sheehy has his new eagles pinned on by Col. Bagdasarian and Col. (ret.) John Ruppel.



At his promotion ceremony, Col. Charles Ingalls has his new rank pinned on by his wife Marilee and Col. Bagdasarian.



Maj. Wade Rhyne has a good laugh while his wife Torri has trouble with the new oak leaves.



Maj. Chuck Pratt pins new Staff Sgt. stripes on Jared Robinson while deployed to Afghanistan.



Newly promoted Lt. Col Fred Foote takes the oath of office while carefully holding his new son Nathan.



Master Sgt. Ron Biggs looks a little apprehensive with Lt. Col. Anderson and Col. Albright.



Maj. Antonio Rodriguez celebrates taking command of the Comm. Flight with his wife Nancy and daughter Ariana.



Staff Sgt. Susan Avalos re-enlists in the Comm. Flight while her family watches.



Senior Airman Venesa Bombard has her father, Master Sgt. Mark Brouillard and Support Group Commander Col. Charles Ingalls tack on her new stripes.



OPS & MAINTENANCE



The C-130 preparing to take off from Devon Island.



Some of the tons of supplies transported for the scientists. Winter temperatures on the island hover around minus 30 degrees!



Chief Master Sgt. Ken Huntley helps unload the C-130 at Devon Island.



A family of polar bears watch the Herc fly by above the Arctic Circle.

In July the 130th RQS deployed a C-130 to Devon Island, the largest uninhabited island on Earth, to bring tons of supplies to the NASA Mars Arctic Research Station (MARS) project. The scientists there are conducting geological, hydrological, botanical, and microbiological studies.



The HH-60G Pave Hawk lands in the snow during a mountain rescue training mission in the Sierra Nevada.



Off we go into the wild blue yonder....a pararescueman comes back to earth at Fort Hunter-Liggett.



The 129th Maintenance Group



Airman 1st Class Charlene Magbanua checks HH-60 intakes.



Senior Airman Michelle Grundy helps keep the 130 RQS aircraft in top flying condition.



Staff Sgt. Aracelli Inda inspects 40mm training rounds...they contain no explosives!



Staff Sgt. Andrew Ciampa and Staff Sgt. Richard Gates keep everything clean on, and around, the HH-60.



Master Sgt. Armando Martinez and Staff Sgt. Ernesto Godinez have the Pave Hawk ready for a night sortie.



Tech. Sgt. Rich Pruneda check the HH-60 intakes before take-off.



UNIT TRAINING



129th Civil Engineering Squadron group photo in April, 2007



Staff Sgt. Soojin O and Master Sgt. Randy Aeschliman install a new plumbing fixture inside the Camp Morena Rec center.



Before and after.



Civil Engineering spent their last Deployment for Training as a Squadron (they were reclassified as a flight in March 07) at Camp Morena near the California/Mexico border renovating and refurbishing dilapidated buildings and facilities.

Major Tom Venable presents a certificate of thanks to retired Chief Master Sgt. of the Air Force Robert Gaylor at the Security Forces Dining Out.



Master Sgt. Anthony Evernham monitors traffic speed while deployed.

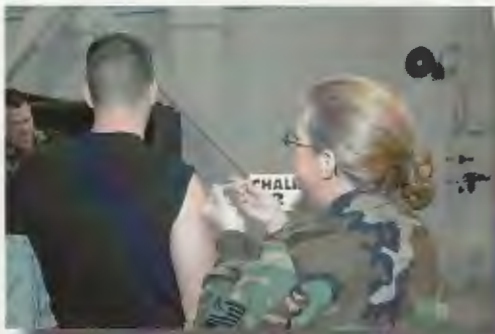


Tech. Sgt. Ed Tayao, Staff Sgt. Erik Anderson and Tech. Sgt. Aquino provide multimedia support for the Security Police dining out.





The 561st Band entertained thousands at performances in Stockton, Lodi and throughout the Central Valley during their annual training. They also supported numerous events at Moffett when Airmen returned home from deployments and other special occasions.



Tech. Sgt. Diana Menke makes sure this lucky Airman has his shots.



The Medical Group deployed to San Juan Puerto Rico for annual training working in the local San Juan hospital rather than a base hospital. Above, Col. Lori Marion presents new Lt. Col. Dwight Carvalho his new silver oak leaves on the beach.



Services Flight accompanied the Medical Group to Puerto Rico for hands on training and experience. (A) Master Sgt. Gary Ginestra, Tech. Sgt. Rachel Velasco and Master Sgt. Shirley Keay serve breakfast. (R) Tech. Sgt. Rachel Valasco makes a batch of French toast.



Master Sgt. Dan Kacir was interviewed by KTLA about his duties in the Southern California wildfires. He was part of a four-person Public Affairs team that deployed to Southern California.

FRIENDS AND FAMILIES



Jessica Lovvorn, Jennifer Johnson, Lauren and Dan Naylor and Patrick McCormick



When Vic Ferraro retired this year, his wife Lori and son Tyler were at the Old Del Monte House to enjoy his party.



Stu and Carol Loux

IN MEMORIAM



The Moffett family lost a dear friend when NASA Police Officer Johnny Green passed away in March. His smile and exaggerated wave made everyone smile with him going through the gates.



Roxanne Stern and Kristina Keck



Warner Ratcliff



Bill and Carolann Wunderlin



Brian "Bubs" Bartlett (ret) and the HH-60 crews.



Tom Detar is outnumbered by his wife Rita, Chantel Parish and Jamie Granada.



Brock and Haley Woodward



Leif and Pam Eiriksson, Eric Burke



Dave and Marsha Dunlap



Jeff Waldman



Vic and Heidi Teal



Jeff Borg and Steve Butow



Aaron and Michelle Fillip



Andrew Hughan and Kathy Gerold

The Military Personnel Flight, and guest, always have a good time sitting (and hiding) together.



YOUR PHOTOS



(L) Tech. Sgt. Mike Kenny is between a rock and a hard place. (B) Senior Master Sgt. Bob Simmons takes "Big Orange" over the rocks. (Far Left) PJs train for steep mountain rescue in Yosemite. (Inset) Tech. Sgt. Lejon Bouderaoux high above the valley floor.



(L to R) Tech. Sgt. Elliot Paige, Chief Master Sgt. Dave Dunap, Lt. Col. Ken Christensen, Chief Master Sgt. Stu Loux, Lt. Col. Andy Ferguson, Capt. Ed Wineland, Capt. Norbert Puzia and Maj. Jose Agredano were the crew on Christensen's last flight as a C-130 Navigator.



(L to R) The Gunners: Senior Airman Sean Pellaton, Master Sgt. Wally Bacio, Master Sgt. Jason Red, Staff Sgt. Matt Rymer, Staff Sgt. Chris Gabor and Staff Sgt. Tiejie Jones looking cool with a B-2 Spirit at Nellis AFB.



(L to R) Chief Master Sgt. Ken Moore, Chief Master Sgt. Jim Badgrow, Lt. Col. Phil DiGiovanni, Lt. Col. Jay Craddock, Tech. Sgt. Jim Calvin and Lt. Col. Mel Woolcock from the 129th Alumni & Heritage Association at the annual AHA luncheon.



Klay Bendle (in disguise) and friends at the annual Bay to Breakers run through San Francisco.



Maj. Dave Bozzo and Lt. Col. Steve Butow looking sharp in their mess dress at the Outstanding Airman of the Year banquet in Southern California.



The 129th hosted the annual Air National Guard Softball Tournament last summer and though we didn't win we made new friends and had a good time playing.



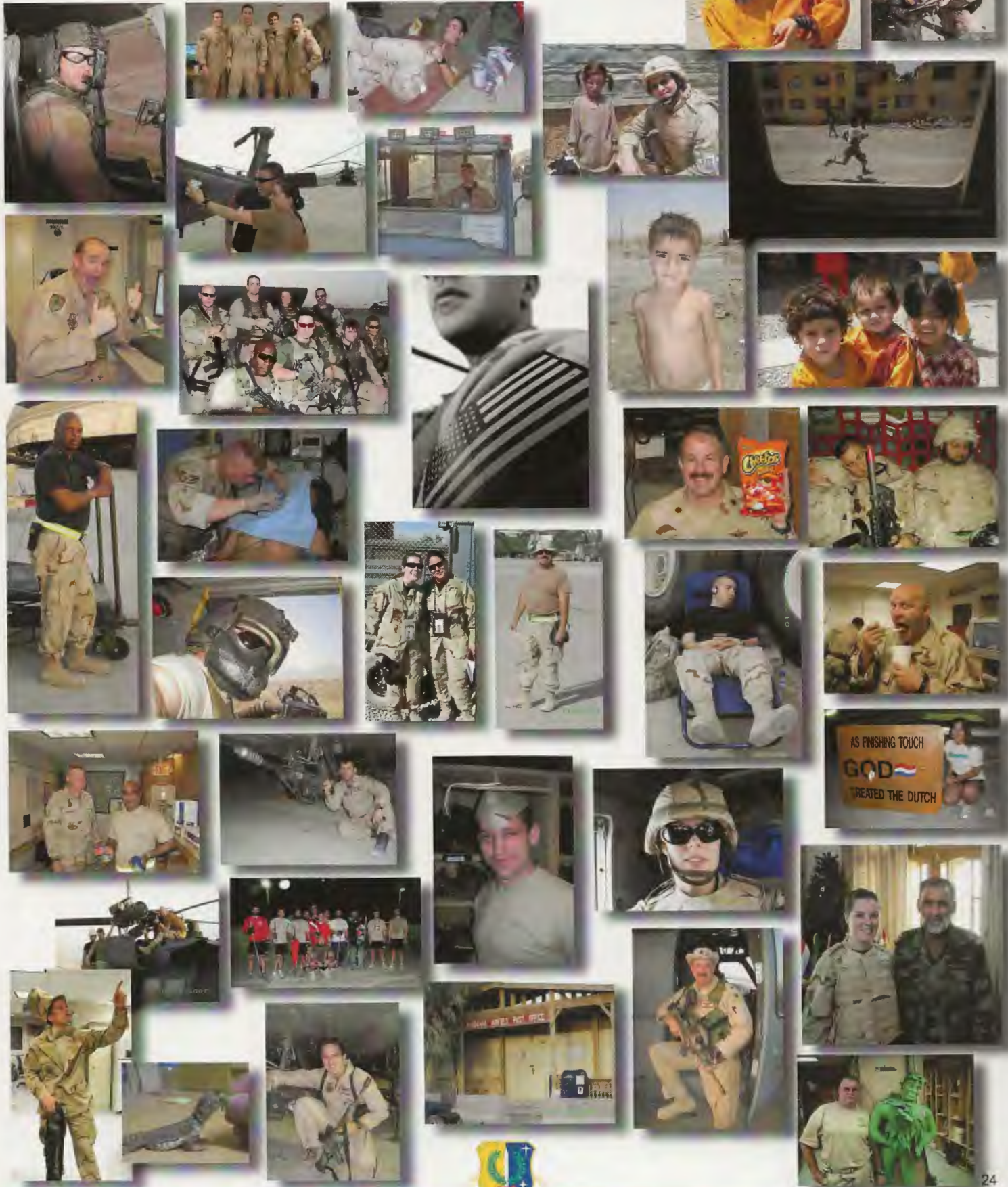
Senior Airman Sean Pellaton dresses the part while Maj. Roxanne Stern learns the hula at the Asian Pacific celebration in the hangar.



Master Sgt. Adriana Herrera always has a smile!

FINAL FRAMES

A collection of photographs from around the world taken by you.



"These things we do that others may live."