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Editorial Policy

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Military to civilian

Senior leaders promote transition assistance for separating Reservists

By Maj. Gen. Allan Poulin
Air Force Reserve Command Vice Commander

Senior leaders at the Air Reserve Personnel Center strongly encourage Reservists who are separating after 180 days or more of continuous active service, and their families, to use the Transition Assistance Program or Disabled Transition Assistance Program.

The purpose of TAP is to provide information and assistance related to benefits and entitlements now available to these members and their families to help them transition from active duty back into the civilian sector.

Some of our Reservists may be returning to a job they left prior to active duty – others may not. This program can help them prepare for the job market by assisting with resume writing, interviewing skills and the search for employment opportunities.

In addition, TAP helps Reservists

and their families analyze their circumstances, the job market and the benefits of remaining in the Reserve.

All Reservists separating after 180 days or more of continuous active service must receive a pre-separation counseling per Title 10 U.S. Code 1142, and have it documented on a Department of Defense Form 2648-1, Pre-separation Counseling Checklist for Reserve Component Service Members Released from Active Duty.

This will provide an overview of the multitude of services available to them: three-day TAP seminar, Veterans Affairs benefits briefing, Department of Labor veterans' assistance, education benefits, licensing and certification, health and life insurance, government grants and loans and employment assistance.

Various circumstances prevent our Reservists and families from using programs held on military installations. To assist, DoD developed TurboTap (www.turbotap.org) which is an on-line TAP program. The DoD established memorandums of agree-

ment with the Department of Labor and Department of Veterans Affairs to ensure service members have access to a variety of programs and services. The DoL provides Veterans Employment and Training Service in each state (www.dol.gov/vets).

Unfortunately, some of our Reservists are wounded in support of contingencies. As they return to the civilian sector, they can take advantage of the Disabled Transition Assistance Program (www.vetsuccess.gov).

The Air Force Wounded Warrior Program has been established to assist them in the event they encounter difficulties prior to or following separation from active duty.

The primary points of contact for TAP and DTAP are the Airman and Family Readiness director or liaison.

For more information, contact Paul Rozell, Airman and Family Readiness Specialist, Headquarters Air Force Reserve Command Family Readiness and Matters Branch DSN 497-1294, Comm (478) 327-1294 or e-mail at paul.rozell@afrc.af.mil.

Joint exercise brings Reservists together

By Lt. Col. Richard Sater
Public Affairs, Defense Logistics Agency

In the old days, Individual Mobilization Augmentees backfilled for deploying Airmen, but didn't actually deploy themselves.

Those days are gone – the old "strategic" Reserve has evolved into an "operational" Reserve, and the Defense Logistics Agency is taking steps to ensure its IMAs are ready

to fight alongside their active-duty counterparts.

With the Global War on Terror, the aerospace expeditionary force concept has become the norm, and the IMA career field is changing to meet the demand. In light of these changes, DLA – home to approximately 135 Air Force IMAs – recently completed a full-scale common-task assessment at Warner Robins Air Force Base, with a focus on readiness, training and education.

Seventy-five Air Force IMAs participated in the two-and-a-half-day joint-training exercise and task-training session, along with 76 Army Reservists,

29 Navy Reservists and five Marine Reservists assigned to DLA, headquartered at Fort Belvoir, Va. The event marked the first time DLA Reservists from all branches came together in such numbers.

Objectives of the exercise were to complete service-required training, learn about DLA initiatives, enhance readiness, promote teamwork and have fun, according to Celia Adolphi, deputy director of Joint Reserve Forces (J-9) for DLA.

Through briefings and hands-on exercises, Reservists gained an understanding of the agency



On the Robins Air Force Base firing range for M-16 familiarization training during the DLA exercise.

Photo by Lt. Col. Richard Sater

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Willing to deploy: How IMAs can volunteer for an AEF rotation

By Lt. Col. Barbara Mossi
RMG, Director of Operations

So, you want to volunteer for an Air Expeditionary Force rotation. How do you get started? The Readiness Management Group community of practice can assist you in volunteering for deployments. The CoP also ensures proper approval and responsibilities are outlined for the program managers and the active duty commander.

The first steps are to find volunteer opportunities, get permission from your active duty commander and see your active duty unit deployment manager. Since the primary area of responsibility is to serve your active duty unit as backfill, the UDM can let you know when your unit needs assistance locally or as a backfill for a deployment. You can also visit the Volunteer Reserve System on the Air Force Reserve Command web page, <https://vrs.afrc.af.mil/>, to identify opportunities. Active duty functional managers or Headquarters Air Force Reserve Command functional managers may also identify further requirements not

advertised on the VRS.

Once you find an appropriate opportunity, the Statement of Understanding will walk you through the approval process. The initiation of the SOU and the Air Force Form 49 is the Individual Mobilization Augmentee's responsibility. You may obtain the SOU from the RMG CoP or get assistance from your base IMA administrator. You must complete and sign part I, then request your supervisor and commander's approval in part II. If both the supervisor and commander concur, fax or e-mail the SOU to your program manager for validation of your readiness level. If disapproved, the process stops here.

Once your PM validates your readiness level as outlined in the SOU part III, complete the Air Force Form 49, Application for Military Personnel Appropriation Man-Day Tour, available on the e-Publishing web site at <http://www.e-publishing.af.mil/formfiles/af/af49/af49.xfd>. Instructions for filling out the Air Force Form 49 are located in the CoP attachments.

Contact AFRC AEF

Management to coordinate volunteering for an AEF deployment by faxing the completed SOU to AFRC/A3M at DSN 497-1733, Comm. (478) 327-1733, or e-mailing to Afrc.A3m@afrc.af.mil. Then contact AFRC/A3M, DSN 497-0897, Comm (478) 327-0897 to ensure receipt.

You will be matched to a requirement by AFRC/A3M. Once a specific requirement is agreed upon, AFRC/A3M will e-mail the line-level remarks to the PM and the member. At this point, take the Air Force Form 49, SOU and line remarks to your active duty commander for signature. Make sure to request enough MPA man-days to cover the training, travel and allowable breaks, not to exceed 30 days. The goal is to cover it all with one continuous or all-inclusive order.

If your active duty unit commander concurs with deployment, they must sign the Air Force Form 49 and the SOU part IV, agreeing to the responsibilities outlined. Fax or e-mail the signed Air Force Form 49 and SOU to AFRC/A3M at the contact

information above. If your commander does not concur, you do not deploy.

Keep in mind, active duty sourcing personnel try to fill these requirements from active duty personnel and the tasking may have already been filled. The AEF Center will validate if the requirement is still an open tasking. You will be contacted by AFRC/A3M if there are any changes.

Once approved, you will receive an electronic notification with a Command Manday Allocation System message. You can then input your MPA request in Air Force Reserve Orders Writing System using the CMAS information. Please note the CMAS request is input by AFRC/A3M. Contingency, Exercise and Deployment orders are published by HQ AFRC Directorate of Plans, Personnel Readiness Division.

You will receive your CED order by mail or e-mail with information copies to the RMG, your PM and AEF Center. Remember, you are required to report to and deploy through your active duty UDM. Once you

complete the deployment, return to your active duty unit to in-process with your UDM.

If you forward deploy or extend at your original deployed location, the Personnel Readiness Unit/Personnel Support for Contingency Operations team at your deployed location must coordinate with AFRC/A3M. Additional instructions for forward deploying or extending are located on the RMG CoP.

These are the current procedures. Please be aware that the process is in transition, with the RMG assuming some of the functions of both Air Reserve Personnel Center and AFRC/A3M beginning on or about July 1.

Once these changes occur, we will update the CoP and post an additional article in the Chronicle to keep you in the loop.

The Individual Reservist community is volunteering in increasing numbers and assuming a greater role in today's deployments. We salute all those who have served in this capacity and those who are looking for volunteer opportunities.



Commander's Action Line

The Action Line is your avenue for information from the Readiness Management Group. If you have questions regarding current events, policies or rumors, contact your base Individual Mobilization Augmentee administrator or your program manager. Action Line requests will then be forwarded up to the RMG public affairs. The RMG will make every attempt to find the correct answers and publish them in the RMG Chronicle.

When sending in an Action Line request, include your name, unit and contact information.

Links to a successful career

Compiled from staff reports

ReserveNet. You can get information about your readiness status by checking the readiness tab. It will also show when you are due for your next action, such as the Reserve Component Physical Health Assessment, dental exam, etc. The home page also has many great links for your use, including the Virtual Personnel Center – Guard, Reserve; Virtual Military Personnel Flight, pay tables, and the Volunteer Reserve System. You can access the VRS for potential military personnel appropriation tours. <https://www.my.af.mil/reservenetprod/classic/home.asp>

The Readiness Management Group Individual Reserve Guide. This is a great source of knowledge. The large majority of any questions you may have about the machinations of being an Individual Re-

servist are contained in this guide. Thomas Jefferson is attributed with saying "Knowledge is Power." This is a powerful tool for your use. <https://afkm.wpafb.af.mil/ASPs/DocMan/DOCMain.asp?Filter=OO-OT-RC-08&FolderID=OO-OT-RC-08-36&Tab=0>

Air Expeditionary Force Volunteer. Use this link for a great starting point on how to volunteer for an AEF and the processes involved for you to deploy. <https://wwwd.my.af.mil/afknprod/ASPs/CoP/OpenCoP.asp?Filter=OO-OP-RC-71>

2008 Air Force Reserve Command Handbook. This is an 8mb file. Click the link and the Handbook is in the middle of the page. <https://www.my.af.mil/gcss-af/afp40/USAF/ep/globalTab.do?command=org&pageId=681742&channelPageId=-397531>

Making the switch from IMA to PIRR

By Capt. Brandie Chancey

RMG, Deputy Director of Personnel

Individual Mobilization Augmentees whose slots were unfunded by Program Budget Decision 720 must submit a formal application through their base IMA administrator or program manager if they wish to transition to the Participating Individual Ready Reserve, formerly Category E. The transition is not automatic, even if members will remain with their current units once they switch from Category B (IMA) to the PIRR.

To apply to the PIRR, submit Air Force Form 1288 and Air Reserve Personnel Center Form 22 to the appropriate Readiness Management Group detachment or base IMA administrator. Members who do not submit these forms will be trans-

ferred to the non-participating Individual Ready Reserve at the end of this fiscal year, if their slots were unfunded by PBD 720.

Before applying to the PIRR, it's important to understand how the program is both similar and different to being an IMA. Both IMAs and PIRRs perform their duty in active duty organizations. Both must earn 50 points per retention and retirement year in order to have a good year toward retirement. The same readiness and officer and enlisted performance reports are required for PIRRs. Both can volunteer for Air Expeditionary Force rotations based on the needs and approval of the command, and both receive some entitlements such as Servicemember's Group Life Insurance and TRI-

CARE, for member and dependents, if military personnel appropriation orders exceed 30 days.

The differences, however, are significant. While IMAs are part of the Selected Reserve, PIRRs are part of the Individual Ready Reserve. The PIRR is a subset of the IRR that consists of Ready Reservists who are not in the Selected Reserve but are subject to active duty recall by the President or Congress in time of national emergency or war.

Unlike IMA positions, the PIRR is not funded by Air Force Reserve Command. Because of this, PIRRs must complete their annual 50 points through unpaid inactive duty training, paid military personnel appropriation tours, or authorized Extension Course Institute corre-

spondence courses. Fifteen membership points can be earned each R&R year for satisfactory participation.

Participating Individual Ready Reservists typically cannot perform Reserve personnel appropriation mandays for active duty for special work or active duty for operational support. In rare instances, PIRRs may perform Reserve personnel appropriation mandays for training if tour is 30 days or less, and required for proficiency purposes. This must be approved by the RMG commander. Also, PIRRs cannot earn pay by completing annual tours or inactive duty training days, and educational benefits are limited.

Finally, PIRRs cannot attach to Reserve units for training (exception:

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Exercise

Continued from page 1

and how its seven subsidiary organizations work together to supply servicemembers with the equipment, weapons, subsistence and supplies they require to do their jobs.

Deployment readiness was a primary focus of the training, a reminder that Reservists must be mentally and physically prepared for the real possibility of wartime duty. One whole day was spent in the field to provide Army warrior-task training in basic tasks likely to be critical during deployment. Army Reservists assigned to DLA provided most of the training, covering topics such as an introduction to field skills, including first aid; map reading and compass use; unexploded ordnance hazards, including improvised explosive devices; and voice communication by radio. Weapons familiarization on the M-16 and 9mm pistol rounded out the day, with Air Force combat-arms instructors assigned to Warner Rob-

ins AFB providing the marksmanship training.

Participants expressed satisfaction with the entire exercise, and especially praised the hands-on practice during the field. "It brings the unit together," said Master Sgt. Brenda Perez-Piris, an IMA assigned to DLA's Defense Supply Center-Richmond. "We're getting information from the instructors and the other students, too. You learn."

Maj. Ben Williams, an IMA assigned to Headquarters DLA's Joint Logistics Operations Center, agreed. "Real-world is always better than Powerpoint," he said. "Get 'em into the field!"

Participants also valued interaction with a diverse group of Reservists from all over the U.S. The exercise offered a chance to network, "to meet and greet people who were [otherwise] just voices on the phone; to put faces with names," according to Senior Master Sgt. Debra Baron, IMA administrator for J-9.

This year's exercise was "the first of what will become an annual experi-

ence," said Col. Deborah Inman, mobilization assistant to DLA's J-9 director. "Feedback from this year's participants will guide the structure of next year's exercise." The colonel noted that IMAs sometimes feel isolated, being geographically separated, and common experiences like this exercise help reduce that anxiety. "The 'I' [in IMA] doesn't seem so big. We don't feel so alone," she said.

Summing up, U.S. Navy Rear Admiral Henry Tomlin, commander of the Defense Supply Center-Philadelphia, praised the teamwork needed to pull off an event with 180 participants, as well as the "interest, enthusiasm, and great questions" that made the training exercise a success. Reservists, he reminded the group, make up "the largest military element in DLA," and as such, shoulder a great responsibility.

"Take what you've learned," he said. "Share it. Use the network you've built here. Ask more questions, and engage each other."



Two DLA IMAs learn the technique of field movement and communication under simulated fire during field training at the Defense Logistics Agency joint-training exercise.

Photo by Lt. Col. Richard Sater



U.S. Air Force Senior Master Sgt. Charles Kobilis demonstrates bandaging techniques on U.S. Army Sgt. Hernandez-Cartagena for a class of DLA Army reservists during the field training day of the DLA exercise.

Photo by Lt. Col. Richard Sater

PIRR

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some colonels have the approval of Headquarters Air Force Reserve Command, Senior Leader Management Division).

Officers are not eligible to compete for position vacancy promotions; however, they can meet their mandatory boards. Enlisted members are not eligible for position vacancy promotions but can compete for the Promotion Enhancement Program and the Extended Promotion Program. Assignments are limited to three years for PIRRs.

As a final reminder, the process to become a PIRR is not automatic. Applications must be received as soon as possible to avoid involuntary assignment to the IRR at the end of the fiscal year. If you have additional questions, please contact your program manager or BIMAA.

News Briefs

RPO Call Center

The Readiness Management Group Reserve Pay Office has set up a call center from 6 a.m. to 6 p.m., Monday through Friday. For questions or concerns regarding pay or leave call DSN 497-2334, Comm (478) 327-2334, fax DSN 497-1830, Comm (478) 327-1830 or e-mail RMG/RPO@afrc.af.mil.

Annual Training

All Individual Mobilization Augmentees need to have their annual training entered in the Air Force Reserve Orders Writing System by May 31. IMAs are not required to have ATs performed by that date, just entered in the system.

For more information contact your program manager or base IMA administrator.

FY 09 school selection board

The Readiness Management Group Reserve School Selection Board for fiscal year 2009 courses will convene in August at Air Reserve Personnel Center. This is an annual board that was specifically developed to give eligible Individual Mobilization Augmentees a chance to attend developmental education courses. The official announcement for this board will be sent from the RMG in May requesting packages from eligible IMAs who would like to attend. This is a great opportunity for all eligible IMA personnel.

If you are interested in attending any of the classes, work through your assigned detachment staff to complete the required package to meet the RSSB. Contact your base IMA administrator or program manager for a complete list of courses.

Applicants wanted for the following courses:

International Junior Officer Leadership Development Course will be held in Lenk, Switzerland Aug. 16-23.

Applications must reach the Readiness Management Group by May 31. Contact your program manager or base Individual Mobilization Augmentee administrator for detachment deadline and application instructions.

The Director of Mobility Forces -AIR Class 2008B will be held at Hurlburt Field, Fla Sept. 8-12.

Applications must reach the Readiness Management Group by May 30. Contact your program manager or base Individual Mobilization Augmentee administrator for detachment deadline and application instructions.

Updated RMG Detachment Listing

Headquarters RMG
Warner Robins, Ga.
DSN 497-2285/2286
Comm (478) 327-2285

**Det 1 - Defense Agencies/
AFRC/Joint**
Warner Robins, Ga.
DSN 497-2275
Comm (478) 327-2275

DCMA IMAA
DSN 328-0754
Comm (703) 428-0754

DLA IMAA
DSN 427-5317
Comm (703) 767-5317

USJFCOM IMAA
DSN 836-6004
Comm (757) 836-6004

Det 2 - AMC
Scott AFB, Ill.
DSN 779-7919
Comm (618) 229-7919

MacDill BIMAA
DSN 968-2277
Comm (813) 828-2277

McGuire BIMAA
DSN 650-3565
Comm (609) 754-3565
Also serves Dover AFB

Scott BIMAA
DSN 576-4264
Comm (618) 256-4264
Also serves Grand Forks AFB and McConnell AFB

Travis BIMAA
DSN 837-2462
Comm (707) 424-2462
Also serves Fairchild AFB, McChord AFB, McClellan AFB and Onizuka AFS

Det 3 - AFSOC
Hurlburt Field, Fla.
DSN 579-2820
Comm (850) 884-2820

Hurlburt Field BIMAA
DSN 579-5200
Comm (850) 884-5200

Det 4 - AFSPC
Peterson AFB, Colo.
DSN 692-2615
Comm (719) 554-2615

F.E. Warren BIMAA
DSN 481-3786
Comm (307) 773-3786
Also serves Malmstrom AFB

Patrick BIMAA
DSN 854-2872
Comm (321) 494-2872

Peterson BIMAA
DSN 834-7526
Comm (719) 556-7526
Also serves Buckley AFB, Schriever AFB, Cheyenne Mountain, DFAS and HQ ARPC

Vandenberg BIMAA
DSN 276-4820
Comm (806) 606-4820

Det 5 - OSI
Andrews AFB, M.D.
DSN 857-0866
Comm (240) 857-7443

Det 6 - IN
Bolling AFB, D.C.
DSN 754-1270
Comm (202) 404-1270

Det 7 - AETC
Randolph AFB, Texas
DSN 487-2562
Comm (210) 652-2562

Keesler BIMAA
DSN 597-2476
Comm (228) 377-2476
Also serves Columbus AFB

Lackland BIMAA
DSN 473-5204
Comm (210) 671-5204
Also serves Kelly Annex and Laughlin AFB

Luke BIMAA
DSN 896-7316
Comm (623) 856-5367

Maxwell BIMAA
DSN 493-0160
Comm (334) 953-0160
Also serves Moody AFB, 4/75th Div AFELM Birmingham, Ala. and AFIT IMAs at Wright-Patterson AFB

Randolph BIMAA
DSN 487-4347
Comm (210) 652-4347
Also serves Brooks City-Base, Ft. Sam Houston and Goodfellow AFB

Sheppard BIMAA
DSN 736-6521
Comm (940) 676-6521
Also serves Altus AFB and Dyess AFB

Det 8 - ACC
Langley AFB, VA
DSN 574-5101
Comm (757) 764-5101

Barksdale BIMAA
DSN 781-2118
Comm (318) 456-2118
Also serves Little Rock AFB

Davis-Monthan BIMAA
DSN 228-6183
Comm (520) 228-6183

Ellsworth BIMAA
DSN 675-6280
Comm (605) 385-6280
Also serves Minot AFB

Langley BIMAA
DSN 574-5433
Comm (757) 764-5433

Offutt BIMAA
DSN 271-7262
Comm (402) 294-7262
Also serves Whiteman AFB

**Seymour-Johnson
BIMAA**
DSN 722-4002
Comm (919) 722-4002
Also serves Pope AFB

Shaw BIMAA
DSN 965-1589
Comm (803) 895-1589
Also serves Charleston AFB

Nellis BIMAA
DSN 682-5208
Comm (702) 652-5208
Also serves Beale AFB

Tyndall BIMAA
DSN 523-2036
Comm (850) 283-2036

Det 9 - USAFE
Ramstein AB, Germany
DSN 314-480-6178
Comm 011-49-637-147-6178

Ramstein BIMAA
DSN 314-480-2815
Comm 011-49-637-147-2815
Also serves Aviano AB, Incirlik AB, Lajes Field, RAF Lakenheath, RAF Mildenhall, Spangdahlem AB and Stuttgart

Det 10 - PACAF
Hickam AFB, Hawaii
DSN 315-449-0582
Comm (808) 449-0584

Hickam BIMAA
DSN 315-449-0588
Comm (808) 449-0588
Also serves Alaska, Korea, Japan, Guam and Yokota

Det 11 - AFDW/11 WG
Arlington, Va.
DSN 425-0774
Comm (703) 588-0774

Andrews BIMAA
DSN 858-2538
Comm (301) 981-2538

Bolling BIMAA
DSN 754-3257
Comm (202) 404-3257

Pentagon BIMAA
DSN 227-2563
Comm (703) 697-2563

Fort Meade BIMAA
DSN 622-0846
Comm (301) 677-0846

Det 12 - AFMC
Wright-Patterson AFB, Ohio
DSN 787-0376
Comm (937) 257-0376

Edwards BIMAA
DSN 527-3327
Comm (661) 277-3327

Eglin BIMAA
DSN 872-8900
Comm (850) 882-8900
Also serves Hurlburt Field and Tyndall AFB

Hill BIMAA
DSN 777-3502
Comm (801) 777-3502
Also serves Mt. Home AFB

Hanscom BIMAA
DSN 478-0152
Comm (781) 377-0152

Kirtland BIMAA
DSN 246-2446
Comm (505) 846-2446
Also serves Cannon AFB and Holoman AFB

Robins BIMAA
DSN 497-8338
Comm (478) 327-9338

Tinker BIMAA
DSN 339-4355
Comm (405) 739-4955
Also serves Vance AFB

Wright-Patterson BIMAA
DSN 787-7778
Comm (937) 257-7778

Det 13 - HC
Robins AFB, Ga.
DSN 497-2247
Comm (478) 327-2247

Det 14 - JA
Robins AFB, Ga.
DSN 497-1251
Comm (478) 327-1251

Det 15 - SG
Warner Robins, Ga.
DSN 497-2319
Comm (478) 327-2319

Det 18 - USSOUTHCOM
Miami, Fla.
DSN 567-1360
Comm (305) 437-1360

Det 20 - HQ USPACOM
Camp Smith, Hawaii
DSN 315-477-9422
Comm (808) 477-0604

Det 21 - HQ USEUCOM
Stuttgart AB, Germany
DSN 314-430-6467
Comm 011-49-711-680-4533

Det 22 - USCENTCOM
MacDill AFB, Fla.
DSN 651-6946
Comm (813) 827-6619

Det 23 - USSOCCOM
MacDill AFB, Fla.
DSN 299-5069
Comm (831) 826-5069

Det 25 - USSTRATCOM
Offutt AFB, Neb.
DSN 271-0245
Comm (402) 294-0245

Det 26 - HQ NORAD US-NORTHCOM
Peterson AFB, Colo.
DSN 692-8054
Comm (719) 554-0854

Det 27 - USAFA
USAF Academy, Colo.
DSN 333-9775
Comm (719) 333-9775