







April 2002

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### Albertaing Bells on Top of the Alberta

Lt Rachel Orosz 12 SWS/CSF





On 15 March 2002, SrA Gregory A. Morris and A1C Rebekah K. Logue were married at Thule AB, Greenland. They were wed by Commander Holmer Soegaard, Thule's Danish Liaison Officer. Proudly displaying his Galla (Danish Navy Dress Uniform), including an impressive sword, Commander Soegaard led the wedding march toward the frozen Atlantic Ocean where the ceremony was performed.

What did they wear? Not the traditional garb, but they made do with what they had. Instead of top hat and coat, Greg wore Abercrombie and Fitch. Instead of a white veil, Rebekah wore a warm white coat. Along with the bride and groom, the on-lookers all braved the negative 20 degree temperature to bear witness to the unique "I do's."





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## H's Ski Season at Thule Air Base

MSgt Magby Services Superintendent

Dust off your skis, polish your snowboard, and get your safety gear ready, 'cause we're "hitting the slopes". Yes, the ski slope on Thule Air Base' North Mountain is open for business. Final preparations were made on 15 March, and the slopes were officially opened Saturday, 16 March. More than 120 ski and snowboard enthusiasts spectators braved sub-zero temperatures to break in the slope. Although this is no Olympic sized slope, beginners will feel at ease and advance skiers should be able to keep their skills fresh. According to Mette Pederson, Recreation Service Director, "this season promises to be another great season for skiers, snowboarders and the like." Pederson expects the season to last until May, of course this depends on the evaporation of the snow and if the weather cooperates. In preparation for the season, the squadron spent more than \$13,000 on skis, snowboards, boots, and other ski and safety equipment. Needless to say, the equipment received plenty of use on opening day.

But before the fun began, it took Greenland Contractors, Pavements and Grounds section (GC/CEMR) numerous hours to prepare the slope. According to Tom Christoffersen, Supervisor of the Pavements and Ground section, more than fifty-five truckloads of snow had to be moved from surrounding areas before the slope was ready. These truckloads were necessary due to the lack of snow on the mountain this season. Christoffersen also said, the four-man crew began preparing

the slopes 45 days ago and worked non-stop only being interrupted by storm warnings.... the hard work and dedication was all worth it on opening day. In addition to moving snow, rocks up to 250 pounds had to be removed from the area to give skiers and snowboarders that smooth ride that they enjoyed this weekend. An added addition to the slope this season was the installation of a rope tow. It took the contractors more than 15 days to install the rope. In previous ski seasons, before the rope tow was purchased, skiers were transported by vehicle from the bottom of slopes to the top, this process made for a very long day. On opening day, the state of the rope tow was a welcome to all that hit the slopes.

The squadron and Greenland Contractors have already begun preparing for next ski season. Plans are being discussed to triple the length of the slope. This addition will give the advance skier and snowboarders more of a serious challenge. The addition also means the participants will be able to stop at the ski lodge located at the bottom of the slope and enjoy a variety of warm beverages.

For those brave souls who want to ski, Recreation Services has a bus departing Equipment Checkout every Saturday and Sunday at 1300 hours and returning at 1630 hours. Equipment Checkout is opened from 1100 -1300 hours and 1630-1730 hours. Equipment is available for downhill and cross-country skiing. Snowboarding equipment is also available. Be sure to dress properly and bring your sunglasses, the sun can be very blinding. Recreation Services provides free hot chocolate during the trip and sodas are available for a small fee. It's also a

#### Continued from previous page:

great idea to bring your camera with you. On the way to and from the slopes, weather permitting, you'll have an amazing view of the ice cap and the bay.











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# Book Review

By Capt. Troy Brashear 12SWS/D0

West Point graduate. Fighter pilot. The youngest American general since U.S. Grant. Marilyn Monroe when asked which three people she'd want to be stranded on a deserted island with said Joe Di-Maggio, Albert Einstein, or Hoyt Vandenberg. Ninth Air Force Commander. Director of Central Intelligence. The Air Force's first Vice Chief. Second Chief of Staff of the Air Force.

Colonel Meilenger paints a picture of Gen Vandenberg that's hard to forget. Without stifling the reader with minutia, Colonel Meilenger is able to describe how this "soft-spoken" nephew of a US senator quickly made his way up the ranks with his impressive ability to quietly get the job done. After finishing this book, the reader will wonder why we don't more often mention General Vandenberg when we discuss our Air Force heroes.

The added benefit of "Vandenberg" is it's an excellent primer on the early Air Force and its sometimes tumultuous relationship with our sister services, the Joint Staff, and the Office of the Secretary of Defense. Col Meilenger takes the reader through the admirals revolt and the crucial—and reoccurring—way in which Gen Vandenberg deftly

handled difficult political situations. We learn about the troubled infancy of the Joint Staff and in particular the Chairman. If the reader thinks the Air Force is facing budgetary challenges today, they'll be fascinated by the post-World War II President Truman decisions to keep the defense budget as small as possible and the heated battles that ensued between the Army, Navy, and the newly formed Air Force.

Col Meilenger describes to us the behind the scenes maneuvering to prepare for and execute "Operation Vittles," the Berlin Airlift. General Vandenberg had the keen ability find the right person for the right job at the right time and the fortitude to relieve those that didn't.

A true Cold Warrior, Gen Vandenberg faced down the Soviet Union and China in Europe and Asia. The early days of NATO and the Korean War are pieces of the Vandenberg legacy. Staunchly anti-Communist, General Vandenberg crusaded for the strategic Air Force that helped to win the Cold War itself some forty years later.

You'll read this book and be amazed, proud, and surprised. And in two small paragraphs in chapter four, you'll be mad—not at Col Meilenger but at Gen Vandenberg himself. Perhaps because of the general's tragically short retirement, we in the Air Force don't know as much about him as we should. As one of the truly great "shapers" of the Air Force, "Vandenberg: The Life of a General" is a must read.

Vandenberg: The Life of a General



# COPS CORNER









I AM A SECURITY FORCES MEMBER. I HOLD ALLEGIANCE TO MY COUNTRY, **DEVOTION TO DUTY AND PERSONAL** INTERGRITYINTEGRITY ABOVE ALL I WEAR MY SHIELD OF AUTHORITY WITH DIGNITY AND RESTRAINT, AND PROMOTE BY EXAMPLE HIGH STANDARDS OF CONDUCT. APPERANCE, COURTESY, AND PERFOMANCE. I SEEK NO FAVOR BECAUSE OF MY POSITION. I PERFORM MY DUTIES IN A FIRM, COURTEOUS AND IMPRTIAL MANNER. IRRESPICTIVE OF A PERSON'S COLOR, RACE, RELIGION, NATIONAL ORGIN, OR SEX. I STRIVE TO MERIT THE RESPECT OF MY FELLOW AIRMEN AND ALL WITH WHOM I COME







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## UXO'S ALL AROUND US

Diann Riter, TSgt, USAF 12 SWS/CEX

On 17 March 2002, two hikers came upon an unexploded ordnance lying in the rocks. This reminds us that there are still plenty of unknown UXOs out there. We need to remain vigilant while we enjoy the sights around Thule.

#### Remember these four important steps:

- **1.Identify:** recognize the UXO as a hazard, DO NOT touch, move, or attempt to pick it up in any way, shape, or form. Remember features; size, shape, color, and condition (intact or leaking).
- **2.Mark:** mark UXO from where you are, DO NOT touch it or move closer, use whatever material available, and ensure markings are visible in all directions and at night, if possible.
- **3.Evacuate:** evacuate all personnel from the area and if possible isolate or barricade.
- **4.Report:** notify Security Forces Control Center, ext. 3234, and the Safety Office ext. 2709. Provide all pertinent details: size, shape, color, condition, landmarks, and grid coordinates. Reporting by radio must be done from at least 82-ft (25 m) away.







Can you spot the UXO?

# ARTIC SPOTLIGHT

YOUR NAME: Greg "Kozy" Koziara

YOUR JOB TITLE: Comptroller

YEARS IN SERVICE: 19

LAST BASE: Eglin AFB, FL

**NEXT BASE: Unknown** 

WHAT YOU LIKE ABOUT YOUR JOB: The people I work with, very challenging, lets me use my analytical abilities, and the support I receive from my boss.

YOUR HOBBIES/INTEREST: Golf, fitness, education, traveling, investing.

FAVORITE BOOK: In Harm's Way. (This is a story about the ship my father was on and the ordeal the sailors went through at the end of WWII.)

FAVORITE MOVIE: Tommy Boy

WHAT YOU MISS ABOUT THE STATES: Golf, driving, grass, real grocery stores, coffee shops, bagel stores, book stores, and my family.





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## April Driving Conditions

Diann Riter, TSgt, USAF 12 SWS/CEX

April at Thule gets pretty busy. This year, we'll have the Arctic Survival "Kool School", Operations Box Top and Brilliant Ice during the month of April. There will be more people on station. Roads will become congested.

Along with the influx of people, the sun will stay higher and longer. Our frozen roads will begin the melting cycle. Mud Season will soon be here.

### To prevent accidents due to slick roads, here are some tips to remember:

- Always leave plenty of room between you and the vehicle in front of you.
- When approaching stop or yield signs, make sure you have a clear line of sight to all on-coming traffic. Do not proceed until it is safe to do so.
- Wear dark sunglasses to protect your eyes from the glare off the melting ice.

Using a little caution now may prevent an accident tomorrow.

### Tips for driving during the last months of Storm Season:

- When driving off base, you must always have at least ½ tank of fuel.
- If your vehicle is not equipped with automatic running light then please

- switch it on. The low sun in the horizon makes it important to be visible in the traffic.
- During the last Storm II on main base, two vehicles collided due to low/no visibility. It is better to leave any vehicle behind and call for a taxi than to venture out in conditions unsafe to the driver. The taxi drivers are very experienced and will bring you home safely.

If you have any questions, please contact your unit VCO or the Disaster Preparedness Office at 2322.



## MTMC Rental Cars

#### TSgt Mike Garcia 12SWS/LG

The air staff has asked for the widest dissemination of this information to all Air Force Personnel. This is valuable information anyone renting a vehicle while on temporary duty should know:

-Traveler reserves a car under the Military Traffic Management Command (MTMC) Agreement through the Commercial Travel Office (CTO).. Look for Change 185 to JFTRs, effective 1 May, which states "per TRANSCOM policy, [the CTO] reserves a rental vehicle from a company that subscribes to the MTMC rental car agreement."

#### Traveler arrives at the rental counter

-Presents a personal government charge card (currently Visa for the AF). Vehicles rented with an IMPAC card do not fall under the MTMC Agreement.

-Credit card should not be pre-charged with estimated charges.

- -If no charge card, present copy of orders showing rental car authorized.
- -Decline CDW insurance--not reimbursable under JFTRs unless required in a foreign country
- Listing other drivers on the rental contract is not required, but a good idea. Might relieve renter of personal liability if another driver uses the vehicle on other than official business. Rental agency can't charge for adding other drivers.

#### Use of the vehicle.

-Limited to official purposes: "transportation to and from duty sites, lodgings, dining facilities, drugstores, barber shops, places of worship, cleaning establishments, and similar places required for the traveler's subsistence, health or comfort." JFTR, Para U3415G.

Can't combine personal and official use in a MTMC rental.

#### Traveler has an accident

-Call rental car company and report. If rented on government Visa card, call Visa and report immediately (1-800-VISA-911-on reverse of card), but not later than 20 days.

-If the police respond, try to get a copy of the accident report. If you can't get a copy of the report, at least find out how to get a copy later.

If someone else is injured in the accident and you are TDY to a base, let the base legal office know of the accident. If not at a base, contact your base legal office upon return.

### **Liability for the accident under the MTMC Agreement**

-If AF driver is not negligent, rental car company covers all damages to the rental car, so long as not engaging in prohibited activities under the agreement: DUI, offroad use, pushing or towing another vehicle; carrying passengers for hire; using the Page 10 Volume II Issue 16

#### Continued from previous page

vehicle for illegal purposes, obtaining the vehicle fraudulently, using the vehicle in tactical exercises or in a race, crossing international borders without permission of the rental company, leaving the keys in the vehicle (and it is stolen), and operation of the vehicle by an unauthorized driver.

-A contractor, even if working with the traveler, is not a fellow employee, and cannot drive the vehicle.

-If AF driver is negligent in causing the accident, but is on official business, Visa may cover the damage if properly reported. Otherwise, AF pays damages to the rental car--up to the value of the vehicle--from unit TDY funds.

-So long as driver on official business, rental company *should* not charge renter's charge card with damage. Renter should claim any charges as a miscellaneous expense on the travel voucher.

-Claims against the driver for damage or injury to others are handled by AF legal, so long as the AF driver was acting in the scope of employment. MTMC Agreement provides liability insurance for the AF, up to \$100,000 per person--anything over that amount is covered by claims statutes.

-Driver is not personally liable for damages to the vehicle or damages to others, so long as driving the vehicle on official business and in the scope of employment.

## CONGRATS

#### **Inbounds for March**

Capt Kellermann, Raymond C. - DO

2Lt Boardman, Nathan D. - DO

SSgt Berndt, Shaun A. - DO

SSgt Vanstaalduinen, Jeremy - DO

A1C Means, Virgil J. - SF

A1C Arkin, Joshua A. - SF

A1C Kipp, James E. - SF

#### **Outbounds for March**

A1C CabanTirado, Itzia - APO

SSgt Holm, Ryan J. - SF

SSgt Major, Robert J. - SF

2Lt Florio, Karen N. - DO

SSgt Berkemann, Valerie J. - MAO

SrA Johnson, LaShandra L. - SVS

TSgt Woodring, Frederick J. - DO

#### **Promotees**

#### From AB To Amn

Eric M. Forrester - Effective 2 Apr 02

#### From SrA To SSgt

Benjamin Trevino - Effective 1 Mar 02

#### From TSgt To MSgt

Torrye D. Kirvin - Effective 1 Mar 02

Thomas J. Allen - Effective 1 Mar 02

Kenneth D. Cook - Effective 1 Apr 02



## **Diamond Notes**



New TRICARE Prime Patient Travel Benefit

TRICARE Prime beneficiaries referred more than 100 miles from their primary care manager for specialty care may be eligible to have their actual travel expenses reimbursed by TRICARE. Under provisions of the 2001 National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA), travel reimbursement is retroactive to Oct. 30, 2000, for Prime enrollees who are referred more than 100 miles from their primary care manager's office for medically necessary specialty care.

To qualify for reimbursement, beneficiaries must have travel orders for past referred specialty care prepared by a TRICARE representative at the military treatment facility (MTF) where enrolled, or from a regional lead agent representative, if their primary care manager (PCM) is a civilian provider. The MTF or regional lead agent representative is responsible for ensuring that a valid referral exists before issuing travel orders. To file a travel reimbursement claim, beneficiaries should submit the appropriate original receipt(s) (keeping copies for themselves), a completed reimbursement form, and the original copy of their orders issued by the MTF or lead agent. Beneficiaries may receive reimbursement after completing and submitting these items.

The new Prime enrollee travel entitlement does not apply to travel expenses incurred by active duty uniformed services members, active duty family members residing with their sponsors overseas, or to travel costs of beneficiaries referred under DoD specialized treatment programs, which are reimbursed by other travel entitlements; nor does it apply to

transportation expenses resulting from emergency care covered under the basic TRICARE Standard benefit.

TRICARE Prime beneficiaries seeking reimbursement for travel expenses incurred for obtaining referred specialty care may contact their local MTF or lead beneficiary counseling agent and assistance coordinator (BCAC) for assistance. Telephone numbers and addresses for BCACs are available on the TRICARE Web site www.tricare.osd.mil.

The 2002 NDAA, signed into law by President Bush on Dec. 28, 2001, travel orders authorizes and reimbursement for one non-medical attendant. under certain conditions. TRICARE Prime enrollees who travel non-medical attendant should with a save travel and lodging receipts for themselves and the non-medical attendant. The new non-medical attendant travel benefit will be implemented in the next several weeks and will be retroactive to Dec. 28, 2001. Specific details of the non-medical attendant travel benefit will be available soon at www.tricare.osd.mil.

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### Diamond Notes



### TRICARE Dental Program Premiums to Increase Slightly

Active duty family members and activated members of the Reserves and their families will soon notice a slight increase in the monthly premiums they pay for services under the TRICARE Dental Program (TDP).

The new rates are effective Feb. 1, 2002, but because premiums are collected one month in advance, TDP beneficiaries will notice the change on their January billing statement, payroll allotment or deduction.

TDP premiums will increase 3.5 percent or a little less than the annual increase in the dental services component of the Consumer Price Index.

"Since the government will continue to pay 60 percent of the total monthly premium for most categories of TDP enrollees, the actual increase for the majority of TDP members will be fairly small -- 27 cents a month for a single enrollment and 66 cents a month for a family enrollment," said Tom Harbold, senior vice president for the TDP at the TRICARE contractor, United Concordia Cos. Inc. The new monthly premium rate will affect active duty family members and members of the Selected Reserve, Individual Ready Reserve (Special Mobilization Category) and family members of reservists who are on active duty for more than 30 consecutive days. The new rate will be \$7.90 for a single enrollment and \$19.74 for a family enrollment.

While the new rates represent an increase from last year, it is important to note that they are still below the rates of fiscal year 1999, which were \$8.53 for a single enrollment and \$21.33 for a family enrollment.

Historical Trends in Monthly TRICARE Dental Premium Rates for active duty family members, members of the Selected Reserve and Individual Ready Reserve (Special Mobilization Category), and family members of reservists:

DATE SINGLE ENROLLMENT	FAMILY
Feb 1, 2002 \$7.90	\$19.74
Feb 1, 2001 \$7.63	\$19.08
Aug 1, 1999 \$8.53	\$21.33

Members of the Individual Ready Reserve (Other than Special Mobilization Category) and their family members and the family members of the Selected Reserve will pay a new monthly rate of \$19.75 for a single enrollment and \$49.36 for a family enrollment. While the TDP premium increases are due primarily to increases in the cost of dental services, part of the increase is the result of enhancing the general anesthesia benefit.

For more information, visit the TRICARE Web site at

www.tricare.osd.mil.

# APRIL BIRTHDAYS

**TSgt Devall Kelly** 

28-Apr-61

SSgt Brian Kissinger

23-Apr-74

**SSgt Thomas Bowser** 

18-Apr-71

**MSgt Hendrix Dickens, III** 

20-Apr-62

**TSgt Vernon Dunn** 

11-Apr-68

**TSgt Forrest Childs** 

18-Apr-66



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**EXT**: 5281

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**EXT: 2446** 

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## Commanders Trophy Points/Standings

As a mean of increasing participation in the athletic program, the Recreation Services will present a Commander s Trophy to the Organization showing the highest achievement in athletics based on a point system. The Sports & Fitness Center will monitor the point system, publish and distribute the current standings to each section at least quarterly at the regularly scheduled Sports Advisory Committee meetings.

Winner of Commanders Trophy for FY 2001: MA

#### Standings as of 01 March 2002

MA: 480

Operations: 275

Security Forces: 230

DET- 3: 25



Here are the results for the month of March 2002.

Standings on Spring 2002 Basketball League:

Dynasty/SF 4 wins 0 losses

Turtles/DO 2 wins 4 losses

Big Dawgs/MA 1 win 4 losses

10 games to go.

Season ends 09 April 2002





## Chaplain's Corner

Clark Darrell H Maj 12SWS/HC

### You're invited to a New Bible Study at the Chapel

When: 1000 each Sunday Morning

Where: In the Chapel Annex

**Subject:** Success God's Way

**Rewards:** Spiritual Growth

Class Teacher: Chaplain Clark

#### **Subjects Covered:**

- 1. How Do You Define Success?
- 2. God is Committed to Your Success
- **3.** The Key to Success: Setting Godly Goals
- 4. Stating Your God-Given Goals
- **5.** A Personalized Pattern for Your Success
- **6.** What About Money?
- 7. Roadblocks to Your Success
- **8.** The Attitude Required for Success
- **9.** Success Begins with an Idea
- 10. The Successful Use of Time
- **11.** Overcoming the Negatives
- **12.** Persisting Until You Succeed

#### Resources:

Holy Scripture

Charles Stanley's Book

"Success God's Way"

## Facility Managers Responsibilities

Poppinga David A MSgt 12SWS/CE

As a Facility Manager you are the representative of your commander, therefore you are responsible for identifying the maintenance, repair and alteration requirements necessary to maintain your facilities within acceptable standards. You serve as the point of contact for facility occupants to identify and track work requirements, and for the GC Civil Engineer personnel conducting inspections within the facility. All primary Facility Managers are responsible for procedures outlined in the Building Manager's Guide, you received this guide upon being appointed as a facility manager. The alternate Manager will assume these duties in the absence of the primary manager. Any further questions please contact GC/CERR, Bldg 577 Ext. 2739.

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# African American Veritage Dinner



























# Photographs















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## 4 Hours We'll Never Get, Back

SSgt Langley, Anthony Thule Times Article Issue 16 27 March 2002

I am writing this on the night of 27 March 2002 because it is finally over. I'm not talking about March Madness, the NIT, or the little snowfall we had yesterday, I'm talking about the Academy Awards, (insert yawn here). According to the reports, the Oscars were watched by fewer people then last year.

The reason for this trend is simple. The awards started at 8 p.m. EST I believe and did not end until aftermidnight. People are not going to stay up that late to sit through all of the boring categories such as: Best Art Direction. Best Adapted Screenplay. and Best Documentary. Why you ask, because nobody but the people who are up for the awards and their families care. I'm sorry, but that is the truth. Many of the movies that are nominated for Oscars most people have never heard of or they didn't make into local theatres because they wouldn't make money. In quite a few cases that is a shame, but if you want people to tune in, you must make them care. I personally did not watch the first 3 ½ hours because I did not care for the award being presented or the movies/people up for it. I did tune in and watch the final three awards handed out to see if history would be made and because I cared.

Next year someone other than Whoopi Goldberg will be the master of ceremonies. They always blame the host when ratings go down instead of the people putting the whole thing together. Billy Crystal couldn't stop the downward spiral, nor David Letterman. The problem with the Oscars as well as the Grammy's and Golden Globes is simple: the general public does not have a say in who wins.

That is why two annual award shows are the ones to watch: the MTV Music and Movie awards. The general public gets to pick the winners and that is way these two shows are the most popular of the year. If you ask a movie studio executive which show

means the most these days they will say the MTV awards. I know the categories are a little crazy for some but that is what the people pay to see. People like the categories for Best Villain. Best Fight Scene, etc. and Hollywood pays attention. The "Summer Blockbusters" might not be the best written, directed, or acted movies out there, but when it comes down to which made the most money, they along with the releases that come out around Thanksgiving and Christmas will be at the These will also garner the most nominations for the awards that really matter the MTV Movie Awards.

Picks for some of this years winners. (Since the nominations Have not gone out yet, these are my guesses)

**Best Actor - Denzel Washington/Training Day** 

Best Actress - Halle Berry/Monsters Ball

Best Kiss – Jason Biggs and Steve Stiffler\*/American Pie 2

Best Fight Scene – Will Smith and Whoever/Ali

Best Car Chase - Fast and the Furious

Best Villain – Voldemort\*/Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone (I have not seen this movie so this is a blind guess)

Best Movie - Lord of the Rings

\* Denotes either I do not recall the actors real name or my spelling may be incorrect.

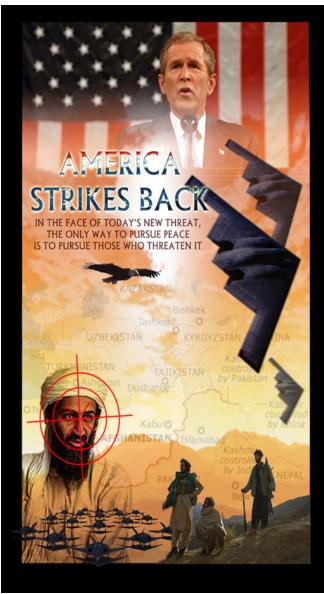
If you would like to send comments or your picks you may e-mail me at <a href="mailto:Anthony.Langley@thule.af.mil">Anthony.Langley@thule.af.mil</a> I will be off island until late April so please be patient if you would like a response.

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All Pictures of Bombs are courtesy of Ted A. Morris, Jr., Major, US Air Force, Retired Web Page

http://www.zianet.com/tedmorris/dg/ammo.html

## Have you been here too long?





Actual Leaflet they dropped in Afghanistan

### You know when you have been here too long when:

- The Thule operator no longer ask you for you Morale call number they just connect you
- Along with your home base operator
- You have actually completed making a ceramic bear, Archie, and a complete chess set
- You have found and picnic-ed at off base "parks" –twice
- People call you to find out where the post Tow club Sunday mornings flattop parties are being held
- You and the base taxi driver are on a first name basis
- It no longer bother you that you skin cracks, flakes, and itches
- You have helped to clean up Dundas Village –twice
- Your quarters look good to you
- You know when Strom III will hit
- You can recognize your friends from behind with their Parka hoods up
- As a member of the Polar Bear club, you decide this year instead of jumping in then back out again you will walk in and swim around for awhile
- The Archie's hang out side you room when you call them by name
- You can tell time by "reading" the moon in winter and the sun in summer