

NOTES FROM THE:

Chief for Enlisted Matters



by Chief Master Sergeant Larry Gonzales

If you build it, they will come. A year ago in *The Air Force Comptroller*, I wrote about our planned increase in enlisted accessions in FY03. I told you we were going to triple the number of enlisted personnel we are sending through the Comptroller Schoolhouse. We planned this increase to coincide with the move of our schoolhouse from Sheppard AFB to newly renovated facilities at Keesler AFB. The Honorable Michael Montelongo did the official ribbon cutting at the new schoolhouse on 31 October 2002 and the young troops are coming.

This fiscal year, we will send 500 accessions through the schoolhouse. Next fiscal year, it will be 490. They will start arriving at your bases in late February or early March 2003. One of my favorite quotes is particularly appropriate here:

When a young troop arrives to your duty section following basic training and advanced training, they are a virtual blank page and you're going to write a story as a supervisor. They're ready. They want to be led and want to be supervised properly. All they want to do is succeed and we need to give them the right start.

—CMSAF Eric W. Benken

So, there is your challenge...write a good story!

I'm happy to report that usage of the Enlisted Individual Development Plan (EIDP) is way up (<https://oaproduct.hq.af.mil/saf/fm/fmipc/eidp/>). Of course, this shouldn't be a surprise since the new Career Field Education and Training Plan (CFETP), effective 1 October 2002, made the use of the EIDP mandatory for tracking job rotation. Still, we believe that once people start using the program, they will explore the other areas of the EIDP and benefit from the information in the program. Hopefully, FM enlisted personnel will use the program as it was designed...to set goals in their career and track their progress towards the attainment of those goals. I have already started to receive numerous suggestions on how to

improve the program which is another benefit of people using it. We will consolidate those suggestions and implement them in future versions of the EIDP.

I recently had the pleasure of visiting the Air Force Enlisted Foundation (formerly the Air Force Enlisted Widow's Home) in Fort Walton Beach, Florida. Like most other enlisted personnel, I've known of the "Widow's Home" since I came in the service due to the annual Air Force Assistance Fund drive, but this was my first opportunity to see it. Honestly, words cannot adequately describe the value of the service we provide through our donations. I met and talked with some of the residents. These are truly wonderful people who deserve our support. Please remember the AFEF during this year's AFAF drive.

Recent Aces High Recipients:

TSgt Joseph L. Watkins, Aviano AB IT
SrA Justin Tolley, DFAS Dayton OH
A1C Paul A. Libel, Nellis AFB NV
MSgt Edward L. Harvey, Pope AFB NC
A1C Lisa Stanley, DFAS Dayton OH
SrA Leithea T. Williams, DFAS Omaha NE
SrA Gairy O. Spence, DFAS Dayton OH
MSgt John F. Kavanagh, Patrick AFB FL
SSgt Ladre Davis, DFAS Dayton OH
MSgt Susan E. Garcia, Nellis AFB NV
MSgt Terry G. Hockless, Laughlin AFB TX
TSgt Harold K. Nakamoto, Pope AFB NC

Please go to the SAF/FM website (www.saffm.hq.af.mil/) to read all about these outstanding individuals.

