



### In this Issue:

- Commentary, pg 2

- Action Line, pg 2

- Child care programs, pg 2

- PIRR links, pg 2

- Medical appointments, pg 3

- Helpful Links, pg 3

- Excess baggage charge, pg 4

- Updated detachment listing, pg 4

### Editorial Staff

Col. Nancy Robinson  
RMG Commander

Lt. Col. Gwyn Pook  
Managing Editor

1st Lt. Randl Norton  
Editor

### Editorial Policy

The RMG Chronicle is published monthly by RMG public affairs.

This Air Force newsletter is an authorized publication for members of the U.S. military services. Contents of the RMG Chronicle are not necessarily the official views of, or endorsed by, the U.S. Government, the Department of Defense or the Department of the Air Force.

The editorial content is edited, prepared and provided by RMG public affairs. All photos are Air Force photos, unless otherwise indicated. The deadline for all editorial submissions is noon the 15th of the month.

Public affairs can be contacted at DSN 497-2419, Comm (478) 327-2419, or by email at [rmg.psa@af.mil](mailto:rmg.psa@af.mil)

## “Purple” Heart of Courage

### IMA received Purple Heart and five other medals for actions during Operation Iraqi Freedom

**By Public Affairs**  
99th Air Base Wing, Nellis AFB

A 99th Air Base Wing chief of exercise plans and programs at Nellis Air Force Base, Nev. received a Purple Heart and five other medals and badges at a ceremony on May 5.

Maj. Anthony Jones was recognized for his distinguished service in Operation Iraqi Freedom, where he survived three rocket attacks, suffered two concussions and contributed to saving 90 people's lives.

Lt. Gen. John Bradley, Air Force Reserve Command commander, presented Major Jones with the awards.

“We’re here today to honor you and thank you for your service,” General Bradley told Major Jones. “The Purple Heart is a very special decoration. It’s something we proudly pin on people, and I’m

honored to pin it on you today.”

Major Jones was injured twice by enemy fire in OIF while serving as director of the Army Personnel Recovery Coordination Cell, Iraqi theater of operations. He suffered a concussion on Sept. 11, 2007, from a 240 mm rocket attack and a second concussion and shrapnel wounds on Oct. 25, 2007, from a 107 mm rocket attack.

On Sept. 11, 2007, Major Jones helped save numerous lives when his base, Camp Victory, was attacked. He was outside the Coalition Headquarters, Al Faw Palace, when a 240 mm rocket exploded 100 feet away from him, tossing him to the ground.

Although he suffered a concussion, Major Jones immediately began triaging injured personnel, providing medical care to



**Lt. Gen. John Bradley, Air Force Reserve Command commander, pins the Combat Action Badge on Maj. Anthony Jones, 99th Air Base Wing chief of exercise plans and programs, for his heroic actions while deployed to Camp Victory, Iraq. Photo by Senior Airman Larry E. Reid Jr.**

the most severely wounded and helping load the triaged personnel. Major Jones could provide critical emergency care because he always carried a personal medical kit.

Major Jones said he got a lot of grief for always wearing his personal medical kit. “But when it came down to it, I used it,” he said. “I was proud to wear it.”

In a later rocket attack

on Oct. 10, 2007, Major Jones again helped save lives, earning the Joint Service Commendation Medal. When Major Jones heard rockets explode nearby, he grabbed his emergency medical bag and ran toward the location of impact.

He saw a truck with people inside that had taken a direct hit and was leaking fuel. Major Jones

**Continued on page 3**

## RMG Commander sets IR mission, vision for next 3 years

**By Lt. Col. Gwyn Pook**  
Managing Editor, RMG Chronicle

In January a team of Readiness Management Group headquarters staff and RMG detachment representatives met to develop a Strategic Plan which will shape the Air Force's Individual Reservist program for the next three years.

“Periodically, we need to examine our mission and methods, to make sure they continue to be firmly in line with the Air Force’s and AF Reserve missions. We need to make sure the efforts of RMG headquarters, RMG detachments and IRs are focused together in a unified synergy, stronger together than they would be individually,” said Lt. Col. Dawn Suitor, Stra-

tegic Plan team leader and outgoing RMG Det. 10 Program Manager.

“Re-examining, updating and communicating our mission and objectives periodically helps us find the best processes for accomplishing the mission. Then we can make those processes universal throughout the IR program,” Colonel Suitor continued.

Using Air Force Smart Operations 21 procedures, the team reviewed HQ RMG processes, AFRC guidance, and United States Code Title 10 legal mandates in order to define the mission, vision, goals and objectives which are unique to Individual Reservists (IMAs and Participating Individual Ready Reservists).

The draft Strategic Plan was then

sent to all RMG detachment personnel for review. Teleconference and e-mail discussions refined the phrasing and intent of RMG’s mission, vision and goals.

“There is a need for us to harness the expertise in the field as the Strategic Plan is finalized, and the specific objectives and way of moving forward are set,” said Col. Nancy Robinson, RMG commander.

The Strategic Plan spells out the RMG mission as: “Prepare mobilization-ready Individual Reservists to support the Air Force and joint partners serving across the full spectrum of military operations ... as unrivaled wingmen.”

The vision is to: “Provide the world’s

**Continued on page 2**

# Medical appointments getting easier to make

## Compiled from staff reports

Individual Reservists (Individual Mobilization Augmentees and Participating Individual Ready Reservists) who have had difficulty making appointments at military treatment facilities should experience an improvement soon.

In May, Major General Thomas Loftus, Assistant Surgeon General for Health Care Operations, sent a memo to all major command Surgeon General directorates, clarifying the applicable regulations and processes in order to make it easier for Reservists to get appointments mandated by law.

"Confusion remains regarding the eligibility of Reserve Component members to access our medical treatment facilities," noted General Loftus. "Individual medi-

cal readiness is a Total Force concern and essential to the successful execution of the Air Force mission."

In his memo, the general addressed the unique situation of Individual Reservists.

"Individual Reservists are assigned or attached to active duty (organizations). As such, they receive all their medical support from the active duty MTFs (military treatment facilities)," the general noted.

He also explained that for annual medical and dental exams, IRs have the same level of access to appointments as active duty members. In addition, Reserve members do not need to be in military status to schedule an appointment, but must be in military status (active,

inactive, or points only) at the time the examination is performed.

The general urged MAJCOM SG offices to ensure the appointment personnel at their military treatment facilities are aware of this distinction and accommodate Reserve members accordingly.

"Our Reservists and Guardsmen make great sacrifices to participate as Total Force members, and often have narrow windows of opportunity to complete their medical readiness requirements. Your support of their effort is greatly appreciated," said General Loftus.

According to Air Force Manual 36-8001, paragraph 1.6.5, Reservists will not be placed on military orders solely for the purpose of receiving military medical or dental care, evaluation, or examination,

except as identified in Air Force Instruction 48-123. In addition, Reservists receiving medical or dental care beginning during a tour of duty will not have their orders extended to continue treatment, except as identified in Department of Defense Directive 1241.1, Reserve Components Incapacitation Benefits.

Since IRs are active assets, the active duty military treatment facility is accountable for IR medical and dental records and is also responsible for the timely update of Preventive Health Assessment and Individual Medical Readiness and the Dental Data System-web.

For more information on access to military treatment facilities, contact your base IMA administrator or program manager.

## Purple Heart

### Continued from page 1

immediately helped remove the two individuals from the truck, carried them to a safe distance and administered life-saving treatment. He was able to triage the soldiers' injuries, directing and providing medical care until emergency medical personnel arrived.

Major Jones earned the Purple Heart and the Army Combat Action Badge following an attack Oct. 25, 2007. That morning, Camp Victory was again barraged by 107 mm rocket attacks. When the attack began, Major Jones instinctively dove to the ground but was caught mid-air as a rocket hit 15 feet to his right, thrusting him against a concrete barrier. Major Jones lost consciousness and suffered a concussion and multiple shrapnel wounds.

Despite his injuries, when Major Jones regained consciousness, he entered a nearby destroyed trailer to search for and retrieve any occu-

pants. Major Jones cleared the trailer of all personnel, then his wounds were discovered and he was medically evacuated by helicopter to the 28th Combat Support Hospital in the Green Zone.

Major Jones earned the Defense Meritorious Service Medal for his leadership actions and the lives he saved while serving in OIF. His primary duty was to provide personnel recovery expertise to senior leadership. He coordinated and controlled all personnel recovery, combat search and rescue operations in the Iraqi theater of operations. He was also responsible for training all high-risk-of-capture personnel and for the repatriation of all isolated personnel. Although wounded in action, Major Jones led more than a dozen combat personnel recovery operations.

Earning a Purple Heart seems to run in Major Jones' family. His father, Walter Jones, received a Purple Heart as a Marine in the Vietnam War after suffering similar combat wounds.

"We couldn't be more

proud of him," Mr. Jones said, speaking for Major Jones' mother, Anna Jones, as well. "We're glad to have him home safe."

Although Major Jones' combat actions may be considered heroic, he is quick to deny the title of "hero." Instead, Major Jones prefers the term "warrior;" he claims he simply did what he was trained to do.

"We fall back on what we've been taught—that's why we train," Major Jones said. "Over your career, you can say 'how much time did I spend in self-aid buddy care?' but the moment there's blood around, you remember it."

Major Jones has been a resident of Nevada since 1986, when he arrived at Nellis AFB and assumed flight instructor duties at the Combat Aircrew Training School. Before moving, Major Jones flew with the 8th Special Operations Squadron at Hurlburt Field, Fla. In

1990 and 1991 he also served in operations

Desert Shield and Desert Storm.

Major Jones left active duty in 1992 and was placed in the Individual Ready Reserve program. After Sept. 11, 2001, Major Jones volunteered and was accepted back into the Air Force Reserves as an Individual Mobilization Augmentee.

As a Reservist, Major Jones is assigned to the Joint Personnel Recovery Agency in Fort Belvoir, Va., and is currently attached to the 99th ABW. During his last deployment, Major Jones also received the Iraq Campaign Medal, Armed Forces Air Force Reserve Medal with the "M" device, and the Air Force Expeditionary Ribbon with Gold Border for combat operations.

As a civilian, Major Jones opened and managed the House of Blues Foundation Room atop the Mandalay Bay Hotel and Casino. Currently he is a personal protection specialist and director of Crisis Response International Counter Terrorism Training School in Las Vegas.

## Helpful links to a successful career

### Compiled from staff reports

*ReserveNet:* <https://www.my.af.mil/reserve.netprod/classic/home.asp>.

*The Readiness Management Group Individual Reserve Guide:* <https://afkm.wpafb.af.mil/ASPs/DocMain/DOCMain.asp?Filter=OO-OT-RC-08&FolderID=OO-OT-RC-08-36&Tab=0>.

*Air Expeditionary Force Volunteer:* <https://wwwd.my.af.mil/afkmprod/ASPs/CoP/OpenCoP.asp?Filter=OO-OP-RC-71>.

*2008 Air Force Reserve Command Handbook:* <https://www.my.af.mil/gcss-af/afp40/USAF/cp/globalTab.do?command=org&pageId=681742&channelPageId=397531>.

*Assistant Secretary of Defense Reserve Affairs:* <http://www.defenselink.mil/ra/>.