



AMMO Chiefs Association (ACA)

"Shell and Flame"



Issue Number: XIII

June 1, 2007

We are the Ammo Chiefs Association, a not-for-profit, fraternal organization dedicated to the promotion of camaraderie among retired and active duty **USAF AMMO Chiefs**. Our members work diligently throughout the year to raise funds for worthwhile charitable causes such as the Richard Gauvin Memorial Fund, the Enlisted Widows Foundation, and a Sunshine Committee to respond to members' time of distress. The ACA also contributes to the morale of active duty AMMO troops at the Chapter level through recognition and sports programs. The ACA sponsors awards programs for the AMMO School House Outstanding Performer, and the AFCOMAC Outstanding Performer. ACA has contributed to cultural enterprises such as the RAF Welford AMMO Museum. **We are AMMO, and proud of it!** Please visit the AMMO Chiefs web page for more information at <http://ammochiefs.com>.

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Association News

Your Association is on the move! We have been busy these past six months, developing Articles of Incorporation to become incorporated in the State of Florida. We've developed a Strategic Plan that identifies what your Association will be pursuing the next ten years. The Board of Directors has revised the Constitution and it is out for comments from the membership. We have a Constitution Review Committee formed to receive your comments and put them into a proposed Constitution. Once they have completed this the Constitution will be reviewed one final time by the Board and then the Constitution Review Committee will present the Constitution to you to approve or disapprove. The Constitution is a contract between the membership and the Board of Directors, so provide comments to the committee, and vote.

An ongoing action of the Association is the need to form Chapters in states where there are two or more Active members reside. We are looking for volunteers to set up Chapters in California, Arizona, Nevada, Alabama, Texas, Georgia, and other states. If you'd like to start a Chapter, please ask the ACA Secretary for a kit.

You'll notice a substantial change to this newsletter. We are growing and trying to develop the newsletter into an AMMO Community newsletter, with information from the MAJCOMs about their AMMO activities, as well as, AFCOMAC and schoolhouse information. If you're a Command AMMO Chief, send us your information. Send it to the Association Secretary for the next newsletter to be published in August.

Thanks for your support!!



Around the Bombdump.....

HQ AFMC/A4MW – CMSgt. Don Myers

Hello AMMO troops, let me start off this quarter news article by saying “Thank You All” for your continued support. As we continue to move down the transformation highway, your Command staff is hard at work trying to ensure AFMC keeps pace. With that, we are busy finalizing the details with HQ manpower personnel to get positions in place to stand up the Global Ammunition Control Point (GACP), transforming the ACP to a bigger role in supporting the Commands and ultimately the warfighter (see Mr. Paskewitz’s article for further details on the GACP). An update on the projected manpower cuts is that Air Staff has stated they now need some of our cuts this year to fix broken glass in the Commands - still negotiating just how many and when.

In other transformation news, USAFE is currently doing some testing using Radio Frequency Identification (RFID) tags where the tag is installed in place of the humidity indicator on PGM containers. The tag is designed to provide humidity, temperature, and shock readings. If it works as designed, this would replace the requirement for the AMMO troop to perform an SMI, saving an estimated 400+ man hours. It will also aid with inventories and movement tracking. We will keep you posted on the progress.

Many of you have been asking when the Command supplement to AFI 21-201 will be out, along with an updated Command checklist. We are still awaiting several clarifications on the supplement from HAF before we can finalize it. As for the Command checklist, we cannot finish it until we finish the supplement, shooting to have both out later this month.

If you didn’t know MSgt Brad Rose, our Command IG AMMO inspector has retired. I just wanted to say one last time, ‘Thanks Brad for a job well done!’. Being on the IG staff is a tough job, and he did a superb one ensuring our units were doing the mission correctly. We wish Brad and his family the best in their new endeavors as they head back to his home town in PA. For a replacement to the IG, we have decided to make a move from within. It is all but a signed deal that MSgt Tommy Strahan from our staff will be moving over to fill the slot. I am very confident he will do a fine job as our AMMO IG Inspector. Good luck to him!

On one last note. I want to say congrats to the 651st for their EXCELLENT LSET results and a special congrats to the Superior Performers, SSgt Augustin Benavides and SSgt Curtis Garceau.

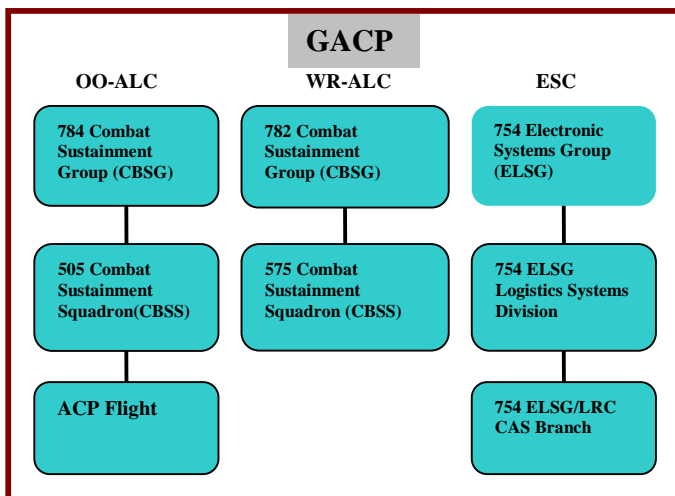
I.Y.A.A.Y.A.S.

From: Butch Paskewitz - AFMC CAS Support

Several of us on the munitions staff recently participated in the AFMx21 Munitions & Missile Transformation Action Plan Technical Interchange Meeting (TIM). The purpose of the AF/A4MW-led TIM was to facilitate communication and planning of information technology (IT) issues to enable transition to centralized munitions management. Significant progress was made in identifying our IT priorities, developing realistic timeframes and estimates, and priorities for both IT and process/policy changes to realize an enterprise wide centralized munitions management structure.

Wow! Sounds all impressive, but you must be asking yourself, “Why do I care about this?” Well we, the Air Force munitions community, are moving toward a more robust Ammunition Control Point (ACP) by transferring many of the munitions functions out of the Commands to the ACP. Therefore, the field units will be coordinating directly with the ACP much more than today. The Air Force can’t do any major transformation without a good re-org. During the TIM, it was decided that the Ammunition Control Point would be renamed the Global Ammunition Control Point (GACP). As illustrated below, the GACP incorporates (virtually) the current ACP, WR-ALC missile management, and the Combat Ammunition System (CAS) Program Management Office.

Currently, the proposed GACP ACP Flight structure is by PACOM, EUCOM, CENTCOM, and CONUS cells. The cells will consist of approximately 4 to 5 Ammo troops in each cell. The cells’ duty hours will correlate with the region they support. Initially, the primary duties of the cells will be to work munitions distribution. However, as we centralize munitions management, we realize that other munitions management functions will also migrate to the GACP. The proposed timeline for the GACP to start managing munitions distribution is July 2008 (FY09 munitions movements)



🌟* **OUTSTANDING AMMO Troops** 🌟*

ACC/A4WC Annual Award Winners - 2006

Outstanding Munitions Manager

SMSgt. Paul G. Launhhunn

28 MUNS, Ellsworth AFB, SD

Outstanding Munitions Supervisor

TSgt. Allan W. Gilbreath

7 MUNS, Dyess AFB, TX

Outstanding Munitions Technician

SrA Timothy C. Dittmar

57 EMS, Nellis AFB, NV

AFMC’s Outstanding Munitions Professionals of the Year for 2006:

Airman: A1C Eric D. Tarbox,

46 MXS, Eglin AFB FL

NCO: SSgt Brenon L. Farnworth,

649 MUNS, Hill AFB UT

SNCO: SMSgt David M. Calandra,

649 MUNS, Hill AFB UT

Civilian: GS-11 Mr. Daniel M. Roberts,

46 MXS, Eglin AFB FL

TTU-373 Paveway Test Set

For those of you who appreciate a good test set like the TTU-373 for LGB Paveway testing, a new replacement test set should be available next year. The TTU-595 Paveway Test Set will be distributed to units starting around January 2008. This test set is a go no-go test set for testing all Paveway II and III weapons. The folks at Hill are busy testing the Paveway II software and getting the Paveway III software developed. Keep in touch with your MAJCOM AMMO office for more information.



News from Your AMMO Schoolhouse

Chief Sheffield provided the following information from the AMMO Schoolhouse.

The Schoolhouse is programmed to have 725 Non-Prior Service (NPS) students attend the 3-level course in FY07. As of 18 May 07, they have graduated 404 non-prior service, 53 Air National Guard, and 34 Air Force Reserve AMMO troops. The following are the Distinguished and Top Graduates for the months of April & May 07:

Distinguished Graduates

April Graduates

| Name | Rank | GPA |
|----------------------|------|-----|
| Simental, David | A1C | 98 |
| Thomas, Brandon, S. | AB | 96 |
| Rivard, Bryan, A. | A1C | 96 |
| Ives, John, M | TSgt | 99 |
| Palmer, Kimberly, R. | A1C | 96 |

May Graduates

| | | |
|----------------------|------|----|
| Handa, Jason, L. | TSgt | 97 |
| Winter, Travis, E. | A1C | 96 |
| Meadows, David, A. | A1C | 96 |
| McGarvie, Joshua, R. | A1C | 96 |

Top Graduates

April Graduates

| Name | Rank | GPA |
|-----------------------|------|-----|
| Schultz, Ronald D. | SSgt | 99 |
| Murray, Michael | A1C | 98 |
| Durham, Ricky, A. | MSgt | 100 |
| Singleton, Robert, M. | A1C | 98 |

May Graduates

| | | |
|-------------------|------|----|
| Wendling, Michael | MSgt | 99 |
| Thompson, Ryan, M | AB | 98 |
| Bishop, Ryan, B | A1C | 98 |

On what major U.S. construction project did workers first wear hard hats?

AMMO News From Around the Air Force

Lakenheath munitions Airmen test AFSO 21 initiative

by Tech. Sgt. Scott Wakefield
Det. 4, Air Force News Agency

4/23/2007 - **ROYAL AIR FORCE LAKENHEATH, England (AFNEWS)** -- Members of the 48th Munitions Squadron here are using Air Force Smart Operations for the 21st century initiatives to help alleviate pending manning cuts.

As part of Force Shaping, the munitions squadron of 300-plus Airmen will be downsized by a little more than a third; however, the mission will remain the same.

Squadron leadership is working with the base's newly created AFSO 21 office to try to find ways to do business better. The initiative currently being worked can help reduce time and manpower in the chaff and flare maintenance area, which composes about 80 percent of the workload in the conventional maintenance section.

Currently it takes four Airmen about an hour to restock 120 chaff and flare canisters. The team is reviewing solutions ranging from two- to four-man teams and restructuring the maintenance line. Instead of the current "free for all" mentality of getting the canisters in the work area and taking them apart, stuffed, and put together, they are looking at a streamlined, assembly line-style approach.

"What we're trying to do, is find a happy medium, where we can do a consistent flow of product to the flight line and it be a less strain to the work force," said Master Sgt. Larry Crenshaw, the conventional maintenance element chief.

A working team composed of munitions maintainers that work chaff and flare on a daily basis as well as Airmen who work behind the scenes with munitions provided a variety of viewpoints to the new procedures. The three-man team seemed to be the best configuration; it reduced the time by about a quarter and it also freed up an Airman from the old procedure.



Senior Airman Jason Benchich (left) stuffs a chaff and flare canister with simulated munitions while Senior Airman Lester Delvalle (center) prepares a new canister at the start of a processing line April 21 at Royal Air Force Lakenheath, England. The Airmen are testing an Air Force Smart Operation for the 21st century initiative. The Airmen are assigned to the 48th Munitions Squadron. (U.S. Air Force photo/Tech. Sgt. Scott Wakefield)

Officers go to bomb-building how-to course

by Tech. Sgt. Scott Wakefield
Detachment 4, Air Force News Agency

4/2/2007 - ROYAL AIR FORCE LAKENHEATH, England

(AFNEWS) -- Munitions specialists for the 48th Fighter Wing put senior leaders through eight hours of training in a munitions accountability course.

The one-day course is designed after an Air Force senior NCO munitions course at Beale Air Force Base, Calif, that takes senior NCOs through the steps of an operational readiness inspection-type scenario. A previous base commander at RAF Lakenheath brought the idea for the RAF Lakenheath course with him from another base, and had the bomb builders here develop the course for senior leaders.

The day began with a classroom lecture, familiarizing the officers with the process of munitions building, forecasting of a munition build, and the different type of munitions that can be built here by munitions specialists.

The officers then went to the bomb building site and looked at the weapons systems on display. Then they tried their hand at actually assembling the munitions.

Tech. Sgt. Dewight Alexander the Combat Plans and Munitions Training NCO in charge wants the officers to walk away from the course understanding how their decisions can take some time to implement.

"People think there's a stockpile of munitions built just ready and serviceable, they don't realize what it takes to get munitions together," he said.

This particular class was attended by officers ranging from second lieutenant to major general. Second Lt. Adam Pierce is taking over the Munitions Flight that conducts the training, and has only been at RAF Lakenheath three weeks. He attended the course to see what his Airmen have to go through.

"I think it's important for everybody to understand what the Airmen do," he said. He believes this course provides leaders with a better insight into how the Ammo guys fit into the wings mission.

The course has drawn some attention from leaders outside of RAF Lakenheath, as officers from other bases in the U.K. and Germany have shown interest in attending. The vice commander of 3rd Air Force, Maj. Gen. Paul



Staff Sgt. Mark Dale (left), a 48th Fighter Wing Munitions Specialist, shows the 3rd Air Force vice commander, Maj. Gen. Paul Fletcher, the how to assemble a Mark 82 bomb. The demonstration is part of an eight-hour munitions building course held at Royal Air Force Lakenheath, England. (U.S. Air Force photo/Tech. Sgt. Scott Wakefield)

Fletcher, attended this course. The attention isn't limited to U.S. Air Force assets; an admiral in the Navy has also made inquiries into possibly attending the course as well.

Munitions Airmen give B-52 its teeth



Photo by Senior Master Sgt. Don Perrien

In the early morning hours, a B-52 Stratofortress, armed with M-117 bombs, stands ready for its training mission.

By Senior Master Sgt. Don Perrien

36th Operations Group

According to the Airmen deployed to the 36th Munitions Squadron here at Andersen, a B-52 without weapons is “just another airliner.”

As part of the scheduled bomber presence in the Pacific Theater, 32 munitions personnel from Barksdale Air Force Base in Louisiana were sent to Guam in support of the six B-52s deployed to the region. These deployed Airmen augment the 190 other munitions personnel assigned to the squadron, putting weapons on the racks and in the belly of the B-52 Stratofortresses here – transforming them from “just another airliner” into the most versatile weapons platform in the Air Force’s inventory.

“We’ve built a wide variety of munitions for the B-52s since coming over from Louisiana,” said Master Sgt. Kelvin Samuel, 36th MUNS superintendent for the Airmen deployed from Barksdale. “We’ve put together everything from Mk-62 Quickstrike mines, to M-117 general purpose bombs, to GBU-38 Joint Direct Attack Munitions for the bombers to drop here.”

Of course when working with high-explosive munitions, great care must be taken to prevent needless loss of life and equipment – that focus is a top concern for the deployed MUNS troops.



Photo by Senior Master Sgt. Don Perrien/96th Expeditionary Bomb Squadron

Senior Airman Melissa Marett and Staff Sgt Stephen Hurt, 36th Munitions Squadron, check for minor pitting and corrosion on bomb fuses.

“Safety is paramount in our mission due to the hazards and industrial environments as well as the explosives being involved,” said Sergeant Samuel. “Each individual understands their responsibility when placed on a crew.

“It is not only the crew chief’s responsibility to stop an unsafe act, its every individual’s responsibility,” he said. “Everyone is constantly reminded how important safety is for mission accomplishment and for personnel reliability.”

Building on that concept of teamwork and accountability helped frame the mission of the deployed munitions personnel. One of the goals for the Airmen from Barksdale during this rotation was to develop a good working relationship with the other personnel in place here at Andersen.

“The relationship with the permanent-party 36th MUNS personnel has been very important for our mission accomplishment,” Sergeant Samuel said. “They’ve provided us with all the necessary support equipment we’ve needed to have successful munitions releases from the B-52 bombers here.



Photo by Capt. Ryan Eddy/96 EBS

A dirt plume is sent skyward after B-52s armed with M-117s strike the Farallon De Medinilla Bombing Range.

“In addition, the deployed personnel for this rotation have really melded the maintenance and munitions missions together,” he said. “Together we’ve developed efforts to integrate weapons operations with sortie generation – producing a near perfect product for the aircrews.”

For the Louisiana-based munitions personnel, their time here at Andersen has helped them focus on the importance of the munitions mission, while also providing training opportunities they can’t get back home.

“Supporting the rotating bomber commitment is an important part of our mission,” said Tech. Sgt. Travis Owens, NCOIC of deployed munitions for the 36th MUNS. “We provide the munitions required for day-to-day operations – everything from joint training exercises to contingencies.

“One of the best things about being at Andersen is working with our Navy partners as part of the joint mission here,” he said. “We’ve built roughly 500 munitions and naval mines for use working alongside the Navy personnel assigned out here to Guam. This has been a great chance to integrate receive some cross-service training.

In addition to the training opportunities, this deployment has helped the members of the unit better appreciate the teamwork needed to successfully complete their mission, and the unique opportunities that exist in the munitions career field.

“We’ve all worked together and everyone brought their different skills to help form a

really solid team out here,” said Senior Airman Daniel Dees, a munitions journeyman with the 36th MUNS. “You really can’t accomplish all that we’ve done out here in building these munitions by being an individual – you have to be part of a team.

“For us, we’re like any other Airmen in the Air Force in that we provide a product – it’s just that our product is a bomb,” Airman Dees said. “That’s why munitions are one of the most exciting career fields to work in, because we make things that blow up!”



🎖️*Chapter News🎖️*

🎖️* **Emerald Coast Chapter.** The **Emerald Coast Chapter** has formed in Fort Walton Beach, Florida. It formed in December and was approved by the Board of Directors in January. Danny Bridges has been elected President of the Chapter. Other Officers are Chuck Kuzma, Vice-President; Darrell Beasley, Secretary/Treasurer; and Tom Zima, Chief at Arms. CONGRADULATIONS AMMO Chiefs!!!!

🎖️* **Wasatch Front Chapter.** The Wasatch Front Chapter held a social on May 10th at Club Hill and discussed hosting an all AMMO get together (649th, 388th, ACP, and 419th), which may include softball/BBQ; looking at the September-October time frame after the fury of summer activities simmers down a bit. Scott Heisterkamp initially brought this idea forward. The idea would be for the Hill AMMO units to fund the event with the Chiefs performing duties such as manning the BBQ, possibly umpiring games, serving drinks, facilitating a Q&A session; this would be a great opportunity for the troops to learn about our sorted, and at the same time, prestigious past in AMMO...as well as I’m sure we would pitch in some \$\$ for refreshments. I need to get with the active and reserve AMMO Chiefs first. The last thing we want to add on this subject is the fact that these AMMO troops, the generations that we helped produce, are still deploying in harms way and carrying on the proud torch that was lit by our AMMO forefathers. They deserve the support of current and previous AMMO Chiefs when doing something nice for them is within our reach. I brought in the framed Chapter Charter for review. Delinquent membership was discussed, with the Chapters emphasizing the need to pay dues in order for the ACA to continue to function as our National AMMO Chiefs Association. Discussion of the ACA Constitution review followed. I also mentioned that if there is ever an AMMO Chief that needs assistance, whatever it may be, please inform me right away. I sent out the Wasatch Front Chapter List of 12 Chiefs who provided me information. If you feel left out, e-mail me and I’ll get you added. The way I see it, you spend a career building a brotherhood with your troops and fellow Chiefs and it would be a shame to loss that bond in the heat of second careers, retirement, or if unfortunately you had a falling out with someone.

Joe D’Arco
President



●* **Virginia Chapter.** The ACA Virginia Chapter held its meeting on 5 May 07, at the HQ ACC/A4W facility. There were a total of 10 members and Associate Members and two proxies to conduct chapter business. One of the main agenda topics was proposed changes to ACA constitution; final recommended changes were submitted to the ACA committee to meet 15 May 07, deadline. We took a break after the first hour or so and enjoyed a nice meal and refreshments. A lot of hard work rewarded by a spread of fine brisket, dinner rolls, potato and macaroni salads, a crock pot of beans, and a crock pot of sausages. Our thanks to Mike Gavin, Wayne Guilbault, and Susan Pennington. Special election was held to elect a new Vice President, after Rich Pennington agreed to fill the position of President vacated by John Matthews; congratulation to Jack Miller, the new ACA Virginia Chapter Vice President.

There were no installation awards for our region. We still look forward to supporting any of our local award winners.

We reviewed several new ACA Virginia Chapter logo designs presented by Marilyn McCullough. We have members outside of Virginia and wanted a logo that more represented the membership of our chapter. We will become the Mid-Atlantic Chapter. Thanks again Marilyn.



Outgoing ACAVC President John Matthews was presented a plaque, and pen and letter opener set by Rich Pennington from the ACA Virginia Chapter for leadership and outstanding support.

We held a Chief's Ammo Call on 9 May 07, in conjunction with the HQ ACC/A4W Munitions/Weapons conference. There were over 20 Ammo Chiefs in attendance; main discussion was centered on what ACA can do to get better participation from active duty Ammo Chiefs. Handout was provided to each chief to explain what the ACA does for the Ammo community, and why we need their support to continue our support to the Ammo community.

Our next meeting is scheduled 14 July 07, location is being finalized; however, it will be in the area of Northern VA. We are trying to hold two meeting at Langley and two meetings in the northern region of the state in hopes of getting more members to take part in the meetings and attract more new members.

The 15 September 07 meeting will be held at the HQ ACC/A4W conference room at 1300.

Our final meeting of the year will be 8 December 07. This special edition meeting will be held at the McCullough's residence. This will be the fourth special meeting and social event hosted by Bill and Marilyn. Please mark your calendars and let Bill and Marilyn know if you plan to attend.

What do I get for my \$25 dues?

The following are examples of what your annual dues support: Scholarships for AMMO family members, assistance to AMMO personnel in need, support for AMMO troops hospitalized due to being wounded, Yearly Annual Awards, the Enlisted Widows Foundation, morale of active duty AMMO troops, Award for AFCOMAC Outstanding Performer, Ammo School House Outstanding Performer, RAF Welford Ammo Museum, and local communities through ACA Chapters.

The following is a short story of how the ACA Virginia Chapter made a difference for a young AMMO troop this past Christmas. First I must set the stage for why we, the AMMO Chief's around the world, need to reach out to our young AMMO men and women. Many of us have seen many of our young Airmen make a lot of mistakes in figuring out what the right priority in life and family is all about. Around Thanksgiving and especially at Christmas, the communities around the world pull together to ensure those less fortunate have a special meal and maybe a special toy for small children that might not have enjoyed Christmas happiness that many take for granted. We have all spent our share of remote tours and TDY's away from our families over the years and it's not getting any better.

During our December 2006 meeting we discussed the need to reach out to an AMMO family that could use some assistance. The membership reached out and into their pockets and provided over \$600 to assist with buying baby formula, baby clothes, and Christmas toys for a family that really didn't have much of anything to put under a Christmas tree. Personally I can tell you there's nothing more rewarding or uplifting than watching the joy and happiness come into one's life that couldn't afford to celebrate our most celebrated holiday of the year in our country.

I'm sure there are many young AMMO troops that could use a helping hand throughout the year and especially around the holiday seasons. This could be as simple as inviting a young AMMO troop over to dinner, that's away from home for the first time, to sending a card with a gift certificate for the BX or Commissary.

The AMMO community has a very long heritage of taking care of its own; however, today's Ops Tempo has many folks going in so many directions they can hardly figure out which way to turn. This is when things can fall through the crack if we don't help guide and assist them along the way. We pride ourselves on AMMO heritage and the AMMO coin we carry around in our pocket, so we as AMMO Chief's (active and retired) need to remember our roots and those that watched over us on the way up the ranks.

We have a commitment from our chapter members to conduct this helping hand operation again this year or anytime throughout the year when the need arises.

Richard Pennington
ACA VC

🌟 **Midwest Chapter.** Midwest Chapter will hold their next meeting June 2nd. Time and location to be announced.

We'd like to hear from you Chapter members. Question of the quarter is: **"Which AMMO Chief drives the farthest to attend a Chapter meeting?"** The response with the longest distance traveled will be posted in the next quarter's newsletter. Could be a "prize" for your response!! Send your response(s) to: Letter to the Editor, P.O. Box 345, Cheltenham, MD 20623 or email ACA_Prez@Comcast.net. Thanks.



🌟 AMMO Golf Tournament 🌟

🌟 GOTSHIRTS.NET & the AMMO CATALOG presents an AMMO Golf Tournament, tentatively planned for Saturday, August 4th, starting at 0730 hrs in Tucson, AZ. Cost is \$80.00 per golfer. The tournament is open to all AMMO troops, active duty, Guard-Reserves, and retired/separated. There will be an AMMO Call on Saturday at 1600, location TBD. A portion of the proceeds will be given to the Chief Gavin Fund at AFCOMAC. For further information, go to www.AmmoGolf.org.

“Ray of Sunshine”

The following AMMO Chiefs are having health problems and could use a “Ray of Sunshine” from you, their AMMO Brethren, to help them through the tough times. Drop a card in the mail to let them know we care.

Bill Poe
220 Dominica Circle E.
Niceville, FL 32578-4085

Larry DiAmco
30427 Middle Creek Circle
Spanish Fort, AL 36527

Ray Wilson
8409 Elmer Hill Road
Rome, NY 13440-7527

If you know of an AMMO Chief who can use a “Ray of Sunshine”, please let us know.

AMMO Bowl Softball Tournaments

The AMMO boyz of summer are at it again. Here’s a listing of this years’ AMMO Bowl softball tournaments:

Southeastern AMMO Bowl
20-22 Jul Niceville, FL.

Western AMMO Bowl
4-5 Aug Tucson, AZ

Central AMMO Bowl
8-10 Sep Sheppard AFB, TX

🌟 Trinket Shoppe News 🌟

Mike Curran is the Manager of the Trinket Shoppe. Many items are still available for ordering through the ACA web site at ammochiefs.com. Click on the Trinket Shoppe tab to place an order. Mike will contact you to make arrangements for sending in the funds required for your purchase.

Weapons File

GBU-39 Small Diameter Bomb (SDB)



4 SDBs (training/ground handling variant) loaded on an F-15E Strike Eagle.

The **GBU-39/B Small-Diameter Bomb (SDB)** is a 250 pound guided bomb that is intended to provide aircraft with the ability to carry a higher number of bombs. Most US Air Force aircraft will be able to carry a pack of four of these bombs in place of a single 2,000 lb bomb using the BRU-61/A rack.

Development

Two variants are being developed. One version of the SDB is equipped with an Inertial navigation system (INS)/ Global Positioning System (GPS) which makes it ideal for fixed/stationary targets such as fuel depots, bunkers etc. The second variant (GBU-40) includes a thermal seeker with automatic target recognition features which makes it ideal for striking mobile targets such as tanks, vehicles, and mobile command posts.

The small size of the bomb allows a single strike aircraft to carry more of the munitions than is possible utilizing currently available bomb units. It is currently integrated on the F-15E Strike Eagle; future integration is planned for the F-16 Fighting Falcon, F-22 Raptor, F-35 Lightning II, A-10 Thunderbolt II, F-117 Nighthawk, B-1 Lancer, B-2 Spirit, and the B-52 Stratofortress. Other aircraft include Joint-Unmanned Combat Aerial Vehicles (J-UCAVs) and MQ-9 Reaper.

The SDB carries approximately 50 lb of high explosive, yet because of its design it has the same penetration capabilities as the 2000 lb BLU-109. During demonstrations, the SDB has successfully penetrated more than 6 ft thick reinforced concrete. It also has integrated "Diamondback" type wings which deploy after release, increasing the glide time and therefore the maximum range.

Specifications

- Length: 70.8 in.
- Width: 7.5 in.
- Weapon weight: 285 pounds.
- Warhead: 206 lb penetrating/blast fragmentation.
 - 50 lbs of high explosive, AFX-757 (Insensitive Munition)
- Fuse: Electronic safe and fire (ESAF) cockpit selectable functions, including air burst and delayed options.
- Guidance: SDB I - GPS/INS.
- Tech Order: 11K39-2-7

Cost

Although unit costs were somewhat uncertain, the estimated value for the INS/GPS version was around \$70,000. The cost of the second variant was more uncertain, but tentative estimates were \$90,000 per unit or more.

Program status

- October 2001 - Boeing is awarded the SDB contract.
- September 2005 - Small Diameter Bomb certified for operational test, evaluation.
- September 2006 - SDB team deliver the first SDBs to the USAF.
- October 2006 - Initial Operational Capability declared for SDB on the F15E.
- October 2006 - First use in combat.



GBU-39/B SDB, Increment I



Source: http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/GBU-39_Small_Diameter_Bomb

(Answer to hard hat question: The Hoover Dam, which was started in 1933. Because of the danger of falling rocks and dropped tools, workers began making their own “hard-boiled hats” by coating cloth hats with coal tar. Their effectiveness convinced the contractors to have hard hats manufactured commercially for the workers.)

AMMO Chiefs Association, Inc. (ACA)
8585 SW SR200 Suite 4 PMD #3
Ocala, Florida 34481

Membership Application
Dues: \$25.00/year
\$250.00 Life Membership

First Name _____ MI _____ Last Name _____

Spouse's Name: _____

Mailing Address:

Street _____

City, State, ZIP Code: _____

Home Phone Number _____

Cell Phone Number _____

E-Mail Address: _____

Service Status: Active Duty: (Circle one) Yes No

Present Grade/Rank or Rank at Retirement: _____

Date Entered Service: _____

Date of Retirement: _____

War Veteran: (State War or Conflict) _____

Brief history of your AMMO work, i.e., duty/unit assignment, bases stationed at, etc.