General Larson retiring, successor named


Maj. Gen. John B. Marks, currently the Air Force assistant chief of intelligence in the Pentagon, will succeed General Larson, the first and only commander of the 12,500-member ESC.

Air Force made no announcement as to who would follow General Larson as director of the JEWAC. General Larson was the first JEWAC director. Each branch of the service will be asked to nominate a flag officer to the Joint Chiefs of Staff to fill that position.

General Larson, from Medelin, Minn., began his career during the Korean War as an enlisted man at Lackland AFB in 1951. Following Russian language training at Monterey, Calif., he earned his wings and an officer's commission in May 1953. Many key intelligence staff and command positions followed prior to his selection in 1979 by the Air Force Chief of Staff to form and head ESC.

The newly formed command soon felt the imprint of General Larson as new personnel-recognition programs were begun to recognize the professional competence of its enlisted force.

ComfyOlympics began in 1980 as a competitive program for enlisted technicians in six military specialties. It has grown to include 16 competing AFSCs, plus unit awards. The Top Four and Junior Officer of the Year programs were expanded.

The command’s new mission also led General Larson to establish the annual R.V. Jones Electronic Warfare Seminars. New military and civilian electronic specialists meet with each other and electronic warfare equipment manufacturers for discussions on new strategies, procedures and equipment for EW.

General Larson’s concern for command heritage led to the renaming of ESC units, memorization projects, formation of the USAFESC/ESC Alumni Association and establishment of the Hall of Honor in Ardisana Hall.

In 1992 General Larson, the Texas Air Force Association’s Man of the Year, received an honorary Doctorate of Laws degree from Pikesville (Ky.) College and was selected a Distinguished Alumnus by Hardin-Simmons University. He also was presented two national awards – a citation of honor from the Air Force Association and the gold medal from the Association of Old Crowns – for his pioneering leadership in electronic combat activities.

General Larson will relinquish his command to General Marks during combined change of command and retirement ceremonies scheduled for July 29 at Kelly AFB.

General Marks, 54, is a native of New Orleans. He was graduated from Southwestern Louisiana Institute in 1950 with a bachelor of science degree in electrical engineering and holds a master’s degree in business administration from George Washington University, Washington, D.C.

General Marks was commissioned through the Air Force Officer Candidate School in December 1961 and received his wings as an electronic warfare officer in 1962. He has more than 3,500 hours of flying.

Air Force Association seeks new members

The 1983 Air Force Association (AFA) membership drive has begun. This year’s drive slogan is “In the Service of our Nation and You.”

The AFA is a national organization of men and women who believe strongly enough in national defense and the importance of air power to want to express their beliefs in an organized manner,” said Brig. Gen. Alexander K. Davidson, Military Airlift Command’s assistant DCS for operations.

The AFA is an association for all members of the Air Force, commissioned and noncommissioned officers, airmen and civilians who advocate programs aimed at promoting air power, enhancing the capabilities of the Air Force and improving the quality of life for the entire Air Force family.

The AFA is open to all U.S. citizens who may affiliate with any one of 258 chapters in all 50 states.commander maintains an 180,000-member membership. The association was founded in 1946 by former members of the World War II Army Air Forces and has grown steadily in size, influence and prestige since then. The Washington, D.C. headquarters is staffed approximately 75 full-time employees.

Annual dues are $15; a three-year membership is $36 and a life membership is $250. Life membership dues may be paid in either four quarterly installments of $50 over a one-year period or eight quarterly payments of $25 over a two-year period. The association currently has some 7,500 life members.

Solid Shield attracts Medena unit

By TSgt. Cynthia Reinhardt

Forty-two members of the 694th ESS PAR

Forty-two members of the 694th ESS from Lackland’s Medina Annex deployed to Langley AFB, Va., in support of Solid Shield 83.

The exercise is an Atlantic Command-sponsored joint-service field training venture.

The exercise is an evaluation of the joint interoperability of tactical command and control systems between all branches of the military.

Additionally, members of the 694th will provide command, control and communications countermeasures and special communications support from three locations: Oxnard Beach, N.C.; Camp Geiger, N.C. and Fort Stewart, Ga.

The command units participating in the exercise will come from Electronic Security Command Headquarters, the Air Force Electronic Warfare Center and the 69thth Security Police Squadron, all at Kelly AFB, Texas; Electronic Security Tactical Headquarters, Langley AFB, Va.; the 690th Electronic Security Squadron, Brooks AFB, Texas; the 694th Electronic Security Squadron, Offutt AFB, Neb. and the 699th Electronic Security Squadron, Fort George G. Meade, Md.

ESC’s participation in Solid Shield 83 will be directed from Langley AFB, Va., today through May 11.

Col. Jerry R. Bedingfield, from ESC’s directorate of operation, will be the task force director for ESC through April 29. Col. Terry E. Heath, Electronic Security Tactical commander, will assume TFD responsibilities for the remainder of the exercise.

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PME nixes Porky the Pig look

Future attendees of Professional Military Education classes will have to shape up or be shipped out. That's the word from PME course managers.

Luncheon features Italian cuisine

The ESC Wives Club will have its monthly luncheon May 4 at the Chef's Den, 8007 McCullough. The 11:30 a.m. luncheon will feature Italian style cuisine. For more information or to make reservations contact Alison Johnston at 6707-7918 or Carol Warnwinter at 674-6024.

Civilian employees meet Tuesday

There will be a meeting of the ESC Civilian Employees Advisory Council Tuesday at 10 a.m. in the commander's conference room. For information contact Jim Pearson at ext. 2393.

General Larson retiring

(Continued from previous page)
time, including 35 missions during the Korean War.

During a 1976-77 assignment to European Command headquarters in Germany, General Marks worked with NATO and other countries to strengthen allied capabilities in electronic warfare. He also participated with Middle East countries in supporting their efforts to recognize electronic warfare's defensive and offensive roles.

He became the deputy chief of staff of intelligence for Air Force Systems Command, Andrews AFB, Md., in August 1973. Following the Mid-East war in 1973, he helped develop an exchange with the Israeli Air Force which led to an effective joint evaluation program.

These accomplishments resulted in General Marks' assignment in 1975 as commander of the Air Force's Foreign Technology Division, Wright-Patterson AFB, Ohio. The unit plays a significant role in defining the weapons systems capabilities of the Soviet Union and other countries. This work was especially important to the United States' participation in the Strategic Arms Limitation Talks.

In January 1977, the general became the director of intelligence for the Pacific Command, with headquarters in Honolulu. General Marks assumed his current Pentagon duties in April 1980.

Quarterly awards honor NCOs

Three AFEWC members were recently selected for quarterly awards. SMSgt Vernon S. Butler, Sgt. Georganna R. Covarrubias and Staff Sgt. Collin E. Buckley were chosen as the Senior NCO, NCO and Airmen of the Quarter respectively. Sergeant Butler, superintendent of the EW data research directorate, has nearly 19 years in service and has completed two technical schools, served three tours in Japan, two in Germany and one each in Vietnam and Taiwan. He joined the AFEWC in July 1968 as an NCOIC of the research coordination division and assumed his present position in June 1981.

Sergeant Covarrubias enlisted for six years in September 1979. After completion of Radio Communications Analyst school at Goodfellow AFB, Texas, she was assigned to the AFEWC. In 1981 she joined the 5993rd ESS, Osan AB, Korea, and returned to the AFEWC in September 1982. She is currently the NCOIC of the computer applications division of the analysis directorate.

Senior Airman Buckley was an honor graduate from technical training school and was then assigned to the 6931st ESS, Ikirun, AS, Crete, Greece, in March 1981. He was actively involved in chapel activities and was selected as the 5931st Airmen of the Year for 1982. He is currently a center-threat research analyst assigned to the research services branch.

The three honorees will now compete in Kelly AFB base-level competition.

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Prompt payment keeps credit good

(Editor's note: This is the sixth in a series of Air Force Personal Financial Management Program (PFMP) articles on credit. They won't tell you everything about the credit business, but they will supply you with enough knowledge and guidelines to help make credit your servant instead of the other way around.)

This PFMP article on good credit management examines one of the most important rules: Paying your bills on time.

You might think this rule goes without saying. If you follow the other rules well, you shouldn't have any problems with this one. However, you should know what can happen if you can't or don't make payments.

Paying your bills on time means just that—paying them in full when they're due—not late, not even early. But prompt payment of your bills is one of the big things a creditor will look for in deciding whether or not to loan you money in the future. Keep a good payment record.

Sometimes other factors can foul up your payment. Credit is a big business in America and it requires a lot of human and computer transactions. That means mistakes can be made. Here are some things you can do to protect yourself from someone else's error.

Keep all receipts and checks and cross-check them against your bills. Personally check the arithmetic on bills and statements. If you can't make a payment because of financial problems, don't ignore the situation. Take positive steps to resolve the problem. If you don't, it can lead to even bigger financial problems and personal problems with the Air Force.

The Air Force wants to protect its members from shaky credit deals, but it also wants to protect the credit reputations of its members. The Air Force expects you to deal responsibly in your commercial transactions so creditors don't hold it against other Air Force members.

If you find you can't pay a debt, seek assistance from your PFMP manager or legal assistance officer right away. There are several ways to ease the problem of too much debt.

Arrange for your creditors to extend the contract time, making your payments smaller. You'll probably have to pay more interest or finance charges in the long run, but your creditors will know you intend to pay your debts.

Arrange a system by which you make an allotment each pay period to your credit union to pay your bills. The credit union would divide up the allotment between your creditors. Negotiate a consolidation loan—borrow money from a bank or credit union to pay off your debts, then make one payment to the bank each pay period. If the bank's or credit union's interest rate for the loan is the same or lower than the loans you are consolidating, you could reduce your total debt. If it isn't lower, it's not a good idea. These are alternatives you have if you can't repay a loan. However, the idea is to never get in that situation. Follow all the rules of wise credit management and you never will.

If you have any questions on the rules of good credit management, contact Glenda Walker at ext. 2298 or arrange an appointment with a counselor.

ESC Commander Maj. Gen. Doyle E. Larson presents the JEWU Enlisted Person of the Year award to Sgt. William S. Holmes as his wife, Kimberley, looks on.

Saturday night set your clocks ahead one hour

Chaplain's thoughts
By Chaplain (Col.)
Christian H. Martin Jr.
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