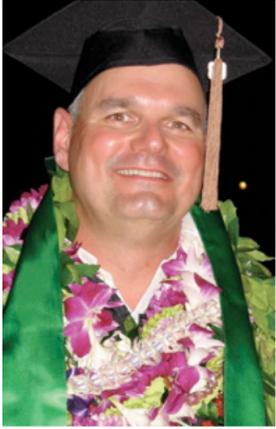


In this week's Kukini



■ Hickam Airman earns degree with top honors after 22 years of service. **A3**



■ Hickam's 5th annual Hele On, mock deployment inspires local Keiki. **B1**

News Notes

Base Honor Guard – The Honor Guard is looking for some sharp Airmen who want a challenge and relish the responsibility of representing the Air Force at the highest standard. If this sounds like you, attend a two-week long Initial Honor Guard Training Class starting Monday and continuing through graduation on Friday, Aug. 29. Hours of operation are 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. daily unless otherwise informed. Uniform is BDU/ABU. For more info, call Tech. Sgt. Laura Danielson at 449-6453, ext 3, or Master Sgt. Marcus W. Della Sala at 448-0955.

Executive Assistant position available – 15 AW Command Chief is accepting applications for an Executive Assistant. This is a one year career broadening experience and begins Sep. 15. Send last 3 EPRs, fitness assessment, one page SURF and supervisor letter of recommendation to 15aw.ccc@hickam.af.mil. Applicants should have at least 12 months remaining on their DEROS and be an E-5 or E-6. Applications will be accepted until COB Sep. 2. POC: SSgt. Clark at 449-1503.

MPF phone number change – Due to MPF reorganization under the Base-Level Service Delivery Model (BLSDM), several numbers within the MPF have changed effective Aug. 18. To ensure your call reaches the appropriate office/individual, please call the MPF help desk at 449-8624.

Services B2
Crossword B3
Sudoku B3
Hickam History B3
Movies B4
Classifieds B6-9

Gen and Mrs Chandler tour Hickam

People are top priority

By Dr. Philip Breeze
 15th Airlift Wing
 Public Affairs chief

Pacific Air Forces Commander, Gen. Howie Chandler and his wife, Eva-Marie, spent Monday with 15th Airlift Wing Airmen visiting everyplace from the flight-line fire department to the Gathering Place coffee shop. The Chandler's swing through the wing was focused on one of the general's top priorities—taking care of people. "We live side by side, but it's important to come over and see first-hand all the good things that are happening in the 15th Airlift Wing," he said. Continuing to upgrade, modernize and expand facilities to support our Airmen and their families, from quality housing to fitness centers, were topics of the visit. Gen. Chandler the four-star senior Air Force commander

in the Pacific, highlighted PACAF's emphasis on meeting the demands of living in a high operations tempo environment with training and support programs for both the Airmen and their families. While the general was touring the business side of the base, Mrs. Chandler was hosted by Col. Tuck's wife, Susie, on a tour of facilities and programs supporting Air Force families here. The general's day began at the Tradewinds Enlisted Club, where several airmen and non-commissioned officers joined him for breakfast and an informal question and answer period. Soliciting Airmen feedback for an upcoming visit with the Chief of Staff of the Air Force, the general listened to Airmen's opinions on proposed uniform changes and performance standards.

See CHANDLER, A4



U.S. Air Force photo/Mark Bates

Getting a tour of the "Gathering Place" coffee shop from Tech. Sgt. Mike McCormick, 15th AMXS (front) are from left to right, Lt. Col. Dwayne Thomas, 15th CES commander, Chief Master Sgt. Anthony Bishop, PACAF command chief, Maj. (Chaplain) Christine Blice-Baum, Col. Giovanni Tuck, 15th Airlift Wing commander, Gen. Carrol H. "Howie" Chandler, Commander Pacific Air Forces and Mrs. Chandler. Gen. Chandler and his wife, Eva-Marie, spent Monday touring 15th Airlift Wing organizations and talking with Team Hickam Airmen.

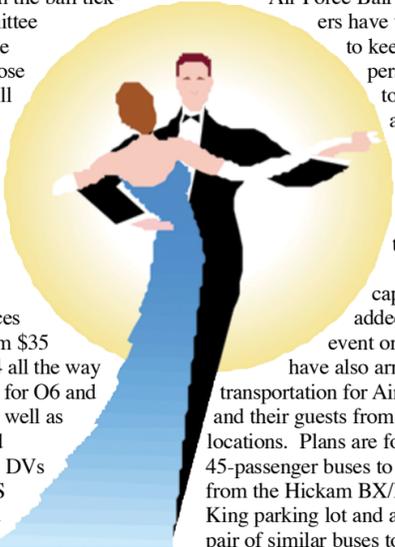
AF Ball tickets still on sale

By Jeff Nicolay
 Hickam Kukini editor

Time is running out for Airmen who'd like to attend the 61st Annual Air Force Birthday Ball, scheduled for Friday, Sept. 19, in the Hilton Hawaiian Village Coral Ballroom. "Maximum seating in the venue is only 1,400 and the event always sells out," said Capt. Jacob Engle, 15th Security Forces Squadron action officer, who is overseeing Air Force Ball ticket sales this year. "So don't wait until the last minute — purchase your tickets now while they last." The captain noted that because event organizers try to ensure a fair distribution of tickets and attendance by all ranks, units are allocated a number of tickets based on unit size. The downside of this strategy is that Airmen may have to act quickly in order to guarantee themselves a seat. "Once your unit's tickets are sold out, you're going to have to wait until after Sept. 3

to try to buy remaining tickets (assuming any are still available) from the ball tickets committee chairs," he said. "Those tickets will only be available through Sept. 10." The captain said that ticket prices range from \$35 for E1-E4 all the way up to \$90 for O6 and above (as well as GS15 and above, all DVs and NSPS Pay Band 3). A full list of ticket prices is available at www2.hickam.af.mil. Tickets must be purchased with cash or checks, he added, and checks must be made payable to "Air Force Birthday Ball Committee." As Captain Engle explained, 140 tables will be

set up at the event — each seating 10 attendees — and Air Force Ball organizers have worked to keep unit personnel together at the same table or group of tables. The captain added that event organizers have also arranged transportation for Airmen and their guests from two locations. Plans are for two 45-passenger buses to depart from the Hickam BX/Burger King parking lot and another pair of similar buses to depart from the Hickam Shoppette at 4:30 p.m. to transport a maximum of 180 ball attendees from base to the Hilton Hawaiian Village. After the ball, those same buses will transport attendees from the hotel back to base, dropping them at either the



BX/Burger King or Shoppette location. The first bus will depart the Hilton Hawaiian Village at 10 p.m., followed by another at 11 p.m. and the final two just before midnight. "Let your ticket POC know if you would like to ride one of the buses, departing from which location, and what time to return to the base so that we can provide adequate transportation," said Captain Engle. For those attendees who would prefer not to return to base, Air Force Ball organizers have made arrangements with the Hilton Hawaiian Village to offer a limited number of discounted rooms — both single and double— for \$149. To reserve one of these rooms, call Hilton reservations at (808) 949-4321, transfer to group reservations and use the reservation code: "AYA." For more information about the 61st Annual Air Force Birthday Ball, contact your unit POC or call Capt. Engle at 449-8312 or Master Sgt. Lavern Pieper at 449-3116.

Enlisted aviator positions open

WASHINGTON, D.C. (AFPN) -- The Air Force still has openings for First Term Airmen to retrain into the Flight Engineer and Flight Attendant specialties and other career enlisted aviator positions. In addition to the FTA openings, staff and technical sergeants required to retrain under the Noncommissioned Officer Retraining Program may apply for the following positions: Boom Operator, Flight Engineer, Loadmaster, Airborne Mission Systems, Airborne Battle Management, and Aerial Gunner.

"Every open position is an opportunity for Airmen to volunteer to meet a critical need of the Air Force," said Master Sgt. Bill Bergin, the Pentagon's Career Enlisted Aviator In-Service recruiter. "We have incredibly talented people looking for new challenges, becoming an enlisted aviator is a good match for some of them."

The official release of the fiscal year 2009 NCORP retraining objectives is on the retraining advisory located in the virtual Military Personnel Flight. To view the retraining advisory, log in to the vMPF and click on the "request retraining" link.

Descriptions of each of the enlisted aviation career fields and a retraining tutorial are also located on the Career Enlisted Aviator Recruiting and Retention Community of Practice at <https://afkm.wpafb.af.mil/cea>

For more information, interested Airmen can contact their Military Personnel Flight/Element or call DSN 227-1717 or (703) 697-1717.

Airmen called on to quit tobacco

SAN ANTONIO (AFPN) - This week's Airman's Roll Call offers Airmen who smoke a new resource to help them quit. The Web site, Quit Tobacco -- Make Everyone Proud, is an educational tool sponsored by Department of Defense officials to help servicemembers quit, both for themselves and for the people they care about. There are some sobering statistics offered by the American Lung Association and highlighted in this Airman's Roll Call that reinforce the need to stop using tobacco including the fact that more than 430,000 Americans

die every year from smoking-related diseases. For more information about quitting tobacco, read this week's Airman's Roll Call. Airman's Roll Call is designed for supervisors at all levels to help keep Airmen informed on current issues, clear up confusion, dispel rumors and provide additional face-to-face communication. To subscribe to an e-mail version of the product, visit www.af.mil/subscribe. Airman's Roll Call is one of 30 featured Air Force products that can be received via e-mail.



ACTION LINE

BASE GAS SUPPLIER

Comment: I'm not sure who I should address this issue to so would appreciate it if you could tell me who I should talk to. I'm wondering if the base has any intention of changing their gas supplier to Aloha rather than Tesoro. Several of the new cars now require top-tier gas which Tesoro does not have. Top-tier does not mean premium gas but refers to the type of detergent that is added to the gas. It was developed by some of the car companies who found it had several benefits to the operation of your car. Besides not collecting on the engine and causing problems it provides optimum fuel economy and reduced emission. I think the emission problem is very important for Hawaii to try to keep our island pollution-free. I used to buy all our gas on base but since I just bought a new car and my husband bought one last year and was told to only use top tier gas which Costco has we have not been using the gas sold on the bases as all the suppliers are Tesoro. Thank you for your help.

Response: It's a very good question, and I thank you for your concerns for protecting the environment from harmful emissions. Gasoline contracts are bid through AAFES Headquarters in Dallas, Texas. AAFES is a Department of Defense (DoD) entity and follows the guidelines set forth by DoD regarding bids for goods and services. AAFES solicits for gasoline that meets EPA standards and restricting to top-tier would only result in increased costs as Aloha is the only provider in Hawaii. If and when top-tier becomes the US or EPA standard AAFES will adopt that standard. However, AAFES will continue to monitor the EPA requirements and the availability of top-tier gasoline from authorized contractors in Hawaii. Thanks again, and if you have further questions or concerns please call the AAFES Manager at 423-8632.

The Action Line is your direct link to me so we can work as a team to make Hickam a better community. I urge you to use the normal chain of command first. If you have done this and are still not satisfied, give my commander's Action Line a call. If you would like me to get back to you, leave your name and number, state your issue, tell me who you have talked to and why you were not satisfied with their response. I'll work your issue and respond verbally or in writing. The Action Line number is 449-2996. Messages may also be sent by e-mail to 15aw.pal@hickam.af.mil.

Diamond Tips

Uniform trousers – Trousers are trim fitted, but slacks fit naturally over hips with no bunching at the waist or bagging at the seat. Additionally, the bottom rests on the front of the shoe/boot with a slight break at the crease. Bottom back is 7/8 inch longer than the front. Silver belt tip extends beyond the buckle, facing a man's left or woman's right, with no fabric showing between the buckle and belt tip.



Questions? Contact your First Sergeant

Got Good News?

Why not share it? Email your story idea or press release for Hickam Kukini to:
hickam.kukini@hickam.af.mil



Deadline for article submission is end of day Monday for Friday's issue. Copy must be typed, double-spaced 12-point type, 300-500 words in length, and e-mailed to hickam.kukini@hickam.af.mil.

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 Life Skills Support Center 449-0175
 Law Enforcement Desk 449-6373
 Base Chaplain 449-1754
 Military Family Abuse Shelter 533-7125
 SARC Hotline 449-7272

Kukini: Meaning swift and valued messenger, the Kukini in ancient times took news from one Hawaiian leader to another.

Evaluating our Airmen

By CMSAF Rodney J. McKinley

To truly develop our Airmen we must accurately and honestly assess their strengths and weaknesses and chart their course to success. While giving our Airmen proper feedback is a crucial first step, it is vitally important to follow through and provide an accurate evaluation of performance, abilities, and potential on enlisted performance reports.

We have incredible Airmen serving in our Air Force, but not every Airman is a "firewall" 5. Simply put, average Airmen should not receive the same evaluation ratings as those Airmen who are "truly among the best." When the majority of our Airmen receive the top rating, there is no way to distinguish between our truly exceptional performers and those who are just meeting standards.

Inaccurate evaluations are not fair to our top performers. When these out-

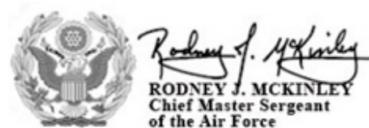
standing Airmen see others receiving the same ratings they work so hard to earn, it can be demoralizing. Airmen need to know their above and beyond efforts will be recognized and rewarded. It is every supervisors responsibility to provide the correct evaluation of their Airmen.

We've had a constant challenge with over inflated performance reports; Airmen who clearly aren't "truly among the best" but still receive the top rating. We must correct this problem by providing frank and honest feedback, complying with and enforcing established standards, and holding our Airmen accountable. Supervisors must not hesitate to take action when corrections are needed.

Airmen deserve to know areas where performance can be improved. Much of this should occur during day-to-day interaction and on-the-spot corrections, but for those Airmen who need to make a concentrated effort to improve, the for-

mal documented feedback session may be the incentive required to tackle those performance shortfalls.

Our Air Force needs sound, reliable documentation to base personnel actions, advancement, and increased responsibility decisions on. The bottom line: We want our Airmen to be successful and continue to improve. Inflated performance reports negate performance as a factor in an Airman's professional development. The process we have to accomplish this is the enlisted evaluation system, a system that must be grounded in integrity.



Bicycle Safety: Treat it like your car

15 AW Ground Safety Office

When driving a car on base, we all have a "heightened sense" toward observing traffic laws. None of us wants to face a grim Security Forces member, not to mention our Commanders, trying to explain an infraction! What some of us may not realize is that while riding a bike we are subject to most of the same privileges and laws of motorized vehicles. This goes well beyond the legal requirement to wear a helmet and the Hickam AFB requirement to wear appropriate reflective attire and have operative headlights (when dark). It's my job to keep everyone thinking about safety. Taking my advice this time just might save you from a ticket as well!



- Must-do:
- Don't run red lights or stop signs! This is a no-brainer, but it is happening on base (this includes hopping on a sidewalk or crosswalk to avoid a red light).
 - Observe speed limits. I may not be able to ride faster than 15 mph, but some of you serious bikers can. Remember, that's the limit many places on base.
 - Ride in single file on the right hand side of the road.
 - Again, wear a helmet (fastened) and appropriate reflective gear and headlights (night).
 - Don't ride on any portion of the Kuntz Avenue overpass or on O'Malley

- Boulevard from the AMC Terminal Road to the Kuntz Avenue exit.
- Don't ride on any sidewalk within the BX complex area (i.e., BX, bank, credit union, commissary, etc.) or on the Mokulele pedestrian overpass.
- Should-do:
- Don't weave in and out of slow or stopped traffic. Wait your turn.
 - BE CAREFUL when riding in residential areas. Pay special attention for children and other pedestrians.
 - Always be on the lookout for vehicles pulling out of driveways.
 - All these common sense rules apply

- Educate your children! You may save them from trouble, or even more important, from injury.
- Biking is a great way to stay fit and Hickam AFB is a great place to ride. Remember, with every privilege, comes a responsibility. If you fail to live up to the responsibility, you may lose the privilege. Let's work together to ensure bike riding continues to be a safe and well thought of activity on Hickam AFB. Be safe and have fun.

If it is to be, it is up to me

Commentary by
 Master Sgt. Douglas Crossen
 607th Support Group First Sergeant

If it is to be, it is up to me!
 Repeat this phrase a couple of times. What do you think it means? I heard these 10 most important two-letter words at the NCO Academy.

At first, they didn't really mean a whole lot to any of us. But as the discussion went on, it became apparent this would be something for me to remember and pass on for years to come.

What should you garner from this? Sometimes we need the most obvious things explained to us. You are in control of your life and your career. You must be the one to make decisions, act on and follow through with them.

We, as the world's greatest Air Force, give each and every Airman the resources to help them become the best Airman, NCO, SNCO, officer they can be. It is up to the individual Airman to use these tools.

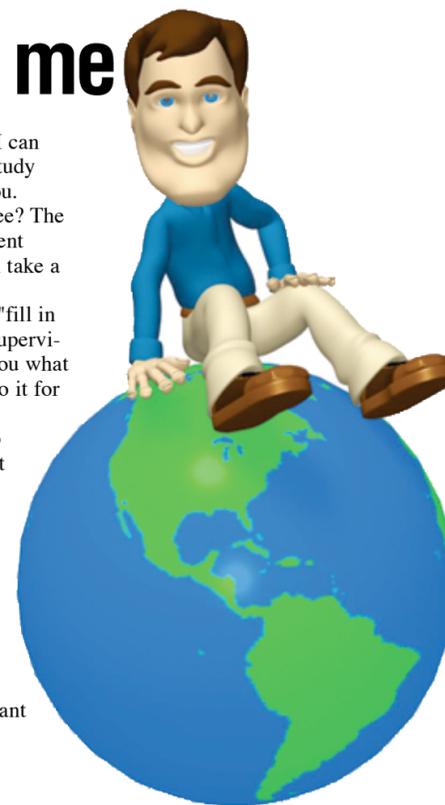
Do you want that promotion? I can make sure you have promotion study materials, but I can't study for you. Would you like a college degree? The Air Force provides you 100 percent tuition assistance, but no one can take a class for you.

Would you like to be the next "fill in the blank" of the quarter? Your supervisor and first sergeant have told you what you need to do, but no one can do it for you.

There isn't anyone around who has gotten to where they are right now by themselves, but to get where they are, they had to do it themselves. Set yourself up for success, capitalize on opportunities you have and reap the benefits.

Just remember no matter what it is, if you want something, you can do it. All the while, keep thinking of those 10 most important two-letter words ...

If it is to be, it is up to me!



To place a classified or display ad in the Hickam Kukini call
521-9111

Hickam Airman graduates top of class

By Jeff Nicolay
Hickam Kukini editor

It may have been a long time coming, but Master Sgt. Clifford J. Lucente, 17th Operational Weather Squadron, finally realized his dream of earning a college degree a little more than a week ago after 22 years of service.

And he did so in rare form — as Hawaii's Pacific University's Military Campus Program valedictorian speaker.

The sergeant, who serves as NCOIC in the squadron's Joint Typhoon Warning Center, was among about 200 HPU graduates who attended the ceremony held Aug. 14 at the Waikiki Shell.

"I was lucky enough to be one of three valedictorian speakers," he said. "In addition to me, they had someone from the masters program and another speaker from HPU's downtown campus. It was an honor for us all."

While that valedictorian status may have been an honor for him, his three-minute performance up on stage was nothing less than a treat for those in the audience.

"Master Sergeant Lucente is known for his poetry," said Lt. Col. Robert Falvey, 17 OWS JTWC director. "When we have farewell lunches, that's one of the things he does ... he summarizes their time with the organization with funny

poems."

Sergeant Lucente's address to the graduating class comprised creative verses relating much of his 22-year journey to acquiring his Bachelor of Science degree in business administration, starting with the following four lines:

I started college,
Back in 1986;
I built the foundation,
And added a few bricks.

A few stanzas later, he

described the impact of his 120-day deployment in a similar manner:

I deployed to sunny,
And warm Iraq;
It took me from family,
My degree took a whack.

Sergeant Lucente noted that his degree couldn't come at a better time. Following more than 25 years with the Air Force, he is set to retire on Tuesday and said he plans to move

back to his native Connecticut in October, at which point he intends to put that degree to good use.

"My career goal is to enter the defense industry — probably in supply chain management or take a position in the insurance industry," he said.

Meanwhile, if neither of those paths pans out, the soon-to-be-former master sergeant could always pursue in a career in creative writing, perhaps in public speaking, maybe even stand-up

comedy.

As one particular portion of his valedictory speech proved without a doubt, Sergeant Lucente is no stranger to wit.

"I remember my first Business Communication class at HPU and I told my instructor that I wanted to speak in front of thousands of people in the worst way," he said. "After taking his class, the professor told me I had done just that: I had spoken in the worst way."

Crime Scene



Theft of property

A spouse of an active Air Force member reported theft of personal property on 6th St. This case is currently under investigation.

Theft of property

An active Air Force member reported theft of personal property on Pilokea Ct. This case is currently under investigation.

Theft of property

An active Air Force member reported theft of personal property from Hickam's base theatre. This case is currently under investigation.

Shoplifting

Army Air Force Exchange Service store detectives witnessed a military family member attempting to remove merchandise without rendering payment. Merchandise totaled \$49.95. The individual will have their AAFES privileges revoked for one year and are awaiting for a magistrate hearing.

Shoplifting

Army Air Force Exchange Service store detectives witnessed a military family member attempting to remove merchandise without rendering payment. Merchandise totaled \$8.45. The individual will have their AAFES privileges revoked for one year and are awaiting for a magistrate hearing.

Citation total for the week

- 4 civilian traffic citation.
- 15 moving traffic citation.
- 4 non-moving traffic citations
- 1 abandoned vehicle notice.

CHANDLER, From A1

Following a quick side trip through wing HQ to receive the Wing Mission Briefing, a few more stops were made to include; the C-17 fuel cell hangar, the hydrogen fuel production station, and the alert facility.

Next on the tour was Human Performance and Rehabilitation Center. The first of its kind in the Air Force, this DoD-award-winning program combines the Health and Wellness center with the Physical Therapy program –

putting prevention and rehabilitation in the same location.

Mrs. Tuck and Mrs. Chandler were joined on their tour by other 15th AW squadron commanders' spouses, as they toured Mokulele Elementary school, an award-winning, home-based childcare provider, the youth centers and other facilities involved in the care and education of our ohana keiki.

During a meeting with representatives of Actus Lend Lease and Hickam Community

Housing, Gen. Chandler shared some of the concerns of Airmen here. Representatives of HCH told the general they would work with the wing commander to ensure fairness and transparency with housing assignment policies.

The day ended with a stop at the Gathering Place, a free coffee shop located in the enlisted dorms sponsored by the Chaplain's office, where barista Tech. Sgt. Mike McCormick whipped up a hot one for General and Mrs. Chandler.



Predator passes 400,000 flight hours

LANGLEY AIR FORCE BASE, Va. (AFPN) – The MQ-1 Predator unmanned aircraft system surpassed 400,000 flight hours during a mission in the U.S. Central Command area of responsibility Aug. 18.

Members of the 15th Reconnaissance Squadron, part of the 432nd Air Expeditionary Wing at Creech Air Force Base, Nev., flew the milestone mission in support of continuing operations in Iraq and Afghanistan.

"15th Reconnaissance Squadron personnel have been involved with every major operation in Operation Iraqi Freedom and Operation Enduring Freedom since the inception of combat operations," said Lt. Col. Robert Kiebler, the 15th RS commander.

"Every day our people have a direct and lasting impact on combat operations in the AOR," said Colonel Kiebler. "They pro-

vide critical (intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance) to ground commanders, enable the tracking, capture and death of enemy insurgents and provide lifesaving overwatch to coalition forces."

Declared operational in 1995, the Predator's primary mission is to provide armed reconnaissance, airborne surveillance and target acquisition to commanders. The Predator can be armed with two laser-guided AGM-114 Hellfire missiles and carries the Multispectral Targeting System, which integrates electro-optical, infrared, laser designator and laser illuminator into a single sensor package.

This combination of capabilities has made the Predator a lethal and nimble platform, said Col. Chris Chambliss, the 432nd AEW commander.

"Technology today is allowing us to take aviation capabilities to new levels, and the Predator is a perfect example of how UAS support is making a difference in the fight," said Col.

Predator makes milestone



U.S. Air Force photo/Senior Airman Larry E. Reid Jr.

A MQ-1 Predator unmanned aircraft system assigned to the 17th Reconnaissance Squadron takes off for a training mission May 19 at Creech Air Force Base, Nev.

Chambliss. "The aircraft's armed reconnaissance capabilities provide our ground forces the unblinking eye that can also engage hostile targets either on its own or in combination with manned aircraft like the F-16 Fighting Falcon. If that's not an

awesome weapons system, I don't know what one is."

The Predator fleet passed 250,000 hours in June 2007 after 12 years of flying, but took only 14 months to fly the additional 150,000 hours after continuous demand.