

Active personnel, reserves appreciated

Roland E. Anderson

Lieutenant Colonel Roland E. Anderson retired Feb. 28 from the U.S. Air Force.

Before retirement, he was with the 190th Air Refueling Wing of the Air National Guard flying KC135 planes stationed at Forbes Field in Topeka. Two weeks after his retirement more than half his unit were deployed.

He graduated from Kansas State University in the Air Force Reserve program and was commissioned in 1974. He was in active duty until 1980.

Still in the reserves, he lived in Oberlin for the next 10 years spending one week per month on duty at Forbes. He went back to full-time duty in 1990 and was one of the first to go to Jiddah, Saudi Arabia, to help set up for the Desert Storm War.

He flew refueling jets on the first attack on Baghdad in 1991 but most of his time was spent directing air traffic at the Jetta air field. For several days nearly 1,000 sorties daily left from the field and no planes were lost. Anderson received a special commendation for his part in the effort.

He retired because of age, nearly 53, and a technical phase out of his navigator job. He is taking courses at Kansas State University in city planning but doesn't have plans yet for what he will do as a civilian.

Lt. Col. Anderson is married with no children. He is the oldest son of Don and Nadine Anderson of Oberlin.

Floyd A. Badsky

Colonel Floyd A. Badsky joined the U.S. Air Force in 1980 and is stationed at Will Rogers World Airport in Oklahoma City. He is a Department of Defense lead program manager of flight inspection.

Col. Badsky graduated from Decatur Community High School in 1975 and attended Kansas State University. He is married to Evelyn and the couple have two children, Bret and Jessica.

He is the son of Floyd P. Badsky of Oberlin and the late Nathalie Badsky.



F. Badsky



LT. COL. ROLAND ANDERSON just retired from the U.S. Air Force after serving many years with the 190th Air Refueling Wing of the Air National Guard.

Major Dale L. Bastin

Major Dale L. Bastin has traveled all over the world with his job in the United States Air Force.

Major Bastin graduated from Golden Plains High School and attended Kansas State University and Texas A&M University.

In 1987 he was commissioned with the Air Force as a Second Lieutenant.

He has been stationed in Maine, Germany, Virginia, Italy, Arizona and Belgium where he is now stationed. Along the way he has worked in the B-52 Bomb Wing, Fighter Wing flying F-15s, headquarters for Air Combat Command, 16th Air Force, headquarters United States Air Forces in Europe, fighter wing flying F-16s, the Supreme Headquarters Allied Powers Europe and the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) AWACS.

A key event in his career, said Major Bastin, has been being deployed for Operation Provide Comfort in Turkey and Northern Iraq in 1991. This was the Kurdish humanitarian relief effort after the uprising against Saddam failed.

"I saw and experienced the suffering and the gratitude of the Kurdish people," he said, "and knew that we made a difference."

He is stationed in Belgium. He said after the attacks on Sept. 11, NATO invoked Article V at the request of the United States. The article is a defense of one nation attacked by all NATO nations.

It was an historical first and in support planes was deployed to the U.S. to ensure the integrity of the U.S. airspace. The mission lasted seven months.

Major Bastin said he is involved in Operation Crescent Guard in Turkey to aid in the security of Turkish territory.

"I have found it an honor to serve my country in the United States Air Force even though it has taken me far away from home and family for many years," said Major Bastin. "In spite of the sacrifices, the experiences and interaction with people of other nations has made me a better person."

He was born in Colby. His parents are Dean and Glendora Bastin of Rexford.



Dale Bastin



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