



## Home Sweet Home

Not so for some

Story on page 4

# Before Bosby But Still "Jackie" While In Misawa, Japan

4

Northern Light

## Referral service aids members

By Sgt. Kathi Varner  
Wing Public Affairs

Adjusting to a new home on an unfamiliar base is part of the military way of life. Most newcomers are anxious to make the new base their 'home sweet home'.

For overseas service members in the ranks of E-3 and below with families, these adjustments can be more difficult than for others.

While Congress pays for the accompaniment of the families, it does not give these folks enough weight allowance on their PCS move to enable them to bring some housing necessities with them. Nor does it allow the base to provide these necessities, such as stoves, refrigerators, beds, etc., to the member.

"We're literally handcuffed in the help we can offer these people," said Col. Michael Richardson, 432d Combat Support Group commander.

Jackie Hill, coordinator of the E-4 and below referral service, likes to think she has at least one alternative to this 'catch-22'.

The E-4 and below referral service provides furniture, appliances, and other items free of charge to those with a need.

This service is available to all service members E-3 and below or E-4 with less than 2 years active duty service.

The organization receives donations from other military members who wish to help those in need. Any piece of furniture, appliances, and other household goods are welcome.

What the referral doesn't have in their inventory or what hasn't been donated, they usually try to buy.

Being a non-profit private organization, it sponsors fund-raising activities to help the cause.

A recently held fashion show netted a profit for the organization and provided them with the funds to purchase nine kerosene heaters, items that are a must for living off-base in the winter.

"I don't know what we would have done without Jackie's help," said Sondra Burton, wife of A1C Dennis Burton. "We still don't have a stove yet, but we're working on it."

"We have a pretty ample supply of goods for people who need them and we also can loan things to single people living off-base who can't afford to buy some of the larger items. This is done by a waiting list system and if the item is available, we loan it on a 6-month basis, with the option of renewing," Mrs. Hill stated.

"Jackie's program fills a big need on this base. What we can't give these kids, she does her best to come up with," Col. Richardson said.

"I wanted to help those who needed help and this was the best way I could think of," Mrs. Hill continued.

The referral service is spearheaded by Mrs. Hill and is comprised of all volunteers who contribute in various areas. Some of the volunteers store items in their homes since there is a lack of storage space for the group.

"In the states there is a similar program through the Air Force called MAST, Married Airmen Sharing Together. While it's not an appropriate title for Misawa, with all the different services here, this is basically what we have set out to do; provide tree service for those who need it," said Mrs. Hill.

For now, the E-4 and below referral service is one of the ways folks at Misawa have of making their off-base house 'home sweet home.'

For more information, contact Mrs. Hill at Ext. 6644.



U.S. Air Force photo by Sgt. Kathi Varner

Jackie Hill talks shop with Sondra Burton.



DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE  
HEADQUARTERS 432D TACTICAL FIGHTER WING (PACAF)  
APO SAN FRANCISCO 96519

REPLY TO  
ATTN OF CV  
SUBJECT Letter of Recommendation

TO Whom It May Concern

1. I have been truly impressed with the energy and enthusiasm displayed by Mrs Jackie Hill. On her own initiative, she developed a program to assist our junior enlisted military members with the housing of their families. Not only did she act as a focal point, but she solicited donations and organized effective fund raisers, the proceeds of which all have gone to improve the quality of life of these young families.

2. The initiative, creativity, and unselfish efforts that she has contributed with absolutely no monetary compensation has been incredible. A model for all to emulate, of how to become involved and help others, Mrs Hill has been a tremendous asset to the Misawa community.

R. DEAN STICKELL, Colonel, USAF  
Vice Commander



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REPLY TO  
ATTN OF CMS  
SUBJECT Letter of Recommendation--Ms Jacqueline D. Hill

23 September 1985

TO Whom It May Concern

Ms Jacqueline D. Hill, immediately upon her arrival at Misawa Air Base, Japan, in December 1983, took note of the lack of services and assistance available to military members and families with sponsors in the pay grade of E-4 or less. To this void, she applied all her social experiences, educational training, and energetic talents to alleviate some of the housing, clothing, and social omissions perpetuated by the Congress and institutionalized by the military establishment.

The organization founded by this lady, called the "E-4 and Below Referral Service," addressed each of these deficiencies and enabled the group's clientele to better enjoy their stay at this extreme northern base.

Without her altruism and unselfish dedication, Misawa Air Base would not have become the Best Little Fighter Base in the Air Force that it has, and continues to be since her departure.

STEPHEN A. KELLY, CMSgt, USAF  
Senior Enlisted Advisor



DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE

432d SECURITY POLICE SQUADRON (PACAF)  
APO SAN FRANCISCO 96519-5000

REPLY TO  
ATTN OF: CC

SUBJECT: Letter of Recommendation

TO: Whom it May Concern

Ms Jackie Hill is one of the finest, hardworking, and intelligent young ladies I have had the pleasure of knowing. Her deep dedication to the E-4 & Below Referral Agency, which she founded and headed, has helped many of my young security policemen get a "heads up" on establishing there direction at Misawa. On many occasions, I have had young married couples in need of just about everything it takes to set up a house. The first sergeant and myself have referred them to Mrs. Hill. She has never let us down. From furniture to just listening to young wives and helping them over the "cultural shock" of a first time duty station in a foreign country, Mrs. Hill has been super.

During the many staff meetings and conferences, the Wing and Base Commander both acknowledge the super job she's done for our young people. Her fund raising activities have brought Misawa's morale to a new record high. She's given the young people of this base something to look forward to besides going to clubs to hear the same entertainment week after week. Her fund raisers have added class to Misawa that no other activity offers.

Mrs. Hill's ideas and vast knowledge of Misawa enabled her to provide exceptional aid to our young airmen. Our lost is your gain. I would like to take this time to thank her for an outstanding job. I hope the enthusiasm and willingness to help others will remain here as a part of Misawa's legacy that she began.

  
RONALD J. WATTS, SR., Capt, USAF  
Chief, Security Police