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USAF Home Town News  
Tinker Air Force Base Oklahoma 73145

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BALBOA, C.Z.--Former North Vietnam prisoner of war, U.S. Air Force Major Jon D. Black from Johnson City, Tenn., has arrived at Albrook AFB, C. Z., for duty with the U. S. Air Forces Southern Command.

Major Black, son of Mrs. Minnie W. Black of 320 Watauga Ave., Johnson City, is the new deputy chief of instruction for the Airman Technical School of the Inter-American Air Forces Academy. Before his appointment at Albrook, he was standardization and evaluation officer at Kingsley Field, Ore.

It was during a bombing mission over North Vietnam in late 1967 that Major Black's F-4 Phantom was hit by enemy ground fire. He bailed out, was captured by the North Vietnamese and held in a prison of war camp for four month before being released in Feburary 1968.

One of the first questions asked the 34-year old major when he arrived at Albrook was whether he thought the local and national letter writing program to Hanoi on behalf of American prisoners of war and those listed as missing in action was effective.

"Darn right," was the major's answer. "The North Vietnamese Government is beginning to realize that the American people are concerned about these imprisoned men. As a result, our men are getting better treatment and more mail and packages from home that they weren't receiving a year or so ago," the major added.

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MAJOR BLACK - Add 1

The 12-year Air Force veteran holds the aeronautical rating of senior pilot and in addition to the F-4, is qualified to fly the F-101 Voodoo, the T-33 and the T-37.

Major Black, a 1955 graduate of Science Hill High School, received his B. S. degree and commission upon graduation from the U.S. Air Force Academy.

He and his wife, Carol, have four children: Mark, David, Timmy, and Christopher. Mrs. Black is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. H. A. Waugh of 1105 Ivy, McAllen, Tex.

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NAMELINE: Visiting the Panama Canal Museum is U.S. Air Morce Major Jon D. Black, newly appointed deputy chief of instruction, Airmen Technical School at the Inter-American Air Forces Academy, Albrook AFB, C.Z., his wife, Carol, and their children: Timmy, Mark, David and 18 month-old Christopher. (U.S. AIR FORCE PHOTO)