



# **KATRINA Daily News**

VOL. 1, NO. 2 FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 2, 2005

## **AETC commander: Keesler will be back**

**Compiled by the 81<sup>st</sup> Training Wing Public Affairs office**

A visit from the commander of Air Education and Training Command brought encouraging words to Keesler Air Force Base personnel.

General William Looney, along with Chief Master Sgt. Rodney Ellison, AETC command chief master sergeant, and their spouses, spent Thursday touring the base in a helicopter and visiting with the troops.

“Katrina has affected all of us,” General Looney said. “We came here because we wanted to see for ourselves. Chief Ellison and myself also brought each of our wives because we wanted them to talk to your wives. It pains me to see my people suffer.”

General Looney sensed spirits were up as he called here in the aftermath of the storm.

“From my first phone call with [Brig. Gen. William Lord, 81<sup>st</sup> Training Wing commander], I had a sense that Keesler and its people would survive,” General Looney said. “This very well could be the greatest natural disaster in the history of the U.S., but I have no doubt that we will come back from this.”

General Looney added that support is pouring in from across the country.

“Every part of the country is standing up with you,” he said. “We have challenges that lie ahead, but we will turn loose the resources of the Air Force to get Keesler and its families back on their feet.”

General Looney said right now the biggest concern is getting the job done as safely as possible.

“We are not going to violate any laws, but we’ll worry about paperwork later,” he said. “We need to get things done. We need basic allowance for housing to be started; we need access to money; we need to ask what the Air Force Aid Society can do.

“AETC’s priority right now is Keesler Air Force Base and those personnel’s family members,” General Looney said. “One of ours is in need. And families always help each other out.”



**U.S. Air Force Gen. William R. Looney, Commander, Air Education and Training Command, visits with children of active duty personnel housed in shelters on Keesler Air Force Base, Miss., during his visit to the base Sep. 1, to survey the damage caused by Hurricane Katrina three days earlier. Hurricane Katrina battered the Gulf Coast with wind gusts in excess of 140 miles per hour, flattened buildings and flooded areas from Florida to Louisiana. Millions of people were left without power and hundreds of thousands homeless.**  
(U.S. Air Force photo by Tech. Sgt. Jennifer C. Wallis)

\$10,000 through Oct. 31. Contact a finance representative at DSN 597-7256 for more information

**Air Force Aid Society** – A limited number of monetary grants are available to families in need through the Air Force Aid Society. Contact your unit first sergeant for application instructions.

**Medical Information**

**Emergency Room/Urgent care clinic** – Sick call hours are 8-11 a.m. and 3-6 p.m. daily at the Keesler Medical Center. Emergency services are available 24 hours a day.

**Medical** – Medical personnel are available at each shelter to assist with medical needs. Contact your unit control center for additional information.

**Spiritual Information**

**Chapel services** – Six chapel teams are expected to arrive within 72 hours to assist Keesler personnel and beddown forces. Chapel services are scheduled for Sunday (times to be determined). Contact Chaplain (Maj.) Tim Butler at DSN 597-2163 for additional information.



***All aboard***

**Non-prior service students wait to board a C-17 Globemaster III here Thursday. Two C-17s and one C-130 Hercules airlifted more than 500 personnel and family members to various locations to meet connecting flights to their respective homes.**

**Name this “operation” contest:**

You survived it, you’re living it, now name it. The following names were rejected:

~~KATRINA AND THE WAVES~~  
~~PROVIDE GUMBO~~  
~~DENY COMFORT~~

Here’s your opportunity to name the Hurricane Katrina recovery operation. Submit your name idea to your UCC or the Public Affairs UCC, room 148, Wolfe Hall, or email 81 TRW/PAall. DEADLINE: Sept. 5

**KEESLER BASICS:**

**General Information**

**Food** – The Magnolia Dining facility is open today from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Contact your shelter control manager for the latest times as they will vary each day. The Azalea Dining facility is scheduled to open Saturday

**AAFES** – A mini base exchange is now operating at the Triangle Mini-Mall. Hours of operation are 12-6 p.m. until further notice. A 10-item purchase limit is in effect (a 12 pack of soda is considered one item), Additionally, personnel can purchase up to 10 bags of ice (not counted toward their 10-item limit).

**Showers** – Shower facilities are available at the Blake Fitness Center and Dragon Fitness Center from 10 a.m. to 10 p.m.

**Claims Information**

**Claims Briefings** -- The Base Legal Office will provide claims briefings for automobile, personal property and food spoilage, including how to fill out the appropriate paperwork and answer questions today. Briefings for non-prior service students and temporary duty personnel will take place at Wolfe Hall auditorium and the Levitow Building at 10 and 11 a.m. Hourly briefings for all personnel, to include permanent party and dependents will take place at the Levitow Bldg. from noon to 6 p.m. today Friday. Hourly briefings will also take place Saturday and Sunday from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. at the Levitow Bldg. for all personnel.

**USAA** –Representatives from USAA have set up at claims room at the Levitow Bldg. Their hours of operation starting today will be 8:30 a.m. until 4 p.m. They are open to see all personnel and will be here providing services indefinitely. Personnel should contact a representative before visiting to facilitate the claims process. Representatives can be reached by calling (800) 531-8222.

**GEICO** – A representative from GEICO will be available to answer questions at the Levitow Bldg. today. They are open will provide services indefinitely.

**Finance Information**

**Finance** – Limited financial services are available 7 a.m.-7 p.m. at the Levitow Bldg. Contact a finance representative at DSN 597-7256 for additional information.

**Travel Card credit limit raised** – The maximum credit limit allowed for the government travel card will be raised to

**Operation Name:** \_\_\_\_\_  
Your name \_\_\_\_\_ Shelter \_\_\_\_\_