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The Eagle

United States Army Space and Missile Defense Command

Volume 11, Number 2, February 2004

New Huntsville complex dedicated to Von Braun



Photo by Debra Valine

By Debra Valine
Editor, *The Eagle*

HUNTSVILLE, Ala. — Well, it's official. The U.S. Army Space and Missile Defense Command on Jan. 20 dedicated its new building in the Wernher Von Braun Complex to honor the man who brought space and missile development to Huntsville, Ala., some 50 years ago.

Following World War II, Von Braun and his team of German rocket scientists developed the technology that eventually took humans to the Moon. Today, Huntsville is a hub for space and missile defense technology and home not only to SMDC, but to the U.S. Army Aviation and Missile Command and NASA's

See page 13 for
biography on Wernher
Von Braun.

Marshall Space Flight
Center.

The ribbon-cutting ceremony at Bldg. 5220 on Redstone Arsenal paves the way for SMDC's employees to begin the exodus in February from the leased building on Wynn Drive which has been home to SMDC for the past 35 years.

"Almost 2 ½ years ago, distinguished individuals broke ground for the Wernher Von Braun Complex," said the SMDC commanding general to nearly 200 gathered dignitaries and guests. "Look at it now. The home of

See *Building*, page 13

James Makemson (left), vice president and general manager, Turner Universal Construction Company; Mayor Loretta Spencer, mayor of Huntsville, Ala.; Congressman Robert (Bud) Cramer Jr. (D-AL); then-Maj. Gen. Larry J. Dodgen, commanding general, U.S. Army Space and Missile Defense Command; Senator Richard C. Shelby (R-AL); Senator Jeff Sessions (R-AL); Congressman Robert B. Aderholt (R-AL); Mayor Jan Wells, mayor of Madison, Ala.; Col. Robert Devlin, garrison commander, Redstone Arsenal; and Col. Robert Keyser, commander, Mobile District Corps of Engineers, cut the ribbon on Bldg. 5220 to mark the opening of the new Wernher Von Braun Complex on Redstone Arsenal Jan. 20.

New commanding general off to a busy start

**SMDC's first priority is
support to the warfighter**

By Debra Valine
Editor, *The Eagle*

HUNTSVILLE, Ala. — He took command of the U.S. Army Space and Missile Defense Command Dec. 16 and literally hit the ground running.

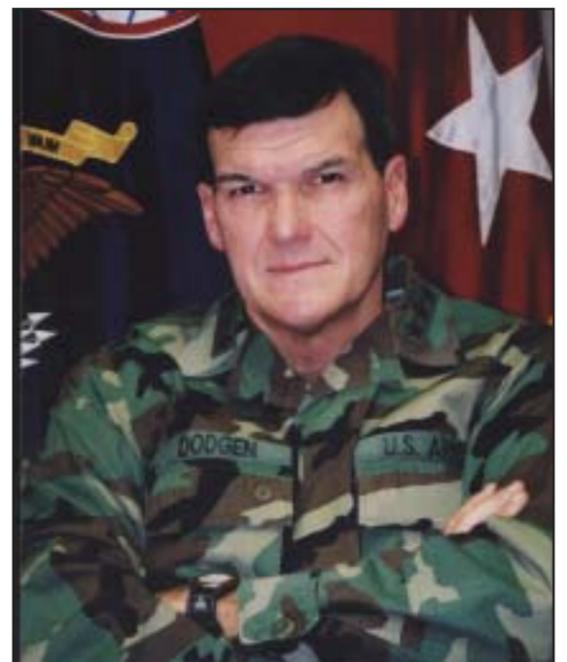
Lt. Gen. Larry J. Dodgen, who was promoted to three-star general in a ceremony Jan. 30 in the office of the Chief of Staff of the Army at the Pentagon, has hardly had a chance to sit in his new office in Arlington since he became commanding general of SMDC.

The December and new year holidays notwithstanding, Dodgen has been busy. He made opening remarks at the Martin Luther King Jr. presentation in Huntsville

Jan. 14 and was guest speaker at the Army Space and Missile Defense Association's (ASMDA) annual membership luncheon the same day. He attended the activation ceremony for the Alaska National Guard Missile Defense and Space Battalion at Fort Greely, Alaska, Jan. 22 and a ceremony inducting Army Astronaut Brig. Gen. Robert L. Stewart into the Pioneer Hall of Fame Jan. 27 in Colorado Springs, Colo. And these were just his special appearances. He also had the usual bevy of staff briefings — in several geographic locations — and other meetings any new commander attends to learn all he can about his new organization.

But he likes it that way.

Dodgen said his job will continue to focus on SMDC's three priorities: supporting the warfighter, standing up the



Lt. Gen. Larry J. Dodgen

See *Dodgen*, page 12

The Command Corner



Lt. Gen. Larry J. Dodgen
Commanding General



CSM David Lady
Command Sgt. Maj.

February abounds with important anniversaries and events of national significance. This month, we celebrate the history of African-Americans and their rich heritage. In addition, we honor in particular, two great patriots who served as the President of the United States – George Washington and Abraham Lincoln. Finally, we have the opportunity to reflect on the significant contributions of the Army's first astronaut and our progress in enhancing the Nation's defense against accidental or intentional limited ballistic missile attacks.

National African-American History Month began in 1926 through the determined efforts of Dr. Carter Woodson, a distinguished African-American author, editor, publisher, and historian. Known as the "Father of Black History," Dr. Woodson strongly promoted the importance of education and the message that African-Americans should be proud of their heritage, and that other Americans should also understand it.

We celebrate the notable struggles and achievements of African-Americans to our cultural, economic, and spiritual development. Within the Army, it is important that we also reflect on the sacrifices and contributions of the millions of African-American Soldiers who so nobly served the Nation and gallantly fought in combat. We honor their selfless service by our own dedicated commitment to equality.

February also marks an important historical milestone for an Army pioneer in space, Brig. Gen. (Retired) Robert L. Stewart. On Feb. 7, 1984, then-Lt. Col. Stewart and Capt. Bruce McCandless (U.S. Navy) stepped from the secure confines of the space shuttle Challenger for an extravehicular activity to conduct the first flight evaluations of the Manned Maneuvering Unit. These bold steps represented man's first untethered operations from a spacecraft in flight. Stewart's tremendous contributions to the Army's participation in space clearly had a significant impact toward advancing America's role in space.

This past month SMDC had the distinct honor of publicly acknowledging Stewart's significant contributions to advancing the Army's role in space. In tribute for his many notable achievements during a distinguished career, Stewart was recognized as a "Pioneer" during an induction ceremony on Jan. 27. His portrait now resides in a place of honor in the Pioneer Conference Room, ARSTRAT – Colorado Springs Headquarters.

Also in January, protection from a limited ballistic missile attack against our homeland became one step closer to fulfillment. On Jan. 22, the Alaska Army National Guard Missile Defense Space Battalion was activated in Fort Greely, Alaska. The Soldiers in this new battalion, serving as part of the 100th Missile Defense Brigade (Ground-based Midcourse Defense), are vital components of the Joint Service effort to achieve an Initial Defensive Operations Capability for the Ground-based Midcourse Defense by Sept. 30, 2004.

I encourage each of you to take the time to learn more about the significance of each of these areas. Truly, there is much to reflect upon as we support the men and women deployed around the world as they help to promote security and freedom. Congratulations on the fine job and keep up the great work.

SECURE THE HIGH GROUND!

Our Army has begun the largest rotation of units into and out of a hostile fire zone since the Second World War. Almost eight of our divisions will be on the move, into or out of Iraq and Afghanistan. As units are never more vulnerable than when on the move, let us remember our comrades in harm's way; let us also remember their families.

SMDC personnel have completed their part of the rotation. Army Space Support Team Two (ARSST-2) has closed onto Colorado Springs, mission complete. Our Joint Tactical Ground Station CENTCOM (JTAGS-CEN) detachment has also completed rotating its personnel. These Soldiers, deployed over the last six months, can be very proud of their mission, well accomplished.

We are asking more of their successors, for ARSST-3 and the new JTAGS crew will be deployed for a full year, instead of six months. This enables one team to support the higher headquarters (Combined Joint Task Force-8/III Corps) throughout the rotation. All elements have the same learning curve, and procedures developed do not have to be learned by a new team in the middle of the rotation. Trust and confidence are built and maintained.

ARSST-12 (COARNG) continues to support the Civilian Provisional Authority, and our new FA-40 at the CPA, Lt. Col. James Day, is working hard to find new ways to support the headquarters. The team will soon begin to provide space weather monitoring, and has reorganized by combining its own map and image production with that of the topographical engineer detachment. This initiative standardizes the products created for the various directorates of the CPA. ARSST-12 is also deployed for a year.

The activation of the 49th Missile Defense Space Battalion, at Fort Greely, Alaska, brings a great group of Soldiers into our command. Led by Maj. (P) Greg Bowen and Command Sgt. Maj. David Massullo, these military police and missile operators will make the nation's ballistic missile defense system effective over the next seven months. Without them, the nation has expensive devices sitting in holes. With their skill and excellent attitude, the nation has a capability. Leaders and Soldiers, welcome to the team. We owe you better and more equipment, quality living and working conditions, and training opportunities. This headquarters is working hard to obtain them all, and you will see our dedication to you and your mission.

We farewell one of our senior enlisted leaders this month, as Command Sgt. Maj. Ricky Judy of 1st SATCON Battalion retires and returns to Huntsville, Ala. Judy has been a very energetic and effective leader, and an excellent role model for all Soldiers. All our 31Cs would do well to pattern their careers along the lines of Judy's career, for he mixed assignments in tactical and strategic satellite communications units to give himself the broadest and deepest possible experience. Well executed, command sergeant major, we wish you success and contentment as you transition from green suit to Brooks Brothers suit.

Our Army goes rolling along, and rolling into 1st SATCON and SMDC is Command Sgt. Maj. Reginald Williams who joins the battalion as Lt. Col. Mearen Bethea's senior enlisted leader and battle buddy. Great unit standards will be sustained and enhanced, and the teamwork among our command sergeants major, a point of pride within SMDC and 1st Space Brigade, will be maintained. Sergeant major, welcome.

Our Soldiers and civilians are doing well, securing the high ground.

ON POINT!

The Eagle ... is an authorized unofficial newspaper published for military and civilian issile Defense Command published under the authority of AR 360-1. The editorial style applies the industry standard Associated Press Stylebook. Contents of *The Eagle* are not necessarily official views of, or endorsed by, the U.S. Government, Department of Defense, Department of the Army, or U.S. Army Space and Missile Defense Command (SMDC). This monthly newspaper uses offset reproduction and has a circulation of 3,300. Reader input is solicited and welcomed; however, no payment will be made for such contributions. Visit SMDC on the Web at: www.smhc.army.mil.

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Before Brown, Beyond Boundaries –

Commemorating the 50th Anniversary of Brown vs. Board of Education of Topeka

By Mary Peoples
Equal Employment Opportunity Office

The observance of African-American History Month for 2004 is centered on the 50th anniversary of a most important landmark Supreme Court Decision, *Brown vs. The Board of Education*. This court decision helped change America and the lives of millions of African-Americans in this country. On May 17, 1954, at 12:52 p.m. the United States Supreme Court issued a unanimous decision that it was unconstitutional and violated the 14th amendment to separate children in public schools for no other reason than their race.

As early as 1849, African-American parents challenged the system of education in the United States which mandated separate schools for their children based solely on race. In Kansas alone there were school integration cases dating from 1881 to 1949, prior to Brown in 1954. In many instances, the schools for African-American children were substandard facilities with out-of-date text books and often no basic school supplies.

During the years between 1870 and 1900, many blacks believed education was the means to break through the solid wall of racism. Thus schools became a top priority. Money for the education of black students came from some white northerners and their foundations, but blacks themselves did much to sustain their institutions. Fisk University is an example. The Fisk Jubilee Singers went on a fund-raising concert tour and within seven years had toured the east and a number of European countries and raised



\$150,000 for the university. Their personal appearances not only raised funds but also encouraged other black youth to seek secondary school and college educations. By 1900, there were 28,560 black teachers and more than 1.5 million black children in schools.

After numerous unsuccessful attempts to ensure equal opportunities for all children, African-American community leaders and organizations across the country increased their efforts to change the educational system. In the fall of 1950, members of the Topeka, Kan., chapter of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) agreed to again challenge the “separate but equal” doctrine governing public education. This doctrine was adopted as a result of the U.S. Supreme Court decision in the case of *Plessy vs. Ferguson*.

Children of the Topeka plaintiffs had to travel past and away from nearby schools to attend the four schools designated for African-Americans. Topeka operated 18 schools for white children and four for black children. In other cities outside Kansas, black children attended poor facilities without basic school equipment.

When the Topeka case made its way to

the U.S. Supreme Court, it was combined with other NAACP cases from Delaware, Virginia, South Carolina and Washington, D.C. The combined cases became known as *Oliver L. Brown et. al. vs. The Board of Education of Topeka* (Kan.).

To this day, efforts continue across the country to realize the dream of the NAACP and the families in the original Brown case. The struggle continues with every ruling on affirmative action cases in education, the most recent being the University of Michigan case. In October 1992, after three years of work by the Brown Foundation, President George Bush signed the Brown vs. The Board of Education National Historic Site Act of 1992, to establish a national park in Topeka at the site of one of the historically black schools, the Monroe Elementary School Building.

While the Brown decision opened the door for equal opportunities in education at the high school level, historically black colleges continued to receive “unequal” funding, facilities, equipment and supplies even after Brown. Some black educators would argue today that this is a continuing problem with higher education for black children. Landmark court cases were filed by Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs) citing a dual education system for both blacks and whites based on race with the establishment of universities in the same city with similar curriculums or course offerings that served to support segregation of the races. One such case was filed by Alabama A&M University and other HBCUs in Alabama and Mississippi which lasted well over 20 years before being settled.

What We Think

The Eagle asks:

What makes your sweetheart special?



My sweetheart is my husband of 12 years. He is special because he is always there for his family. He is a loving, dedicated, devoted family man.

Penny Yates
Chief Information Office
Huntsville, Ala.



My sweetheart is special because of the way he cares for his family. During the stressful period of his sister's deployment to Iraq; the love, encouragement and assistance he provided to his mother and siblings endeared him all the more to me.

Michael Hartwell
Force Development
Integration Center
Arlington, Va.



My sweetheart is my fiancée, Zoey. I have a brother who never stops talking. Zoey actually goes out of her way to include him in plans when most people refuse to put up with him.

Capt. Andy Hittner
Force Development
Integration Center
ISR Division
Arlington, Va.



No matter how long or bad the day has been, my husband always knows exactly what to say to make me laugh.

Sgt. Michelle Shockley
C Co., 1st SATCON Bn.
Supply Sergeant
Colorado Springs, Colo.



My wife is special because she knows what I need, when I need it.

Sgt. Joe Johnson,
Security Guard
Arlington, Va.



My sweetheart is everything I asked God to provide me in a life companion and more. We have been through a lot together, and he often tells me that he believes that God has been preparing us to be encouraged together as one no matter the situation. My husband is a spirit led and spirit filled man and that's what makes him so special.

Veronica Collins
Physicist
Battle Lab
Huntsville, Ala.

Alaska Missile Defense Battalion activates

By Maj. Laura Kenney
SMDC Public Affairs

FORT GREELY, Alaska — A critical component of the nation's emerging missile defense system "stood up" here Jan. 22 when the Missile Defense Space Battalion was formally activated by its parent organizations, the U.S. Army Space and Missile Defense Command and the Alaska National Guard.

Then-Maj. Gen. Larry J. Dodgen, SMDC commanding general, and Air Force Brig. Gen. Craig E. Campbell, adjutant general for Alaska's National Guard, hosted the ceremony which centered on the unfurling of the new battalion's colors. Governor of Alaska Frank Murkowski was the keynote speaker.

"I am intensely proud of the role our state will play as the first line of defense for our nation," said Murkowski. "Having served as a senator, and on the Intelligence Committee, I am very well aware of the need for a missile defense system to defend our nation and our allies. To the Soldiers of this battalion, I say that you have the highest calling possible, and I pledge to you Alaska's full support for your vitally important mission."

The battalion is part of the 100th Missile Defense Brigade (Ground-based Midcourse Defense) headquartered in Colorado Springs, Colo. The battalion will provide operational control and security over ground-based interceptors located in Alaska. The brigade operates the first part of the integrated Ballistic Missile Defense System, which, in concert with sister services, is designed to protect the nation from accidental or intentional limited ballistic missile attacks.

Alaska National Guard Soldiers will man the battalion. Similarly, the brigade is staffed

largely by Colorado guardsmen, with a small contingent of active Army Soldiers. The units have dual reporting chains — operationally to SMDC, and for personnel issues, to their respective state Guard channels.

"Today's activation marks an historic event. Using the National Guard is a good fit for this mission — in keeping with their centuries-old role of defending the nation. The only difference is the technology," said the brigade commander, Col. Gary Baumann.

Symbolizing the Alaska Guard part of the equation, Campbell held the flag staff of the new unit's colors as the battalion's Command Sgt. Maj. David Masullo unsheathed the new flag, then unfurled the blue and gold colors emblazoned with the unit's name and the SMDC eagle.

Dodgen said, "I have stood guard in Germany and Korea, as I'm sure every person in this room who's ever worn a uniform has stood guard. The mission of the unit we're activating today is to stand guard on the frontline of homeland defense. I know they will do us proud. Theirs is an uncompromising mission — they cannot fail. I know they are up to the task."

The system is scheduled to be operational this fall, by presidential directive. The timeline was expedited due to the events of Sept. 11, and officials expect to meet the accelerated deployment date. GMD is designed to intercept and kill any incoming missile in the "middle" phase or

"midcourse" of its trajectory, after the boost or launch, and before it reaches re-entry into the earth's atmosphere to impact, thereby destroying that target in space.

Working closely with early warning architecture, provided in part by the Air Force and the Navy, GMD will launch a booster missile toward a target's predicted location releasing a "kill vehicle" on the path of an incoming target. The kill vehicle uses data from the ground-based radars and its own on-board sensor to collide with the target.

Currently, the system's operators are involved in intensive training in Colorado, and plan to move to Alaska this summer. The National Guard

take our job of securing this site, and protecting our nation, very seriously. If the remoteness of this site lends to its protection, and it does, then that's a good thing. There are many things to enjoy in Alaska, and our families for the most part are looking forward to facing the adventures with us," said military policeman and platoon leader 2nd Lt. Phil Turner.

The commander of the new battalion, Maj. (P) Greg Bowen, said, "We have long days behind us, to have gotten this far, and long days ahead. Standing up any new unit is a significant challenge, but standing up a first-of-its kind unit is an



Photo by Maj. Laura Kenney

At the ceremony activating the nation's first missile defense battalion, Command Sgt. Maj. David Masullo unfurls the new unit's colors while Air Force Brig. Gen. Craig E. Campbell, adjutant general for Alaska's National Guard, holds the flag staff. Then-Maj. Gen. Larry J. Dodgen, commanding general of U.S. Army Space and Missile Defense Command, stands to Campbell's right. The Missile Defense Space Battalion, part of the 100th Missile Defense Brigade (Ground-based Midcourse Defense) will operate interceptors based in Alaska.

men and women who comprise the battalion are all volunteers on three-year active duty tours. The majority are not Alaska natives, but they face the rigors of the remote site with a mixture of excitement and fortitude.

"Our mission is critical. We

even bigger challenge. We have the excellent services of Boeing and other contractors — thousands of people working to help us in the mission of defending our nation. Be assured, we are on watch, we will not fail."

Kids get taste of real Army PT training

B Company, 1st SATCON Soldiers motivate young runners

By Sgt. Corey Smith
Unit reporter

FORT MEADE, Md. — Students at a nearby elementary school had a requirement to run a mile, or three laps around a predetermined track. Who better to motivate these children to run faster than a Soldier who has experienced first hand real Army motivation in the business of running? (Flash back to basic training and your drill sergeant if you don't get the allusion.)

A civilian contractor on site, Scot Bracewell, challenged Bravo Company 1st Satellite Control Battalion Soldiers to motivate the students into improving their run times. Members of 2nd Squad, Operations Platoon took up the challenge.

The enthusiastic Soldiers were: Staff Sgt. Nakia Maxon, Sgt. Corey Smith, Cpl.

Chad Duncan, Spc. Mitchell James, Spc. Neil Huntemann, and Spc. Ryan Ghan. Their mission was to motivate the fourth and fifth graders from Overlook Elementary, Baltimore County.

The students were a bit shy at first, but Company B, 2nd Squad led them in a true-to-Army form, physical training warm-up routine. You could hear them counting the length of the stretches a mile away.

After making sure the students were ready to run, 2nd Squad agreed to chip in and purchase the official Army PT short-sleeve shirt for the top five runners. This incentive motivated all the students to do their personal best. Approximately 30 fourth graders began the one-mile course along with their Army "personal trainers." The Soldiers ran along with the fourth graders to encourage and motivate them throughout the entire course.

The fifth graders were up next for the one-mile run. During the warm-up, the Soldiers repeatedly said, "C'mon! The fourth graders were louder than you!"

This, as can be imagined, highly motivated the fifth graders to strive for excellence on the run. The students did so well that there was enough time for a game of kickball. The Soldiers jumped at the chance to relive that particular childhood memory.

To cap off the day's activities, the Soldiers led the students through the proper Army cool-down stretches.

The Soldiers learned later that all the students had significantly improved their previous run times. Two weeks later the Soldiers returned to the school to award the Army PT shirts.

All "motivators" agreed they hadn't had this much fun since basic training.

IFT-13B scores successful launch

By Jim Bennett
Editor, Kwajalein Hourglass

The last of his briefings done, Maj. Gen. John Holly stepped out on Holmberg Fairways to take in a few holes before catching his plane back to Huntsville, Ala., last month.

The program director for the Ground-Based Midcourse Defense Joint Program Office seemed to walk with an extra spring in his step after a successful booster launch and test Jan. 27.

"These kinds of missions are a lot easier to return home on," he said. "And we'll be back in March to conduct another mission."

The mission marked the first flight of a new booster designed by Orbital Sciences Corp. The booster carries the

exo-atmospheric kill vehicle into the sky where it detaches, seeks out an incoming warhead and collides with it, destroying the target.

In the test, officials wanted

"This is an important capability. We do not have a capability to defend our country from long-range ballistic missiles. By the end of this year, we will."

— Maj. Gen.
John Holly

to see that the booster would fly within mission parameters. The booster flew



Photo by Jan Waddell

Maj. Gen. John Holly, program director for the GMD Joint Program Office, talks about the success of the IFT-13B booster launch and test on Jan. 27.



Photo by Reagan Test Site Photo Lab

The IFT-13B launch Jan. 27 marks the first flight of a new booster designed by Orbital Sciences Corporation. The booster carries the exo-atmospheric kill vehicle and simulates an intercept using a mock EKV.

a successful mission in the states in August. This test, however, simulated an intercept using a mock EKV and based on projections of where a target would have been.

"The booster performed better than we could have hoped for," Holly said. "We do hundreds and hundreds of simulations and runs from an analytical standpoint prior to any mission. And in all of our predictions and what we expected, both in terms of performance and timelines, it was exactly on."

Calling the test "a very important milestone in the program," Holly added the mission tested the latest interceptor communications system and other new program system changes, or "first-time risks."

The test sets the table for another flight test in March in which the booster, carrying a kill vehicle, will perform "a fly-by" on a target, launched for the first time from Kodiak, Alaska.

The launch from Kodiak will signal the full implementation of a Pacific test bed, a two-year project, in which now Vandenberg Air Force Base has both target and interceptor launch capability, Kodiak has target capability and Kwajalein retains interceptor capability along with its sensor suite.

"That allows us to expand how we execute tests," Holly said. "We're able to more realistically test in different environments in different geometries the performance across the board so that's a big step forward."

More tests and more realistic tests would answer the program's critics in Washington D.C., but the system must be built first, Holly added.

"Many of our critics say we're not conducting operational or realistic flight tests," he said. "We are progressively conducting those, but we haven't built the system yet. So

I can't test something we haven't built. We have tremendous people working on the program across the board both in government and industry and they're delivering the goods.

"The testing this year includes a significant number of events, but it's a significant investment every time we do a test, both in terms of time and resources, hardware to conduct the mission and the costs incurred executing the mission itself," he added.

A follow-on intercept test is currently scheduled for May, with another set for July. This fall, GMD officials plan to begin fielding an operational interceptor.

"This is an important capability," Holly said. "We do not have a capability to defend our country from long-range ballistic missiles. By the end of this year, we will. It will be a start point from which we will improve."

"We will continue to do a great deal of testing at the same time the system is on alert," he continued. "We will go through a series of upgrades at a minimum of annually, and potentially more frequently than that."

Improvements will come in both numbers of interceptors as well as technological advances and new equipment, such as the sea-based X-band radar, as they become available, he said.

For now, however, the general headed to Huntsville happy with the results and looking to the future.

"Everything worked well. This was the smoothest mission from the execution standpoint, we've had," Holly said.

He added, "The analysis was great. The performance was great. And the range support was fantastic. But we still have a great deal of work ahead."

Stewart first human to walk in space untethered

Pioneering astronaut inducted into SMDC Hall of Fame

By Maj. Laura Kenney
SMDC Public Affairs

COLORADO SPRINGS, Colo. — “I remember watching that astronaut on television, attached to absolutely nothing, circling the Earth at 17,500 miles an hour, a million feet up, and thinking that it was the bravest thing I’d ever seen.

“It is now my honor and privilege to induct that same astronaut into the U.S. Army Space and Missile Defense Command’s Pioneer Conference Room,” said then-Maj. Gen. Larry J. Dodgen, commanding general of SMDC. He was remembering the historic February 1984 untethered space walk of then astronaut Robert Stewart, as Dodgen prepared to induct the now retired brigadier general into SMDC’s equivalent of a “Hall of Fame,” in a ceremony Jan. 27.

The Pioneer Conference Room in SMDC’s branch headquarters building here is dedicated to honoring men and women who have furthered the efforts of the Army in space.

Stewart was an Army astronaut when he, along with Navy Capt. Bruce McCandless, stepped into space during the February 1984 Challenger mission. The extravehicular activities were used to conduct evaluations of the Manned Maneuvering Units — one man propulsion backpacks that snap onto the back of a space suit’s life support system. An MMU allows an astronaut to work outside a spacecraft in flight without a tether.

Although those missions undoubtedly are the most famous of Stewart’s career, and earned him the “Hall of Fame” spot, Stewart made many other notable contributions to the military during his 28-year career. He was the senior test pilot for the Apache helicopter, and wrote the flight re-entry manual for the shuttle program. When asked what were his own personal highest moments, Stewart didn’t hesitate.

“Flying combat operations in Vietnam. The time I spent serving with the men I flew with form the proudest moments of my life.”

Dodgen commented on that time period when he praised Stewart’s long and varied career.

“I asked Gen. Stewart what that untethered walk was like, and he responded with ‘It was a walk in the park next to combat.’ This is a man who bled for his country, and was a soldier long before he began the career for which we honor him today. It is fitting that we will hang his picture in our Pioneer Conference Room. If you look up the word ‘pioneer’ in the dictionary, it usually says something to the effect of ‘one who goes somewhere for the first time’ or ‘someone who has led the way.’ Gen. Stewart is truly one who both went first, and who has led the way,” Dodgen said.

“He is our second inductee into this Hall of Fame recognizing those who began the dream of the Army in space — his portrait will hang next to someone who built rockets, Maj. Gen. John B. Medaris, the first commander of the Army Ballistic Missile Agency. Gen. Stewart rode those rockets,” said Dodgen.

Stewart took the podium with characteristic vigor, promising the large audience comprised of his family, friends, and SMDC Soldiers and civilians that, if they didn’t already know just what the Army did in space, he was about to educate them. And he did, tracing the Army’s development of the first satellite to answer the Soviet Union’s Sputnik, and the Army’s rocket that put the first astronauts into space through today’s support of the warfighter with high-speed communication and imagery.

“We have a long and proud history in space, and I’m privileged to be a part of it.



Photo by Joe Fischer

Brig. Gen. (Ret.) Robert Stewart (right) and then-Maj. Gen. Larry J. Dodgen, commanding general of U.S. Army Space and Missile Defense Command, unveil the portrait of a younger Stewart during his astronaut days. The ceremony marked the induction of Stewart into SMDC’s Pioneer Conference Room Hall of Fame at the Colorado Springs headquarters building.

But first and foremost, I was a Soldier.”

(Earlier, Stewart had told tales of tagging along with National Guard units during their annual summer training when he was 11, serving as their “water boy” just so he could do “Army things.”)

“I am humbled to have my portrait hang next to that of Gen. Medaris, who personified the meaning of ‘audacity’ — a key characteristic of any pioneer. But what I like most to remember about Gen. Medaris is that, when he retired after serving his country so illustriously, he began a second career — as an Episcopalian priest. I think one of you all (addressing the audience) should someday put a plaque over his portrait, maybe bronze, saying ‘He served his country and his God.’ All I’d ask is a small one over mine, saying, ‘Me too.’”

With that, Dodgen and Stewart ceremoniously unveiled the portrait of Stewart, in NASA garb, that would hang in the Pioneer Conference Room.

German Army lauds Command Sgt. Maj. for exemplary support



Photo by John Upp

On behalf of the German Armed Forces, Adm. Hubertus von Puttkamer, Defense Attaché of the German Embassy presents the Bronze Cross of Honor of the Federal Armed Forces, to SMDC Command Sgt. Maj. David L. Lady.

By Marco Morales
SMDC Public Affairs Office

Command Sgt. Maj. David Lady, command sergeant major for the U.S. Army Space and Missile Defense Command received a rare award from a U.S. allied nation in a ceremony conducted Jan. 28 at SMDC’s headquarters in Arlington, Va.

Lady was presented with Germany’s Federal Armed Forces Bronze Cross of Honor for his support to the German Army command staff during his tenure as command sergeant major, U.S. Army Europe and Seventh Army, Heidelberg, Germany, from February 2000 to May 2003.

Presenting the award at the ceremony on behalf of the German Armed Forces was Adm. Hubertus von Puttkamer, Defense Attaché of the German Embassy in Washington, D.C. The admiral was accompanied at the ceremony by several members of his staff.

The award reads in part, “Command Sergeant Major Lady energetically promoted friendly and collegial relations between the U.S. and German armies ... the trusting cooperation which he provided extended well beyond the call of duty and

demonstrated deep understanding ... his distinct readiness to offer cooperation was rooted in his personal conviction and growing interest in our country and its people.”

“It is very rare indeed to present this award,” said von Puttkamer, speaking to attending members of the SMDC staff and guests. The admiral then read the award citation in German, giving the ceremony a further sense of international friendship.

“What I accomplished is attributable to what I’ve learned from wise officers and non-commissioned officers, especially from Gen. Montgomery C. Meigs,” said Lady. “What I learned was that no one wins if they fight alone; no one enjoys if they live alone. Understanding between peoples, and cooperation between militaries, is greatly enhanced by living and serving overseas, among the citizens of a host nation. I have served alongside the German Armed Forces, have learned from their superb soldiers, and will forever treasure their professionalism and efficiency.

“My wife Ellen and I are glad and grateful for having had the opportunity to live in Germany and to learn to love Germany,” Lady said.

Brotherhood focus of Martin Luther King talk in Huntsville

By Debra Valine
Editor, *The Eagle*

HUNTSVILLE, Ala. — It seems that Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. wasn't the only one with a dream. Space and Missile Defense Command employees gathered here Jan. 14 to remember King and to hear a local pastor talk from personal recollection about brotherhood and King's dream.

Rev. John L. Herndon III, the senior minister at Fellowship Presbyterian Church in Huntsville, met King and a few of King's colleagues in 1958 when Herndon was attending Livingstone College in Salisbury, N.C. Herndon said King — Martin, he called him — was passionate about the pursuit of brotherhood.

"Rev. Herndon spoke on brotherhood, which means individuals uniting for a common purpose," said Veronica Collins, a physicist in SMDC's Battle Lab. "The program today helped me focus on Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s legacy of equality and peace for all mankind, a form of brotherhood for all. I am glad we had this program so that I could have the opportunity to stop work and reflect on the collective contributions and values brought forth by this powerful leader as we commemorate his holiday of peace and unity."

Through Herndon's college minister, Rev. Edgar French, Herndon met King and Dr. Bernard LaFayette Jr. French was part of a circle of local

pastors who persuaded Rev. King to give leadership to their efforts to integrate public transportation in Montgomery, Ala. LaFayette worked closely with King through the Southern Christian Leadership Conference and the Poor People's Campaign. The four discussed strategies for the integration of public transportation, lunch counters and movie theaters in Salisbury — all of which came about through Herndon's efforts.

"I learned that Rev. Herndon had an opportunity to work with Dr. King and was directly involved with the four black college students who staged a sit-in at a lunch counter in a North Carolina restaurant where black patrons were not served," said Tim Richards, a program analyst with the Lower Tier Project Office, Resource Management.

"For Martin, brotherhood was not just a matter of tolerating those who were opposed to integration," Herndon said.

"He saw greater possibilities in America and our people. We saw with those who opposed the civil rights movement a greater good within them than they thought themselves capable of.

"Martin's sense of brotherhood would not allow him to forget that all Americans — black, white, red, yellow and brown — were Lucy's children," Herndon said. Lucy is the name given to the oldest set of female human remains ever found. "They



Photo by Debra Valine

Rev. John L. Herndon III (left), guest speaker at the Huntsville Martin Luther King Jr.'s remembrance program in January, speaks with Veronica Collins, a physicist with SMDC's Battle Lab and Tim Richards, program analyst with the Lower Tier Project Office, Resource Management.

were part of that brotherhood that began some 3.5 million years ago in Hadar, Ethiopia (where Lucy's skeletal remains were found).

Herndon said it was King's belief in the brotherhood of all people that led King to begin a moral revolution in Montgomery, Ala.

"The theologian Paul Tillich, who had such a profound influence on the theological formation of Rev. King and his understanding of the brotherhood of all humanity, rightly argued that, 'love without the terms of justice is sentimentality.' He went on to say that, 'Justice is nothing more, but also nothing less, than one indispensable dimension of God's love.' Thus with this belief, he challenged us to understand that we had to

be prepared to lay down our lives not only for the freedom of black people, but also for the freedom of those who opposed the full expression of our freedom if it became necessary," Herndon said.

"This radical kind of brotherhood helped us see that our oppressors could not free themselves from the chains of racial prejudice, but if we would encourage and partner with them, the oppressed and the oppressor could both be free," Herndon said.

"I thought it was great to learn additional information about King and how his involvement and leadership greatly affected America. All God's people must continue to make a difference," Richards said.

Space Soldiers volunteer, educate children at local school

By 1st Lt. C. Jeff Maranich
Unit reporter

CAMP ROBERTS, Calif. — It's not every day a Soldier is asked for his autograph — but Delta Company, 1st Satellite Control Battalion Soldiers had that uplifting experience when they decided to "adopt" a local school.

Twenty miles away from post, on the edge of the community of Paso Robles, Calif. stands Kermit King Elementary School. The school holds almost 350 students, grades kindergarten through eighth. Many Soldiers stationed here live close to the school, and their children make up a large portion of the student body.



Photo by 1st Sgt. Ottis Pledger

Sp. George Maille, Delta Company, 1st SATCON Battalion, volunteers at a local school, helping teachers and educating the students about military life.

The Soldiers shop at the same stores as the students and their parents; they eat at the same restaurants; and they even enjoy similar recreational activities. Yet despite this close interaction and knowing military family members as fellow students, most children at Kermit King Elementary had no real knowledge of the Soldiers in their midst.

That was until Delta Co., stepped up and extended "its" hand. With the help of Principal Paul Corso, the satellite Soldiers adopted the elementary school.

Approximately 20 Soldiers volunteer their time to providing a presence aimed at educating the children about the role Soldiers play in American society, as well as just helping out around the school. Each Soldier spends an average of one full day a month at the school.

Soldiers "attend" school in Class A uniforms, presenting a sharp and unified front. They read to students, help them with projects, assist with computer skills, play with them on the play ground, and temporarily relieve teachers from oversight duties,

Among the participants is 1st Sgt. Ottis Pledger, who knows one student at Kermit King on a very personal level. One of his three sons attends Kermit

King and for the junior Pledger, it's a great opportunity to *share* his dad with his friends and peers.

"I'm used to the military stuff, but some of my friends aren't, so it's cool to have my dad come in. Mostly, everyone wants him to play football with us during recess," said 10-year-old Michael Pledger.

For many of the other Soldiers, it's a chance to reaffirm for themselves, as well as teach others, exactly what it means to wear the uniform.

Too often Soldiers serving in support roles — sometimes far from the field of battle as do SATCON Soldiers — forget the fact that their role in keeping America free is equally critical to those parts playing more center stage. Because they are not fighting the war on the same fronts as their colleagues in Iraq and Afghanistan, their contributions are frequently more obscure to the general public.

But not to the students at Kermit King. The children and teachers are doing their part to remind the Soldiers just how special they are.

"When I first arrived, the students swarmed me. Some wanted my autograph, some wanted to play football with me, and some just wanted to touch my uniform. I felt like a hero," said Spc. George Maille. As it seems to happen with community service, the Soldiers who are volunteering their time at the school cannot decide who is getting the better end of the deal — the kids or them.

Being all that he can be

Battalion commander on guard in

By Sharon L. Hartman
SMDC Public Affairs

PETERSON AIR FORCE BASE, Colo. — The intensity in the voice over the police radio was only too obvious. Backup was needed, and fast ... and backup was on its way in the form of one of the U.S. Army Space and Missile Defense Command's own.

Lt. Col. Scot Cuthbertson, commander of the 193rd Space Battalion, hasn't quit his day job, but has somehow found time out of his busy schedule to serve as a Reserve Unit Deputy with the El Paso County Sheriff's Office, in Colorado Springs, Colo.

Growing up in his hometown of Barrington, R.I., Cuthbertson was a friend to many of the policemen there. In college, he worked for a security company and ran a detox center at the city hospital. Near the time he was commissioned into the Army, the police department in Providence offered him a job — leaving him with a difficult choice.

Fortunately for the Army he chose to wear green, but in the end the cops made out too. With the Army bringing him to Colorado Springs, Cuthbertson joined the El Paso County Sheriff's Office Reserve Unit in 1997.

"I always wanted to be a cop. It was always my other career choice," said Cuthbertson.

"This was an opportunity to fulfill my goal of being a cop and still continue my military career."

An Active Guard/Reserve officer with the Colorado Army National Guard, Cuthbertson, originally the executive officer when the 193rd Space Battalion stood up more than two years ago, was a key player in the accelerated training and deployment of Soldiers necessitated by the tragedy of Sept. 11, 2001.

Having taken command of the battalion in November 2003, Cuthbertson commands 71 soldiers, 24 of whom have deployed to combat theaters to provide space support capabilities to the warfighters.

Working on his days off, and sometimes in the evenings after putting in a full day with the Army, Cuthbertson usually works 80 to 100 hours a month with the Sheriff's Office.

When questioned as to why he would go to such lengths, and to do so without compensation, Cuthbertson said,

"What we as Reservists do out here is provide assistance and cover for full-time officers. We provide backup that they would normally have to pull someone off another call to get, and sometimes that can make the difference between life and death for a deputy, or even a citizen," said Cuthbertson.

"I went out on a call one night, and there was a guy choking his wife in front of the kids. We came on scene and once we'd figured out what happened, we arrested him, and he ended up getting charged and convicted for attempted murder. He was not the least bit remorseful, but once we put him in custody, just the relief on the wife's and kids' faces made it all worth it. Knowing we took a guy off the street that could have killed his wife and maybe even his kids means a lot.

"Other things like, on a traffic stop, if you take a drunk driver off the road, you may have saved lives. That sticks with you."



Photo by Sgt. 1st Class Dennis Beebe

Cuthbertson, left, and Master Sgt. Howard Caraway take a break during the layout of the 193rd Space Battalion.



Cuthbertson, left, assists a deputy in apprehending



Photo by Sgt. 1st Class Dennis Beebe

Lt. Col. Scot Cuthbertson, left, assists Capt. Jason Held with testing of his NBC mask during the 193rd Space Battalion's layout in May 2002. Cuthbertson, who at that time was the battalion executive officer, is now the battalion commander.



Cuthbertson conducts a traffic stop in his other role as a deputy with the El Paso County Sheriff's Office.



Photo by Sgt. 1st Class Dennis Beebe

Cuthbertson loads his shotgun during a range qualification for the El Paso County Sheriff's Office.



Cuthbertson shoots to qualify on a range for the El Paso County Sheriff's Office.

military and civilian world



Photo by Sharon Hartman

ing a suspect.



Photo by Sharon Hartman

ole as a volunteer reserve deputy for the El Paso



Photo by Sharon Hartman

El Paso County Sheriff's Office.



Photo by Sharon Hartman

Cuthbertson radios information into dispatch while on patrol.

In addition to being the Reserve Unit Leader, Cuthbertson also provides assistance to the Sheriff's Office Special Weapons and Tactics (S.W.A.T.) unit.

"Occasionally, if they know ahead of time, the S.W.A.T. unit will call me for backup on one of their operations and I'll help," added Cuthbertson.

"I'll go and help them with search warrants, suspect transports, those kinds of things," Cuthbertson said.

"I've known Scot since around 1996, and have always known him to be someone who is selfless with his time," said Lt. Todd Evans, El Paso County Sheriff's Office Special Operations (S.W.A.T.).

"He has been in high-risk situations on patrol and has always been able to blend in as a cop. In most instances, you couldn't tell if he was a 10-year vet or a reservist. What I think impresses me the most about Scot is regardless of what he was doing in the military; he always wanted to give something back to the community,"

"What really makes this all worth it is the acceptance by the full-time officers,"

Cuthbertson said.

"Here we are as volunteers out doing many of the same things they are, and they appreciate the support we bring to them. There are nights where we are their only cover. We are the only backup they have. That means a lot to them and they treat us as equals." It is beyond doubt that Cuthbertson means a lot to the El Paso County Sheriff's Office, as he was recently named their volunteer of the year for 2003.

Back to the voice on the radio, Cuthbertson was one of four deputies who responded to a pursuit of a stolen vehicle. The vehicle chase ended with the stolen car crashing into a parked vehicle and a mailbox, the suspects then fleeing on foot. Two of the three suspects were caught and taken into custody, and after setting a perimeter, coordinating and assisting K-9 units with the search for the third suspect, Cuthbertson transported one of the suspects in for questioning.

Whether in Army green or in a blue and gray deputy's uniform, it's all in a day's work for Cuthbertson — who truly epitomizes the meaning of dedication and service to his country.

Army program helps Soldiers understand absentee voting

WASHINGTON, D.C. (Army News Service) — Americans across the country are now voting in presidential state primaries, but many Soldiers can't make it to the polls, said Jim Davis, the Army's voting action officer.

The Army's Voting Assistance Program aims to ensure that Soldiers, their families and DoD civilians overseas can exercise their right to vote, Davis said.

Absentee ballots can be applied for by filling out the federal postcard application, standard form 76, which can be found at the Federal Voting Assistance Program's Web site, Davis said.

"Not only does this

register them for an absentee ballot, but it also registers them to vote in federal, state and local elections," he said. "Everything is taken care of in one step."

"I recommend that Soldiers send in the federal post card application every year because they might have had an address change since the last election," he said.

"The states have extended this right to state and local elections also," Davis said.

Typically absentee ballots are mailed out to citizens 30 to 45 days before an election.

If those Soldiers, family or civilians who are located outside the United States send in their request for an

absentee ballot in sufficient time and didn't receive their ballot, they can use the Federal Write-In Application Ballot (SF 186).

"The federal write-in application is primarily for federal elections; however, some states accept it," he said.

Most states require the absentee ballot by close of business on the day of the election. However, there are some exceptions to that rule.

He advises people to educate themselves on the issues before voting. "If necessary, do research before you vote. Don't go in blindly," he said.

Davis stressed the

For more information on federal and state voting policies, go to the Federal Voting Assistance Program's Web site at <http://www.fvap.gov/>.

importance of understanding the laws on residency before registering to vote in a particular state.

"Your decision on which state to register in can affect your pay," he said.

"You can only have one legal residence at a time; however, you may change residency each time you are transferred," Davis said. For specific questions on residency, visiting the legal office.

Operators prepare for challenges ahead

First class graduates from GMD course

By Maj. Laura Kenney
SMDC Public Affairs

PETERSON AIR FORCE BASE, Colo. — Buoyed by a purpose as visceral as one can get — defense of the homeland — 31 soldiers graduated Dec. 19, 2003, from the first ever Ground-based Midcourse Defense Operator Advanced Course. They belong to the 100th Missile Defense Brigade (GMD), which was activated here Oct. 16, 2003. Some graduates will move to the battalion in Alaska that will provide operational control over the GMD system's interceptors.

The graduation ceremony marked the formal recognition of the group's accomplishment. The 12 preceding weeks had often been grueling, but all students worked and learned with a firm sense of purpose — that of being the essential line of defense between great harm and their nation.

Maj. Gen. John W. Holly, program director, Ground-based Midcourse Defense, presided at the graduation.

"This is an important system; critical to the defense of your nation — which broken down to its most basic means defense of your families and loved ones. Never before have we had this capability, so it truly is a hugely historic moment," said Holly.

The seven-week advanced course followed on the heels of an intensive five-week basic course, which introduced the students to the basic fundamentals of the GMD system.

"Actually, the basic course was very challenging," said Distinguished Graduate Capt. Amy Riggs. "There was a great deal of terminology to learn, and the tests were very comprehensive."

The advanced course qualified graduates on the fire control system, taking them through day-to-day crises, and combat and recovery operations. As in most military courses, the school ended with a demanding practical exercise, made as true to life as possible.

"They put us into every possible scenario — what to do in response to this particular situation, what to do in case of failure; it certainly kept us on our toes," said Spc. Joshua Wheeler, a communications operator in the battalion.

The learning definitely didn't stop with the handing out of diplomas.

Operational Procedure Investigations follow, working with all components of the

system, throwing out different threats, what ifs ... teaching the crews how to function cohesively.

The goal, according to presidential directive, is for the system to be operational by Fall 2004, on a timetable sped up by the attacks of Sept. 11, 2001.

The brigade will be staffed largely by active National Guard Soldiers, with a small contingent of active Army Soldiers. Colorado Guard Soldiers will man the brigade here, while Guard Soldiers serving at the battalion in Alaska are members of that state's National Guard.

"I came back into the Army — after a break in service of some years — partly due to Sept. 11," said Honor Graduate Staff Sgt. David Smith. "I was serving as a recruiter when I saw the nationwide advertisement for the GMD positions. It offered an opportunity to get into something great at the ground level. How much more important a job can you have than defense of the homeland?"

"I have a lot of faith in the system," said Smith, who will be the readiness operator for the 100th Missile Brigade.

"Out of the many classes I've had in the Army — I have five military occupational specialties — this is without a doubt the toughest and most challenging to date. The instructors did an incredible job of formatting an extremely technical subject into something both interesting and learnable."

Capt. Mike Edwards, who is slotted as a current operations officer for the brigade, was interested in the job due to a lifelong fascination with missile defense.

"I'm prior service infantry, but also had a lot of experience with forward area air defense. I've always been interested in space, and while doing some research on it, saw the job vacancy announcements,



Photo by Dennis Plummer

Sgt. Ralph Fresquez, Readiness NCO for the 100th Missile Defense Brigade (Ground-based Midcourse Defense), accepts his diploma marking his graduation from the Ground-based Midcourse Defense Operators Advanced Course from Maj. Gen. John W. Holly, program director, Ground-based Midcourse Defense. Brig. Gen. Robert P. Lennox, deputy commanding general, Operations, SMDC, waits to congratulate Fresquez.

and applied. I'm really glad to be involved. "It's a great field, and there's a lot to learn," said Edwards.

Riggs and Wheeler were both attracted to the job by the lure of the Alaskan location, although both are professed city types, and their future duty station — Fort Greely — is considered remote.

"I've only seen pictures of Alaska, and I know it'll present challenges ... but this is the perfect time in my life to take up such a challenge. I'm very proud to be part of the homeland defense operation, and Alaska just makes it that much more interesting," said Riggs, sensors operator in the battalion.

Wheeler, newly married and hailing from the far sunnier climes of Florida, is looking forward to the new experiences offered by the arctic regions of his upcoming duty assignment.

"I love the military, primarily because it's always offering something different. This is a great unit and program, and although my wife and I know we'll have to make adjustments, we're looking forward to it."

"I've never been prouder of a group of students — they will truly do well at what Maj. Gen. Holly rightly called the most critical mission of all, defending our loved ones and our nation."

Civilian News

Senate passes funding bill with federal pay raise included

The Senate on Jan. 22 gave final approval to an \$820-billion spending bill that includes a 4.1 percent pay raise for federal civilian employees. The amount is more than double the 2 percent increase that President Bush proposed in his FY 2004 budget. Because lawmakers had not finished the appropriations bills by the end of December, the president's proposal took effect Jan. 1. The additional 2.1 percent will be awarded to workers retroactively once Bush signs the bill and issues an order establishing new pay tables. The bill just passed will finance 11 government departments for the fiscal year that began in October. It was the second consecutive year Congress missed its appropriations deadline by months.

FEEA scholarship applications for federal employees, dependents now available

Applications for the Federal Employee Education and Assistance (FEEA) Fund are now available for its 2004-05 scholarship program. Eligible applicants are civilian federal and postal employees with at least three years of service, and their dependents. Dependent applicants must be full-time students in an accredited degree program and must have a cumulative grade point average (GPA) of 3.0 or higher. Employee applicants must meet the same criteria, however they may be part-time students. Additional qualifications are discussed on FEEA's Web site www.feea.org in the "Educational Assistance" area. A downloadable version of the application also can be found on the site. Applications may be obtained by calling FEEA at 1-800-323-4140, or e-mailing FEEAHQ@aol.com. Completed applications must be postmarked by March 26.

AKO LITE to speed downloads

AKO recently deployed AKO LITE — a stripped-down version of the standard AKO homepage that will load up to ten times faster, thus saving time and bandwidth on initial download. AKO LITE contains access links to all the most popular AKO features and is set up to provide an experience as close to the full AKO as possible. AKO deployed this new feature in response to comments from users — particularly those in Southwest Asia — that AKO was too slow in loading to be useful. During testing, AKO found that AKO LITE loads an average of 70% faster than the full AKO homepage in low bandwidth environments. AKO LITE can be accessed from the standard AKO splash page at www.us.army.mil. To log on to the full AKO, click on the link "Sign In" and to log on to AKO LITE, click on the link "AKO LITE Sign In". The user's name and passwords are the same.

Government preparing to revise federal drug testing program

The federal government plans to overhaul its employee drug testing program to include scrutiny of workers' hair, saliva and sweat, a shift that could spur more businesses to revise screening for millions of their own workers. The proposed changes, long awaited by the testing industry, reflect government efforts to be more precise in its drug screening and to outmaneuver a small but growing subset of workers who try to cheat on urine-based tests. Robert Stephenson, director of workplace programs at the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, said it would likely be a year until the new policies take effect for the nation's 1.6 million federal workers. The agency, known as SAMHSA, sets guidelines and administers the testing. All federal workers are eligible to be tested. SAMHSA, a division of the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), tests fewer than 200,000 workers a year. The decision about who is tested often depends on the sensitivity of the job involved. The changes are due out "literally any day," Stephenson said. He would not discuss details of the proposals before their release. Changes would not likely go into effect until early next year, after the agency solicits public comment, finalizes guidelines and prepares for the transition. Its testing standards are also widely followed by thousands of other employers, both public and private.

Military News

Army denies R&R canceled

The Army is not canceling the Rest and Recuperation program for troops in February and March — misinformation that seems to have made its way around the country. "There are far fewer troops that will be eligible, yes, but we're not canceling the program," said Gary Jones, a spokesman for Army Forces Central Command in Atlanta. Eligible troops are those deployed on 12-month orders. Typically, they get a chance at the 15 days of R&R leave around the six-month mark. So troops just arriving aren't eligible. Same goes for those redeploying. If they've reached the 11th-month mark or their units are getting ready to go home, they're not going on leave. There are roughly 140,000 troops in the region, with 123,000 of those in Iraq.

New Army Web site helps disabled retirees apply for special compensation

A new Web site designed to assist disabled military retirees in applying for Combat-Related Special Compensation went online the week of Jan. 12. The U.S. Army CSRC Web site, located at <http://www.crsc.army.mil>, provides information a disabled military retiree needs to apply for this special compensation, said officials from the Human Resources Command. The site provides program guidelines used to determine eligibility for combat-related disability benefits and application procedures for the program. The Web site also provides:

- Guidance on how and where to file an appeal for retirees who previously submitted applications that have been determined ineligible or have been declined.
- A detailed listing of specific information and documentation that is frequently overlooked by applicants in their initial applications, as well as procedural and timing considerations.
- Phone and e-mail points of contact in the event customers have difficulty navigating the site or need specific information about the CRSC program.

Requirement expires for TRICARE Standard nonavailability statements

People covered by the TRICARE Standard military health care plan no longer need approval from their military treatment facility to seek inpatient care at civilian hospitals. The need to get a nonavailability statement before seeking civilian inpatient care expired Dec. 28, 2003, under a provision of the 2002 National Defense Authorization Act. A nonavailability statement indicates that care is not available from the military facility and authorizes care at a civilian facility. An exception in the law continues the requirement for TRICARE Standard beneficiaries to get a nonavailability statement before seeking nonemergency inpatient mental health care services. However, officials said, this applies only to beneficiaries who use TRICARE Standard or Extra, who are not Medicare eligible, and who have no other health insurance that is primary to TRICARE. DoD does not require preauthorization for TRICARE beneficiary inpatient mental health care when Medicare is the primary payer.

Veterans Benefit Act of 2003 affects some surviving spouses

A recently passed law may provide income for thousands of unknowing surviving spouses of military retirees and other veterans. Public Law 108-183, the Veterans Benefit Act of 2003 signed into law by President Bush on Dec. 16, 2003, allows survivors of members who died of service-connected causes to retain Dependency and Indemnity Compensation (DIC) if they remarry after attaining age 57. Previously, surviving spouses lost this entitlement if they remarried at any age. The only provision to regain the benefit was if the latter marriage ended in death or divorce. Also, those who have already remarried (and were age 57 or older when they did so) have until Dec. 16, 2004 to apply for reinstatement of their DIC benefits. The current entitlement is \$967 a month. The application form is VA form 21-686c which is available on the Web at <http://www.vba.va.gov/pubs/forms/21-686c.pdf>.

Dodgen

Continued from page 1

Ground-based Midcourse Defense Initial Defensive Operations and maturing SMDC's relationship as the Army Service Component Command to the U.S. Strategic Command.

"Our Army needs a dedicated command for space and missile defense. This command is vital," Dodgen said. "My first priority was and must be the Soldiers forward-deployed and the tools we bring to the fight against terrorism. We have had SMDC Soldiers wounded in combat; we are not far from the tip of the spear. Right now we have three space support teams deployed in country supporting the Corps."

"Our Soldiers —our space experts — have enough credibility to look at space-based assets and within one day get back answers for tactical commanders. The Space Support Element Toolset-Light, with

March, May and July.

During the previous seven years, Dodgen has spent five years in the joint environment and two years as commanding general of the U.S. Army Aviation and Missile Command at Redstone Arsenal before taking command of SMDC. He feels this is where he needs to be in his career.

"The only thing better than one Army command is to command two," Dodgen said. "I am thrilled. SMDC is a natural place for someone with my skills and background to go. It is the place I wanted to go.

"This is a very special command," Dodgen said. "More than ever, I am beginning to realize that the environment of space, missile defense, intelligence, surveillance, reconnaissance, and

information operations, demands that there be a focal point to bring attention to those areas. It has been brought into focus for me now that I am in the command rather than outside. Clearly we have to protect the Army's equities in those areas and ensure we keep the Army

in focus in those areas."

Dodgen, a self-proclaimed people person, said another great thing about changing commands is that he will get to meet another great set of people.

"I have met many great people in this command who are all doing great things for the Soldiers and the command," said Dodgen, whose goal is to meet everyone in SMDC while he is the commanding general.

"The Battle Lab in Huntsville builds capabilities for the Soldiers," Dodgen said. "Building it and then training the Soldiers on it gets capabilities to our Soldiers very quickly. We will be bringing capabilities to the warfighter that will be essential in the years ahead."

He also understands the importance of Huntsville as a customer-based activity.

"We have to protect our relationships with the customers. We have to make sure we are providing value added to our customers and that we are fulfilling their needs and anticipating future needs," Dodgen said.

He wants to build a vision for Huntsville

that maximizes its potential. He plans to spend a lot of time with SMDC's customers, making sure SMDC is anticipating and building for the future. SMDC leadership will play a big role.

"I think the leadership both in Huntsville and Colorado Springs needs to come together and really look at the way ahead to building a strategic plan for the future, as we are changing how the military fights and where we can be most active," Dodgen said. A leadership conference is being planned where goals will be set and a decision made about whether or not SMDC needs to change its core competencies.

While a staff is around to assist the commander, Dodgen wants staff chiefs to act in their own functional areas to assist and protect the command.

"I want to spend my time framing decisions at my level and trust my staff at their level to do what is best for the command," Dodgen said. "They will very much be executing the way ahead."

Sometimes the staff will feel challenged, Dodgen said. He is a huge Louisiana State University and Southeastern Conference football fan and admits he likes controversy.

"I try to reach my decisions or point of view by testing people," Dodgen said. "While sometimes that comes across as being hard on people, I really just want to see what people in the command are passionate about. I like to talk through things, challenge the people who are briefing me. I think we can come together that way with a command position.

"I recognize that I do not have the answers to all the questions, so I expect the experts to give me the facts," he said. "I can mix that with what I know about the Army at the senior level, and that way, we can best support the Army and the command."

As with any Army commander, readiness is Dodgen's No. 1 issue, with the focus on the Soldier and the Global War on Terrorism. "What do we give the Soldiers and how do we ensure Soldiers are ready to do the job they have to do to support the Army and the nation.

He said in the near term he wants to make sure SMDC is putting capabilities in the hands of the Soldiers and that they are trained and ready. In the long term, he wants to ensure Soldiers keep their competitive advantage against any potential foes.

"Behind every Soldier out there, there is a whole community that made sure capabilities were tested and their reliability was tested by a great community like SMDC," Dodgen said. "Once the capability gets to the Soldier, that civilian is on the front line, too, dealing with any problems the Soldier might have."



Army photo

Gen. Peter J. Schoomaker, left, promotes Larry J. Dodgen to lieutenant general Jan. 30. Dodgen's wife Leslie, pins on the third star on his left epaulet.

expertise from Technical Center and Battle Lab, brings capabilities to the battlefield that the Marines, Army and Joint Forces want.

"There are a lot of innovative people in SMDC doing a lot of thinking about what the warfighter needs. Every Soldier is dependent on space products," Dodgen said.

Not only is the Soldier dependent on space products, so is the nation. SMDC's work getting ready to deploy ground-based midcourse defense capabilities at Fort Greely, Alaska, is an area where SMDC cannot fail, Dodgen said.

"We have to bring technology to bear to continue our relationship with the Missile Defense Agency," Dodgen said. "On Jan. 27 a new booster was tested successfully at SMDC's Ronald Reagan Ballistic Missile Test Range on Kwajalein Atoll in the South Pacific." The booster, designed by Orbital Sciences Corporation, carries the exo-atmospheric kill vehicle into the sky where it detaches, seeks out an incoming warhead and collides with it, destroying the target. Follow-on tests are set for

Pentagon decides against Internet voting this year

By Jim Garamone
American Forces Press
Service

WASHINGTON, D.C. — The Defense Department is deep-sixing an Internet voting program over concerns about security, a Pentagon spokeswoman said.

The Federal Voting Assistance Program, which

aids Americans serving overseas in the voting process, will not use the Secure Electronic Registration and Voting Experiment system, or SERVE, in November.

"The department has decided not to use the SERVE program in the November elections because of our inability to ensure the legitimacy of the votes," the spokeswoman said.

Deputy Defense Secretary Paul Wolfowitz signed the memo on SERVE Jan. 30.

The cancellation follows a report by four of the 10 computer security experts asked to test the system. Those four concluded the system did not ensure the legitimacy of votes. The report they issued said there were a number of ways that computer

hackers could crack into the system.

Wolfowitz said he will reconsider his decision only if researchers can prove integrity can be maintained, the spokeswoman said.

The decision does not end Internet voting research, the Pentagon spokeswoman said. Research will continue.

Joint Tactical Ground Stations on point in the Pacific

By Chief Warrant Officer
Maury Hayes
Unit reporter

OSANAIR FORCE BASE, Korea — It's 2 in the morning in South Korea and while most people are in a deep sleep, three U.S. Army Space and Missile Defense Command-Colorado Springs Soldiers or Sailors are wide awake and alert to the "hot spot" goings-on throughout Asia.

These three Soldiers or Sailors sit comfortably in front of the colorful displays inside a Joint Tactical Ground Station (JTAGS) within the Korean Combined Operations and Intelligence Center. They are providing Tactical Ballistic Missile warning for Soldiers, Sailors, Airmen and Marines throughout the Pacific Command theater of operations. Their crew is a mix of Soldiers and Sailors — hence the "J" in JTAGS, and they work very well in this "joint" environment. Each shares with the others the skills their years of training within their respective branch have given them. They rely extensively on each other for mission accomplishment.

Naval Operations Specialist Jay Howard, a crew chief, said, "Even though Army and Navy



Photo by Staff Sgt. Preston Peart

Pfc. Jeffrey Englert and Naval Operations Specialist Jay Howard man the JTAGS in Korea, providing Tactical Ballistic Missile warning for the Pacific Command Theater.

come from different backgrounds, we come together as one to protect America's forces on the battlefield."

Tactical ballistic missile warning is a tremendous mission responsibility these days. With the number of countries possessing TBMs and their numbers within each country growing, this important mission is at the forefront of the theater commander's mind on a daily basis. But this crew can handle it. They take pride in what they do and they ensure that they get the mission done

in a very professional and precise manner. It is not exciting, and it does almost seem boring at times, but just maintaining a multi-million dollar shelter and all the associated systems, communications links and mission requirements is no easy task. They do it without complaint.

Elsewhere, depending on which day of the week it is, the operations section will be providing exercise TBM injects throughout Asia and the Pacific theater via the exercise suite. This allows all theater personnel to exercise and

critique their passive ballistic missile defense tactics, techniques and procedures. JTAGS is the only peninsula or theater system that provides these exercise missile injects. This is but one of the selling points that keeps the JTAGS system and personnel within theaters. With the upgrades to various U.S. Strategic Command's TBM warning systems and additional technologies available for that mission today, relevance is something that JTAGS and the 2nd Space Company do not take for granted. Relevance is something that is closely monitored from the section officer-in-charge all the way up through the various commanders within SMDC.

Pfc. Jeffrey Englert, a primary operator, said, "As a first duty station, I couldn't be more pleased with the values my unit has instilled in me. I look forward to progressing to the position of crew chief as soon as possible."

Ultimately, the JTAGS system with its unique capabilities will remain in theater for years to come. With the JTAGS upgrade on the horizon, the Multi-Mission Mobile Processor will further define how warfighters exercise and receive TBM warning.

Building

Continued from page 1

SMDC; it's ready for occupancy. I am sure Wernher Von Braun would be proud because we are dedicating our work to his vision. It is a fitting honor to his memory," said then-Maj. Gen. Larry J. Dodgen, SMDC commander.

"By cutting the ribbon today, we will accomplish several things," Dodgen said. "We are moving our Huntsville headquarters onto a secure military facility. It will save the Department of Defense millions of dollars. This new \$39 million state-of-the-art building will pay for itself in just a few years and it will improve the quality of life for all of us."

Without the support of Alabama's congressional delegation, the Von Braun Complex would not have been possible, Dodgen said. Other speakers at the ceremony included Joseph Plunkett, director of the Southeast Region, U.S. Army Installation Management Agency, and members of the Alabama congressional delegation: Sen. Richard C. Shelby; Sen. Jeff Sessions; Rep. Bud Cramer Jr.; and Rep. Robert Aderholt.

Huntsville Mayor Loretta Spencer and Madison Mayor Jan Wells attended the ceremony and participated in the ribbon cutting.

"As you know, the Arsenal

has a rich history in the support of the nation," Plunkett said. "Fifty years ago, Von Braun's vision was to lead the world in missile and space technology.

"It is fitting that this facility will house SMDC and be named in honor of Wernher Von Braun and support the nation in keeping pace with technology today."

"This is the first phase of a multi-phase project that we are going to build," Shelby said. "I cannot think of a better person to name it for. They will soon start the second phase and we will be looking at the third.

"It is a tribute to Wernher Von Braun and his team that came here 50 years ago and put Huntsville on the map big time," Shelby said. "Redstone Arsenal is a jewel for the Army, NASA and others. This is another big step in the right direction to strengthen what we do at Redstone Arsenal and national security and the nation. I am proud to have played a small part in honoring that great scientist, Wernher Von Braun."

"This whole system of space science and technology is unsurpassed anywhere," Sessions said. "We are proud of what you do. It is easy for me to sell what you do here. Our men and women in uniform are representing us with their sterling performance. They are as great as they are

Wernher Von Braun

Wernher Von Braun was one of the world's first and foremost rocket engineers and a leading authority on space travel. His will to expand man's knowledge through the exploration of space led to the development of the Explorer satellites, the Jupiter and Jupiter-C rockets, Pershing, the Redstone rocket, Saturn rockets, and Skylab, the world's first space station. Additionally, his determination to "go where no man has gone before" led to mankind setting foot on the Moon.

Living in Huntsville, Ala., from 1950 to 1970, Dr. Von Braun first directed the technical development of the U.S. Army's ballistic missile program at Redstone Arsenal, and later served as director of NASA's Marshall Space



Dr. Wernher Von Braun

Flight Center. When he transferred to Washington, D.C., he left Huntsville with a rich legacy: the research institutions at the University of Alabama in Huntsville, the Alabama Space and Rocket Center, and the Von Braun Center.

because of the tools they have. A technologically advanced Army will beat a larger Army anytime. When the Von Braun Complex is complete, it will be a \$100 million campus. Since 1997, we have completed or plan for completion of \$250 million in military construction. President Bush and his administration understand that technology represents strength in our military."

"Our congressional delegation takes all of our issues seriously," Cramer said. "A project like this doesn't happen without an aggressive plan. We have slowly but surely built the kind of facility that will benefit this community. In a way, this is BRAC (Base Realignment and Closure) insurance. We are looking after the infrastructure of Redstone Arsenal."

USAKA kids participate in calendar contest

Winners receive gift certificates and 2004 calendar with their pictures in it

By April Brown
Reporter, Kwajalein Hourglass

A few classes received a welcome disruption Jan. 7, when Kwajalein Range Services officials recognized 41 George Seitz Elementary School students for their participation in the Environmental, Safety and Health calendar contest.

The contest, held in May, invited students to submit drawings on any ES and H topic, said Amber Morse, KRS Safety specialist. A selection committee judged the drawings and selected 13 winners, one for the cover and one for each month of the year. The winners received a \$25 gift certificate to local retail stores in May and all the participants received their own copy of the calendar Jan. 7.

Morse — accompanied by Ike Richardson, KRS president; Joe Marshall, KRS Community Activities manager; and Norm Black, KRS ES and H manager — went from room to room to officially recognize the students in front of their classmates. Karen Ammann, superintendent of schools, introduced each student and invited them up to the front of the classroom to receive their calendar.

Calendar winners include Michelle Fore, third grade; first grader Cory Corbett; second graders Cody Moore and Kori Dowell; third grader Reslinda Haferkorn; fourth graders Renee Corbett, Dominikue Loreda and Julie Alves; fifth graders Emma Peacock, Chelsea Bantol and Joshua Kendrick, who is home

schooled; and sixth graders Curtis Kemen and Alan Rowe.

Richardson encouraged all the students to participate next year and received positive responses from students who are interested in the next competition. "We're looking forward to all of you submitting your pictures in the spring," Richardson said.

The variety of topics covered in the calendar brings attention to issues that are important on island, he said.

"It's a tremendous tool at any age," Richardson said. "It gets people thinking in the right direction."

Michelle Fore was recognized for her drawing of a turtle keeping the island clean, which appears on the cover of the calendar.

Black said he uses his calendar in his office on a daily basis and encouraged the



Photo by April Brown

Kwajalein Safety Specialist Amber Morse, introduces Eltina John to Ike Richardson, president of Kwajalein Range Services. Eltina and the 40 other children who participated in last summer's Environmental, Safety and Health calendar competition were presented with a printed copy of the 2004 calendar in January, featuring all of the winners' drawings. Karen Ammann, superintendent of schools, is pictured in the background.

students to increase participation.

"We need lots of help with safety so think of some good safety pictures," Black said.

Of the 500 calendars printed, a certain percentage of calendars will be given to KRS departments, Morse said. Each department manager will decide how to distribute them.

Security top priority for contractor at Camp Roberts

Civilian contractors understand the need for speed

By Sgt. Todd Ricard
Unit reporter

CAMP ROBERTS, Calif. — Space Soldiers stationed at this National Guard post sometimes don't have the conveniences that exist for units at larger installations such as Camp Pendleton, Calif. or Fort Bragg, N.C. For Soldiers, that's just the luck of the draw. Civilian contractors, however, are sometimes nonplussed at the relative remoteness of the site, and lack of commonly expected amenities. One particular group of contractors came through in an especially big way recently for Delta Company, 1st Satellite Control Battalion Soldiers.

Just getting to Camp "Bob" itself can be an adventure. Add to that the long, winding and slow-driving-required road up to the remote SATCOM station. Then consider the arduous (for civilians) clearance procedures through two separate gates. All this occurs before even seeing the job you've been sent to do — replacing a security door to a very sensitive area — which requires that all work performed be done under the watchful eyes of alert guards.

It is a long drawn out process simply to measure a door, let alone install a new one. But the team of Dave Miklovic and Jose Flores from Professional Design Construction were

more than up to the rigors required.

The job was a critical one, involving a 200-pound security door and frame leading to equipment and operations areas. It had been assessed by maintenance experts as having a strong likelihood of malfunction, hence the need for contractor support.

"I decided to take the job to help out our military. I also wanted to try and do my part in helping them secure their facility. I can't say enough about how respectful and courteous the personnel are at Camp Roberts (specifically 1st SATCON Battalion). I enjoyed working with our Army and will continue to support them," said

Miklovic.

The job was accomplished in a number of phases, all under tight security, so as to not impede work or physical security requirements. Phase 1 was to take all measurements of the door; phase 2 was to remove the old door and install the new one; and phase 3 was to make some minor adjustments to the door frame, the hinge mechanism, and the locking mechanism. Each phase lasted only a few hours, due to the contractors' understanding of the necessity for speed coupled with quality.

"Delta Co. was extremely pleased with the workmanship, professionalism and efficiency of Mr. Miklovic, Mr. Flores, and

everyone at Professional Design Construction. They say that first impressions are lasting, however I tend to hold my impressions of someone until they have finished what they set out to accomplish," said Capt. Stacy Godshall, company commander.

"From first impression to job completion, the installers and their company made a great and lasting impression which will be evident in our continuing ability to have mission success."

A company level certificate of appreciation was awarded to Professional Design Construction in December, in gratitude and appreciation for a job well done.



Photo by Spc. Matthew Hagen

1st Sgt. Ottis Pledger (left), 1st Lt. Jeff Maranich, Capt. Stacy Godshall, Dave Miklovic, Jose Flores and Sgt. Todd Ricard, D Company, 1st SATCON Battalion. Dave Miklovic and Jose Flores of Professional Design Construction received a company level certificate of appreciation for their excellent service in replacing a security door in a sensitive area of operations.

Awards/Promotions

Civilian Promotions

William T. Bishop, GS-14, Huntsville, Research, Development, and Acquisition, Command Integration Division
Chad L. Daly, GS-9, Huntsville, Battle Lab, Studies and Analysis Division
Sarah V. Trial, GS-6, Huntsville, Personnel, G-1, Military Personnel Division
Wanda H. Tucker, GS-13, Huntsville, Resource Management, G-8, Program and Policy Division
Herbert J. Wolverson, GS-13, USAKA, Directorate of Business Management

On-the-Spot Cash Awards

Carmen L. Correa, Arlington, Office of PARC/Contracting and Acquisition Management
Pamela J. Dykema, USAKA, Directorate of Logistics and Community Activities
Wonda E. Grayson, Arlington, Office of the Chief Scientist
Catherine T. Hovater, Huntsville, Office of PARC/Contracting and Acquisition Management, Branch T
Frances C. King, Huntsville, THAAD Project Office, Program Management Directorate, Management and Administrative Support
Edmund J. Krupko, Huntsville, THAAD Project Office, Missile Directorate
Billy W. Lemley, Huntsville, Office of PARC/Contracting and Acquisition Management, Command Support Services Branch
Pamela G. Mitchell, Arlington, Office of the Chief of Staff
Buphus L. Nall, Huntsville, THAAD Project Office, C2/BM Product Office
Angela T. Thomas, Huntsville, Technical Center Operations
Bettie M. Upshaw, Huntsville, GMD Joint Project Office
Samuel T. Uptain, Huntsville, THAAD Project Office, Radar Product Office
Terri Lynn Washburn, Huntsville, Office of PARC/Contracting and Acquisition Management, Command Support Services Branch
Annie J. Williams, Huntsville, Technical Center, Advanced Technology Directorate Core

Special Act Awards

Beverly B. Atkinson, Huntsville, GMD Joint Project Office
Jason Scott Baker, Huntsville, Battle Lab,

Simulations Directorate, Simulation Development Division
Gina M. Gilbertson, Huntsville, GMD Joint Project Office
James S. Brazzell, Huntsville, THAAD Project Office, Missile Directorate, Hardware Division
Leah J. Isom, Huntsville, Engineer, National Environmental Policy Act Compliance Branch
Marc L. Johnson, Huntsville, Kwajalein Support Directorate, Program Support Division
Kenneth H. Jordan, Huntsville, THAAD Project Office, Systems Engineering Directorate, System Integration and Verification Division
Jean M. Konopka, Arlington, Office of the Chief of Staff
Michael C. Lawrence, Huntsville, Joint Project Office
Gene E. Lenning, Huntsville, GMD Joint Project Office
John T. Lindley, Huntsville, THAAD Project Office, Missile Directorate, Hardware Division
Ivan Martinez, Huntsville, THAAD Project Office, Missile Directorate, Hardware Division
Mark E. Reavis, Huntsville, Air, Space and Missile Defense Program Executive Office, MEADS
Audrey Jo Cash Tucker, Huntsville, THAAD Project Office, Missile Directorate
Walter A. Zumbach, Huntsville, THAAD Project Office, Missile Directorate, Missile Systems Engineering Software and Test Division

Time-Off Awards

Alesia K. Barger, Huntsville, Personnel, G-1, Civilian Personnel Division
Carol P. Benton, Huntsville, Office of PARC/Contracting and Acquisition Management, Branch N
Yvonne S. Hampton, Huntsville, Resource Management, G-8, Accounting Division
Hurley V. Hughes, Huntsville, Resource Management, G-8, Accounting Division
Janice S. Jean, Huntsville, Technical Center, Sensors Directorate Core
Andrew J. Johnson, Huntsville, Battle Lab, Simulations Directorate, Computer Resources Division
Frances C. King, Huntsville, THAAD Project Office, Program Management Directorate, Management and Administrative Support Division
Karen Larson, Huntsville, GMD Joint Project Office
Richard A. Mallowney, Huntsville, Resource Management, G-8, Accounting

Division
Ioroslau Parowczenko, Huntsville, Battle Lab, Analysis and Operations Directorate, Studies and Analysis Division
Christina R. Ryan, Huntsville, Small and Disadvantaged Business Utilization
Virginia C. Snodgrass, Huntsville, Battle Lab, Analysis and Operations Directorate, Studies and Analysis Division
Dianne F. Trimble, Huntsville, Office of PARC/Contracting and Acquisition Management, Branch N
Helen M. Walker, Huntsville, Resource Management, G-8, Accounting Division
Amy S. Williams, Colorado Springs, Office of PARC/Contracting and Acquisition Management, Contracting Division
Gerald L. Wolf, USAKA, Directorate of Logistics and Community Activities

Superior Civilian Service Award

Thomas J. Kane, Huntsville, Engineering Division, Technology Branch

Meritorious Civilian Service Award

Chuck A. Holpp, Huntsville, Assistant Deputy Chief of Staff, Personnel, G-1

Achievement Medal for Civilian Service

James C. Davenport, McDill Air Force Base, Florida, Regional SATCOM Support Center
Wayne P. Evans, McDill Air Force Base, Florida, Regional SATCOM Support Center
Stanley A. Hall, McDill Air Force Base, Florida, Regional SATCOM Support Center
Jack Miller, Information Management, G-6, Communications and Visual Information Division
Wilson W. Small, McDill Air Force Base, Florida, Regional SATCOM Support Center
Jimmy D. Taylor, McDill Air Force Base, Florida, Regional SATCOM Support Center

Commander's Award for Civilian Service

Lewis Bernstein, Huntsville, Operations and Plans, G-3, Historical Office
Joyce H. Ganus, Huntsville, Protocol Office
Sharon W. Lang, Huntsville, Operations and Plans, G-3, Historical Branch

13th Sergeant Major of the Army takes office

WASHINGTON, D.C. (Army News Service) — Introduced by Army Chief of Staff Gen. Peter Schoomaker as the right man for the job, Sgt. Maj. Kenneth Preston was sworn in as the 13th sergeant major of the Army during a Pentagon ceremony Jan. 15. Preston replaces Sgt. Maj. of the Army Jack Tilley.

As sergeant major of the Army, Preston will act as the Army chief of staff's personal adviser on all enlisted-

related matters, particularly in areas affecting Soldier training and quality of life. He will also sit on a variety of councils and boards that make decisions impacting enlisted Soldiers and their families and testify before Congress on Soldier issues.

One of the Soldiers Preston will serve is his own son, Spc. Michael Preston. Michael is a member of the 327th Military Police Company, an Army Reserve unit based in Maryland and currently deployed in Iraq.

Because his son is a reservist, Preston said he believes that he will be able to better serve the Army Reserve and National Guard as Michael has no problem discussing reserve-component issues — “the good and the bad” — with his dad.

Among Preston's stated priorities in his new job are ensuring Soldiers are properly trained and equipped to win against the nation's enemies; instilling the warrior ethos in all Soldiers as “every Soldier is

a rifleman first;” facilitating change as the Army embraces new formations, technologies and tactics; and caring for Army families.

Change has been and will continue to be the norm for the Army, Preston said.

Preston has served in the Army for 28 years, mostly in armor units. Prior to his selection as sergeant major of the Army, he was the command sergeant major for Combined Joint Task Force 7 in Baghdad, Iraq.

Ski day flies for Delta Company, 1st SATCON Soldiers

By Pfc. Robert Fletcher and Sgt. Logan Maynard
Unit reporters

CAMP ROBERTS, Calif. — The day started early for the sleepy Soldiers of Delta Company, 1st Satellite Control Battalion. Many still had “sand” in their eyes as the adventurous group embarked on the company’s first ski trip.

Fourteen Soldiers of Delta Company and three family members left the frigid Paso Robles for the high mountains of Sierra Summit.

The convoy left Paso Robles at 4:30 en route to the mountain’s beckoning white powder. Things got off to a rocky start when the first van ran into trouble when a child became ill with motion sickness. All prospective skiers were relieved and proud when the boy demonstrated the Delta Co. spirit — toughing it out for the entire trip to the mountains. One breakfast break and a few pit stops later, it was time for the Soldiers to face down the mountain.

Many of those who attended



Photo by Sgt. Susanna Mopper

Illuminated by a splash of sunlight on the snowy slope, Staff Sgt. Victor Stock pauses, braced against the mountain, during a Delta Company, 1st SATCON Battalion ski day.

had never skied before but Staff Sgt. Bryan Marines and Sgt. Todd Ricard offered their expert guidance and advice as “old pros.”

Lessons began as soon as everyone arrived at 8:30, even before each had his or her lift passes and rental skis. “The experts” were giving “the bunnies” a few tips.

Staff Sgt. Richard Jones

(halfway) joked, “If it weren’t for Bryan I would probably be buried in snow off the side of a cliff right now.”

Everyone was in a jovial mood as they waited in line, chatting excitedly about what run they were going to take first or if they were going to get skis or a snowboard.

Ironically, the snowy slopes were much warmer than the

freezing Paso Robles morning they had left behind just hours earlier. Many of the Soldiers were bundled warmly when they left and had to remove layers of clothing.

The majority of the more experienced skiers and snowboarders went directly to the jumps and got some impressive results.

Sgt. Michael Smith admitted, “I was a bit worried when I came out as I hadn’t been on the slopes in a while, but everything settled right in. I credit the Army for keeping me in such good shape.”

The day wound to a close around dusk. Most were none the worse for wear. The most severe injuries were minor bruises and scrapes as well as the expected muscle soreness. The convoy arrived back in Paso Robles well after dark. Most had slept through the entire ride home, however everyone was still very tired from the long day of fun.

“I was sore when I got home, but the next day at work was a killer,” said Sgt. Clay Rhoads. “I can’t wait to go again.”

Soldiers returning from Iraq receive goodies from local vet

By Sandy Riebeling
Redstone Rocket

When the \$1,500 cookie bill came, it was split between three local Huntsville men and paid with gladness of heart. It’s a small price to pay for Soldiers who do so much.

“It’s the least we can do,” said John Yim, general engineer with the U.S. Army Space and Missile Defense Command, who organized the delivery of 23,040 almond cookies to Parkway Place Mall on Jan. 12.

“We’re going to load most of them in Regi Law’s truck and drive them to Fort Campbell, Ky. It’s to welcome home Soldiers of ‘Task Force Rakkasans’ and to show our appreciation.”

More than a decade ago, Yim served two years as an infantryman with the 3rd Battalion, 187th Infantry Regiment, 101st Airborne Division. He was within four hours of deployment to Somalia after the notorious downing of five Black Hawk helicopters on Oct. 3-4, 1993.

“I never went,” Yim said. “Higher headquarters canceled the mission but I am still proud to have served with them. I wanted to do something to show my appreciation for what they’re doing now. I talked to a couple of friends of mine and we decided to send cookies.”

The original plan between Yim and his friends Regi Law, who owns the Cajun Grill franchise at Parkway Place Mall and Gaston Law, proprietor of China Master restaurant, a stone’s throw from his brother, was birthed the day after Thanksgiving and was intended as a Christmas present for the deployed troops.

“But with the delivery times between California and here and then shipping to Iraq, we knew it wouldn’t get there in time and they were starting to come home after Christmas. So we decided to have them here waiting for them. They’ll be served at the welcome ceremonies as the troops come home,” Yim said.

About 3,000 Rakkasans (the Japanese word for paratroopers adopted by the regiment years ago) were expected to return to Fort Campbell over the course of several weeks.

Refreshments served to Soldiers and their families included the almond cookies purchased and delivered by Yim and the Law brothers.

The cookies were shipped from the Amay’s Bakery and Noodle Company in San Francisco, Calif. to Atlanta, Ga. and then to Huntsville through Regi Law’s food distributor.

“Because of Regi, we saved \$712 on shipping,” Yim said. “To ship the cookies by Federal Express or some of those other companies was going to cost well over \$1,000. It wasn’t nearly that expensive to get them delivered here through the distributor.”

Several thousand cookies were left behind, however, to be shipped to deployed Soldiers of the 1st Brigade, 4th Infantry Division (who captured Saddam Hussein), deployed Soldiers of the 82nd Airborne Division in Iraq and Special Forces in Afghanistan.

“I’m sure it’ll be a morale booster for the deployed Soldiers to receive those cookies,” Yim said. “It’s a small token of our appreciation.”



Courtesy photo

More than 20,000 cookies were purchased and delivered by local men to Soldiers of the 187th Infantry Regiment, 101st Airborne Division at Fort Campbell, Ky., returning from Iraq. From left are Huntsville Cajun Grill proprietor Regi Law, Frank Arias and Capt. Jared Hiebert from brigade headquarters, and John Yim, engineer at Data Analysis and Exploitation Directorate, Space and Missile Defense Command, and former infantryman with 187th.

“I’m glad I have the chance to do something for the Soldiers,” Regi said.

Yim hopes what he calls “corporate citizens” will follow his lead.

“What we do is small in comparison to what some of these big businesses can do. I want to challenge them to outdo what individuals are doing. Outdo me,” he said. “Automobile manufacturers, airlines, phone companies, hotels, restaurants, rental car agencies. I know some have military discounts but I hope they’ll reach a little deeper for the deployed Soldiers. Make sure they can see their families when they come home. If their parents can’t come to them, give them an airline ticket, a rental car. Show them you appreciate what they are doing.”