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The Eagle

United States Army Space and Missile Defense Command

Volume 11, Number 5, May 2004

Army major joins class of astronaut candidates

PETERSON AIR FORCE BASE, Colo. — Another soldier joined the ranks of NASA astronauts and the Army Astronaut Detachment May 6. Maj. Robert S. Kimbrough is among 14 individuals — three Japanese, four military and seven civilians — who were announced as the 2004 class of astronaut candidates during Space Day celebration at the National Air and Space Museum's Steven F. Udvar-Hazy Center in Chantilly, Va.



Maj. Shane Kimbrough

"Service to this nation has always been important to me," said Kimbrough, who has been a space

operations officer at the detachment since 2002. "The benefits to society as a result of NASA's discoveries are phenomenal. That's what motivated me to want to work here. I'm very honored and happy to represent the Army in this capacity."

The detachment — an element of the U.S. Army Space and Missile Defense Command in Colorado Springs, Colo., — includes six active-duty Army astronauts and is located at the Johnson Space Center, Houston, Texas. Three of these Army astronauts have already flown aboard space shuttle missions.

"Those Army Astronauts who have gone before me are obviously outstanding — so I've got big shoes to fill, but I'm just honored to be associated with this right now," said the 36-year old Army pilot.

Kimbrough joins other classmates who will begin their training at the Johnson Space Center this summer.



Photo by Jan Waddell

Celebrating Earth Day

Col. Jerry Brown, commander, U.S. Army Kwajalein Atoll, center, joins from left, Mason Malloy, Molly Premo and Eva Marie Teriong along with representatives from each class at the George Seitz Elementary School to plant a kanal tree in the front of the school on Earth Day, April 22.



Photo by Maj. Doug Waddingham

Supporting the war

Lt. Gen. Larry Dodgen, commander, U.S. Army Space and Missile Defense Command, left, recently visited Soldiers and Sailors at Camp As Sayliyah in Qatar. Dodgen thanked the members of the Joint Tactical Ground Station (JTGS) detachment for a job well done and reiterated how important their support to the war is.

The Command Corner



Lt. Gen. Larry J. Dodgen
Commanding General



CSM David Lady
Command Sgt. Maj.

“The Army and the military are transforming – and transforming quickly.” You may have read this headline in your local paper or heard it on the news.

You may have also heard that adjustments are possible in where our military forces will be based in the United States and overseas. Clearly, significant efforts are under way during these times of dynamic world events to ensure America’s military forces are prepared to meet — and defeat — a range of capabilities that adversaries might employ.

Change has been part of our Army for its entire history of 228+ years. However, what is different with the current transformation is the magnitude of the changes, which some would characterize as the most comprehensive restructuring in the last 50 years. The fact that transformation is under way while the Army is engaged in the Global War on Terrorism affirms the vital importance of this process.

Army units returning from OPERATIONS ENDURING FREEDOM and IRAQI FREEDOM are among the first units to reorganize themselves. They will restructure to modular, brigade-sized units, optimized in organization and equipment to support combatant commanders as part of the Joint Force. A number of other Army initiatives, including embedding space-based capabilities, will support and complement this transformation to the Future Force.

The U.S. Army Space and Missile Defense Command has transformed and will continue to transform to fulfill mission requirements. Selection of this command to serve as the Army Service Component Command to U.S. Strategic Command (STRATCOM), and its designation as Army Forces Strategic Command (ARSTRAT), creates exciting opportunities for our space and technology professionals to leverage their skills in support of Joint Warfighters. Several restructuring efforts have already taken place as part of our new role in support of STRATCOM. SMDC/ARSTRAT has achieved much in the work to Full Operational Capability on Jan. 1, 2004. We continue to work closely with STRATCOM to assure full integration of Army capabilities into all mission areas.

This month, in addition to looking forward to new challenges, May provides excellent opportunities to honor the men and women now serving in uniform and those Americans who have given their lives in the defense of our nation’s freedom.



Additionally, this month recognizes military spouses for the support they furnish to their family and other military families. May also recognizes the many contributions Asian Pacific Americans have made to the nation by celebrating Asian Pacific American Heritage Month.

In a time-honored tradition, May has been designated as National Military Appreciation Month, which includes Armed Forces Day/Week, Victory in Europe (VE) Day, Military Spouse Day, the National Day of Prayer and Memorial Day. The special observances take on special significance this year due to the sacrifices made by the many members of SMDC and our military who are deployed and provide support in the Global War on Terrorism.

May also serves as an important time to remind ourselves of the importance of security and safety. The Army recently launched a “Be Safe” campaign, with its only goal — according to Acting Secretary of the Army Les Brownlee — to save Soldiers’ lives. This month signals the unofficial start of the summer season, a time when the accident rate rises, particularly the swimming, boating and privately owned vehicle accident rates. Be safe — it’s critical both in the fight and at home.

SECURE THE HIGH GROUND!

Last month the Force Development Directorate of SMDC’s Force Development and Integration Center briefed Lt. Gen. Dodgen on the results of the Army Space Enlisted Force Study (ASEFS).

“Space Forces” are defined by DoD as the Space and terrestrial systems, equipment, facilities, organizations and personnel necessary to access, use and, if directed, control Space for national security. In June 2001, the Army G-1 directed SMDC to conduct, as part of the Army Space FORMAL (Force Modernization Analysis), a study that would determine the requirement for enlisted occupational specialties (MOS), and skill or qualification indicators for Army enlisted Space forces.

Simply put, the study sought to show how to best enlist, train, utilize and retain an enlisted Space cadre for the Army.

First, the ASEFS task force examined the current enlisted Space cadre. Enlisted Soldiers who had served or were serving in Space positions (SATCON, JTAGS, ARSST, staff) were awarded a Program Development Skill Indicator, an alphanumeric code which would remain in their records for five years, allowing the Army to track their careers as well as determine the size of the current cadre of Space-experienced and certified Soldiers (currently, there are 521 enlisted Space cadre members, most serving in SMDC).

Second, data was collected and job analysis surveys were conducted among our units. Soldiers of all grades were interviewed or completed surveys. Questions covered position qualification requirements, training, doctrine, equipment, well-being and organization. Subject matter experts throughout SMDC chains of command and the NCO support channel were consulted on these topics as well.

Third, a critical task list was compiled, physical and intellectual demands of SMDC enlisted positions were reviewed, and training and operations of Soldiers in Space positions were analyzed. The task list was compared to the tasks trained in our Soldier’s branch specialties (Signal, ADA, Topographical Engineer and Military Intelligence).

Significant training disconnects were discovered in all of our enlisted specialties. Many tasks for which our Soldiers are trained in their initial and NCO training are not employed while they are on duty with Army Space units. There is a perception that a tour with SMDC is often not beneficial to the Soldier’s career; that Space Soldiers fall behind their peers by performing tasks not understood or recognized as significant by their branch chiefs and command sergeants major, and that they are not promoted as quickly as their fellow Soldiers who do not serve with Army Space units. This perception may not be correct, for in the last three promotion lists (Sgt. Major, Sgt. 1st Class and Master Sgt.) SMDC Soldiers were selected for promotion at a higher percentage than the average for the Army.

Finally, courses of action were drafted to improve mission performance and to eliminate systemic problems. The most significant course of action (accepted by Lt. Gen. Dodgen) was that the ASEFS findings become part of the Army Space Cadre FORMAL. This analysis, directed by the Vice Chief of Staff of the Army, is the only Army process that will develop Army consensus on the Space Cadre membership (officer, enlisted, civilian), and establish an organization and system for Army Space Cadre management and oversight.

This FORMAL will involve HQDA, TRADOC, the combatant commanders, other major commands and national offices, but will be led by the Army G-3 and SMDC (G-1 and SMDC during phase three). The FORMAL is scheduled to last 14 months.

The Army Space Enlisted Force Study has accomplished its mission. Now the entire Army will be involved in developing comprehensive space cadre policies across the eight life cycle functions. The result will be a better managed Army Space Cadre.

For additional details on the ASEFS and the Army Space Cadre FORMAL, go to the SMDC internet home page, and click on NCO Professional Development. Then click on either “Army Space Enlisted Force Study” or “Army Space Cadre FORMAL.” These two files explain the predecision findings of the ASEFS and the phases of the Army Space Cadre FORMAL.

ON POINT!

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What We Think

The Eagle asks:
What does Memorial Day mean to you?



Belinda Williams
 Contract Specialist
 Contracting and
 Acquisition
 Management Office
 Huntsville, Ala.

Memorial Day is a day when I remember to appreciate the men and women of past wars as well as those currently serving their country.



Al Brandolini
 Senior Military
 Analyst
 SYColeman
 Arlington, Va.

One of my earliest memories is of watching a Memorial Day parade with my World War II veteran father and while watching veterans from the Spanish American War, World War I, World War II and Korea, I realized that defending America was a responsibility of citizenship. As a retired Army officer, Memorial Day reaffirms to me that our republic is strong, for America continues to inspire citizens to defend her, and my respect for those who serve is absolute.



John Upp
 Communications
 Specialist
 Communications
 and Information
 Office
 Arlington, Va.

While Memorial Day is for remembering fallen Veterans, it's also a day to look around and remember what they died for; America's freedom and way of life. And to keep in mind those in harm's way today. As the bumper sticker says, "If you can read this, thank a teacher. If you can read this in English, thank a Veteran."



Henry C. Hollman
 PhD, P.E.
 General Engineer
 Computer
 Resources Division
 SMD Battle Lab
 Huntsville, Ala.

Memorial Day brings thoughts of my uncle, Andrew Carol, who was an 18-year-old Pearl Harbor survivor stationed at Schofield Barracks in Hawaii. He was wounded on Guadal Canal and spent a year in an Australian hospital. After a back injury returned him to the states, he re-enlisted and was in charge of transporting German POWs to Fort Smith, Ark. I recall an old photograph of my uncle in full uniform, with his arm around me and my tricycle.



Thaddeus Brown
 General Engineer
 Operations Division
 SMD Battle Lab
 Huntsville, Ala.

Memorial Day is a great opportunity for all Americans to come together in one voice, honoring the sacrifices paid in blood by our American veterans to ensure the abundant freedoms we share, experience and enjoy today, for no greater gift can a man give that he lay down his life for family and friends.



Staff Sgt. Robert K. Orndoff
 Satellite Network
 Controller
 B Company, 1st
 Satellite Control
 Battalion
 Fort Meade, Md.

Memorial Day is an especially important national holiday to me. Not only because I am a Soldier and live the legacy of those who served before me, but also because if not for the brave men and women who died in defense of our country, we may not have the freedoms that some of us take for granted. I hold this day closer to my heart more than ever before. My fiancée's younger brother recently gave his life defending our great nation while serving in Iraq.



Capt. Tony Behrens
 Commander
 JTAGS-Europe
 Alpha Detachment,
 1st Space Company
 Stuttgart, Germany

Memorial Day means reflection ... appreciation ... prayer ... honoring heroes for every bit of freedom and liberty we enjoy. Recently, though ... it now also means remembering friends and their families.



Chris Le Blanc
 G8, Resource
 Management
 Financial Analyst,
 DA Intern
 Arlington, Va.

To me it means being able to work and live as a free individual in the best country in this world, and sleeping in peace every night because of those who sacrificed all they could to provide and protect the American way of life.



Spc. Joshua A. Rodriguez
 Satellite Network
 Controller
 B Company, 1st
 Satellite Control
 Battalion
 Fort Meade, Md.

Memorial Day is a day to remember what our nation's Soldiers, Marines, Sailors, and Airmen have done for our country. It is a day when anybody can walk up to a service member and say, "Thanks for all you have done." A day to remember all those who gave their lives for our country. In my opinion, Memorial Day should be celebrated every day.

May is National Asian Pacific American Heritage Month

May is Asian Pacific American Heritage Month. This year's theme is "Freedom for All, A Nation We Call Our Own."

In June 1977, Representatives Frank Horton of New York and Norman Y. Mineta of California introduced a House resolution that called upon the President to proclaim the first 10 days of May as Asian Pacific American Heritage Week. President Jimmy Carter signed a joint resolution declaring May 4-10, 1979, as the first Asian Pacific American Heritage Week.

In 1990, President George H. W. Bush expanded the

celebration to the entire month. Public Law 102-450, approved on Oct. 23, 1992, designated May of each year as National Asian Pacific American Heritage Month. May was chosen for the observance to commemorate the arrival of the first Japanese immigrants to the United States in May 1843.

"Asian Pacific American" is a political appellation that encompasses many ethnic groups with diverse backgrounds, histories, languages, and cultures. The term attempts to give expression to cultural, linguistic, and ethnic diversity while recognizing common historical experiences in American history. Asian Pacific American Heritage Month celebrates the collective accomplishments of these communities.

Schexnayder takes leadership of SMDC-RDA

New boss first civilian to hold deputy to the commander position

By Debra Valine
Editor, *The Eagle*

HUNTSVILLE, Ala. — The U.S. Army Space and Missile Defense Command's Research, Development and Acquisition function has a new boss.

Michael C. Schexnayder became the deputy to the SMDC commander for Research, Development and Acquisition in a change of position ceremony April 26.

"The people at SMDC are bright-eyed and want to do well for the country," Schexnayder said. "They all want to make a difference. I am excited to be here. I think this is a great place with great opportunities. I am looking forward to giving them all the opportunities to excel that they can handle."

Schexnayder, the first civilian to hold this position, took over responsibility from Maj. Gen. John M. Urias, who had been dual-hatted as the deputy commanding general for RDA and the Program Executive Officer for Air, Space and Missile Defense. Urias moves on to perform PEO duties full time.

The decision to "un-dual-hat" Urias is an initiative by the Assistant Secretary of the Army for Acquisition, Logistics and Technology. As the PEO, Urias will be able to focus on defense programs such as PAC-3 (Patriot Advanced Capability-3), MEADS (Medium Extended Air Defense System), cruise missile defense initiatives and BM/C4I (Battle Management/Command, Control, Communications, Computers and Intelligence).

'I believe in executing a philosophy that comes out of Ranger School — drive on. Accept responsibility for the task. When you run into a problem, acknowledge the problem, figure out how to get the job done, learn from it and move on.'

— Schexnayder

Before moving to SMDC, Schexnayder served as the associate director for Systems in the Aviation and Missile Research and Development Center and the director of the Technical Management Directorate. In that capacity, Schexnayder was responsible for all reimbursable scientific and engineering work performed by the AMRDEC for external customers, to include industry.

As the deputy to the SMDC commander for RDA, Schexnayder is responsible for all materiel development functions, test and evaluation activities, and simulation support including the Space and Missile Defense Battle Lab, the Space and Missile Defense Technical Center, the Office of Technical Integration and Interoperability, and the Test and Evaluation Center, which includes Fort Greely, Alaska, the U.S. Army Kwajalein Atoll/Reagan Test

Site in the Marshall Islands, and the High Energy Laser Systems Test Facility located at White Sands Missile Range, N.M.

"My job is to integrate and synchronize the RDA and Test and Evaluation functions," Schexnayder said. "In that role, I need to develop new opportunities for SMDC to grow. The value we deliver to our major customers — the Missile Defense Agency and the Joint Air and Missile Defense Organization — needs to grow and the value we deliver to the Army as a major command needs to grow. That is not saying we are doing a bad job, but right now we need to seek every opportunity we can get and then deliver on those opportunities."

Another challenge facing Schexnayder is ensuring there is a work force that is ready, willing and capable of leading SMDC in the future.

"One of the primary responsibilities we have is to cultivate the people we have who can meet the challenges and be successful so that the organization can grow and flourish," Schexnayder said. "I want to ensure that RDA contributes to making SMDC a more valuable member of the Joint team and Army team. In business terms, the customer value we deliver should become greater and greater. Customer value equals the benefits we provide from our products less the cost of providing those benefits. I want that benefit between the cost and value to increase for our Joint and Army customers."

Employees who are comfortable with open and honest communication are needed to reach the goal of increased customer value, Schexnayder said. "My initial impression is that some are comfortable communicating openly and honestly and some are not. There seems to be some worry about the future. The ambiguity or the uncertainty seems to be causing worry, and I think the way you solve that is to have open and honest communication both ways. We need to close the loop when communicating. I tell you something; then you tell me what you understand; then I acknowledge that you understand what I said."

He also believes SMDC needs a business plan for RDA that includes strategy, a tactical plan and the organizational structure to support that. How RDA integrates into the overall business plan is very important, he said. It's a team effort, and Schexnayder likes to be involved.

"My general leadership style is to be very participative with the work force," said Schexnayder, whose leadership style comes from his time in the Army. In addition to his extensive background in research and development positions, Schexnayder also served 13 years as an Army field artillery officer with experience in Honest John, 8-inch and 155-millimeter self-propelled units. His military training includes airborne, ranger, and nuclear/chemical munitions delivery and effects.

His goal is to try to align organizational goals with individual goals. Communication is critical to achieving this goal. "I will tend to look at most of the products requiring a lot of teamwork. Setting up that team is very important."

"However, I can vary my leadership style if the situation calls for it. I do not think there is one leadership style. I have found people are much more productive with open and honest communication. When you can align individual goals with SMDC/



Photo by Debra Valine

Michael C. Schexnayder became the deputy to the SMDC commander for Research, Development and Acquisition on April 26.

RDA goals, people tend to be more productive. It also helps people to be more productive if their personal life is balanced with their work life. That is very important to me."

In addition to expecting employees to communicate, Schexnayder expects employees to know their customers and understand how what they are doing is part of the final product. "When you know what the possible use of the product is, you will be able to do a better job."

"We have internal customers — if you are a secretary, your customer is your boss. The boss may be a customer of the work force for some leadership activities. We also have external customers — if you are an engineer working on a radar signal processing task for THAAD or GMD, I expect them to do everything possible to maximize customer value compared to what it costs."

"I also expect the SMDC employees to use system thinking. How does your work fit in with the customer's higher needs, constraints and environment?"

And he values teamwork. "I will do everything I can to reward teamwork in contrast to individual work. The Army research and development community does not reward high performing teams well — we stress awards to the individual. I want to reward those who are good team members."

"I believe in executing a philosophy that comes out of Ranger School — drive on. Accept responsibility for the task. When you run into a problem, acknowledge the problem, figure out how to get the job done, learn from it and move on. I do not want people to feel guilty about anything they do. It is wasted energy. The important thing is to learn and adapt."

Schexnayder, a native of New Orleans, La., received a bachelor's degree in electrical engineering from Louisiana State University in 1971, a master's degree in electrical engineering from the Georgia Institute of Technology in 1979 and a master of science in management from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology in 1988.

Family man loves hustle, bustle of city life

New G-1 assumes responsibilities in Arlington

SMDC Public Affairs

“The SMDC G-1 is an efficient organization. I want to continue the good work already established,” said Lt. Col. Gary Quintero, who took over as the deputy chief of staff, G-1 (Personnel), U.S. Army Space and Missile Defense Command May 5. Quintero’s previous assignment was at the Pentagon’s Human Factors and

Leadership Branch, G-1.

And what would make a person continue to seek a job in an area with high costs of living, frequent traffic jams and a demanding work schedule?

“I was interested in coming to SMDC,” Quintero said, adding with a smile, “I sought out the position.”

A native of Wichita Falls, Texas, Quintero earned a bachelor’s degree in history and received his commission

through the Reserve Officer Training Corps as a second lieutenant from Midwestern State University in 1986. He also earned two master’s degrees — the first in human resource management from Troy State University and the second in military operational art and science from the U.S. Air Force University, Maxwell Air Force Base, Ala.

Quintero began his Army career as a fire support officer in the 4th Battalion, 11th Field Artillery Regiment, 6th Infantry Division (Light), at Fort Richardson, Alaska. At that same unit, he served as battery executive officer, supply and maintenance platoon leader, and as battalion S-4. In 1990, he was assigned to Fort Sill, Okla., and held a variety of positions including battery commander

(twice), aide-de-camp to the commanding general, and executive officer to the assistant commandant.

Following his assignment from Fort Sill, he served as an exchange officer to the Royal Canadian Artillery School, Canadian Forces Base, Galetown, Canada, from 1996 through 1998.

“The Army has been good to me,” said the 17-year Army veteran. “I’ve served with a lot of great people.”

Quintero said his most rewarding experience was in 1999 while assigned as a brigade S-1 and deputy G-1 with the 3rd Infantry Division at Fort Stewart, Ga. “That was an excellent organization — good leaders and great Soldiers.”

He has also served as an Army Fellow from 2002 to 2003 at the RAND Arroyo Center, Santa Monica, Calif.

His military awards and decorations include the Meritorious Service Medal (with two oak leaf clusters), the Army Commendation Medal (with one oak leaf cluster), the Army Achievement Medal, and the Air Assault Badge.

Married for 14 years, he and his wife have five children.

“I like spending time with my family. Enjoying the outdoors is how I spend most of my free time,” Quintero said.



Photo by Cali Coulthard

Lt. Col. Gary Quintero discusses SMDC manning with Ron Mathews, military personnel specialist, as part of Quintero’s inbrief.

New program allows reserve components to track critical civilian employment information

**By Master Sgt. Bob Haskell
National Guard Bureau, Arlington, Va,
Special to American Forces Press
Service**

WASHINGTON, D.C. — A new Defense Department reporting system has begun so members of all seven reserve components can register their employers.

DoD decision-makers need to know the civilian employers and government agencies of the department’s approximately 1.2 million National Guardsmen and Reservists, officials explained. The database will, among other things, give officials a better idea of who should, and should not, be mobilized for national emergencies, they said.

The database is called the Civilian Employment Information Program, and it is the way for all Guard and Reserve members to comply with the law that requires them to inform DoD of who employs them and how they are employed when not performing their military duties.

“This program will make it possible for defense officials, including those responsible for mobilizing our traditional Guard and Reserve members, to know who can be called up for active military duty without jeopardizing the civilian forces responsible for safeguarding our country,” explained David Chu, undersecretary of

defense for personnel and readiness.

Members of the Army National Guard, Air National Guard, Air Force Reserve and Navy Individual Ready Reserve can now enter their employment data on the new Defense Manpower Data Center Web site. Members of the Army Reserve, Navy Selected Reserve, Marine Reserve and Coast Guard Reserve will be able to enter their employment data on their existing personnel reporting systems.

To register their CEI information, Reserve component members should go to their respective service’s CEI program Web sites.

Guardsmen and Reservists must register 10 specific data fields concerning their civilian employers and job skills to meet three requirements mandated by law.

Chu said the Defense Department must:

- Give consideration to civilian workers — including emergency responders such as police officers, firefighters and medical personnel — necessary to maintain the national health, safety and interests when considering which Guard and Reserve members should be called to active duty.
- Ensure more members with critical civilian jobs and skills are not retained in the reserve components than are necessary to respond to emergencies.
- Inform the Reservists’ civilian

employers of their rights and responsibilities under the 1994 Uniformed Services Employment and Reemployment Rights Act.

The information could be another tool to help determine which units or members of the Ready Reserve should be mobilized, defense officials explained.

Information about full-time employers also would make it possible for DoD officials to enhance employer support for the Guard and Reserve.

The law also requires all members of reserve components to notify appropriate defense officials about any changes in their civilian employment.

The Civilian Employment Information Program, Chu explained, will require all Guard and Reserve members to list on the database their employment status, their employer’s name, their employer’s complete mailing addresses, their civilian job titles, and their total number of years in their current civilian occupations.

Unlike previous military service efforts to voluntarily gather employer data, registering employer data in the CEI program is mandatory. Guard and Reserve members who knowingly fail or refuse to provide that information, or who knowingly provide false employment-related information, may be subject to administrative action or punishment, officials said.

Totem Pole program big hit at Pentagon

By Marco Morales
SMDC Public Affairs

A ceremony highlighting and promoting peace through children involved in art was conducted by members of the U.S. Army Space and Missile Defense Command (SMDC) April 15 at the Pentagon.

The program "Peace Through Art" involved the coordinated efforts of Portia Davidson, chief, Community and Family Support Division, G-1, SMDC, with the International Child Art Foundation (ICAF) and Cheyney University of Pennsylvania.

Command Sgt. Maj. David L. Lady, SMDC's command sergeant major, made opening remarks.

"These are serious times ... our nation is at war. But this war will be won. However, to win a lasting peace, certain values such as respect, tolerance, patience, and cooperation must become more common throughout the world," Lady said. "These values must be first absorbed by children if they are finally to be practiced by adults. Using art as a medium to convey values is one of the goals of the International Child Art Foundation which regularly sponsors worldwide child art exhibitions and festivals.

"It is an honor to represent SMDC as we celebrate Army values, Army families and



Photo by John Upp

Dr. Sebornette Barnes, at podium, director, Cheyney University Singers, announces the next choral selection during SMDC's "Peace Through Art" Totem Pole program presentation at the Pentagon April 15.

peace through our programs," he said.

The command sergeant major was followed by remarks from Dr. Ashfaq Ishaq, president and founder of the ICAF.

"We know that children can lead us into a better and safer world, and art is a powerful medium — a tool as it were — to help build a foundation for this endeavor," Ishaq said.

ICAF began in the mid-1980s to actively nurture, sustain and promote the artistic promise and creativity of children around the world.

"At that time, participation in the visual arts was

increasingly being cited by educators and child development professionals as a significant factor in improving the overall academic achievement of children," Ishaq said. "But there was no truly comprehensive, national and international effort to promote child art and visual learning, particularly regarding the underserved group of 8- to 12-year-old children."

An educator (and former award-winning child artist), Ishaq believed the time was right for such an effort. In addition to programs designed to actively engage children in the creation of original artwork

worldwide, Ishaq envisioned an international children's art festival, to be held, like the Olympic Games, in a host city. Schools in every country would participate, and creative children, along with their parents and teachers, would be invited to attend the festival's exhibitions, creativity workshops, seminars and ceremonies.

Ishaq was then followed by Prof. Marietta Fryer who described the SMDC Totem Pole's meaning. Fryer teaches fine arts at Cheyney University of Pennsylvania.

For Native Americans in the northwest, totem poles often serve to proclaim a clan's status. The figures carved onto the poles symbolize a clan's mythological history, as well as the rights and privileges it enjoys. Fryer talked about the spirituality and symbolic meaning associated with SMDC's totem pole.

"There's an ancient Native American proverb that states, 'treat the Earth well; it's not given to you by your parents; it is loaned to you by your children; we do not inherit the Earth from our ancestors; we borrow it from our children,'" Fryer said.

The event also featured the Cheyney University singers who filled the Pentagon's concourse with numerous choral selections.

The SMDC totem pole was on display inside the Pentagon's corridor 9 through April 30.

SATCON Soldiers check out Army, Navy ships

By Pfc. Richard W. Hennings III
Unit reporter

OKINAWA, Japan — The U.S. Navy rules the seas, our Air Force reigns in the skies, and our ground forces have won world renown. The lines dividing each service's territory are pretty clear. So what's the U.S. Army doing with a ship? Recently, Echo Company, 1st Satellite Control Battalion Soldiers had the opportunity to discover precisely that.

On a morale and informational tour, a small group of interested E Co. Soldiers traveled to Naval Station White Beach to see the U.S. Army's *USS Joint Venture*, a high-speed vessel leased by the Army. The *Joint Venture* is a converted car ferry that can be used as a platform for a number of operations, from troop and supply transfer to non-combatant evacuation. The strong movement toward Joint operations is the fuel behind the Army's "owning" a ship. Joint efforts enhance the Rapid Decisive Operations concept regarding the transportation of men and materiel and the rapid establishment of advance force operations, hence the previously odd pairing of land and sea.

While the *Joint Venture* was in port and being serviced by the 505th Quartermaster Battalion based here, the E Co. group toured the Naval vessel *USS Blue Ridge*, also in port.

The guided tour through the ship included the bridge, deck and mess



Photo by 1st SATCON Bn. Soldiers

Soldiers from Echo Co., 1st SATCON Battalion, pose in front of the *USS Blue Ridge* (the Navy ship) after a tour, which also included the *USS Joint Venture*, an Army ship. Both ships were in port at the Naval Station White Beach in Okinawa, Japan.

facilities on board. The *Blue Ridge* is basically a military base crammed into a ship. The group was able to see how Sailors live and work day-to-day in a time of heightened operations.

After the *USS Blue Ridge* tour, the group then went aboard the *USS Joint Venture*. The mess facilities, the crew's sleeping and working quarters, the troop area where troops are put while transporting them to another area, and the bridge were all on the tour. The group was amazed at how much more high-tech the *Joint*

Venture's bridge seemed compared to that of the *Blue Ridge*.

"It was interesting to see a side of the Army that most Soldiers don't see every day," said 1st Sgt. Mitchell Burnett. "The Army has some high speed watercraft that seem to overshadow the *USS Blue Ridge*."

The E Co. Soldiers agreed with the first sergeant.

Army versus Navy is usually reserved for the sports arena, but in this contest, the Army clearly came out on top in the question of ... "Who has the coolest ship?"

Civilian News

Electronic map shows Feds statistics

Federally Employed Women (FEW) launched an interactive electronic map at www.few.org that provides detailed statistics on the number of federal workers in each U.S. congressional district — broken out by county and agency. FEW compiled and analyzed the most recent data available from the Bureau of Labor Statistics, indicating there are 2,674,437 federally employed women and men. With FEW's map, the employment data is broken down by state, Congressional District and federal agency. A FEW statement said one of its highest priorities is the repeal of the Government Pension Offset and Windfall Elimination Provision. FEW is also concerned with federal outsourcing, equal opportunity employment, equal pay and diversity.

New overtime regulations announced

In the first substantial update in more than 50 years, Department of Labor Secretary Elaine L. Chao announced recently the final regulations governing overtime for white-collar workers under the Fair Labor Standards Act. Also, to provide overtime protection for other workers, the FairPay rules add new sections that clearly state blue-collar workers, police officers, firefighters, paramedics, emergency medical technicians and licensed practical nurses are entitled to overtime protection. "With the 'FairPay' rule, we are restoring overtime to what it was intended to be: fair pay for workers, instead of a lawsuit lottery," Chao said. The department's new FairPay rule will take effect in August. It will be published in the Federal Register and a text version is available online at <http://www.dol.gov/fairpay/index.htm>.

Pentagon Memorial Fund accepting donations

The Pentagon Memorial Fund campaign was officially launched in Washington, D.C. April 22. Almost \$30 million is being solicited to make this memorial possible. About \$17.5 million of collected funds will be used to build the memorial. Another \$10 million in donations will be earmarked for memorial maintenance. Some \$2 million already has been collected, including a \$1 million donation from the Anheuser-Busch Foundation, the first major corporate donor to the Pentagon Memorial Fund. The Pentagon Memorial will be built in a park-like setting among maple trees, and will consist of 184 individual units — the number of people killed in the Sept. 11, 2001, terrorist-hijacked airliner attack on the Pentagon. Each memorial unit will consist of a bench bathed in light from a reflecting pool. The group of 184 memorials will be located near the spot where Flight 77 hit the Pentagon. Donations can be made through a secure online system found on the Pentagon Memorial Fund Web site. For more information go to <http://www.pentagonmemorial.net>.

Military phone card donation program goes public

The Department of Defense announced that any American can now help troops in contingency operations call home. The Defense Department has authorized the Armed Services Exchanges to sell prepaid calling cards to any individual or organization that wishes to purchase cards for troops who are deployed. The "Help Our Troops Call Home" program is designed to help service members call home from OPERATION IRAQI FREEDOM and OPERATION ENDURING FREEDOM. Those wishing to donate a prepaid calling card to a military member may log on to any of the three Armed Services Exchange Web sites: the Army and Air Force Exchange Service at <http://www.aafes.com/>; the Navy Exchange Service Command <http://www.navy-nex.com/>; or the Marine Corps Exchange <http://www.usmc-mccs.org/>.

OPM launches HealthierFeds Web site

OPM has launched its HealthierFeds Web site. The site offers information to help federal employees and retirees make life style choices and manage their health care to obtain high-quality, cost-effective services when needed. It also provides information on care management and prevention strategies. Federal employees and retirees and their families may access the Web by going directly to www.healthierfeds.opm.gov.

Military News

Registration now open for 2004 Army Ten-Miler

The 2004 Army Ten-Miler will be held Oct. 24 in Washington, D.C. at the Pentagon. Registration is now open for runners interested in participating in the 20th Anniversary of this event. The mail-in deadline is Aug. 16; the online deadline is Sept. 17 or when the field of 20,000 is filled. The Army Ten-Miler is America's largest ten-miler and the U.S. Army's premier running event. For complete information about the event, go to www.armytenmiler.com.

Guide to appealing VA decisions available

Veterans and other claimants for VA benefits have the right to appeal decisions made by a VA regional office or medical center through the VA Appeals process. A claimant has one year from the date of the notification of a VA decision to file an appeal. You may appeal a complete or partial denial of your claim or you may appeal the level (i.e. the amount) of benefit granted. For a step-by-step guide on how to appeal a VA decision, including a FAQ and checklists, see <http://www.military.com/Resources/ResourcesContent/0,13964,32522,00.html>.

Soldiers who re-enlisted for desert get retro bonuses

An estimated 5,000 Soldiers who re-enlisted last year may be eligible for a pay bonus. Bonuses up to \$5,000 will be retroactively paid to Soldiers, between the ranks of specialist and staff sergeant, with 17 months to 10 years in service, who re-enlisted between March 18, 2003, through Sept. 18. Only those who re-enlisted under the option of being assigned to a deployed unit in Afghanistan, Kuwait or Iraq are eligible. Soldiers have until June 30 to contact their career counselors and request the lump sum payment. The program will still be open through July, but career counselors will have to submit all pertinent information to the Retention Management Division for review, states military personnel message 04-141. For more information, go to http://www4.army.mil/ocpa/read.php?story_id_key=5861.

Thrift Savings Plan open season update

As a reminder, the TSP open season started April 15 and runs through June 30. Defense officials are seeing a big problem concerning the TSP: Not enough service members are taking advantage of the program. "We're trying to convince people that TSP is a good vehicle for savings," said Lt. Col. Janet Fenton, executive director of the Armed Forces Tax Council. "The great thing about TSP is that it's tax-deferred in pretax dollar savings. So it comes out of your income, and you're not taxed on it until you use that money later, hopefully in your retirement." TSP is also a good idea for people who don't plan to make a career of the military, because they can take their TSP with them when they leave active duty. Those who leave active duty before retirement could roll their TSP into a 401K plan of a new civilian employer. It could be put into an IRA, or even left in TSP, but no more funds could be added to the account. More than 220,000 service members signed up for TSP in 2002, the first year the savings plan was opened to military personnel. That figure jumped to more than 390,000 at the end of the open season, which ended in December. For more information, go to www.military.com/NewsContent/0,13319,dod2_042304.00.html.

Stars and Stripes offers free electronic newspaper

Service members who don't have access to the printed Stars and Stripes newspaper can now go online to read or download an exact replica of the paper at no charge. Stars and Stripes launched the free service just in time to salute service members during Military Appreciation Month, which is celebrated in May. Free online versions of the newspaper's European, Pacific and Middle East editions became available starting April 26. The free online newspaper is geared to service members in remote locations, but any service member anywhere in the world, as well as family members, can use the service. Free electronic Stars and Stripes is available at estripes.osd.mil Web site.

Awards/Promotions

Civilian Promotions

Carolyn R. Allyn, GS-13, Huntsville, Internal Review and Audit Compliance Office

Veronica M. Collins, GS-12, Huntsville, Battle Lab, Missile Defense Directorate, Combat Applications

Kimberley C. Gillespie, GS-13, Huntsville, Public Affairs Office

Sherry R. Mahafza, GS-14, Huntsville, Technical Center, Information Science and Technology Directorate Core

Sandra F. McAnally, GS-12, Huntsville, Operations and Plans, G-3, Command Evaluation Division

Cynthia A. Nelson, GS-09, Huntsville, Resource Management, G-8, Program and Policy Division

Deborah A. Webber, GS-09, Huntsville, Personnel, G-1, Civilian Personnel Office

On-the-Spot Cash Awards

Edwin A. Barber, Huntsville, Battle Lab, Analysis and Operations Directorate, Studies and Analysis Division

Mickey A. Beavers, Huntsville, Information Management, G-6, Automation Division

Jerome G. Bendrick, Huntsville, Battle Lab, Space Directorate, Experiments Division

Teresa H. Brown, Huntsville, Intelligence, G-2, Security Division

Patricia A. Hampton, Huntsville, Information Management, G-6,

Communications and Visual Information Division

Mark A. Kollman, Huntsville, Technical Center, Space Technology Directorate Matrix

Jack Miller, Huntsville, Information Management, G-6, Communications and Visual Information Division

Pamela G. Mitchell, Arlington, Office of the Chief of Staff, Protocol

Philip M. Patterson, Huntsville, Battle Lab, Analysis and Operations Directorate, Battle Lab Operations Division

Robert G. Piper, Colorado Springs, Personnel, G-1

Thomas D. Potter, Colorado Springs, Communications, G-6, Information Management Division

Dianne F. Trimble, Huntsville, Office of PARC/Contracting and Acquisition Management, Branch N

Special Act Awards

William L. Burrows, Huntsville, Technical Center, Space Technology Directorate Matrix

Veronica M. Collins, Huntsville, Battle Lab, Missile Defense Directorate, Combat Applications

Dimitrois P. Llanos, Huntsville, Technical Center, Advanced Technology Directorate Core

Royce G. Ogburn, Huntsville, Technical Center, Kinetic Energy Interceptor Directorate Matrix

Noel J. Paschal, Huntsville, Technical Center, Kinetic Energy Interceptor Directorate

Paul D. Schambach, Colorado Springs,

Intelligence, G-2

Time-Off Awards

Owen B. Carleton, Colorado Springs, Intelligence, G-2

Deana R. Clark-Moller, Colorado Springs, Force Development and Integration Center West

Willie W. Davis, Colorado Springs, Intelligence, G-2

Kerrin E. Denham, Colorado Springs, Intelligence, G-2

Robert T. Godlewski, USAKA, Directorate of Logistics and Community Activities

Ron K. Irons, Colorado Springs, Intelligence, G-2

Norma J. Jenkins, Colorado Springs, Intelligence, G-2

Denise D. Newcomb, Colorado Springs, Intelligence, G-2

Paul D. Schambach, Colorado Springs, Intelligence, G-2

Craig s. Seiler, Colorado Springs, Intelligence, G-2

Daniel J. Selman, Colorado Springs, Intelligence, G-2

Douglas W. Smith, Colorado Springs, Intelligence, G-2

James M.T. Williams, Colorado Springs, Intelligence, G-2

Joseph W. Wychulis, Colorado Springs, Intelligence, G-2

Commander's Award for Civilian Service

Shad A. Tritt, USAKA, Command Safety Directorate



Photo by Sgt. 1st Class Dennis Beebe

Dancing the night away

The SMDC/ARSTRAT ball held April 30 at the Wyndham Hotel in Colorado Springs, Colo., was a festive, yet sometimes solemn, evening for all attendees. The festivity was evident at a glance, with the formal gowns of ladies in attendance sparkling against the sober blues and greens of the Soldiers present. The solemnity was provided in the empty-chaired table devoted to the Fallen Soldier, of which this year there were many. Traditional toasts to the President and Service were made with special emphasis, and the video featuring the contributions of SMDC/ARSTRAT Soldiers to operations in Afghanistan and Iraq fueled the resounding nature of those toasts. The theme of this year's ball was Going Global — Pioneering New Missions for the High Ground. Lt. Gen Edward G. Anderson III, deputy commander, U. S. Northern Command and vice commander, U.S. Element, North American Aerospace Defense Command, was the guest speaker for the event. Anderson, a former commander of the SMDC, chronicled the many achievements of the command, past and present.

Thinking safety first helps make summer fun time for all

SMDC Safety Office

Summertime is fast approaching and this year, like millions of other Americans, SMDC employees will begin celebrating the season by driving to their favorite vacation spot.

According to the American Automobile Association, 35 million families will drive a distance of at least 100 miles on summer holiday weekends.

Unfortunately, hundreds won't make it to their destination. Tragically, statistics indicate that more than 500 people are killed on Memorial Day weekend, 4th of July and Labor Day weekend combined.

What can you do to stay safe? Drive defensively. Be sure to always follow the three basic rules of defensive driving. First, recognize the hazards by continuously checking the road ahead and behind by using your mirror every three to five seconds. Second, scan the roads for possible hazards. Third, think ahead, and try to anticipate what other drivers are going to do.

Another equally important aspect of staying safe this summer is staying sober behind the wheel. This should go without saying but, believe it or not, one in three Americans will be involved in an alcohol-related accident during their lifetime. Although only 7 percent of car crashes

are alcohol-related, more than 48 percent of all motor vehicle accident fatalities involve alcohol. The real tragedy of drunk-driving accidents is how easily they can be avoided. Don't become a statistic this summer. If you've been drinking, don't drive.

Don't forget about your passengers. Always have everybody in the car buckle up — including yourself — and never forget to put your child in a safety seat. Motor vehicle crashes are the number one



cause of death of children over the age of 6 months in the United States. The proper use of child safety seats and seat belts is one of the simplest and most effective methods available for protecting the lives of you and your passengers in the event of a motor vehicle crash.

Not only will we be driving this summer but we will be participating in our favorite recreational activities as well.

Whether you participate in your local softball league, jog or swim, recreational safety should always be on your mind.

Water recreational activities can be very dangerous during the summer months. Experts agree that more than 75 percent of drowning incidents are avoidable. To avoid becoming a drowning victim, learn to swim. Call the local Red Cross chapter for information on classes near you. If you can swim, use common sense. Never swim

illness (heat exhaustion or stroke). Heat-related illness occurs when your body can't keep itself cool. As the temperature rises, your body stays cool when your sweat evaporates. On humid days, your sweat doesn't evaporate as quickly as normal, thus not allowing your body to cool off quickly enough.

The most important thing to remember in preventing a heat related-illness is to stay well-hydrated. Drink lots of water, even when you're not thirsty. Avoid tea, coffee, cola and alcoholic beverages. Also to prevent heat-related illness, avoid outdoor activity on particularly hot and humid days, and vigorous activity should only be scheduled before 10 a.m. and after 6 p.m. If you must go outside, protect yourself by wearing lightweight, bright-colored clothing.

By following these rules when it comes to driving, water and heat-related illness safety, you can prevent serious injury or death to you or your loved ones this summer. Summer is, and should be, a time of fun and relaxation; it shouldn't be spoiled by a needless tragedy. Remember your health and safety is vital to our mission at SMDC, so enjoy the summer months, but enjoy them safely.

For additional information on summer safety, review the summer safety guide at <http://commandnet/Safety/SafetyOffice.html>.

alone or in unsupervised areas, and never drink alcohol before swimming.

Boating is another water activity that can be very dangerous. Be sure you know and understand all the laws pertaining to boating. Always ensure you and your passengers are wearing a life jacket, and never drink and operate a boat.

Summer also brings an increased risk of heat-related

SATCON Soldiers meet Sergeant Major of the Army

By Staff Sgt. Matthew Smith
Unit reporter

FORT MEADE, Md. — Satellite Control Soldiers from Bravo Company, 1st Satellite Control Battalion recently met the newly appointed 13th Sergeant Major of the Army, Kenneth O. Preston, at a fund-raising breakfast for the Francis Scott Key Chapter of the Association of the United States Army.

Among the more than 400 in attendance at the April 2 breakfast were several Soldiers from local hospitals who were recovering from wounds received in Iraq and Afghanistan. They received a standing ovation when introduced and thanked for their service by SMA Preston.

After everyone had the chance to enjoy their breakfast, Preston took the opportunity to address the crowd. He spoke of the world environment and how this would affect the Army of the future. He emphasized the "Warrior Ethos" and being a Soldier and infantryman first, regardless of military occupational specialty. He compared the current generation to that of the World War II generation that fought to bring democracy to Europe as today's military now fights to bring democracy to the Middle East.

"There is also a changing and much different battlefield that the Army must deal with — and as the battlefield changes our forces must adapt," said Preston.

Some of the changes servicemen and women have to look forward to, he said,

involve force restructuring. Currently, the Army has 33 brigade combat teams, with a plan for the end of fiscal year 2006 to have between 43 to 48 brigade combat teams/units of action. This will provide a more ready and relevant force to combatant commanders and allow for a more predictable and stabilized force for Soldiers and their families.

The last issue addressed by Preston was safety.

"If you remember anything I said today it is safety." He noted that — only halfway through this fiscal year — the Army has already experienced the same number of deaths for the average of the last four years.

He added that most deaths come from vehicles.

"Sixty percent of deaths are tied to somebody driving."

Preston then asked for everyone's help with accidents and deaths as he kicked-off a safety campaign to reduce the number of



Photo by Sgt. 1st Class David Coombs

The 13th Sergeant Major of the Army, Kenneth O. Preston, chats with Bravo Co., 1st SATCON Bn. Soldiers — Spc. Ferdinand Placer and his squad leader Staff Sgt. Robert Orndoff — after a breakfast arranged in the SMA's honor.

deaths in the Army.

Upon completion of the festivities, the sergeant major took time to meet and greet the Soldiers, shaking their hands and posing for pictures with many of them.

"The SMA breakfast was a great opportunity to meet and listen to the words of wisdom from the top NCO in the Army" said Staff Sgt. Harry Osborne, Bravo Co.'s Headquarters Platoon Sergeant.

"What a motivating way to start your day!" Osborne added.

Veteran reflects on Kw

By Jan Waddell
Kwajalein Hourglass

Shortly after OPERATION FLINTLOCK, the 4th Marine Air Wing Division deployed to Kwajalein Atoll to rebuild the air strips and provide air support to neutralize some of the outer islands in the Marshall Islands.

Sixty years later, a member of that squadron returned. Kenneth Niles was a member of the 4th MAWD squadron, the "Ready Teddys," nicknamed for a picture painted on the side of the planes of a teddy bear running to the flight-line dragging a parachute.

In April, he came to Kwajalein with his wife, Dot, to show her some of the places he has talked about over the years, and he brought a piece of the island back with him.

In his Kwaj vacation trailer, Niles carefully unwrapped a small card. Glued on the top was a tiny piece of coral rock — one of his many prized possessions from the war. The card was an official Kwaj Lodge Membership Card issued to Niles in January 1944 and signed by "Rock Happy Roger."

"Roger" was actually a young Army sergeant named Russell Beggs who hosted the daily radio show from 1944-45 in the same spirit as the more famous military DJ Adrian Cronauer from the movie, "Good Morning Vietnam," according to Kwajalein historian Gene Sims. Beggs formed the Fraternal Order of Rock Happy Residents of Kwajalein.

Working with Lt. Glenn

Niles joined the Marines in December 1942, at 18 years old. After basic training,

he attended radio school at Texas A&M in College Station, Texas. He then joined the VMO155 Marine Observation Squadron stationed in El Centro, Calif., and shipped out to Pearl Harbor where he trained for two weeks with F4U Corsairs at the EWA Marine Corp Air Station in Oahu. Niles' next station was Midway Island.

According to Niles, the squadron arrived at Midway after it was secured. Their mission was to fly submarine hunting combat patrols. A young 2nd Lt. John Glenn Jr. was one of the test pilots in Niles' squadron. Glenn flew Corsairs after engine changes and repairs had been done to the planes along with bombing missions. In one case, Glenn was testing a new type of engine, a water injection engine.

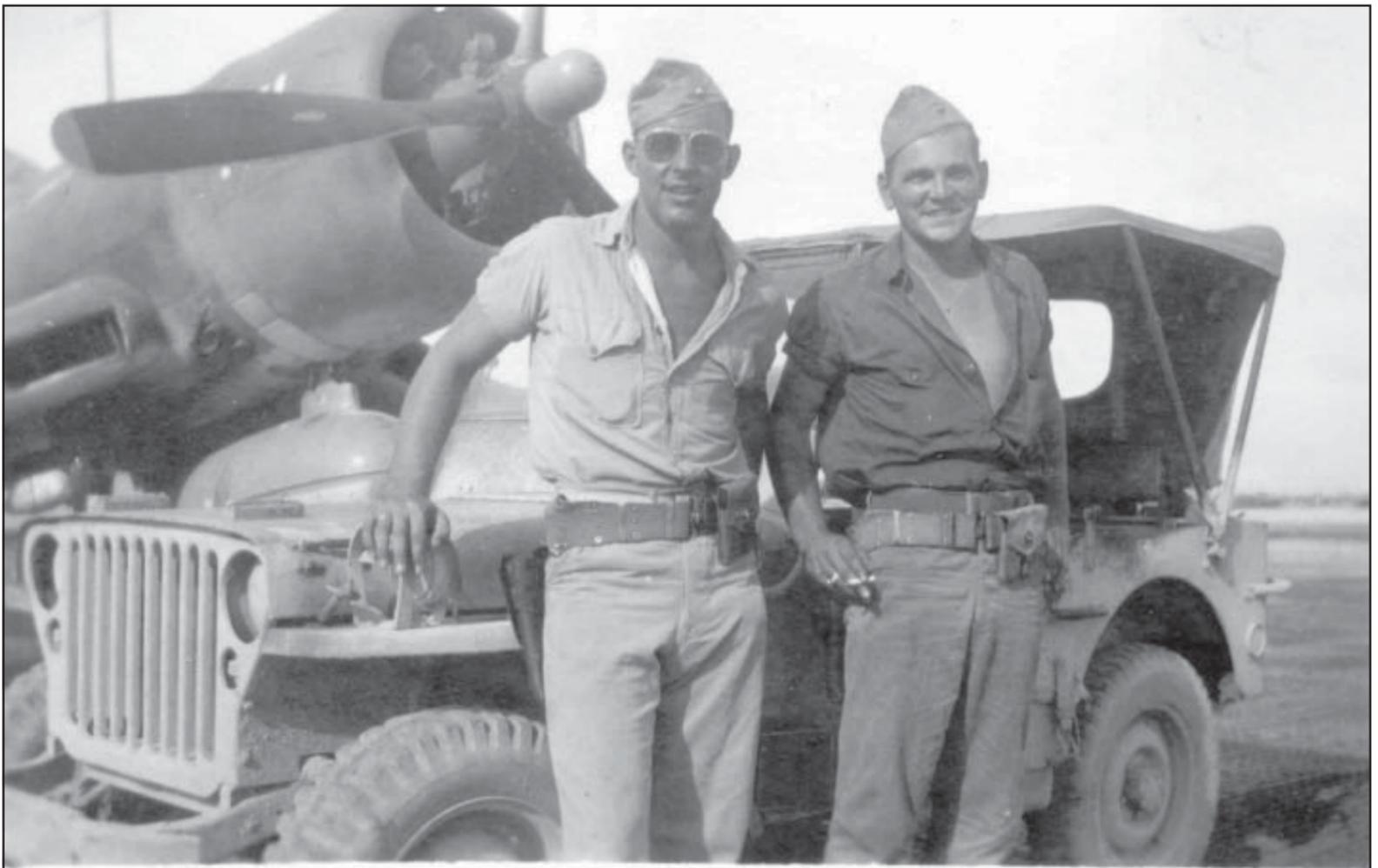
"Lt. Glenn took off," Niles said. "He wrung that plane inside out and put it in a [400 knot] dive." The cloth flaps on the plane were in tatters when Glenn landed, he said.

"It was amazing he was able to bring that plane in. He did everything you could ask out of a test pilot. Who knew he [Glenn] would be one of the astronauts who circled the globe three times," Niles said. "He was quite a guy."



Photos courtesy of Kenneth Niles

Bob Hope and Jerry Colona perform on Kwajalein Atoll in 1945, in this picture taken by veteran Kenneth Niles.



Ken Niles, left, with a friend while stationed on Kwajalein and Roi-Namur in 1944.

Kwajalein service

The squadron was stationed at Midway for about four months before transferring to the Marshall Islands.

They left Midway, on the *USS Makassar Strait*, a converted flattop aircraft carrier, bound for Majuro. At Majuro, they were again reassigned to the Marine Air Group 31 Squadron, headquartered at Roi-Namur. Their main mission was to drop bombs on several of the Marshall and Marianas Islands and provide logistics support.

"It was the ground-pounders [Marine ground units], who took the beatings," Niles said. "They are the ones who did the hard work. They did the heroic work. All we did was back them up and give them support."

'It's really real now'

After two months on Roi, the squadron and planes were loaded on the *USAT Hawaiian Shipper* bound for Kwajalein. Niles remembers the trip from Roi to Kwajalein taking three days.

For eight months the only thing they had eaten was K-Rations and C-Rations.

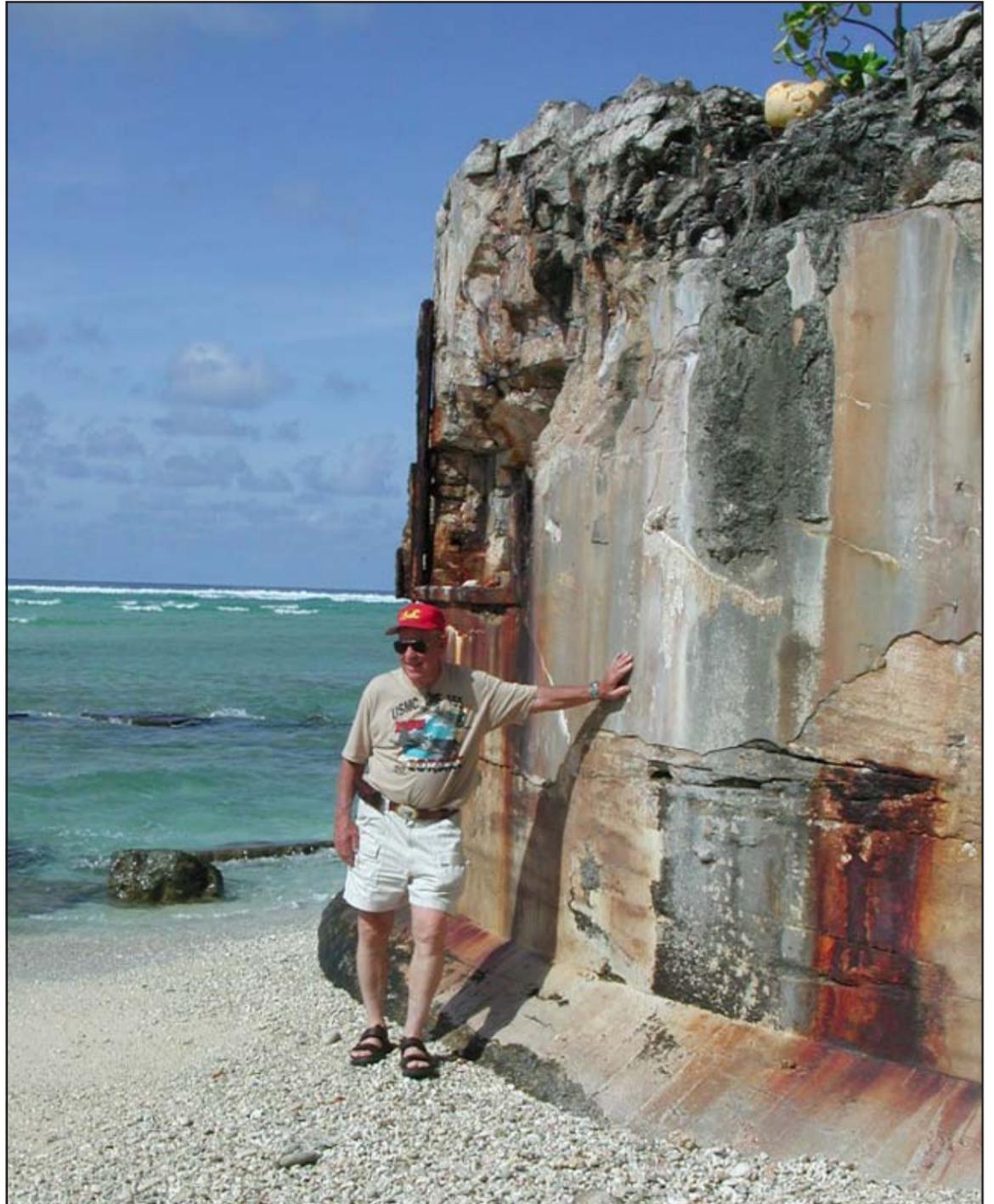
"We threw our C-Rations over the side of the barge and chummed for fish," Niles said. "This was the first fresh meat we had in over eight months."

During the six months on Kwajalein, Niles recalled, "I saw the chapel being built." He also remembered a show at the Richardson Theater he attended, and proudly showed off a picture he took of Bob Hope and Jerry Colona on the stage.

When Niles and his wife arrived on Kwajalein, they took a short tour around the island.

"I was unable to recognize anything but the Chapel and the Richardson," Niles said. Niles said the Chapel and Richardson haven't changed since he was here.

He said living on Kwaj was difficult but, "if you like camping out in tents, it was great."



Ken Niles, leaning on an old Japanese bunker on the Roi beach.



Niles talked about how difficult it was to find fresh water, but the Navy brought in fresh water, and the Marines kept it in "Listerine" bags. He said they hung their "Listerine" bags outside in the sun instead of the shade and the water was always hot.

Niles said for entertainment they would play cards and listen to the radio.

While on Kwaj the troops heard Tokyo Rose threatening them over the radio.

"Tokyo Rose would say 'you people on Kwajalein are going to get it tonight,'" Niles said. "She was just running a bluff."

Niles and his wife also toured Roi-Namur during their brief visit.

"Things [on Roi-Namur] have changed over 60 years," Niles said. "This is a beautiful island. I was astounded. I couldn't imagine it could be what it is now."

Dot said for years she had listened to stories Niles told her and their grandson and as she stepped off the plane at Roi she said, "It's really real now."

Back in Iraq for second combat tour

Deployed helicopter pilot has North Alabama roots

By Kay New and Dawn McCoy

Right out of basic training and Advanced Individual Training in 1990, Jeff McCoy of Douglas, Ala., was sent to the Persian Gulf for OPERATION DESERT STORM. Fourteen years later, he returned to Iraq as a helicopter pilot, Army captain, serving as adjutant with the 1-25th Aviation Regiment for a one-year tour of duty.

Capt. McCoy is the son of Kay and Hector New of Huntsville; Kay is a budget analyst with the U.S. Army Space and Missile Defense Command, Resource Management, G-8, and Hector is a retired medical service corps officer. He is also the son of David and Doris McCoy of Sardis, who is a retired chief warrant officer and also served in OPERATION DESERT STORM.

McCoy pilots an OH-58D Kiowa Warrior, a reconnaissance, light attack

helicopter which is usually positioned out front of the ground troops to locate enemy forces. He has been stationed in Iraq since January.

McCoy follows a family tradition of military service. Both his grandfathers served in the Navy during World War II. His great-grandfather served in the Army during World War I; and he is a ninth generation descendant of John Bowers who served in the American Revolutionary War. Other maternal and paternal family members served in the Civil War, Korean War and Vietnam conflict.

A 1989 graduate of Douglas High School, McCoy attended Snead College for one year then joined the Army in 1990. After returning from DESERT STORM, he became a Blackhawk helicopter crew chief at Fort Campbell, Ky. Following that he did a one-year tour of duty in Korea, and then was re-assigned to Fort Campbell, Ky.



Courtesy photo

Capt. Jeff McCoy, with his OH-58D Kiowa, is deployed in Iraq with the 1-25th Aviation Regiment.

In 1985 he married Dawn Johnson, a 1987 graduate of Guntersville High School. Two years after their marriage, he was awarded a "hip pocket" scholarship by the commanding general at Fort Campbell. The general can award two scholarships per year for a fully funded college ROTC program.

McCoy graduated in May 2000 from Austin Peay State University in Clarksville, Tenn., where he double-majored in computer science and mathematics with a minor in military science.

He was commissioned as a lieutenant by his father and was given his first salute by Staff Sgt. Ricardo Diego, a Soldier who had served under him while he was a platoon sergeant with the 101st

Airborne Division.

He and his family then moved to Fort Rucker, Ala., for helicopter flight school. He chose to fly the Kiowa Warrior. In May 2001 he was distinguished honor graduate and was transferred to Schofield Barracks, Hawaii, where he was assigned to the 1-25th Aviation. He was promoted to captain in October 2003 and was selected by his commander to serve as adjutant.

While McCoy is in Iraq, his wife is the family readiness group leader for her husband's company. She is involved with the youth and ladies programs at their church. McCoy is deacon over the youth program.

McCoy plans to return to the southeast after retirement from the Army.



Courtesy photo

The Kiowa piloted by Capt. Jeff McCoy soars over Baghdad.

Congress, nation designate Military Appreciation Month

By Gene Harper
American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON, D.C. — Both chambers of the U.S. Congress have adopted a resolution calling for Americans to recognize and honor U.S. service members during May's National Military Appreciation Month.

Virginia Rep. Tom Davis, along with 16 co-sponsors, introduced Concurrent Resolution No. 328 in the House in November. The Senate agreed to it without amendment and by unanimous consent April 26.

The resolution states that the House, with the Senate concurring, "supports the goals and objectives of a National Military Appreciation Month." It also "urges the president to issue a proclamation calling on the people of the United States, localities, organizations and media to annually observe" the month "with appropriate ceremonies and activities." Finally, the resolution urges the White House Commission on Remembrance to "work to support the goals and objectives" of the month.

The Senate first passed a resolution

in 1999 designating National Military Appreciation Month. That declaration summoned U.S. citizens to observe the month "in a symbol of unity ... to honor the current and former members of the armed forces, including those who have died in the pursuit of freedom and peace."

Traditionally, May has focused on the

Each year on Memorial Day, the White House Commission on Remembrance promotes one minute of silence at 3 p.m. to honor the military's fallen ...

military in many ways. For example, Public Service Recognition Week, celebrated the first full Monday through Sunday in May since 1985, recognizes the roles of public servants, including the military, at local, state, regional and

federal levels. As a part of PSRW, communities across America showcase military equipment and service members from U.S. installations. The largest PSRW event takes place on Washington's National Mall, where more than 100 federal agencies, including the military services, put their activities, people and equipment on public display. This year's mall event was May 6-9.

Armed Forces Day, created in 1949, is an annual event held on the third Saturday in May, with activities at U.S. military bases around the world. This year's Armed Forces Day is May 15.

The month culminates with Memorial Day, a federal holiday on the last Monday in May. The day, dating from the Civil War era, traditionally has marked recognition of those who have died in service to the nation. Each year on Memorial Day, the White House Commission on Remembrance promotes one minute of silence at 3 p.m. eastern daylight time to honor the military's fallen comrades and to pay tribute to the sacrifices by the nation's service members and veterans.

USAKA commander outlines State of Atoll

Col. Jerry Brown
Commander, U.S. Army
Kwajalein Atoll

(The following is an excerpt from Col. Brown's State of the Atoll message printed in the April 20 Kwajalein Hourglass. You can view the Hourglass on the SMDC Web site under Public Affairs.)

It's hard to believe that it's been more than a year since the first *Hourglass* article outlining my strategic vision for the future. As with the President's State of the Union address each year, we should take the time to assess our progress during the past year toward realizing the strategic vision, and consider the opportunities in the coming year — and the years beyond. In that light, this is my first "State of the Atoll" message.

To recap, our vision is for USAKA/RTS to be the world's best missile test facility, operated by the most experienced and capable people, to be a leader in technology development with unparalleled space operations support and surveillance capabilities, and to be a model for intergovernmental relationships. We want to accomplish these things while providing the best possible quality of life for our soldiers, civilians, contractors and their families, while optimizing all of our resources.

As you all know, the past year has been one of transitions accompanied by many changes. Primary among them has been the transition of our logistical support and integrated range engineering contract responsibilities from Raytheon to Kwajalein Range Services. As with all changes of this scale, we lost some old friends to the lure of other opportunities and a change of scene, and gained new ones — those who have come for the challenge of difficult and responsible jobs, along with the chance to enjoy our one-of-a-kind island lifestyle.

Most important in this transition is that the missile test and space operations missions we are here to support continued without interruption and with the complete customer satisfaction that has always been the hallmark of this command.

In addition to our primary contract change, the essentially seamless transition of our meteorological services contract from Aeromet to 3D Research once again attested to the ability of our Kwajalein team to react quickly to the unexpected, stay the course with exceptional customer support and do it all with a smile.

Our mission at USAKA/RTS

is essentially unchanged from what I wrote a year ago. We are providing a comprehensive missile system-testing environment, supporting space operations and surveillance, and representing Pacific Command in the Republic of the Marshall Islands. While we do not expect transitions of the scope that occurred this past year, there will be additional changes. I am confident, however, that those that do occur will be met with the same "Can Do!" attitude and with the same positive results.

Missile Testing

During the last year, we supported one Peacekeeper and three Minuteman operational tests, the missions for which we are best known. The Peacekeeper mission, GT-32, was the first mission taken by the new contractor, Kwajalein Range Services, just 11 days after assuming full contract responsibility. Through a concerted team effort, the mission was supported successfully and all data collection objectives were met. We continue to maintain our long history of collecting the highest quality data for our Air Force customers.

The year 2003 marked a lengthy pause in Ground-based Midcourse Defense testing as the program transitioned to the operational booster intended for deployment. On Jan. 27, we supported IFT-13B, a successful test of a candidate booster for the GMD program. Planning and practice is now under way for the next test in the GMD series, IFT-13C, scheduled for June 2004.

Early 2003 marked the completion and final acceptance testing of an extensive modernization project at USAKA/RTS. This modernization affected nearly all of our sensors and enables us to more reliably and flexibly support our customers' dynamic requirements. However, we didn't dwell on these significant achievements. We held a completion ceremony and a celebration, and then moved on to the next exciting challenge, the RTS Operations Coordination Center, or ROCC.

Space Operations and Surveillance

Due to our geographic location, USAKA/RTS is the first ground-based radar site in the Space Surveillance Network to detect most new satellite launches from the Asian continent.

Space launches from Asian countries become visible to our radars shortly after lift-off, so our data is valuable for orbital

location (Where is it?) and launch assessment (What does it do?). Of the launches that we supported last year, two were somewhat unique.

The first launch of note was the Rocket launch on June 30, 2003, from Plesetsk, Russia. This mission placed eight objects in orbit, including six so-called "micro-satellites," and provided an excellent opportunity to apply our unique sensor capabilities to a complex foreign launch in a complementary manner.

The second historic launch was the Shenzhou-V launched from China on Oct. 15, 2003. On that date, China became only the third nation in the world to place a man in orbit. The Shenzhou program has garnered worldwide attention

launch vehicles is intended to reduce the cost and increase the reliability of access to space.

It's clear to me that you, our experienced and capable people, are working hard to be the world's best missile test facility and to provide unparalleled space operations support and surveillance capabilities. We are making good progress toward those goals of our vision.

Model for Intergovernmental Relationships

Last year, I talked about the direction I wanted to go with host nation relations.

Amending the Compact and the Military Use and Operating Rights Agreement were major goals, as was increasing RMI



Two re-entry vehicles streak through the night sky over Kwajalein during a Glory Trip last year in this time-elapsed photograph.

as one of the most visible new foreign launch programs, and USAKA/RTS was the first site in the SSN to track the spacecraft approximately 20 minutes after launch.

Later this year, we will support the NASA Office of Space Science with their Equatorial Ionospheric Studies II, or EQUIS II, project, an activity designed to study disturbances in the ionosphere created by the interaction between the Sun and the Earth's magnetic field. Project scientists from Goddard Space Flight Center, as well as Cornell University and Clemson University, will first determine the presence of appropriate disturbances using ALTAIR and other ground-based instruments. They will then launch a series of 14 sounding rockets with payloads to make measurements of the observed phenomena. Similar studies were conducted at USAKA/RTS in 1990 that were tremendously successful. Look for these interesting scientific launches in the August-September timeframe.

In an exciting development for USAKA/RTS, a new company, Space Exploration Technologies Corporation, or Space X, is investigating the use of Kwajalein as a desirable launch location for its Falcon rocket family. This family of

self-sufficiency and USAKA's procurement of RMI goods and services. I am happy to report tremendous progress on all fronts.

The Compact and the MUORA

The Compact was signed by President Bush on Dec. 17, 2003, and passed by the RMI's Nitijella on Feb. 16, 2004. It will officially enter into force in the next couple of weeks pending some administrative protocols. I cannot overstate the importance of this achievement.

Although the Department of State was the lead for these negotiations, the sensitivity of the process had a profound impact on our operations, and I am convinced that USAKA's input had a dramatic and positive effect on the final form of the agreement.

The MUORA provides USAKA the option of remaining in the RMI until at least 2066. Now USAKA and the RMI can both reap the benefits provided by this long-term commitment.

Concluding Remarks

As an organization, we have earned the right to be proud of our accomplishments during the past year. We continue to provide world-class support to our missile testing and space operations customers.

TSM GMD supports 'Operation Overcoat' drive for children

By John Frye
Special to *The Eagle*

The charitable efforts of Stafford, Va., high school students were recognized by Maj. Triest Smart, the U.S. Army Space and Missile Defense Command's Assistant TRADOC System Manager for Ground-based Midcourse Defense (TSM-GMD) April 26 at Brooke Point High School.

Smart presented 18 students from the Junior Civitan Club and their advisors certificates of appreciation for their widespread level of

participation in a project that netted 12 boxes of clothing for children in Iraq.

"You have remarkable energy, generous charity, and caring compassion for your fellow man's great need at a difficult time," Smart said during the ceremony.

It all started with an unusual e-mail from Lt. Col. Don Fryc, commander, 2nd Battalion, 44th Air Defense Artillery, 101st Airborne Division (Air Assault) to Col. Jeffrey Horne, TSM-GMD. Fryc told Horne that numerous children in his area of operations didn't have

adequate clothing to protect them from pending winter weather. Fryc solicited assistance from his stateside Army colleagues.

"We had a cold spell for about two or three days and it really struck me that there was a great need out there in the coming winter months for the kids. That was the genesis of the idea for 'Operation Overcoat,'" Fryc said.

TSM GMD personnel in Arlington, Va., Fort Bliss, Texas, Huntsville, Ala., and Colorado Springs, Colo., responded immediately, passing the word to friends, families, civic organizations and church groups to gather winter clothing.

As donations came in, they were boxed and mailed to Fryc's unit in Camp Claiborne near Mosul. By the first week in December, more than 200 pounds of winter clothing had been shipped.

The effort arrived just in time for the Iraqi children who received jackets, clothes, hats, mittens and shoes from packages sent by TSM GMD. Temperatures in Mosul soon ranged within the 40-degree Fahrenheit range, with heavy winds and rain.



Photo by Maral Noori, Civitan Club historian

Salima McCravey, a junior at Brooke Point High School in Stafford, Va., prepares boxes of winter clothes for transporting to Iraqi children. The clothes were collected by members of the school's Junior Civitan Club.



Photo by Pfc. Thomas Day, 40th Public Affairs Detachment

A 2-44th Air Defense Artillery Soldier hands out goodies as a part of "Operation Santa Strike," an operation designed to help those less fortunate in Mosul, Iraq, last December.

Photographs showing appreciative Iraqi children receiving the donated clothing from Soldiers of 2nd Battalion, 44th ADA began arriving in TSM-GMD, affirming the project had been successfully completed.

Once the clothing had been delivered to the children, 2nd Battalion, 44th ADA certificates of appreciation were presented to those who had participated in the drive. Members of the Civitan Club said that "while it was rewarding to have received an official citation, they felt greater gratification from simply having been involved in the humanitarian project."

SMDC engineer wins silver in poetry competition

By Kim Gillespie
SMDC Public Affairs

Engineers are not known for having reputations as creative artists. But Will Kistler can not only claim the title of electronics engineer — he can add "award-winning" poet. Kistler's poem, "Weeping American," received the Editor's Choice Howard Ely Award from the International Society of Poetry in March. His silver place finish earned him a trophy, medallion, patch and membership in the society, and an invitation to the society's awards ceremony and poetry workshop in Orlando, Fla.

Unfortunately, Kistler's busy work-related travel schedule prevented him from attending the ceremony, but many of his work experiences continue to feed his writing. Another poem, "Alaska," was inspired by visits there last year. Kistler, an SMDC employee matrixed to the Missile Defense Agency's Ground-based Midcourse Defense Command Communications Project Office and an Army veteran, said he has always enjoyed writing and considers it a hobby.

"When I was a lieutenant at Redstone in 1981, I was writing lots of reports and enjoyed it. But they were classified, so not many people read them," he joked.

Work, family, his religious convictions, and a strong moral compass feed his writing, and his poem "Weeping American" drew upon all of these themes. "I was feeling very upset about how our troops and the war on terrorism were being portrayed in the media. I was thinking about my parents, my son and daughter,

and my country," he said. "I penned the words from my heart and entered a contest on Poetry.com," he added.

The amateur poetry contest saw several hundred entries and his was among the small number (10-15) of winners. Kistler says he does not plan on giving up his day job yet, but he does plan to continue writing and seems to have no end for the sources of his creativity. "I have thought about using my family's history — they came to this country in the 1700's and have a long record of military service, or my parents, for stories," he said.

Kistler's father was an Army veteran who served in both the Korean War and the Vietnam Conflict, and was listed as MIA during the Korean conflict. "With all my dad went through, his dedication and service to his country, this inspired me to serve and to give back to this country what I am so grateful for," said Kistler. His father was injured in a freak jeep accident in Germany and met his mother, a Belgium native, while in the hospital. "I wrote the poem in honor of my mother who died March 15, 2001 ... my dad died 19 days later," he noted.

Even if Kistler's writings continue to be a hobby, he values his artistic side and sees a new family tradition developing. He and wife Lisa have two children. "Our children (Michael, an 11th grader, and Michelle, a sixth grader) are very gifted in art."

"Weeping American" is scheduled to be in a collection published this summer by Watermark Press called *Eternal Portraits*. According to Kistler, "Alaska" may also be included in that collection.

Weeping American

*Oh my soul, I cry out for them
so sad to see their pain,
for in what they do there is gain,
but it is at a cost,
to see them fall, so young, so full of
life,
now here is our call,
pray for them all,
the men and women of the USA
forces,
for of course, freedom is not cheap.
So shed a tear for a fallen hero,
who gave so much to make us safe,
never forget their sacrifice,
never forget their love for us,
they do so much, often without fuss.
so with a deployed troop, stay in
touch,
do not dismay, for while we sleep,
our security will they keep.
God bless them all and keep them in
his Care.*

Willard L. Kistler

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New Defense Travel System arrives at SMDC

SMDC Public Affairs

The U.S. Army Space and Missile Defense Command will soon join other Department of Defense (DoD) organizations already using the new Defense Travel System (DTS). First envisioned in the mid-1990s, DTS fielding began in 2001 at 27 pilot sites and at 232 other sites across DoD, and is already supporting thousands of military and civilian personnel.

On Oct. 20, 2003, a Milestone C acquisition decision made DTS the official DoD temporary duty (TDY/TAD) travel system and approved fielding of the system to the entire Defense Department.

"Within the next two years we will deploy DTS to the most high-volume travel sites within DoD," DTS program director Col. Brandy Johnson said. "It will take time to deploy DTS to all of the DoD, but the process is well underway."

Col. Alan Tomson, the DTS executive director for Transformation, describes DTS as "a state-of-the-art, 21st century e-commerce system."

"DTS will mean online TDY travel for virtually every person in the Department of Defense, both civilian and military," Tomson said. "This is a quality of life issue for our people. They deserve DTS."

SMDC began implementing the Defense Travel System administration training for Arlington and Colorado Springs in March. DTS is scheduled for deployment from June 14 through July 23, with Initial Operational Capability (IOC) July 23.

"Arlington and Colorado Springs are deploying DTS in conjunction with the Fort Carson, Colo., deployment in June and July," said Maj. David Paugh, deputy chief of staff, G-8 (Resource Management), Arlington. "Huntsville is scheduled to deploy DTS in fiscal year 2005 with Redstone Arsenal."

How does this differ with the current Internet Reengineered Automated Travel System (I-RATS) used by SMDC employees at Redstone Arsenal, Ala.?

"DTS is not automating the current travel process, but is rather a reengineer of the travel system," Paugh said. "DTS is

the next generation travel system with significantly greater capabilities, such as online connectivity with a Commercial Travel Office (CTO) for making travel arrangements."

Does a person using the DTS have to be a travel expert to utilize it?

"No, a person doesn't need to be an expert," Paugh said. "DTS is a web-based system that includes drop down menus to simplify using the system. DTS uses simplified TDY regulations (JFTR/JTR, Appendix O).

"Also DTS has the travel regulations directly incorporated into the system, which will flag items if they're not compliant with regulations," Paugh said.

According to DTS program officials, personnel who are appointed as Authorizing Officials (AO) have additional responsibilities. The AOs not only authorize the travel, but they also obligate the travel funds and certify the travel claims. DFAS will not compute the travel claim any longer — DTS computes it and the AO certifies. AOs in DTS are pecuniary liability for travel claims.

Among the most touted benefits DTS brings to travelers, authorizing officials, managers and commanders include: fast, electronic reimbursement of travel expenses; approvals and certifications tied directly to mission; a significant reduction in time spent administering travel; reduced paperwork; and the automated payment of government charge cards.

Fast, electronic reimbursement of travel expenses

This is a priority item. "Why should our travelers be financing our operations?" Col. Tomson said. "That's what happens, in effect, if we don't reimburse them promptly. Thanks to DTS, DoD will now be able to reimburse its business travelers quickly and electronically."

Worksite approvals and certifications

DTS places approval of travel arrangements and certification of travel vouchers at the traveler's worksite instead of at a servicing finance location. This places the authority to make travel

decisions with the leaders and managers responsible for completing the mission.

Significant reduction in the time spent administering travel

Reports to Congress based on field-testing of DTS indicate that on average the time spent administering travel is cut to one-third of what it had been before DTS. Saving time also means saving money.

Reduced paperwork

As DoD's single end-to-end electronic solution for Defense business travel, DTS is, in fact, online travel. DTS provides electronic connectivity between the traveler, the authorizing official, the service/agency accounting and disbursing systems, the local comptroller's budget, the commercial travel service provider, the commercial bank card service and the electronic archive of travel-related documents. This electronic connectivity and archival process eliminates the reams of paperwork required previously for business travel.

Automated payment of government charge cards

This attribute makes DTS "a knight in shining armor" for many travelers and for military services and defense agencies. It takes much of the after-the-fact bill paying responsibility away from the traveler, and will work to reduce those delinquencies that are caused by having the extra delay in the payment/repayment chain. Once a voucher is approved for payment, reimbursement for expenses charged to the traveler's government charge card is made electronically directly to the traveler's government charge card account.

Current plans call for DTS to be deployed to more than 100 locations across the DoD by the end of Fiscal Year 2004. DTS will be deployed to more than 11,000 DoD locations by the middle of the decade, at which point DTS will support 90 percent of all DoD business travel. To learn more about the capabilities and functions of DTS, visit the Defense Travel System website at www.defensetravel.osd.mil.

Former Aviation and Missile Command safety manager takes off for Marshall Islands

By Skip Vaughn
Editor, *Redstone Rocket*

Wearing sunglasses and a sports shirt, Mike Moore looked the part of an islander.

The former Redstone Arsenal installation safety manager was waiting outside Building 4488 for family members en route to his farewell reception April 29. After several minutes, he figured it was time to go upstairs since he was the guest of honor.

No sweat, mon. His wife and 4-year-old son arrived soon afterward. They saw him receive the Commander's Award for Civilian Service from Darrell Brewer, deputy to the garrison

commander.

Moore, 53, has joined the U.S. Army Space and Missile Defense Command as installation safety officer in the Kwajalein Atoll. He was due to report May 4 in the Marshall Islands.

"They haven't had a safety person out there in over a year and a half, the position I'm taking, so it's really needed," said Moore, who arrived at Redstone in March 2003 from Fort McClellan, Ala.

The Merced, Calif., native, with eight years of government service, doesn't rule out a return gig here. "U.S. Army Kwajalein Atoll made me an offer I couldn't refuse, but I like Redstone and Huntsville. I may be back. I have return rights and all that good stuff," he said.

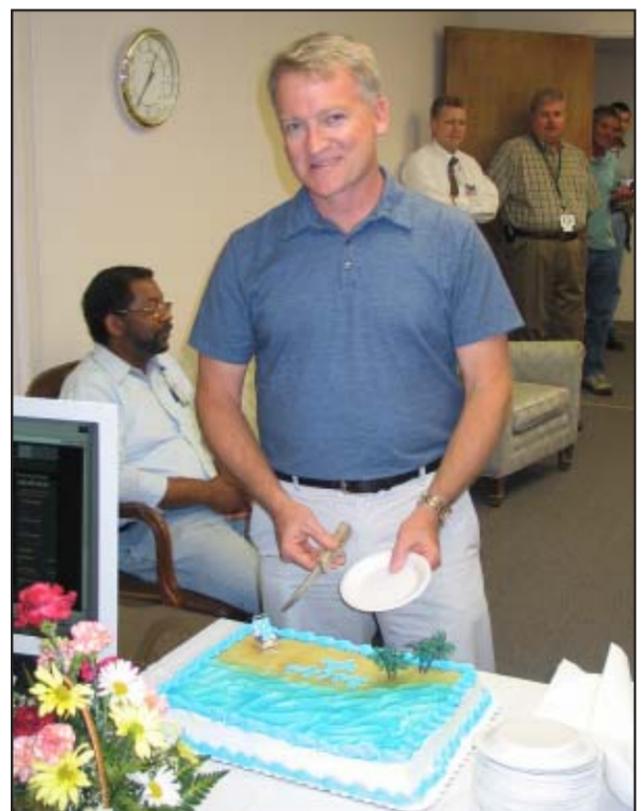


Photo by Skip Vaughn

Mike Moore, former Aviation and Missile Command safety manager, cuts the palm-tree-decorated cake at his farewell reception.

Echo Company takes

Command leadership visits SATCON Soldiers

By 1st Lt. Eric Setzekorn
Unit reporter

OKINAWA, Japan — Recently, Echo Company, 1st Satellite Control Battalion has been on the receiving end of many positive visits from the higher command — to include a visit with the 1st Space Brigade commander, Col. David Shaffer, and a joint visit by the 1st Satellite Control Battalion commander and the command sergeant major, Lt. Col. Mearen Bethea and Command Sgt. Maj. Reginald Williams.

Shaffer's visit included the expected tours and briefings of on-going missions and work requirements that are normally a part of VIP visits to a site, but more was added. The brigade commander was able to participate in one of Echo Co.'s professional development programs for senior NCOs and officers. The professional development was done at Hiji Falls, a scenic and popular destination on the northern part of Okinawa, which also gave Soldiers a chance to enjoy the fresh air and scenic beauty of Okinawa.

Hiji Falls is about two miles from any road and boasts a winding and steep access path. The dense vegetation and flowing water is a favored backdrop for paintings and pictures of Okinawa.

At the falls, a class was given on the role of counseling in the development of subordinates. More importantly the hike gave the senior leaders of the company a chance to spend time together and increase professional morale. Especially in a unit where there is a constant mission and personnel are always on duty it is difficult for leaders to keep and maintain the close comradeship that is needed in the Army.

"It was a good opportunity to have personal interaction with the brigade commander," said Staff Sgt. Jerod Hall.

The battalion commander and command sergeant major also had serious face time



1st Lt. Eric Setzekorn, front left to right, Sgt. 1st Class Chris Blandin, center, Staff Sgt. Michael Lherisson, right; Capt. Dewayne Ingram, rear left, 1st Sgt. Mitchell Burnett, Staff Sgt. Jerod Hall, Col. David Shaffer, and Staff Sgt. Clayton Vanlangendonck pause for that postcard moment during a company sponsored hike to Hiji Falls.

with unit members during their few days here.

On this visit the two had the opportunity to participate with unit staff sergeants and above in a visit to two local museums relating to the Battle of Okinawa. Okinawa was the scene of fierce fighting between the U.S. and Japan in April, May and June 1945. Hundreds of thousands died on the island, which is 60 miles long and no more than eight miles wide.

The Professional Development Program was designed to give the senior leadership of the company a chance to learn some of the local history and of the interaction between Americans and the local population.

The first stop was the Okinawa Peace Memorial Park on the southern part of island which was heavily defended and largely destroyed. The Park is designed to allow the visitor to first walk through the courtyard in which is posted the names of more than 100,000 Okinawan civilians,

130,000 Japanese soldiers and 10,000 American Soldiers who died during the battle. The museum incorporated video, audio and large dioramas to make the ferocity of the battle and the horrible aftermath of the fighting felt by the viewer.

Following the Peace Memorial Park, the unit went to the Underground Naval Headquarters in what is today the city of Naha. Underneath a hill at the bottom of more than 120 feet of steep stairs a sprawling base allowed for a protected command and control center, naval hospital and communications facilities. After the battle, more than 2,000 human remains were removed from the tunnels that were sealed by advancing American forces with demolition charges and flamethrowers. The tunnels are evidence of the overwhelming American firepower that destroyed all above-ground buildings.

Both visits ended with hosts and visitors having gained a better knowledge of each other and of Japanese history.



1st SATCON Bn. commander, Lt. Col. Mearen Bethea is briefed by Spc. James Halbritter on newly upgraded equipment.

Staff Sgt. Michael Stansbury, E Co., 1st SATCON Bn., receives a coin from the 1st Space Brigade commander, Col. David Shaffer for being the first in the battalion to attend and complete airborne school.



Lt. Col. Mearen Bethea, 1st SATCON Bn. commander, and battalion commander Sgt. Maj. Reginald Williams depart the Okinawa Peace Memorial Park. They toured the park, which is dedicated to the memory of the Battle of Okinawa during World War II, while visiting Echo Co., 1st SATCON Bn. Soldiers.

training to Hiji Falls

Echo Company, a new and different approach to CI Call

By Pfc. Richard W. Hennings III
Unit reporter

OKINAWA, Japan — Command Information (CI) Calls that are conducted monthly at Echo Co., 1st Satellite Control Battalion, are usually full of information, but require long classes and what some like to call “Death by PowerPoint.” In March, however, Capt. Dewayne Ingram, company commander, and 1st Sgt. Mitchell Burnett decided to take a different approach to the monthly requirement.

“We wanted to give the Soldiers a break from the normal CI Call routine and take them to a place where some have not been before, and allow the family members to experience it as well,” said Burnett.

The unit and several family members traveled to the northern part of the island to Hiji Falls, a popular attraction here. After a quick safety brief, company Soldiers and family members started hiking to the base of the falls — a mile and a half trek. Along the path, the unit encountered steep stairs and a 200-foot long suspension bridge suspended high above the ground. Some Soldiers stopped on the bridge to look down at the scenery. When a lot of the Soldiers were crossing the bridge, the bridge started to sway, adding to the Hiji Falls experience.

In spite of the sometimes-daunting hike, everyone made it to the falls without injury, and the view was considered well worth it. The water from the falls fed a

miniature lake, which in turn ran out into a stream that picturesquely accompanied the trail to the falls. Rocks that invited climbing were all over the place, and a few brave souls took the challenge even further, using the rocks as a base to dive into the water. After taking pictures and resting for a few minutes in the serene atmosphere, the unit turned around for the hike back.

After everyone had returned without complication, the classes scheduled for this CI Call were given, and CI Call was completed.

The somewhat tired group then moved out to Okuma Resort, run by the U.S. Air Force. All sat down to a big lunch together and afterwards participated in the many events that Okuma had to offer.

“It was most definitely different from the normal CI Calls we’re used to having,” said Staff Sgt. Victor Glaze, unit supply sergeant. “It was a good opportunity to combine business and fun, giving the family members something of a look into our workday, but in a unique setting that allowed all to have fun.”



Pfc. Richard Hennings smiles for the camera against the dramatic backdrop of Hiji Falls during an Echo Co., 1st SATCON Bn. Command Information Call.



Photos by 1st SATCON Bn. Soldiers

Col. David Shaffer, 1st Space Brigade commander, left, Capt. Dewayne Ingram, Echo Co., 1st SATCON company commander, Staff Sgt. Jerod Hall and 1st. Sgt. Mitchell Burnett hike to Hiji Falls during a visit by the Brigade commander to the Okinawa-based Echo Co.

Satellite network controller deploys to Korea

By Sgt. 1st Class David Combs
Unit reporter

FORT MEADE, Md. — Bravo Company, 1st Satellite Control Battalion recently loaned one of its best to a sister component. Staff Sgt. Glen Clawson, a satellite network controller, deployed to Korea in support of EXERCISE RSO&I. The exercise provided Clawson an opportunity to enhance his understanding of the Defense Satellites Communication System (DSCS) constellation’s role during a large military operation.

RSO&I is a Republic of Korea-U. S. Combined Forces Command, simulation driven, Operation Plan-oriented command post exercise conducted annually. The Joint/Combined exercise focuses on the reception, staging, onward movement and integration of strategic deployment forces; rear operations command and control; force protection; force tracking; and sustainment.

Clawson was attached with the 311th Theater Signal Command (TSC), a direct reporting command of the U.S. Army Reserve Command located at Fort Meade, Md. When deployed to Korea, 311th TSC serves as the communications component of the Eighth U. S. Army. Their mission is to serve as the senior Army communications headquarters in the Korean theater. The mission also included communications management responsibility for all deployed Army echelons above corps signal forces in theater and operation and maintenance responsibilities for echelons above corps communications systems.

As executive agent, the 311th TSC had command and control of all participating signal units. The 311th TSC also provided signal support staff to the U.S. Forces, Korea and the Eighth U.S. Army. Exercise participants included active Army, Army Reserve and Army/Air National Guard Signal units. The exercise reflected the Army’s total force integration initiative, with Reserve Component units training with their active counterparts.

During the exercise, Clawson was a tactical integrated systems control operator. He monitored the strategic resources needed during a Korean conflict. His job included monitoring real world communications assets that directly impacted the participant’s ability to command and control during RSO&I.

“The cross training I received while assigned to the 311th was invaluable,” Clawson said. “All personnel I had contact with from the unit were professional and provided a wealth of knowledge. I better understand how my job as a satellite network controller will directly affect the Warfighter in a time of crisis in Korea. I also learned that DSCS resources are a small but very important part in a very large communications network used by today’s Warfighter.”



Photo by Christina Ryan

Twigg Hackett, left, owner of the small business All About Moving, and her crew completed the move from Wynn Drive, Huntsville, Ala., to Building 5220 on Redstone Arsenal, in less than six weeks.

SMDC-Huntsville move onto Redstone Arsenal completed

By Christina Ryan
SADBU Office

When the U.S. Army Space and Missile Defense Command Logistics Directorate approached the SMDC Small and Disadvantaged Business Utilization (SADBU) Office in search of a moving company to relocate about 900 employees from Wynn Drive to Redstone Arsenal, the SADBU located All About Moving in Birmingham, Ala. — the only 8(a), woman-owned small business moving company in Alabama.

Part of the mission of the SADBU Office is to assist small and disadvantaged businesses in obtaining prime and subcontract opportunities. The 8(a) Business Development Program is a program that helps foster and develop socially and economically disadvantaged businesses. The U.S. Small Business Administration is the proponent for the 8(a) program. They ensure that the firm has an approved business plan; that their

competitive mix is in line with the length of time in the nine-year program (five-year developmental phase and four-year transitional phase); and they are eligible and competent to perform the offered work. The 8(a) program is an attractive mechanism for contracting, in that it allows agencies to contract directly with the 8(a) firm without any competition, if the requirement is less than \$5 million for manufacturing or less than \$3 million for everything else. However, the 8(a) firm must perform 50 percent of the labor with its own work force.

After initial discussions with Donna Glenn, SBA's assistant district director for Business Development in Birmingham, Ala., and Twigg Hackett, owner of All About Moving, it was determined that a group of SMDC personnel from the Logistics Directorate, the Chief Information Officer, the Contracting and Acquisition Management Office, and the SADBU Office would conduct a site visit in Birmingham with the 8(a) firm and its subcontractor, Continental Van Lines, a

small business. Because All About Moving is a young firm and new to the 8(a) program, the SMDC group wanted to ensure that risk was minimized. During the site visit they learned moving procedures and toured the subcontractor's warehouse where the moving equipment was stored. The SMDC group was reassured and confident that with a committed team effort, the young 8(a) firm and its subcontractor could successfully complete the SMDC relocation effort.

After several months of planning and two months of physical moving, the SMDC relocation was successfully completed. The SADBU Office wishes to give a special thanks to Lt. Col. Robert Steward, deputy chief of staff, G-4; Karen Long, logistics management specialist; Rob Darnell, general supply specialist; Garfield Boon, chief, Acquisition Management Division; Elizabeth Moulder, chief, Operation Branch K; and Robbie Phifer, contracting officer. Without their dedication and perseverance this job wouldn't have been a success.

Commanding general visits SATCON troops in Germany

By Staff Sgt. Franklin Barrett
Unit reporter

LANDSTUHL, Germany — Crisp, cold air whipped across the Kirschberg Kaserne helipad at 8:30 a.m., as the U.S. Army

Space and Missile Defense Command's Commanding General, Lt. Gen. Larry Dodgen, and SMDC's Command Sergeant Major, David Lady, touched down here April 20. Standing by on the ground,

Capt. Christopher Conway, commander of C Company, 1st Satellite Control Battalion, and the unit's 1st Sgt. Ralph Martin, greeted Dodgen and his entourage as they departed the landing field. This visit marked the general's first visit to C Co. since assuming command.

While in Landstuhl, Dodgen and Lady received various briefings on the mission of C Company, the unit's support to the Warfighters and the quality of life experienced by the Soldiers and their family members living in Europe. Dodgen also met with the German soldiers guarding the Landstuhl compound and ate lunch with family members.

Following a mission overview briefing, the group visited the unit's operations building to meet the Soldiers on duty and to get an "eyes-on" perspective of the unit mission.

Sgt. Christopher Sokol, the on-duty Senior Defense Satellite Communications System Controller, met with

Dodgen and provided a briefing on the real-world, day-to-day mission of C Co. Dodgen also received a briefing from Spc. Ramon Benitez, the Ground Mobile Forces Network controller, on the levels of support that the GNC provides to forward-deployed satellite terminals supporting combatant commanders on the frontlines of OPERATIONS IRAQI AND ENDURING FREEDOM.

While the CG talked with each Soldier on duty during his visit, the CSM informally walked the operations floor, talking personally with Soldiers and NCOs. Lady, previously the U.S. Army Europe command sergeant major, is familiar with the unique challenges of living in Germany. He talked to Soldiers about a variety of topics, ranging from the personal to professional. Both the CG and the CSM commented on the professionalism and knowledge of the Soldiers.



Photo by Staff Sgt. Franklin Barrett

Lt. Gen. Larry Dodgen greeted and 'coined' soldiers of the the German Army contingent that assists in guarding the Landstuhl compound where Charlie Co., 1st SATCON Bn. Soldiers are stationed.

See **Germany visit**, page 19

Cub scouts and SATCON Soldiers enjoy 'day at the races'

By Spc. Jesse Childress
Unit reporter

SCHRIEVER AIR FORCE BASE, Colo. — It was quite a scene. The cheering crowd of spectators, the brightly colored racers flying down the track, the proud creators of these speedy devices meeting to decide who is the fastest. No, this wasn't a NASCAR race; it was the Cub Scouts of Pack 223 continuing a tradition that started just over half a century ago.

The Pinewood Derby is one of the most popular events for the Boy Scouts of America, and the Soldiers of Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 1st Satellite Control Battalion were proud to be there to help.

Ever since the first Pinewood Derby was held in 1953, the event has been continuously repeated for good reasons. It teaches the young Scouts to take pride in their craftsmanship, to appreciate the meaning of hard work and dedication, and

the fun-filled "Derby Day" fosters the spirit of competition in a friendly atmosphere.

Setup for the big day began at nearby Stetson Elementary School, the day before the race. The Soldiers volunteered their time and energy to help bring in the heavy metal track, put up the flags and decorations, and make sure that everything was ready to go.

Race day saw the HHC Soldiers returning to make sure the event ran like clockwork. Organizing the order the cars would run for each heat, running the races, keeping the Scouts entertained, and representing themselves as good role models were all a part of the Soldiers' duties during this very special event.



Photos by Spc. Jesse Childress

An eager crowd of Cub and Boy Scouts watches the start of a qualifying heat during their annual Pinewood Derby. Soldiers from HHC, 1st SATCON Battalion assisted.

the Wolverine Patrol (Den 2) raced away with the first place trophy. However, everyone received an award from most original design to best paint job making the statement "every one's a winner" appropriate.

Maj. Steve Elle, 1st SATCON's executive officer and the Pack 223 Pinewood Derby committee chairman, was enthusiastic about the event and the support from the Soldiers.

"Having the Soldiers of HHC support our Pinewood Derby for the second year in a row was fantastic. They helped with all of the manpower necessary to run the competition and served as true role models for all of our young Scouts. Dedicating their weekend to help with such an event speaks highly of their commitment to America's youth and really says a lot about these Soldiers," said Elle.

This year's event had such an impact on HHC Soldiers that not only will they be volunteering their time again next year; they will be competing in it as well. Hopefully their satellite design and control experience will prove useful in automotive aerodynamics.

"It was a great experience for all the Soldiers that were there — we were the ones to actually benefit from the young competitors. They showed a special innocence in that they held no grudges in losing. Every child there was already a winner — just for making a car," said Spc. Charles Strauch.

When all was said and done, Kyle Arrington of



Staff Sgt. Ryan McCullough and Pfc. Mike Winkler of HHC, 1st SATCON Bn. help out the Boy Scouts by volunteering to be 'pit crew' for the miniature cars involved in the annual Pinewood Derby.

Germany visit

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With the operations brief wrapped up, Dodgen and Lady departed the building for a site orientation briefing, given by the commander of the 181st Signal Company, Chief Warrant Officer Jamie Bryant.

Bryant escorted the general and the command sergeant major to an area overlooking the bulk of the compound currently under construction. A poster was set up to provide the CG with an idea of what was currently in place, and where future upgrades were to be built. Bryant's briefing was loaded with information about current developments, and how his unit's mission would change over the next five to six years to meet the communication demands of the Department of Defense.

Once the general and command sergeant major saw what the Landstuhl facilities do in support of the Warfighter, they met with the soldiers of a different army.

The Landstuhl compound has been guarded by German soldiers for more than two

years, following the increase in terrorist activities, to lessen the strain on local U.S. units of fielding a 24-hour guard force. As the commanding general shook the hand of each soldier, offering a commander's coin in the other, he inquired where each was from. He also thanked the German soldiers for the support they provide.

After reminiscing with the German troops, Dodgen visited the unit's barracks, selected as the "2003 Best Medium-Renovated Barracks in Europe." In the barracks' day room, the CG and Lady took notice of a full-size billiard table.

"Soldiers use this equipment often," CSM Lady said. Proudly, the first sergeant confirmed that the high quality table and other similar equipment saw much usage. Dodgen took a moment to test the quality of the table by rolling one of the balls to check for levelness. The table passed. Moving on to the Soldier's quarters, they visited individual rooms.

Departing the unit barracks, a small convoy of government vehicles escorted the group to the Landstuhl Regional Medical

Center, where they visited wounded soldiers.

The unit Family Readiness Group leader, Christina Maxwell, coordinated the luncheon for the CG's visit. More than 20 off-duty Soldiers and family members joined the unit for lunch with the commanding general.

After lunch, the CG offered many thanks to the Soldiers and families of Company C for the warm reception. He inquired about a few issues, including Cost-of-Living-Allowance and the current Euro rate.

"Which would you rather have," he asked the group. "Higher COLA or a better Euro rate?"

Cindy Martin, wife of the first sergeant, answered quickly that she would rather have a better Euro rate. Most of the group agreed.

Dodgen also commented on the importance of the support that the families provide the Soldiers, and seemed thoroughly pleased by the overall visit.

"I'll visit all of you at least two more times, while I'm in this command," the CG assured the unit.

Lady echoed the promise, regretting that he could not spend more time during this visit.



Photo by Staff Sgt. Franklin Barrett

Sgt. Shawn Michaud, a Ground Mobile Forces Network Control NCO, explains a database designed by Soldiers in C Co., 1st SATCON Bn. to Lt. Gen. Larry Dodgen, SMDC's commanding general.



Photos by Sharton Hartman

Sergeants' time training reflects the times

Colorado Springs, Colo. — Every time you turn on television news, you see deployed Soldiers reacting to current events.

To ensure the Soldiers of Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 1st Space Brigade, know what to do in a given situation, leaders devoted recent Sergeants' Time Training to grenade attacks, medical evacuation and handling of prisoners of war.

"As you can see from current events, it is vitally important that all Soldiers have the skill and knowledge to deal with any situation that might arise," said Sgt. James Menzies, Legal NCO for SMDC/ARSTRAT in Colorado Springs.

"Sergeants' Time Training allows NCOs uninterrupted, dedicated training time to focus on Soldier skills," said HHC 1st Sgt. Rose Lord. "This is our prime opportunity to train Soldiers to be leaders."

Members of the 1st Space Brigade Headquarters and Headquarters Company strap one of their own to a stretcher.

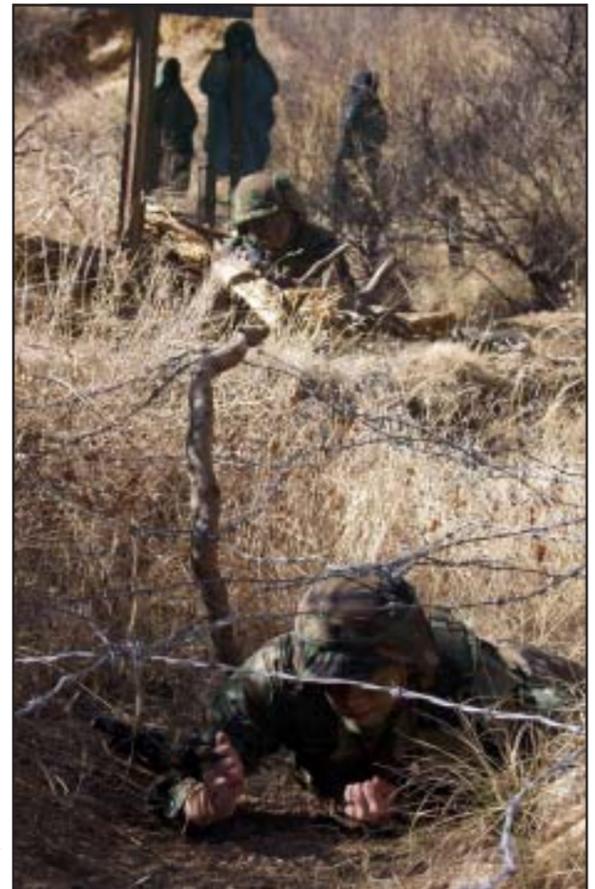


Members of the 1st Space Brigade Headquarters and Headquarters Company receive a safety briefing prior to undergoing their weekly sergeants' time training.



1st Sgt. Rose Lord, right, tosses a grenade at an enemy target as Sgt. Michelle Hosey provides cover.

Sgt. Josh Brown, back, covers Pfc. James Beall as he stealthily approaches an unseen enemy bunker.



Members of the 1st Space Brigade Headquarters and Headquarters Company strap a "wounded" Soldier to a stretcher before evacuating him during medevac training. Crewmembers of Detachment 1, 126th Medical Company (Air Ambulance) based out of Reno, Nev., facilitated the training.