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The Eagle

U.S. Army Space and Missile Defense Command/U.S. Army Forces Strategic Command

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Army Families take Action, make Plan

By Sharon L. Hartman
SMDC/ARSTRAT Public Affairs

COLORADO SPRINGS, Colo. — Ask any member of an Army Family and they will tell you, Army life is not an easy one. Not to say it does not have its rewards, but it definitely has its challenges, and that's nothing new to the Army.

In the late 1970s, a group of Army spouses realized the standard of living for Army Families needed improving. After some discussion, they realized there was a need to get organized and develop a forum to work on issues affecting the quality of life for all Army Families. Thus the idea for the Army Family Action Plan was developed.

"This program [AFAP] is important because it allows the Total Army Family — Soldiers, their Families, civilians and retirees — an opportunity to tell senior leaders what their issues are, plus recommend solutions to those issues. It also is a tool for Army leaders to gauge their command climate and address issues," said Karen Butler, U.S. Army



Photo by Sharon L. Hartman

See **AFAP** on page 4 Delegates vote on issues during the SMDC/ARSTRAT Army Family Action Plan Conference.

Safety Day focuses missile defenders

By Col. Michael Yowell,
Commander, 100th Missile
Defense Brigade (Ground-
based Midcourse Defense)

COLORADO SPRINGS, Colo. — Every command approaches the critical issue of safety differently. Some say it with posters, others with the poignant and scary reminders embodied in the twisted wreck of a car.

Soldiers check the signs at many posts that proclaim the number of days since an accident or a citation for drunken driving.

The common thread binding all approaches is that safety is something that must be on the forefront of every Soldier's mind, and especially that of every leader. In last month's *Eagle*, you had the opportunity

to read how our battalion in Alaska approached its unique dangers of dealing with grizzly bears and extreme cold weather. Here at the brigade headquarters in comparatively less wild Colorado, although bears and extreme temperatures are not out of the realm of possibility, we focus on aspects of safety that are perhaps more traditional, although not less important. Although of course we hold all the mandated safety classes as required, we've added the concept of seasonal training, to take into account the peculiar dangers Soldiers and Family members face with the change of activities dictated by weather. We mark each new season with an entire day devoted exclusively to safety concerns and try to do it in an entertaining way. Family members are specifically invited.

In the winter, we showed a graphic movie of a Christmas tree going up in flames in an unbelievably short period of time. We had the Colorado Springs Police Department

bring in "The Convincer" to demonstrate the shock felt upon even a slow speed crash. We also performed vehicle safety checks, checking tire treads and air pressure to see if our Soldiers were driving on icy roads with safe tires. Some preventive maintenance and corrections were done on the spot.

Our most recent Safety Day, with the approach of camping weather, coincidentally began with a class on how to deal with wildlife large and small, to include bears. Officer Sabrina Schnelker of the Colorado Division of Wildlife demonstrated how to make one's self appear large and menacing, hopefully dissuading the animal from attack. Avoidance, however, was preached as the best technique.

Water sport safety was the next topic in conjunction with the summer holidays.

"Wear your life preserver, and don't drink alcohol while conducting activities on the



Photo by Spc. Michael Cost

Sabrina Schnelker, an officer with the Colorado Division of Wildlife, demonstrates the action one should take upon being confronted by a dangerous animal. The move being demonstrated here is designed to make oneself look bigger when a predator attacks.

See **Safety Day** on page 4

The Command Corner



Lt. Gen. Kevin T. Campbell
Commanding General



CSM Ralph C. Borja
Command Sergeant Major

Last month we planted our colors in Alabama marking a new era in the history of SMDC/ARSTRAT. Finally, after years of planning, BRAC becomes a reality for us. But, colors and flags are not what build a 50-year legacy, people do.

People make the difference; like the volunteers who participated in the Army Family Action Plan conference in June. The AFAP conference was one of the best family-related conferences I have seen in 34 years of service. It was a good opportunity to hear what was on the minds of the delegates. Hearing the issues first hand is critically important to me to understand the problem. I take the information they provide and then ensure that the Army leadership is aware of the issues. Successful conferences like that don't happen by accident.

People make the difference; like Karen Butler, in our G1 section, who helped make the environment at the AFAP conference conducive to teamwork. She and others within the G1 shop made sure the conference had substance and purpose. The delegates and all conference organizers made a difference in the lives of the Total Army Team.

People make the difference; like the unsung heroes who work within the honeycomb of cubicles that are located inside many of our buildings. Our civilian workforce, along with our contractors, conducts mission-related research, development and acquisition in support of the Warfighter and our nation. From high energy lasers to the phenomenology of ballistic missiles to expanding the Army's presence in space — our team of teams strives to push the envelope. By pushing the envelope, we continue to create a legacy of excellence.

People make the difference; like Sgt. Patrick Mann and Sgt. Martin Jensen. Mann and Jensen are the SMDC/ARSTRAT Noncommissioned Officer and Soldier of the Year, respectively. Both Soldiers are members of the 1st Space Brigade assigned to Charlie Company, 53rd Signal Battalion located in Landstuhl, Germany. Their drive and determination throughout the competition speaks volumes about their character. They represent the very best of our Army. Today, more than 255,000 Soldiers are on point for the nation deployed around the world. They are good people from neighborhoods around the country who answered the call to service.

Whether those neighborhoods are outside Redstone Arsenal or outside Fort Greely; it's not the place that makes the difference.

People make the difference; like our friends in the Tennessee Valley who came out en masse to welcome the SMDC/ARSTRAT headquarters to Alabama. Kathy and I continue to meet people in the Tennessee Valley who came for a visit and ended up staying for 30 years. That doesn't surprise me; this is the kind of place where no one is a stranger.

People make the difference; like the prestigious group that is meeting in Huntsville this week to discuss the challenges of space and missile defense. Some of the nation's best leaders and top experts in the areas of space, missile defense, diplomacy, and research are participating in the 10th Annual Space and Missile Defense Conference. They are sharing ideas and strategies that may shape how our nation develops missile defense and how our nation expands the opportunities of space. Protecting the nation from attack and maintaining assured access to space are simultaneously goals and challenges that are being addressed.

We all can make a difference. Our fellow citizens trust us to safeguard and properly use the resources provided. People who work hard and pay their taxes expect us to work equally hard to wisely utilize their hard-earned money. We are a values-based

I am honored to be selected as the eighth command sergeant major of SMDC/ARSTRAT at such a historic time for our command. If you told me a year ago that I would be assigned to SMDC/ARSTRAT, I would have thought you were insane. I've spent the better part of my career in foxholes and trenches as a light fighter and in special operations. Twenty years ago, I was in those close fights wishing I could see around the next building or over the next ridge. Today in Iraq and Afghanistan, our Soldiers can not only see around the next corner or in caves but they can talk around the globe.

So, first I want to thank those civilians who contribute and work tirelessly in our research, development and acquisition areas to develop new systems and find new ways to assist the Warfighter. I understand you can't solve the problem of "looking around the corner or into caves" by just buying it off the shelf. What you do is of enormous consequence to our Warfighters who fight the close fight. You have our respect and support in your continuous endeavor.

Second, it's important to recognize two outstanding Soldiers in our command. I had the opportunity to observe and meet the 2007 SMDC/ARSTRAT Noncommissioned Officer of the Year, Sgt. Patrick Mann and the 2007 SMDC/ARSTRAT Soldier of the Year, Sgt. Martin Jensen. Their next stop is the Army-level competition that takes place at Fort Lee, Va., in October. They have a lot of work ahead of them to prepare, and I fully expect them to excel at the next level.

Our Soldiers and civilian workforce don't do it alone. Families find ways to support either by volunteering in local communities or by volunteering on installations. I spent my first week in SMDC attending our annual Army Family Action Plan conference in Colorado Springs. SMDC/ARSTRAT had delegates from Alaska, Germany, Japan, the Marshall Islands and from around the country who traveled great distances to be at this conference. They were there to find solutions to issues that affect Soldiers, Families and civilians. What I saw was volunteers' intent on making a difference in the lives of the Total Army Team.

Our difficult jobs would be much harder if it were not for the great support of our local communities. It was very gratifying to see the enormous outpouring of support as more than 1,000 attended the SMDC/ARSTRAT welcome luncheon in June. It says a lot about a community when that many people will show up just to say, "welcome and hello."

Finally, I want to echo the commander's thoughts about values. Our values form the bedrock upon which we build our Army. I'm reminded of an old quote, "Honor is like a steep island without a shore; one cannot return once one is outside."

Be safe, take care of our Soldiers, civilian work force and their Families, and I'll see you on the high ground!

ON POINT!

organization that has as our foundation the seven Army values: loyalty, duty, respect, selfless service, honor, integrity and personal courage. It's up to us to live those values and to maintain that sacred trust.

Finally, many schools are back in session which means that school buses are back on the roads. Be careful as you drive, those yellow busses carry our nation's most precious cargo — the future.

SECURE THE HIGH GROUND!

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Senate names Pete Geren 20th Secretary of the Army

Army News Service

WASHINGTON — The Honorable Pete Geren became the 20th secretary of the Army July 13, following his nomination by President George W. Bush and confirmation by the U.S. Senate.

As secretary of the Army, Geren has statutory responsibility for all matters relating to the U.S. Army: manpower, personnel, reserve affairs, installations, environmental issues, weapons systems and equipment acquisition, communications and financial management.

Geren is responsible for the

Department of the Army's annual budget and supplemental of \$170 billion. He leads a work force of more than one million active-duty and reserve-component Soldiers, 230,000 Department of the Army civilian employees, and 280,000 contracted service personnel. He has stewardship over 15 million acres of land.

Caring for Soldiers and their Families has been Geren's top priority since his days serving as the 28th under secretary of the Army. In an opening statement during his confirmation hearing last month, he reaffirmed that commitment.

"My year as under secretary

of the Army taught me much — my four months as acting secretary of the Army taught me much more," he said. "I have been inspired by the selfless service of our Soldiers, and humbled by the sacrifice of their Families."

Geren was the under secretary of the Army until Feb. 21, 2006. He was named acting secretary of the Army March 9.

Geren joined the Defense Department in September of 2001 to serve as special assistant to the secretary of defense with responsibilities in the areas of inter-agency initiatives, legislative affairs

and special projects. He also served as acting secretary of the Air Force from July to November 2005.

Before joining the Defense Department, Geren was an attorney and businessman in Fort Worth, Texas.

From 1989 until his retirement in 1997, Geren was a member of the U.S. Congress, representing the Twelfth Congressional District of Texas for four terms. He served on the Armed Services, Science & Technology and the Public Works and Transportation Committee during his tenure in the Congress.

What We Think

The Eagle asks:

Do you think schools should stop selling fast foods to their students? If yes, what should schools do instead? In no, why?



1st Sgt. William Jewell
HHB
100th MDB
Colorado Springs, Colo.

Why not? The schools have dietitians and they are responsible to make sure our kids are eating healthy. I have faith that they know what they're doing. If a parent doesn't want their child to eat fast food, that's between the child and the parent.



Monica Westbrook
Administrative Assistant
G-1
Redstone Arsenal, Ala.

Yes. I think the school system should stop selling fast food, due to the high obesity rate. The School System here is constantly growing and is comprised of different cultures. School kitchen staff should be properly trained to cook/prepare healthy menus, remember healthy foods can be tasty!



Delores Eppes
Administrative Assistant
G-3
Redstone Arsenal, Ala.

I certainly do think schools should stop selling fast food to their students. Snack machines in school hallways should be removed also. America lives a double standard: we talk about the difficulty and risk of obesity and the importance of healthy living, yet our schools sell junk food causing our kids to think there's no problem eating the stuff. This in turn causes kids to gain weight and develop blood sugar and heart problems — all leading to shorter life expectancy. So to keep the message clear in America, get rid of the fast food and snack machines! School districts need to promote and incorporate healthy eating and living as part of their curriculum.



Sgt. Heath Taglione
Intelligence NCO
100th MDB
Colorado Springs, Colo.

All fast food should be banned from schools ... obesity and unhealthy children in America are causing American tax payers millions of dollars in healthcare that can be prevented.



Mike Moore
CIO/G6 Plans and Resource
Division Chief
Colorado Springs, Colo

I have a son in junior high and sometimes he packs his lunch and sometimes he buys it. I like to think that we have set an example for him at home as far as good food choices go, so I am not too worried about the occasional junk food he probably buys at school. It would be great if he chose to buy things like broccoli on his own, but I am not counting on it.



Staff Sgt. Jose Araoz
HHC, 1st Space Brigade
Colorado Springs, Colo.

My daughter's school always has some kind of pizza or burger or other kind of junk food along with a healthy food choice. The healthy food choice is usually a peanut butter and jelly sandwich. I would like to see more healthy choices like maybe chicken stew. My daughter, who is seven years old, picked up a good eating habit at school. She never used to eat salads at home, but when she went to school and saw other kids eating salads she started eating them too.

AFAP

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Space and Missile Defense Command/Army Forces Strategic Command officer strength manager and the conference coordinator. Although the AFAP program was not formally adopted until 1983, it has been rolling hard since.

Recently, delegates from across SMDC/ARSTRAT gathered here for the command AFAP Conference. Delegates came from as far as Alaska, Germany and Japan, and as near as Schriever and Peterson Air Force bases in Colorado, to discuss issues relevant to today's Army Families.

"We were so fortunate to have the right demographics of delegates, the right (volunteer) facilitators, recorders and issue support personnel, and the right leaders," said Butler. "I measure success in the substantial issues that came out of the work groups. The issues are pertinent to our Army."

To kick start the conference, there was an initial day of training and a welcome reception that allowed everyone an opportunity to get to know each other. The following day, three groups of delegates started with a list of issues that were submitted from around the command. With a facilitator, recorder and issue support person for each group, the discussions began. Over the next two days, issues ranging from healthcare, casualty reporting, retirement plans and child-care, to name several, were debated on by the delegates. At times subject matter experts were called in to give additional information on some of the issues. The delegates then had to decide which top three issues they believed were most important and attainable, and submit their issues and their recommendations.

"Our delegates were awesome," said Butler. "They worked hard the entire conference and each made a difference on the issues they worked."

"Here at SMDC/ARSTRAT, the most positive aspect of this

year's program was the command support. To have the senior leaders of an organization devote their time to not only attending, but truly caring about the opinions of the delegates is the true reason our conference was successful.

"The G1, Lieutenant Colonel Kina Swayney and her military deputy, Greg Piper gave the resources and support necessary to pull it all together."

And what would an AFAP conference be without the support of spouses who provided tremendous assistance in ensuring the conference went off without a hitch: Kathy Campbell, Nguyet Borja, Connie Mathews, Cheryl Coffin, Susan Moss and Cindy Martin.

"These ladies helped us tremendously with the finer details of a conference of this size," added Butler. "Additionally, I would like to thank Sarah Trial for her devotion to this conference. She worked late into the nights ensuring all the details were covered."

Butler also had incredible support from the Fort Carson Corporate Sponsorship Office, the Radisson Hotel staff, the G1 team, and Department of Army AFAP representative, Connie MacDonald.

On the final day of the conference, each of the three groups had a spokesperson who briefed their top three issues and recommendations. One of the spokespersons, Sgt. Kevin Gaona of Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 53rd Signal Battalion, was a first-time attendee and did not know what to expect but came out with a greater appreciation for the program and the command leadership.

"Soldiers, especially the younger ones, have a tendency to question whether the top leadership really cares about them," said Gaono. "They also question if these conferences make any real impact improving Army life. I tend to look at things from the half-full glass perspective and having attended the AFAP conference and learning about the benefits



Photo by Sharon L. Hartman

Capt. Michael Euperio, commander, Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 53rd Signal Battalion, right, reads over an issue and the recommendation for resolving it as Capt. Matthew Kisner from Bravo Company, 53rd Signal Battalion, listens.

we have as a result of AFAP efforts, I am taking this to my unit and communicating to our Soldiers that the SMDC leadership does care about us and that there are effective mechanisms that are making Army life better."

After each spokesperson briefed their group's issues and answered questions, the delegates voted on their top issues to see which ones would move forward to the Department of the Army AFAP conference in December. With the votes tallied, the results of the nine issues were as follows:

1. Availability of medical/dental care on Fort Greely, Alaska
2. Health issues because of substandard housing
3. DoD initial casualty reporting procedures
4. Dental coverage for corrective procedures
5. Matching Thrift Savings Plan (TSP) contributions
6. Extended/24-hour child care
7. MWR facilities at remote locations
8. TDY reimbursement standards
9. Enrollment eligibility requirements for CYS

"The CG [commanding general] is going to send seven issues forward to the DA AFAP conference, where our issues will compete against MACOM [Major Command] and ASCC

[Army Service Component Command] level issues [ours are very competitive]," said Butler. "We will have an opportunity to send some SMDC/ARSTRAT representatives to the conference, but we don't know the details yet."

Gaona agreed with the power of SMDC/ARSTRAT issues, "The issues that were voted to go to the DA-level AFAP are critical to the Army and therefore to the nation. I am confident our issues will challenge the Army leadership when they decide which issues to take up to policy-makers."

Since the inception of AFAP in 1983, there have been 101 Legislative changes, 145 Department of Defense or Army Policy/regulation changes, and 164 improved programs or service funding. There are currently 93 active issues, 410 completed issues, and 108 issues that were unattainable. After three years, the unattainable issues can be reintroduced into the program.

"Overall, I think the AFAP program is improving year by year by the breadth of the issues being brought forward," added Butler. "No one is pretending that times aren't tough for Army Families right now, but still our strong Army Families are adjusting to the demands of being an 'Army Family.'"

Safety Day

continued from page 1

water," said Sgt. 1st Class Charles Rice, one of the brigade's own. Rice worked as a police officer in San Diego, Calif., and has experience with numerous water related accidents and knowledge of regulations that need to be followed in order to stay safe on the water. "I've seen many accidents from people making bad choices ... most of which have to do with alcohol," Rice stressed.

An all terrain vehicle safety instructional was then given by a local businessman who sells them. Multiple props, including actual ATVs, were brought to show the Soldiers the proper usage of safety equipment while riding

these fun but potentially dangerous vehicles.

Employees of the local utilities company showed up with a demonstration table highlighting the dangers of children being electrocuted if they play too close to powerlines or electrical boxes. A highly electric demonstration was put on for the Soldiers and members of their Families where a doll representing a little girl was placed near an electrical box and shocked. The electric current could be seen from several feet away and attending children were suitably impressed by the demonstration.

A personally owned vehicle inspection lane was then set up and Soldiers from the 100th Missile Defense Brigade had their

vehicles checked by fellow Soldiers. A checklist was followed to check fluids, air pressure and overall condition of the vehicle.

Three officers from the Colorado Springs Police Department rounded off the day by driving up on their police motorcycles to instruct on motorcycle safety. They were adamant about young riders taking a course on motorcycle techniques and postures. They stressed how unsafe it is to drink alcohol and operate a motorcycle.

A focus on safety allows us to continue our mission and take care of our Families simultaneously, whether the danger is natural or manmade; spring, summer, winter or fall.

Safety

Don't overlook office safety

**SMDC/ARSTRAT
Safety Office**

It may come as a surprise, although it really shouldn't, that offices are not completely safe places to work. In fact, statistics suggest that, in some ways, industrial workers are less likely to be injured on the job than office workers. The reason is safety and caution are stressed repeatedly in industrial work environments while office workers tend to take safety for granted.

The average office worker usually gives little thought to safety because he/she does not believe accidents happen in offices, and if they do, they lack dramatic impact and seem to be inconsequential. However, each year office workers do suffer many disabling work injuries.

Falls are the most common office accident, and account for the most disabling of injuries. The major cause of falls is objects in a workers path and littered floors.

Strains from overexertion are the next most common type of office accident. These occur because workers try to carry or move objects by themselves. These objects include office machines, supplies, file drawers, office furniture and other various loads.

Collisions with furniture or equipment also cause many accidents. These injuries are the result of bumping into doors, desks, file cabinets, open drawers and even other people when walking.

Miscellaneous accidents include foreign substances in the eye, spills from hot liquids and electrical shocks.

The above situations are not intended to alarm you, but to increase your awareness of unsafe conditions in the office. The following control measures are recommended for eliminating or at least minimizing safety hazards in the office:

Layout

- A spacious, well-planned room is the first step in preventing common types of accidents. Traffic should flow easily around and through your office. Emergency exits and passageways should be unimpeded.
- Furniture and equipment should be arranged so chairs do not jut out into walkways, drawers do not open into walkways or doorways, and file cabinets do not obstruct the view around corners or partitions.

Furniture

- Chairs should remain squarely on the floor. Check to make sure casters are well secured and all parts are sturdy.
- Keep drawers closed when not in use. Pull drawers open slowly and carefully.
- Inspect your furniture for sharp edges or points and have them corrected.

Walking Surfaces

- Wipe up all spilled coffee, soda etc., right away. Better yet, prevent these spills by using a tray or carton to carry beverages.
- Do not let tacks, pencils, other tools or debris accumulate on the floor. If an item falls, pick it up.

Materials Handling and Storage

- Keep all containers clearly labeled for content and use. Carry only as much as you can handle with ease and good visibility.
- Store heavy items on lower shelves and smaller, lighter items on top shelves.
- Mechanical devices such as hole punchers, paper cutters and staplers deserve special attention — even in routine use. Pointed tools should be directed down and away from the user. Proper storage will eliminate surprise injuries from loose letter openers or manually operated paper cutters.

Electrical Equipment

- Make sure equipment is properly grounded.
- Inspect electrical equipment regularly for frayed or worn cords. Exposed wires can cause serious shock and should be reported immediately. Disconnect them at once.
- Turn off machines when not in use.

Housekeeping

- Observe good housekeeping practices. Always make sure there is a place for everything and that everything is in its place.
- Safety and health anywhere -- at home or on the job -- does not happen automatically. It's an individual responsibility that calls for a program of action to report safety hazards and correct them immediately.

Composite Risk Management for off duty

While we all should be using composite risk management at work, it's also a valuable tool that can be used as home. Your family and friends can also learn to use this valuable tool for home and recreational activities.

- Identify the Hazards — WHAT will you be doing?
- Assess Hazards — THINK about all hazards and make a list
- Develop Controls and Make Risk Decision — What is the BEST control? Remember the best solution is eliminating the hazard.
- Implement Controls — If you cannot eliminate the hazard what is the next SAFEST thing to do?
- Supervise and Evaluate — DETERMINE who will supervise the event and get EVERYONE involved in the evaluation?

Take something home from the office — take composite risk management with you.

Think you don't need safety glasses working in your yard ... think again!

Once upon a time, an employee was edging his lawn wearing sunglasses (not safety glasses). As he was in the process of edging, something brushed his face and knocked the sunglasses off. With both hands busy with the edger, he kept going and didn't stop to investigate the incident.

Shortly, he went back to pick up them up, and was shocked to find that a screw had penetrated the sunglasses. The force of this screw hitting the glasses had knocked them off!

This man's brother-in-law is an eye doctor, and he stated that the screw would not have only blinded this man ... it would have killed him!

Behind your eye socket, there is no bone between the eye and the brain. Anything that has a lot of force can go through the somewhat soft tissue of an eye and into the brain.



Remember — Wear safety glasses while performing any kind of yard work or working with machinery.

Mountain promotion becomes mountain rescue

By Ed White, SMDC/ARSTRAT Public Affairs

MANITOU SPRINGS, Colo. — What started out to be a memorable promotion event for 1st Lt. Brandy Morris turned out to be a test of endurance and fortitude for a handful of space Soldiers on a sweltering July afternoon.

"I wanted my promotion to be meaningful," said Morris. "So I invited a group of colleagues and friends to hike up the Manitou Incline and have the ceremony on top."

The Incline, as it is known locally, used to be a tourist attraction. A railroad track ascended a hilltop on the flanks of Pikes Peak and carried passengers from Manitou Springs to its terminal. The ascent provides some of the best scenery in America as the passengers sit facing backwards looking over Colorado Springs and the eastern plains. The railroad is now defunct, and the tracks are gone. But the railroad ties provide one and a quarter mile of steps. The real challenge though is the rise in altitude. People ascending the Incline gain roughly 2,000 feet of altitude.

Morris and the group of fellow Soldiers took the challenge in stride. This literal rite of passage had many stages and just as many messages.

Before Morris even started her ascent, the initiation began. Capt. Scott Blount, Morris' boss, handed her a spoon to carry for "all the times she would have to dig herself or her Soldiers out of trouble."

As Morris first reached the base of the Incline from the Barr Trail parking lot she was met by Capt. Don Vacanti of the 1st Space Brigade S2 Shop. Vacanti told Morris that his camelback was empty and he could really use some water. So he "asked" her to take a bucket he just happened to have back down to the shelter

by the parking lot and fill it up with water and bring it back to him. When she returned with the bucket of water Vacanti pulled out a canteen cup and partially filled it with water. He told Morris that she could not spill a drop as she made her way to the top. This symbolic task represents the weight U.S. Army officers must bear.

A few hundred yards later, Morris came upon Capt. Rocky Vaira, 1st Space Brigade S3 Current Operations officer. Vaira had a bottle of squeeze butter that he poured into the canteen symbolizing Morris' "golden years as a lieutenant."

A little further on, she met Maj. Christopher Crawford on the trail to the top. He held a small container of Morton's Lime Salt that he poured into the cup to represent Morris' sweat and tears over the years past and those to come.

As she came closer to the crest she met 1st Lt. Dan Curran who had a written order from Lt. Col. Victoria Miralda stating Morris must allow Curran to pour some Louisiana Hot Sauce into her canteen cup to represent the spice of life to come.

At the top of the Incline, Morris was met by Capt. Tom Wiktorek, commander of Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 1st Space Brigade. Wiktorek was dressed in his combat gear from his enlisted days in the U.S. Army Special Forces. He said to Morris, "I know that you are interested in an assignment to a Special Missions unit. This represents the names of your fallen compatriots whose names will disappear in the dust on missions that 'never happened.' Knowing this, I charge you to do everything in your power to make sure everyone you are responsible for comes home." He then dropped crushed, powdered alka seltzer into the cup.

Finally Miralda instructed Morris to bring forward the cup.



Coming down the trail on a field expedient stretcher, an injured Florida hiker is carried by a group of SMDC/ARSTRAT Soldiers who found her. They carried her four miles down a twisting, slippery and often treacherous trail.

Miralda pulled out a one-shot bottle of Tequila Rose and told Morris that the drink should serve as a reminder that she needs to keep her bite strong and to always remember that she is a lady.

With the "grog" completed, Morris took a gulp then passed the cup around to her compatriots who all drank a gulp with her, symbolizing their part and participation in her journey.

Atop the incline, Chief Warrant Officer 2 Eric W. Schaub was the promoting official. The ceremony took place in front of a small stand of Aspen trees with a fantastic panorama of the city of Colorado Springs and the eastern plains in the background.

As the orders were read from Peterson Air Force Base and transmitted over a speakerphone, Schaub replaced Morris' first lieutenant bar with a captain's insignia, making the promotion official. Miralda then administered the oath of office for an officer.

At this point, some of the original participants broke off and walked back down the Incline. Everyone else was looking forward to an easy walk down Barr trail and some fruit smoothies in Manitou Springs. The time was about 12:30 in the afternoon.

The trail party included Miralda, Wiktorek, Vaira, Morris, Curran, Schaub, Lt. Col. David G. Rogers and Capt. Robert Rhodes. About 50 meters from the top of the Incline, the party came upon a woman hiker who had sprained her ankle and could not walk. The hiker, Jamie Goodwin, was on vacation from Florida with her friend Thomas and their friends Kim and Garrett Smith. The party of Floridians was not used to traveling in the mountains, and with one member of their party seriously injured, they had no idea what they should do.

After a brief consultation among the Soldiers, it was decided that the group could and would carry the woman to the bottom of the mountain. Little did Morris know during her promotion ceremony that she,

and indeed her entire group, would be called on by circumstance to step up and do the right thing — the hard thing, the Soldier thing — with this injured hiker. The situation presented an immediate and poignant reminder of all the things said and done along her ascent of the Incline.

Since the trail from the top of the Incline to Barr trail can be slippery and very treacherous in spots, it was decided that a two-man cross forearm carry would be used to get Jamie down to the main stem of Barr trail. Once there, where the trail was more user friendly, it would allow for a different method of transportation. Using this and a variety of other methods to negotiate obstacles like steep slopes, huge steps and slippery scree rock, Jamie finally arrived at a flat part of the main part of Barr trail. Meanwhile Schaub, Miralda and Morris used two pairs of Army Combat Uniform trousers, a walking stick from a member of the party and a stout limb from some nearby blown down trees to fashion a field expedient litter. Three belts were used to give some added strength to the construction.

Jamie was helped onto the stretcher and the four-mile journey began with the stretcher bearer positions being rotated frequently among the party.

"Luckily we had 10 Soldiers in the party. Later on when Snider and Peck came jogging down the trail, they joined the effort. They had missed the promotion earlier and were trying to catch up with us to congratulate Captain Morris," Miralda said.

The heat of the day, the narrow and rock strewn trail, thirst, sweat, hard work until they were spent and then working some more — all these things burned the contours of that piece of Barr trail into the brains of every participant.

Communications became simplified to "rock left front," "right side hold, left side turn,"



1st Lt. Brandy Morris receives a strong dose of hot sauce in her canteen cup compliments of 1st Lt. Dan Curran during her ascent of the Manitou Incline. The hot sauce is to remind her of the spice that life has to offer.

See *Mountain* on page 7

Alpha Company 'flies high' at the range

By Spc. Nicholas Thrasher
Unit reporter

FORT DETRICK, Md. — Range days usually conjure up thoughts of waking up early in the morning, getting on a bus and driving to the range, then spending the day rotating between firing, loading ammunition and performing other tasks necessary to operations of the range.

After all is said and done, you get back on the bus, and drive back home. At a recent range where three squads from Alpha Company, 53rd Signal Battalion, participated in one week of intensive fundamentals focused operations training, all these normal events associated with ranges occurred save one. The one thing that was different: there was no bus ride to the range. Thanks to the coordination efforts of their executive officer, Capt. Patrick Smith, the Soldiers participating in the range got a special treat when a helicopter came to pick them up by the Fort Detrick post gym to give them a lift to the range. "I was so excited, it was like being a little kid," said Spc. Ola Tackett, following landing at Fort Indiantown Gap.

The unique opportunity of the helicopter ride offered one Soldier an extraordinary setting for a reenlistment ceremony. Sgt. David Smith reenlisted in a hovering aircraft on the way out to his range. "It was great," Smith recounted, "the flight chief took the American Flag patch off of her shoulder and held it up behind me."

After the excitement of flying to Fort Indiantown Gap and landing in a field near

Range Road, the Soldiers performed a brief tactical movement to occupy the range and begin the day's activities. Satellite Network Controllers don't often get opportunities to practice their tactical Soldier skills on a large scale, so they took advantage of the opportunity by making even the small movement from the Zero range to the Qualification range in a tactical manner under the watchful eye of their platoon sergeant, Staff Sgt. Christian Kovalski.

In preparation for the ranges Staff Sgt. Mercier, second squad leader, conducted a day of intensive preliminary marksmanship instruction and basic rifle marksmanship drills for the Soldiers at the ranges. The training aided second squad as they returned victorious from the range with 10 of their 16 Soldiers qualifying expert.

As Soldier after Soldier was recorded on the score board as having qualified expert, Mercier kept calling out his battle cry of the day, "Can't

stop the train! That's second squad!"

In addition to the normal M16A2 qualification, Alpha Company Soldiers also qualified wearing their protective gas masks for a nuclear, biological and chemical fire exercise and a night fire exercise. The overall training was conducted by the outgoing and incoming operations non-commissioned officers for Alpha Company, Sgt. John Kirk and Staff Sgt. Joshua Pierce. At the end of the day of training as a tactical Soldier, they did have to board the bus for the trip back to Fort Detrick and return to their usual, but still significant, lives as satellite controllers.



Photo by Capt. Patrick Smith

Members of Alpha Company, 53rd Signal Battalion board a CH-47 (Chinook) helicopter that transported them to their range.

Alpha Company reenlistment 'up in the air'

Alpha Company
53rd Signal Battalion

FORT DETRICK, Md. — A Soldier's reenlistment ceremony is an important event. Often, that event centers on something unique to the unit that Soldier is currently in. Soldiers in satellite communications have reenlisted on the operations floor where they work every day, while others have been able to reenlist while standing in the bottom of a large satellite antenna while it is pointed straight up like a huge bowl. Ceremonies in an antenna, though not the norm, are still not unheard of, but recently, an Alpha Company Soldier had an opportunity he will remember for the rest of his life.

"I had been planning my reenlistment for several weeks and was just planning on hav-

ing another typical ceremony on the operations floor, or wherever we could have it, but during another reenlistment ceremony the previous week, Captain Wall asked if that Soldier wanted to wait until the next week to reenlist on the CH-47 helicopter that we would be taking to FTX," said Sgt. David Smith.

Smith was a little surprised when the Soldier said no, but when Wall asked if anyone else was reenlisting soon and wanted to, Smith jumped at the opportunity with a quick, "I was planning on reenlisting on Monday, sir, but I can do the paper work then and do the ceremony on Tuesday!"

With a grin and nod from the entire chain of command, it was planned. Smith would be reenlisting in one of the most unique ceremonies known to strategic satellite

communications.

Since 53rd Signal Battalion Soldiers are not strategic Soldiers and don't get out to the field often, it was already a special event for them that their company was traveling out to annual exercise in a CH-47 Chinook helicopter. Smith was just another among the many in Alpha Company that had never seen one up close, much less flown in one. Add that to his slight discomfort with heights, and it was sure to be an interesting event.

The Soldiers loaded up on the Chinook, and then sent Smith and Capt. Patrick Smith, the company executive officer who would be doing the ceremony, up to the front seats. The crew chief, call-sign Devil Woman, gave both of them headsets so the two could hear each other without screaming over the noise of

the helicopter. The rest of the crew was able to hear them through the headsets, but unfortunately, the rest of the company could not.

Once the helicopter took off, the plan was to fly a pattern over Fort Detrick, do the ceremony, land, drop off the executive officer, then take off for the exercise. The plan went without a hitch.

The two Smiths stood up, took a couple of seconds to catch their balance, and went through the reenlistment ceremony. "Devil Woman" stood behind them holding up her American flag she had pulled from her sleeve so they could still have the flag in the ceremony.

It was definitely a memorable moment for Smith and one that will most likely be hard-pressed to match during his military career.

Mountain

continued from page 6

"Be careful, gravelly slope," and similar phrases warning of hazards looming.

"One really cool thing," said Wiktorek, "was that there were a lot of Soldiers from Fort Carson hiking the trail that day. Every one of them stopped to see if we needed help ... every single one. One group of three battle buddies even got out a pretty complete first aid kit to see if Jamie's ankle needed a wrap."

Fortunately other people also stopped. At the point where the three battle

buddies stopped, a nurse from Colorado Springs had also just stopped to take a look at Jamie's ankle and declared that it didn't need a wrap at the moment.

Another civilian, who simply gave his name as Jeff, joined in the effort and helped relieve the stretcher bearers.

When asked why he decided to help he replied, "I just wanted to see how this thing would end."

Wiktorek coined him at the trailhead for his efforts.

For their part, four Floridians who had no real experience with the Army now

have a very strong opinion about Soldiers. "You all are the greatest," Jamie said. "You literally saved my life."

At the bottom of the trail Jamie and her friends set off to get her some medical attention. The Soldiers went their ways, as well. The event was over, the ordeal was finished, but for three hours on the side of Pikes Peak, these Soldiers stepped up and did what we expect all of our Soldiers to do.

They helped someone in need, simply, effectively and with a quiet pride in accomplishing the task at hand.

RTS welcomes new commander

By Nell Drumheller
Editor, *The Hourglass*

KWAJALEIN ATOLL, Republic of the Marshall Islands — Lt. Col. Justin Hirniak relinquished command of the Ronald Reagan Ballistic Missile Defense Test Site July 20 to Lt. Col. Harold Buhl.

"I asked him to be a leader and lead people and make this a better place. And that's exactly what he's done," Michael C. Schexnayder, deputy to the commander for Research, Development and Acquisition at the U.S. Army Space and Missile Defense Command/U.S. Army Forces Strategic Command, said of Hirniak.

Schexnayder was guest speaker at the ceremony which was held in the Island Memorial Chapel. He welcomed Buhl and advised him, "Your job is to leave this place better than you found it. Simple. And when you leave set the condition for the future," he said, insisting that Buhl must require those who follow him to do the same.

"We're committed to helping this place survive, because I think it is important," he continued.

"The Army has supplied us with a superstar," Col. Stevenson Reed, commander, U.S. Army Kwajalein Atoll, said of Buhl. Buhl has a bachelor of science degree in physics and atmospheric science from Drexel University, Philadelphia and a master of science degree in industrial engineering from the Speed Engineering School at the University of Louisville.

Reed told Buhl, "Listen to the voices of experience that you have down at RTS. They will serve you well."

The USAKA commander concluded, "Eyes forward, secure the high ground." Hirniak took a few minutes to thank those who attended the ceremony as well as those who have worked with him during his two years on Kwajalein. "I can't say thanks enough," Hirniak said. "My hat's off to everyone here."

He continued, "It's going to get busy. There's a lot of work to do. And it's because of you showing up to work

everyday, doing that coordination and dealing with the hard and challenging problems that we're viable and we're relevant into the future in the test and evaluation community as well as the space operations side of the house."

Hirniak said during his two years as RTS commander that there was never an issue put in front of him where those that work with and support RTS hadn't already figured out a solution.

"I am very humble in this great honor," Buhl said. "What makes it tremendous is the team."

The new RTS commander continued, "We have a great future; it's bright and it's full of challenges, and full of opportunities. You've developed a track record here of great success.

"The world is a dangerous place. And in this dangerous world, we have a critical mission in helping to ensure those blessings of liberty; through the Army, the Republic of the Marshall Islands and the United States of America. So it's a daunting challenge. My solemn promise to you is that I won't let you down. The warrior ethos says, mission first, will not quit. And together we will meet these challenges."

Buhl, with his wife Patricia and children Reagan and Matthew have been on island for less than a week. Buhl said of his first impression of Kwajalein, "It's a world class operation and strategic capability combined with a great location. But most of all, a great team of people."

Buhl described how he sees the future, "Over the next few years, RTS will change to bring its unique and superior capabilities in line with the needs of the nation. The world is in a near continuous state of change. RTS needs to be on the leading edge of that change."

Before his assignment with USAKA, Buhl was the chief of Materiel Systems for the U.S. Army Armor Center, Fort Knox, Ky. He was commissioned an Armor Officer in 1988. Following the Armor Officer Basic Course, he served as a cavalry scout platoon leader in the 1st Squadron, 1st Cavalry, 1st Regiment of Dragoons, Katterbach, West Germany, with service on the former Intra-German and Czechoslovakian Borders, and in Southwest Asia during Operations Desert Shield and Storm.

Following graduation from the Armor Officer Advanced Course in



Lt. Col. Harold Buhl accepts the acquisition flag from Col. Stevenson Reed, U.S. Army Kwajalein Atoll commander, during the Ronald Reagan Ballistic Missile Defense Test Site change of command ceremony July 20.

Photo by Nell Drumheller



Photo by Lee Craker

Lt. Col. Harold Buhl cuts the ceremonial cake with his sword at Friday's reception welcoming him and his family (wife Patricia is laughing in the background) to Kwajalein.

1994, he commanded Company D, 1st Battalion, 72d Armor Regiment, Tongduchon, South Korea, with service in the Kumhwa, Chorwon and Western Corridors. After serving as an active component advisor to the 3rd Squadron, 278th Armored Cavalry Regiment, Springfield, Ashland City, and Gallatin, Tenn., he was accessed into the Acquisition Corps.

After Acquisition Training in 1999, Buhl was branch chief for operational requirements on the Combined U.S. — UK Future Scout and Cavalry System. Following graduation from the Command and General Staff College, he served as assistant project manager and executive officer in the Missile Defense Agency, Terminal High Altitude Area Defense Project Office, Huntsville, Ala.

Buhl's military training and experience prepared him for this assignment and its challenges. He plans to "sustain the operational success and momentum of RTS while looking for greater opportunity to match RTS capabilities with national needs."

Before moving to Kwajalein, Buhl had learned about USAKA from people he met, "There are a lot of people with first-hand experience and knowledge of Kwajalein with whom I have had the privilege of working. The quality and skills of these people are as much a testament of Kwajalein as the superior installation and operational capability," he said.

"We are all one team," he said, describing the Kwajalein workforce. "The history of contractors and Army with Families has tremendous success in great and noble projects and endeavors. RTS is part of that history of teamwork accomplishing great things."

Buhl, echoing what Reed said, "Secure the high ground," adding, "I and my family look forward to a great tour, and great success for the team and the range."

Good neighbors

SpaceX teams with U.S. Army Kwajalein Atoll to ship donated equipment to Ebeye schools

By Nell Drumheller
Editor, *The Hourglass*

KWAJALEIN ATOLL, Republic of the Marshall Islands —

Fifteen pallets of desks, file cabinets and miscellaneous school equipment delivered to Ebeye June 18, thanks in large part to the generosity of Space Exploration Technologies, or SpaceX.

"[The] SpaceX goal is always to be a good neighbor; to be thoughtful, respectful and lend a helping hand when we can," said Sharon L. Hurst, Kwajalein Launch Site director.

SpaceX donated 20 desks and eight legal-size large filing cabinets, as well as paying to transport their donation and other purchases made by Marshallese school officials from Kwajalein to Ebeye.

"We are upgrading and remodeling the offices we have on Omelek," Hurst said. "The old desks and cabinets were in very good shape. I didn't want to just throw them away, so I contacted Alan Taylor [U.S. Army Kwajalein Atoll Host

Nation Office] about the process for donating supplies to the Ebeye schools. I also needed to understand the USAKA policy on their vessels traveling to Ebeye, what type of permission or paperwork needed to be completed."

"SpaceX funded the boat, USAKA provided a gradeall and driver," Taylor explained. "This way, we were able to get all of the goods the principals had selected from last year over to Ebeye. We had been getting pallets here and there on vessels of opportunity, but had been unable to get everything over at once."

"Shipping costs on Kwajalein are relatively expensive. I estimated that loading the additional items and the time spent unloading them on Ebeye will cost SpaceX about \$2,000," Hurst said.

Under the Compact of Free Association, as amended, the RMI Government has the right of first refusal for property excessed. "The RMI Government has 30 days to exercise this right; if they don't bid on items, then they are available

for the public to bid on. Defense Control Center Building personnel coordinate the sale of excessed property," Taylor said.

Principals from Ebeye Schools shop at the DCCB throughout the year.

"At the beginning of every school year, we have all the principals from Ebeye come over and select items that would benefit their schools and students," Taylor explained. "The principals usually look for books that the schools have excessed — tables, filing cabinets, desks, paper — anything that can benefit schools."

The principals can also get a list of items available at the DCCB from Noda Lojkar. Lojkar works in the Republic of the Marshall Islands Representative's office in Building 901. "He is supplied monthly with a list of items that have been excessed," Taylor said.

The DCCB is a warehouse wonderland of odds and ends. "We never know what is going to be offered as it is whatever items are excess to the needs

of the personnel on Kwajalein," explained Lauren Harrold, Property Administrator and Plant Clearance officer. The first goal is reutilization here or at one of the other islands used for the mission. USAKA has final signature authority on items offered to the RMI."

After shopping it is typically the responsibility of the purchaser to arrange delivery of items. "When they select items, they bear the responsibility of getting their goods to Ebeye," Taylor said. For this specific delivery, "SpaceX asked the Host Nation Activities Office if we could facilitate that donation."

On other occasions the principals have utilized RMI vessels that come to pick items up from the DCCB, or "If there is a boat going over to Ebeye, we see if there is extra space on the boat," Taylor added. USAKA vessels are not available for rent by RMI citizens to transport goods.

This was the first donation by SpaceX to Ebeye, but Hurst said they'd like to do it again sometime.

New commander for 1st Space Battalion

By DJ Montoya, 1st Space Brigade

PETERSON AIR FORCE BASE, Colo. — Soldiers of the 1st Space Battalion who normally populate the Peterson Parade Grounds during their battalion's Change of Command ceremony were strangely absent the morning of July 6, as Lt. Col. Lee P. Gizzi relinquished his command to Lt. Col. Thomas L. James.

"You may have noticed something is missing today," said Col. Timothy Coffin, commander, 1st Space Brigade, and the ceremony's host. "We have done these ceremonies since 1999. The first one for this battalion was in Building 20,000 in the open bay hanger. And at that ceremony we had a whole lot more troops than we have standing here today."

Coffin explained that the lack of Soldiers on the field was not an error but rather a testament to the capability and need of this battalion by this country.

"Warfighters have demanded that they [1st Space Battalion] press forward; that they deliver their capabilities on the battlefield. And that's where Lee's Soldiers are today — deployed. They are supporting warfighters around the world. They are protecting our forces and capabilities that this commander has built into this battalion. And my congratulations to the Soldiers of the 1st Space Battalion for the professionalism, the standards they set in the field and for the capabilities they deliver."

Before the ceremony, Coffin presented the Legion of Merit Award to Gizzi for exceptionally meritorious service from July 8, 2005, to July 13, 2007, as commander of 1st Space Battalion. Gizzi was cited for his support in the Global War on Terrorism and greatly improving the

warfighting capabilities of the 1st Space Battalion.

Coffin also recognized Gizzi's wife Sandra, presenting her with the Commander's Award for Public Service as the Family Readiness Group liaison for the 1st Space Battalion.

In his departing remarks Gizzi said, "Today is not only about what I have done; today is about the outstanding Soldiers of the 1st Space Battalion."

"They are the ones we need to recognize — Gizzi's outstanding professionals who report for duty every day ready for whatever the mission requires," said Gizzi. "These are the Soldiers, noncommissioned officers, warrant officers, and I can't forget the Department of Army civilians and contractors who make this all possible."

"Thanks for joining me at this milestone in the battalion's history — the departure of the fourth commander and the arrival of the fifth."

Commenting on the assumption of command by James, Coffin said, "We've got a great officer coming in with a tremendous reputation."

"There is no officer that I've had more Air Force officers come up to me and say 'this is an outstanding guy, you've got to give him a great job.'

"James is a great joint-warfighter with tremendous expertise background in Space. And I'm looking forward to seeing



Photo by Joe Fischer

Col. Timothy R. Coffin (left), commander of the 1st Space Brigade, charges Lt. Col. Thomas L. James (right) with responsibility of commanding the 1st Space Battalion in a ceremony at the Peterson Air Force Base Parade Grounds on the morning of July 6. James is the fifth commander of this unique battalion since its creation in 1999.

the great things he can do building on the platform Lee has established for him."

James assumes command of a unique one-of-a-kind organization designed to provide existing and emerging space support to U.S. forces as well as provide in-theater tactical ballistic missile warning.

"Our battalion represents the 'muddy boots' and has the arduous task of taking all the evolving grandiose strategy, theory, and doctrine and turn that into something real and meaningful for the warfighter," said James.

"It is a hard task, he said. The battalion's role in support of the nation's security and pursuit of the national interest is only going to grow in scope and involve us in the near future. I look forward to being part of that future with you."

Home is where the Army sends me

Charlie Company 53rd Signal Battalion

LANDSTUHL, Germany — Have you ever had a permanent change of station to Germany? Have you or your spouse ever been assigned to a unit overseas like Charlie Company, 53rd Signal Battalion?

At Charlie Company, 53rd Signal Battalion, it is assumed that most new Soldiers who arrive into the unit will answer no to these questions. Many of the Soldiers who come here come straight out of advanced individual training while some of those who come later in their careers have never been stationed in Europe. Because of this, the sponsorship program at the company is a very important link in the chain that leads to assimilation into the Charlie Company, German and European communities.

To ensure this transition from the continental United States to overseas units is achieved as painlessly as possible, the assigned sponsors and incoming Soldiers communicate about many obstacles. Before Soldiers arrive in Germany, they are contacted by someone from Charlie Company who wants to help

make their transition easier.

This link is very important because the incoming Soldier gets a chance to speak to someone who can answer any questions about Germany, Charlie Company, moving overseas, or anything else he can think of. This person also helps Soldiers set up their post office box or give them the names and numbers of some local banks to set up an account. The sponsor is able to keep in contact with this person via e-mail or phone, and eventually even build a friendship with the person.

When the incoming Soldier arrives at the airport in Frankfurt, a friendly, smiling face is there to pick him up and make sure he made it to his reserved lodging accommodations. This person also gives him a basket with some food, drinks and other essentials to help fill his refrigerator. Moreover, the sponsor drives the Soldier around for in-processing, Head Start, and even to look for off-post housing.

The sponsor may also help him get his kids enrolled in school, show him some local attractions, or even help him buy an old BMW. The person is their sponsor. He or she was assigned to him and his family as part of the Charlie Company

Sponsorship Program.

The goal of the sponsorship program is to ease the transition of an overseas move for Soldiers and their Families. In an effort to assist in this process, an Army Knowledge Online (AKO) Web page has been created to answer some common questions that inbound Soldiers and their Family members have. This page can be accessed at: <https://www.us.army.mil/suite/kc/616474>.

The sponsorship program at Charlie Company has many great success stories and has helped dozens of Soldiers and Family members settle into Germany quickly and comfortably. However, there is always room for improvement. The Soldiers and their Families are encouraged to give any suggestions on how to improve the sponsorship program (an addition to the welcome packet, more information in the FAQ's, changes to the Web site, etc.).

As the Charlie Company sponsorship noncommissioned officer, Sgt. Patrick Mann wants to take a great program and make it better to ensure Charlie Company has one of the best sponsorship programs in the Army. Control Warriors!



Photos by Dottie White

From left, Lisa Williams, Sarah Trial and Kaye Blankenship, SMDC/ARSTRAT employees, prepare to greet Sgt. Hubble Hainline as he arrives at the Huntsville International Airport.

SMDC/ARSTRAT Command Sgt. Maj. Raph C. Borja (left) and Huntsville Mayor Loretta Spencer (front center) along with many community members and family applaud Sgt. Hubble Hainline as he arrives at the Huntsville International Airport.



Sgt. Hubble Hainline's mother-in-law and son anxiously await his arrival. Hainline's two children, Kalib, 4, and Wyatt, who is 11 months old, have been staying with Tom and Alice Buchholz, the parents of Hainline's wife Shannon.



SMDC/ARSTRAT employees join family, friends to welcome home Soldier who was wounded in Iraq

HUNTSVILLE, Ala. — Sgt. Hubble Hainline, a 30-year-old National Guardsman from Athens, Ala., returned home July 24 on convalescent leave after being wounded by sniper fire in Iraq June 5.

A bullet ricocheted off his weapon and struck him in the neck. Hainline underwent surgery in Landstuhl, Germany, to relieve swelling on his brain. From there, he went to the National Naval Medical Center in Bethesda, Md., and on to a Veterans Affairs hospital in Tampa, Fla. He will undergo surgery again in mid-September.

Hainline, who has served in the military for 12 years, received a Purple Heart after his injury. His wife Shannon has been by his side since he arrived in Landstuhl.



Sgt. Hubble Hainline and his wife Shannon receive a big welcome from their son, Kalib. Shannon's mother Alice Buchholz has a dozen yellow roses for the couple.



Photos courtesy of NASA

NASA astronaut, Patrick Forrester, a retired Army colonel formerly with SMDC/ARSTRAT, brought along with him the new colors of SMDC/ARSTRAT's first National Guard battalion. The battalion will officially be redesignated the 117th Space Support battalion in October and hope to have Forrester present them with their colors at the event.

117th flies high on 117th

COLORADO SPRINGS, Colo. — U.S. Army Space and Missile Defense Command/U.S. Army Forces Strategic Command's first National Guard battalion, the 193rd Space Battalion, which was activated in 2001, will officially be redesignated as the 117th Space Support Battalion in October. To commemorate the event, the battalion commander, Lt. Col. Don Laucirica, thought it would be clever if the battalion's new guidon was flown in space aboard the Space Shuttle Atlantis on STS-117. After some coordination with NASA and retired Army Col. Patrick Forrester, a former astronaut for SMDC/ARSTRAT, the guidon was on its way. Launched June 8, the guidon spent two weeks in space and returned June 22.

"Colonel Retired Forrester has been extremely generous with his attention and time providing the 117th with a fabulous gift as this unit becomes official in October," said Laucirica. With some luck, the battalion hopes to have Forrester present the unit with its space immersed colors at their official ceremony.



Photo by Tommy Harris, AMRDEC Public Affairs

America's Army launches new game

Members of the Redstone and Huntsville, Ala., community met with Sgt. Tommy Rieman during a reception for him hosted by the America's Army Project Office at the Software Engineering Directorate July 31. The America's Army Project Office manages the public America's Army Game and all Government America's Army applications. Rieman's current assignment is with the America's Army Real Heroes program. Rieman and other Soldiers in the Real Heroes program play an important role working with the America's Army game developers to make the games realistic and authentic. In this photo, Rieman presents Huntsville Mayor Loretta Spencer with a Real Heroes action figure that is in his likeness. Dr. William Craig, director of SED, looks on as Rieman autographs the action figure. For two hours Rieman autographed copies of the America's Army online game and spoke about his military experiences and his role in the Real Heroes program to tell the stories of Soldiers who have exhibited courage under fire in the War on Terror and have received awards for valor for their actions. Rieman was here at Redstone Arsenal to review the new Xbox360 game entitled America's Army: True Soldiers which will be released in the fall of 2007. The public America's Army PC game, which is free to download at www.americasarmy.com, is consistently one of the top ten online video games with more than 8.5 million registered users and two million missions played each day. Rieman will be in Huntsville for the Space and Missile Defense Conference at the Von Braun Center Aug. 14-16 meeting and greeting visitors and signing autographs.

Echo Company celebrates Army Birthday

By Staff Sgt. Taylor Michelsen
Unit reporter

FORT BUCKNER, OKINAWA, Japan — Soldiers from Echo Company, 53rd Signal Battalion, joined their fellow Soldiers on June 9, at the Camp Butler Officers' Club to celebrate the Army's 232nd birthday at an Army Birthday Ball.

The evening's events began with a receiving line and the posting of the Colors followed by a streamer ceremony. Sgt. Daniel Cox, Spc. Brett Langan, Pfc. Robert Charlier and Pfc. Daniel Gifford represented Echo Company in the streamer ceremony. Each member of the ceremony was dressed in a uniform representing significant periods in Army

history.

Cox wore the Desert Combat Uniform while he attached streamers to the Army flag earned during OPERATION ENDURING FREEDOM. Langan, also dressed in the Desert Combat Uniform, attached the streamers earned during OPERATION IRAQI FREEDOM. Charlier attached the streamers for World War I while wearing the Army uniform Soldiers were issued during that war, and Gifford, dressed as a Colonial Soldier, attached the Revolutionary War streamers to the Army flag.

Immediately following the streamer ceremony, guests observed a remembrance service and a moment of silence for fallen comrades and those not able to join the group. The attendees then offered

traditional toasts to the Colors, the Army, the President of the United States, the POWs/MIAs, the Air Force, the Marine Corps, and also toasted the Japanese prime minister and the Japanese Ground Self-Defense Forces.

Dinner was served after a final toast to the ladies. Once the meal was finished, the youngest Soldier and the oldest Soldier at the event were invited to join the members of the head table in cutting the Army's birthday cake.

The evening closed with and a closing benediction and the retiring of the Colors. After the formal end to the evening, the dining tables were moved to clear the dance floor, so the Soldiers and their guests could dance the night away.

One team, one fight, one haircut!

Members of U.S. Army Space and Missile Defense Command/U.S. Army Forces Strategic Command's Army Space Support Team 18 did something odd in Iraq. In a display of unity, members of the team, including a lone female, shaved their heads as part of a team-building experience. The newly bald space warriors are providing in theater space support to warfighters on the ground.



Photo courtesy SMDC/ARSTRAT

SMDC jail sentencing proves profitable

By Diane Schumacher
SMDC/ARSTRAT
Public Affairs

NOTE: This article is for fun only, but is factual.

REDSTONE ARSENAL, Ala. — A myriad of U.S. Army Space and Missile Defense Command/Army Forces Strategic Command employees here were “arrested” to serve time in “jail,” on June 21. The arrests were for cause — a good cause. That good cause was raising funds to support SMDC/ARSTRAT’s 50th anniversary picnic which took place July 11.

The jail’s banker, Rachel Ramey, program analyst, SMDC/ARSTRAT Technical Center, took in the fees charged for having people arrested and from prisoners who decided to buy their way out of prison. Ramey sat near the jailhouse and had good visibility of the prisoners, thus serving as an expert eyewitness to the behavior of all prisoners.

Ramey stated that one arrestee would have been a model prisoner if it weren’t for the fact that he tried to escape. That escapade was captured on digital camera. After his failed attempt, Ramey said this high ranking official soon relaxed and served his prison term without further antics and was therefore released on time for good behavior.

Among the early arrest warrants served, two prisoners stood out amongst the rest: John Davis, intelligence operations specialist, G-2, and Lt. Col. William Whitney, director, Kwajalein Support Directorate.

Davis was arrested on the charge of “failure to attend organizational functions,” said Ramey. However, Brenda Turner, information security specialist, G-2, stated that it was really more for Davis’ failure to attend G-2 luncheons.

A big scene

Ramey was right there watching with her eagle eyes witnessing Davis’ behavior. Apparently he must have forgotten as she was able to inform those in charge about his disruptive comments, thus causing him more time spent in the pen.

Davis had lots to say, mostly with a terse attitude. He spoke in short choppy sentences,



Photo by Dottie White

A celebrity tries to escape while another appears discouraged.

saying such things as, “This happens every year! This is a frame-up!” He further added such threatening comments as, “Call the ACLU, I mean, I mean call the AARP; I’m a member of that! See, here’s my card!” He even yelled out, “Anyone up for a bribe?”

Davis continued ranting with other vocalizations such as, “I feel like Edward G. Robinson,” (a famous old time actor who usually played a bad guy); “I need a tin cup!” [Probably to use to rake across the prison fence.] Then he started singing but quickly stopped when no one was paying attention. His last few loud statements showed his true colors though; it was a plea of sadness as he asked no one in particular, “How come nobody’s come to visit me? I’m sitting here in the big house. Where’s my

candlelight vigil?”

It was at this time Ramey told Davis, “Sir, we can keep you in here longer for bad behavior.” With that Davis quieted — but only for a minute, then he started up his ranting and raving again. He was so verbose, in fact, that he served two consecutive sentences, the first term (15 minutes) for the original charge and a second term (15

minutes more) for bad behavior. Did he learn a lesson as he was released from jail? There’s been no answer determined for that question as this paper went to print.



Photo by Diane Schumacher

Davis harassed on-lookers, telling them to watch out, they were next.

No lawyers

Another prisoner of concern was Whitney. When this reporter arrived on the scene, Whitney was calling out, quite loudly, for legal counsel. He exclaimed, “Are there any good lawyers around here?” With no reply from on-lookers, he asked his question again, even louder, and began swiping an ID card across the prison wall making quite a racket and stirring up the other prisoners. It almost became a scene of cacophony.

It seems this was Whitney’s second arrest of the day! He had a prior arrest record of unknown charges. Charges for the second imprisonment were two-fold: “being in the office too long” and “for being the boss” — there were three complaints against him on the second charge.

Whitney’s total sentence was to be an hour for the second arrest, according to Ramey. However, Whitney seemed to tire of the scenery and paid his way out of jail.

With the first arrest Whitney posted bail after only eight minutes of incarceration, said Ramey, and posted his second bail after only 12 minutes behind the fence. It seemed as if he just couldn’t hang with the other prisoners, or maybe it was that his job was keeping him really busy and duty called.

In the end, Whitney wrote a check for an undisclosed amount to the bank for an immunity bond. It was obvious Whitney desired no more affiliation with the SMDC jail.

The outcome

The entire jail project was one of mirth and lots of humor. Everyone who was “arrested” seemed to have a good time and played along demonstrating good sportsmanship. More than \$750 was earned in support of the picnic, wrote Phil Patterson, organizer of “jail day” in an e-mail message.

July 1-6, fun week for young space campers



Photos by Diane Schumacher

An MMU is a manned maneuvering unit, it’s an electric/hydraulic chair that simulates use of a jetpack.

“The MMU was the best simulator; you get to control it yourself.” — Alexander Weatherford, 9, Kwajalein



“It was fun, I felt like I was really in space.” — Hang T. Vu, 10, Huntsville, Ala.



Children from the SMDC/ARSTRAT Family: Front row, L-R: Brandon Steine, 11, Huntsville; Crystal J. Alexander, 11, Va.; Angela Kendrick, 10, Kwajalein Atoll; Logan Everts, 10, Kwajalein Atoll. Back row, L-R: Command Sgt. Maj. Borja, Lt. Gen. Campbell, Benajmin Mock, 10, Ft. Greely, Alaska; and Larry Burger, who is not only the director of the Future Warfare Center, but also the current president of the Air, Space and Missile Defense Association. ASMDA reviewed applications and selected 16 winners to attend space camp based on numerous facts including each student’s handwritten essays and school grades.

Pic

By Diane Schumacher

SMDC/ARSTRAT Command General Ken Campbell welcomed everyone to the picnic at Rustic Lane Redstone Arsenal.



BINGO!



Hungry picnic

Ray's daughter Whitney Donaver son of N stop in the food line photo. Do off his “



picnic celebrating 50 years successful, fun

Schumacher and Dottie White, STRAT Public Affairs Office



STRAT ... nding ... al, Lt. ... vin T. ... ppbell ... omes ... to the ... at the ... dge, ... stone ... enal.

Shanna Phillips, 4, right, daughter of Lt. Col. Rob Phillips, handles the hula hoop without a problem.



Scott Larkin's daughters — Perry (standing) and Piper (in the stroller).



Bingo judge Lisa Vann and her helper, unofficial Mistress of Ceremonies, Bunnie Scales.



Surprise! The "Three Divas" serenade Happy Birthday to Simone Philson. The divas are LaJeannia Lacey, Clara Moore, Dr. Claudette Owens, with Victoria Binford.

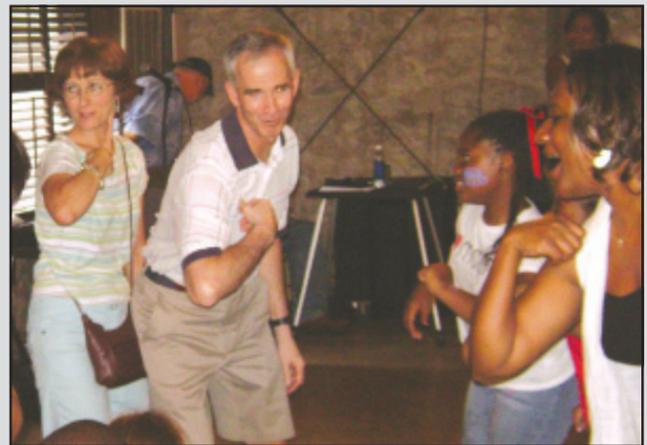


Kelsey Cagle, 17, left, daughter of Barbara Dixon transforms the face of Tyler Reetz, 10, grandson of Barbara Tooley, into a skeleton.



A happy Stacey Wilkes wins a game.

Just hangin' around and socializing.



From left, Kathy Campbell and Lt. Gen. Kevin T. Campbell join the Hokey Pokey fun ... You put your right elbow in ...



Picnickers get their fill of good BBQ.



Jordan Phillips, 6, left, daughter of Lt. Col. Rob Phillips, shows off her new blue face.

Chase Wilson, 5, right, grandson of Barbara Tooley, is ready for the hula hoop toss.



It's a free-for-all for the kids. Yeah!!



... ven Green, 8, ... ter of Monica ... estbrook and ... n VanEpps, 9, ... ikol VanEpps ... middle of the ... to pose for a ... naven shows ... tattoo," Lil' D.



Juanita Sales Lee leads the Electric Slide, and everybody's loving it!

It's artistic interpretation anyway you look at it!



I like watching you dance, Sgt. Major!



Relaxing on the rocks outside the Rustic Lodge.



Get down Sergeant Major!! (Sgt. Maj. Randall Williams dances the Electric Slide.)



The Funky Chicken is a hootin' good time for Nguyet Borja and Kathy Campbell.

SATCOM Soldiers receive M249 SAW training

By Spc. Randell S. Buchanan
Unit reporter

CAMP ROBERTS, Calif. — Rarely do the Soldiers of Delta Company, 53rd Signal Battalion get the chance to train with any weapon other than their standard issue M16. However, Soldiers of 2nd squad, Operations Platoon, were given an opportunity to do some hands-on training with the M249 Squad Automatic Weapon, more commonly referred to as the SAW.

"I've seen a SAW before," said Spc. William Wilson "but never touched one, much less handled one. This type of training is something I hope we can do more often."

The M249 SAW is an air-cooled, gas-operated, fully-automatic-only firearm that fires from an open bolt position. It can accept belts of linked 5.56 x 45 mm NATO (.223 inch) ammunition through the top-mounted feed tray or M16-type magazines through the side-mounted port.

The latter allows a SAW gunner to use a rifleman's magazine in an emergency if he runs out of belted ammuni-

tion, though this often causes jams as the magazine spring cannot adequately keep up with the weapon's high rate of fire. Linked ammunition can be fed from either a loose belt or from a plastic box (or cloth pouch) for 200 rounds, clipped under the receiver.

The M249 SAW features a built-in bipod and a tripod-mounting lug for supported fire, as well as a quick change barrel that helps prevent overheating during sustained fire. Delta Company is not assigned any weapons other than M16's and M9's, making this training, although routine for many, very important to development of Soldiers assigned here.

Realistic weapon training is vital but hard to effectively simulate without real weapons. 2nd Squad Soldiers had to coordinate use of the M249 from neighboring Fort Hunter-Liggett. The extra planning and preparation provided the Soldiers with a fully functional M249 SAW.

Soldiers were also taught how to assemble and disassemble the M249 and how to maintain it. Instruction included use of the bipod,

shoulder, and hip firing techniques and how to properly use the sight for different aiming methods. They also received training on how to load the SAW using belted ammunition and M16-type magazines.

For many of the Soldiers it was exciting to get their hands on a weapon they hadn't used since Basic Training. A few Soldiers, however, had never

even held a M249 before, which shows the importance of quality training.

"We had to make the most of our time, and ensure that all Soldiers get hands-on time with the weapon," stated Sgt. David Hansen. "Our training today was very successful, everyone learned a lot. Our next goal is to get rounds and get everyone qualified."



Photo by Sgt. David Hansen

Spc. Randell Buchanan takes a good prone position during Primary Marksmanship Instruction.

49th Soldiers earn prestigious German marksmanship award

By Spc. Tracy Tipton, Unit reporter

FORT GREELY, Alaska — The distinctive foreign marksmanship award attached to Class A uniforms by a cord is sometimes seen worn by Soldiers who've been stationed in Germany. Stateside Soldiers rarely, if ever, get the opportunity to earn the "Schutzenschnur," so members of the 49th Missile Defense Battalion (Ground-based Midcourse Defense) stationed here count themselves very lucky to have done so earlier this year.

The Schutzenschnur medal is earned for qualifying on a minimum of two NATO weapons. Soldiers may qualify on a variety of pistols and machine guns. With five areas required for range qualification, the type of badge earned is based on the area with the lowest score. Soldiers fortunate enough to qualify for the Schutzenschnur are awarded either a gold, silver or bronze award.

An exceptional 22 Soldiers from the

49th MD Battalion were awarded with the prestigious gold German marksmanship badge; 31 were presented silver. Enlisted Soldiers may display the badge on their dress uniform. Officers may accept the award, although it is not authorized for wear by this command.

The unique opportunity for the full-time National Guard Soldiers was engineered by Capt. Glenn Slaughter, who struck up a friendship with German officer Oberstleutnant Bernhard Prohaska while attending the Captains' Career Course at Fort Bliss, Texas. The oberstleutnant is stationed there with the German Forces Air Force/NATO Command USA/CA. It is part of Prohaska's duties to cultivate positive relationships between German and American forces.

An avid hunter, Prohaska was drawn to tales of Alaska's grandeur and peerless hunting. He volunteered to officiate at the Schutzenschnur competition while vacationing recently in the state. Hosted by

the Soldiers of the 49th MD Battalion for a portion of his vacation, he toured the surrounding area and did some fishing.

The two-day event, held at a qualification range here, was run flawlessly for the 76 Soldiers who participated.

"One of the best ranges that I have seen," said Prohaska at its conclusion, commenting that it was on par with the professionalism he had seen displayed by members of the 49th MD Battalion.

Each Soldier profusely thanked Prohaska for his efforts in officiating the unique German weapons range.

"I've been waiting my entire Army career to earn this badge which, previously, I've only seen on Soldiers stationed overseas," said Sgt. Joseph Ten-Eyke.

Prohaska said he would propose having the range officiated for Alaska National Guard Soldiers as a possible bi-annual event.

The success of the range was a credit to all involved. "Everyone came together," said Slaughter.

Sgt. Jason Martin, formerly of the U.S. Army marksmanship team, "was an excellent asset to Soldiers," said Slaughter. Martin conducted all-day clinics and improved Soldiers' shooting techniques prior to firing on the European and American small arms.

And, although one would not normally associate heat injuries with the state of Alaska, the range turned out to be held on the two warmest days since last summer, so the services of medic Staff Sgt. Fernando Sangco were much appreciated. He provided a safe environment and constantly checked on range conditions and Soldiers to ensure no heat injuries or accidents occurred during the competition.

All in all, there was much evidence of the partnership and positive relationships that both Germans and Americans wished to foster, in addition to great training!



Photo by Sgt. Jack W. Carlson III

Staff Sgt. Steven Mich evaluates the handling of a German pistol by Spc. Russel Smith during a German marksmanship competition held by the 49th Missile Defense Battalion.

Charlie Company stresses safety on range

By Sgt. Chris Miller
Unit reporter

LANDSTUHL, Germany — On any given day in a strategic environment that most of us work in, you can find yourself not feeling too much like a Soldier; yet when you find yourself staring at the first round leaving your rifle to go down range this odd detachment quickly dissipates.

On day one of a two-day range, 20 members of Landstuhl's Charlie Company and five members of the Kaiserslautern Military community's 21st Theater Support Command fired on the

300-meter known distance range. To ensure the overwhelming success of the range, there were many steps that needed to be accomplished.

Support platoon prepared the range by collecting the needed supplies and coordinating with range control personnel while the noncommissioned officers and Soldiers of the Operations platoon prepared by performing pre-marksanship instruction and training the new Soldiers how to shoot effectively. PMI was conducted by utilizing K-Town's Engagement Skills trainer 2000, and utilizing Dime washer and shadow boxes.

While most Soldiers excel at most of the Army Warrior tasks, newer Soldiers to the company did not have a large amount of practice or experience firing on the 300-meter KD range. To make sure that the new Soldiers to the company understood how to operate on the range, all safety standards were adhered to, and each Soldier went through the complete motions to ensure that Soldiers understood the standards and adhered to them.

At 6:10 a.m., the range cadre was standing tall at the company, ready to perform the day's task and make sure that safety and efficiency were the

top priorities. The hard work and training paid off for the members of the company.

Pfc. Jeffrey Domenech, a new Soldier to the company, qualified on the known distance with an outstanding 40 out of 40. His success can be attributed to the training he received during the mandatory PMI's and the efforts of his supporting NCOs.

All Soldiers qualified on their assigned days as well as receiving first time "Go's." The range was a complete success as Soldiers from Charlie Company were able to get great training without any compromise of safety.

1st Space Brigade Soldiers spin their way to safety

By DJ Montoya
1st Space Brigade

PETERSON AIR FORCE BASE, Colo. — Take eight Soldiers from the 1st Space Brigade (two from the 1st Space Battalion and one from 53rd Signal Battalion) and seven privately owned vehicles ranging from a 2003 KIA Optima to a 2003 Audi TT and put them on a closed paved course complete with orange cones located off of East Woodmen Road in Colorado Springs, Colo., and what do you have? You have a driver's safety course that is not like your typical driver's education course.

This unique opportunity is what a select few from U.S. Army Space and Missile Defense Command/ U.S. Army Forces Strategic Command Operations hub on Peterson received when they got behind the wheel at a local MasterDrive facility — one of a hand full located throughout the state — as part of the brigade's safety training plan back in mid-June.

Although it was a single day version of a larger driving program, brigade participants gained valuable knowledge and experience.

The MasterDrive program is designed to enhance the processing, psychomotor skill, and decision making ability of every individual client taking the course. The Skills training is the key and foundation of the driving course where students are put through a series of driving exercises which simulate real world conditions, conducted at relatively low speeds, and are taught from a car control and defensive driving perspective and in a non-race environment. The programs are built upon learning car control skills and not how to drive fast.

The brigade spent a total of \$1,300 for a modified one-day version of the regular driving course for eight individuals due to the importance of driving safely.

"Privately owned and government vehicle accidents account for 52 percent of the brigade's accidents to date for this fiscal year," said Maj. Christopher Crawford, safety officer, 1st Space Brigade.

"This type of course is a good way to mitigate the problem."

Crawford went on to say that the difference between an Army safety driving course and one like this is that the MasterDrive program gives more hands on experience by going through drills that deals with how to react in a situation just before an accident occurs by conducting exercises including crash avoidance, skid recovery and spin control.

"It goes through a crawl, walk, and run



Photos by DJ Montoya

Left to right: Sgt. William Jr. Valentin, HHC, 53rd Signal Battalion; Spc. Chad Cousineau, HHC, 1st Space Battalion; Master Sgt. Stacy Bowers, HHC, 1st Space Battalion; Staff Sgt. Charles Thigpen, HHC, 1st Space Brigade; Sgt. Joshua Osterkamp, HHC, 1st Space Brigade; and 1st Lt. Kyle Kirkpatrick, HHC, 1st Space Brigade receive proper instruction on where to place hands on a steering wheel using a red Frisbee during a driver's safety course at MasterDrive.

phase similar to how we execute a task in the military."

The course began promptly at 8 a.m. with classroom instruction followed by on-hands driving drills with three instructors at the helm. These included maneuvers around orange cones, braking, turn-and-brake exercises, and quick lane changes signaled by simulated traffic lights. The afternoon session involved more driving exercises but this time on wet pavement. The objective was to learn how to stop straight on wet roads, recover from a slide, and loss of control.

The only "causality," so-to-speak, of the course was a white Toyota Tercel. Halfway through the day MasterDrive instructors noticed problems with the front brakes and relegated the vehicle to a parking area. Undaunted by this action, members of the brigade were resourceful and doubled up using the remaining vehicles.

Prior to the end of class, students were brought back into the classroom for another round of instruction before filling out a course evaluation and receiving their certificates of completion.

Was it worth it? According to Staff Sgt. Charles Thigpen from Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 1st Space Brigade, "I assumed it would be like two safety classes I took in Florida. Those classes were 100 percent classroom instruction, and they did not change my opinions or habits. They were a check-the-block exercise in staying awake."

However, Thigpen, who drove a KIA Optima during the course, claims because of the training he received with the

MasterDrive course, "I find that I move into the nine and three o'clock hand positions on the steering wheel as opposed to the 10 and two, and adjust my posture to take evasive action."

"I have a practiced skill set I didn't have before. I took driver's education in high school. I would have appreciated this training when I was 17."

Another graduate of the one-day course 1st Lt. Kyle Kirkpatrick, executive officer, HHC, 1st Space Brigade said, "The Master Drive course was great! It was very informative, not only in the information gained, but letting your senses know and learn what 'right' looks and feels like."

Although he drove his sporty Audi TT loaded with car manufacturer's safety features during the class Kirkpatrick was still able to gain valuable maneuvering skills.

"I believe that my habits have changed and that if an incident occurred I know what to and (what) not to do in certain situations," said Kirkpatrick. "This course should be standard for at least the Soldiers that are (in the) 26 years and younger category, if not all Soldiers and officers."

"1st Space Brigade Commander, Colonel Timothy Coffin wholeheartedly supports this program and has been looking for ways to mitigate our accidents," said Crawford. "We are incorporating MasterDrive into our safety training program starting next fiscal year and we will be sending eight Soldiers to this program semi-annually. The focus will be on the high risk Soldiers 26 years old and younger."

Civilian News

TSP returns for G, F, C, S and I funds

Rates of return were updated on August 1, 2007.

July 2007		Last 12 months (8/1/06 -7/31/07)	
G Fund	0.50%	G Fund	4.97%
F Fund	0.80%	F Fund	5.68%
C Fund	(3.10%)	C Fund	16.14%
S Fund	(4.57%)	S Fund	17.27%
I Fund	(2.39%)	I Fund	22.93%

Percentages in () are negative.

DTS training for SMDC/ARSTRAT

There will be training about the DTS (Defense Travel System) at SMDC/ARSTRAT headquarters on Redstone Arsenal, Ala., on Aug. 7 and 22. The point of contact is Donna Bowden, (256) 955-3102.

GAO: Congress should consider additional TSP oversight

Government Accountability Office (GAO) in a new report called again on Congress to improve oversight of the Thrift Savings Plan (TSP) by considering the establishment of a formal communication channel through which TSP managers can alert lawmakers of looming problems. In light of recent congressional concern, GAO looked at the Federal Retirement Thrift Investment Board (FRTIB), which serves as manager of the TSP retirement savings and investment plan that holds approximately \$210 billion in assets for 3.7 million participants. FRTIB is overseen by both Congress and the Labor Department (DOL), but GAO noted in the recently released report that TSP oversight by Congress is sporadic at best, limited to occasional committee oversight hearings. And DOL conducts annual audits of the plan, but has no formal process to communicate its issues of dispute, GAO said. GAO pointed out that it has previously recommended that Congress enact legislation to require DOL to establish a formal process by which it can report to Congress on areas of critical concern. To see more go to: www.gao.gov/new.items/d07611.pdf.

10 biggest mistakes you can make before retirement

1. Decide to retire on the spur of the moment because of some difficult assignment or personality clash on the job.
2. Decide to retire without discussing your plans with your spouse. You need the emotional support of your spouse when you are making a decision that will change both of your lives.
3. Fail to review and make sure that you are being credited with all of the service and other entitlements your federal career has earned for you.
4. Retire without having something to "retire to," as well as to "retire from." The attraction of your favorite fishing pond or the old rocking chair grows dull fast when you have nothing better to do.
5. Retire with the belief that you can live comfortable on your annuity without realistically comparing the money you will have coming in with the amount you will need to maintain your standard of living.
6. Fail to stay abreast of developments and changes in federal retirement entitlements and trends.
7. Retire without reviewing all of your retirement options and understanding the pros and cons of each.
8. Base your retirement decision on the advice of coworkers and friends, rather than consulting the experts.
9. Base your retirement decision on an urge to sell your house and move to a warmer (or colder) area without first thoroughly familiarizing yourself with the new location's amenities and quality of life. (Multiple visits or a long-term rental can help ensure that the new area offers the cultural, social and economic advantages you are seeking.)
10. Succumb to the belief that your active, productive life is over just because you are retiring.

Military News

Good news for military users of cell phones

The United States is making it illegal for a telephone company to keep billing someone in the military for a long term cell phone contract, if the cell phone user has been sent overseas for more than 90 days. This is part of a larger movement to enable troops to get out of long-term financial commitments (rental leases, health club and other membership contracts) when they are sent overseas. Some states have passed laws to deal with this, and there is a drive for federal legislation. Meanwhile, legislators are getting more complaints from troops who have had their cell phone contracts cancelled unexpectedly because the telephone companies didn't like all the roaming charges piled up by those transferred for a few months to another part of the United States. See strategypage.com, Human Factors, Morale, dated July 9, 2007.

Foundation supports families

The 9-11 Help America Foundation's mission is to recognize and support the Families of fallen and wounded warriors. For the past six years, the foundation focused on providing monthly financial support to wounded Servicemembers and Families of the fallen. That support comes in the form of \$200 a month for an 18-month period. Visits with the troops and their Families are regular occurrences, as are outings that bring Families together. For more information, visit the 911hellpamerica.com Web site.

DIMHRS retirement points capabilities

DIMHRS, the Defense Integrated Military Human Resources System, will provide Soldiers the capability to calculate retirement points based on their current consolidated electronic record of service. Additionally, DIMHRS will allow Soldiers to explore different future retirement point possibilities to see the impact on their retirement pay. For full story, visit AKO News Center.

AKO 'slick deals' page for Servicemembers

In case you didn't know "Inside AKO" has a page with a myriad of deals for Servicemembers and their Families. Go to AKO Home, then Inside AKO, then Slick Deals for Servicemembers. Here are two:

Dress the Dog!

Sponsored by Hebrew National, the "Dress the Dog" promotion features a frequency card program: buy six half- or quarter-pound hot dogs and receive a free quarter-pound hot dog from MWR. As patrons redeem their frequency cards for a free hot dog, they may enter their name into a sweepstakes drawing for a chance to win great prizes such as a 2008 Ford Mustang or an all inclusive 5-night stay in Orlando, Fla., at Shades of Green Resort on Walt Disney World, or the Edelweiss Lodge and Resort in Garmisch, Germany. Ten commissary gift cards and 10 exchange gift cards (valued at \$500 each) for a total of 20 gift cards valued at \$10,000 total, electronic products and mountain bikes round out the prizes. Contest runs through September 2007. Go to AKO Web site, then Home, Inside AKO, then Slick Deals for Servicemembers, and click on the "dress the dog!" logo.

Army approves use of the MS HUP

The Microsoft (MS) Home Use Program (HUP) was approved for all Army personnel. This includes, Active Duty, Reserve, Guard and civilians currently employed by the Army. Detailed information as to the Home Use Rights End User License Agreement will be available on the ASCP Web site this week with the memorandum signed by Lt. Gen. Steven Boutelle. Visit the "Slick Deals in Technology" page within AKO.

Moving?

Military.com is full of interesting advice on the subject of moving. Even if you've become an expert at moving due to all those PCS moves, take some time to view military.myhomebenefits.com/ moving for good and practical advice.

Delta Company gets ready for change

Spc. Andrew Knife
Unit reporter

CAMP ROBERTS, Calif. — The only constant is change, and change is exactly what Soldiers from 53rd Signal Battalion will have to deal with once the Wideband Global Satellite Communications System is launched.

To prepare for that change, the Soldiers are being trained on the new system through a month-long course. A recent Global Satellite Configuration Control Element (GSCCE) NET (New Equipment Training) class was attended by 11 Delta Company Soldiers, one Echo Company Soldier, and two 53rd Signal Battalion staff members. The GSCCE will be the primary means of Payload control on the WGS after its launch.

Boeing's Dan Wilson, Sen Yao, Dmitri Thomas, Tammy Horner and John Trechek each had an opportunity to teach a portion of the course. That may sound like a lot of people to instruct a course that is only a month long, but because so many topics were covered each of the instructors were brought in for their individual expertise. Many of the instructors have been with the WGS program since its inception more than six years ago.

The class covered many subjects to include a general WGS overview, an in depth

overview of the GSCCE hardware, the signal flow through the GSCCE, but concentrated more on the software interface within the GSCCE and its utilization in day-to-day operations and WGS payload configuration control.

The class also taught how to integrate the GSCCE with the Air Force's Command and Control System Consolidated (CCS-C). That connection lets the Soldiers remotely use the Air Force's equipment to connect to the satellite and vice versa, which is a new technique in military satellite control.

Even though there is currently no WGS spacecraft in space, the class still had the ability to train on controlling the satellite using a Satellite Simulator, or SATSIM. The SATSIM gives the Soldiers the ability to command and monitor a simulator that very accurately represents the WGS spacecraft. This added capability is a great training tool because it allows Soldiers to practice daily operations without fear of damaging an actual spacecraft.

The simulator allowed instructors to program "failures" into the system that simulate an actual failure on the GSCCE or spacecraft to judge the operators ability to fix problems that could arise during operations.



Photo taken by Spc. David Day

Delta Company Soldier, Spc. Andrew Knife receives hands on training during the first Global Satellite Configuration Control Element (GSCCE) NET (new Equipment Training) class.

The WGS program and GSCCE were developed to replace the outdated Defense Satellite Communications System III (DSCS III). The 53rd Signal Battalions current mission is to monitor and control the payload on the DSCS constellation. But since DSCS III is based on technology from the 70s, the Department of Defense felt it was time to launch a new system. The WGS is a huge step in military space-based communications. One WGS spacecraft has more capacity than the entire DSCS III constellation. That is why it's important that 53rd Signal

Battalion Soldiers take this course. Courses like these allow Soldiers to support the warfighter much more efficiently.

Class Distinguished Honor Graduate, Spc. Kenneth Squire, said of the GSCCE class, "I believe this class exceeded all of our expectations in its thoroughness in both hands-on equipment and classroom instruction. Since this was the first class given, it should only improve with later classes. I now feel prepared for the challenge of performing operational payload control on this brand new satellite."

WGS Fundamentals lays groundwork for future training

By Sgt. Eric Ludwig
Unit reporter

FORT BUCKNER, OKINAWA, Japan — With summer approaching and typhoon season beginning, the Soldiers of Echo Company 53rd Signal Battalion kicked off the first classes of the training cycle for the upcoming deployment of the first Wideband Global Satellite (WGS).

The initial level training, WGS Fundamentals, was instructed by a team of ITT contractors and U.S. Army Space and Missile Defense Command/U.S. Army Forces Strategic Command personnel, comprising a varied group with extensive experience in space operations, satellite control and network planning. The instructors were Bob Little, Chris Savaglio, Steve Brozo and Wanda Woodson.

Over several days, Echo Company's satellite controllers received their first

brush with the inner workings of the WGS. The WGS is an enormous step forward in the mission of bringing reliable communications to our customers as it will grant an increase in bandwidth over the previous communication medium and employ new technology to increase the stability and robustness of communication links. The system will also grant the ability to use multiple frequency bands, thus expanding the communication potential.

Echo Company Soldiers are enthusiastic about the upcoming challenges to overcome in transitioning to the WGS. When asked about his feelings on the upcoming system, Sgt. Jimmy Ayala said, "I am proud that we have the opportunity to be among the first to operate this new satellite. I see this as a significant milestone in my career as a Satellite Controller."

The fundamentals course lays the groundwork for future training in the

control and planning systems that have been engineered for the new satellite. Pfc. Daniel Gifford said of the fundamentals course, "The best part of the course was that there was such a wealth of experience in the room. We had an instructor with years of experience in satellite control and the RSSCE system, a retired Air Force captain who gave real world examples of operations with military spacecraft, and senior personnel with SMDC/ARSTRAT who were able to contribute a top-down view of constellation planning and operational priorities. The depth was such that every question could be answered to the fullest."

The WGS system holds a lot of promise for the future of satellite communication. There will be many changes for everyone to get used to, but with the proper training, Soldiers of the 53rd Signal Battalion will rise to the challenge.

Two FWC employees recognized for contributions to JIAMD Summit

The Second Annual Joint Integrated Air and Missile Defense Summit (JIAMD) took place in Huntsville, Ala., March 5-8. According to Lonnie Poling, director of business development at AAR Brown International and chairman of the Summit, about 550 military and defense industry experts and leaders attended in effort to resolve several difficult air and missile defense issues.

Larry Burger, director, Future Warfare Center, and Tara Ward, also of FWC, were two attendees from U.S. Army Space and Missile Defense Command/Army Forces Strategic Command. Burger participated as a "chief" for his Family of Systems Tribe, consisting of military and defense industry experts focusing on "warrior" missions to develop resolutions.

Ward worked from September 2006 to March 2007 as the action officer planning, organizing and administrating a myriad of missions to build the Summit.

On July 10, Poling visited SMDC/ARSTRAT and presented certificates of recognition to Burger and Ward for their hard work and dedication which ensured the JIAMD Summit was successful.

Also attending the presentation were Kenny Watts, Huntsville Chapter president, AFCEA (Armed Forces Communications and Electronics Association); Robert Darnell, Tennessee Valley Chapter president, NDIA (National Defense Industry Association); and Dr. Frankie Stewart, Tennessee Valley Chapter president, WID (Women in Defense).

1957-2007 — SMDC/ARSTRAT Celebrates

The road to Kwajalein

SMDC/ARSTRAT Historical Office

In 1957, with the feasibility studies completed, plans were moving forward for a new defense system the NIKE-ZEUS, which would address the threat posed by an intercontinental ballistic missile (ICBM). Projects had barely begun when the Soviet Union announced, on Aug. 26, 1957, that they had successfully tested an ICBM. The NIKE-ZEUS was given the highest priority and the search was on for a suitable test facility.

The road to Kwajalein was decided in February 1959, when the Department of Defense approved the proposed test plan for the NIKE-ZEUS system. Existing ranges and test facilities provided some support. A tracking station was constructed on Ascension Island, part of the Atlantic Test Range, to study ICBMs launched by the Air Force from Cape Canaveral, Fla. Components and subsystem tests were to be conducted at White Sands Missile Range, N.M., as were short-range atmospheric capabilities tests. Point Mugu, Calif., provided a site for more rigorous testing of long-range and extra atmospheric capabilities. None of these sites however was suitable for a full test of the NIKE-ZEUS system. A new facility was needed — Site X.

Following months of research, planners for the Army Rocket and Guided Missile Agency focused upon the Kwajalein Atoll in the Marshall Islands. Unlike options reviewed in the Atlantic Test Range and

elsewhere, Kwajalein was part of the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands and was administered by the United States Government. In fact, Kwajalein Island, within a day's flight from Hawaii, was the site of an active U.S. Navy installation, with an existing infrastructure (airstrip, harbor, housing, schools, hospital, etc.) and supply routes. In addition, the weather was relatively stable, and the islands, at 4,800 miles from the West Coast, were a perfect distance from Camp Cook, Calif., now Vandenberg Air Force Base, to test the system against ICBMs. Although the islands were small, it was determined that with proper planning, Kwajalein could support the technical facilities and contractor personnel needed to operate the full-scale NIKE-ZEUS system.

Within a few years, the Army's missile defense program held a significant position on the island. The Kwajalein Test Center was officially established in October 1960, and two years later NIKE-ZEUS testing began in the Marshalls. By 1964, the Army's presence on Kwajalein was significant. Most of the available acreage was devoted to the missile defense program, and almost all of the 3,500 residents of the island were affiliated with the program. Officials argued that the administration of the islands would be better served by a single organization. In November 1963, Secretary of Defense Robert McNamara agreed, observing that: the "support provided to the Pacific Missile Range is an



Courtesy photo

Brig. Gen. (then Col.) I. O. Drewry and Kwajalein officials review island facilities following transfer ceremony July 1, 1964. The vehicles in background are U.S. Navy.

unnecessary expense to the Navy and a drain on Navy personnel. It is appropriate to place this burden on the consumers of range services and to enable them to control the resources essential to support their own operations."¹

With this directive, responsibility for Kwajalein and eight other islands would transfer from the U.S. Navy to the U.S. Army NIKE-X Project Office. In a 30-minute ceremony conducted in front of the chapel, on July 1, 1964, Capt. H.D. Allen, the island's 18th Naval commander, relinquished command to Col. Glenn Crane, NIKE-X Field Office project chief and first Army commander of the island. At the same time the Pacific Missile Range Facility — Kwajalein became Kwajalein Test Site.

Since this time, the Test Site and its missions have continued to grow. A series of landfills have literally increased the island by over 100 acres. The mission and responsibility of the KTS, now known as the Ronald Reagan Ballistic Missile Defense Test

Site, increased almost immediately. The Advanced Research Project Agency's Project PRESS radars and equipment on Roi-Namur transferred to the Army in 1968. New islands were added to the test range as the complexities of remote launches were addressed in the SAFEGUARD era. Reentry measurement programs added a new feature to the Anti-Ballistic Missile program on Kwajalein. In addition to its original ICBM mission, the test range has also been developed to support mid and short range intercept testing and studies. In addition, under a 1961 memorandum, KTS was identified as a national missile range and as such has supported a variety of Air Force and Navy programs since 1964. Finally, from the earliest manned-space launches, Kwajalein has supported NASA's space program with deep space tracking and other efforts.

¹This directive which resulted from a special study conducted by Department of Defense also applied to installations other than Kwajalein.



Brig. Gen. (then Col.) I.O. Drewry, NIKE-X project manager (left), and Col. Glenn Crane, commanding officer, Kwajalein Test Site, look over the plaque commemorating the first time the U.S. Army took over Kwajalein Island, back in February 1944.



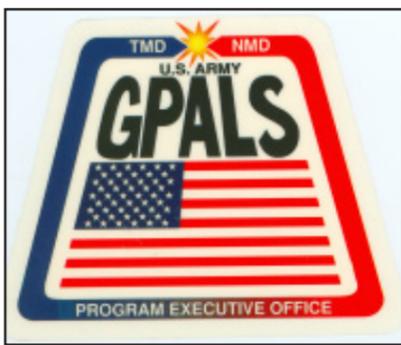
50 Years of Excellence in Space and Missile Defense

Program Executive Office marks 15 years

SMDC/ARSTRAT Historical Office

During the 1991 State of the Union address, President George H.W. Bush announced a new direction for the Strategic Defense Initiative. It was refocused to provide protection from limited ballistic missile strikes, whatever their source. Bush concluded, "Let us pursue an SDI program that can deal with any future threat to the United States, our forces overseas and to our friends and allies." The response was Global Protection Against Limited Strikes or GPALS, which would be composed of a national missile defense system, a theater missile defense system and a space-based global defense system.

As a result of these initiatives, 1992 was a significant year for both the U.S. Army Space and Missile Defense Command/Army Forces Strategic Command and the Program Executive Office Missiles and Space. On July 29, 1992, the PEO GPALS was formally established. In August of that year, our command became the U.S. Army Space and Strategic Defense Command with the addition of the Army Space Command. At the same time, a number of programs developed by the PEO GPALS. Essentially the PEO Air Defense and the PEO Strategic Defense were dissolved and reorganized as the PEO GPALS.



The newly established GPALS was composed of two program offices – NMD (National Missile Defense) and TMD (Theater Missile Defense). This command contributed the Ground Based Interceptor, Ground Based Radar, Ground-based Surveillance and Tracking System, Site Defense and Regional Operations Center/Communications Project Offices to the NMD Program Office and Theater High Altitude Area Defense and Extended Range Interceptor Project Offices and Adjunct Sensors, Arrow and Testbed Product Offices to the TMD Program Office. Other key elements were the Corps SAM

and Patriot Projects Offices from the PEO Air Defense.

In May 1993, the PEO GPALS was renamed the PEO for Missile Defense with no change to the mission or resources.



On July 18, 1996, the PEO Missile Defense officially became the PEO Air and Missile Defense (AMD). As PEO, Col. (P) Daniel L. Montgomery explained: "The PEO's new name captures the full mission of the PEO by appropriately including air defense in the title."



Montgomery added "Air defense has historically included all threat platforms in the air or space — whether they are air breathing or not. Our systems now labeled TMD, with the exception of THAAD [Theater High Altitude Area Defense], are also aircraft, cruise missile and helicopter killers."

Another significant change came in September 2001, when Kenneth Oscar, acting Army acquisition executive, announced program realignments. The Ballistic Missile Defense Organization, a predecessor to the Missile Defense Agency, was to focus upon strategic missile defense. At the same time, the Army was restructuring the PEOs with a "single integrated commodity focus."

As a result, the PEO AMD gained the Lower Tier Program from BMDO and the Short Range Air Defense or SHORAD program, which manages the Avenger, Sentinel and Stinger systems and the proposed Surface Launched Advanced Medium Range Air-to-Air Missile (SLAMRAAM), from the Aviation and Missile Command.

The PEO's THAAD and Arrow programs meanwhile transitioned to the BMDO as

did the command's Ballistic Missile Targets Joint Project Office. The new Lower Tier Project Office, composed of the PATRIOT and Medium Extended Air Defense System (MEADS) programs was designed to "streamline the management of lower tier systems" and "take maximum advantage from lessons learned from our legacy systems to ensure that interim and objective lower tier systems meet operational requirements at reduced cost." The Joint Tactical Ground Station (JTAGS) Project Office was unchanged by the reorganizations.

The mission of the PEO AMD continued to grow in March 2003, when the Mobile Tactical High Energy Laser transferred from SMDC to the SHORAD Project Office. This move was made to comply with the October 2001 guidance to realign acquisition programs to the PEO structure.

Soon thereafter, in June 2003, the organization's name changed to the PEO Air, Space and Missile Defense (ASMD). The name change recognized the transfer of several space related programs from SMDC. These were the Army Core Space Program Office, which incorporates the space control toolkit, the Army Space Program Office, which includes such efforts as Blue Force Tracking, Situational Awareness, the Army's TENCAP and the Tactical Applications Office Program.



As a result of this reorganization, the PEO became the first Army Space Program Executive Office. Maj. Gen. John Urias observed that "having a single PEO to manage and integrate these systems will help institutionalize the use of space products in the Army. It will also provide a transition point for mature space technologies developed within SMDC to be brought into the formal acquisition cycle and incorporated into future space

products."

In August 2004, Army Acquisition Executive Claude Bolton and Army Materiel Command Commander Gen. Paul Kern signed a memorandum that redefined the management of future weapon systems. They established of life-cycle management centers which would merge the 12 PEOs with commodity commands operating under AMC.

The Aviation and Missile Command at Redstone Arsenal was the first Life Cycle Management Command (LCMC) established. The new organization was composed of the former AMCOM and the PEO Aviation. The PEO Tactical Missiles and PEO ASMD later merged into a single new organization — PEO Missiles and Space in January 2005. Six months later, they too became a part of the LCMC.

In the interim, in January 2005, the Joint Land Attack Cruise Missile Defense Elevated Netted Sensor or JLENS Project Office transferred to the PEO as part of the Cruise Missile Defense Systems Project Office, formerly the SHORAD Project Office. Another change came in April, when it was announced that the Space Control and Space Division activities were to transition back to SMDC.

Then, in September, it was directed that the Army Space Program Office was to move to the PEO Intelligence, Electronic Warfare and Sensors. The JLENS Rapid Aerostat Initial Deployment (RAID) Product Office (Provisional) also transferred to this organization in January 2006.

Through its 15-year history, the PEO has seen many changes. Its systems have been developed and tested, deployed to the field, and employed in combat. These accomplishments were recognized by Huntsville Mayor Loretta Spencer on Jan. 6, 2007 when she proclaimed this date PEO Missiles and Space Day in recognition of the PEO's "contributions to the Army's missile defense program."



1957-2007 — SMDC/ARSTRAT Celebrates

A new priority – Theater Missile Defense

SMDC/ARSTRAT Historical Office

In December 1985, the Strategic Defense Initiative Organization assigned the task to develop Theater Missile Defense architectures to the U.S. Army Strategic Defense Command. This expanding role for the command was reemphasized six months later by Secretary of Defense Caspar Weinberger. He relayed the increasing concern in Europe of the “growing threat posed in the chemical, nuclear and especially conventional areas by increasingly accurate Soviet shorter-range missiles.”

Although the TMD became a new priority, the technologies required to achieve defense against theater ballistic missiles was not new to the command. Many of the sensor and hit-to-kill interceptor technologies that had been developed in Huntsville, Ala., were suited for further refinement for terminal phase and theater defense applications. These technologies, such as the phased array ground based radar, the Flexible Lightweight Agile Guided Experiment and the High Endoatmospheric Defense Interceptor made the USASDC uniquely suited to take the lead on TMD research and development.

In response to the new TMD task, the USASDC created the Multinational Programs Office in July 1986 “to serve the Army’s executive agency charged with the centralized management and direction of the theater missile defense program.” The multinational title came from the office’s additional duty of developing plans that integrated American and Allied perspectives on TMD threats and missions. In November, the program office was re-designated the Theater Missile Defense Applications Project Office and remained a subordinate office of the USASDC. The command’s expertise was acknowledged in January 1991 when all Army TMD functions were assigned to the USASDC.



An ERINT missile emerges from a PAC-3 launch tube during a February 2000 test

Three important TMD systems emerged from the USASDC during this time. The Extended Range Interceptor was a follow-on to the FLAGE experiment. To create the ERINT engineers upgraded the design of the FLAGE adding aerodynamic maneuvering fins and attitude control motors, thereby extending the range of the system. Under the new guidance, this high velocity, hit-to-kill missile was to be used primarily against maneuvering

tactical missiles and secondly, against air-breathing aircraft and cruise missiles. By 1992, the ERINT was undergoing flight tests at White Sands Missile Range, N.M. The ERINT was placed in direct competition to a Raytheon designed up-graded Patriot missile as the interceptor for the planned Patriot Advanced Capability (PAC-3) TMD system. The USASDC designed ERINT won out against the Raytheon missile because of its increased range, accuracy and lethality, all in a smaller package. In 1994, the ERINT was officially chosen as the interceptor for the PAC-3 system.



A THAAD missile leaves a curly-cue as part of a purposeful maneuver to burn off fuel before the missile proceeds down range.

The second TMD system developed by USASDC was the Theater High Altitude Area Defense. The concept for THAAD was introduced by the USASDC in 1988 and was the first weapon system designed specifically to defend U.S. and allied Soldiers, military assets, and population centers from the threat of theater ballistic missile attack. Previous systems had multiple roles as defense systems for ballistic missiles, aircraft and cruise missiles. The THAAD was intended to defend areas dozens of times wider than a Patriot battery.

The third element in the theater defense architecture designed by the USASDC is the Arrow missile system, developed jointly by the governments of Israel and the United States. Initiated in July 1988, the Arrow is an anti-tactical ballistic missile for specific use in Israel but capable of operating with American TMD systems. A successful first launch in August 1990 was followed by several failed tests, which resulted in a redesign of the Arrow System. Later tests of the improved Arrow-2 have proven extremely successful. The system, carrying the codename “Homa” or “Fence” will eventually be deployed in three batteries including one battery near Tel Aviv and one to the south of Haifa. The first battery became operational in 2000.

The events of OPERATION DESERT STORM would prove the significance of Theater Missile Defenses. Although later studies would question its effectiveness, as Scud missiles rained upon coalition forces and allied nations, the only defense was the modified Patriot anti-aircraft missile system. This combined with the fall of the Soviet Union reshaped the Army’s

approach to missile defense placing greater emphasis on TMD. In 1992, the USASDC went through a major reorganization gaining new missions with the addition of the U.S. Army Space Command in Colorado Springs. USASDC became the U.S. Army Space and Strategic Defense Command. The expansion did not come without cost to the USASDC. Concurrent with the realignment, the Department of Defense created the Program Executive Office — Global Protection Against Limited Strikes, or PEO-GPALS.

The PEO-GPALS was composed of elements of USASDC and the U.S. Army Missile Command. The TMD branch of the PEO was composed of the THAAD Project Office, ERINT Project Office, Arrow Testbed Product Office and the Adjunct Sensors Testbed Product Office from the USASDC and the Corps SAM and Patriot Project Offices from the U.S. Army Missile Command. TMD continued to be a priority and was again emphasized by a September 1993 Bottom-up review of the military. The goal was to field effective TMD systems in the shortest time possible. USASDC remained the primary proponent for theater missile defense.

Despite these changes, in June 1994, the TMD mission for the command was further enhanced when the Vice Chief of Staff of the Army General J.H. Binford Peay III signed the Charter for the Theater Missile Defense Advocate. This charter made the commanding general of USASDC the Army’s Theater Missile Defense advocate. As such, the commander was tasked to serve as the Army’s focal point and coordinator for all systems requirements and operational aspects of TMD.



An Arrow or “Fence” missile launches during testing in Israel.

Even though ERINT, THAAD and Arrow had moved to the PEO, other TMD initiatives remained in the command. The experiences of the Patriot Missile intercepts during the Gulf War made the ability to distinguish between incoming warheads and missile debris a priority. The TMD Critical Measurements Program collected optical and radar data of various tactical ballistic missile target packages. TCMP missiles were launched from Wake Island toward Kwajalein, while atoll sensors collected signature data.

Given the lessons learned from the Gulf

See **TMD** on page 21

50 Years of Excellence in Space and Missile Defense

The Compact of Free Association and the USAKA Environmental Standards – a unique relationship

By Mark Hubbs
SMDC/ARSTRAT Historical Office

The Compact of Free Association defines the relationship between the sovereign nation of the Republic of the Marshall Islands and the United States of America. It was negotiated in 1982, approved by the citizens of RMI in 1983 and adopted by the U.S. Congress in 1986. It was signed into law on Nov. 3, 1986, and established the framework for administering governmental, economic, security and defense relations between RMI and the United States.

Prior to the Compact, the RMI was one of four island nations that made up the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands created after the end of World War II. The "Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands" Trust Territory was a United Nations trusteeship administered by the United States Navy from 1947 to 1951 and by the United States Department of the Interior from 1951 to 1994.

Under the Compact relationship, the United States provides financial assistance in exchange for certain defense rights. The United States also treats the RMI uniquely by giving it access to many U.S. domestic programs, including disaster response and recovery and hazard mitigation programs under the Office of Foreign Disaster Assistance of the Department of State and the Federal Emergency Management Agency.

While the Compact of Free Association does not expire, the economic assistance provided in the original Compact was for a period of 15 years. In 2004, the Compact was amended to provide direct economic assistance for an additional 20 years and a long term extension on the United States use of 11 defense sites on Kwajalein. The new Compact provided \$3.5 billion in funding for the RMI, and an additional \$30 million to American Samoa, Guam, Hawaii and the Northern Mariana Islands in "Compact Impact" funding. This funding helps the governments of these localities cope with the expense of providing services to immigrants from the RMI and other former Pacific Island Trust



Territories. The amended Compact also changed certain immigration rules, for example, travel between the two nations now requires a passport.

The Compact also obligated the U.S. Government to develop environmental standards and procedures and apply them to its activities in the RMI. The USAKA Environmental Standards were developed jointly by the RMI, the U.S. Army Space and Missile Defense Command Environmental Office and the Environmental Protection Agency (Region IX). Several other U.S. agencies were part of the team which developed the standards including the Fish and Wildlife Service, National Marine Fisheries, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers — Pacific Ocean Division, and the U.S. Center for Health Promotion and Preventative Medicine. The standards are substantially similar to the statutes followed in the United States but are tailored to the unique RMI environment and are the cornerstone of the installation's environmental management program. The affected environments covered by the standards are:

- Air Quality
- Water Quality and Reef Protection
- Drinking Water Quality
- Endangered Species and Wildlife Resources
- Ocean Disposal
- Material and Waste Management
- Historic and Archaeological Resources

The Compact also provides that the RMI and the U.S. Government may agree to modify or supersede any environmental standard or procedure developed and applied under the authority of the Compact. The standards have been reviewed

and revised as appropriate, annually since their adoption. The USAKA Environmental Standards have brought U.S. Army activities at Kwajalein under a set of tailored, enforceable, and judicially reviewable standards that are beneficial to both the Army and the Republic of the Marshall Islands.

Kuwajleen: 'The people who harvest the flowers'

Long before the first European traders came to what would later be known as Kwajalein, the main island was known for its abundant flowering utilomar trees located on its western end. The people who lived on this crescent shaped island were known as rû-ruk-jân-leen or "the people who harvest the flowers." People from all over would come to this island to gather the "fruits" of the flower trees, from which it was believed that great blessings flowed. The name of the people was eventually corrupted into a place name — "Kuwajleen". Generations later European visitors changed it again to the name that the Americans now use.



Photo by Mark Hubbs

"Many people from other islands come to work on Kuwajleen to make a living. They are in a sense, picking the flowers from the flower tree ... they are reaping the economic benefits that are available on Kuwajleen. I do not know why our ancestors named this atoll Kuwajleen, but it seems to me that they were looking into the future ..." — Daisy Lojkar, 1997

TMD

continued from page 20

War, the need for missile early warning capabilities was unquestioned. To meet these required capabilities the USASSDC fielded the Joint Tactical Ground Station, or JTAGS, in a relatively short period of time. The JTAGS supports all aspects of TMD data collection and early warning: passive defense, attack operations, active defense and command, control, communications, computers and intelligence (C4I) and is flexible enough to be placed in any theater of operations. The JTAGS is an example of the Army's versatility; it is a multi-service system and draws on multi-service research and development, acquisition, training and unit operations.

JTAGS is now deployed with SMDC/ARSTRAT's 1st Space Battalion and has detachments in Colorado, Germany, Korea and Southwest Asia.

Intercept testing of TMD assets requires realistic target missiles. Storm was the first target missile developed by the program in 1988. Storm has a range of 400km and is capable of carrying maneuverable target test vehicles as its payload. Hera is a longer range target that was initially designed to support THAAD testing. Hera can deliver a variety of payloads including simulated chemical weapons. USASSDC consolidated its target efforts under a new Theater Target Program in 1993 as part of the USASSDC Test and Evaluation Directorate (later the Target, Test and Evaluation Director-

ate). The target missiles developed were used in tests of the THAAD, Patriot, PAC-3, Corps SAM and Ground Based Radars. In order to simulate a target with a mobile launch capability, the Theater Targets Program de-veloped the Short Range Air Launched Target (SRALT). The SRALT is dropped from a C-130 cargo plane and descends by parachute before igniting its motors at the appropriate altitude. With a range of up to 600km, the SRALT was developed for the Navy Area Defense and the THAAD test programs. The theater target mission remained with the command until 1998 when it was absorbed by a new joint ballistic missile target project office that consolidated and centralized, for all branches of the

military, target missile development and management.

Before DoD directed the Army to begin developing new TMD systems in the mid 80s, USASSDC was already hard at work on theater missile defense. By the end of the 80s, USASSDC planners and engineers had conceived and designed three products that are now the backbone of American and allied theater missile defense strategy. The PAC-3 system has been fielded and participated in the opening stages of OPERATION IRAQI FREEDOM. Nine Iraqi short-range missiles were intercepted over Iraq and Kuwait proving the systems ability to combat incoming ballistic missiles. SMDC/ARSTRAT can take pride in its many contributions to theater missile defense.

Dancers take a virtual trip around the world

**Charlie Company
53rd Signal Battalion**

LANDSTUHL, Germany — The lights were low, and the stage was set for a trip around the world on June 9. From continent to continent, dancers twirled, tapped and leapt during dance instructor, Kristin Hayne's first dance recital held at Ramstein Elementary School. Haynes is the wife of Staff Sgt. Darren Haynes, a platoon sergeant stationed at Charlie Company, 53rd Signal Battalion.

The trip began back in the summer of 2006 when Haynes decided to start her own dance studio. Even with 14 years of teaching experience, she knew she had her work cut out for her. Being the only teacher and starting her studio from scratch, she enlisted the aid of her husband and a few other Soldiers from the company to help with the end-of-the-year show.

The show's theme was "Dance around the World," so there were several sets depicting famous landmarks that needed to be constructed. This was hard work for anyone; nonetheless, Staff Sgt. Haynes, Sgt. Russell Merrill, Sgt. Christopher Miller, Sgt. Ryan Morgan, Sgt. David Etheredge and Spc. Nicholas Pease all helped in the construction of the sets with no trouble at all. The tallest prop was the Eiffel Tower at nine feet tall and the largest prop was the Alps at eight feet wide by seven and a half feet tall. Other notable props included a large pyramid and a few skyscrapers. The majority of the sets were completed within 15 hours.

Although building the sets took a great deal of time, the longer days for everyone were the rehearsal days leading up to the actual day of the show. Yet regardless of the preparation, the day of the show



Photos by Sgt. Jennifer Mroz

All the performers came onstage to a resounding applause at the conclusion of the recital. The recital was put together by Kristen Haynes, a dance instructor and wife of Charlie Company Staff Sgt. Darren Haynes. Soldiers from Charlie Company helped behind the scenes with set construction, set movement and organization.

seemed to be the longest. In this day, many of the Soldier's spouses helped with keeping track of the students as well as making sure the little ones were kept entertained and in the right costumes. Others helped with the setup and the cleaning for the show, as much help was required with sweeping five pounds of glitter off the floor. During the show, Staff Sgt. Haynes and a few others endured the backstage heat wave to move the sets around in between routines. Words could not describe the feeling of being stuck between an Eiffel tower and a skyscraper.

In the end, everyone's hard work paid off with the show coming together successfully. To the audience, the show seemed effortless, though the workers behind the scenes knew better. Overall, there were 108 dancers with 35 dances at each of the two shows. There were a few stressful times, but in general all the volunteers seemed to enjoy helping out and seeing the children enjoy themselves dancing. It was a great time for the Soldier's of Charlie Company who saw the efforts of volunteering pay off in a grand way.



Photo by Henry Norton

Preparing to cut the ribbon for MDA's new building at Redstone Arsenal, Ala., are, from left, Huntsville Mayor Loretta Spencer; U.S. Representative Bud Cramer; Anna Shelby, granddaughter of U.S. Senator Richard Shelby; Sen. Shelby; Lt. Gen. Henry "Trey" Obering III, MDA director; U.S. Senator Jeff Sessions; U.S. Representative Robert Aderholt; and Brig. Gen. Joseph Schroedel, commander, Mobile District Corps of Engineers.

MDA commissions new building

Air Force Lt. General Henry "Trey" Obering III, Missile Defense Agency director, officiated at the commissioning of a new MDA building in a ceremony at the Von Braun Complex on Redstone Arsenal, Ala., July 30.

"This is the physical manifestation of the first major milestone of MDA's move to the Tennessee Valley," Obering said, noting that through the latest round of Base Realignment and Closure activities, a total of 2,500 MDA workers are set to move to the area.

While not specifically built to support BRAC, the 240,000-square-foot building will be occupied by MDA workers who are moving to Huntsville as part of BRAC, as well as those who are moving as part of MDA's internal reengineering initiative. Some employees from SMDC/ARSTRAT will also be located there. These workers will join several hundred other MDA employees and support contractors who have lived and worked in Huntsville since the beginning of the Strategic Defense Initiative Organization, MDA's legacy organization. The occupancy for the building is about 1,000.



Photo courtesy SMDC/ARSTRAT

Space Soldiers meet top Army general in Iraq

1st Sgt. Doug Bram, left, of the 1st Space Battalion walks behind Gen. David Petraeus, commander of the Multi-national Forces in Iraq as Petraeus greets Soldiers in Iraq.

Echo Company Soldiers teach local youth

By Spc. Brett Langan, Unit reporter

FORT BUCKNER, OKINAWA, Japan — Soldiers from Echo Company, 53rd Signal Battalion, again participated in the English Teaching Program at Furugen Elementary. The program, a venture between the Army Community Service program at Torii Station and the Yomitan city government, has Soldiers teach local schoolchildren once a month for about an hour.

The children, ranging from third to sixth grade, volunteer to join the school's English Club, where they practice English lessons after school in addition to their regular schoolwork. On the first Wednesday of each month, lesson plans

are compiled together by volunteer native English speakers for final review. The program is so popular that for the past two years the club has filled to capacity for every class.

The lessons involve explaining aspects of American culture and some conversational vocabulary to the students. For example, the celebration of Halloween was discussed and how to ask where the library is located. During the class in June, Soldiers explained Father's Day to the children, and in July, the Soldiers explained the importance of "Independence Day" and what it means to Americans.

When asked, what's the best aspect of the program? Staff Sgt. Matthew

Brondsema (Unit English Club coordinator) replied, "This program allows the children to learn about our culture and language, not just from textbooks, but from actual Americans. It also lets them see that Soldiers have many things in common with them, and are more than just their military mission."

In recognition of the Soldier's dedication, the unit was presented a Certificate of Appreciation from Superintendent Yoei Nakasone. During the ceremony, Nakasone spoke highly of the Soldier volunteers, and how the program continues to strengthen the bond between the Japanese and American people, a bond that has lasted and grown for more than 60 years.

Soldier's daughter writes, publishes first story at 12

By Maj. Laura Kenney, 100th Missile Defense Brigade (GMD) Public Affairs Officer

COLORADO SPRINGS, Colo. — Imagine this gift for Mother's Day — a story written about what a wonderful mother you are, published in an anthology of wonderful mother stories, presented to you by its author — your own 12-year-old daughter.

Such was the honor accorded to Elizabeth Elisha, wife of Capt. Stephen Elisha, an officer in the 100th Missile Defense Brigade (Ground-based Midcourse Defense) this past Mother's Day. The lucky woman, who'd received tokens of affection from her other children (seven in addition to the budding author) received the wrapped book with no clue as to its contents.

Opening "Memories of Mother," the serious, shy young girl pointed to the table of contents and a story entitled "My Sixth Grade Heroine" by "Karen Johnson." Since her daughter's name is Sophia Elisha, Mrs. Elisha was at first puzzled, until Sophia confessed that the name was a nom de plume used to avoid the hazards of fame.

The book, published by Xulon Press, was the result of a competition, with the prize being the winner's short stories about their mothers included in the book. Sophia heard about the competition from her history teacher in school, who had long been a fan of the girl's writing.

Sophia, who realized she had the ability to write well at the age of 10, accomplished the

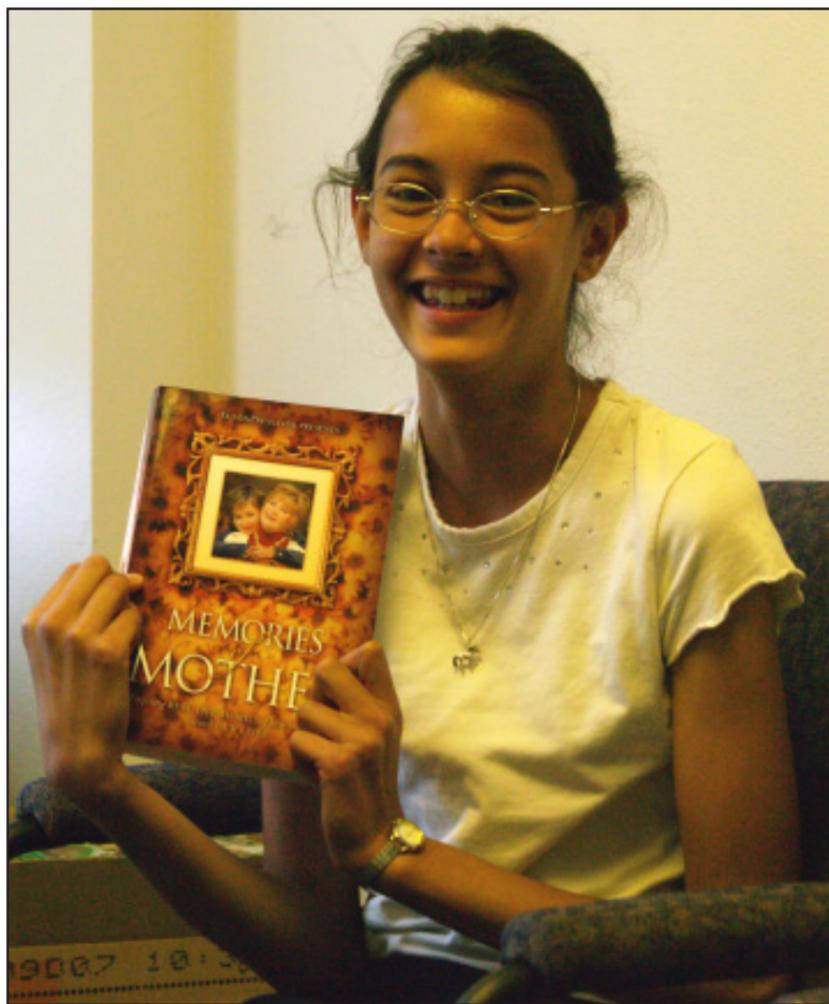


Photo by Maj. Laura Kenney

Sophia Elisha, 12-year-old daughter of Capt. Stephen Elisha, 100th Missile Defense Brigade (Ground-based Midcourse Defense) holds up the book she had her first story published in.

writing and submitting of her story in complete secrecy. Even her father, a freelance writer himself, was not in on the secret. Published in time for Mother's Day, no gift could have been more perfect.

The story detailed how the young "Karen" was experiencing some difficulties with a bully, described as "the cruelest person in the world" at a summer youth camp. After throwing herself on her bunk

and sobbing, she began to unpack. Right on top of her bag was a container full of Mom's special recipe cookies, with a loving and supportive note. Camp started going uphill from there.

"Mom has always followed the following recipe, doubled or tripled in fact: two cups of patience, one heartfelt cup of love, two handfuls of generosity, one headful of understanding, and a dash of laughter. Sprinkle

generously with kindness. Add plenty of faith. Mix well. Spread over a period of a lifetime and serve everyone you meet... and this time it spilled out in the form of a note and some cookies."

Karen/Sophia has plans for a future filled with writing. A self-confessed bookworm extraordinaire, the oldest Elisha child said her siblings are supportive of her nose always being stuck in a book.

"It's my special thing to do, but I also take violin lessons. I like summers because I have more time to write."

Her favorite genres are fiction and fantasy, and she draws special inspiration from C.S. Lewis, author of "The Chronicles of Narnia," and James Herriot, author of a series of books about a veterinarian, among them "All Creatures Great and Small."

Her next project is an ambitious collaboration with her writer father. Together, they plan a fictional, but factual historical detail, retelling of the story of the Magi, sort of on the order of Ben Hur. They've already chosen an illustrator, and are very excited about the book-to-be.

Does the prospect of fame daunt Sophia?

"Well, I chose the pen name to avoid publicity, and didn't tell anyone initially. But *someone*," she said with heavy emphasis, cutting her eyes at her father sitting nearby, "someone had to go bragging about it all over the place, so ... a couple of my friends have bought the book, and I autographed it for them."

"But the best part was surprising my mom."

Major graduates from 12-month master's program



Maj. Jason P. Conroy recently attended the Air Command and Staff College at the Air University located at Maxwell Air Force Base, Ala.

ACSC is the Air Force's intermediate professional military education school. It prepares field grade officers of all services (primarily majors and major selects), intermediate officers and U.S. civilians to assume positions of higher responsibility within the military and other government arenas. Geared toward teaching the skills

necessary to conduct air and space operations in support of a joint campaign, ACSC focuses on shaping and molding tomorrow's leaders and commanders.

Conroy attended the school for 12 months. He graduated June 11 and earned a master's degree in military operational art and science.

Conroy is currently assigned to the U.S. Army Space and Missile Defense Command/Army Forces Strategic Command, G3, Strategy and Policy Division.



Help the Army grow stronger, and you can earn \$2,000.

Refer a great American to enlist in the Army through the \$2K Bonus Referral Program. Logon to www.usarec.army.mil/smart, update your profile, review the rules, and you're ready to recruit! Helping others become Army Strong is rewarding ... in more ways than one.

The U.S. Army Space and Missile Defense Command/Army Forces Strategic Command is supporting the vice chief of staff of the Army's recruiting initiative for fiscal year 07. Leaders are required to become familiar with the 2K bonus program at HYPERLINK www.2k.army.mil.

All military personnel are required to register and update their user profile through the Army Referral System — Sergeant Major of the Army Recruiting Team (ARS-SMART). This is an on-line system to provide referrals to Army recruiters. Military will be required to update their "user profile" and register in this site by Aug. 15, 2007. Supervisors of civilian personnel will encourage 100 percent of civilian personnel to register.

Go to HYPERLINK <https://www.usarec.army.mil/smart> and log in with your AKO account and fill out the screens. There are three pages, and it takes less than five minutes. Everyone who makes a referral through the SMART is eligible for a SMA Certificate, provided the referral enlists in the Army or Army

Reserves. This system is the catalyst for the \$2K Bonus Pilot System. Additional information can be obtained from SMDC/ARSTRAT G1.

Supporting Army recruiting is a great way to help our nation. There are a variety of ways Soldiers can support Army Recruiting. Such methods include the Hometown and Special Recruiter Assistance Programs, Active Duty for Special Work, the \$2K referral bonus and volunteering to become a recruiter. The Recruiting Command has created one Web page to consolidate the information on the different ways that Soldiers, retirees and civilians can support Army recruiting efforts: www.2k.army.mil. Remember the enlistment qualifications when speaking to people about joining the Army: must be a U.S. citizen or permanent legal resident, must be between the ages of 17-42 for both Active Army and Army reserve; must be healthy, in good physical condition and in good moral standing; must have high school or equivalent education.

Charity golf tournament generates fun and funds

By Spc. Michael Cost
Public Affairs Specialist

COLORADO SPRINGS, Colo. — Soldiers and family members of the 100th Missile Defense Brigade (Ground-based Midcourse Defense), gathered here under the hot July sun for the first GMD Family Readiness Group golf tournament July 18, which was sponsored by Chipotle, a nationally recognized Mexican chain restaurant.

As the sun rose in the sky, the tournament was initiated with a putting challenge on the practice greens normally used to hone putting skills before actually getting out onto the course. On this day, different holes on the green were marked off with thin poles to keep the ball contained, and was treated more like

miniature golf than a warm-up area. This event was well liked and participated in by many of the Soldiers and their children as well.

The day really kicked off with the players registering their teams, picking up their "bag of goodies" — consisting of free Chipotle golf balls and golf towel and an assortment of Army National Guard items from water bottles to tee shirts. After the players registered, got their free swag and ate their optional donut ... it was time to get the balls rolling.

Shelly Cummings, administrative assistant for the 100th MDB, hadn't golfed in approximately 20 years.

"I was using my clubs from high school, and my woods were actually made of wood," she said. "That tells you how long it's been since I'd golfed," she said. "However for not golfing for that long, I did pretty well, and it was an enjoyable experience. It gave people who normally don't play a chance to get out there, and that part was great."

Some participants found that it was even more of an enjoyable experience than others.

"The day started off well by consuming coffee and donuts prior to registration," said Sgt. Heath Taglione, a Soldier in the unit. "As we awaited the convoy of golf carts to deploy to our assigned holes for the shotgun start, a feeling of relaxation filled the air," said the recollecting Soldier.

"Seeing how Chipotle is one of my favorite places to dine, I was excited to reach the nineteenth hole to partake in the assortment of burritos and cold refreshing drinks, Taglione said. "I was proud to participate in this event



Photos by Chief Warrant Officer 2 Anita Thompson

Capt. Orlando Cobos, 100th Missile Defense Brigade (Ground-based Midcourse Defense), celebrates making a putt by mugging for the camera during the 100th MDB Family Readiness Group Golf Tournament July 18.

because of the fact that the money raised went to a great cause — our family readiness group."

Throughout the day you could here the typical "ting" sound of golf balls flying off drivers on the tee box as well as laughter and cheering on distant holes. Soldiers and their family members seemed to really enjoy this day from beginning to end.

The day wrapped up with the choice of chicken or beef burritos and a cold soda, but the idea of another one of these events was in every sun-fried Soldier's and Family member's eyes. The overwhelmingly positive attitudes and fun loving spirits will ensure a repeat of this charity event to not only improve unit morale, but as a means of generating funds for the unit's family readiness group.



Staff Sgt. Chad Kidwell, 100th Missile Defense Brigade (Ground-based Midcourse Defense), follows through his swing on a drive at the unit's Family Readiness Group Golf Tournament on Fort Carson July 18.