

## Inside The Eagle



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# The Eagle

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

Volume 14, Number 8, October 2007



Photo by Joe Fischer

## New DCG-O welcomed

**PETERSON AIR FORCE BASE, Colo.** — “[This] is an outstanding organization that brings cutting edge space and missile defense technology to enable the warfighter and decisively win our Nation’s wars. I’m looking forward to working with those in the Army and the other services to ensure that our systems tactics and processes are joint and that this command continues to provide world class support to the joint warfighter,” said Brig. Gen. John E. Seward to the Colorado Springs community of U.S. Army Space and Missile Defense Command/U.S. Army Forces Strategic Command, during a ceremony welcoming him and his wife, Lisa, to the command Aug. 24. Seward began his duties as the deputy commanding general for operations, SMDC/ARSTRAT on Aug. 6. He and his family come to the command from the 94th Army Air and Missile Defense Command at Fort Shafter, Hawaii, where he served as the commanding general. SMDC/ARSTRAT Commanding General, Lt. Gen. Kevin T. Campbell hosted the afternoon ceremony.

## SMDC celebrates 50 years of space, missile defense

By Giselle Bodin  
SMDC/ARSTRAT Public Affairs

**HUNTSVILLE, Ala.** — On Oct. 3, a 50th Anniversary Dinner and Celebration is scheduled to honor the U.S. Army Space and Missile Defense Command/Army Forces Strategic Command (SMDC/ARSTRAT) for its contributions to the space and missile defense community. The dinner will be a pinnacle event for the command, serving as the climax for its year of celebrating its 50th anniversary.

Oct. 3 is a significant date for the command because it was on that day in 1957 that the Redstone Anti-Missile Missile System Office was established. As the first program/system office devoted to ballistic missile defense and a predecessor organization to today’s SMDC/ARSTRAT, it initiated research that led to the Nike-Zeus anti-missile system.

The event, which will be conducted at the Von Braun Center here, is jointly sponsored by the Air, Space and Missile Defense Association (ASMDA), the National Defense Industrial Association (NDIA) Tennessee Valley Chapter, the Air Defense Artillery

Association (ADAA) and the Huntsville/Madison County Chamber of Commerce. A reception is scheduled to precede the formal dinner and includes entertainment.

The dinner and celebration will include historical vignettes from past employees and leaders of the command, a video commemorating the event, and a musical performance by Lee Greenwood.

Greenwood wrote and recorded one of the most recognized patriotic songs in America, “God Bless the USA.” He is also a two-time winner of the Country Music Association’s Male Vocalist of the Year Award and has a lengthy string of additional hits including such classics as “Ring on Her Finger, Time on Her Hands,” “It Turns Me Inside Out,” “Somebody’s Gonna Love You,” “I Don’t Mind the Thorns (If You’re the Rose)” and “Dixie Road.”

Another highlight of the celebration will include a keynote speech from Norm Augustine, who is the former chairman and CEO of Lockheed Martin and a previous Under Secretary of the Army. Augustine was also the

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## Alpha Company cautions against drinking and driving

By Capt. Daniel S. Wall  
Alpha Company, 53rd Signal Battalion

**FORT DETRICK, Md.** — Safety is a front-burner issue for the Army, but safety is not only for Soldiers on the front lines. Accidents are currently responsible for 18 percent of U.S. Army military fatalities. This statistic covers automobile, motorcycle and watercraft accidents, among others, and alcohol and speed have played a huge factor in some of these incidents.

Alpha Company, 53rd Signal Battalion, takes safety seriously. Motorcycle safety and driving under the influence of drugs or alcohol are two important parts of their overall safety program. Whenever a Soldier from Alpha Company plans to start riding a motorcycle, he or she is required to take the Motorcycle Safety Foundation Course. Their compliance is tracked at the unit level. The company leadership

makes sure the Soldier gets scheduled to take the course and follows up to make sure the Soldier completed the course successfully and follows Department of Army policy ensuring the Soldier wears Personal Protective Equipment (helmet, long sleeve shirt, long pants, boots, gloves and reflective belt).

Alpha Company also has a safety plan to ensure Soldiers do not drive under the influence. Every Soldier has a contact card that they must carry with them at all times. The card has the phone numbers of the duty desk, the company leadership and a taxi company. This card is actually a backup, as the policy for Alpha Company is that each Soldier has a designated driver if they are planning to go out and drink. If for some reason, their designated driver falls through, the card gives them other options they can utilize to get home safely without getting behind the wheel.

Many people know about the “costs” of

drinking and driving, but what some people tend to forget is that the cost is often not only paid by the person behind the wheel.

One Soldier with Alpha Company knows the cost from the victim’s stand-point. He was seriously wounded in a drunken driving accident and nearly lost his life.

In November 1999, Spc. Clayton Tuttle was assigned to the 235th Signal Company at Fort Gordon, Ga., near the city of Augusta. He was sitting on his motorcycle at a red light on the Gordon Highway, just outside the post and was wearing all of his Department of Defense required PPE for motorcyclists.

The decision to wear all of his PPE was a smart one, especially his helmet, because a civilian driving a half-ton pickup truck had made a wrong decision. The pickup truck driver had chosen to get behind the

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# The Command Corner



**Lt. Gen. Kevin T. Campbell**  
Commanding General



**CSM Ralph C. Borja**  
Command Sergeant Major

**S**ept. 11 is Patriot Day, a day we set aside to remember those who died and the heroes who fight against terrorists who would wrest our freedoms away from us. The warfighters, civilian workforce, and first responders, police officers, firefighters, and medical professionals — remain on point for our nation and for our communities each day.

Nevertheless, Sept. 11 does more than just commemorate a tragic day in our history. It marks the beginning of a new era in military evolution. In the past six years, our Army has seen a growth in capabilities and a growth in character. We are transitioning from large monolithic formations originally designed in the Napoleonic era, to swift, maneuverable units that are modular, deployable and lethal. Our Soldiers are battle-hardened and capable of performing tasks not seen before on the battlefield. Today's warfighter can fight a running gun battle on one city block and then quickly transition to humanitarian assistance at the very next intersection.

Young captains and sergeants are making hard tactical decisions that many times have strategic implications. The distance between the tactical, operational, and strategic levels of war has flattened significantly since the advent of global communications and instantaneous media coverage.

We have become an Army with a Warrior Ethos that permeates all echelons — from the infantryman to the aviator to the cook — there is no longer a "rear echelon." Today every Soldier is a warfighter and every area is a battle space.

The past six years have seen changes in our Army and have also seen changes in U.S. Army Space and Missile Defense Command/Army Forces Strategic Command. Since 2001: SMDC/ARSTRAT became an Army Service Component Command to the United States Strategic Command; Ground-based Missile Defense units were activated; the Joint Functional Component Command for Integrated Missile Defense was created; the 1st Space Brigade and the 100th Missile Defense Brigade were activated; and the headquarters of SMDC/ARSTRAT moved to Redstone Arsenal, Ala. These are just a few of the many changes that have occurred within SMDC/ARSTRAT.

Today, we provide combatant commanders expertise and advice about integrating and utilizing space capabilities. SMDC/ARSTRAT has space operations officers assigned at almost every level of command to include joint commands. By fiscal year 2010, there will be Space Support Elements in every Army division. They are the "tip of the spear" for getting Army space expertise into the operational decision-making process.

SMDC/ARSTRAT not only develops space and missile defense technologies, but we also continue to deploy Soldiers in Iraq and Afghanistan. Our Soldiers join more than 250,000 of America's Army deployed around the world on any given day. In the last six years, our transformation has also included partnering across the globe with our allies and our friends. In the past, we used to say, "let's include them;" now we need to say, "we can't do it without them." As a global community we must remain resolute in our commitment to defend against ballistic missile attacks from rogue nations.

Patriot Day may be an American commemoration, but we should not forget that we have allies and friends who fight alongside us and whose support we rely upon. We are fortunate to have steadfast compatriots who have been with us since 9-11. Patriot Day is also a time of reflection. Many people I speak with

See **CG** column continued on page 4

**F**all marks the start of football season. While it would be difficult to match the penchant the commander has for a certain Shamrocked college football team; I do believe that few sports are as emblematic of teamwork as football.

In football, each player has a task and purpose to accomplish if the team is going to win. The quarterback doesn't have a chance if the line isn't doing its job. Moreover, the reserves need to be in as good physical shape as the starters or you won't make it through the fourth quarter. Great plays don't win football games, great players do.

In much the same fashion, the members of the Armed Forces replicate the precision and execution exhibited on the football field countless times a day. Warfighters are relied upon to execute their missions, usually with little or no supervision, and many times under the most extreme conditions. Like football, it's not the strategy in war that will win or lose the day; it's the boots on the ground that will determine the outcome. Unlike football, this is not a game.

Putting boots on the ground is serious business and requires a commitment to something bigger than ourselves. Traveling around the command, I see that commitment in the Soldiers and civilians I meet by the way they talk; but more importantly by the way they act!

In August, I was at Fort Greely, Alaska, and observed the 49th Missile Defense Battalion undergo an Army Training and Development Program (ARTEP). The 49th is part of our nation's integrated missile defense and it's appropriate that the words, "Defend the Homeland," are on their crest. The leaders and Soldiers were focused and absolutely prepared to execute their missions. The 100th Missile Defense Brigade provided the top-cover and the evaluators knew their business. The ARTEP was hard and grueling and tested the 49th's mettle. The Soldiers of the 49th discovered things about themselves they didn't know. Some unexpected things happened — as they usually do during an ARTEP — but the Soldiers charged on undeterred. All focused on the task at hand and were committed to doing a good job, but more importantly they were committed to each other. There is a bond among Soldiers that is unlike any other profession. It is a bond forged through trial and through tough training.

During the Space and Missile Defense Conference in August in Huntsville, Ala., Soldiers from the 1st Space Brigade and the 100th GMD Brigade were also 'standing tall' staffing the SMDC/ARSTRAT exhibit. The Soldiers I talked to represented some of the best we have; many had been to Iraq and a few had been on multiple deployments. Sgt. Patrick Mann, our 2007 SMDC/ARSTRAT NCO of the Year, joined us during this event, whereas Sgt. Martin Jensen, 2007 SMDC/ARSTRAT Soldier of the Year, was unable to attend due to enrollment in the Warrior Leaders Course. It's important when we support conferences that we provide our best Soldiers. These are opportunities for the public to get to know America's Army.

On "school day" during the conference there were about 200 youngsters that came through asking every conceivable question imaginable. They talked to our Soldiers, they spent time at the Army's Game, and they came away with a very positive experience. Again, these are opportunities we must use to inform and educate our communities and our youth.

Finally, when we talk about dedication and commitment we have to include our civilian teammates. During the September

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# Delta Company, 53rd Signal Battalion changes command

By Spc. Chris Taylor,  
Unit reporter

**CAMP ROBERTS, Calif.**

— As the sun was rising over the mountain tops, the diligent Soldiers of Delta Company 53rd Signal Battalion stood at attention for the time honored tradition of passing command of a unit to a new commander. Capt. Conway Lin, the outgoing commander, was passing off command of the Diablos to the new and eager commander Capt. James Lacovera. The Soldiers

present were moving crisply and in unison eager to impress their new commanding officer and see off their old commander in the best way possible, a fluid moving formation following every command to the tee.

It was a bittersweet moment as the Soldiers and Families looked on as a member of the Diablo's family prepared to leave, but everyone knew that Lin was moving on to bigger and better things. In the past two years Lin spent

with Delta, he strove to make conditions better for the Soldiers. With his help, the unit benefited greatly from many new additions like the new air conditioning units for the operations center, which helped keep the equipment cool during the strenuous summer heat. Other add-ons included a pool table, a big screen television, and an air hockey table set up in the day room for Soldiers' recreational use. Lin made it his goal to help all Soldiers improve and not let

them sit stagnate on shift by pushing them both in their jobs and their military training.

Lacovera will have some big shoes to fill as the new commander of a unit whose mission is 24/7 support to the warfighter and satellite support; he's looking forward to the task.

Lacovera comes from a tactical environment, and is eager to learn the strategic side of what this unit does and support the Soldiers the best he can.

"He seems open and

willing to put the needs of the Soldiers above all else," stated Spc. Kenneth Squire, a

Soldier in Alpha Company. "I'm interested to see his points of view on how to improve the Soldiers' living conditions."

Lacovera made it clear that he will concentrate on safety and improving the lives of the Soldiers to the best of his abilities. Everyone is anxious to see what the newest member of the Diablo family will do.

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chairman and principal officer of the American Red Cross and a former president of the Boy Scouts of America. He has also served as the president and chairman for the Association of the United States Army and for the American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics. Currently, he is a member of the Advisory Board to the Department of Homeland Security and serves on the President's Council of Advisors on Science and Technology.

Augustine's presence at the celebration is a highly anticipated event.

A publication documenting the command's history and honoring the anniversary will also be provided to each attendee. Employees past and present, as well as former leaders of the command, industry representatives, and members of the Huntsville community at large have been invited to the celebration. Maximum capacity for the event will be 1,200 attendees.

With the base realignment and closure, or BRAC, decisions made in recent years,

nearly 8,000 government and contractor employees are expected to enter the area working directly and indirectly with Redstone Arsenal.

SMDC/ARSTRAT was one of the first organizations to move as part of this BRAC decision, allowing the community to get a feel for what is to come in future years as more commands and personnel relocate. With the relocation of SMDC/ARSTRAT headquarters to the area, that also brings Redstone Arsenal its first full-time three-star general in residence.

## What We Think

**The Eagle asks:**

**It's been six years since the attack on the United States (9-11-01) by terrorists, do you think the federal government has done enough to keep our nation safe? Why?**



Brenda Turner  
Information Security Specialist  
DCS, G2 Office  
Redstone Arsenal, Ala.

I sincerely believe that America is safer now than before Sept. 11, 2001, but admit that we are still vulnerable to terrorist attacks. We should not allow the pessimism we constantly hear against the war to influence the actions our government has taken to try to keep this country safe.



CW2 Thomas Trujillo  
C2 Systems Integrator  
100th Missile Defense Bde  
(Ground-based Missile Defense)

I believe the government has done enough reactively, but more could have been done proactively to prevent these tragedies. Sept. 11 could have been prevented had we taken early threats more seriously.



1st Lt. Bryan K. Blocklinger  
Assistant S1, 53rd Sig. Bn.,  
Fort Meade, Md.

The federal government provided the citizens of the United States of America the best safety policy by activating its sons and daughters to fight the terrorist. Who better to serve this nation than an all volunteer military. The federal government is not just keeping the citizens of this country safe, but have improved the lives and safety of our allies and newly formed democracies.



David A. Bishop  
G3-TREX Evaluations Branch  
SMDC/ARSTRAT Operational  
Readiness Evaluation (ORE)  
Team Member  
Colorado Springs, Colo.

Before the Sept. 11 attacks, the United States homeland had never been violated in such a manner. Since that time the U.S. government has responded in a variety of ways and spent billions of dollars doing so. They have raised the overall awareness of the average American who had previously taken their security for granted and they have tightened-up and closed many vulnerable areas. As time goes by, more thought, debate and action could be applied to this subject area. There is no possible way to field a defensive mechanism for every possible situation. The main thing is to remain vigilant and adaptable and remember why we are doing what we are doing, and then have the prerogative necessary to change the things that don't work quickly, the enemy does ...

## Civilian News

### January 2008 pay increase for NSPS

National Security Personnel System is a pay for performance system, meaning performance is a key factor in how salary is adjusted every year. In 2008, we will have our first performance-based pay out under NSPS. Based on a decision by the Secretary of Defense, effective January 2008, NSPS employees in Spiral 1 (SMDC/ARSTRAT is in this category) will receive one half of the general pay increase to adjust their base salary and the other half will be placed in the paypool fund and distributed to employees based on performance. What this means is that employees will not automatically receive the full general pay increase but half of it. The other half will be added to the pay pools to be distributed based on performance. The Secretary of Defense is very pleased with how NSPS is progressing. Now that the department has more than a full year of operating under the new system, he is comfortable putting more funding into the pay pools, so we can reward and compensate our employees based on performance. Under the NSPS pay for performance system, employees have greater opportunity for substantial, meaningful rewards.

### GSA announces FY 2008 per diem rates

The General Services Administration (GSA) on Aug. 6 announced that the federal government's Fiscal Year (FY) 2008 standard U.S. per diem allowance will increase from \$99 to \$109 a day. The \$10 hike is due to an increase in the standard Continental United States (CONUS) lodging rate change from \$60 to \$70, GSA said in a statement. The current CONUS standard lodging rate of \$60 was established in 2005. The per diem rate reimburses employees for expenses incurred on authorized official travel within the United States. The meal and incidental expense portion of per diem was not re-evaluated this year and remains the same as for FY 2007, ranging from \$39 to \$64 per day depending on the travel destination. The new per diem rates become effective on Oct. 1, 2007. "The federal government spends approximately \$4 billion in travel each year, and it is important for GSA to establish per diem rates that ensure taxpayer money is spent prudently," said Kevin Messner, acting associate administrator for the GSA Office of Governmentwide Policy. To see more, go to: [www.gsa.gov](http://www.gsa.gov).

### Senate panel approves 3.5% pay raise for servicemembers and civilians

The Senate Appropriations defense subcommittee on Sept. 11 approved a 3.5 percent pay raise for servicemembers and civilian military personnel as part of the DoD FY 08 spending bill. The 3.5 percent increase in basic pay for all servicemembers and civilian military personnel is 0.5 percent more than President Bush requested. Overall, the bill, HR 3222, appropriates \$459.3 billion for defense spending, a \$39.4 billion (9.4 per-cent) increase over FY 2007 appropriated levels. The bill allocates an additional \$1 billion in FY 2008 for equipping National Guard and reserve forces, which have faced significant shortfalls as a result of the demands of overseas deployments, the committee said in a statement. For health care, the bill would appropriate \$23.5 billion (\$2.3 billion more than FY 2007, and \$949 million over the president's budget request), including \$486 million to reverse planned cuts to military hospitals. The bill would also fund \$73 million in programs authorized by the Dignified Treatment of Wounded Warrior Act. "NTEU will keep up its effort to ensure a 3.5 percent raise in 2008 for those in the military and their Families as well as those who serve in the civilian federal workforce," National Treasury Employees Union President Colleen Kelley said. <http://appropriations.senate.gov>.

#### CG column continued from page 2

still remember vividly where they were and what they were doing when the airliners crashed into the World Trade Center towers. The world has not been the same since that fateful day. What has not changed is the Army's commitment to ensure the freedom of our nation and SMDC/ARSTRAT's commitment to supporting the Warfighter.

As you remember where you were Sept. 11, 2001, take a moment to thank a police officer, a firefighter, a medical professional or a servicemember.

**SECURE THE HIGH GROUND!**

## Military News

### House approves 3.5% pay raise

The House approved modest changes to President Bush's record Pentagon budget proposal. The House's \$459.6 billion version of the defense budget, approved on a 395-13 vote, would add money for equipment for the National Guard and Reserve, provide for 12,000 additional Soldiers and Marines, and increase spending for defense health care and military housing. The bill would provide \$2.2 billion to cover a 3.5 percent pay raise for servicemembers. The administration objects and says its recommended 3 percent pay increase is sufficient. To learn more, read the article at [Military.com](http://Military.com). All military pay information can be found in the [Military.com](http://Military.com)'s Pay Section.

### NEW online voter registration

The DoD's Federal Voting Assistance Program makes it possible for servicemembers to save completed Online Federal Post Card Application (OFPCA) and Online Federal Write-In Absentee Ballot (OFWAB) forms on a computer for future use. This will help those who may move frequently between now and the Nov. 4, 2008, election to be prepared for sending mailing address updates to their local election official. Servicemembers that have questions can reach the FVAP toll-free at (800) 438-8683. If calling from outside the U.S., Canada, Guam, Puerto Rico, and the Virgin Islands, members can call one the international toll free numbers listed on the FVAP Web site at [fvap.gov](http://fvap.gov) or by e-mail at: [www.vote@fvap.ncr.gov](mailto:www.vote@fvap.ncr.gov).

### GI Bill benefit expiration date

Once you have separated from the service you have 10 years to use all of your benefits. Although separating from service "starts the clock" on your 10-year time limit, you should know that if you rejoin active-duty service for more than 90 days, during the 10-year period, your 10-year clock is reset. In other words, you get 10 years from your last discharge. Visit the GI Bill FAQ page for more information. Don't let your benefit expire. Take the first step and request free information from schools that match your education needs and schedule. In addition to using your GI Bill, [Military.com](http://Military.com) has more than \$300 million worth of scholarships in their database geared specifically for servicemembers, veterans, and their families. Visit Web site: [www.military.com/veterans-report/gi-bill-expiration](http://www.military.com/veterans-report/gi-bill-expiration), for more information.

### State-by-state guide to disability resources

Visitors to the [DisabilityInfo.gov](http://DisabilityInfo.gov) Web site can locate disability programs and information for their state. To browse through state information, select one of the nine subject tabs at the top of any [DisabilityInfo.gov](http://DisabilityInfo.gov) page. Then click on the State and Local Resources map on the right-hand side bar to find information on that subject in your state. You can also subscribe to receive e-mail updates on information and resources in your state. For more information, visit the [DisabilityInfo.gov](http://DisabilityInfo.gov) Web site at [www.disabilityinfo.gov](http://www.disabilityinfo.gov).

### Military spouse-friendly employers

Many employers value the talents, skills and attitudes of military spouses. To view the more than 100 listed companies, visit [www.military.com/spouse](http://www.military.com/spouse), look to the right on the computer screen and you should see "spouse-friendly employers," click there.

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staff call, three members of our civilian workforce were recognized for providing 40 years of federal service: Billie Greenhill, Leslie Jones, and John Wachs. That is an outstanding milestone and speaks volumes to commitment!

Soldiers and civilians; each plays a critical role and each is committed to something bigger than ourselves.

Be safe, look out for each other, and I'll see you on the high ground!

**ON POINT!**

# First sergeant appointment a first for SMDC/ARSTRAT

## Headquarters finally receives full support

By Dottie White, Editor, *The Eagle*,  
SMDC/ARSTRAT Public Affairs

**REDSTONE ARSENAL, Ala.** — The Space and Missile Defense Command/Army Forces Strategic Command appointed Master Sgt. Petey J. Smith to first sergeant Aug. 21 during a ceremony at the Von Braun Complex.

Sgt. 1st Class Erika White began the ceremony with a few remarks about the role of first sergeant. "When you are talking about the first sergeant, you are talking about the life-blood of the Army. There can be no substitute for this position or any question of its importance. When first sergeants are exceptional, their units are exceptional, regardless of any other single personality involved.

"The first sergeant holds formations, instructs platoon sergeants, advises the commander, and assists in training all enlisted members," she said. "In the

German Army, the first sergeant is referred to as the 'Father of the Company.' He is the provider, the disciplinarian, the wise counselor, the tough and unbending foe, the confidant, the sounding board and everything we need in a leader during our personal success or failure."

Next, Command Sgt. Maj. Ralph Borja spoke on behalf of the commanding general, who couldn't make it to the ceremony due to travel.

Borja said it gave him great honor and

privilege to host the ceremony.

He looked into the video camera and thanked Smith's wife and children, who couldn't be at the ceremony, for their support to the first sergeant throughout his career.

Borja, along with Sgt. Maj. Randall Williams, placed the new rank insignia on Smith's uniform.

Smith, a San Mateo, Calif., native, concluded the ceremony by thanking everyone. He said he feels like the mayor of the city, and appreciates the opportunity to be the first First Sergeant of SMDC/ARSTRAT headquarters.

After the ceremony Smith said he was surprised at the number of attendees. "This ceremony started out as a small event, and it grew into something that was really special for the SMDC/ARSTRAT community," he said.

"In the past, with the SMDC/ARSTRAT headquarters located in Arlington, Va., the level of support was minimal," said Smith. "Now that (the headquarters) has relocated to Huntsville due to the BRAC, and with the growth of SMDC, the need for unit level support is required and with that comes a commander and a first sergeant."



Photo by Dottie White

Command Sgt. Maj. Ralph Borja, left, makes comments about 1st Sgt. Petey J. Smith's accomplishments, skills and responsibilities during a ceremony appointing Smith to SMDC/ARSTRAT first sergeant.

## Headquarters SMDC/ARSTRAT activates HHC

By Diane Schumacher  
SMDC/ARSTRAT  
Public Affairs

**REDSTONE ARSENAL, Ala.** — The U.S. Army Space and Missile Defense Command/U.S. Army Forces Strategic Command has been an active, growing command (under a variety of names) for 50 years and has never had nor seemingly needed a Headquarters and Headquarters Company (HHC), but that changed in September.

In the early afternoon hours of Sept. 14 during a formal

ceremony, Maj. Pamela L. Tingle assumed command and activated the new HHC for the command's headquarters here.

The actual assumption/activation was completed in about five minutes and was followed by encouraging remarks for Tingle and snippets of SMDC/ARSTRAT history from Lt. Gen. Kevin T. Campbell, commanding general, SMDC/ARSTRAT.

Campbell spoke of getting to know Tingle when she worked in the G-2 office while the command headquarters was still located in Arlington, Va.

He said had noticed Tingle's dedication to duty and the late hours she put in for the command's mission and because of that he knew she was the right officer to serve as the commander of the new HHC.

"Your charge is to discipline me, telling me where to be," Campbell said to Tingle, "but only if it's Army business," he added with a smile, looking straight at Tingle.

"This command isn't large in numbers," he said to the audience, "but it is spread around the globe."

Then looking at Tingle, he said, "Trying to pull this all together isn't that easy but I know you're going to do a good job."

Then almost as if it were a side note, Campbell said, "Pam is the first female officer to ever beat me in the two mile run ... then you abandoned me!" The attendees laughed hardily at the statement. With a grin on his face, he added, "Now as the HHC commander you can never abandon me again."

"You certainly

have my support but I think you'll get very close to Col. Hamilton," Campbell said. Tingle and audience members laughed at that, surmising the meaning of the statement. Smiling, he added, "I'm confident you'll do a great job." [Army Col. John C. Hamilton is the command's chief of staff.]

Campbell closed his remarks by stating, "How appropriate in this 50th year we have this [activation] take place."

Next, Tingle went to the podium to address her staff and the audience. She thanked attendee retired Army Col. James L. Bedingfield "for putting this into motion."

"What an amazing opportunity to help shape and mold a new unit into existence. It's a privilege and an honor to serve as the first Headquarters and Headquarters Company Commander for SMDC/ARSTRAT," she said.

"Creating an HHC is about taking care of people," Tingle said. "Soldiers will be taken care of and training will be taken care of. Families will be taken care of. We will provide unwavering support to our Warfighters."

And before the company was activated, Tingle thanked everyone within SMDC/ARSTRAT — in advance — who will assist in making HHC succeed, because it truly is a team effort.



Photo by Diane Schumacher

Maj. Pamela L. Tingle, new commander of HHC, unfurls the company's guidon with the company's 1st Sgt. Petey J. Smith.

## Alaska Guardsmen serve on front line of U.S. missile defense

By Fred W. Baker III  
American Forces  
Press Service

**FORT GREELY, Alaska (August 2007)** — While most Americans were celebrating Independence Day in 2006, Army Maj. Joe Miley was at his post in the remote interior of Alaska, staring at blips on a computer screen reminiscent of a 1980s video game.

"It was quite a sense of awe. We had spent thousands of hours on the system, doing simulations, training for such an event and (then) actually watching the system and waiting for the sensors to pick up and see if we'd be directed to engage the missile," Miley said. "It felt like this was what we had prepared for, and we were ready."

The missile failed to become even a remote threat as it toppled within in a minute of launch into the Sea of Japan. Had it assumed a threatening course and reached an altitude capable of propelling it to U.S. soil, Miley and a handful of Alaska Army National Guardsmen stood ready, upon direction, to smash it into pieces mid-course.

"There was absolute confidence among the crew members. We had complete confidence that there would have been heroes that day," Miley said.

Miley is the executive officer of 49th Missile Defense Battalion, a ground-based midcourse defense unit. Stationed in this remote post, about 100 miles southeast of Fairbanks, he and about 200 other Alaska Army National Guardsmen serve as the front line of U.S. missile defense.

Just outside of Delta Junction — home to about 1,000 local citizens, five restaurants in the summer, and only one in the winter — Fort Greely is host to an 800-acre, ground-based missile interceptor site. About 250 military members call the post home, along with a small

contingent of contractors and family members.

The former cold-weather combat training post had all but shut down until President George H.W. Bush directed in 1992 that the Defense Department begin fielding limited missile defense capabilities, with the intent to continue to expand on initial capabilities.

The department's Missile Defense Agency deemed Fort Greely appropriate because of its strategic location within intercepting distance of missiles launched either from North Korea or Iran. A low water table meant no concrete-like frozen ground, so the base was well suited for sinking interceptors into vaults drilled 70 feet deep. The garrison's buildings were still intact and kept warm, even though they were no longer occupied.

With its remote location, though, it posed difficulties when constructing missile fields. All equipment and materials had to be shipped on barges or trucked hundreds of miles. Winter weather sometimes makes travel risky.

Also, the post had to accommodate the families of those accepting the remote assignment.

"It's a tough place to live and logistically support, but it's the right place (to be)," said Army Col. Thom M. Besch, director of the Missile Defense Agency for the Alaska region. He is an active-duty Soldier who oversees the joint program office that fielded the system, makes sure it is operational, and continues its development and testing.

In the last 20 years, the number of countries interested in having or actually having intercontinental ballistic missile capability has increased from six nations to more than 20, Besch said. The number of test launches has increased every year.

"The world's a dangerous place, and the future is uncertain, and technology



Photo by Sgt. Jack W. Carlson III

A ground-based missile interceptor is lowered into its missile silo during a recent emplacement at the Missile Defense Complex at Fort Greely, Alaska. Eighteen interceptors are emplaced in two fields on the 800-acre complex.

allows us to have this capability," Besch said. "We know from 9/11 that if an event were to occur in a major city ... that the impact to human life and the cost in dollars would be astronomical."

The intent of the system, Besch said, was to create an integrated system to defend the United States and its friends and allies against all ranges of missiles in all phases of flight.

The 49th Missile Defense Battalion focuses primarily on intercepting missiles during their midcourse phase of flight, or while they are arching in the "exoatmosphere" — the region of space just outside the Earth's atmosphere.

While the 54-foot-6-inch interceptors look like missiles, there are no explosive warheads attached. The main body acts as a booster vehicle. The booster vehicle serves to propel into space the embedded kill vehicle, a 152-pound "smart bullet" that basically steers itself into the path of the oncoming warhead, causing an explosion on impact.

The first interceptor was emplaced in July 2004. Now, 18 such interceptors are emplaced in the site's two missile fields. When finished, the complex will house 40 interceptors in three fields.

The fire direction center is housed behind a heavily guarded fence that encloses the property. It serves as the brains for the operation and gathers feedback from a variety of sensors and radars, collecting data on weapons, threats and communications status, and repairs and maintenance. It also tracks the threat and the interceptor and provides commanders with an instant snapshot of the system's capabilities.

Five-Soldier crews run the center in eight-hour shifts. During their shifts, the crews run through required training and work through scenarios written to challenge their procedures and stress levels.

About 25 Soldiers serve in the center. Twelve other Soldiers make up the battalion's staff. The majority of the rest of the unit is made up of military policemen, who are charged with securing and defending the facility. The MPs do not conduct garrison business, such as writing speeding tickets. They are here solely to secure the miles of camera-lined, reinforced wire fence surrounding the site and the site's sole entry point.

See *Alaska* on page 9

### \$2K Referral Bonus Program gaining momentum; Quick Ship Bonus helping

Deputy Chief of Staff, G-1

**REDSTONE ARSENAL, Ala.** — Since the VCSA's memorandum on recruiting came out (late July 2007), Soldiers, Department of Army civilians and Army retirees working for or associated with U.S. Army Space and Missile Defense/U.S. Army Forces Strategic Command have generated 54 referrals against our goal of referring 167 by the end of September 2007.

At this point, the exact number of people who have joined the Army as a result of those 54 referrals is not known. Since only a short time has passed since late July, none of the 54 referrals has resulted in a payout of the referral bonus; that's because those referring can only receive the \$2K bonus after the recruits have been through basic training and completed advanced individual training.

Three former recruiters assigned to SMDC/ARSTRAT units were sent TDY to various recruiting battalions within the United States to help the Army meet its recruiting mission. Also eligible for the \$2K Bonus Referral Program, these NCOs have referred a total of 38 people. Of these 38 referrals, Sgt.

Stephen A. Velasquez, 1st Space Battalion S-1 section, who's currently serving with the Denver Recruiting Battalion, has referred 30 people.

Additionally, Dr. Mark Swinson, chief scientist for SMDC/ARSTRAT is in on the role as recruiter by taking on speaking engagements in efforts to pass on the Army's message.

"To date I have been contacted by both the Jacksonville, Fla. recruiting office and the northern Illinois (Chicago) recruiting office," wrote Swinson in an email message. "I have historical connections to both regions of the country. I am currently planning a recruiting visit to central Florida (University of Florida in Gainesville), and am in discussions with the Chicago recruiting office about a possible recruiting visit to northern Illinois. I consider it an honor to be asked to help our dedicated recruiting personnel in their efforts in support of our great Army."

When wearing the "recruiter's hat," mentioning the \$20,000 Quick Ship bonus to prospective recruits may prove to be the turning point in decision making. However, this program applies to those who report for basic training before Sept. 30.

*Active duty Soldiers who have served in OEF or OIF can provide great recruiting efforts.*

## SRAP program gives combat vets chance to tell their stories

**U.S. Army Recruiting Command Public Affairs**

Active duty Soldiers, regardless of age or rank, who are veterans of OPERATIONS ENDURING FREEDOM or IRAQI FREEDOM have the opportunity to tell their Army stories in their hometowns through the Special Recruiter Assistance Program (SRAP).

"There's really no one better to tell the Army story to the American public than our Soldiers who have been the boots on the ground in Iraq and Afghanistan," said Maj. Gen. Thomas P. Bostick, Commanding General of the U.S. Army Recruiting Command at Fort Knox, Ky.

This initiative enables families, friends, area schools, local organizations and community leaders to hear firsthand accounts of the war through the voices of their hometown heroes.

"They have incredible stories that deserve to be heard; they make our Army and Nation proud," Bostick said.

Bostick said the Soldiers who serve on SRAP duty play an incredibly important role in assisting with the recruiting efforts and helping meet the Army's end strength. In addition, Soldiers on SRAP duty are eligible for the Army's \$2,000 Referral Bonus if any individuals they refer end up becoming Soldiers themselves.

The Army is seeking as many Soldiers as possible to return to their hometowns for SRAP duty before the end of the year. SRAP volunteers may be located in the States or overseas, but cannot be currently deployed in support of contingency operations.

SRAP participants will serve in a temporary duty status for up to 14 days and may claim reimbursement for travel expenses and per diem for the TDY period.

While on SRAP duty, Soldiers will assist recruiters at the recruiting station(s) nearest their hometowns, participate in area recruiting events and activities and talk to people interested in learning more about what it means to be a Soldier.

Complete details about the SRAP and \$2,000 referral bonus programs are available online at [www.2k.army.mil](http://www.2k.army.mil) or by calling (800) 223-3735 ext. 6-1538 or 6-0448, or (502) 626-1538/0448.

# Army reaches out to support all Families through AIFSN

**By Family and MWR Command Public Affairs Office**

Secretary of the Army the Hon. Pete Geren and Army Chief of Staff George Casey announced a new program recently to provide improved support to Army Soldiers and Families: The Army Integrated Family Support Network (AIFSN).

"Our Army must continue to examine the ever-changing needs of our Families and never cease in our effort to provide our Families a quality of life commensurate with the quality of their selfless service," Geren said. "In this era of persistent conflict, we can expect continuing deployments, and to sustain this effort, we have to eliminate the old way of supporting Families, and replace it with a system to support all Army Families with means that respond to a globally networked society communicating in mobile ways."

Until now, Active, Guard, and Reserve organizational structures created overlapping lines of authority with regard to programs for Army Families. Each component functioned independently in facing some funding challenges in the delivery of Family programs. The new Army Integrated Family Support Network is for both the Active and Reserve components, and is specifically designed with "geographically dispersed" Soldiers and Families in mind.

From mobilized Soldiers, to recruiters, to Families located outside reasonable driving distances to military facilities, the Army Integrated Family Support Network will link all Soldiers, Families and employers to the Family services/programs that they need. Practical

examples of these services are pre-deployment support, training for Family Readiness Groups, TRICARE information and referral, child and youth resource referral, and ID cards.

The network links military and civilian agencies and leverages those services in nearby communities to

ensure Army services are available to Families closest to where they live. All Army Families will have information and resources at their fingertips.

Slightly more than \$7 million has been invested in the training and technology to "jump start" the program to create uniform Family

programs across components. This funding provides cross level staffing, training, and advanced technology to reach our geographically dispersed Families. The AIFSN capitalizes on the use of the internet.

Services will also target our new Soldiers and Families and those pending deployment. The AIFSN supports Family readiness in a time of persistent conflict by providing more consistent and uniform Family services during extended deployments of Active, Guard, and Reserve Soldiers.

Families will know that the Army cares and they will see the tangible evidence of that support each and every day as they link with Army assistance and support services, according to Delores Johnson, project officer for the AIFSN at the Family and MWR Command.

"It is a collective effort by the Army (Active, Guard and Reserve) and a huge culture change that will yield great dividends for the Army, Soldiers, civilians and Families," said Brig. Gen. Belinda Pinckney, commanding general, Family and MWR Command.



## Bravo retains another Soldier

**By Staff Sgt. Alicia Brogden, Unit reporter**

**FORT MEADE, Md.** — A resounding "Hooah" was heard on Aug. 10 when Sgt. Zachary Strausser, a Soldier with Bravo Company, 53rd Signal Battalion, committed to another five years of service in front of family and peers.

Strausser chose to reenlist at the Fort Meade Museum, so that his mother could attend the ceremony. He pledged his oath of reenlistment with full support from his wife of six years, Dana, and 6-year-old son Gabriel. His squad members also attended on his behalf.

"I didn't even know he was doing this. He just said that he wanted to take me somewhere today," said his mother, Judith, choking back the emotional pride she felt for her son.

"My mom and my aunt just thought they were coming from Virginia Beach for a visit. They really had no idea. She was so surprised," said Strausser, smiling at his mother.

Strausser's reenlistment reaffirmed his commitment to duty and service to his country. Bravo Company is proud to have him as a member of the team.

Strausser joined the Army on Mar. 3, 1998. He attended Basic Combat Training at Fort Leonard Wood, Mo., and moved on to his Advanced Individual Training at Fort Gordon, Ga. His first duty assignment was with 181st Signal Company, 43rd Signal



Sgt. Zachary Strausser poses with his family after reenlisting.

Courtesy photo

Battalion, at Landstuhl, Germany, from March 1999 to March 2002. He was then assigned to 235th Signal Company, 67th Signal Battalion at Fort Gordon. From there he deployed to Iraq in 2003 as Satellite Communications support to the 4th Infantry Division. He left Fort Gordon in August 2005 and became a member of the Black Dragon family at Fort Meade, and has served as a Satellite Controller for the last year.

## Colorado Guardsmen reenlist in Bahrain

By Master Sgt. Dana Benjamin

**BAHRAIN** — Retention has been good for the 117th Space Battalion, Colorado Army National Guard. Four Soldiers, deployed as members of the Commercial Exploitation Team 4 (CET4), recently raised their right hands in official ceremonies extending their terms of enlistment.



Photos by Army Sgt. Geoffrey C. Eggleston, 117th Space Bn., CoANG, CET 4

Warrant Officer 2 Jay A. Gaines reenlists Sgt. Halie Burk a member of the Commercial Exploitation Team in Bahrain for six more years.



Capt. George O'Neill gives Spc. Aric Armstrong the reenlistment oath extending him for a six year term.

After a tour aboard the U.S. Coast Guard Cutter Maui, both Sgt. Halie Burk and Spc. Aric Armstrong extended their terms in formal ceremonies by Lt. j.g. Pete Lang, executive officer aboard the Cutter. Both Soldiers extended for six more years of service to the National Guard.

Spc. Francis Rudnicki Jr. extended for three years in a formal ceremony at the remains of an old fort located on the base of the Bahrain Coast Guard. U.S. Coast Guard Master Chief Jeff Creighton, command master chief of Patrol Forces Southwest Asia, gave a short tour of the fort which was built in the 15th century and was used to control entry to the island. The ceremony was also observed by Commodore Glenn Grahl, commander of U.S. Coast Guard Patrol Forces Southwest Asia.

Creighton presented Rudnicki with the U.S. flag which was used for the ceremony. After the ceremony, tea and snacks were enjoyed in the office of Lt. Col. A. Rahman Juma Salem, commander of the Bahrain Coast Guard Base.

Sgt. Geoffrey Eggleston extended for three years in a ceremony held at the CET 4 work site located on the Naval Support Activity (NSA), Bahrain. NSA Bahrain is the home of U.S. Navy Central Command (NAVCENT) and the U.S. Navy's Fifth fleet.

The Kingdom of Bahrain is a group of islands covering an area of approximately 10 by 30 miles in the Persian Gulf. The team from Colorado is the fourth team to deploy to Bahrain and the second team to do so from the Colorado National Guard.

Their mission is to provide commercial satellite imagery products to the warfighter throughout the Central Command Area of Responsibility to include Iraq, Afghanistan and the horn of Africa.



Master Chief Jeff Creighton congratulates Spc. Francis Rudnicki after he reenlisted for three more years.

## Brown promoted to Senior Executive Service

By DJ Montoya  
1st Space Brigade

**PETERSON AIR FORCE BASE, Colo.** — A long time member of U.S. Army Space and Missile Defense Command's Future Warfare Center was recently honored during a promotion ceremony before departing for a new assignment.

Before a crowd of more than 100 military personnel, civilians, and contractors on the afternoon of Aug. 17, Kirby R. Brown, chief of the SMD Battle Lab division, was promoted to the Senior Executive Service at U.S. Army Space and Missile Defense Command/U.S. Army Forces Strategic Command Operations on Peterson Air Force Base, Colo.

The promotion comes as Brown leaves the Battle Lab after nine years of service to become the deputy to the commanding general, Director Capabilities Development and Integration Directorate at Fires Center of Excellence, Fort Sill, Okla.

Brown received a special

recognition award, along with his promotion, as Lt. Gen. Kevin T. Campbell, commanding general, SMDC/ARSTRAT commented, "All of us know there were probably a dozen other men and women who could be here today being promoted to go take this job, but the Army recognized something special in you."

Campbell presented Brown with a Meritorious Civilian Service Award for his work at the Battle Lab and pointed out a few of the major achievements Brown was responsible for during his tenure.

These included building computer systems for Space Support Elements and Army Space Support Teams currently deployed; standing up a command center after 9/11 in the Washington, D.C., area to defend the National Capital Region; and designing, and standing up a command center at Schriever Air Force Base, Colo., for the JFCC-IMD (Joint Functional Component Command - Integrated Missile Defense).

"You're kicking things out the door all the time to the

warfighter."

Afterwards Campbell gave the oath of office to Brown promoting him to the grade of SES with Laurence H. Burger, director of SMDC's Future Warfare Center doing the honors of pinning.

"Kirby, it is a great honor for me to take the lapel pin that was pinned on me at my promotion ceremony and put it on your lapel," said Burger.

"Congratulations. This is a



Laurence H. Burger, director of U.S. Army Space and Missile Defense Command/Army Forces Strategic Command's Future Warfare Center pins onto Kirby Brown's lapel the same pin he was given when he was promoted to Senior Executive Service.

well deserved honor and recognition. Ladies and gentlemen I present to you the newest Senior Executive in the United States Army."

Closing out the formal portion of the program was the uncasing and presentation of the SES flag to Brown.

As Brown took the floor he stated, "I've had the unique fortune to work with the most amazing groups of people.

"I take something from each one of you when we interact and we attack a project. And it is the amalgamation of all that effort that you all as a team have done and the Battle Lab itself has put together that made this possible.

"I've been training with you for nine years and when I take my new position you will all go with me. I'll take the knowledge I've gained from you. I will be confident and I'm sure I will be successful because I've had the fortunate luck to be in this Command. I've gotten to do what I love to do: build things, make things work, and get it out there so somebody's life and job can be better."

## Alaska

continued from page 6

Soldiers here live a typical Army life, with physical training daily at 6:30 a.m. and battalion runs on Fridays. The Guard was selected to run the site to allow for continuity in service. Guardsmen are not subject to rotations in and out of assignments like active-duty soldiers.

With nearly 36 weeks of training just to become certified operators, the state is able to retain its qualified soldiers there longer.

Many of the Guardsmen who signed on for initial tours in 2002 have continued their tours there. Also, because the Army considers them a forward-deployed unit, they are not subject to activations or deployments like other U.S.-based units.

The unit also gets several Soldiers who are returning from deployments and want to continue serving full time, Miley said.

To say that the soldiers are all Alaska Guardsmen is somewhat deceiving. While they all are in the Alaska Army National Guard, most have transferred there from all parts of the nation.

Alaska is the largest contributor, with about 30 troops, but the next highest contributor is Illinois, with 23. Soldiers also have transferred there from Guam and Puerto Rico.

Soldiers cite the appeal of the countryside and uniqueness of the mission for their desire to accept full-time tours to the site. There are no traditional, or part-time, National Guard slots on the post.

Army Sgt. Jack Carlson III was a Florida-born resident of the Virgin Islands. He had never seen snow before signing up for a tour here, where winter temperatures can drop to 75 degrees below zero. He had to buy long pants before arriving.

Now, he said, he loves the extreme weather.

"Whenever you get to 10 below, you have to survive. It's interesting that at 50 below, although I'm cold, I can walk outside and look at the Northern Lights," Carlson said.

Carlson was one of the first military policemen on the ground here, and has since married a fellow soldier stationed here and signed on for another tour. The two bought a log home that backs up to the Alaskan range along the Delta River.

Carlson's favorite pastime is splitting wood, which is good, because the couple heats their home with wood.

The two have had one baby here, and another is expected soon. And they are not alone. Babies abound in this land of long, cold winters. The 200-member unit has seen 26 births in the past year, Family Readiness Group leader Patti Carson said.

Family members describe the post as "Americana," offering a small town, tightly-knit sense of community. Children run and play freely on the small post and in the surrounding woods. Football, baseball and hockey are favorites, and most of the mothers are stay-at-home-moms.

The post offers few amenities because of its size and location.

Soldiers here joke that they do have a McDonalds and a Wal-Mart — they just have to drive out the front gate, turn right and go about 100 miles, Besch said.

The post and local community share schools. A small post exchange and commissary are open, and movies are sometimes shown in the community center.

Children here don't seem to mind the short summers. In fact, Besch's son pined one day for it to turn cold again so he could play hockey. Carson's kids were late to school one day because a moose made an unexpected visit to the bus stop.

But for all of the appeal of Alaska's sweeping beauty and the down-home country lifestyle well-suited for raising families, the mission is what gives Carlson and the others the most satisfaction.

"There is no other mission like it, in the Guard especially. It's just an outstanding opportunity," Carlson said. "Our mission is of the utmost importance, and what we do makes a difference."

Miley agreed. "There's a sense of purpose and importance to what we're doing," he said. Miley, a National Guardsman from South Carolina, was one of the first to volunteer for the assignment. He served on one of the first crews and watched the first interceptor emplaced.

He noted that operational tempo is high here because soldiers must meet traditional Army training requirements, such as weapons qualification and professional development, while also conducting their missile defense mission and continuously training to keep their skills sharp.

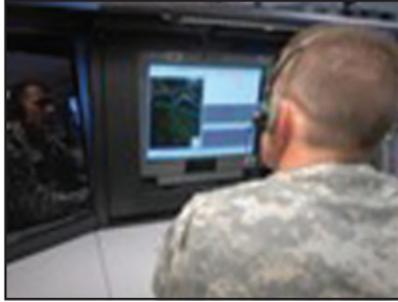


Photo by Fred W. Baker, III, AFPS

**Sgt. Russell Smith, a communications operator in the Alaska Army National Guard's 49th Missile Defense Battalion, monitors a simulated exercise Aug. 10. Smith is a guardsman from Florida who was attracted to the mission in Alaska and transferred to the state. Guardsmen from across the nation transfer to the Alaska Army National Guard to serve in the unit.**

## Army OneSource

(Taken from "Stand-To")

### What is it?

Military OneSource is a virtual community support service that the Army implemented in August 2003, and is available world-wide 24 hours a day to Soldiers, deployed Department of Defense (DoD) civilians and Family members.

Each military service has its own OneSource. The DoD created Military OneSource as a portal to access all the military services' OneSource programs. The Army, along with each Service, has been operating its own "OneSource" program. The DoD recently combined all the service OneSource programs into one program, Military OneSource and is centrally funding it as a DoD program.

What has the Army done? Utilization shows strong gains in 2006. Since its inception in August 2003, there have been 111,285 calls to the daily 24-hour call center, 302,258 visits to the Web site, and 28,754 referrals for non-medical counseling as of May 2006.

Current utilization in 2006 (259,541 uses) has already reached 23.6 percent, far exceeding the 2006 target of 15 percent. The Army leads the other Services in referrals for non-medical counseling with a monthly referral rate of 0.2 percent with a referral rate of 1.2 percent as of May 2006. Nearly two-thirds of all users (65.9 percent) are Soldiers and six percent are repeat users.

Satisfaction data from January to March 2006 (surveys for 1402 calls, 96 shipments of educational materials and 91 online visits) continues to show over 95 percent overall satisfaction with Military OneSource.

Military OneSource is a referral option on the Post-deployment Health Reassessment (PDHRA) Completion of the PDHRA is required for all Soldiers within 90-180 days after returning from overseas deployment to the CENTCOM area of operation.

The OneSource Connection newsletter provides updates on Military OneSource to the Army community. This newsletter is distributed to more than 190 Army leaders in the Active and Reserve Component whom distribute it to Soldiers and Family Readiness Group leaders.

Historically, Military OneSource Program Assistants have been dispatched to provide display booths and briefings to small National Guard and Army Reserve units throughout the deployment cycle. This level of support has been expanded to cover brigades and divisions as they deploy and return from OPERATION ENDURING FREEDOM (OEF) and OPERATION IRAQI FREEDOM (OIF). Program Assistants have provided support to the 101st Airborne, 3rd Infantry Divisions and other divisions in 2006.

### What continued efforts does the Army have planned for the future?

Currently Military OneSource Program Managers are gaining access to Inter-Service Family Assistance Committee (ISFAC) meetings to brief Service branch and civilian family assistance representatives on MOS and ensure that MOS is part of the solution set for Service member support issues that emerge on the state level.

Military OneSource is discussing new marketing initiatives that will enable information about the service to be integrated into schoolhouse curricula to teach non-commissioned officers (NCOs) how to use MOS to take care of Soldiers and their Families.

### Why is this important to the Army?

In the first half of 2006, Military OneSource identified 267 new cases of domestic violence, child abuse, and threats of harm to self or others among Soldiers and Army Family members. By providing a private service where Soldiers and Family members in need can call or go online and get help, the Army is using effective risk communication strategies to mitigate the negative effects of the deployment cycle and improving well-being and readiness.

**Additional information on Army Families can be found at <http://www.myarmylifetoo.com> or Military Families at <http://www.militaryonesource.com>.**

Traditional units perform maintenance and training during a "red cycle" following deployments or exercises.

"There's no red cycle here. It's 'green' 365-24/7. We have to maintain our operational mission. There is no standing down from it," Miley said.

# From Concept to Combat — Celebrating 50 Years of Excellence



U.S. Army Photo

For many years, the Perimeter Acquisition Radar (PAR) was the tallest structure in North Dakota. Constructed and deployed as part of the Safeguard system, the PAR was turned over to the USAF in 1977 to provide tactical warning and attack assessment, following the termination of the Safeguard mission. The PAR still operates at Cavalier Air Force Station by the Air Force.



U.S. Army Photo

Long-range Spartan



Short-range Sprint

The Spartan and Sprint missiles operated as part of the Safeguard System.



U.S. Army Photo

Ground-based radar prototype NMD. This was constructed at the Kwajalein Missile Range and initiated the GBT-Transportable.

Technology developed for the Ground Based Radar Family of Radars provided the foundation for the missile defense radars currently deployed. The current systems include the sea-based X-band, Terminal High Altitude Area Defense (THAAD) and forward-based X-band radars. Note the two pictures below.



U.S. Army Photo

Terminal High Altitude Area Defense (THAAD)



U.S. Army Photo

Developed in conjunction with Israel, the Arrow program began in 1986. An anti-tactical ballistic missile, the Arrow destroys its target by exploding a warhead within a specified distance. Israel deployed the first battery in October 2000, followed by a second in October 2002.

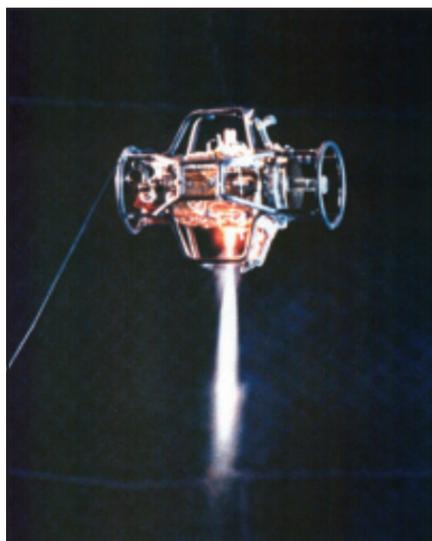


The Exo-atmospheric Kill Vehicle (EKV) was as part of the command's ground-based intercept program and was tested at the Reagan Test Site at Kwajalein Atoll. It is now part of the GMD system currently deployed at Fort Greely, Alaska, and Vandenberg Air Force Base, Calif.



Missile Defense Agency Photo

Sea-based X-band radar



U.S. Army Photo

LEAP

The Lightweight Exo-atmospheric Projectile (LEAP) was developed and tested as part of a program to demonstrate miniaturization of hit-to-kill concepts.



U.S. Navy Photo

SM-3

# Success in Space and Missile Defense — SMDC/ARSTRAT 1957-2007



U.S. Army Photo



U.S. Army Photo

PAC-3 systems are currently deployed in support of our troops and our allies.



U.S. Army Photo

In 1994, the Extended Range Interceptor (ERINT) was selected as the interceptor for the Patriot Advanced Capability-3 (PAC-3).



U.S. Army Photo

Using a small lightweight GPS receiver (SLGR), during OPERATION DESERT STORM.



U.S. Army Photo

The portable lightweight GPS receiver, PLGR, replaced the SLGR and was "the most popular piece of equipment in the desert," said Maj. Gen. J.H. Binford Peay, III, commander of the 101st Airborne Division during OPERATION DESERT STORM.



XVII Airborne Corps photo DS-F-119-10  
Photo by PFC John F. Freund

First interceptor, used in OPERATION DESERT STORM. This launcher executed the first successful engagement of a SCUD missile in the Gulf War on the evening of Jan. 17, 1991.

Software and technologies developed by this command accelerated the development and deployment of the Patriot Advanced Capability-2 (PAC-2). With these changes, the PAC-2 gained an anti-tactical missile capability.



U.S. Army Photo

Patriot launchers deployed in Saudi Arabia during OPERATION DESERT STORM.

## 1957-2007 — SMDC/ARSTRAT Celebrates

# Mission begins on Redstone Road

By Mark Hubbs  
USASMDC/ARSTRAT Historical Office

**REDSTONE ARSENAL, Ala.** — The U.S. Army Space and Missile Defense Command/Army Forces Strategic Command can trace its lineage back 50 years.

The lineage is not traced through unit name, battles or campaigns, but by its unique mission. Although the name has changed and the organization has grown tremendously through the years, the command can track its heritage back to a humble beginning in a small brick building on Redstone Road.

At the end of World War II, the United States and the rest of the world were introduced to two new threats — ballistic missiles and nuclear weapons. In 1955, the technological challenge posed by this new threat led the Army to begin studying the feasibility of creating a defense against ballistic missiles. The results of this study and the news that the Soviets had launched their first ICBM in August 1957 created an urgent need to develop an effective missile defense system.

On Oct. 3, 1957, the Redstone Anti-Missile Missile Systems Office (RAMMSO) was activated at Redstone Arsenal by the Army Ordnance Corps. The RAMMSO initiated research that led to the NIKE-ZEUS anti-missile system and provided the foundation for the Army's space and missile defense program.

The fledgling RAMMSO office was staffed initially by only five military and 19 civilians who were transferred from various sections of the Army Ordnance Missile Laboratories. RAMMSO was to be a self-contained, integrated office which reported directly to Maj. Gen. E. N. Toftoy, the Redstone Arsenal commander.

The first director of RAMMSO was Col. Mathew R. Collins, the director of the Research and Development Division — Ordnance Missile Laboratories. Collins continued as director of both organizations and later served on several advisory boards that guided NASA's early programs.

RAMMSO's first home was building A-156, now known as building 7156, on Redstone Road. The little brick 5,500-square-foot office building is currently home to the Propulsion Mechanics Laboratory of the Aviation and Missile Research and Development and Engineering Center.

Although a tactical missile propulsion test complex has been built behind it in the intervening years, the little brick building has changed little since it was home to RAMMSO in 1957. The RAMMSO was considered an interim organization



Courtesy of Historical Office

Bldg 7156 — SMDC/ARSTRAT's first home on Redstone Road.

## The Redstone Anti-Missile Missile Systems Office is activated

as Redstone Arsenal organized for its priority mission of developing an effective anti-missile system. A letter from Brig. Gen. J. G. Shinkle to the chief of ordnance at the Pentagon explained the RAMMSO activation: "Redstone Arsenal has taken interim actions responsive to the increasing urgency given the Anti-Missile Missile Program by your office and higher headquarters."

The RAMMSO as an independent organization was short lived. As various missile programs grew, the Army decided to consolidate several Redstone offices under one commander. As the Anti-Missile Missile program grew it was absorbed by the new Army Rocket and Guided Missile Agency (ARGMA) who's first commander was Shinkle, the very man who had conceived and lobbied for the creation of the RAMMSO.

RAMMSO was officially deactivated on April 11, 1958, a scant seven months after it was activated. Its priority mission and all of its personnel became a division of ARGMA. The organization had already outgrown the little brick building, and it was turned over to new occupants in 1958.

The Anti-Missile Missile mission continued at Building 5687 on Hicks Road, currently occupied by the Cargo Helicopter Project Office of PEO Aviation.



Courtesy of Historical Office

Building 5687 — second home to the Army's missile defense effort.

As the growing pains at ARGMA eased and the agency's organization began to gel, the NIKE-ZEUS project (as Anti-Missile Missile mission became known), was assigned to the deputy commander for Ballistic Missile and Space Defense headed by then Col. John G. Zierdt.

Col. Glenn Crane became the first project manager of NIKE-ZEUS in July 1960, and continued with the project when it was broken out of ARGMA as a separate project office on Dec. 5, 1961. Glenn went on to command Kwajalein Test Range when NIKE-ZUES testing began at that installation. By February 1963, the NIKE-ZEUS Project Office had grown to 25 military and 228 civilian employees.

Much has changed since that October 50 years ago. The Army's missile defense mission has been enlarged and refocused several times. We have changed names many times and grown from an office, to a project office to a major Army command.

Two decades ago, the command was given the additional mission of Army Space. From that small 5,500-square-foot building on Redstone Road with 24 employees, the SMDC/ARSTRAT has

grown to 809 active duty military, 279 full-time National Guardsmen, 162 part-time National Guardsmen and Army Reservists, and 893 Department of the Army civilians who work in more than 4.5 million square feet of office and work space in 12 states and five foreign countries.

The sun truly never sets on SMDC!



Courtesy of Historical Office

Maj. Gen. John G. Shinkle



Courtesy of Historical Office

Col. Glen Crane (left) talks with Col. Ivey Drewry, the second NIKE-ZEUS project manager, during a visit to Kwajalein in 1964.



Courtesy of Historical Office

Maj. Gen. John G. Zierdt

# 50 Years of Excellence in Space and Missile Defense

## The year that was-1957

By Sharon Watkins Lang  
SMDC/ARSTRAT Historical Office

1957 is significant as it marks the beginnings of this command. On Oct. 3, 1957, the Army Ordnance Corps created the Redstone Anti-Missile Missile Systems Office. This was the first organization with the specific mission to develop ballistic missile defenses.

As we currently support the global war on terror and face the threat posed by the proliferation of ballistic missiles and emerging nuclear powers, the world in 1957 was different yet familiar. There was a distinct and recognizable enemy — the Soviet Union — which sought to spread its communist doctrine around the world through all available means. Advances were made in missile technology by our adversaries, putting the nation at risk and new nations were entering the “nuclear club.”

In 1957, the world saw two super powers — the United States and the Soviet Union — engaged in an evolving Cold War. Europe had been divided by the Iron Curtain for over a decade. The Cold War had spread to the Mideast, and in January, President Dwight D. Eisenhower expanded the Truman Doctrine and offered aid to those countries that resisted aggression from communist nations.

In April 1957, Great Britain, citing economic factors, announced plans to phase out combat aircraft and replace them with missiles. Later that year, Britain became the third member of the nuclear club, exploding a hydrogen bomb over the Pacific.

In May 1957, the Soviets announced their first successful test of an intercontinental ballistic missile — the R-7 (known as the SS-6 in the West). Three months later, on Oct. 4, this missile was used to place the world’s first man-made satellite, Sputnik I, into orbit. The 184-pound aluminum payload, a radio beeper transmitted for 21 days before the batteries failed.

This achievement was followed on Nov. 3 by the launch of Sputnik II, which carried a dog, Laika, into space. The 1,119-pound satellite remained in orbit until April 1958. The weight of this second satellite demonstrated a new threat — the potential to launch a nuclear weapon.

By the end of the year, the “Space Race” had begun in earnest.

In the United States, national defense was a key issue. In July, the Distant Early Warning or DEW line, a series of radars in the arctic region of Canada and Alaska, became operational. The DEW line would detect incoming Soviet bombers and missiles. Soon thereafter, the United States and Canada ratified an agreement to form the North American Air Defense Command (NORAD).

By the end of the year, the Strategic Air Command had placed its B-52 bombers on 24-hour alert in the event of a possible attack by the Soviet Union. At the same time the Security Resource Panel of the Science Advisory Committee, formed to review active and passive measures to protect the civil population in the event of a nuclear attack issued the Gaither Report. Included in the recommendations is the construction of more American missiles and nuclear fallout shelters and the development of an area defense against ICBMs at the earliest possible date. The report, which also credited the Soviet Union with a substantial lead in long-range ballistic missiles, gave rise to the so-called “missile gap” argument.

It is in this environment that the foundation is made for what will become the U.S. Army Space and Missile Defense Command. In February 1957, the Deputy Chief of Staff for Logistics would formally establish the Nike-Zeus project. The next phase in the Nike anti-aircraft series, Nike-Zeus was to be an anti-ICBM system based upon an improved nuclear-tipped solid-propellant Nike-Hercules missile combined with both long and short range radars. A joint Army-Air Force committee reviewed the ballistic missile defense missions in April 1957. The committee, headed by Hector Skifter, recommended that the Army continue the terminal defense system (Zeus) and the Air Force oversee the early warning system.

In addition to the Zeus, the Army would develop the target track radar and the local acquisition radar. A directive by Secretary of Defense Neil McElroy would confirm these proposals in January 1958.

In the interim, on Oct. 3, 1957, the



Photo courtesy of Huntsville Public Library

Downtown Huntsville circa 1950.

Army Ordnance Corps established the first ballistic missile defense program office — the Redstone Anti-Missile Missile Systems Office (RAMMSO) — under the Army Ballistic Missile Agency, at Redstone Arsenal. As designed at that time, the Nike-Zeus was to be developed in a three-phased deployment.

Phase I would see the development of a local control system and an anti-missile missile limited to approximately 100,000 feet altitude and approximately 70 nautical miles range. In Phase II, the anti-missile missile would be equipped with a jet-head extending the range to 500,000 feet altitude. The third phase missile would have a fully-active seeker which further extended range capabilities approximately 200 nautical miles.

Following the launch of the Sputnik in October, the Army published a space program recommendation which included a new requirement for the Nike-Zeus program — to serve as an anti-satellite system.

The events of 1957 and the Nike-Zeus are but the beginnings for a long tradition of Army excellence in missile defense. A tradition which has grown and evolved from the Nike-Zeus Project Office, the Nike-X Project Office, the Sentinel System Command, the Safeguard System Command, the Ballistic Missile Defense System Command, the Strategic Defense Command, the Space and Strategic Defense Command, the Space and Missile Defense Command, and finally the Space and Missile Defense Command/U.S. Army Forces Strategic Command.



U.S. Army Photo

The NIKE-ZEUS Project was to be an anti-ICBM system.



Photo courtesy of Huntsville Public Library

Intersection of Martin and Patton Roads, 1960.



HEL TD program team — Second Row: Randy Mills, Bill Gnacek, Chuck LaMar, LTC Trent Banks, Paul Simpson, Steve Lundberg, Larry Phillips, John Popescu; Front Row: Bunnie Scales, Terri Little, Susan Johnson, Doris Ingram, Carolyn Harris, Belinda Williams, Mary Lou Blackburn, Anita Swearengen, Heather Hudson, Brian Strickland; Not Pictured: Di Cochran, John Wachs, Beth Whitaker

Photo by Dottie White

## HEL TD awards two contracts

The High Energy Laser Technology Demonstrator team, led by program manager Bill Gnacek, recently awarded two contracts for the development of a truck-mounted laser weapon capability to counter rockets, artillery shells and mortar rounds. The HEL TD program's objective is to develop a mobile deployable solid state laser weapon system capability and to transition this HEL TD technology into a formal acquisition program. The HEL TD program will select the best available high energy SSL in 2009 and will "ruggedize" it for eventual integration into the HEL TD. Relevant operational testing is scheduled to be conducted at SMDC/ARSTRAT's High Energy Laser Systems Test Facility, White Sands Missile Range, N.M. The HEL TD program is managed at the SMDC/ARSTRAT headquarters on Redstone Arsenal, Ala.

## Bravo Co. earns 100 percent weapons qualifications

By Bravo Company, 53rd Signal Battalion

**FORT MEADE, Md.** — It is a 1st Space Brigade requirement that all Soldiers qualify on their assigned weapon on pop-up targets at least once a year. Bravo Company, 53rd Signal Battalion conducted their first fourth quarter M16 range for fiscal year 2007 in July, driving two and a half hours to Fort A.P. Hill, Va., in order to meet the brigade requirements.

The Soldiers of Bravo Company qualified on a newly built range filled with the latest and greatest weapons qualification technology. Additionally, they conducted their qualification and zero

range jointly with Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 1-3 Infantry, also known as "The Old Guard."

"This was a first for Bravo Company to conduct a weapons qualification range jointly with another unit," said Capt. Matthew Kisner, Bravo Company executive officer and range officer in charge. "It was a great opportunity for the Soldiers to interact and train with other Soldiers from another branch within the Army."

Both range days were successful with 100 percent qualified and zero safety incidents, proof that the range cadre did an excellent job running the range.

## ASMDA awards 2007 'Loretta Spencer' Scholarships

By Air, Space and Missile Defense Association (ASMDA)

**HUNTSVILLE, Ala.** — As a part of the opening reception for the 10th Annual Space and Missile Defense Conference held at the Von Braun Center here Aug. 13, the Air, Space and Missile Defense Association (ASMDA) presented four undergraduate scholarships valued at \$4,000 each.

Each August, ASMDA awards the Loretta Spencer Scholarships to undergraduate or postgraduate students studying in engineering or a "hard science" (biology, chemistry, physics or related field) relating to space and missile defense. This scholarship was named after Huntsville Mayor Loretta Spencer in recognition of her lifelong effort to encourage the education of

our youth in science and engineering and in recognition of her generous financial support of the ASMDA scholarship fund.

The ASMDA Loretta Spencer Scholarship is available to ASMDA individual members; corporate members identified as corporate sponsors; employees of: the U.S. Army Space and Missile Defense Command/Army Forces Strategic Command; PEO Missiles and Space; the Missile and Space Intelligence Center; the GMD Joint Program Office; the Targets Joint Project Office; the THAAD Project Management Office; and all Huntsville-based Missile Defense Agency personnel. Immediate family members are also eligible.

To be eligible, the applicant must be a U.S. Citizen; an undergraduate student (junior or senior in the fall of 2007) currently enrolled in a hard science or engineering program at an accredited college or university or a graduate student pursuing a graduate degree in a hard science or engineering program; and be in good academic standing at an accredited college or university.

The four scholarship winners who were selected from a field of 25 scholarship applicants are Christopher M. Riley, Michelle Knoll, Erica N. Nance and Whitney Ann Knight. As in years past, Spencer was on hand to present the scholarship

awards. Tom Newberry, the ASMDA Loretta Spencer Scholarship committee chairman, assisted in the presentation.

ASMDA was pleased to recognize these four outstanding students' pursuit of excellence and support them in their continuing studies by awarding these scholarships. ASMDA predicts these scholarship recipients will make significant contributions to space and missile defense in the years to come.

Riley is currently a junior undergraduate student at the University of Tennessee in Knoxville (UTK) and is pursuing a degree in aerospace engineering. His current overall GPA is 3.41/4.00. During the summer of 2006, Riley was an engineering intern at the NASA Marshall Space Flight Center here where he planned and conducted tests on the Environmental Control and Life Support System (ECLSS) Position Transducers and performed repairs on the ELSS Vapor Pressure Catalytic Ammonia Removal (VPCAR) Reduction Reactor.

Riley has worked with UTK Habitat for Humanity since 2005 and currently serves as the building committee chairman. He is also a member of the American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics (AIAA). Concerning the ASMDA Scholarship, Riley said, "There is truly only one thing I ever plan on doing with my life and that is summed up in one word, 'Space.'"

Knoll is currently attending the University of Colorado at Colorado Springs. She is a senior and plans to graduate in the spring of 2008 with a degree in biology. As a direct result of her 3.985/4.00 GPA,



Photo by Sigma Services

2007 scholarship winners — (From left) Whitney Knight, Erica Nance and Christopher Riley (Michelle Knoll not pictured)

See *Scholarships* on page 15



Photo by Sigma Services

2007 inductees — (From left) Thomas M. Devanney, Dr. Rankin A. Clinton Jr. and Jess Granone

## Three new members inducted into Distinguished Civilians Wall of Fame

By Air, Space and Missile Defense Association (ASMDA)

**HUNTSVILLE, Ala.** — As a part of the opening reception for the 10th Annual Space and Missile Defense Conference held at the Von Braun Center here, Aug. 13, the Air, Space, and Missile Defense Association (ASMDA) inducted three new members into the U.S. Army Space and Missile Defense Distinguished Civilians Wall of Fame.

The U.S. Army Space and Missile Defense Distinguished Civilians Wall honors past members of the organizations dedicated to supporting the U.S. Army efforts in space and missile defense. It is designed to honor selected civil servants who made a significant engineering, scientific, technical, analytical, management or administrative contribution to the research, development, test and evaluation of missile defense and space technologies or systems. Selected civil servants must also have maintained a high level of commitment to the Army's and the nation's missile defense and space missions.

The three 2007 inductees are all past civil servants who distinguished themselves with significant and lasting contributions to the advancement of the missile defense of our country. This year's inductees are Dr. Rankin A. Clinton Jr., Thomas M. Devanney and Jess Granone. Assisting in the induction ceremony were Congressman Bud Cramer, Representing Alabama's Fifth District, and Angie McCarter, the 10th Annual Space and Missile Defense Conference Co-Chair.

New members are nominated and selected every other year and are widely recognized as true giants of the profession.

Pete Schofield, representing ASMDA, stated, "I believe the successes we enjoy today in missile defense and the recent BRAC [base realignment and closure] decision to move SMDC [headquarters] and MDA [Missile Defense Agency] to Huntsville can be directly traced to the individuals, such as the three honorees tonight, who worked for the decades before us."

Clinton served in the Army Ballistic Missile Agency on Redstone Arsenal, Ala., working on the Redstone; Juno (space launch vehicle); Jupiter; Pershing; Saturn I, II, III, IV; and Jupiter target vehicle in support of early Nike-X and Nike Zeus Ballistic Missile Defense interceptors. During the early 1960's, Clinton used his expertise to support military and CIA evaluations of Soviet missile programs, leading to the estab-

lishment of the Missile Intelligence Office at Redstone Arsenal. Under Clinton's leadership, MIO established a national reputation for the technical evaluation of the "strategic missile gap" and the Cuban Missile Crisis. As a result, Clinton transitioned MIO's into the Missile Intelligence Agency and served as the MIA director. He later transitioned MIA into the Missile and Space Intelligence Center and served as the MSIC director until his retirement from government service in 1985.

Devanney served in the Senior Executive Service as the deputy program director for the National Missile Defense Joint Program Office, the deputy program director for the Ground-based Midcourse Defense Joint Program Office, and as the acting program director for the GMD JPO. During his tenure, he played an absolutely instrumental role in developing, testing, building and deploying the initial capability to defend America from long range ballistic missile attacks. As a pioneer and technical leader, Devanney's tireless efforts personally ensured GMD initial capability was fielded on Sept. 30, 2004, in spite of a turbulent budget, demanding environmental conditions and stressing operational requirements.

Granone served in the SES as the director of the U.S. Army Space and Missile Defense Command/Army Forces Strategic Command Technical Center from 1999 to 2005. Granone also served as the director, Sensors Directorate within the Technical Center; technical director and chief engineer of the Program Executive Office, Missile Defense; and chief engineer, deputy project manager, and project manager of the Theater Missile Defense Project Office. Granone had national and international recognition as an engineer and manager of outstanding ability and vision. Granone participated in numerous international defense initiatives including NATO, Israel, and Japan; as well as numerous special assignments such as chairman of the U.S. Army Missile Review Board, which selected the hit-to-kill candidate for the PAC 3 Program. Granone developed SMDC/ARSTRAT's first integrated technology program for Directed Energy, and it was his vision that led to the first ever Katyusha rocket shot down by a laser system. Granone retired from government service in 2005.

ASMDA now has 36 members on the Space and Missile Defense Distinguished Civilian Wall. The wall is on display in the lobby of SMDC/ARSTRAT headquarters on Redstone Arsenal.

## Scholarships

continued from page 14

Knoll has earned numerous academic awards to include President's List (fall 2005; spring and fall 2006), Dean's List (spring 2007), and AED Honor Society (Inducted 2007). In addition to her very demanding academic curriculum, Knoll is an active volunteer and deeply involved in extracurricular activities. Her extracurricular activities include Pre-med Society, Student Affiliates of the American Chemical Society, Active Minds, Resident Housing Association, and is the Product Management Team Leader for ProgressiveU.org — a blogging site for discussing today's important issues. Knoll has a history of volunteering at Cool Science and Science Olympiad and currently assists in managing and cleaning the pediatric playroom at Memorial Hospital.

Because Knoll is the daughter of Maj. Annette Shorman, who currently serves at SMDC/ARSTRAT in Colorado Springs, Knoll received her scholarship award in Colorado Springs from Larry Burger, the current ASMDA president and director of the SMDC/ARSTRAT Future Warfare Center.

Nance is currently attending Athens State University perusing a computer science degree with a mathematics minor, where she also plans to obtain a systems engineering certification. The mother of an active 2-year-old boy, she still maintains a 3.68/4.00 GPA. (Nance achieved National Deans List in 2007.) Erica's family has a tradition of military and engineering. Nance plans to use her academic and analytical skills to carry on the family tradition by pursuing a career in missile system engineering. Given her strong mathematic skills, Nance provides volunteer tutoring in mathematics, works with Special Olympics, and teaches Vacation Bible School.

In her application for the ASMDA Scholarship, Erica wrote, "I believe a career in missile defense is not only a good career, but also one that will actually make a difference. Being able to come home from work and say, 'I helped make the world a little safer today,' is not something everyone can do."

Knight is a senior majoring in computer engineering at the University of Alabama in Huntsville. Her current GPA is 3.70/4.00. Knight is the recipient of the UAH Academic Excellence Scholarship (2004), is a member of Alpha Lambda Delta Freshmen Honor Society and is on the College of Engineering Dean's List since 2005. Knight currently works as a co-op in the Software Division (SWD) at SPARTA Inc. and supports the effort in the Joint Research Analysis and Assessment Center (JRAAC) in the Missile and Space Intelligence Center on Redstone Arsenal, Ala. Knight has already worked on several important tasks including implementing the user interface for configuring reactive flare deployment by a standard aircraft model and re-structuring the common software modeling infrastructure to support multiple security classification requirements.

Given these significant accomplishments, it is no surprise that Ian Buchanan, manager of SPARTA's SWD, recently said, "Ms. Knight has a bright future as a software engineer." Amazingly, Knight still volunteers in Tau Beta Pi and UAH Student Government Association blood drives. Since high school, Knight also makes time to visit the elderly in assisted living and nursing homes.

# Safety

## Protecting your child at home

### Baby safety awareness

SMDC/ARSTRAT Safety Office

According to the Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) about 2.5 million children are injured or killed each year by dangers right in their own home.

Children are the greatest joys in our lives and so we worry endlessly about them. We want them to be healthy and happy, and we would sacrifice almost anything to make sure that they are. But still, many of us overlook one of the biggest threats to their safety, our own home. Raising a child takes great care and knowledge. Creating a safe environment for your child is one of the best things you can do to make sure that the first years are happy and healthy — for you and your little bundle of joy.

September is National Baby Safety Awareness Month, so make some time each day to make your home a little safer for your little ones. We spend so much time making sure the nursery is just right — the right paint scheme, the right crib, the right diaper genie. We want everything perfect for our new little person, but what about the rest of the house and all of the not-so-hidden dangers? Though child-proofing can seem overwhelming, there are a few simple things you can do that will not only protect your baby, but will also protect your peace of mind.

**Get a baby's-eye view of your home.** That's right Get down your hands and knees and crawl around. What's within reach? This helps you figure out which cabinets, drawers, or other spaces your child might get into. As your baby grows, change your perception and start looking higher.

**Protect those electrical outlets.** The removable plug-in caps can easily end up in your baby's mouth. So, replace the outlet cover with one that includes a sliding safety latch.

**Watch out for hidden poisons** and protect your family from carbon monoxide by installing a detector in every sleeping area in your home.

The CPSC has said more than one

million possible poisonings of children under age 5 are reported and an average of 30 children die from poisoning each year. Store poisonous products out of your child's reach. Dispose of old or outdated medications. According to the experts, smoke detectors reduce the risk of dying in a fire by 50 percent, so install those smoke detectors and check them each month.

**Safety gates.** This is an essential childproofing tool. They keep your child within a designated room and block access to stairs and dangerous rooms like the bathroom or kitchen.

Infants and toddlers can drown in as little as an inch of water, and about 115 children under age 5 drown in their home (not in a pool) each year. Most in-home drowning deaths occur in bathtubs. Never leave your child unattended around any standing water in and around your home.

**Furniture tip-overs.** At least 5,000 children under the age of 10 go to the emergency room each year with injuries caused from furniture tipping over. Bolt whatever you can to the wall and push TV's out of reach, and then secure them, too.

**Windows.** According to the CPSC, thousands of children in the U.S. die or are injured from falls from windows. Window screens are not strong enough to prevent falls, so your windows shouldn't open more than four inches and should be fitted with locks to keep small children from opening them. Also, cords on window coverings are a frequent cause of strangulation of children under 5. Cut off the pull cords or use cord shorteners or wind-ups to keep them out of reach.

No amount of childproofing can supersede a watchful eye. And if something were to happen, your quick response could prevent serious or life threatening injury. Take care of your home so that you can take better care of your child.

The fact of the "child safety matter" is that we can't always keep our child away from injury. They will fall, bump their heads and scrape their knees, but let's try to keep them from those boo-boo's that can't be cured with a cartoon covered Band-Aid and a kiss from Mom.

## Escaping fires: practice is key

"Practice your escape plan!" is the theme of Fire Prevention Week 2007. It's not enough to have a home or work place fire escape plan. To escape safely, you've got to make sure that everyone in the home and at work has practiced the plan.

Take this new Fire Prevention Week quiz provided by NFPA 2007 and see how many questions you can answer correctly. Good luck!

1. What percentage of household have actually developed and practiced a home fire escape plan to ensure they could escape quickly and safely?  
A. 50% B. 30% C. 23% D. 75%

2. Smoke alarms are needed:  
A. In every sleeping room, outside each sleeping area and on every level of the home  
B. In all rooms in the home  
C. In all rooms in the home except for the bedrooms  
D. In every sleeping room and on every level of the home

3. Smoke alarms should be tested at least:  
A. Once a week  
B. Once a month  
C. Once a year  
D. They don't need to be tested

4. Smoke alarms should be replaced:  
A. When they chirp  
B. When you paint the ceiling  
C. Every 10 years  
D. Every Fire Prevention Week

5. More than half of all home fire deaths result from incidents reported between:  
A. 11:00 p.m. and 7:00 a.m.  
B. 4:00 p.m. and 6:00 p.m.  
C. 7:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m.  
D. 1:00 a.m. and 6:00 a.m.

6. What kind of fires are the number one cause of home fires and home fire injuries?  
A. Heating B. Cooking  
C. Smoking D. Electrical

7. Heading down the hallway to the stairs and there is smoke - what should you do?  
A. Grab a towel and block your face  
B. Run  
C. Use your second way out  
D. Hold your breath

8. An escape plan should include:  
A. Two ways out of every room and an outside meeting place  
B. Two ways out of every room and a fire extinguisher and a meeting place  
C. Two ways out of every room, smoke alarms, an outside meeting place and practice  
D. Two ways out of every room, smoke alarms, telephone, and an outside meeting place

9. In a fire you may have as little as two minutes to escape however, a recent poll showed three-quarters of Americans think they have \_\_\_\_\_ before a fire can turn deadly?  
A. less than 4 B. less than 6  
C. less than 8 D. less than 10

See **Answers** on page 19

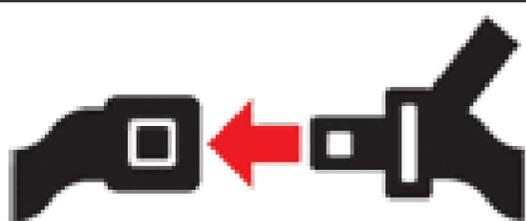
## Oct. 7-13, Drive Safely to Work Week

Motor vehicle crashes are a leading cause of death and injury for all ages. Crashes on and off the job have far-reaching financial and psychological effects on employees, their coworkers and families, and their employers.

By following the few **safety tips below** while driving, you can protect yourself and others on the road.

- Plan your trip.
- Obey traffic safety rules.
- Leave in a timely manner.

- Ensure all occupants wear seatbelts.
- Maintain situational awareness of other motorists.
- Do not talk on the cell phone or eat while driving.
- Be a considerate driver, yield the way to other motorists when required.
- Front seat passengers should assist the drivers by observing traffic and listening for hazards.
- Keep your vehicle in good mechanical condition.



**BE READY.  
BE BUCKLED.**

## All personnel must complete CRM training

Developing a safety culture is the goal of all Leaders. To accomplish this goal, we must work together to promote awareness, ensure required training is accomplished, and ensure all servicemembers and civilians realize safety is everyone's responsibility.

**Remember** — The Secretary of the Army and the Chief of Staff of the Army Safety and Occupational Health Objectives for fiscal year 2007 dated Oct. 13, 2006, require all Soldiers and

civilian employees to complete the Composite Risk Management (CRM) Basic Course by the end of FY 07.

The U.S. Army Space and Missile Defense Command/U.S. Army Forces Strategic Command commanders and supervisors are responsible for ensuring their Soldier and civilian employees complete the training no later than Sept. 30, 2007, and must also ensure individual training records or plans are properly documented.

The CRM Basic Course is available online at <https://safetymilms.army.mil/librix/loginhtml2.asp?v=usasc>.

If online access is not available, additional information on equivalent course and training can be found on the SMDC/ARSTRAT CommandNet Safety Web site at <https://commandnet.smdc.army.mil/SafetyOffice/CRM.html> and the SMDC/ARSTRAT public Web site at <http://www.smdc.army.mil/SAFETY/CRM.html>.

## SMDC works with urban search, rescue

By William Bet-Sayad, SMDC/ARSTRAT and Barbara Nash, APR for Radiance Tech., Inc.

In the shadow of the massive hangar that once housed the Hindenburg at Lakehurst Naval Air Station in New Jersey lies the training ground and headquarters of the elite New Jersey Task Force 1 (NJTF1). In an area so rich with historical significance, this urban search and rescue unit continues to make history through its advanced disaster response operations and training of other teams.

Highly-decorated for its work following the 9/11 attacks and for its assistance in the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina, NJTF1 is considered the premiere urban search and rescue unit in the United States. As such, it employs the use of cutting-edge technologies in its rescue operations.

U.S. Army Space and Missile Defense Command/U.S. Army Forces Strategic Command recently conducted a project to re-engineer the mobility system of a small robot that is critical to reaching victims trapped in rubble so compact even the search dogs cannot get to them. The robot was originally designed to crawl through pipelines to find leaks and other structural problems.

The SMDC/ARSTRAT upgrade project significantly improved the robot's ability to maneuver through very rugged terrain to locate and reach trapped victims, help determine their condition, and communicate with them if they are conscious while they await rescue. The robot mounts a Triage Sensor developed by Radiance Technologies and the University of South Florida that provides quick evaluation of non-responsive victims. The sensor measures carbon dioxide, pulse and blood oxygen content to enable medical personnel to remotely determine if a victim has survived. Prior to having the robot, rescuers were forced to rely solely on the canine unit to locate victims, and without indication of the victim's viability, to devote retrieval resources while the clock ticks away precious time for others who are trapped.

In a recent demonstration of the robot and its capabilities, NJTF1 Technical and Canine Task Force Leader Jim Bastan explained, "Because of the new capabilities of the robot, we are able to determine the status of victims so we can make sure we are focusing our resources on living victims."

The robot can perform multiple functions.

Outfitted with cameras, lights and communications equipment, it allows operators to evaluate the disaster site while it searches for victims. It can also operate as a HAZMAT tool carrying sensors to determine safety zones following radiation or biological attacks; expand its searches of disaster sites such as building and mine collapses or subway attacks; serve as a critical medical tool by allowing triage of victims; and could even help SWAT teams by giving them the ability to see and hear in a hostage situation.

NJTF1 trains with this technology at its extensive facility that covers roughly a football-sized area of collapsed structures and debris. In order to simulate as many real-life urban rescue situations as possible, the mountains of rubble include tunnels, pipes,

bridges, a railway car and countless crevices where victims can hide to test dogs, equipment and operators in training. It is the largest such facility in the United States and gives rescuers invaluable practice working through concrete, metal, dirt and debris.

Following the demonstration, William Bet-Sayad of SMDC/ARSTRAT said, "The New Jersey Task Force 1 is clearly a leader in technology development for urban search and rescue. SMDC is pleased to support the vital work of this dedicated team. We hope our improvement to the robot's mobility leads to more successful rescues by the Task Force."

Bastan added, "We're looking to save lives here — bottom line. The robot and the triage sensor help us do that."



Photos by Barbara Nash

The re-engineered track provides greatly-improved mobility in search and rescue missions.



The vast training ground at Lakehurst Naval Air Station provides real-life training missions for NJTF1 and other search and rescue teams from across the United States.

# Help your children have a safe and fun Halloween

## SMDC/ARSTRAT Safety Office

Many Halloween-related injuries can be prevented if parents closely supervise school-aged children during trick-or-treat activities. While most people think of Halloween as a time for fun and treats, unfortunately, roughly four times as many children aged 5-14 are killed due to automobile/pedestrian accidents while walking on Halloween evening compared with other evenings of the year. As a result, your plans for Halloween safety must go beyond checking Halloween candy if you want to really keep your kids safe. Falls are also a leading cause of injuries among children on Halloween.

### Children should:

- Wear clothing that is bright, reflective and flame retardant.
- Use flashlights, stay on sidewalks and avoid crossing yards.
- Look left, right and left again before crossing the street
- Cross streets at the corner, use crosswalks (where they exist) and do not cross between parked cars.
- Stop at all corners, and stay together in a group before crossing.
- Consider using face paint instead of masks (masks can obstruct a child's vision.)
- Go only to well-lit houses, and remain on porches rather than entering houses.



- Travel in small groups, and be accompanied by an adult.
- Know their phone number, and carry coins for emergency telephone calls.
- Bring treats home before eating them, so parents can inspect them.
- Use costume knives and swords that are flexible, not rigid or sharp.

### Parents and adults should:

- Supervise the outing for children under age 15.
- Establish a curfew (a return time) for older children.
- Prepare homes for trick-or-treaters by clearing porches, lawns, and sidewalks and by placing jack-o-lanterns away from doorways and landings.
- Avoid giving choking hazards such as gum, peanuts, hard candies or small toys as treats to young children.
- Inspect all candy for safety before children eat it.
- Parents and adults should ensure the safety of pedestrian trick-or-treaters.
- Make sure children under age 10 are supervised as they cross the street.
- Drive slowly.
- Watch for children in the street and on medians.
- Exit driveways and alleyways carefully.
- Have children get out of cars on the curb side, not on the traffic side.

### A few tips about pumpkins:

- Carve pumpkins on stable, flat surfaces with good lighting.
- Have children draw a face on the outside of the pumpkin; then parents should do the cutting.
- Place lighted pumpkins away from curtains and other flammable objects, and do not leave lighted pumpkins unattended.

## Bravo Company no longer TDA unit, now MTOE

### By Bravo Company 53rd Signal Battalion

**FORT MEADE, Md.** — Bravo Company, 53rd Signal Battalion, made history when the new operations platoon leader, 2nd Lt. Michael Sherrod, signed into the unit June 20.

In the past, Bravo Company only had two officers — a company commander and an executive officer. This new change is a result of the company changing from a Table of Distribution Allowance (TDA) unit to a Mission Table of

Organization Equipment (MTOE) unit. With the addition of Sherrod, now the company has three officers.

Sherrod is new to the battalion, but he is not new to the Signal community having been in the Signal Corps for 19 and a half years. He entered the United States Army in February 1988 as a 31M, a multi-channel systems equipment operator, the equivalent today is a 25Q. Sherrod stayed in the field for 12 years and made it to the rank

of sergeant first class.

In 2001, he made a career change and was selected to be a 250N and attended the Signal Warrant Officer Basic Course. He excelled in that field for five years before making another career change Dec. 7, 2006, as a chief warrant officer 2.

Sherrod became 2nd Lt. Sherrod after receiving his commission from the Officer Candidate School (OCS) at Fort Benning, Ga. After school, Sherrod attended the Basic Officer Leadership

Course (BOLC II) at Fort Sill, Okla., and then the Signal Officer Basic Course at Fort Gordon, Ga. His last assignment was with 4th Infantry Brigade Combat Team, 1st Infantry Division, Fort Riley, Kan., where he served as the Brigade Network Management Technician.



Photo by Capt. Matthew Kisner

2nd Lt. Michael Sherrod is the new Operations platoon leader for B Co., 53rd Signal Battalion as a result of the company changing from a TDA unit to a MTOE unit.

## 50th anniversary commemorative coin available for purchase

### SMDC/ARSTRAT Historical Office

U.S. Army Space and Missile Defense Command/U.S. Army Forces Strategic Command has designed a special commemorative coin to celebrate its 50th anniversary.

In the military tradition, coins can be traced to the Roman Empire when generals used them to reward their legions for loyalty and achievements. Although the American military tradition dates only to the last century, the value of the coins is indisputable. Not only do they recognize the contributions made by an individual or unit, they create a sense of esprit de corps.

In that vein, the 50th anniversary committee, spearheaded by Sgt. Maj. Randall Williams, has designed a commemorative coin for SMDC/ARSTRAT. The coin depicts a full-color



representation of the 50th anniversary logo designed by Eric Gronquist. This emblem salutes the command's heritage and its contributions to research and development, test and evaluation, and operations in the fields of missile defense and space. The reverse side shows that SMDC/ARSTRAT is a proud member of a



much larger organization — the U.S. Army.

The coins, which sell for \$3.50, are available to everyone in the SMDC/ARSTRAT community. For further information or to submit an order, please contact Williams at (256) 955-4531 or [Randall.Williams@smdc.army.mil](mailto:Randall.Williams@smdc.army.mil).

Breaking the stereotype and...

# Celebrating Women's Equality

By Sharon L. Hartman, SMDC/ARSTRAT Public Affairs

**PETERSON AIR FORCE BASE, Colo.** — Each August, a monumental event in U.S. history is commemorated — the passing of the 19th Amendment, which gave women the right to vote. But this observance does more than honor the event. It celebrates the continuous strides women are making to reach true equality.

U.S. Army Space and Missile Defense Command/U.S. Army Forces Strategic Command held a Women's Equality Day Observance on Aug. 26 and honored six remarkable ladies as the 2007 SMDC/ARSTRAT Women of the Year.

Guest speaker for the event Cindy Goldman, Vice President and General Counsel, Coors Brewery in Denver, Colo., gave

an inspiring speech on equality and the need to break through stereotypes in order to achieve equality.

Goldman said, "Bottom line: If you can reject the stereotypes, work hard and effectively, take educated risks, have confidence in your skills and most importantly, be true to yourself, I believe you can find success."

Many would agree that the six women honored as the "Women of the Year" prove that Goldman's comment is true. The Women of the Year winners were: Sgt. Regina Sierra from the Legal Office; Sgt. Betty Lott and Sgt. Teresa Triplett, both with the 1st Space Brigade; Brenda Schultz from G2; Michelle (Shelly)

Bower, G4; and Vivian Gordon from the G3.

All of the honorees were presented an award from the deputy commanding general for Operations, Brig. Gen. John E. Seward, and a gift from the Equal Employment Opportunity manager, Robert Howard.

No one will argue that honoring the women of today is important, but the celebration would not have been complete without focusing on the women of the future.

The command held an essay contest as part of the event, and the winning entry came from 10-year-old Ebon'e Gordon, daughter of Vivian Gordon, a Woman of the Year honoree.

After reading her essay to an audience of more than 90 Soldiers and civilians, Ebon'e received a one-star letter from

Seward and a \$75 gift certificate for her accomplished paper.

Other nominees were: Staff Sgt. Tanya Barksdale, 1st Space Battalion; Diane Gilmore, 1st Space Brigade; Norma Jenkins, G2; and Tracy Crowell, G2.



Ebon'e Gordon receives a one-star letter from Brig. Gen. John E. Seward.



Photo by Sgt. Jack W. Carlson III

## Air Assault in Alaska!!

Hurdling- Sgt. Russell Smith, Communications Operator, Charlie Crew 49th Missile Defense Battalion, eyes his landing point at the hurdle obstacle during the 10-day Air Assault Course at Fort Richardson, Alaska. Six Soldiers from the battalion were awarded the opportunity to attend this much sought after course following a competition for the slots with fellow Soldiers.



Photo by Sgt. Jack W. Carlson III

## Low crawling

Spc. Brandon Amarone, Military Police Officer, Alpha Company, 49th Missile Defense Battalion, lifts his head out of the dirt to see his objective at the low crawl obstacle during the Air Assault Course at Fort Richardson, Alaska. The confidence course falls on day zero of the 10-day Air Assault Course, and is the first test of the students' mental and physical strength. The Soldiers of the battalion graduated from the course Aug. 24.

## Safety

continued from page 1

wheel after he had been drinking.

He was speeding down the Gordon Highway in his truck, when his vehicle sailed over the median and hit Tuttle from behind. The impact was so severe that Tuttle flew over the hood, into the windshield, and continued over the truck striking the tailgate so hard it was forced open. Tuttle came to rest three lanes over on the highway.

The driver of the truck was so intoxicated he continued driving down the highway with Tuttle's motorcycle under his vehicle for the five miles he had to travel to reach his residence. He later told police that he had never seen Tuttle, and could not explain the motorcycle wedged under his truck.

He had left the scene of the accident uninjured while Tuttle lay unconscious in the middle of the highway with a broken back, a broken shoulder and a partial amputation of his right arm.

When Tuttle regained consciousness after lifesaving emergency surgery, he was informed by the doctor that he had been very lucky the accident occurred less than two miles from the Eisenhower Medical Center on Fort Gordon. Tuttle's injuries had been so massive that he would have bled to death if the distance to the hospital had been much further.

When Tuttle finally left the hospital four months later, his weight had dropped from 200 pounds to 135 pounds. He also had titanium pins holding his shoulder together; he lost half of his bicep muscle and had no sensation in the nerve endings in his right arm. He had come very close to losing the arm entirely.

Almost eight years later, Tuttle, who now serves with Alpha Company, 53rd Signal Battalion, in Fort Detrick, Md., is constantly reminded of that November day. The constant pain in his back and shoulder and the numbness in his arm will never let him forget it.

And, although the driver of the truck probably does not remember much of the incident, he will always be reminded of the cost. He spent five years in prison, had his driver's license permanently revoked and is required to write a monthly check to charity for the damages he caused.

For those serving in Alpha Company with Tuttle, he is a constant reminder of the importance of safety. He's a reminder that even when you do take the necessary safety precautions, you can still be injured or killed in an accident because of someone else's actions. It was Tuttle's decision to wear his protective gear that made the difference between life and death for him.

It is with this real-life testimony that Alpha Company upholds the importance of its safety program and encourages Soldiers to always keep safety first.

Answers to Fire Prevention Quiz — continued from page 16

1. C, 2. A, 3. B, 4. C, 5. A, 6. B, 7. C, 8. C, 9. D

# All-out warfare testing resolve, training for Nation's safe future

By Spc. Michael Cost  
Public Affairs Specialist

**FORT GREELY, Alaska** — The night sky was complete with Alaska's signature northern lights, the air was crisp and the all was calm. That is, it was calm until the Operational Force teams dropped their bombs.

The attack started with a diversionary tactic followed swiftly by an all-out assault.

As sounds of gunfire rang out from across the Missile Defense Complex and star clusters lit up the night sky, rivaling the Aurora Borealis, the main effort pushed forward and was able to complete the mission.

Military police charged with defending their fellow Soldiers in the 49th Missile Defense Battalion (Ground-based Midcourse Defense) and the missiles that defend the nation did their part by firing back and holding their ground, but ... the damage was done.

A couple nights later, there was another OPFOR attack and the military police stood their ground and implemented their training ... it seems that the Army Training and Development Program, which the unit underwent the last two weeks of August, achieved its purpose.

The ARTEP was designed to test a unit's functional capabilities from all aspects in order to give a commander a clear picture of what his or her unit may need more training in and where the unit has excelled.

The 49th consists of many parts, including an extensive MP force, missile defense operators and a headquarters battery — with all members working day in and day out in the often frigid environment of Alaska. Training and working to defend the homeland against ballistic missile attack. Every aspect of these interconnecting missions was put to the test during this ARTEP.

The evaluators were from the battalion's higher command, the 100th Missile Defense Brigade (Ground-based Midcourse Defense) from Colorado Springs, Colo. The 100th prepared extensively to put their counterparts through difficult situations and test their ability to react in various situations — moving north to challenge their fellow Soldiers to perform their best.

The main body of the 100th arrived in "the last frontier" and hit the ground running. The Soldiers drew weapons for the Operational Forces, got everyone settled into housing, and began evaluating within 24 hours of arrival.

"I hope these Soldiers got enough sleep on the way up because they aren't going to be getting much over the next two weeks," said Lt. Col. Michael Willis, brigade Operations Officer, at the onset of the exercise.

The Operational Readiness Evaluation team from the 100th was tasked with the first major evaluations — running tests with the Missile Defense System Operators. These tests consisted of a written exam as well as a hands-on exam to assess the



Photo by Sgt. Jack W. Carlson, III

Just as the sun sets in Alaska, around 11 p.m., a military policeman in a HMMWV turret surveys his "combat" surroundings. (A HMMWV is a high mobility multipurpose wheeled vehicle.)

Soldiers' abilities to operate the system during battle.

"All of the Soldiers did very well and were eager to do so," said Staff Sgt. Rene Saiz, a Soldier on the ORE team and evaluator during the ARTEP. "I feel really confident in these Soldiers' abilities to accomplish the mission and have no doubts as to how they would perform during a real world event."

These evaluations ensure that America's missile defenders are up to speed and proficient if an attack on our nation is an imminent possibility. The force protection threat was a whole other fish to fry.

MP officers were put on a higher state of alert due to mock threats of a missile launch by an imaginary country. What this meant for the MP's was more patrols, detailed planning for how to respond to expected attacks, and a significant lack of sleep.

"When it comes to the OPFOR, it's about winning to a lot of these Soldiers," said Sgt. John Dvork, an MP in the 49th's

Alpha Company. "For the MPs, it's ultimately what we are waiting for and all of us are pumped up, so we can do what we are trained to do," he said as he patrolled the MDC, alert for attack.

The 49th MPs felt confident going into the ARTEP because they train often and felt up to speed and proficient in their skills.

"We train about once a month like this. Sometimes it's one platoon and sometimes it's the whole company, but we stay fresh and up to date on our training," said Spc. Michael Olsen, another MP in Alpha Company.

Training is important when the mission is defending such vital assets as these MPs are tasked with doing; these Soldiers understand that.

"This mission is beneficial to our country and as important as the job Soldiers are doing in Iraq," said Dvork. "Even though the circumstances are different, we have to protect this post at all costs."

These two Soldiers ended up as casualties in a mock rollover accident later that same evening, but had no idea what was coming to them a couple of nights later when the OPFOR teams successfully attacked the MDC.

Every Soldier in the 49th was put to the test. Staff sections such as personnel, intelligence, operations, logistics, communications and Soldiers of all ranks, from highest to lowest, had something to take away from the experience.

The 49th missile defenders and security forces met the challenges of the ARTEP, learning as they were evaluated. They will be ready for the next time their brothers and sisters in arms travel to the Great Land (the official nickname for Alaska) from the "Lower 48" to put them to the next test.



Photo by Spc. Michael B. Cost

Soldiers in helmets are ARTEP participants, either first responders or "casualties" from a HMMWV (mock) rollover. They are being graded by "invisible" evaluators.