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The Eagle

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

Volume 15, Number 7, July 2008

Army Families draw attention to issues

By Sharon L. Hartman
SMDC/ARSTRAT Public Affairs

COLORADO SPRINGS, Colo. — Adversity is a part of life. Every family faces adversity at some point, but for Army Families things can be more difficult. With Soldiers deploying to war and leaving their spouses alone to raise their kids for a year or more, or sometimes even both parents deploying leaving grandparents or older siblings raising their families, things can get really complicated. The Army Family Action Plan (AFAP) was developed to address these and many other additional challenges that are common with Army Family life. AFAP is a grassroots program that directs actions in an attempt to resolve issues that will improve the quality of life for Soldiers and their Families.

U.S. Army Space and Missile Defense Command/Army Forces Strategic Command conducted their local AFAP Conference June 16-20 at the Crowne Plaza Hotel. The conference, spearheaded by Karen Butler of the SMDC/ARSTRAT G1, had more than 30 delegates from around the command form into three



Photo by Sharon L. Hartman

Delegate, Sgt. Thomas Hernandez, Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 53rd Signal Battalion addresses the leadership during the 2008 U.S. Army Space and Missile Defense Command/Army Forces Strategic Command Army Family Action Plan Conference.

workgroups to discuss issues of concern to the total Army, as well as local issues within the command. In addition to the delegates, each workgroup included a facilitator, a recorder and an issue support person. Each group discussed and debated issues over three days, often calling in a variety of subject matter experts when needed.

After the three days of discussions, the workgroups presented their issues and recommended solutions in an out brief to the SMDC/ARSTRAT leadership team of Commanding General, Lt. Gen. Kevin T. Campbell and Command Sgt. Maj. Ralph Borja. Also present and participating in the out brief discussions were Deputy Commanding General for Operations, Brig. Gen. John E. Seward, Commander, 1st Space Brigade, Col. Timothy Coffin and Commander, 100th Missile Defense Brigade (GMD), Col. Michael Yowell. The spouses of command leaders who were also in attendance were Kathy Campbell, Nyuget Borja, Lisa Seward, and Cheryl Coffin, with Campbell and Borja also

See "AFAP" on page 11

Award given for accident - free year

By DJ Montoya
Public Affairs
1st Space Brigade

PETERSON AIR FORCE BASE, Colo. — Members of the 1st Space Battalion attended a safety event on the afternoon of June 26 - not for training purposes but for recognition as Col. Timothy Coffin, commander of the 1st Space Brigade presented a safety certificate to Lt. Col. Thomas James, commander of the 1st Space Battalion, during a brief ceremony in Building Three.

"This is something that I'm privileged to present to you as an entire battalion," said Coffin.

"This is a certificate of recognition on behalf of Lt. Gen. Kevin T. Campbell, commanding general of SMDC/ARSTRAT, to the 1st Space Battalion for 12 consecutive months without a Class A, B or C accident during that period. It is a tremendous accomplishment."

Coffin stated to the group of Space Soldiers that even though the certificate was

being presented to their commander, the honor really speaks to the actions of each individual in the battalion.

"Every leader, every Soldier,

has to participate in order to get this certificate. Because all it takes is one person to go out and do something stupid - one person to pull out on the Colorado roads in a rush to get home in a snow storm and do the wrong thing for the staff. And maybe he is just a lucky guy in some respects. There are some things that are really almost out of control, but sometimes we tend to excuse things being out of control that really we could have influence on.

"As leaders you influence people to stop and take a second thought about what they do before they do it.

"You have been effective in this battalion of making that happen and doing it for a sustained duration of time. So it is my great privilege to recognize you and honor you for the work all of you have done in this area.

"I ask that you not heave a sigh of relief, but continue on with that great work and effort because every day we get new Soldiers in and you have got to train them. You have got to develop that culture within

your organization that says we are going to do things smart, we are going to things safe, and we are going to take that second look before somebody has that second or third drink in the evening."

See "Award" on page 3



Photo by DJ Montoya

Col. Timothy Coffin, then-commander of the 1st Space Brigade, presents to Lt. Col. Thomas James, commander of the 1st Space Battalion, a safety certificate on June 26 recognizing the battalion as 12 months Class A, B and C accident free.

The Command Corner



Lt. Gen. Kevin T. Campbell
Commanding General



CSM Ralph C. Borja
Command Sergeant Major

Summer is the time when most changes of command occur. I would like to take this opportunity to welcome several new commanders to the SMDC/ARSTRAT team and thank the departing commanders for a job well done!

First, selection to command is a privilege not taken lightly in the Army. I fully expect that all commanders, new and old, will exercise due diligence in maintaining the health and welfare of each Soldier, Civilian, contractor and Family member within their command.

At the top of our departures this summer is the Deputy Commanding General for Operations, Brig. Gen. John Seward. His impact on SMDC/ARSTRAT has been singularly impressive. Brig. Gen. Seward's leadership and direction have assisted in the growth and expansion of key mission areas such as Space Support teams and satellite communications that have become invaluable mission areas in U.S. Central Command. He and his wife Lesa recently departed to Hawaii where he will take over as the Deputy Commanding General for the U.S. Army Pacific Command. (The name of his replacement has not been officially released as of this writing.)

Giving up command of the 1st Space Brigade, July 10, is Col. Tim Coffin. Tim was instrumental in leading the brigade through significant organizational changes and in standing up critical war fighter capabilities. He and his wife Cheryl will transfer to Vandenberg, Ca. where Col. Coffin will be the J-3 of JFCC-Space. Assuming command of 1st Space Brigade is Col. Jeff Farnsworth. Interestingly, Col. Farnsworth was in the first group of officers selected to serve as an Army Space Operations Officer and comes with an excellent pedigree in Space Operations as well as a former commander of the 1st Space Battalion. We welcome him and his wife Gaby to the team.

Out in the Pacific, we are changing command at the U.S. Army Kwajalein Atoll at the end of the month. The new commander at USAKA will be Col. Fred Clarke. Col. Clarke has a strong background in Air Defense having served in Chaparral, Vulcan and Patriot units and now takes the helm of a national testing asset. He is replacing Col. Stevenson Reed who will be assigned to Army Test and Evaluation Command in Alexandria, Va. with duty at Huntsville, Ala. Steve Reed did exceptional work commanding a remote site and preparing the organization for the future. We look forward to seeing Col. Reed and his family as he assumes duties as the Director of Operation Test Agency here at Redstone Arsenal.

I just returned from Fort Greely, Alaska, where I was able to attend the change of command for the 49th Missile Defense Battalion and also for the garrison command at Fort Greely – four very good officers transferring colors. The new commander of the 49th Missile Defense Battalion is Lt. Col. Steve Carroll, coming to us from the National Guard Bureau in Arlington, Va. with a background in Air Defense and Field Artillery – a good meld. He replaces Lt. Col. Ted Hildreth who, with his wife Kristie and their three daughters, will be moving to Carlisle Barracks, Pa. Ted will attend the Army War College there. Ted Hildreth did a superb job in advancing the readiness of the 49th Battalion and in caring for Soldiers and Families.

The new garrison commander of Fort Greely is Lt. Col. Christopher Chronis. Lt. Col. Chronis comes with an operational background in Army Aviation having served in Attack Aviation regiments throughout his career, his most recent assignment

For the past several months, I've been talking about Army values and their importance to the men and women who serve as members of the United States Army. This month, we come to the letter H in the acronym "LDRSHIP." H is there to remind us of the importance of honor as a core Army Value and I believe as a yardstick for measuring our actions in life. According to the Roman philosopher Cicero, "Ability without honor is useless."

Army Field Manual 6-22 defines honor: **Living Up to All the Army Values** – a tall order, but one that is expected from the men and women who serve our great nation as Soldiers and Civilians in the United States Army.

As noted in FM 6-22, "Honor is the glue that holds Army values together. Honor requires a person to demonstrate continuously an understanding of what is right. It implies taking pride in the community's acknowledgment of that reputation. Military ceremonies recognizing individual and unit achievements demonstrate and reinforce the importance the Army places on honor."

I believe it's important to point out that being honorable has absolutely nothing to do with being prideful. Webster's defines pride as *the quality or state of being proud* and further goes on to provide the synonyms of proud: *Arrogant, Haughty, Lordly, Insolent, Overbearing, Supercilious, Disdainful* – all qualities that we neither want nor need in our Soldiers.

Don't misunderstand my meaning here. There is absolutely nothing wrong with feeling pride at individual accomplishments or pride in the accomplishments or history of an organization or unit. The Army strives to instill a healthy amount of pride and respect into each and every member of our proud organization. So what's wrong with pride?

As long as pride does not get in the way of judgment or cause rash action, there is nothing wrong with a strong sense of pride. Just keep in mind that "In general, pride is at the bottom of all great mistakes" – John Ruskin.

We must never, ever confuse wounded pride with loss of honor. If we live long enough, all of us will eventually experience the distasteful feeling of having our pride wounded. The source of this experience may come from being bested in individual competition or through public embarrassment or humiliation. Whatever the source, we must remember that this loss of pride does not make us less honorable, and we cannot use honor as an excuse for brash or dishonorable actions.

Honor is not an excuse. Honor provides the "moral compass" that must guide the lives and actions of the Soldiers and Civilians who serve America as members of the Army. We must all continually strive to be honorable, to be recognized – individually and as members of the Army – as possessing the traits and strengths of an honorable person. We earn this recognition by always placing Army values above self-interest and before career advancement or other forms of personal gain. As Calvin Coolidge once said, "No person was ever honored for what he received. Honor has been the reward for what he gave."

As we continue to fight in this era of persistent conflict, it's more important than ever for the Army to maintain the public's trust and respect. Doing so means acting with honor. "War must be carried on systematically, and to do it you must have men of character activated by principles of honor" – George Washington.

In closing, I'll leave you with this thought. It is not coincidence that our highest award is the "Medal of Honor." Its recipients clearly go beyond the expected and beyond the call of duty.

See CG's Column on page 3

SECURE THE HIGH GROUND!

The Eagle ... is an authorized unofficial newspaper published for military and civilian members of the U.S. Army Space and Missile Defense Command/U.S. Army Forces Strategic Command published under the authority of AR 360-1. The editorial style applies the industry standard Associated Press Stylebook. Contents of *The Eagle* are not necessarily official views of, or endorsed by, the U.S. Government, Department of Defense, Department of the Army, or SMDC/ARSTRAT. This monthly newspaper uses offset reproduction and has a circulation of 2,250. Reader input is solicited and welcomed; however, no payment will be made for such contributions. For more information about SMDC/ARSTRAT or to view *The Eagle* on-line, visit our Web site at www.smdc.army.mil.

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What We Think

The Eagle asks: What does America mean to you?



It means freedom and greatness!

Ron Ostrander
Budget Analyst, G-8
Redstone Arsenal, Ala.



America is the symbol of freedom and the land of opportunities where any citizen can contribute with no limitation to keep it free. 'SAY WHAT YOU BELIEVE, NEVER DOUBT WHAT YOU MEAN.'

John Lendeborg
Small Business Ofc
Admin Assistant
Phoenix Services
Redstone Arsenal, Ala.



A gift. To me, America is a gift that began 232 years ago by hard working people; people willing to fight for and establish a free state. America is a gift that has been preserved for me through the blood of citizens willing to fight and defeat our enemies, and the tears of the families whose loved ones were lost in those fights.

MAJ William E. Sherratt, III
USAR Strategic Command
TPU Commander/IMA Coordinator
Colorado Springs, Colo.



For me it's the land of opportunity, honor, and liberty.

Susan Drennan
Accountant
G-8
Redstone Arsenal, Ala.



America means opportunity freedom, resources, knowing that if you work hard you can attain your goals.

Jimmie Sherode
Budget Analyst
G-8
Redstone Arsenal, Ala.

CG's Column

continued from page 2

being the Chief of Current Operations/Aviation, Early Entry Command Post (Airborne), U.S. Army Alaska. He replaces Lt. Col. Greg McClinton who will move with his family to the Military District of Washington area where he will serve as executive officer to the Deputy Commanding General, Installation Management Command. Lt. Col. McClinton provided exceptional leadership in leading one of the Army's remote installations. He was responsible for implementing many Soldier and Family quality of life improvements.

SECURE THE HIGH GROUND!

Award

continued from page 1

Upon receiving the honor for the battalion James said, "You have all heard the phrase, 'Safety is no accident.' I've been in units that have great safety records and units that haven't. And the difference I've always seen in a general sense is that the units that do well with safety are the ones who have Soldiers and leaders that look out for each other and take care of each other. It is as simple as the buddy system you learn in basic training."

James concluded by saying, "The most precious asset we have in this battalion and the U.S. Army is Soldiers. And that is the first thing we have to learn to protect. So this award is a credit to the battalion. Hopefully in 12 months we will be getting our second one."

Aloha Brig. Gen. Seward

By Sharon L. Hartman
Colorado Springs Public Affairs

will now serve as the Deputy Commanding General for U.S. Army Pacific Command.

PETERSON AIR FORCE BASE, Colo. — Great leaders are hard to find but they can be even harder to keep. With less than a year serving as the Deputy Commanding General for Operations, U.S. Army Space and Missile Defense Command/Army Forces Strategic Command, Brig. Gen. John E. Seward is moving on to the next chapter in his military career.

During his time with the command, from August 2007 - June 2008, Seward was involved with several significant operational events in the Army Space world, including the successful deployment of more than 100 Soldiers from the 1st Space Brigade to the U.S. Central Command Area of Operations, placement of a new Joint Tactical Ground Station detachment in Misawa, Japan and the launch and activation of the first Wideband Global SATCOM satellite which is now providing new and greater communications capabilities to the warfighter on the ground.

In a June 19 farewell ceremony, SMDC/ARSTRAT Commanding General, Lt. Gen. Kevin T. Campbell awarded Seward with the first Honorable Order of Saint Dominic silver medallion and certificate, a new order specifically designed for Space Professional Soldiers.

"I could ask for no better person to have led our Soldiers than John Seward," said Campbell. "His impact on SMDC/ARSTRAT has been singularly impressive."

Seward and his wife Lisa head back to Hawaii where he previously served as the Commander of the 94th Army Air and Missile Defense Command. Seward



Courtesy photo

Lt. Gen Kevin T. Campbell, commanding general for U.S. Army Space and Missile Defense Command/Army Forces Strategic Command, presents departing Brig. Gen. John E. Seward, deputy commanding general for SMDC/ARSTRAT Operations, the first Honorable Order of Saint Dominic silver medallion and certificate during a farewell ceremony for Seward on the afternoon of June 19 in Colorado Springs, Colo. This new order is specifically designed for Space Professional Soldiers. Seward departs Colorado Springs for his next assignment in Hawaii.

Safety

101 Critical days of Summer



Memorial Day through Labor Day marks the critical days when accidents and mishaps pose a greater risk to Soldiers and their Families, so this year's theme - Never Give Safety a Day Off - holds great value in sustaining the force and maintaining an Army Strong.

Each week, the U.S. Army Combat Readiness/Safety Center will publish news releases containing information to help Soldiers use composite risk management in making sound judgments while on and off duty.

Campaign posters and videos are available below to help educate and inform Soldiers, their Family members and Army Civilians.

In a public service announcement, taped by AFN South, E Street Band guitarist Steven Van Zandt encourages Soldiers and their family members to "have fun, be smart and play it safe" this summer while enjoying outdoor and off-duty activities. To view the video, along with 101 Critical Days of Summer posters, videos and additional safety info, go to USACRC's home page at crc.army.mil. As you scroll down the page you will see "What's Hot" in a blue box, there you will see a host of titles that will catch your interest on safety.

Redstone Arsenal Motorcycle Safety Foundation offers basic and experienced rider courses

Whether you have been riding for one year or 20 years, the Basic Rider Course (BRC) has something for you. The 3-day BRC includes five hours of classroom and 11 hours of riding instruction. A handbook is provided for the classroom portion and the riding section consists of 17 exercises.

The Experienced Rider Course (ERC) has something for the MC rider of one to 31 years or beyond! This one day 7-hour course is the perfect place to discuss motorcycling strategies with other riders and to sharpen cornering, braking, and emergency maneuvering skills.

Riders for either course must provide a valid driver's license with a motorcycle endorsement and a street-legal motorcycle that must pass a safety inspection. Riders are required to provide their own DOT approved helmet, eye protection, long sleeve shirt or jacket, long pants, full-fingered gloves, reflective outer garment, and boots or shoes that cover the ankles.

The riding portion of the course is held next to Heiser Hall across from the Bowling Center on Patton Road (near Gate 10). The classroom sessions are held at the Garrison Safety Office located at B-3687

Neal Road (west, off Patton Road).

The BRC is offered free of charge with priority to active duty soldiers including Reserve, National Guard and current DA civilians. Space available to retired service members, NASA, DoD contractors working on RSA, and family members of active duty soldiers.

Participants for the ERC must be at least 18 years old and should have ridden more than 1000 miles on their own motorcycle. The ERC is offered free of charge with priority to active duty soldiers including Reserve and National Guard, current DoD civilians, retired service members, NASA, DoD contractors working on RSA, and family members of active duty soldiers.

For additional course information please contact the Rider Coach Ralph Harris at: 93hdstc@bellsouth.net.

GRAT helps field ID hazards, controls

The newest tool in the Army's arsenal of safety products, the GRAT (Ground Risk Assessment Tool), facilitates the process of identifying accident hazards and controls for a variety of ground operations and off-duty activities.

GRAT was designed to aid in mitigating risk by reinforcing the five-step composite risk management process. Brig. Gen. Bill Forrester, director of Army safety and commanding general of the USACRC, said the new tool, coupled with CRM, is critical to making sound risk decisions at all levels of leadership.

"Using GRAT in concert with the military decision-making process will help Army leaders achieve success in their missions and make safety an integral part of their planning processes," Forrester said.

GRAT, replaces the Army Management Information System -1 or ASMIS-1 Ground Tool, consists of five parts, which include daily accident statistics; accident vignettes; current accident summaries; resources such as Army regulations, training circulars, field manuals and other guidance related to the mission or task; and an automated interactive CRM worksheet that is based on user input and selection of existing hazards and controls. Its easy-to-use information allows the user to save, e-mail or print a CRM worksheet (DA Form 7566).

USACRC Command Sgt. Maj. Tod Glidewell said GRAT is unique because it will continuously be updated with current, relevant information from units throughout the world.

"Using this tool allows leaders to save time, learn from others' mistakes and incorporate risk management throughout the military decision-making process," Glidewell said.

Glidewell believes GRAT will prove a valuable asset for leaders and Soldiers.

"The Army's mission is complex and the current operating environment challenges Soldiers with unique risks daily," Glidewell said.

"Empowering Soldiers and leaders to reduce accidental loss and injury by incorporating CRM into mission planning through the use of this tool is a practice that can significantly increase combat power."

For more information about the Ground Risk Assessment Tool visit <https://crc.army.mil/grat>

Source: U.S. Army Combat Readiness/Safety Center

Fireworks safety

Although Independence Day has passed many citizens will continue using fireworks over the summer. Here is a sensible list of good safety rules to follow while using fireworks.

Remember - not all fireworks are the same. Look for labels and read the instructions! The manufacturer's name, instructions and warnings are required by law. Check the credibility of the distributor to make sure their fireworks are reliable, legal and that they come from a licensed source.

Children should not light or handle fireworks.

Do not smoke when handling any type of firework.

Stay alert! Never drink alcohol and use fireworks at the same time.

Keep a bucket of water and a hose available! Also, keep a fire extinguisher nearby in case of emergencies.

Outdoors only! Use fireworks outdoors, only in clear areas on flat surfaces, away from houses, buildings and dry grass, away from any flammable liquids and open fires.

Do not relight fireworks that don't ignite! If a firework fails to light, do not relight it. You can wait 15 to 20 minutes, then douse with water until the firework is soaked and time has passed to ensure it will not reignite and then throw it away. Do not move it indoors or into a carport area and NEVER put it inside a car, building or structure.

Protect your pets! Animals are often frightened by the sounds of fireworks. To protect your "best friends," keep them indoors - away from the loud noise - and secure.

Keep clear! Never hold a lit firework in your hand. Keep as far from the fireworks as possible when lighting.

One at a time! Light only one firework item at a time.

"Celebrating with fireworks is an enduring tradition that perfectly complements American holidays," says Tommy Glasgow, president of TNT® Fireworks. "By taking a few simple precautionary steps ... can honor this tradition safely and create a summer's worth of special memories. Fireworks are an excellent source of family entertainment for Alabamians when used appropriately."

Safety experts attribute the drop in fireworks-related injuries to intense product-safety testing, quality products, and ongoing, aggressive consumer education.

"To the delight of families across the United States, the proliferation of available safety information has encouraged the proper use of fireworks devices," says John Conkling, a nationally renowned fireworks expert and spokesperson for the American Pyrotechnics Association. "By participating in federal safety regulations and consumer awareness programs, responsible fireworks manufacturers ... help ensure fireworks are enjoyed properly and safely."

Spies travel the information highway

By John Davis
Counter Intelligence
SMDC/ARSTRAT G-2

An old poster from WW II reads: "Loose Lips Sink Ships." The vision of our sailors at war drowning at sea was a powerful reminder that security begins with each one of us.

Today we tend to think such concerns are outdated and ripe for the museum. We hear about economic espionage, and our eyes glaze over. Do we really believe that the world we live in is still concerned with such a threat to our national survival?

Consider the following.

Deployments of our Soldiers all over the world require that they not be taken by surprise, that the equipment they

use is capable of dominating any battlefield. Abstract ideas like this mean little to the average listener. So try to personalize the idea.

Do you have children who depend upon you to keep them alive? You do everything in your power to protect them. But first, you need to be fully informed about the threat out there facing them. It's the same with the spy "game" these days.

Espionage today is hardly like we once knew it. For the most part, researchers make up today's spies.

Yesterday's spy was equipped with poison pens and secret cameras. Today's collector (read: spy) is equipped with a lap-top computer and modem, not to mention a current

library card. He reviews data banks, technical journals, and open publications for profit. He looks for indications of new ideas, trends, or new conditions that may affect his own country in some way. He does not need to steal what he can read free of charge.

Armed with this basic knowledge, today's spies set about to gather specifics. They look for the specific people who have the specific information. Aware that most Americans protect classified information, modern spies look for things 'on the drawing board', which can be acquired before the classification is stamped.

Being a patient person, the modern collector then listens. He listens to our open

phones, open faxes, open computers, and after-hour discussions. We love to talk. We are active, while the collector can be passive. He knows that our national trait of impatience with methodological security measures will ultimately betray us. He only simply has to wait for us to talk around classified information in open restaurants, on planes, and especially on the telephone.

You'll notice it hasn't been mentioned which country the new collector represents. He could represent a company rather than a country. Economic advisors openly advertise in our newspapers on ways to get a jump on the competition. The ideas range from soliciting information for

payment from enterprising or disgruntled employees to eliciting information at conferences and symposia open to the general public.

What is the best defense against this new method of economic voyeurism? Know what you must protect!!

Prior to any joint meeting have your team discuss what will and will not be said and then stick to it. Assume that if you say "it" out in the open, "it" is compromised.

Check classification before you publish. Again, know what you must protect.

There is enough proof in the field today to show that there is no safe, open means of communication.

Today's spy won't break the law if he doesn't have to. He only needs to listen.

Myriad of online space training available

By Thomas Coleman, Chief
Space Cadre Training Development Tm
SMDC/ARSTRAT Future Warfare Ctr DCD

The DCD Cadre Training Development Team has been assigned the responsibility to formulate a strategy and execute a plan that identifies gaps in space training and to fill those gaps by providing appropriate training to the Army space cadre. This training can be in the form of resident training, online training, distributed learning (dL), computer-based training (CBT), Web-based training (WBT), books, or other space training literature or modules. By Jan. 1 the DCD Cadre Training Development Team had delivered some space training consisting of dL modules, and had requested feedback from these users on the utility of the training in helping Cadre members perform their jobs better. The dL modules that were distributed before the beginning of 2008 included two basic courses, "Space Awareness" and "Army Space Cadre Basic Course" as well as some dL courses offered by the NRO (National Reconnaissance Office) and the NSSI (National Security Space Institute).

The DCD Training Branch Space Awareness Course lessons consist of an introduction and overview, characteristics of space systems, force enhancements, contributions to the war fighter and foreign space systems. The Army Space Cadre Basic Course contains lessons on the global positioning system, orbital mechanics, the space environment and SATCOM fundamentals. Both of these courses are on the Army Learning Management System (LMS) website. To get to the LMS log into AKO then click on 'My Training' under the Self Service drop down Menu or use the link, <http://www.lms.army.mil/> and you will be directed to log into your AKO account.

Once on the LMS site, on the right side of your screen click on the 'catalog search' box and type the full name of the

lesson you want to take (such as listed above). It is important that you type the full name of lesson as listed below otherwise your search will not return any lessons. The lesson information will appear on your screen. Click on 'Register', this will register you into the lesson. After you are registered you can click on 'Launch Content' and you can begin taking the lesson.

If you need to leave and come back to the lesson, you can. Once logged back into the ALMS website your lesson enrollments will appear in the 'Current Enrollments' area of your welcome page (lower right side). Click on 'Launch Now' of the lesson you want to continue and go to the next module of the lesson. The courses can also be found on AKO and can be accessed by going to the DCD Training branch web site at: <http://www.smhc.army.mil/2008/FWCTrainingDiv.asp>. Once at the site scroll down, the links to the lessons are under the 'AKO Folders' section in the middle of the page. Click on the lesson or course desired. You will be prompted to log into AKO. Once logged into AKO you will be at the lesson folders. You must SAVE each individual file to your hard drive, and then unzip the file. The files are made to play in Microsoft Internet Browser 5.5 SP1 and later. Click on the index.html file to start the program. You should take the lesson in the order of the 'Read me First.txt' located with the lesson files.

The lessons and courses can be accessed 24/7. Courses taken on the LMS system can be tracked for completion. In late summer of 2008, it is expected that both of these courses will be available through the Army Blackboard learning interface. Blackboard is an enhanced LMS system and provides more tools for the user as well as an easier interface for students.

In addition to the DCD dL courses, a variety of other basic-level and advanced-level space courses are available via dL and CBT through the NRO and NSSI.

The NSSI is offering 16 hours online and the courses are located on NIPRNET: <https://>

halfway.peterson.af.mil/nssi/cbts/index.htm. The courses available are as follows: Space History - SPI 270 (~ two hours to complete); Orbital Mechanics - SPS 271 (~ three hours to complete); Space Environment - SPS 270 (~ three hours to complete); Global Positioning System - GPS 270 (~ three hours to complete); SATCOM - COM 271 (~ two hours to complete) and Introduction to DOD Acquisition - ACQ 270 (~ three hours to complete).

The NRO is offering 18 hours online and are located at <http://cleon.NRO.smil.mil> - SIPRNET or <http://cleon.NRO.ic.gov> - JWICS. The courses offered are as follows: The National Systems Information Course (NSIC) (~ 6.5 hours to complete); Joint Tactical Exploitation of National Systems (JTENS) (read manual); Space 300 (National Systems Overview) Course (about three hours to complete); Space Enabled Warfighter Operations (SEWO) Course (~ 1.5 hours to complete); Commercial Remote Sensing Overview (CRS) Course (~ one hour to complete); Introduction to IMINT Course (~ 20 minutes to complete); Introduction to ELINT in Fusion Analysis Course (approximately three hours to complete); Mini Transmitter (MTX) Overview Course (~ 30 minutes to complete) and Compact Disk-Space Education Tool (CD Set) (~ two hours to complete).

The DCD Cadre Training Development Team will continue to solicit course feed-back and establish a continual feedback mechanism and interaction activities that take place between DCD Training Branch and the cadre members in the field, as well as other offices working on similar issues (such as FA40 PPO and ASCO).

If there are any questions regarding on-going Space Cadre Training Development efforts please contact Tom Coleman (thomas.coleman@smhc.army.mil) at (719) 554-4541, DSN 692.

Civilian News

House passes Family Leave Bill for federal employees

The House on June 19 passed a measure that would grant federal employees four weeks of paid leave for the birth or adoption of a child. The bill, the Federal Employees Paid Parental Leave Act (H.R. 5781), was approved by a 278 to 146 vote. The bill now goes to the Senate, where a companion measure, S. 3140, has already been introduced by Sen. Jim Webb, D-Va. The Congressional Budget Office estimates that the bill, if enacted, would cost \$850 million over the period of FY 2009 to FY 2013. The House bill, introduced by Rep. Carolyn Maloney, D-N.Y., works by converting to paid leave four of the 12 weeks of unpaid leave currently available to federal employees under the Family and Medical Leave Act (FMLA). The National Treasury Employees Union (NTEU) strongly supports the bill.

OPM testifies in support of Administration proposal on locality pay

An official from the U.S. Office of Personnel Management (OPM) testified this afternoon in support of a Bush Administration proposal to phase out existing Cost-of-Living Adjustment (COLA) payments and extend locality pay to Federal employees in "non-foreign" areas not part of the continental United States. Charles D. Grimes, III, deputy associate director for Performance and Pay Systems, testified before the House Subcommittee on the Federal Workforce, Postal Service, and the District of Columbia.

Currently, Grimes said, Federal employees in Hawaii, Alaska, Guam, Puerto Rico, the U.S. Virgin Islands, and other U.S. territories and possessions receive COLA payments, whereas workers in the continental United States receive locality pay based on their work location.

The COLA program currently used by these "non-foreign" areas was enacted in 1948 to address recruitment and retention issues resulting from higher costs of living in these regions. Unlike locality pay, which is based on calculations denoting the cost of labor in a given geographic area, COLA is based on cost-of-living.

Grimes said that while employees benefit in the short term because COLA payments are not subject to Federal income tax, they affect retirement in the long term because they are not considered base pay for retirement purposes, thereby affecting annuities.

Grimes said the Administration proposal, in contrast to other proposals by the Senate and the Federal Managers Association (FMA), would phase in locality pay in these areas over a seven-year period. During the phase-in period, decreases to COLA payments would be limited to 85 percent of the increase in locality pay in order to reduce the impact tax liability and retirement contributions may have on the take-home pay of Federal employees in these areas.

OPM favors a seven-year phase-in period to reduce the potential for creating a retirement incentive, and to reduce the financial impact on agency budgets caused by higher employer retirement contributions.

While the Administration, Senate, and FMA proposals differ slightly, Grimes said all three agree the current system will gradually erode equity in pay and retirement benefits for Federal employees who live and work in non-foreign areas compared to similarly-situated Federal employees in the continental U.S.

Bill offers help for military families with members deployed abroad

Lawmakers introduced a bill to ease some of the burdens placed on military service members' families when a family member is deployed abroad. Sens. Russ Feingold, Wis., Bob Casey, Pa., and Rep. Lynn Woolsey, Calif., authored the legislation, entitled the Military Family Support Act (MFSA). The bill would authorize federal employees who qualify as caregivers to use their saved leave time in a more flexible way than is currently permitted, allowing them time to better manage increased family needs resulting from loved ones serving overseas. This is the lawmakers' second effort at moving the bill, after its language was removed from other, larger bills. "This effort won't eliminate the incredible burden of having a loved one far away and possibly in harm's way," Feingold said. "But in return for the amazing sacrifice these Americans make for their country, we should be doing everything we can to alleviate the pressures of everyday life that their families face." The bill is supported by the National Military Family Association. For more go to: http://feingold.senate.gov/~feingold/releases/08_06/20080619.html.

Military News

Col. Kurt Story scheduled to return to SMDC/ARSTRAT with star on shoulders

Secretary of Defense Robert M. Gates announced on July 15 that the President nominated Army Competitive Category colonels for promotion to the rank of brigadier general. Among those selected is Col. Kurt S. Story, who is being assigned as the Deputy Commander (Operations) U.S. Army Space and Missile Defense Command/ Army Forces Strategic Command, Peterson Air Force Base, Colo. Col. Story previously served as the 1st Space Brigade commander and as the G-3, SMDC/ARSTRAT.

TRICARE beneficiaries saving cash online

TRICARE is actively informing beneficiaries of the savings they can experience with the TRICARE Mail Order Pharmacy (TMOP).

Letters explaining TMOP and its convenient, safe and cost-saving features are being sent to beneficiaries who receive regular maintenance prescriptions at network retail pharmacies. The letters tell beneficiaries how they can switch from retail pharmacies to TMOP and save up to 66 percent on their prescription drug costs. One easy call to the Member Choice Center (MCC) at 877-363-1433 can start home delivery.

Beneficiaries can also register for TMOP at www.express-scripts.com/TRICARE — without downloading or mailing forms. Once the registration process is complete, beneficiaries may use the MCC service online and request that TMOP obtain prescriptions from their provider. Go to the prescriptions tab at www.tricare.mil for more information about TMOP and other pharmacy programs.

New GI Bill - "Post 9/11 GI Bill" - signed into law

This new GI Bill is set to go into affect on Aug. 1, 2009. However, as with any new legislation, it could take some time for the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) to begin paying benefits.

Note: *Benefits will not be paid for any training or education programs completed before July 31, 2009.*

Eligibility for the New GI Bill:

If you have served a total of at least 90 consecutive days on active duty in the Armed Forces since Sept. 11, 2001, you're eligible. However, the amount of benefits you receive under this program are determined by the actual amount of accumulated post 9/11 service you have.

To be eligible for the full benefit, you must have three years of active duty service after 9/11 or have been discharged due to a service-connected disability. You qualify for 100% of the benefit if you have a total of at least 36 months on active duty in the Armed Forces. This includes service on active duty for entry level and skill training. You qualify for 100% of the benefit if you have a total of at least 30 continuous days on active duty in the Armed Forces; and after completion of service were discharged or released from active duty in the Armed Forces for a service-connected disability.

If you are an officer who graduated from a service academy or received ROTC scholarships, you also qualify for the new GI Bill benefits. However, your ROTC/Service Academy associated obligated active-duty service time does not count toward the three years necessary to qualify for the full benefits.

Read full story at <http://education.military.com/money-for-school/gi-bill/new-gi-bill-overview>.

VA reaches out to Vets with mortgage problems

The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) said it is providing a wide array of financial assistance programs to prevent veterans from defaulting on their home loans, even as the overall national number of foreclosures skyrockets. VA said data for the first four months of this year show that veteran foreclosures are down more than 50 percent compared to the same period in 2003. VA attributes this to prudent credit underwriting standards, its supplemental loan servicing program and VA financial loan counselors. About 2.3 million home loans still in effect were purchased through VA's home-loan guaranty program, which makes home loans more affordable for veterans, active-duty members and some surviving spouses by protecting lenders from loss if the borrower fails to repay the loan. To obtain help from a VA financial counselor, veterans can call 877-827-3702 or go to www.homeloans.va.gov. To see more, go to: <http://www1.va.gov/opa/pressrel/pressrelease.cfm?id=1514>.

Army celebrates anniversary of the All-Volunteer Force

On July 1, the Army celebrated the 35th anniversary of the establishment of the All-Volunteer Force (which included all military branches).

What has the Army done?

Launched by a ceremony in the Pentagon center courtyard, the Army is scheduled to celebrate throughout the month of July one of its greatest successes, where commitment to the country is demonstrated by those who volunteer to serve rather than requiring the government to institute a draft to fill its ranks within the services.

Though not a new idea in the annals of the Army, today's all-volunteer Army was born during the withdrawal of U.S. forces from South Vietnam in the summer of 1969. As U.S. involvement in Vietnam came

to an end, the Selective Service Act was allowed to expire. The last induction took place in June 1973 and the All-Volunteer Force began on July 1, 1973.

During the past 35 years, a first-rate force of committed Soldiers has shown in engagement after engagement the success of the all-volunteer Army — America's Army: The strength of the nation.

How does it affect the Army?

The Army can point with justifiable pride to an enlisted force imbued with the following characteristics:

- Better educated
- Higher aptitude
- More mature
- More motivated
- More diverse

The extraordinary success that is the all-volunteer Army rests with the Soldiers, Army Civilians, and Army Families who have stepped forward to protect and defend our nation.

How does this benefit the individual Soldier?

The Army — active, Guard and Reserve — are all volunteers in the world's pre-eminent land force. Nearly everyone who wears the uniform today is a product of the all-volunteer Army. Together, they carry on a more than 200-year tradition of the American experience.

Fundamental to the success of the All-Volunteer Force is the Army's commitment and ability to develop Soldiers' potential for success in life, and create for their Families a quality of life matching their committed service. Those who now serve,

are here because they want to be, and are highly qualified to do their job—defending our nation and our constitution.

Source: "STAND-TO!" July 1, 2008 issue.

"Volunteers want to serve ... Their choice to become members of the armed forces speaks volumes for the dedication and loyalty of our nation and its volunteers."

Bill Carr,
Deputy Undersecretary of
Defense for Military Personnel
and Policy



Photo by Sgt. Michael Cost, U.S. Army, 100th Missile Defense Brigade (GMD)

1st Sgt. William Jewell, Headquarters and Headquarters Battery, 100th Missile Defense Brigade (GMD), hands a sword to Lt. Gen. William G. Webster, deputy commander, U.S. Northern Command during the Army Birthday Celebration June 13. Webster, the eldest military member of U.S. Northern Command ceremoniously cut the birthday cake with Pvt. Katherine Jones of 2nd Space Company, 1st Space Battalion, U.S. Army Space and Missile Defense Command/Army Forces Strategic Command's youngest military member.

Army celebrates 233rd birthday on Air Force Base

PETERSON AIR FORCE BASE, Colo. — It could not have been a more perfect day for an outdoor gathering to commemorate the U.S. Army's 233rd Birthday, June 13. The celebratory event was co-hosted by U.S. Northern Command and U.S. Army Space and Missile Defense Command/Army Forces Strategic Command, both tenants of Peterson Air Force Base.

Remarks were given by Lt. Gen. William G. Webster representing NORTHCOM, and Col. Michael Yowell representing SMDC/ARSTRAT. Following the remarks, attendees

presented a robust oration of the Soldier's Creed.

A ceremonial cake cutting concluded the event with two cakes being hacked simultaneously by the traditional eldest and youngest members of the two organizations. Webster, the eldest military member of NORTHCOM ceremoniously cut the birthday cake with SMDC/ARSTRAT's youngest military member, Pvt. Katherine Jones of 2nd Space Company, 1st Space Battalion, while Yowell cut the second cake with SMDC/ARSTRAT's eldest member, Sgt. 1st Class Harold Bollinger and NORTHCOM's youngest member, Staff Sgt. Durell L. Brown.

SMDC/ARSTRAT Colorado Springs

One, two, three, "FORE!"

By 1st Lt. Angela Monday
Colorado Springs, Colo.

FORT CARSON, Colo. — On a beautiful, sunny morning, more than 140 members of U.S. Army Space and Missile Defense Command/Army Forces Strategic Command took a day to participate in the Annual SMDC/ARSTRAT Golf Tournament. The event, coordinated for the past three years by Denny Skiles, Chief of Force Protection, G3 Operations, was conducted at the Fort Carson Cheyenne Shadows Golf Course.

Shortly after the sun came up May 30, participants were anxiously lined up to register for the event. At 7:30 a.m., the first teams took off for the best ball competition which lasted until 3 PM. Participants came from various sections of the command and included 1st Space Brigade, Command Sgt. Maj. Kevin McGovern, and Todd Buckhouse, the newest addition of the G3 Operations team.

The 36 teams of four competing in the event had an additional opportunity to win some incredible prizes, such as a Dell Laptop Computer, \$5,000 in cash, a set of Hogan clubs or a 2008 Ford Mustang Convertible as part of the hole in one competition. Unfortunately, no one was able to accomplish the feat of a hole in one this year.

After the final teams finished their rounds, the hungry golfers enjoyed a well-deserved meal catered and served by Carrabas Italian Grill. The menu consisted of a fresh Caesar salad, parmesan bread, penne pasta in a marinara sauce, and Chicken Marsala, all topped off with refreshing iced-tea and lemonade.

Finally, the participants were presented with numerous raffle prizes such as gift certificates to local restaurants, golf clubs, koozies and even a nice, new golf bag. Top prizes were also awarded for the top three teams, and were personally awarded by Miss Colorado Galaxy, Amanda Kepple, who came out in support of the event. The winning foursome consisted of Will Peters, Tom Callaghan, Rick Tarasiewicz and Nick Tarasiewicz.

At the end of the day, participants were sun burnt and exhausted, but also well-fed and generally satisfied with the outing.



Photos by 1st Lt. Angela Monday

Tournament champions, Rick Tarasiewicz, Nick Tarasiewicz, Tom Callaghan and Will Peters from the Joint Functional Component Command-Integrated Missile Defense receive their trophies from Miss Colorado Galaxy, Amanda Kepple.



Gordon Baxendale of the G-3 Operations takes a practice swing at the 2008 U.S. Army Space and Missile Defense Command/Army Forces Strategic Command Annual Golf Tournament.



Lynn Kroeger from the G-3 Force Management Office lines up to send a drive down the fairway.



Miss Colorado Galaxy, Amanda Kepple gets a few pointers from Russ Robinson of the Battle Lab.



G-2's Ron K. Irons, a former tournament winner, shows off her form.



Ward Macaulay patiently looks on in the background as Will Clapp prepares to make his Par 3 shot.



Tim Lynch of G-3 Plans makes his shot while his teammate, CSM McGovern of 1st Space BDE watches patiently.

ngs celebrates Organization Day

Rocky Mountain fun!

By Sharon L. Hartman
Colorado Springs Public Affairs

FORT CARSON, Colo. — A few dark clouds in the sky were not going to deter members of U.S. Army Space and Missile Defense Command/Army Forces Strategic Command in Colorado Springs from enjoying their annual organization day at Turkey Creek, June 20. The shade of the clouds actually gave occasional moments of relief from the otherwise hot, sunny Friday. Also easing the heat were snow cones and for those brave enough, a dunk tank. With plenty of food and activities to go around, revelers ate and played games to the sounds of the U.S. Air Force Academy Band's Blue Steel. The event, put together by the G-6 was full of food, fun and prizes with the "hot" ticket of the day being three \$100 gas cards which were raffled off to several lucky winners.



Photo by Sharon L. Hartman

Several youngsters take in a shortened game of horseshoes at an empty horseshoe pit.



Photo by Sharon L. Hartman

A young boy plays in an empty horseshoe pit.



Photo by Sharon L. Hartman

A group of youngsters cool off from the hot day with snow cones.



Photo by Sharon L. Hartman

A toddler uses a straw to make sure he gets every last bit of his snow cone.



Photo by DJ Montoya

Derek Shoup of the legal office gives his three-year-old daughter Jessica a ride on his shoulders.



Photo by DJ Montoya

Lt. Col. Patrick Kerr throws batting practice for his son Peter, age 7.



Photo by DJ Montoya

My Three Sons: Lt. Col. Patrick Lozier and his sons, from left to right, Jordanis (15), Thoemaas (13) and Mattheos (14), enjoy a delicious assortment of items from the grill.



Photo by Michael Kahl

Food was in good supply at the U.S. Army Space and Missile Defense Command/Army Forces Strategic Command Organization Day, June 20 at Turkey Creek Recreation Area on Fort Carson, Colo.

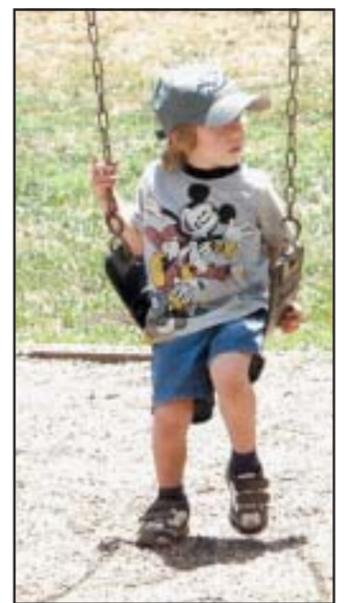


Photo by Michael Kahl

A young boy pulls himself up to go for a swing.

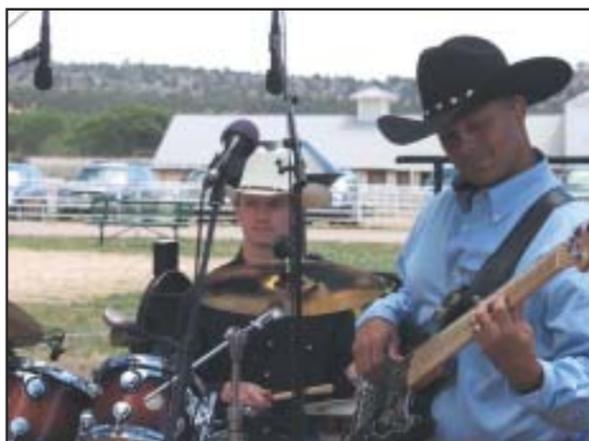


Photo by DJ Montoya

The U.S. Air Force Academy's Blue Steel Band entertained picnickers with a variety of musical styles at the 2008 SMDC/ARSTRAT Organization Day at Turkey Creek, June 20.

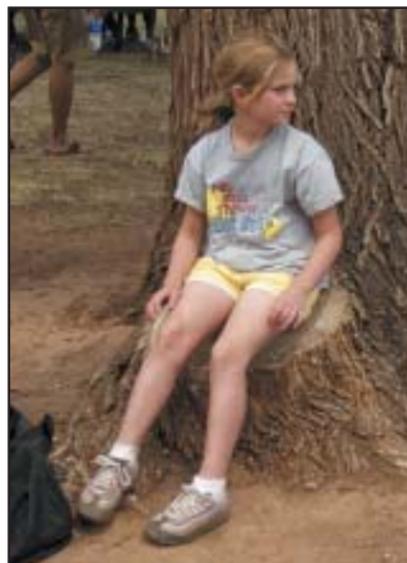


Photo by Sharon L. Hartman

Nine-year-old Noelle Kerr, daughter of 53rd Signal Battalion Commander, Lt. Col. Patrick Kerr takes a break on a tree.



Photo by DJ Montoya

Derek Shoup of the legal office gives his three-year-old daughter Jessica a ride on his shoulders.

Charlie Company quiet pride; hard earned reward

By Spc. Nathaniel Housley
Charlie Company
53rd Signal Battalion

LANDSTUHL, Germany — In an emptied aircraft hangar, friends and family of Charlie Company, 53rd Signal Battalion watched as 26 Soldiers stood at attention before Battalion Commander Lt. Col. Scott Geiger, April 3. There, in a ceremony chronicled by Stars and Stripes, Geiger individually pinned each Soldier, ranging from private first class to staff sergeant, with the Air Force Basic Space Badge.

The Air Force Basic Space Badge is reserved for servicemen who have completed an approved space course and have served for more than 12 months in a space-cadre position. For the Soldiers of Charlie Company, this meant four months of the Satellite Network Coordinator course, followed by at least 12 months of 12-hour shifts filled with the wary, watchful vigil that ensures that America's Soldiers, Airmen, Sailors and Marines throughout the world have the highest quality

satellite communications possible. In his remarks, Geiger encouraged the assembled Soldiers to, when asked about the Space Badge, tell of the long hours of study and effort that it represents.

Soldiers of Charlie Company have had many opportunities to share about the effort needed, as they are the only enlisted servicemen in all of Europe to wear the Space Badge. Sgt. Paul Rumph said, "It's fun getting all the questions from passersby in the Landstuhl hospital," while Spc. Jay Hanna considered the exclusivity a point of pride. That quiet pride was evident on all the Soldiers who received the badge, yet a startling humility could be seen as well. As much as they appreciated the recognition, they knew that as soon as the ceremony ended, it was time to return to the mission, as Rudyard Kipling put it, "to take the buffet and cushion the shock" from satellite communications.

"It's nice to see recognition for the effort involved to maintain the satellite networks," Spc. Matthew Heard

said, a Soldier aspiring to earn the badge. "This is not an easy job. It involves constantly giving Soldiers downrange what they need when they need it. I want that badge; so I work even harder because I know that I am following in the great footsteps of those who have already earned it."



Photo by Staff Sgt. Christopher Miller

53rd Signal Battalion Commander Lt. Col. Scott Geiger pins the Air Force Basic Space Badge on Soldiers of Charlie Company, 53rd Signal Battalion who have earned the right to wear the badge. The Soldiers of Charlie Company are the only enlisted servicemen and women in all of Europe authorized to wear the exclusive medal.

New leadership takes reins at 49th MD Bn (GMD)

By Maj. Laura D. Kenney, Public Affairs
Colorado Springs, Colo.

FORT GREELY, Alaska – An old tradition ushered in the winds of change Army style as incoming commander, Lt. Col. Steve Carroll, accepted the battalion colors from his brigade commander, Col. Michael Yowell, during a change of command ceremony held June 24 here.

The outgoing commander of the 49th Missile Defense Battalion (Ground-based Midcourse Defense), Lt. Col. Edward Hildreth, relinquished command as he prepared to attend the Army War College.

The ceremony which would, preferably and typically, take place framed against the stark beauty of the Alaska Mountain Range serving as a backdrop for this remote post, was moved inside to the post gymnasium due to inclement weather.

Hildreth in his farewell reflected on his past 26 months as commander of a battalion charged with defending the nation against ballistic missile attack.

"I have so many great memories of these past two years; reenlistments at the top of Donnelly Dome, serving with Soldiers who are not just among the best, but *are* the best, and the continuing sense of pride in our mission," he said.

Yowell, commander of the 100th Missile Defense Brigade (Ground-based Midcourse Defense) (the battalion's higher headquarters), located in Colorado Springs, Colo., said that he was well pleased with Hildreth's tenure in leadership, and felt sure that the flag had been passed to the right person.

"Lt. Col. Hildreth met the ultimate command challenge, demonstrating the leadership, integrity, good judgment and loyalty to country necessary to endure the

rigors of command," Yowell said, adding, "Lt. Col. Carroll, who has a reputation as a caring and compassionate leader, as well as a tactically proficient one, will continue the mission of defending the homeland."

Carroll, who came to the command following stints at the National Guard Bureau in Virginia, and at Northern Command in Colorado, took the podium last, signifying that it was now his for the duration of his command. "It's great to finally be here," he said. "From the first moment of arrival, after 15 days in a minivan with two dogs and two kids, my wife was very happy to get here.

"We are facing the most unique challenges and the greatest possible responsibility. Every night America goes to sleep safe, and they wake up safe, because of the Soldiers in this battalion.

"It will be an honor to lead them."

1st Space Brigade sounds the alarm; training at Ft. Carson



Volunteer Staff Sgt. Christopher Knoth with Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 1st Space Brigade, demonstrates how to apply a blackening yet life-saving skin decontaminate from a M291 kit during Chemical, Biological, Radiological, and Nuclear training conducted by the brigade at Fort Carson's Range 72, June 7.



Sgt. Amber English from Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 1st Space Brigade, provides training to brigade Soldiers on the correct operation and function of an M22 Chemical Agent Alarm during a Chemical, Biological, Radiological, and Nuclear Training session at Fort Carson's Range 72.



Soldiers from the 1st Space Brigade exit the proper way from a gas chamber at Fort Carson's Range 72, signaling the completion of their mandatory Chemical, Biological, Radiological and Nuclear training.

American Korean War POW visits SMDC/ARSTRAT headquarters to celebrate Army's 233rd birthday

By Joshua Voight
Public Affairs

REDSTONE ARSENAL, Ala. – Soldiers, family members and civilian employees of the U.S. Army Space and Missile Defense Command/Army Forces Strategic Command had the privilege of meeting a true American hero recently.

Residents of Tarrant, Ala., Newton Duke, formerly a Corporal in the U.S. Army, and his wife Carolyn came to Huntsville to take part in the Army's 233rd Birthday festivities here on June 13.

Duke is veteran of the Korean War and a Purple Heart recipient. He described to the crowd of guests how before volunteering to serve in the Korean War, he endured a rough childhood. "We were poor, real poor," said Duke. "I only had one pair of clothes so when I got my uniform that made the second pair! It was exciting."

Once he landed in Korea, he took part in some of the most intense fighting seen in the Korean War, he said. His unit not only braved gunfire but endured brutally cold weather conditions. "It's cold when all you have on is fatigues and it's 50 [Fahrenheit] below" said Duke.

In May of 1953, Duke's unit ran out of ammunition and was forced to surrender to Chinese soldiers. He and the other men became a Chinese Prisoner of War (POW) for the next 27 months of his life. Duke did not forget his fellow men during this time, he said, as he was able to facilitate the release of 18 of his comrades to the front lines. The men were going to be executed due to their



Photo by Diane Schumacher

Former Korean War American prisoner of war, Newton Duke and his wife, Carolyn, visit June 13 at headquarters U.S. Army Space and Missile Defense Command/Army Forces Strategic Command with Lt. Gen. Kevin T. Campbell, commanding general and his wife Kathy before the Army birthday festivities begin.

debilitating injuries, Duke said, but he pleaded with the Chinese to allow him to move the men himself. The Chinese acquiesced and Duke moved the men but many died he said.

Besides being subjected to his imprisonment, Duke was wounded seven times. When asked how he was able to carry on through his imprisonment, he said what encouraged him was "willpower and the thought of going home."

Duke did finally return home in 1955. Upon his return to the United States, as he stepped off the airplane he was greeted by relieved relatives and a woman he had never met but who shortly thereafter became his wife.

Carolyn Helms had seen a picture of Duke sitting in the living room of his uncle's home and asked who it was. Duke's

uncle informed her that the man in the photo was his nephew who was a POW. Helms asked for a way to contact him. She began writing Duke in 1951 and continued writing to him until his release in 1953. Upon his return Duke's uncle took him to meet Carolyn. Only 10 months later, they were married.

Newton Duke's battle wounds earned him deserved combat honors, the Purple Heart. However, he did not receive the award during recuperation nor upon discharge; he didn't receive the award until 2003. Even then there was no formal recognition or presentation, no, the award was simply mailed to his home.

But that all changed due to the actions of SMDC/ARSTRAT servicemember Maj. George Cline. Cline, who is an

electronic warfare planner in Information Operations, attends the same church as Duke. He heard about Duke's experience in Korea and the informal manner in which he received his Purple Heart.

Cline believed Duke deserved more than receiving the Purple Heart award in the mail and searched for options of a more formal presentation.

"Gardendale First Baptist Church recognized all Veterans in the church last Veteran's Day and Mrs. Duke approached us and asked if we could present him his Purple Heart during that ceremony. Due to the award being a Presidential medal, we planned an event specific for him," stated Cline.

Cline coordinated a formal presentation of Duke's Purple Heart on June 7, 2008. Lt. Gen. Kevin T. Campbell, commanding general of SMDC/ARSTRAT, presented the award in a ceremony held at Gardendale First Baptist Church with a crowd that included Duke's proud family members, including Duke's grandson who had just returned from a tour of duty in Afghanistan.

The presentation meant a great deal to Duke. "It warmed my heart," he said.

Less than a week later, during his speech at the SMDC/ARSTRAT Army Birthday celebration, Duke expressed how much the Army and his country meant to him.

In conclusion and in reference to his time in battle, with tears brimming his eyes, Duke stated, "I would do it all again. I would. I love the Army and I love this country. God bless America!"

AFAP

continued from page 1

serving as observers throughout the conference.

During the out brief, workgroup 1 spokesperson, Pfc. Josh Reddit gave a personal account of why his group chose Discount for Substandard Privatized Military Housing as one of their issues.

"I'm an E-3 who lives next door to a staff sergeant on Fort Detrick," said Reddit. "I pay \$1,233 a month but the staff sergeant next to me pays \$1,686 a month for the exact same unit. This staff sergeant works everyday with another staff sergeant (who lives) on the other side of post in the new housing. They both pay \$1,686 a month, but that other staff sergeant on the other side of post has the benefits of a garage, carpet, much larger bedrooms and individually controlled heating and air."

"There's really no way to put this sir, other than it's just not fair. Some Soldiers are paying so much more for the same and some Soldiers are paying the same for so much less."

Responding to the issues presented, Campbell told the delegates, "I told the

group last year, I don't make any promises because I don't control it ultimately, but I do promise you that we will tackle the issue, and we will push it until we get a satisfactory answer from the right level of command that tells us why."

At the end of the outbrief, delegates voted on their top three issues to be sent to the Department of the Army AFAP Conference later this year. In first place was Discount for Substandard Privatized Military Housing, with Housing Waiting List Procedures for Inbound Soldiers and Medical Staffing Model for Military Treatment Facilities tying for second. Dislocation Allowance (DLA) for all Soldiers, and Federal Employee Retirement System (FERS) Sick Leave Conversion followed respectively.

Local issues also brought up to the SMDC/ARSTRAT command team included: Active Guard Reserve (AGR) Lifecycle Management in the 100th Missile Defense Brigade; Peterson Air Force Base Child Care; inadequate Inter-Service Support; absence of a DeCA Facility on Kwajalein Atoll (USAKA); and "Reach the SMDC/ARSTRAT Family" Campaign.

In its 25 years, AFAP has led the way in improving the quality of life for Army Families. To attest to this, Butler recounted a conversation she overheard where a delegate was being met with resistance on an issue, and was told they could not go in a certain direction with their recommended solution. The delegates reply, "We can go there; that is the power of AFAP!"



Photo by Sharon L. Hartman

Delegates read over issues during the 2008 U.S. Army Space and Missile Defense Command/Army Forces Strategic Command Army Family Action Plan Conference.

SMDC/ARSTRAT supports 263rd AAMDC Soldiers with unique blend of modeling, simulation for exercise

By Joshua Voight
SMDC/ARSTRAT Public Affairs

REDSTONE ARSENAL, Ala. – The Army Space and Missile Defense Command/Army Forces Strategic Command (SMDC/ARSTRAT) Future Warfare Center provided support to the 263rd Army Air Missile Defense Command (AAMDC) National Guard Unit during an exercise at the Air Force National Guard base in Gulfport, Miss. May 12-26. The exercise, dubbed, “America’s Shield,” offered Soldiers a unique blend of live situations and scenarios via modeling and simulation.

One of the duties of the 263rd is working in conjunction with the North American Aerospace Defense Command (NORAD) for missions throughout the United States.

“America’s Shield” is one of those missions. The 263rd deployed their team to Gulf Port in a joint effort between the Army and Air Force National Guard.

Charlie Wilcox, project manager for the SMDC/ARSTRAT Simulation Center, stated, “America’s Shield’ is with Air Force NORTH with the 1st Air Force at Tyndall Air Force Base, Fla. For ‘America’s Shield,’ it is a full NORAD experiment. During October of this year we are going to have a Command and Control capability. Before units are deployed into an actual situation they have a certification exercise. For two days they are trained and on the third day they run the certification against the team. We will try to certify four teams at that time.”

The Soldiers were able to continue their training



Photo courtesy of 263rd AAMDC

Soldiers from the 263rd AAMDC take part in an exercise using modeling and simulation support with an Avenger short-range missile defense system on location at Gulf Port, Miss.

exercises even when they were not using real field equipment. The SMDC/ARSTRAT Simulation Center stepped in to simulate the presence of the real equipment but also for a simulation scenario as well.

“We supported them with some of the simulation they use, while they are doing activities with the real systems,” Wilcox said. “When they have down time and there is no event we can actually simulate those systems as if there were a real event going on so they can continue their training.”

As in past exercises, Wilcox added that the Sim Center strived to find windows of opportunity in best supporting the success of this exercise.

“The 263rd and SMDC/ARSTRAT have been working together for a long time to

develop this capability,” he said. In reality, the way it operates normally is that we all do this from home station and that every unit participates where they normally stay. This was one of the unique events where the one time we deploy with them was because they are off network and we can’t get to them any other way,” Wilcox said.

“America’s Shield” is just one of three training exercises that the 263rd and SMDC/ARSTRAT work together on annually.

The second exercise — dubbed “The Virtual Flag” is an Air Force exercise coordinated with the Distributed Mission Operations (DMO) Center at Kirtland Air Force Base, N.M. That is a NORAD exercise. The last of the four days of exercises will become what is called an “America’s Shield” Wilcox said.

“America’s Shield” brings together between 300-400 personnel, but Distributed Mission Operations — Air Defense Artillery (DMO-ADA) now allows troops to train from their home base. Soldiers no longer have to travel offsite for their training. [In 2007— 2008 more than 1,000 soldiers received DMO training.]

One of the biggest advantages of the new training ability stems from the savings involved according to Donovan Etheridge.

Etheridge, program manager for DMO-ADA, said, “It’s a tremendous savings because these units no longer have to deploy to a central location to conduct operations. They can now do this (training) from their home-base facility.” He estimated \$6.5 million in savings for the Joint Forces thanks to the new training ability.

Etheridge spoke about what DMO-ADA means to the war

fighter in the near future.

“This infrastructure is going to be the foundation so this becomes DMO-ADA phase two,” said Etheridge. Currently we are going to use it to sustain readiness for the war fighter who is defending the national capital region.” Homeland Defense units currently utilize DMO-ADA to sustain readiness.

Maj. Gen. Herbert L. Newton, commanding general of the 263rd AAMDC National Guard Unit endorsed the positive aspects of the exercise to enable Soldiers to become quicker at accomplishing their mission more efficiently.

“We can maximize training time in the Guard on the weekends,” he said. “It allows us to train any unit, at anytime, in any phase.”

Newton also stressed the importance of the involvement of SMDC/ARSTRAT. “We couldn’t do it without them. They sacrificed their time like everybody else,” he said.

Lt. Col. Les White’s (commander of the 204th Air Defense Artillery) unit in Newton, Miss. was the first to receive the new DMO training.

“Our crews were a day ahead,” said White. He also said the DMO training allowed them to complete their “Table 5 and Table 8 training in nine hours, which is a record.”

Lt. Col. Tim Sellers, deputy G6 for the 263rd AAMDC National Guard Unit, described the relationship SMDC/ARSTRAT has with the military.

“It’s a symbiotic relationship,” he said. “We could not do our mission without Space and Missile Defense Command introducing new technologies to the war fighter and helping integrate them. Without SMDC/ARSTRAT we simply would not be able to train the troops the way we need to,” Sellers said.

SMDC/ARSTRAT supports SDVOSB

Command receives award ...

REDSTONE ARSENAL, Ala. – During the 5th Annual National Veterans Conference in Las Vegas, Nev. July 8 the Center for Veterans Enterprise recognized U.S. Army Space and Missile Defense Command/Army Forces Strategic Command with an award for the Command’s support to Service-Disabled Veteran-Owned Small Businesses.

During FY 07 SMDC/ARSTRAT issued more than \$84 million (3.92 percent) in contracts to SDVOSBs, one of the largest amounts of any single contracting activity in the Army and more than the other recognized Services combined. [The National SDVOSB goal is 3 percent.]

Christine Ryan, associate director for Office of Small Business Programs received the award on behalf of SMDC/ARSTRAT. The award was presented by Tracey Pinson, director of Small Business Programs, Department of the Army and Scott Denniston, director of Small Business for CVE. [The CVE is a consortium of federal agencies lead by the Veterans Administration.] The award is on display in the Small Business Office here.

Command Message booklet coming soon to you

Be on the lookout for Lt. Gen. Kevin T. Campbell’s vision and guiding principles to help you accomplish your mission!

Space Soldiers hone close combat skills

By DJ Montoya
1st Space Brigade

PETERSON AIR FORCE BASE, Colo. – What looks like a scene of pandemonium amongst a group of rambunctious kids on the floor is actually Space Soldiers grappling with each other trying to be the first to take off one another's sock. Is there method to this madness? You bet, and a serious one at that.

This brief exercise was part of the Army's Combatives course Skill Level 1 being conducted recently here at U.S. Army Space and Missile Defense Command/Army Forces Strategic Command's Operational Headquarters, Building 3 on Peterson Air Force Base.

Although this type of training is nothing new to Space Soldiers it is the first class being conducted onsite as opposed to receiving the training traditionally conducted at Fort Carson some 13 miles down the road, according to Combatives trainer Staff Sgt. Aaron A. Donaldson of the 1st Space Battalion.

"SMDC/ARSTRAT Soldiers have been going to Carson to get this type of required training for three years now," said Donaldson.

Feeling the need for the command to have a program of its own onsite, Donaldson started bringing it closer to home – namely inside the motor pool bay area of Building 3.

"We saved the unit a lot of money just because the Special Events Center on Fort Carson had these special mats designed for the training (\$18,000 worth) rolled up for three years," Donaldson said. "And they were not using them. So they went from their property books to ours."

With the main expense out of the way Donaldson got the battalion to purchase about \$1,000 of equipment like gloves, mouthpieces, and hand wraps. This equipment will not just be utilized for the Skill Level 1 courses but for the Level 2 course in the future and to help prepare Soldiers that will eventually attend Level 3 and 4 courses.

This inaugural class consisted of four SMDC/ARSTRAT Soldiers and one from Fort Carson: Staff Sgt. Charles Thigpen, Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 1st Space Brigade; Sgt. Bernadette Rowilson, 2nd Space Company, 1st Space Battalion; Spc. Christian Riley, HHC, 53rd Signal Battalion; Pfc. Kyle Behrens, HHC, 53rd Signal Battalion and Spc Preston McCauley, HHC, 2-12th Infantry Battalion, Fort Carson.

What is the course all about and why is it so important?

"Basically it is the Army's way of (handling) hand-to-hand combat situation," said Donaldson. "The warrior ethos is a big part of Combatives and we stress the Soldiers Creed and Ethos on Soldiers but Combatives is just one part of being a Warrior. The Army Combatives School in Fort Benning, Ga., says the defining characteristic of a Warrior is the willingness to get close with the enemy."

"A lot of people don't know that General George W. Casey, Jr., Chief of Staff of the United States Army put out that Commanders will develop a Combatives program for their units. Casey said he wants Soldiers to experience the realisms of combat before they are in a combat situation."

Donaldson pointed to the fact that even Space Soldiers need this type of training when being deployed in-theater and even in those places which are friendly toward a U.S. presence.

"I'm sure there are still a lot of guys out there who don't like us," he said. "When I was in Qatar



Photo by DJ Montoya

Sgt. Bernadette Rowilson, 1st Space Battalion, performs a choke hold on Spc. Christian Riley from the 53rd Signal Battalion during Day 2 of hand to hand combat training conducted in Building 3.

one of the first things they told me was that even Al Qaeda takes R&R and they come to places like this to relax or get away from the war."

To prepare for such situations the Army provides a Combatives Train the Trainer – Skill level 1, 40-hour one week course. "Level 1 teaches the basics of what Combatives is all about. It starts with ground fighting. Roughly 90 percent, or nine out of every ten fights, end up on the ground. You have an advantage if you know what to do once you are there on the ground. If two people are fighting and one wants it to go to the ground the fight will probably go to the ground."

Brazilian Jujitsu is the basis of modern Army Combatives. A big part of it is teaching the students how to close the distance with the enemy and have confidence to engage the enemy.

On day one students are taught the dominate body positions on the ground and how to get out of other people's dominate body positions. Day two covers the use of chokes and arm bars.

"Now they have some offense to submit to their enemy. By the end of day two three of the students are pretty much fighting all day — getting the hands-on experience with a fully resistive opponent."

The final day has students involved in the punch or clench drills.

"Now that we've taught them all this stuff on the ground how do they get them there? So we teach them 'OK you start here and you've got to close the distance with that enemy. And you have got to take them down.'"

Having this program here in the Peterson Air Force Base SMDC/ARSTRAT building is a dream come true for Donaldson.

"At first I was just doing it for the 1st Space Battalion. This is the first class being conducted here at Operational Headquarters and the first class where I'm taking students from the 1st Space Brigade and the 53rd Signal Battalion."

Donaldson said the next class at SMDC/ARSTRAT will be open to the 100th Missile Defense Brigade (GMD). "We've opened it up to the Reservists in the G-Staff here. And eventually I want to open it up to the Air Force," he said.

Although the first class here at SMDC/ARSTRAT was a success Donaldson would have liked it to have been larger.

"Originally there were about 12 students slated for the course," said Donaldson. "At the last minute people for some reason or another were unable to attend. So then we ended up with seven on Monday morning and we ended up with five on graduation day. Normally, no matter how many people I have in class we usually lose about two due to prior injuries or something like that."

The average size of the class at Carson is about 36 participants.

"Ours are not going to get that big and I don't want them to," Donaldson said. "Actually I like smaller classes about 12 students because they pick it up faster, they pay attention more."

Donaldson, who at the beginning of this first course at Building 3 was a Combatives Train the Trainer – Skill Level 3, has been on leave the entire month of June to attend Skill Level 4 (the highest level) at Fort Benning, Ga. Upon completion he will be able to teach Skill Level 1 and 2 courses.

As for the Space Soldiers who took this historic first class there was nothing but praise.

Rowilson, a member of an Army Space Support Team, and the only female in this class said, "The instructors were encouraging, the classmates were accepting, and I gained confidence because of that."

In the five days of instruction Rowilson learned that size, gender and age are not important.

"It's really just your conviction, your confidence and muscle memory as far as the skill and technique that surprised me," she said.

And as for having the instruction here onsite she stated, "Because they are catering to us I feel more obligated and honored. If I had to go to Carson it would become like – yeah, OK, fulfill your obligation. But here I feel like they really are looking out for us and because of that I want to reciprocate."

Behrens seemed to sum the training best by saying, "I thought the course was very good. And I think it helps our unit operationally. You will always have weapons but this is a second defense, so until your battle buddy shows up with a weapon the only thing you have is your hands."

"... The instructors were encouraging, the classmates were accepting, and I gained confidence because of that ..."

-- Sgt. Bernadette Rowilson



Photo courtesy Jeff Nash, Assistant Director/Curator, Peterson Air and Space Museum

Soldiers from 1st Space Company, 1st Space Battalion participate in the Adopt-a-Missile workday at the Peterson Air and Space Museum June 11. The Soldiers, who participated in the event for the first time, gave a much needed cleaning to the museum's Nike Ajax surface to air missile display. The Nike Ajax was the U.S. Army's first operational guided surface-to-air missile, and saw Cold War service defending U.S. cities from air attack from 1954 to 1963. The museum has two other Army surface to air missiles on display, a HAWK system and a Nike Hercules.

Soldiers volunteer to clean museum's assets

By Sgt. Jonathan Aultman
1st Space Company
1st Space Battalion

PETERSON AIR FORCE BASE, Colo. — Soldiers and Noncommissioned Officers of 1st Space Company (Theater Missile Warning), 1st Space Battalion received a special honor recently, but it was unlike any they had received before. The honor was the opportunity to perform volunteer work on a piece of Air Defense history at the Peterson Air and Space Museum, June 11. The members of 1st Space Company volunteered for the museum's "Adopt-a-Plane/Missile" program and spent a day cleaning the museum's Nike Ajax Missile, a symbol of the freedom and constant vigilance that is represented by our military today.

The Nike Ajax missile proved a great asset to the Air Defense community and the United States Army. The Nike Ajax was the world's first operational surface-to-air guided missile system. The military realized that the only way to

provide air superiority was through the surface to air missile. These missiles were first fired in 1946. By The primary mission of this weapon system was to give coverage to personnel against fast high flying bombers. In order to do this, the people at Western Electric used a Bell liquid fueled rocket motor and the flight path was controlled by the four small fins on the nose of the weapon system. In 1958 there were nearly 200 Nike Ajax sites in the United States, but soon the first nuclear-armed Mobile Intercept Missile known as the Nike Hercules began replacing the Nike Ajax. By 1963 the last Nike Ajax missile was deactivated in the United States. The Nike Ajax continued to serve with U.S. overseas and friendly forces for many more years. In total, more than 16,000 missiles were built.

Although the Nike Ajax was retired, it remains an important piece of Air Defense history and is displayed proudly at the Peterson Air and Space Museum. The honor of keeping and caring for it is a responsibility that is approached with great pride by the members of the 1st Space Company.

Bravo Company learns new way to "Control the High Ground"

By Sgt. Matt Davidson
Unit Reporter, Bravo Company
53rd Signal Battalion

FORT MEADE, Md. — Performing control operations on DSCS III satellites requires a highly technical skill set, willingness to retain new information, and expedient mastery of new techniques and procedures. Recently, several Soldiers from Bravo Company, 53rd Signal Battalion took a major leap forward in adding a critical area of satellite control operations to their repertoire: the Replacement Satellite Configuration Control Element (RSCCE).

During the months of April and May, Josh Bonesz of ITT Industries provided four weeks of in-depth instruction and hands-on practical exercises. The RSCCE is a subsystem vital to the 53rd Signal Battalion's mission. It enables operators to monitor and control the satellite's telemetry,

command crucial satellite processing, and ultimately ensure the DSCS III payload is able to reach its users at all times. Everything that Bravo Company's Wideband Satellite Operations Center (WSOC) does ultimately, in one way or another, depends on some function provided by the RSCCE.

Bonesz's course was a gradual immersion into the progressively complex RSCCE curriculum. It walked an optimal middle course between informative lecture and learning by doing. Each successive lesson built upon the student-Soldiers' existing blocks of knowledge.

The course focused on important characteristics of a DSCS III satellite, operational equipment paths, and extensive coverage of the RSCCE's hardware and software interfaces.

The Black Dragon warriors received hands-on training

initializing the subsystem's equipment and even sent actual commands to a real-world communications vehicle.

Later aspects of the curriculum entailed executing Command Pass Plans and resolving anomalies, to include anything from a hardware component failure to hostile space weather conditions.

Pfc. Matthew Eckard of Bravo Company said, "I took a lot away from the RSCCE course. It's pretty overwhelming, actually. It's like learning a totally new job."

Controlling and commanding the DSCS III satellite's payload and its many associated hardware systems, casually referred to as 'manning the pit', is essential to servicing any military communication network's end users: the War fighter on the ground.

Be it a training exercise in Nevada or a real-world mission comprising part of Operation Iraqi Freedom, satellite

controllers such as Bravo's Black Dragons make supporting the Warfighters of all branches of service possible.

Although four weeks is not nearly enough time to grasp everything the Communications Payload Controller, it is the first and most important step towards doing so, and much more firsthand training lies ahead for the eight Black Dragons.

The ability to learn and adapt to ever-expanding mission requirements and capabilities is but one more reason why Bravo Company continues to rise, in the parlance of the company's slogan, above the rest.

DSCS III satellite



Photo courtesy of AF.mil

SMDC/ARSTRAT officer completes 4th combat tour, returns home safely



Photos by Joshua Voight

Maj. Craig Holton receives 3-star letter and Commander's Coin on behalf of Lt. Gen. Kevin T. Campbell, commanding general, U.S. Army Space and Missile Defense Command/Army Forces Strategic Command from Col. John C. Hamilton, chief of staff for the Command.



Sandy Holton, wife of Maj. Craig Holton reads the Certificate of Appreciation she has received for her generous services to the Command and community during her husband's deployment time. Looking on with pride at their mother are Reed, 8, Clarissa, 20 and Melanie, 16. Each child also received a certificate of appreciation for their sacrifices made and support given to their father during his deployment to Operation Iraqi Freedom.

By Joshua Voight
Redstone Arsenal Public Affairs

REDSTONE ARSENAL, Ala. - Maj. Craig Holton, a U.S. Army Space and Missile Defense Command/Army Forces Strategic Command officer returned here from a year long deployment to Iraq on July 6, 2008. He was received with a welcome-back ceremony and refreshments at SMDC/ARSTRAT headquarters on July 10, 2008.

Holton's tour in Iraq was the fourth combat deployment of his military

career. Holton has 19 years of service in the United States Army. He worked with the Multinational Forces for Iraq's to stand-up during his tour there.

Col. John C. Hamilton, chief of staff, presented Holton with a framed 3-star letter of Appreciation and Commander's Coin in honor of his services.

"They [Army servicemembers] go out there with little fanfare," said Hamilton. "The CG (Lt. Gen. Kevin T. Campbell) wants us to recognize them when they leave and when they return."

Holton's family was honored as well for

their sacrifice of living without husband and father for the year.

Hamilton presented certificates of appreciation to Holton's wife, Sandy, daughters Clarissa, 20; Melanie, 16, and son Reed, age 8. Mrs. Holton was also recognized for serving as a Family Readiness Group representative during the time of her husband's deployment. "Thanks to you as an American family," Hamilton said to the Holton Family as they gathered in front of SMDC/ARSTRAT Soldiers and civilian employees.

HHC takes another valuable OPD/NCOPD trip

REDSTONE ARSENAL, Ala. - July 9th found the members of SMDC/ARSTRAT's HHC here visiting MSIC (Missile and Space Intelligence Center), receiving briefs and getting non-combat up close and personal views of SCUDs and other enemy short-range missiles and rockets stored in an undisclosed area.

Maj. Pamela Tingle, commander of HHC said members of the company learned that the MSIC facility is very secure as there was much clearance processing to go through just to get inside the

building to receive the briefings.

During the briefings HHC members learned that SMDC/ARSTRAT G-2 and G-3 Soldiers obtain missile related information from MSIC to assist the leadership in the decision-making process regarding enemy short range missiles.

HHC members also learned that the reports by media on the Iranian claims of test firing nine Shahab-3 missiles between July 9 and 10 are the type of activities MSIC watches for and analyzes. [Tehran claimed they had test-launched Shahab-3

missiles, these are new versions of old missiles. Each is to have a range of 1,250 miles and is to be armed with a 1-ton conventional warhead. That would put Israel, Turkey, the Arabian peninsula, Afghanistan and Pakistan all within striking distance of Tehran.]



Photo courtesy of MSIC

Members of SMDC/ARSTRAT Headquarters and Headquarters Company pose for the camera in front of a SCUD B (short range ballistic missile system from the Russians) A.K.A "Brutus."

Time again for Space Camp in Alabama

By Joshua Voight
Redstone Arsenal, Public Affairs

HUNTSVILLE, Ala. – During the week of June 30-July 4, 16 children attended Space Camp on scholarship provided by the Air, Space, and Missile Defense Association to further expand their knowledge of importance of science in space. The children, whose families are located at various Space and Missile Defense Command/Army Forces Strategic Command (SMDC/ARSTRAT) and United States Strategic Command (USSTRATCOM) locations, entered the ASMDA scholarship competition for the chance to attend Space Camp for free.

The ASMDA Space Camp Scholarship committee reviewed applications and selected winners based on numerous factors, including a handwritten essay and academic performance. The scholarships are open to any child age 9-11 whose parent or parents are currently assigned to SMDC/ARSTRAT, USSTRATCOM, the Missiles and Space Program Executive Office, Missile Systems Intelligence Center, and Missile Defense Agency.

This year's winners include children from Alabama, Alaska, Colorado, Nebraska, Korea, and Kwajalein Atoll (Marshall Islands) in the Pacific Ocean.

The scholarship program allows the children a special chance to attend Space Camp free of charge. Space Camp tuition otherwise costs \$900 for 6 days and \$1,100

for 8 days. This savings makes the trip a once in a lifetime opportunity for many of the scholarship winners.

On July, 2 the children had a great day of Space Camp activities and a special meet-and-greet luncheon with Lt. Gen. Kevin T. Campbell, commanding general of SMDC/ARSTRAT, Huntsville Mayor Loretta Spencer, SMDC/ARSTRAT VIPs and ASMDA VIPs.

Campbell visited the Space and Rocket Center's Davidson Center, for a tour before spending time with the group of scholarship recipients. He and the Mayor ate lunch with the Space campers at their special luncheon. He also gave a few brief words of wisdom to the children as they finished up their meal.

Campbell imparted advice to the young boys and girls on how they might one day become astronauts themselves and possibly be candidates to walk on the moon. His three main points of advice were to "stay in school, take care of your body, and never give up!"

Many of the campers had different ideas about what they would like to one day accomplish in space. Tarique Burke, 10, of Huntsville, Ala. said he wants "to be the first person to play basketball on the moon." Stephanie Earnest, 11, from Colorado Springs, Colo. said that after spending time at Space Camp, she "wants to be an astronaut now."

Amon Butler, 10, who currently lives in Korea, said he believed it was important for

people to "see how Mars really is, rather than what is seen on television."

Many of the campers shared their thoughts on what being an astronaut might be like. Shannon Wilborn, 11, attending from Delta Junction, Alaska stated, "being a payload specialist would be scary, but cool."

After the luncheon, the young campers launched handmade rockets. The rockets, which took the campers around two hours to build, flew high into the air before deploying their built-in parachutes. Before the launch Kelly Yuson, 11, one of the campers from Omaha stated, "I'm going to enjoy the 'Kaboom!'" Several of the rockets failed to ignite, but luckily with some help, every child got to see their own creation soar into the clear sky.

All the campers enjoyed their time at Space Camp for varying reasons. Joe Makua, 11, another camper from Kwajalein Atoll said he enjoyed "traveling around Space Camp." Tarique enjoyed the many rides and museums.

In the end, it's hard to know if the campers realized just how special a day it really was for them regarding the VIPs they got to meet on July 2. Nevertheless, ASMDA's Space Camp Scholarship contest produced 16 excited and happy campers because they certainly realized how great an experience it was for them to be 'Astronauts' for five days.



Photos by Diane Schumacher

Lt. Gen. Kevin T. Campbell listens intently to one young space camper after their special VIP luncheon was completed. Jordan Hadley, 11, from Kwajalein Atoll looks on.



Space camper Tarique L. Burke-Liner, 10, Huntsville, Ala., and his camp counselor happily watch as Tarique's handmade rocket fires into the bright blue sky after having misfired three previous times.



Joe Makua, 11, of Kwajalein Atoll watches his camp counselor load his handmade rocket and listens to the safety council.



Space campers line up behind a protection plexiglass wall awaiting their turn for rocket load and launch on July 2 at the Space and Rocket Center camp grounds.

