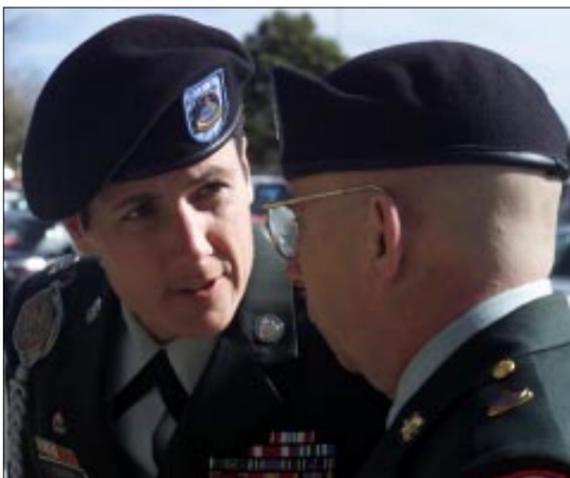


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(Photos by Sharon Hartman)



Master Sgt. Mark Gifford, right, receives last minute instructions from 1st Sgt. Tammy Coon.

At the conclusion of last month's in-ranks inspection, G-3 Sgt. Rene Saiz, second from right, of the 4th Squad, Headquarters and Headquarters Company, U.S. Army Space Command, was recognized for his superior uniform.

*Some things never change*

# Warfighter 2002

## Army Space Support Company proves valuable asset

by Spc. Amy Abbott  
V Corps Public Affairs Office

Even though they are a relatively new permanent asset to V Corps, and one of the smallest companies participating in this year's corps Warfighter exercise, Team One of the Army Space Support Company is the epitome of the old saying, "dynamite comes in small packages." The unit proved to be a valuable asset during exercise URGENT VICTORY 2002.

The company consists of five teams under the direction of the 1st Space Battalion, U. S. Army Space Command (ARSPACE). That puts them solidly at the vanguard of a recently created Army functional area called Space Operations.

The unit's purpose, according to Maj. Stephen Benavides, V Corps' first space operations officer, is "to provide the Army with a set of space experts to fulfill current and future space requirements." Benavides, along with Team One, deployed from Peterson Air Force Base, Colo., and had a big job to do during the Warfighter exercise.

"The corps space operations officer, along with U.S. Army Space Command, composes the space operations cell. They provide round-the-clock support in the areas of satellite communications, position, and navigation of the Global Positioning System, space weather, imagery, and early warning," Benavides explained.

"Space Operations is an integral part of the V Corps staff operations by providing space analysis, input, and recommendations during the operations and intelligence brief, the information operations working group, and targeting meetings and boards."

Components of ARSPACE have participated in V Corps exercises before, but as the world becomes more and more technologically advanced, the need for space products and services grows.

"Space assets are becoming increasingly more important, not only to the military, but to the world in general," said Maj. Jim Patterson, Army Space Support Team chief for Team One.

One of ARSST's most important missions is Reconnaissance, Intelligence, Surveillance and Target Acquisition (RISTA). To accomplish that task, the team deploys with an automated pro-

cessing package capable of providing imagery products that convey vital battlefield information to commanders. Patterson explains how RISTA fit into the Warfighter scenario.

"Redland (the simulated enemy for Warfighter) has the capability to receive timely commercial imagery. They can take pictures of our tactical operations centers or our main. We make sure the corps understands what their capabilities are and we nominate their ground system to have it destroyed."

Benavides explained that an ARSST has other vital functions as well: to monitor all satellite communications systems used for combat operations; to monitor the status of the GPS providing accurate information to the targeting process, and to produce "advanced space weather forecasts" to determine how satellite and GPS systems may be degraded due to solar activity.



(Photo by Spc. Amy Abbott)

1st Lt. Matthew Rapp, operations officer, left, and Sgt. Jeremy Jones, topographical NCOIC, of Team One, Army Space Support Command, 1st Battalion, U.S. Army Space Command, produce a three-dimensional fly-through for 11th Aviation on a Space Support Platform.

## Commanding General's Corner

**S**MDC is a "concepts to operations" organization that has produced results time and again. All of you as members of this organization, both military and civilian, should be proud of this. I want to take this opportunity to recognize those who have accomplished much from development to fielding. First let me remind you how it's done. I think you'll see the value of the team, no matter where you are.

We do this by:

- conceiving future systems in our Space and Missile Defense Technology Center in Huntsville,
- realistically simulating these concepts at our Space and Missile Defense Battle Lab to quickly determine their practicality and save time and money before beginning their development,
- testing developing systems at the Reagan Test Site in the Marshall Islands and the High Energy Laser Systems Test Facility at White Sands, N.M.,
- developing the doctrine, training and user requirements at our Force Development and Integration Center and Ground-based Midcourse Defense (GMD) TRADOC System Manager's office (GMD TSM) to ensure our "white-coat" efforts meet warfighter needs,
- and then fielding and operating systems with our Army Space Command (ARSPACE) soldiers.

Second, here are recent examples of how SMDC helps translate ideas into useful hardware.

On March 15, in Integrated Flight Test-8, the Ground-based Midcourse Defense System (GMD), formerly called National Missile Defense (NMD), achieved its third



Lieutenant General  
Joseph M. Cosumano Jr.

consecutive successful intercept, its fourth in six attempts. Besides once again confirming the effectiveness of hit-to-kill technology, this recent test showed that the exoatmospheric kill vehicle (EKV), which was conceived in our technology base in Huntsville, could discriminate against an increased number of decoys, in this case two small and one large balloons. In addition, the EKV was launched at our Reagan Test Site, where the Ground Based Radar Prototype (GBR-P) developed by SMDC tracked the target. The target we destroyed was also developed by SMDC.

Then on March 21, the Patriot Advanced Capability-3, another system that originated in our tech base in Huntsville, achieved its 10th success in 12 attempts with an intercept of a Hera cruise missile target. Again, that target was developed by SMDC.

Also, our participation in OPERATION ENDURING FREEDOM/OPERATION NOBLE EAGLE has been noteworthy, thanks to the development of the Future Operational Capability Tactical Operation Center, the Space Electronic Warfare Detachment, the Spectral Operations Resource Center and outstanding efforts of all in SMDC and ARSPACE this supports.

Finally, all of this is for those who are deployed and also are working daily, civilian, military and family members to

support this great nation — thanks for all you do.

### Women's history celebrated in March

**E**ach year in March we celebrate Women's History Month. This year's theme — "Women Sustaining the American Spirit" — showcased the diverse and interlocking stories of women who have created and affirmed the American spirit. The theme helped deliver the message of who American women are and what they have accomplished. The story of American women is the story of women working together to form a more perfect union, expanding the idea of representative government and democratic principals for all generations.

Achievements of remarkable women such as Dorothy Height and Dolores Huerta recognized the spirit of equality and human rights for all Americans, specifically African Americans and migrant laborers. Significant contributions of women such as Patsy Mink and Gerda Lerner defend the scope and importance of women's history and the expansion of women's educational opportunities. Mary Louise Defender Wilson used storytelling as an essential cultural bridge to keep alive the spirit of her people, the Dakotah/Hidatsa, for America's 21st Century.

This year, we honored women from every race, class, and ethnic background for their extraordinary and optimistic work performed in their communities and the nation.

**SECURE THE HIGH GROUND!**

## Washington D.C. Race for the Cure to be June 1

**T**he Komen Race for the Cure Series is the largest series of 5K runs/fitness walks in the world. In 2002, races will be held in more than 100 U.S. cities and three foreign countries with more than 1.3 million participants expected.

The National Race for the Cure will begin at 8:30 a.m. June 1 on the Washington Monument Grounds at the corner of Constitution Avenue and 17<sup>th</sup> Street, NW, in Washington, D.C. Several volunteers from the Space and Missile Defense Command Headquarters in Arlington, Va., will participate.

Last year, the Washington D.C. race hosted more than 72,000 participants. A portion of the net proceeds of this event goes to the Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer Foundation Research Program. More than \$1 million will remain in Maryland, Washington, D.C., and Virginia to support local research, education, screening, and treatment programs.

Other planned races include Aug. 11 in Colorado Springs, Colo. ([www.miledonor.com/cure/index.htm](http://www.miledonor.com/cure/index.htm)) and Oct. 5 in Birmingham, Ala. ([www.komen.org/birmingham](http://www.komen.org/birmingham)).

Kwajalein held its annual race in February.

For more information and online registration, visit the race Web site at: [www.nationalracefortheure.org](http://www.nationalracefortheure.org). For information on volunteering with the SMDC volunteers, call Susan Jones at (703) 607-2037.



(Photo by D.J. Montoya)

Army Space Command (ARSPACE) Director of Public Works Hugh Mason; Project Manager Larry McKennon; and Project Engineer Tom Gosch review plans for the new ARSPACE building.

### Army Space Command building nears completion

Construction of the Army Space building is on schedule to be completed and occupied in the fall of 2002. The new headquarters building will house more than 300 military and civilian personnel and consist of approximately 100,000 square feet.

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U.S. Army Space and Missile Defense Command  
ATTN: Editor, *The Eagle*, P.O. Box 1500,  
Huntsville, AL 35807-3801

Phone (256) 955-1151 (DSN 645-1151) FAX: 645-1214  
e-mail: [EagleEditor@smdc.army.mil](mailto:EagleEditor@smdc.army.mil)

Publisher.....Lt. Gen. Joseph M. Cosumano Jr.  
Chief, Public Affairs.....William M. Congo  
Editor.....Debra Valine  
Assistant Editor.....Becky Proaps

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# Celebrate Earth Day year-round by recycling, conserving

by **Becky Proaps**  
Huntsville, Ala.

**E**arth Day is celebrated April 22. It was founded in 1970 during a time of incredible social protest. Students led the fight for greater social freedoms, civil rights and against the Vietnam War.

In 1970 pollution problems plagued the United States and many people were calling attention to the damage humans were doing to the planet. Earth Day was an immediate public, media, and political success. Important laws were passed in the years immediately following the first Earth Day including the Clean Air Act, Clean Water Act, Safe Drinking Water Act, protection for wildlife in the form of the Endangered Species Act, and the Federal Coastal Zone Management Act. Shortly thereafter the Environmental Protection Agency and protection for wild lands were established.

Although Earth Day celebrations don't receive the same media attention they once did, it still should be a day when thoughts turn to what the human race can do to make this planet a better and healthier place to live. Businesses and cities all over the country have made great strides in helping to maintain and improve the environment.

Most cities now have a recycling program. Plastics, glass, paper, and aluminum can easily be recycled and many individuals already do so. Each office worker in the United States produces an average of 1.5 pounds of office trash each day according to the San Francisco Recycling Program. As much as 90 percent of business trash is recyclable office paper, meaning each worker in the United States throws away as much as 337 pounds of paper each year that could be recycled. For each ton of paper we recycle, 17 trees are saved, and 3 cubic yards of landfill space are not filled up. In the United States alone, the average person generates 45,000 pounds of carbon dioxide per year, with the average home producing 22,000 pounds of CO<sub>2</sub> (twice what a car produces). Americans, only 5 percent of the Earth's population, use 25 percent of its energy and produce 25 percent of the greenhouse gases causing global warming (carbon dioxide is the primary greenhouse gas).

## Commentary

Everyone has heard about the tried and true methods of conserving energy — turn down thermostat settings; close unused vents; turn off unneeded lights and use natural light; turn down the water-heater setting at least one mark; turn off water while brushing your teeth; clean the furnace, air-conditioner and heat pump filters; turn off the TV, VCR, video and computer games on occasion and enjoy activities outdoors. However there are so many other things that can be done that will have a positive impact on our environment.

According to Claire Whitcomb of *Victoria Magazine*, buying shade-grown coffee (most organic coffee is shade-grown) is an excellent way to help the environment. Not only does it taste good, it is also better for the environment. Ninety percent of coffee purchased in America is sun grown, which means that the rain forests are cut down to maximize growth. This in turn means that songbirds are losing their winter habitat. Shade-grown coffee is one of the few crops that preserve the quickly vanishing rain forest canopy.

Another simple, fun way to help the environment is to devote a corner of your yard to butterfly friendly plants. Single-petaled zinnias that have a yellow center provide more nectar, which attracts butterflies.

"Parsley and dill are great hosts for the caterpillars of swallow-tails and monarchs," says Joanna Burger, a butterfly expert and renowned ornithologist. "Plant an herb garden and the butterflies will thank you," she added. Also be very careful not to overuse pesticides. It is very important to use pesticides according to the directions. With pesticides more is not better.

Someone said many Earth Days ago, "We did not inherit the Earth from our parents; we borrowed it from our children." David Brower, considered the dean of America's modern environmental movement, said, "Our greatest untapped source of energy is still the energy we can conserve by not using so much of it." Keeping the environment clean and/or cleaning our environment is the responsibility of each individual. If each person does his or her share, then collectively we can make a difference.

## What We Think

### April is the Month of the Military Child

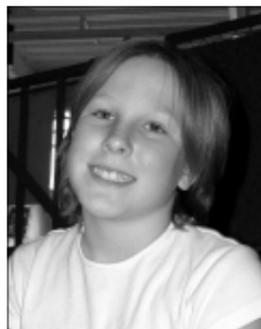
### The Eagle asks:

### Do you feel you benefit from being part of the military family?



John Morris, 17, son of Sgt. 1st Class Tina Morris, U.S. Army Kwajalein Atoll

I feel we benefit from being a military dependent by the amount of scholarship aid and benefits we receive.



Korrina Casale, 12, daughter of Linda Oellig, ARSPACE G-1, and U.S. Air Force Senior Msg. Sgt., retired, Joseph George Casale

Yes. I would help my dad and sometimes I would take my allowance and let him give it to the Red Cross and Salvation Army. We didn't move to a lot of places, but we moved around within one place. It was hard to move around, but I think it helps me understand other people better.



Kyle Benoit, 12, son of LTC Steve and Diane Morris, U.S. Army Kwajalein Atoll

In one way I do. We travel more than other people. Otherwise, we are the same as everyone else.



Kelsey Morris, 14, son of Sgt. 1st Class Tina Morris, U.S. Army Kwajalein Atoll

What I think about being in an Army family is that I do what I need to do for my country. Another thing I think about being in an Army family is that I got to see a live fire test. I also meet new people.



Joshua Devenger, 9, son of Master Sgt. John Devenger of the SMDC DCSOPS office

Yes, because it helps me experience different cultures.



(DoD Photo by Carol Floyd)

Guardsmen discuss possible future missile defense operations in the context of current readiness levels during the exercise.

## Exercise builds faith, experience

**JOINT NATIONAL INTEGRATION CENTER, Colo.** – More than 180 active duty and National Guard military, government civilian and contractor personnel participated in Battle Planning Exercise (BPE) 02-1 held recently at the Missile Defense Agency's Joint National Integration Center (JNIC).

The Joint National Integration Center is the Missile Defense Agency's field operating activity for integrating and testing the capabilities of the battle management command and control system being developed for the ballistic missile defense of America.

BPEx 02-1 was the 12<sup>th</sup> in a series of exercises being held to refine the battle management command and control system being developed for the nation's ballistic missile defense system. The Ground-Based Midcourse Defense Battle Manager Command, Control, and Communication (GBMC3) Mission Integration Element, and the U.S. Army Space Command (ARSPACE) organized and executed the exercise.

"The exercise familiarized warfighters with the display screens, behavior, and concepts associated with the new Ground-Based Midcourse Missile Defense Battle Management Command and Control software," said Army Maj. Teresa Geduldig, missile defense plans officer at ARSPACE. "We also exercised our draft joint warfighter crew procedures to help the Army Space Command and the U.S. Space Command update concepts of operation for the ballistic missile defense of North America."

Approximately 35 missile defense "operators" from U.S. Space Command headquarters, NORAD/USSPACECOM's Cheyenne Mountain Operations Center, Army Space Command, and the Army National Guard with a number of DoD and contractor members of the "developer" team held discussions, tabletop exercises, and exercises using the prototype missile defense battle management command and control software.

"Exercises like this are an excellent way for the user community to get hands-on experience with the software and gain knowledge and insight into its design," said Army Maj. Bennie Simmons, BMC2 integration officer for the Missile Defense Agency's GBD JPO. "BPEx 02-1 gave the operators a chance to practice their missile defense tactics, techniques, and procedures, and, most importantly, gain faith that the system will meet their needs when the software is fielded. It also gave the developers a chance to gain invaluable feedback about the system's utility from the ultimate users."

The Cheyenne Mountain Operations Center (CMOC), where the exercise was held, will play a key role in any missile defense system deployed to protect North America.

"Given the vital role the operations center plays in providing the National Military Command Center with an accurate picture of any threat to North America, exercises like this are vital to ensure a clear flow of information to decision makers at all levels," said Canadian Forces Navy Capt. Mike Jellinek, CMOC's director of plans and command director during the exercise.

"BPEx 02-1 was conducted in the Joint National Integration Center to take advantage of our proven ability to stage cost-effective missile defense exercises that allow warfighters to practice their concepts of operations and missile defense tactics, techniques, and procedures against current and future threats within the operational setting provided by the Cheyenne Mountain Training System," said Maj. Will Evans, project manager for ground-based midcourse defense interoperability. "The controlled, repetitive scenarios we use in the BPExs maximize training value for the warfighters and provide immediate feedback to their personnel."

## Transformation of Installation Management regions named

Secretary of the Army Thomas E. White last month announced the next phase in the Army's concept to create a more efficient and effective corporate management structure for Army installations worldwide.

The program, known as Transformation of Installation Management, (formerly called Centralized Installation Management), was announced by the Secretary in late 2001. In March he announced his approval of the finalized plan for aligning the regions that will oversee installation management.

"Our intent is to streamline headquarters, create more agile and responsive staffs, reduce layers of review and approval, and allow commanders to focus on their mission," White said, speaking before a group of Army garrison commanders at a conference in Nashville, Tenn.

The transformation implementation will geographically align installation management in seven regions worldwide. The following installations will host the director and staff for their respective region:

Northeast:	Fort Monroe, Hampton, Va.
Southeast:	Fort McPherson, Atlanta, Ga.
Northwest:	Rock Island Arsenal, Rock Island, Ill.
Southwest:	Fort Sam Houston, San Antonio, Texas
Europe:	Heidelberg, Germany
Pacific:	Fort Shafter, Honolulu, Hawaii
Korea:	Yongsan, South Korea

After extensive analysis, these locations were selected to minimize turbulence on the civilian workforce and take advantage of facilities and skilled personnel available in the Major Army Command elements stationed at these locations.

The Transformation of Installation Management, scheduled for Oct. 1, will establish a corporate structure focused on installation management to support base operations and enable mission commanders. The seven installation management regional directorates will oversee the services provided on installations that support day-to-day operations and well-being.

Regionalization of these services will establish equitable standards of service at all Army installations worldwide, streamline the flow of resources, and improve the delivery of services to commanders, soldiers, and their families. This initiative includes installation management within the Army Reserve.

## Soldiers Magazine wants your best photos

**WASHINGTON (Army News Service)** — The Soldiers Magazine staff is planning its 2003 Almanac and wants your help to make that issue the best ever. The Soldiers Almanac runs each January.

A major feature of the Almanac is the "This Is Our Army" section, which ran 12 pages this year and contained more than 50 photographs submitted by soldiers, civilians, and family members from throughout the Army.

The magazine also uses reader-submitted photographs to support the other Almanac sections, including "The Year in Review," "Post Information," and "Major Equipment." But it is in "This Is Our Army" that readers see the Army through the eyes of those who live and work on Army installations, preserve the peace, prepare for war, and share special moments with their families and friends.

To be a part of the 2003 Almanac, send your photos with complete caption information to Soldiers; ATTN: Photo Editor; 9325 Gunston Rd. Suite S-108; Fort Belvoir VA 22060-5581. Do not e-mail your photo submissions unless you have first coordinated with the Soldiers photo editor.

For information about photo requirements and the selection process, and an entry form to accompany your photos, check the next several issues of Soldiers Magazine or send your questions to our photo editor at [soldiers@belvoir.army.mil](mailto:soldiers@belvoir.army.mil). You can also find guidelines for submitting your photos online at [www.soldiersmagazine.com](http://www.soldiersmagazine.com).

# Soldiers who ASK get preferred assignments

by Staff Sgt. Marcia Triggs

**WASHINGTON (Army News Service)** — Every day about 1,000 soldiers tell their assignment managers where they want to be stationed, and with the help of modernized programs, their wishes are being granted.

The Assignment Satisfaction Key (ASK) was introduced to the Army Oct. 12, and it gives enlisted soldiers the capability to post assignment preferences directly onto the Total Army Personnel Database.

As of today 44,703 soldiers have logged on, providing personal contact data and listing preferences for stateside, overseas, and special-duty assignments. The Army's goal is to get the entire population — 400,000 — to sign up within the next several months, said Sgt. Maj. Oscar Garcia, sergeant major for the Ordnance Corps career management branch. Along with ASK, assignment managers work with new software referred to as SAM — Soldier Assignment Module. The software merges Army requirements with the assignment preferences of soldiers, Garcia said.

For example, career management branches are periodically given requisitions for special assignment such as drill sergeant duty, recruiting, and airborne.

The software can identify qualified candidates, with volunteers at the top of the list.

"By policy, we will always accept a volunteer over a non-volunteer," Garcia said. The idea behind SAM came from Garcia, but the system was designed by a sergeant first class with years of personnel management experience.

"I've used databases to manage personnel at my units. I would find out who was leaving, what grade and MOS, then get replacements," said Sgt. 1st Class Vince Marroquin, the Ordnance Branch force integrator.

"The sergeant major [Garcia] had the insight of what was needed and what the rules are for making an assignment."

With this new technology, it couldn't get any easier for soldiers and assignment managers, Garcia explained.

"We had a soldier call up and ask to go to Korea," Garcia said. "The career manager asked if he had signed up with ASK. He had not. So the career manager talked him through the process."

"Next the career manager went onto SAM found out there was a slot for the soldier's grade and MOS, and that the

soldier met the qualifications. Finally the assignment manager had the soldier log back onto ASK, and at the bottom of the screen it showed he was on orders to Korea."

Now a soldier has a vote, Garcia said. It's immediately seen by his branch manager, and it counts, he said.

Before a soldier can log onto ASK, they have to have an Army Knowledge Online account. ASK will require soldiers to select three stateside locations and three other preferences outside of the continental United States.

Preference locations mean that if a soldier has to rotate or do a special duty like drill sergeant or recruiter, this is the place or the duty he would prefer, Garcia said. The first two preference choices will be from the Army's 10 divisions, because that's where soldiers are needed most, he said. The other choice will be from an expanded listing which includes the divisional installations plus other stateside installations.

Soldiers may also select three stateside and three overseas volunteer locations. Garcia said volunteer locations mean that if a soldier were to move now, this is where he would want to go.

## 2<sup>nd</sup> FA40 course graduates

by Capt. Laura Kenney

**PETERSON AIR FORCE BASE, Colo.** — With feet planted firmly on the Army's traditional ground and with eyes definitely aimed on the skies, 15 Army officers graduated March 8 as fully trained Functional Area 40 Space Operations officers. They belong to only the second class of this elite new specialty to do so.

Guest speaker Brig. Gen. Richard V. Geraci underscored the importance of Space to the Army in current and future operations. Geraci is the deputy commanding general for Operations, U.S. Army Space and Missile Defense Command, and

deputy commanding general of the U.S. Army Space Command.

"This ceremony is about Army Transformation and your skills are vital to the development of the Army's objective force," Geraci told the graduates. "Your mission is to ensure that ground force commanders have access to space-based capabilities."

He then addressed the audience:

"These officers will become some of the most critical players on a commander's staff — as will those who came before and those who will come after them," he said. "A colorful, present-day example can be found in the ongoing operations in Afghanistan. 'We've seen U.S. Special Forces soldiers, riding into battle on horseback with our allies, carrying global positioning system receivers, satellite communications terminals, laser designators, and laptop computers in their saddlebags.'"

Less graphic, but equally important, Geraci said there are other aspects of Space that have had a tremendous impact on current operations.

"The Army Space Command worked with national agencies to produce spectral imagery to help our warfighters on the ground," he said. "With our friendly force tracking capabilities, we can enhance our efforts to eliminate fratricide. We've also produced near real-time video that allows us to track movement on the ground, and our 3-D 'fly-throughs' enable aviators and ground crews to 'see' terrain before they're there. And that's just scratching the surface of what we can do."

The seven-week course equips graduates with the tools and knowledge to provide commanders guidance on conducting space operations in support of the mission. Officers study orbitology, satellite communications, Space-based navigations, and intelligence gathering to include surveillance and negation of the same to opposing forces.

SMDC's Force Development and Integration Center — West, in Colorado Springs, Colo., designed and instructs the course.

This group of Space officers, the first to graduate since the terrorist attacks of Sept. 11, feels strongly motivated by that tragedy. This background adds to, for



(Photo by Dennis E. Beebe)

Lt. Col. Michael Yowell, commander of the 193rd Space Support Bn and Maj. Joan E. Rousseau, U.S. Space Command, wargame during the final Command Post Exercise for the Space Operations Officer Qualification Course.

many, an already lifelong fascination with space and technology.

"I've been a logistician for my entire Army career to date, but I've loved Space and anything involved with it probably since high school," said Col. Patricia Baxter, class leader and presently the logistics officer for Army Space Command. "When the opportunity arose to become a part of this new specialty, I jumped at it. It won't be quite the adrenaline rush of actually riding a rocket into space, but it's the next best thing. I'm proud to be part of something that will be serving the soldier and the American public as nobly as Space Operations will."

"I don't see another incident such as took place on Sept. 11, because that was without precedent," Baxter said. "Since it happened, the American people have become mobilized, not just the Armed Forces. No future hijacker is going to have an easy time of it, and our best defense is an aware citizenry. Our job, in this new functional area of Space Operations, is to utilize the vast opportunities of Space, and all the technology that comes with it, to back up that first line of defense."

### Space Operations Officer Qualification Course Class 01-02 graduates

- **Col. Patricia A. Baxter**, Army Space Command
- **Lt. Col. David W. Reese**, Force Development Integration Center
- **Lt. Col. Timothy R. Tritch**, U.S. Space Command
- **Lt. Col. Michael Yowell**, commander, 193<sup>rd</sup> Space Battalion
- **Maj. George A. Andary**, U.S. Space Command
- **Maj. Gary Arnold**, North American Aerospace Defense Command
- **Maj. Gregory S. Bowen**, Army Space Command
- **Maj. Jay K. Curry**, I Corps
- **Maj. Eric Henderson**, 1<sup>st</sup> Space Battalion
- **Maj. Matthew Nowak**, 193<sup>rd</sup> Space Battalion
- **Maj. Scott A. Parks**, U.S. Space Command
- **Maj. Joan E. Rousseau**, U.S. Space Command
- **Maj. Clay Scherer**, Force Development Integration Center
- **Maj. Ralph Trenary**, 193<sup>rd</sup> Space Battalion
- **Maj. Shelley L. Volkwein**, Army Space Command

# Sgt. Audie Murphy Club

## SMDC holds first-ever board to select new members

**ARLINGTON, Va.** — Army tradition, modern technology, and global complexity all came together when the top noncommissioned officers from U.S. Army Space and Missile Defense Command (SMDC) held their first command-wide board to select inductees for the elite Sgt. Audie Murphy Club (SAMC) last month.

A board of four command sergeants major met at “oh-dark-thirty” – 4:15 a.m. – Washington D.C. time at SMDC headquarters in Arlington, Va., to interview by video teleconference three NCOs from overseas in the final step of the screening process. These nominees joined four others who appeared in person before the board later in the morning.



Audie Murphy

Board members included Command Sergeants Major Wilbur Adams Jr., Reginald Ficklin, James Gholson, and Oliver Forbes.

“Until today, the soldiers within our command had to compete within another organization, because we had no SMDC board,” said Adams, SMDC command sergeant major and board president. “When we looked at our mission, which is different in each area of SMDC, we knew that in order for us to get our folks more active and involved in the process, we needed to have our own major command board.”

Adams stressed that the SMDC Board is by no means easier than any other major command board. Instead, the board is tailored to support SMDC’s specific and highly unique global mission requirements, which encourages more SMDC soldiers to try for induction.

In fact, prior to this selection board, only one soldier from SMDC had competed and been inducted into the Audie Murphy Club: Sgt. 1st Class Chunka Smith of Army Space Command.

Of the seven considered, the board recommended four for induction into the club:

- Sgt. 1st Class Earla Reddock, SMDC Inspector General Office;
  - Sgt. 1st Class Phillip Tomlin, SMDC Personnel Directorate;
  - Staff Sgt. Darrick Noah, E Co., 1st Satellite Control Battalion;
- and
- Staff Sgt. Devon Roy, JTAG Europe, 1st Space Battalion.

All candidates, whether chosen for induction or not, are considered tops among the NCO ranks, according to Sgt. Maj. Daniel Rutledge, SMDC operations and plans sergeant major. Rutledge coordinated the video teleconference board links with Germany and Japan in order to convene. He also mentored the soldiers beforehand.

“Just to have this many soldiers in one area go before the board is an accomplishment,” said Rutledge. “Preparing for this board has made them all much better NCOs. For those soldiers who did not make the induction this time, I will encourage them to try again.”

He added the most important thing for them to remember is the induction process is not a competition and the only person they are competing against is himself or herself.

The SAMC, which originated at Fort Hood, Texas, in 1986, is

named after one of the Army’s most outstanding NCOs, Sgt. Audie Murphy. NCOs who demonstrate the same qualities, and abilities that Murphy exemplified, are eligible for induction into SAMC.

Audie Murphy served with the 3rd Infantry Division during World War II, and received 33 medals and awards for his gallantry in the call of duty. He is considered the most decorated NCO in the Army.

The SAMC review board is the final phase of the selection process for all SMDC potential inductees: Phase 1 – Command Sergeant Major Packet; Phase 2 – Performance Test based on



dent/lead for that board.

Each of SMDC’s candidates considered going before the board a positive challenge and spent many hours preparing for it.

“Going before the board is something I’ve always wanted to do,” Reddock said. “Hopefully other NCOs in the command will see that I’ve done this and that they can also get to this level.” She already has identified other NCOs as potential SAMC candidates and plans to mentor them toward this goal.

Tomlin and Staff Sgt. Ryan Jones of SMDC’s TRADOC System Manager’s office both solicited their spouses’ help in studying for the board and felt that “extra” help was a bonus.

“To prepare, my wife asked me a lot of questions on the history of Audie Murphy,” Tomlin said.

“You’re given general areas to study, but don’t know the specifics, so all I can do is just put it in my own words and tell the board what it means to me to be an NCO and the responsibility that goes with it,” said Jones.

The majority of SAMC members are active duty. For Tomlin, partial induction was an extra honor to him. “Coming to SMDC, all of his military time was spent on Reserve duty.

Participating from Japan had its problems. “I had to be in Japan for a year,” Henningsen, an Army Space Support Team member, said.

“The system itself would sometimes make it difficult in several instances where I would have to repeat a question or scenario.”

Noah, also participating from Japan, said he spent most of his time sitting in the middle of an empty room talking to himself most of the time.”



(Photo by Staff Sgt. Franklin Barrett)

Staff Sgt. Henningsen awaits his turn in the hot seat.

ng NCOs, the late Sgt. Audie  
performance, inherent leadership  
ed as a soldier, are eligible for

Division for three years during  
rds for heroism above and beyond  
corated soldier in U.S. Army history.  
f a four-phase process required for  
mmander's Evaluation/Nomination  
recorded accomplishments of the  
candidate and any  
subordinates, if  
applicable; Phase 3 –  
Initial Selection  
Board: An initial  
Selection Board  
comprised of the  
Army Space Com-  
mand / Battalion  
Command Sergeant  
Majors; and Phase 4  
– Final Selection  
Board with the SMDC  
Command Sergeant  
Major as the presi-



Staff Sgt. Ryan Jones, SMDC, TRADOC System Manager Office, is encouraged by Sgt. Maj. Daniel Rutledge of SMDC, Operations.

(Photo by Rhonda Paige)



Soldiers in remote areas appeared before the SMDC Sgt. Audie Murphy Club board by video teleconference.

(Photo by Staff Sgt. Franklin Barrett)

itive Army soldiers. Jones' poten-  
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ns, according to Staff Sgt. Brian  
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alking to a television that answered

But Roy, participating from Europe, said, "It was a bit strange looking at yourself in the split screen but once the questions started, you could focus entirely on the panel of board members. However, I think the cost and time benefits of the VTC board far outweigh bringing NCOs from all over the globe to a central location. Roy is the SMDC NCO of the Year.

"The Audie Murphy board is a chance to learn, you learn about yourself and your soldiers," Roy said. "It challenges you to be a better NCO and that in turn will benefit your soldiers. It is not about the

medal or the title — it's about being able to set that standard, that example for your fellow NCOs and soldiers to follow."

Board members expect to meet again next year with even more candidates. For these command sergeants major and the four newest inductees, the end of the process is really only a beginning to mentoring a new crop of potential inductees.

Anything less would not be in true command fashion.

As exemplified by the 4:15 a.m. board start time, the sun never sets on SMDC.

# Delegates tackle issues at AFAP Conference

by Harriet Rice  
Community and Family Support Center Public Affairs Officer

**ALEXANDRIA, Va.** — The 2001 Army Family Action Plan was back on course March 11, five months after it was originally scheduled and on the six-month anniversary of 9-11. Delegates from around the world and around the Army gathered to tackle issues affecting their lives in the post-September 11 world and into the 21<sup>st</sup> century.

“Our spirit is not broken, and our spirit is not diminished,” said Army Chief of Chaplains Maj. Gen. Gaylord T. Gunhus in his invocation. “Help us never to lose sight of the fact that this is not budget, not structure, or programs. This is people who we’re all about.”

The U.S. Army Space and Missile Defense Command’s six representatives presented 14 issues for consideration by the work group. Overall, the work group evaluated 108 issues and recommended 24 for entry into the plan.

The Top Five conference issues were concurrent receipt of retired and veteran affairs disability pay, basic allowance for housing for activated Reserve component, distribution of Montgomery GI Bill benefits to dependents, Army Community Service manpower authorizations/funding, and employment status for overseas family members.

“People” was the common thread running through eight briefings from key Army staff members ranging in rank from lieutenant general to brigadier general and including Sgt. Maj. of the Army Jack Tilley.

Brig. Gen. Tony Taguba hosted the event. Taguba, who commands the U.S. Army Community and Family Support Center, officially welcomed the 118 delegates to the 18<sup>th</sup> annual AFAP conference.

“The world has changed in the past few months; the Army is changing, and AFAP must change with it. We are dealing with new force structures, new chains of command and new types of issues arising from Homeland Defense and OPERATION ENDURING FREEDOM,” Taguba said.

He told delegates and support staff their goal and mission was to identify and present to Army leadership the most critical well-being issues facing the Army today.

Started in 1984 by a group of Army spouses, AFAP is a grassroots process that allows soldiers — active and reserve component, single and married — civilians, family members, retirees, and youth to raise issues that affect their quality of life. From the installations, issues that aren’t resolved locally progress through the chain of command to Department of the Army level where the senior Army leaders listen and take action.

In the past 18 years, 494 AFAP issues resulted in 69 pieces of new or changed legislation, 130 new or modified policies, and 127 new or improved programs, said Sandy Vlcek, AFAP manager in CFSC’s Family Programs Directorate. “No issue, once it’s in the system, ever falls off the table.”

“Our soldiers remain the centerpiece of everything we do,” Lt. Gen. Kevin Byrnes, director of the Army staff, told delegates, giving them an accounting of soldiers in action: 124,000 forward stationed, 59,000 deployed in support of operations and training, 25,000 reserve component soldiers mobilized for OPERATION NOBLE EAGLE and OPERATION ENDURING FREEDOM. An additional 11,000 National Guard soldiers are on state active duty guarding airports and other infrastructure for homeland security, he said.

The new synergy between the active and reserve components was driven home in the remarks of Lt. Gen. Thomas J. Plewes, chief, Army Reserves, and Lt. Gen. Roger C. Shultz, director, National Guard. As the Army Reserves make up 55 percent of the total force, Plewes said many issues once unique to the Army now have broader meaning for the Army Reserves as well.

Asked about the impact AFAP has had on the Army Reserves, Plewes responded, “Over the past few years, AFAP has been a really good sounding board, not only for active Army issues but for Reserve and Guard issues as well. There are some issues that have to do just with reservists and guardsmen, and we’ve made considerable progress on them. For example, we pushed dental programs, and a dental insurance program is now on the books, largely due to AFAP. We got some better benefits in TRICARE to help bridge the gap between civilian and military programs. Certainly there are issues around the edges having to do with lost income when they go on active duty.”

He continued, “I think the other thing [AFAP] has done is allowed us to be a member of the Army family. So we all approach these issues in the same way.”

“AFAP addresses the demands of Army life and contributes to soldier and family well-being by helping to improve our standards of living,” Taguba said. “You are the people who will make it happen.”

## SMDC issues

**Issue:** Inadequate accommodations for soldiers returning from overseas assignments.

**Disposition:** The issue is active in the current Army Family Action Plan as issues No. 307 and 455.

**Issue:** Per hour rate cap for overtime.

**Disposition:** Issue returned for resolution at local level.

**Issue:** Portability of prescriptions between military pharmacies.

**Disposition:** PDTs are online and fully documented. Compliance with military regulations. Federal and state laws make it impossible to mandate military pharmacies to honor all prescriptions from other military pharmacies.

**Issue:** Timely scheduling of medical appointments.

**Disposition:** Work group recommended the issue be resolved at a local level.

**Issue:** Transitional medical and dental benefits for voluntary separations.

**Disposition:** Individuals who voluntarily separate have the option to enroll in the health care benefit program through TRICARE. Families are not left hanging with this health care concern.

**Issue:** Transportation of pets to and from overseas assignments.

**Disposition:** Not prioritized as a top three issue. Recommend pet owners need to plan accordingly.

**Issue:** Anonymous hotline for Army youth.

**Disposition:** Work group favored the issue, but indicated there are plenty of free and confidential services already in place. Information needs marketing at installation level.

**Issue:** Army online site for scholarships.

**Disposition:** Work group and subject matter experts agreed this issue would be redundant. The Education Division, PERSCOM, has a Web site to meet general requirements at: [www.armyeducation.army.mil](http://www.armyeducation.army.mil)

**Issue:** Army summer training session for young adults.

**Disposition:** Delegates agreed ample opportunities are already in place.

**Issue:** Competition rights for term employees.

**Disposition:** Local issue. The designation of a term position is a tool for managers to use to meet mission objectives for a specific amount of time.

**Issue:** Distribution of educational entitlements.

**Disposition:** Selected as one of the groups top three issues.

**Issue:** Bereavement leave for civilians.

**Disposition:** Delegates agreed sufficient leave programs are already in place.

**Issue:** Divorced spouses’ retirement entitlement.

**Disposition:** Delegates agreed the scope was based on inaccurate information. Findings were: Scope of issue deemed inappropriate for federal enactment.

**Issue:** TRICARE boundary restrictions.

**Disposition:** Scope of issue deemed inappropriate for federal enactment. Scope is already in legislative draft. Scope was based on misperception of the law. Issue was combined with No. 8, portability of Health Care coverage between regions.

## What's Happening in SMDC

# Software sharpens AWarEness of battlefield

by Debra Valine

**HUNTSVILLE, Ala.** — Joint exercises being held in Mississippi and Alaska in April will see the AWarE software program, developed in the Battle Lab at the Space and Missile Defense Command (SMDC) here, provide a single integrated operational picture of the battlefield.

AWarE — Advanced Warfighting Experiment — is a situational awareness software package that will be combined with a prototype command and control program titled, Future Operational Capability — Tactical Operations Center (FOC-TOC).

In addition to providing a picture of the battlefield, using AWarE will reduce the footprint of the standard tactical operations center.

"We use as much commercial, off-the-shelf technology as we can and combine it to give a more compact operation," said Mike Leech, a military analyst in the Battle Lab. "The standard tactical operations center can be up to 10 tents and 30 vehicles with six or seven generators providing power, not to mention the antennae farm sitting out back to get all the data feeds. We have combined it all into one HUMVEE, one tent and two generators, one of which is the heating and air conditioning unit."

The 32<sup>nd</sup> Air and Missile Defense Command in Fort Bliss, Texas, submitted the original requirement to reduce the in-theater footprint, enhance the software architecture, provide a single integrated battlespace picture, provide advanced visualization, and enhance communications capabilities.

"What we are doing is providing them at least an 80 percent solution," Leech said. "An 80 percent solution can usually net an immediate off-the-shelf solution — without years of development and funding. We are trying to reduce the footprint and we are also trying to do it as inexpensively as possible."

Reducing the size of the operation, also can result in a reduction in the cost of manpower, reduce training requirements, transportation, and logistics requirements. "This system reduces the overall cost of the operations center, while providing a better picture of what is happening on the battlefield," Leech said. "Data feeds re-

ceived from all over the world provide an accurate view of the extended battlefield."

Another requirement faced by the software developers was from the Missile Defense Agency's Theater Missile Defense Commander in Chief Assessment Program.

"We put a Theater Missile Defense Command and Control assessment cell with each commander in chief in the Department of Defense as part of a Theater Missile Defense Command and Control System early warning air defense system. "We merged the two requirements and that gave us the genesis of the Future Operations Capability-Tactical Operations Center," Leech said. "The AWarE software provides battlefield awareness: what is happening on the battlefield.

"We decided to make it as user friendly as possible, so we used a Microsoft operating system, rather than Unix or one of the others," Leech said. "Using the Microsoft operating system reduced the requirement for training since most high school graduates are familiar with it. Therefore, the operator would not have to go to school an additional six months just to learn the operating system.

"We built on that foundation so everything else would fall into place. We consider this a plug-and-play battlefield system," Leech said. "If someone else comes up with a new program, we can purchase the program and try it out on our system. So many people are writing applications for Microsoft that it is cheaper to purchase the off-the-shelf systems than to develop them ourselves."

AWarE is built on what is called a layered approach. The Microsoft suite provides the base and Battlescape NT provides a three-dimensional view of the world. Then comes the AWarE application. "That is the software that pulls everything together and lets us access the various data lines that come into the tactical operations center," Leech said.

AWarE received a real-world test following the terrorist attacks of Sept. 11, 2001, when the team was called in to support the 1<sup>st</sup> Air Force at Oceana Naval Air Station in Virginia Beach, Va. Through AWarE, the team provided the 1st Air Force with a complete and integrated air picture of the East Coast of the United States.

"The system has been fielded in other places, but 9-11 was a short notice, real-world mission that proved the Battle Lab could do its job on short notice and in an operational environment," Leech said. "This was the only system available that could meet the requirements, and there are probably 20 tactical operations center programs in the works. 1<sup>st</sup> Air Force liked it so much we are building one for them to their specifications."

Space and Missile Defense Command Battle Lab IPT personnel also developed a system using AWarE that helps the U.S. Navy keep track of Navy SEALs in the Pacific.

Aside from real-world missions, the AWarE software architecture is used in joint exercises such as the JOINT COMBAT IDENTIFICATION EVALUATION TEAM 2000 (JCIET) in Mississippi and NORTHERN EDGE in Alaska. While supporting the JCIET exercise in April, the FOC-TOC will be providing the single integrated air and ground pictures for the close air support portion of the exercise. This picture will be provided to them in support of the forward air controllers of the Air Force, Navy, and Marines, who will be operating at Camp Shelby, Miss.

"We will be evaluating how we feed data into the joint situational awareness," Leech said.

One of the goals of the program is to accredit the AWarE program at higher security levels and to enable it to pull things off of the Web-based browsers used on these systems.

"The capability to extract information from a Web-based system exists," Leech said. "We need to be able to enable the program so that it is interactive with the Web environment. If the program needs data, it will be able to automatically go to the Web and pull information from the databases that are there.

"We take our job very seriously," Leech said. "If we do not do our job right, and learn our lessons, the bottom line is that when it is fielded, some soldier could die because of it. Our job is to provide the soldier with new emerging technologies that enhance the soldier's battlefield awareness, lethality, and survivability. AWarE and the FOC-TOC are two examples of technology enhancements that support improved battlefield awareness."

## Supporting the warfighter

Sgt. 1st Class Joseph A. Erickson from the Theater Missile Warning Company, 1st Space Battalion, and wife Victoria exchange a hug and kiss during a recent deployment ceremony at Peterson Air Force Base, Colo. Erickson is one of 11 members of a U.S. Army Space Command Joint Tactical Ground Station (JTAGS) unit that is being deployed worldwide as part of its mission of supporting the warfighter. Lt. Gen. Edward G. Anderson III, deputy commander in chief and chief of staff, U.S. Space Command, and vice commander, U.S. Element, North American Aerospace Defense Command (NORAD), headquartered at Peterson, was on hand to wish the JTAGS members and their families a safe journey and speedy return.



(Photo by Sharon L. Hartman)

# Missile intercepts target during test

## DoD news release

The Missile Defense Agency (MDA) announced March 18 it had successfully completed a test involving a planned intercept of an intercontinental ballistic missile target. The test took place over the central Pacific Ocean.

A modified Minuteman intercontinental ballistic missile (ICBM) target vehicle was launched from Vandenberg Air Force Base, Calif., at 9:11 p.m. EST, and a prototype interceptor was launched approximately 20 minutes later and 4,800 miles away from the Reagan Test Site, Kwajalein Atoll, in the Republic of the Marshall Islands.

The intercept took place approximately 10 minutes after the interceptor was launched, at an altitude in excess of 140 miles above the earth and during the midcourse phase of the target warhead's flight. This was the fourth successful intercept for the Ground-based Midcourse Defense (GMD) Segment, formerly known as National Missile Defense.

The test successfully demonstrated exoatmospheric kill vehicle (EKV) flight performance and "hit to kill" technology to intercept and destroy a long-range ballistic missile target. In addition to the EKV locating, tracking, and intercepting the target resulting in its destruction using only the body-to-body impact, this test also demonstrated the ability of system elements to work together as an integrated system.

The test involved the successful integrated operation of space and ground-based sensors and radars, as well as the Battle Management, Command, Control, and Communications (BMC3) function to detect the launch of the target missile, cue an early warning radar to provide more detailed target location data; and integration of a prototype X-Band radar (based at Kwajalein) to provide precise target data to the EKV, which received the target updates from the In-Flight Interceptor Communications Systems (IFICS) at Kwajalein.

The EKV separated from its rocket booster more than 1,400 miles from the

target warhead. After separation, it used its on-board infrared and visual sensors, augmented with the X-Band radar data provided by BMC3 via the In-flight Interceptor Communications System, to locate and track the target. Sensors aboard the EKV also successfully selected the target instead of three balloon decoys. Only system-generated data was used for the intercept after the EKV separated from its booster rocket.

A C-band transponder aboard the target warhead did not provide any tracking or targeting information to the interceptor after the interceptor was launched.

The March 16 test was a major step in an aggressive developmental test program, and is the fourth successful intercept in six attempts. The Missile Defense Agency will continue to pursue this testing regime to achieve a layered approach to missile defense, using different architectures to deter the growing threat of ballistic missiles carrying weapons of mass destruction.

Over the next several weeks, government and industry program officials will conduct an extensive analysis of the data received during the flight test to determine whether anomalies or malfunctions occurred during the test, evaluate system performance and determine whether or not all flight test objectives were met. Since the system is in the developmental phase of design and testing, performance of individual elements and the overall system integration was as important as the actual intercept.



(Photo courtesy of RTS Photo Lab)

IFT-8 scores third straight intercept for GMD program.

## Stop-Loss doesn't stop promotions

by Karen Roberts

**WASHINGTON (Army News Service)** — OPERATIONS ENDURING FREEDOM and NOBLE EAGLE have created unique personnel policy needs for the combined Army components.

Active-Army, Guard, and Reserve soldiers need policies that merge into one centralized document, said Army officials.

"We are trying to merge policy from all three components and create a set of rules in a single source document that are consistent throughout the Army," said Sgt. Maj. Julian Edmondson, Reserve Component personnel policy integrator, Office of the Deputy Chief of G-1.

The soldiers should know that "policies are in place or are being put in place to support them," said Sgt. Maj. Gerald Purcell, Active Component personnel policy integrator, Office of the Deputy Chief of Staff, G-1.

"We want to reach a point where a commander can pull one regulation or field manual off the shelf and have it apply to all of the soldiers under his or her command," Purcell said.

Compared to other mobilizations, units are now mobilizing and deploying soldiers to stay in country, Edmondson said.

"NOBLE EAGLE is the biggest challenge since the lessons are being learned as we move along," explained Edmondson. Guard and Reserve units are now at about 350 locations around the country working side-by-side with active-Army personnel, he said. "The challenge is when the soldiers don't go overseas. We need to remain flexible with our policy to meet the needs of the Homeland security mission," said Edmondson. For now, the policy is for soldiers from the Guard and Reserve who are activated for a year to remain under previous authorities with regard to promotions for sergeant and above, with the lower grades under active-duty rules, said Edmondson.

Active-duty soldiers whose status was affected by stop-loss can still be eligible for promotion consideration as long as they don't have an approved retirement already in the system, said Purcell. The same is true for Guard and Reserve soldiers, said Edmondson.

The number of yearly promotions is based on losses at each grade, said Purcell. One of the main reasons for promotions is to ensure we maintain a ready Army with the proper grade structure, but they also recognize the best-qualified soldiers and help attract and retain the highest caliber soldier in the Army, he explained.

A quick glance at enlisted promotions for the first six months of this fiscal year compared to last year makes it appear as though we have decreased dramatically, but in reality we haven't, said Purcell. Before the implementation of conditional promotions to sergeant, we had to inflate the number of soldiers selected to cover for those who couldn't meet Primary Leadership Development Course requirements, explained Purcell. He said, now the conditional promotions allow soldiers to be promoted and finish their required training within 12 months of gaining the promotion, so more of those selected are getting promotions when they are selected.

"We want soldiers to have every opportunity for promotions," said Purcell. We are smoothing out the policy obstacles. Now we have to get more enlisted soldiers referred to selection boards, he explained.

"There are some Military Occupational Specialties where too few soldiers are being recommended for promotion and if they were just recommended and boarded, they would be promoted immediately," said Purcell. "If a specialist is doing well, then he or she should be recommended for promotion."

Some of the MOSes where there are deficiencies in the sergeant ranks have honest structural problems, but most should not be lacking, said Purcell.

Soldiers who aren't ready for promotion, but otherwise meet all of the requirements should be trained and made ready, said Purcell. "This is a self-inflicted wound, and we can heal it."

For more information about areas where there are sergeant shortages or for personnel policy changes, visit the Total Army Personnel Command Web site at: <http://www.perscom.army.mil>.



Capt. Jason M. Held, operations officer, Army Space Support Team 8 with the Colorado Army National Guard's 193rd Space Support Battalion, examines a piece of imagery produced by Army Space Command using similar techniques and principles that the Hubble Space Telescope uses in its image gathering process.

# ARSPACE soldier helps with future Hubble Space Telescope upgrade

by D.J. Montoya  
Colorado Springs

When U.S. Army Space Command's Lt. Col. Nancy Currie and the other crew members of the Space Shuttle *Columbia* performed flawless repairs on the Hubble Space Telescope during STS-109's 11-day mission in March, another Army Space soldier on the ground watched with special interest.

Before being mobilized in January as a National Guard soldier, Capt. Jason M. Held played a part in the next mission to repair and upgrade the telescope – if only briefly.

Held, operations officer, Army Space Support Team 8 with the Colorado Army National Guard's 193rd Space Support Battalion, worked on an upgrade for the Hubble's next repair mission slated for 2004. Held was an engineer with Ball Aerospace & Technologies Corp. out of Boulder, Colo. He worked on one of two projects involving instrument upgrades on the Hubble telescope in the next few years, said the 30-year-old native of Baltimore, Md. "It's an upgrade to the Wide Field Camera 2 currently on board the telescope and will include an infrared and an ultraviolet detector looking specifically for astronomy missions coming from the Space Telescope Science Institute in Baltimore.

"I was in charge of the flight software and the integration between software and hardware systems for the camera."

The purpose for the upgrade to Wide Field Camera 3, according to Held, is to pick apart light for a very wide spectrum, both in the infrared and ultraviolet range which is invisible to the naked eye.

Held's experience in the Space arena includes working with the International Space Station in the field of design documentation. But if you ask him what's his biggest thrill to date, it would have to be working on Hubble.

"Working on Hubble has been the most fun because you actually had hardware systems there right in front of you and you can get your hands dirty monkeying around with it, so to speak. Until I got activated, I was supposed to be one of the guys who integrated the device — the finished product — into the Space Shuttle for launch. That was going to be my job."

However, Uncle Sam had different plans for him.

But the loss of being part of one Space mission has been replaced by another — his current assignment as one of a six-person team designed to bring Space-based products and support to the warfighter.

His experience with the Hubble project and other Space-related projects as a civilian have helped in his training as an Army Space Support Team member.

"I found that as I was getting trained up with the 193rd and as I was doing engineering on Hubble, some of the skills interacted very well and some of the training supported the other element. This is familiar ground. So all the knowledge has come together really well for me over the last couple of months."

"This is very indicative of the type of people and their technical backgrounds we have in this unit," said Lt. Col. Michael Yowell, commander of the 193rd. Held's civilian background was a definite asset during the seven-week Army Space Support Team training, and will go a long way in upcoming exercises and real world missions."

## Awards/Promotions

Last Name, First Name, MI	Office	Award
Anderson Barry L	SP-AE	TOA
Andrews Elizabeth E	SP-CP	PA
Avery Philip H	TC-MT-DM	OTSCA
Baez Phyllis M	AR-ZA	PA
Baker Jason Scott	BL-SS	SA
Bales Nancy C	BL-AS	TOA
Batts M D	CM-CN	PA
Bell Dorothy F	AR-LO	PA
Bien Victoria A	AR-IN	PA
Binford Victoria R	CM-AK	SA
Boutwell Karol C	AR-O	PA
Broussard John F	BL-ME	CACS
Carleton Owen B	AR-IN-I	QSI
Correa Carmen L	CM-CN	PA
Davis Kelly G	BL-SC	TOA
Dawkins Angela Battle	BL-WS	TOA
Dillard Caliethsa B	BL-WS	PA/TOA
Erskine Gladys Y	CM-AK	QSI
Fantasia Luanne	AC-K-ZP	PA
Geronimo Teresita C	AC-K-ZP	PA
Greenawalt Dennis P	CM-AK	PA
Hagerdon Linda H	BL-SS	SA
Hamidi Seyed M	BL-SS	SA
Hampton Patricia A	IM-C	QSI
Harris Carolyn B	CM-AP	SA
Helbert Ann C	CM-AP	SA
Henderson Robert N	AR-IM	PA
Hodgkins Anthony S	AR-OP-A	PA
Innes Terri L	BL-SS	TOA
Jones Gordon	CM-KA	PA
Kimbrough Angie B	BL-AS	TOA
Lacey Lajeannia J	IM-P	PA
Ledbetter Gary E	IM-P	PA
Lockridge Patricia W	AC-K-ZR	PA
Mayes Gary N	TC-MT-A	TOA
McKinney Sharon L	AR-SB-Z	PA
Morash John F	BL-SC	TOA
Moreno Tahara	AC-K-ZL	TOA
Moss Lou A	AR-NA	QSI
Nichols Dianne W	II	PA
Norris Robert L	AR-OS-C	SA
Oglesby Debra A	AC-K-R	OTSCA
Owens Claudette C	BL-SC	TOA
Parker Debra A	CM-CN	PA/SA
Rains Brenda L	TC	PA/TOA
Ramey Rachel H	RM-M	TOA
Robinson Leondra M	IM-P	PA
Schumann Deborah A	SP-CP	TOA
Shields Jeffery M	RM-M	TOA
Solorio Delene J	AR-OF	SA
Spencer Vairy L	BL-SC	TOA
Strider Robert K	BL-AO	TOA
Teague Deborah Vaughn	CM-AK	TOA
Todd Richard W	TC-MT-N	SA
Waldrep Elaine M	LC-H	QSI
Wood Robert E	BL-MC	CACS
Wynn Stephen H	LC-H	MCSA
Young Angelia	BL-MC	TOA

### Promotions (New grade/effective date shown)

Defrieze John R	AR-IM	12	2/20
Nash Kevin D	TC-MT-E	14	2/24
Norton Karen M	CM-AP	13	2/10
Phillips Jeffrey L	AR-OS	12	2/24
Van Rassen Cynthia M	LC-H	13	2/10
Wooten Melva L	CM-CT	13	2/24

CACS — Command Award for Civilian Service

MCSA — Meritorious Civilian Service Award

SA — Special Act Award

PA — Performance Award

OTSCA — On-the-Spot Cash Award

TOA — Time-Off award

QSI — Quality Step Increase

## Life's 'easy' at Camp Bob

# Soldiers at Camp Roberts maintain satellite communications in Pacific region

by Mike Howard  
ARSPACE PAO

**CAMP ROBERTS, Calif.** — There are two sayings in play here. The story hides in the endearing nickname in both.

"To understand our mission, you've got to understand life at Camp Bob."

"Everything's easy at Camp Bob."

The constant in the colloquial is Camp Bob, and Camp Bob, of course, is the affectionate reference to this California National Guard base used 60 years ago to prepare soldiers to fight in the Pacific during World War II. It's located what seems to be 100 miles — and in some cases it actually is — from anywhere military. That means hours of driving just to shop at the commissary, go to the Army doctor or dentist, and head home at the end of the day or to work at the beginning.

The last saying is light-hearted, wishful thinking because it's not easy.

The camp is home to about 60 Army Space Command (ARSPACE) soldiers and civilians assigned to Company D, 1<sup>st</sup> Satellite Control Battalion. These soldiers run 24-hour operations in monitoring satellites in the Defense Satellite Communications System.

They manage satellite communications, which means they help ensure the military is able to communicate. Signals for DSN telephone, e-mail, Internet, video teleconferencing — and much more within the communications arena — can flow through these satellites.

"Since satellites are out there in space, you can't get to them to work on them," said Spc. Logan Maynard, a satellite network controller assigned to the company. "They're obviously too far away. So we monitor and control them through our computer networks."

Their efforts bring versatility to the military.

"The number one thing with satellite communications is that you can put a computer terminal anywhere in the field," said Maynard, "and be able to communicate with anywhere else in the world. Just set up a terminal — give it to commanders and

soldiers in the field — and you've got it.

"If the President wants to talk to his commanders in Afghanistan, he can."

The battalion actually has four other companies with similar missions in Okinawa, Germany, Maryland, and Colorado.

Which brings attention back to Camp Bob.

"It's the isolation," said 1<sup>st</sup> Sgt. Dan Russell, company first sergeant. "The mission we do here is the same as what's done at the other battalion locations, only we operate in the Pacific region."

The difference, then, is in the challenges presented by the location. Normal things taken for granted on an active military installation become a chore.

The soldiers get their support from a variety of locations. The camp is located halfway between Presidio of Monterey 100 miles north and Vandenberg Air Force Base 100 miles southeast. These have the closest military doctors and dentists — civilian doctors closer to the camp take care of routine visits.

The gate to this camp sits off highway 101 about 15 miles from the nearest town of Paso Robles where many of the soldiers live in either leased apartments as barracks or with their families in off-post housing. Once on the compound and past the rows of empty old World War II buildings, it's a 15-minute drive through rolling fields to the company's hilltop site.

Grazing sheep can delay the trip.

"I've gotten used to the drive," said Sgt. 1st Class Jerry Mobry, operations platoon sergeant. He lives with his family at Fort Hunter Liggett. "There's nothing we can do about our geographical location. There's a little give and take here — people either love it or hate it for whatever reasons — but once we're inside the compound doing our jobs, nothing else matters."

The difficulties of being assigned to a remote location did not pass when the commanding general and command sergeant major of U.S. Army Space Command and U.S. Army Space and Missile Defense Command visited earlier this month.

"The future of the Army is out there with you," Lt. Gen. Joseph M. Cosumano Jr. told nearly 50 soldiers and family members during a Town Hall meeting here. "The sergeant major and I represent the past. It's our job to pass on something to you that's worthwhile. The bottom line is that we're here because we care about you."

Once again, the focus returns to Camp Bob — this time with teamwork as the focus.

"A long time ago when I was a paratrooper, the one thing I hated was bouncing off the ground when I landed," said Command Sgt. Major Wilbur Adams Jr. "But what I did like was the feeling of being part of a team."

"We know that Camp Roberts is unique because of the daily challenges you all face. You're going to take these experiences with you wherever you go. Spouses, this is your development as well. You're going to be the spouses of first sergeants and command sergeants major. You're going to look back to your time here for answers to new challenges you'll face in these new roles."

Then there's the affection.

"It's unique," said Sgt. David Sizemore, a satellite network controller assigned to the company as well. "We're a regular Army unit sitting right in the middle of a California National Guard post. We naturally developed a fondness. Camp Bob is the name most of us have taken for it."

"It was a huge culture shock when we got here a year ago," said Sizemore's wife, Mardi. "We grew to love it here. I think we all pretty much pull together to face the challenges together."

Finally, character.

"You do learn to rely on each other," Russell said. "The thing about our saying that everything being easy here is just to keep it light, because it's not easy. You've got to maintain a sense of humor. I've been in the Army just over 20 years and, from an NCO perspective, this is the toughest I've seen. Facing these challenges build character."

"I love being able to totally control my world. There's never a slow minute. There are many challenges and that can give a team an edge. When I refer to this place as Camp Bob, it's because I like it as an old friend."



(Photo by Mike Howard)

Private First Class Glendon Jones, right, and Specialist Maria Castillo test a satellite signal converter at the D Company, 1<sup>st</sup> Satellite Control Battalion, remote site in California.