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The Eagle

United States Army Space and Missile Defense Command

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Photo by Jonas Jonsson

Mission to Mars?

Capt. Jason Held, left, and fellow Mars Desert Station researcher Daimon Sheets troubleshoot a remote radio used to communicate with a site 10 kilometers to the west. See related story on page 8.

Space Support Team welcomed home from Baghdad

**By Capt. Angela Johnson
Unit reporter**

DENVER, Colo. — Maxine Hennessey and daughters Morganna and Samantha held neon-colored signs they had drawn themselves. Baby Veronica, who at only 1-year-old is too young to even remember her father, Maj. John Hennessey, clutched a bright yellow sign with the words, "Welcome home, Dad!"

Anne Zweig helped her two daughters, Kaitlyn and Hannah, unfurl the banner the family had created together to welcome back daddy, Maj. Loren Zweig. Hannah was practically dancing with excitement.

The entire 1st Space Company turned out to welcome back Army Space Support Team 2 at Denver International Airport Feb. 2. Zweig, Hennessey, Capt. Daryl Breitbach and Sgt. Andrew Vorhies returned from a six-month deployment in support of V Corps outside of Baghdad, Iraq.

As each airport train brought more travelers, the anticipation grew. It was obvious from the signs and uniforms that the group was preparing to welcome back Soldiers from OPERATION IRAQI FREEDOM. One man stopped to share his war experiences. A woman stopped to say thank you. Many halted briefly to pay their respects to those gathered and nearly everyone smiled as Hannah asked impatiently, "Is my daddy on this train?"

Finally, after four train loads of other travelers, friends and family were reunited. The returning fathers and husbands were smothered with hugs, tears and kisses. Single and married Soldiers all received hearty handshakes and pats on the back from 1st Space Company. Soldiers struggled to remain stoic during a truly emotional time. Another team had returned safe and sound from a job well done.

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Soldiers, families of 2nd Space Company prepare for deployment

**By 1st Lt. Eric Coger
Unit reporter**

COLORADO SPRINGS, Colo. — Space Soldiers deploying to Iraq have become, if not routine, at least something approaching the norm. But the most recent deployment of 2nd Space Company, 1st Space Battalion Soldiers marked a significant departure from previous rotations. Instead of individuals replacing serving individuals as has been the standard, the unit is now deploying its Joint Tactical Ground Station Soldiers in complete sections.

A section of JTAGS operators left the United States Jan. 14, en route to Central Command in Qatar to support theater operations. As far back as March 2002, JTAGS Soldiers have conducted a continuous mission 24/7 to provide early

warning of tactical ballistic missile threats to the Central Command theater. Originally in support of operations in Afghanistan, the Soldiers remained in place and in support of the invasion and liberation of the Iraqi people. 2nd Space Co. Soldiers were rotated in and out of country on a one-for-one basis. Other companies, configured differently, maintained the team structure.

Unlike those earlier rotations for 2nd Space Co., this deployment was team-based and the integrity of the section was key. The command decided that it was more efficient to build and deploy a team intact, as opposed to the previous method.

"The decision was reached to train for and deploy with this concept, versus the one-to-one replacement," said Company Commander Maj. Charles Nesloney.

"Maintaining section integrity will

assist in efficiency and help on many fronts."

Beginning in October, the assignment will become a one-year tour, similar to how Soldiers rotate to the Republic of Korea. The 2nd Space Co. will send a headquarters element consisting of a commander and training personnel to provide support in this endeavor.

To accomplish their mission, Soldiers of 2nd Space Co. had to prepare and train not only themselves but also their families for a separation of one year.

Led by Chief Warrant Officer Andrew Wimberly and Sgt. 1st Class Lloyd Wesley, the section began the rigorous training process in November 2003. The first steps included family readiness briefs and personnel selection. From there, the

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The Command Corner



Lt. Gen. Larry J. Dodgen
Commanding General



CSM David Lady
Command Sgt. Maj.

Three months have passed since I joined the command. In that time, I have had the opportunity to visit the majority of locations where the SMDC team is doing so much to bring cutting-edge technology and space-based products to America's joint warfighters. At each stop, I am continually impressed with the extraordinary professionalism and dedication displayed on a daily basis. My congratulations are extended to each of you for your fine efforts during this important time of great challenges.

This past month, SMDC had the distinct honor of publicly acknowledging Lt. Gen. (Retired) C.J. LeVan for his long and distinguished career in missile defense. In addition to his many contributions in facilitating the development of multiple air defense weapons systems, he also served as the commanding general of the U.S. Army Air Defense Center and Fort Bliss, Texas. In tribute for his many notable achievements during a distinguished career, Gen. LeVan was recognized as a "Pioneer" during an induction ceremony on Feb. 12. His portrait now resides in a place of honor in the Pioneer Conference Room, SMDC - Colorado Springs Headquarters.

As we look to the near future, SMDC will intensify its efforts even more to ensure Initial Defensive Operations of the Ground-based Midcourse Defense (GMD) system at Fort Greely, Alaska, later this year. The scope and importance of this effort are considerable. For the first time in our nation's history, America will have protection of our homeland from a limited ballistic missile attack. The deployed system will also retain the capability for evolutionary development and testing.

Working closely with the Missile Defense Agency and our sister services, SMDC has been instrumental as the Army's joint user representative for GMD. The 100th Missile Defense Brigade (GMD), activated in October 2003, is working in Cheyenne Mountain, Colorado Springs, Colo., to facilitate the command and control aspects for the interceptors based at Fort Greely. The Soldiers assigned to the newly activated 49th Alaska Army National Guard Missile Defense Space Battalion are now training to crew the interceptors. Backing up this great team of active and reserve component Soldiers are hundreds of other extraordinarily talented Soldiers, civilians and contractors stationed from Kwajalein Atoll to Huntsville, Ala. A series of staff and planning exercises are scheduled in the coming months to refine our command and control procedures.

In addition to GMD IDO, SMDC continues to support joint warfighters deployed from Afghanistan and Iraq to Korea and Haiti. With responsibility to deliver reliable satellite communications, theater missile warning, imagery and Blue Force Tracking support, "tip of the spear" professionals are ensuring the delivery of space-based products that are so vital to the operational support of our deployed forces.

As a resource to augment further our deployed forces' reachback capabilities, the newly renovated SMDC Operations Center in Colorado Springs will be dedicated in March. The expanded communications and automation capabilities will enhance the resources that have been so instrumental to supporting the teams and personnel deployed for OPERATIONS ENDURING FREEDOM and IRAQI FREEDOM.

Finally, I encourage you to consider safety in everything you do. March brings with it the first signs of springtime ... but the effects of winter with snow, ice and fog can remain in many of our SMDC locations. Use caution when driving. The lives that you save in driving defensively may be those of your own and your family.

Changes to Army uniforms are often emotional, and our leaders never make these decisions without a great deal of thought. Two recent decisions will affect every Soldier in the command, for we will all begin to have the American flag sewn onto every one of our Battle Dress Uniforms or Desert Camouflage Uniforms and many of us will retire the Army Space Command (ARSPACE) Distinctive Unit insignia (the crest), replacing it with the U.S. Army Space and Missile Defense Command insignia.

Our chief of staff intends for our entire Army to adopt an "expeditionary mindset." Every Soldier is liable for deployment into a hostile area. For decades American Soldiers have worn the flag on the right sleeve to identify themselves among their coalition partners. Our previous practice of sewing the flags on for a six-month to a yearlong deployment, and removing them upon redeployment has made little sense as more and more Soldiers are sent on regular deployments.

This decision to change, which requires no moving of flags already on uniforms, makes a great deal of sense, and will be completed in SMDC by June 14. Within the next three months, all Soldiers will receive five American flags from their unit supply sections, and all enlisted Soldiers will have these flags sewn on at unit expense. SMDC has ordered and received the flags already, and the sewing contracts will soon be completed.

The flags are sewn on the right sleeve, below the seam or, if combat service patch is worn, below that patch. Instructions are already in AR 670-1.

Army Space Forces has had a long and distinguished service, but the establishment of U.S. Strategic Command (STRATCOM) has made another change necessary. SMDC/Army Forces Strategic Command is the Army Service Command Component to STRATCOM, not ARSPACE. While the complete deactivation of ARSPACE (in a bureaucratic sense) will take some time, our Soldiers will receive three insignia as soon as delivery takes place (G4 has ordered the SMDC insignia already). Unit leaders will direct the change of DUIs once all Soldiers in their units have received the insignia.

Specifically, all SMDC staff in Colorado Springs, brigade headquarters, and all battalions except 1st Space Battalion will don the SMDC insignia. Once 1st Space Brigade, 100th Missile Defense Brigade (Ground-based Midcourse Defense), 1st Satellite Control Battalion, and 49th Alaska Army National Guard Missile Defense Space Battalion have their Tables of Organization and Equipment (MTO&E) approved, they will develop their own insignia with the assistance and approval of the Army Institute of Heraldry.

These uniform issues are not small matters, for they affect every Soldier in the command. However, the decisions have been made and the supply system will support the decisions. The reasons for the changes are clear and sensible. Sergeants, explain the reasons to your Soldiers, and demonstrate the standard by proudly wearing our national flag and SMDC crest.

ON POINT!

The U.S. Army is looking for highly motivated Soldiers, Marines, Sailors, and Airman to fill its Warrant Officer ranks. Positions are open in all 45 specialties if you qualify. Applicants with less than 12 years active federal service are encouraged to apply. For more information and all forms/documents required visit the Web site at www.usarec.army.mil/warrant or call (502) 626-0484/0458/0488/0478/0271/1860.

SECURE THE HIGH GROUND!

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Polling data shows majority of Iraqis want U.S. to stay

By Sgt. 1st Class Doug Sample, American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON, D.C. — Even after the June 30 handover of authority in Iraq, the majority of Iraqis would prefer some form of U.S. security force in their country, coalition authorities have said.

Dan Senor, senior spokesman for the Coalition Provisional Authority (CPA), told reporters during a briefing in Baghdad that polling data indicates the majority of Iraqis “don’t want the U.S. to go.”

“The important part is that the overwhelming majority of Iraqis recognize that there is a role for U.S. forces after the June 30 handover,” he said.

Senor said polling data taken by the coalition indicates that most Iraqis are grateful for the country’s liberation and that the majority of Iraqis believe there is a role for U.S. forces in the long run because of worries the security situation will destabilize if the United States

departs entirely. But the Iraqis polled also indicated they don’t want to be occupied.

“So whether it comes out in the polling, or whether it comes out in discussion with Iraqis on the streets, or whether it comes out in discussions with the governing council or political leaders or religious leaders across the country, most of those individuals indicate that they want U.S. forces here,” Senor said.

Senor told reporters that June 30 is not a “magical date” when coalition forces will “just disappear.”

“That’s not the case at all,” he said. “June 30 is the date on which we hand over sovereignty — we hand over political authority to the Iraqis to run their own country, to govern their own country.”

Senor said that while CPA chief Ambassador L. Paul Bremer III will leave on June 30, “most of the operation that we’ve built up here will be in place as part of a U.S. mission.”

Senor noted that the United States will establish an

embassy in Iraq that will be the largest in the world, with an estimated budget of some \$18.6 billion dollars. That money, he said, will not be spent in a matter of months, but “over a number of years.”

“So the U.S. presence here will still be significant even though the Iraqis will be in charge of their own authorities,” he said. “We will still have a large presence here; we will still work hand in hand with the Iraqi people and the Iraqi government on the reconstruction of their country. They will be making the political decisions, but we will still be here in a very strong support mechanism on the civilian side.”

Army Brig. Gen. Mark Kimmitt, deputy operations director for Combined Joint Task Force 7, answered Iraqi concerns that the country’s security is still fragile and that the government could destabilize when U.S. forces depart. He told reporters that coalition forces “are not prepared to leave the country” and are prepared to continue

the partnership with Iraqi security forces, its army and civil defense corps for the future.

“It is our intent to stay here as long as we’re needed, as long as we’re wanted, and that when we do depart in the future it will be because we have left behind a fully functioning, robust Iraqi security force that is capable of self-defense and public security,” the general said.

Senor also reported that a status of forces agreement, which would govern U.S. forces in Iraq and which was negotiated in the Nov. 15 political agreement with the governing council, may not be in place by the end of March as agreed upon.

He said members of the governing council have indicated they would prefer a sovereign government approve the SOFA agreement. “We respect that and are open to it,” Senor said. “I think the important point here is that the overwhelming majority of Iraqis recognize there is a role for U.S. forces after June 30.”

What We Think

The Eagle asks:

What woman do you think helped shape American history and why?



LaToria Moore
Office of Chief Counsel
Arlington, Va.

A woman that helped shape American history to me is Hillary Clinton. She was the first “First Lady” to ever get elected to the U.S. Senate, as well as having accomplished other great things. She visited the American troops in Afghanistan and Iraq to show her support and see firsthand the challenges our troops face. She also worked hard to secure \$21.4 billion in funding for clean up and recovery efforts after the 9-11 terrorist attacks.



Maj. Steve Redmon
Command Operation Law Attorney
Arlington, Va.

The woman who has done the most to shape and strengthen America throughout its history is the “positive everyday woman.” The daily contributions and sacrifices of this unsung American hero are the essence of America’s foundation and the key to our future success as a nation.



Air Force Staff Sgt. Allen Lewis
RSSC CONUS
McDill Air Force Base, Fla.

Sally Ride because she paved the way for others to follow into space.



CW2 Garth Hahn
Network Technician
1st Satellite Control Bn. Headquarters
Colorado Springs, Colo.

Of the many great women in our national history, I would have to say Susan B. Anthony. Her campaign, along with other great women of her time, for women’s suffrage gave our nation more representative elections. Her push to extend the right to vote ensured the women of the United States a voice at the ballot box, forever changing the face of American politics and making our democracy stronger.



Leondra Robinson
Information Management Specialist
Chief Information Office
Huntsville, Ala.

I think Eleanor Roosevelt - wife of one American president and niece of another. Her place in history is that of an American woman who was influential in bringing about world-wide improvements in human rights and social equality.



Spc. Matt Hagen
Training NCO
Delta Co.
1st SATCON Bn.
Camp Roberts, Calif.

I think that we should recognize not one woman, but many. As our Soldiers went overseas during WWI and WWII, the women who remained behind completely changed our American society. When they stepped up and took jobs that had previously been filled by the men, they paved the way for the millions of women that we see today in the workplace, and showed that there is no job in America that cannot be performed by a woman. This helped quite a bit in equal rights and the suffrage movement as it made it easier for women who chose to take positions that were other than traditional women’s roles and take an equal place in society.

Soldiers given chance to meet Army leaders

By Spc. Alicia Brogden
Unit reporter

FORT MEADE, Md. — Four hand-selected Soldiers from Bravo Company, 1st Satellite Control Battalion, were honored to dine with Gen. Peter J. Schoomaker, the Army Chief of Staff, at an invitation-only party Jan. 25.

Walter Kaye, civilian aide to the secretary of the Army, holds an annual dinner party to show his appreciation to all who serve in the U.S. Army. The event held at Fort Myer, Va., is more than an honor; it is also an opportunity for Soldiers to celebrate their time in service.

Despite Kaye being unable to attend due to a family emergency, the party went on as planned. Among the nearly 500 in attendance were Schoomaker, Sgt. Maj. of the Army Kenneth Preston; Maj. Gen. Galen Jackman, Military District of Washington commander; and Command Sgt. Maj. Jeffrey Greer, of the Military District of Washington; as well as Soldiers representing several installations that surround Washington.

"Times are few and far between that you get a chance to personally meet either the chief of staff of the Army, or the sergeant major of the Army, but to have the opportunity to meet both of them was such an honor," said Sgt. Craig Campbell, Training NCO.

The guests enjoyed a lavish four-course meal and helped themselves to an open bar. A live band was provided for dancing and entertainment.

"We all really enjoyed ourselves," Campbell said. "The food was very good. I am very happy to have been able to represent Bravo Company at such an exciting event."

During an election year, many active duty military members and federal employees wish to become involved in campaigning for their favorite candidate. What are the limits to their participation? The do's and don'ts in relation to political activities are listed below.

The Hatch Act and Federal Employees

Permitted and Prohibited Activities for Employees Who May Engage in Partisan Activity

- **May** be candidates for public office in nonpartisan elections
- **May** register and vote as they choose
- **May** assist in voter registration drives
- **May** express opinions about candidates and issues
- **May** contribute money to political organizations
- **May** attend political fundraising functions
- **May** attend and be active at political rallies and meetings
- **May** join and be an active member of a political party or club
- **May** sign nominating petitions
- **May** campaign for or against referendum questions, constitutional amendments, municipal ordinances
- **May** campaign for or against candidates in partisan elections
- **May** make campaign speeches for candidates in partisan elections
- **May** distribute campaign literature in partisan elections
- **May** hold office in political clubs or parties including serving as a delegate to a convention
- **May not** use their official authority or influence to interfere with an election
- **May not** solicit, accept or receive political contributions unless both individuals are members of the same federal labor organization or employee organization and the one solicited is not a subordinate employee
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- **May not** engage in political activity while on duty
- **May not** engage in political activity in any government office
- **May not** engage in political activity while wearing an official uniform
- **May not** engage in political activity while using a government vehicle
- **May not** be candidates for public office in partisan elections
- **May not** wear political buttons on duty

For additional questions, contact:

U.S. Office of Special Counsel 1730 M Street N.W.
Suite 201 · Washington DC 20036-4505
Phone: 1-800-85-HATCH
Web Site: www.osc.gov

This list does not apply to federal employees in the following agencies, divisions or positions: Federal Election Commission; Federal Bureau of Investigations; Secret Service; Central Intelligence Agency; National Security Agency; National Security Council; Defense Intelligence Agency; National Imagery and Mapping Agency; Merit Systems Protection Board; Office of Special Counsel; Office of Criminal Investigations of the IRS; Office of Investigative Programs of the U.S. Customs Service; Office of Law Enforcement of the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, and Firearms; Criminal Division of the Department of Justice; Career members of the Senior Executive Staff; Administrative Law Judges; Contract appeals board members.

Admin assistant inducted into women veterans hall of fame

By Debra Valine
Editor, *The Eagle*

HUNTSVILLE, Ala. — Paulakay Lane, an executive administrative assistant with Phoenix Services, made Alabama history when she was inducted into the Women Veterans Hall of Fame on Veterans Day 2003.

It came as a surprise to the 20-year military veteran. She joined the group to stay connected with veterans.

Lane spent much of her Army career as a horse trainer. She trained horses for the Old Guard, Caisson Platoon, and helped start mounted Color Guards in various units.

Even when stationed in Germany, she found a way to be around the horses as a member of the German-American equestrian team. She competed for six years in intermediate level dressage and hunter/jumper events.

When not working with horses, Lane was a career counselor, helping other Soldiers make career decisions. She said she used the same philosophy for

training Soldiers as for training horses.

"It's all about communication," Lane said. "Whether you are dealing with horses or Soldiers, you have to listen, watch and hear."

Lane, the daughter of the late music legend Boxcar Willie, was featured in his video tribute to American service members. She's proud of that video for many reasons. In the video "Spirit of America," Lane was at the Branson, Mo., Veterans Cemetery — where her father, a 22-year Air Force veteran, is buried.

"My dad wrote the song, 'Spirit of America,' for veterans while I was deployed during OPERATIONS DESERT SHIELD/DESERT STORM," Lane said. "He said he wanted to do something special for the veterans."

Boxcar Willie sponsored the Veterans Day Parade in Branson each year. "Whatever mounted guard I was involved with would ride in the parade," Lane said. "If it involved veterans, my dad was right in the middle of it."

"Even though my dad was a big personality, he was still my

dad," Lane said. "That video was something he and I shared. We were both in the military; no one else in our family understood it — his pride in me and his pride in the military."

Lane said the video is available for use by members of the Armed Forces for events such as re-enlistment ceremonies and veterans' events.

"Spirit of America" tells the story of the veteran and what that veteran is to America; they are the spirit of what makes us Americans.

"I may have retired from the military, but not life," said Lane, who still is very much involved with horses. She trains horses on her ranch and runs a riding school on weekends. She also uses her horses as therapy for physically handicapped children.

"The horses have always been in my life," Lane said. "Wherever I went in the Army, I got caught up in the horses. The only duty station I had without horses

was Korea — I was without horses for two years. Never again. I enjoyed Korea, but now, I like coming home and saddling up and riding off!"

And the military has always been part of her life. She represents women service members in Veterans Day parades in Madison, Ala., and in Tennessee, and she still goes home when she can to participate in the Branson Veterans Day parade.



Paulakay Lane

Photo by Becky Proaps

Civilian News

President signs executive order on pay raises

The President finally signed a long-awaited executive order to implement a retroactive pay increase for federal employees averaging 4.1 percent above the 2003 rates. This pay adjustment supersedes the 2.0 percent overall average increase approved in December. Of the 4.1 percent increase, 2.7 percent (instead of the original 1.5 percent) is allocated as an across-the-board increase to basic pay and 1.4 percent is allocated to increases in locality pay. The new 2004 salary tables are posted on the Office of Personnel Management's (OPM) Web site at <http://www.opm.gov/oca/payrates/index.asp>. The executive order makes the pay increases effective retroactive to the first day of the first applicable pay period beginning on or after January 1, 2004 (January 11 for most employees).

Changes to leave and earning statements to reduce identity theft

Leave and earning statements for all service members and Defense Department civilians, and paychecks for military retirees now have more protection over identity theft. The Defense Finance and Accounting Service is dropping the first five digits of a person's social security number from all pay statements and checks to guard against identity theft. "The changes apply to everyone," said Patrick T. Shine, acting director Defense Finance and Accounting Service. The proposal "originated internally and will be phased in over the next couple of pay periods." Reports of identity theft have substantially increased in recent years, according to the Federal Trade Commission, which monitors the issue. This change is to be for all hard copy leave and earning statements. This does not apply to electronic copies of statements found on myPay, the online system for access and control of customers personal pay information (<https://mypay.dfas.mil>). Five years ago, the number of complaints to the FTC was roughly 23,400. Based on figures released in January 2004, the number of complaints of identity theft nearly topped 215,000 for 2003. The Social Security Administration also has taken the same step of eliminating the first five social security numbers on the millions of checks it issues.

Panel chairman backs off notion of civilian-military pay parity

Rep. Ernest Istook, R-Okla., chairman of the House Appropriations subcommittee that handles federal pay raises, wants Congress to discontinue support for pay parity between civilian workers and military personnel. He said the government can no longer provide the same raises to both groups. "We often express our appreciation for federal workers, but we must balance this with our own fiscal responsibility," Istook wrote in a letter to House colleagues. Over the past eight years, Congress routinely has awarded civilian workers base pay raises that exceed both inflation and Social Security cost-of-living increases, he argued. "This year must be different," Istook wrote, saying that granting the higher raise to both groups would cost an extra \$2 billion in FY 2005. With pay parity advocates in both political parties, Congress has approved equivalent raises for civilians and the military in 19 of the past 21 years. Supporters of pay parity also cite Bureau of Labor Statistics figures that there is a 32 percent gap in pay between federal civilian employees and their private sector counterparts.

Thrift Savings Plan Loan Program makes changes

Effective July 1, the TSP will make three changes to the Loan Program: a \$50 fee will be deducted from the amount of each new loan; you will no longer be able to have two general purpose loans at the same time. Instead, you will only be allowed one general purpose loan and one residential loan; and when you pay off one loan, you will not be eligible to apply for another loan for 60 days. These changes to the loan program will reinforce the importance of borrowing from your TSP account only as a last resort. For participants who need a TSP loan, the \$50 fee will cover the cost of processing and servicing the loan.

Military News

DECA starting new bounced check policy

Shoppers who bounce checks at the commissary could soon see money disappear from their bank accounts on payday. By the end of February, the Defense Commissary Agency planned to begin using a new process to collect money owed on customers' returned checks. Under the new system, the commissary will send the check to the bank to collect money due. If that fails, the money owed will be automatically deducted from the customer's bank account on military paydays through a collection agency called Solutran. If still no money is available in the account on payday, then the request for money will be sent to the Defense Finance and Accounting Service to get money owed from the service member through the chain of command. Though a date has not been set, DECA-Europe will be the first region to switch entirely to the new process. Five commissaries in the states have been test locations and more will soon be added, according to a DECA news release, eventually bringing the entire commissary system under the process.

GIs on extended Iraq tours offered bonus

Army officials have settled on a compensation plan that would give Soldiers whose tours in Iraq have been involuntarily extended a tax-free bonus of up to \$1,000 each month. Although some Soldiers may have been deployed for longer than 12 months, only those Soldiers who were listed in the Army's January announcement of the involuntary extensions are eligible for the new compensation package. The first part of the package is an additional \$200 each month in hardship duty pay, which every Soldier will receive on top of the \$100 in hardship pay he or she has already been earning while in Iraq. There is a \$300 ceiling, by law. The second part involves a choice: Take another \$800 in assignment incentive pay each month, or take a "stabilized tour" when they return home, "the length of which will be [equal to] the total amount [a Soldier] was deployed," according to Lt. Col. Gerald Barrett, the Army's chief of compensation.

Normandy creates commemorative badge for WWII veterans

The Lower Normandy Region has created an insigne de poitrine to be presented at the official ceremonies surrounding the 60th anniversary of D-Day in Normandy. The honored recipients will be the brave men who fought in D-Day and/or the Battle of Normandy from June 5 to Aug. 24, 1944, and who will be present during the commemorative ceremonies in Normandy this summer. The badges will be awarded in Lower Normandy beginning on June 4, 2004, at the start of the commemorative ceremonies. Veterans should receive their badges at the place in Normandy where their unit fought. Registration must be completed online using a valid e-mail address. Registration information and a complete list of the 180 Commemorative Badge Presentation Ceremonies can be found in the Veteran's section of <http://www.normandiememoire.com>. The commemorative badge was created to serve as a tribute to the men who fought in Normandy, and as a lasting symbol of the appreciation felt by the citizens of Normandy for the American Soldiers who fought in World War II. Information regarding the 60th anniversary of D-Day can also be found courtesy of the Western France Tourist Board at www.westernfrancetouristboard.com.

Service members encouraged to invest in TSP

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

Fort Greely policeman receives Officer of the Year award

By Joyce Duff
Fort Greely, Alaska

As the Department of the Army police officers gathered for a meeting with Michael Mitchell, provost marshal, and Travis Hoague, deputy provost marshal, Officer Joseph Stottlemeyer sat with a surprised look on his face as he was presented the Police Officer of the Year Award.

Unknown to the police officers, their shift supervisors had been evaluating them while the officers performed law enforcement duties during the last year. Some of the areas evaluated included self motivation, professionalism, leadership, and giving 110 percent of themselves. The nominations were submitted to the provost marshal and deputy for review and final selection.

The police mission at Fort Greely is no different than at other Army installations.

However, the environment in which the mission must be accomplished is extremely different. Police officers operate in a varied climate, from 60 degrees below zero to 90 degrees above zero and at times wind gusts to 80 mph. Patrolling the installation is not only done in a warm vehicle but also on snow machines during the winter and all-terrain vehicles in warmer months.

"There are no obstacles that stop Stottlemeyer from performing his duties and looking for more," said Capt. Matthew Mancuso, shift supervisor.

When asked what he did to receive this award, Stottlemeyer was reserved with his self praise. "I was totally surprised to receive this award," he said.

"Stottlemeyer exhibits leadership and always gives 110 percent plus in all he does," Mancuso said. "He requires little to no supervision and is always volunteering to help the department."



Photo by Joyce Duff

Officer Joseph Stottlemeyer answers a call while manning the Department of the Army Police front desk at Fort Greely.



Photo by Joyce Duff

Patrolling Fort Greely on a snow machine is something Department of the Army Police Officer Joseph Stottlemeyer does as the norm that most police officers never thought of doing.

Stottlemeyer sponsored himself in two Alaska Police Standards Council courses (Crime Scene Photo and Major Case Finger Print Evidence Collection), completed 97 hours of on-line continuing education courses and obtained an overall rating of 90 percent in the Centralized Operations Police Suite (COPS). He also worked 453 hours overtime during the year and was promoted to the next civilian service grade level.

"Stottlemeyer is always looking for work. He demonstrates integrity and professionalism of the law enforcement mission. He also aided greatly with the start-up of the new Fort Greely police department," Hoague said.

"When others said no to volunteer as the Equal Employment Opportunity (EEO) representative, Stottlemeyer didn't hesitate to say yes," said Mancuso. "Volunteering as the EEO representative is typical of his character."

"I have to give credit to my shift supervisor, Capt. Mancuso, for my success in receiving this award," Stottlemeyer said. "Training took place during the police academy but, the actual hands-on training came from Capt. Mancuso once I was on the road. He continues to lead the officers in day-to-day activities."

Mardi Gras German style

Charlie Company Soldiers experience Germany's Fasching

By Staff Sgt. Benjamin Singleton
Unit reporter

LANDSTUHL, Germany — Fasching is a fun and sometimes frenzied tradition that promises American service members stationed here a great opportunity to experience the always intriguing German culture.

Somewhat analogous to the New Orleans version of Mardi Gras, Fasching begins on the eleventh hour of the eleventh day of the eleventh month — November, or, as the Germans say, "elften elften elf Uhr elf," and runs for three months, until the 42nd day before Easter, at which time, sobriety and repentance resume. Charlie Company, 1st Satellite

Control Battalion Soldiers were not remiss in appreciating the frenetic extended party.

Karneval season, another name for Fasching, is a time of wild fancy-dress parties and costume balls, which are open to the public. *Karneval* season is traditionally seen as a chance for people to go wild and let their hair down before Lent starts on Ash Wednesday. In the Christian church, Lent is a serious time before Easter for fasting and making up for sins and mistakes. As described above, *Karneval* is associated with festivals of the Christian church (wild partying before Lent begins). However, it goes back to pagan times, and was a way of driving out the evil spirits of winter and encouraging the coming of

spring and good crops. Ugly masks worn for this purpose are still worn in carnival festivals in southern Germany. The motto was to "live it up" once more and to satisfy all desires to restore balance in individuals. Over the years, the origin became irrelevant, and the parties grew wilder and more elaborate until finally we end up with months' long celebrations of the German Mardi Gras.

The local version of this wild time began with the official crowning of the *Prinzenpaar* (prince and princess) who declared the season open. Many of those Americans view as traditionally very proper and precise Germans enjoy the accepted and encouraged freedom of expression by

designing magnificent costumes and building fantasy hats with feathers from all sorts of birds. Streetcars at night carried interesting looking travelers — pirates of the Caribbean, sheiks, Zorros, witches and cowboys. The festivities wind down during February.

Sgt. Lawrence Lane, a Charlie Co. team leader, enjoyed the Fasching season one night at a local pub in Massweiler, Germany.

"It was both a cultural experience and a small party — only about 50 people," he said. "I was dressed as Batman, and enjoyed the German traditions. It was great to experience such a unique celebration, and of course, there's always time for repentance!"

Awards/Promotions

Civilian Promotions

Jimmy D. Barrett, GS-12, Colorado Springs, Operations, G-3, SB-BFT
James M. Miskelley, GS-14, Huntsville, Technical Center, Kinetic Energy Interceptor Directorate Matrix
Ricardo L. Parks, GS-13, Huntsville, Technical Center, Kinetic Energy Interceptor Directorate Core
Joseph E. Piscitelli, GS-12, Colorado Springs, Operations, G-3, SB-BFT
Paula R. Smith, GS-08, Colorado Springs, Force Development and Integration Center

On-the-Spot Cash Awards

Jessica J. Hardage, Huntsville, Office of PARC/Contracting and Acquisition Management, Policy and Pricing Branch
Gail E. Sikes, Huntsville, Missile Defense Agency

Special Act Awards

Diana L. Cochran, Huntsville, Technical Center, Joint Center for Technology Integration
Chad L. Daly, Huntsville, Battle Lab, Analysis and Operations Directorate, Studies and Analysis Division
Michael J. Dorsett, Huntsville, Technical Center, Joint Center for Technology Integration
Douglas H. Ennis, Huntsville, Technical Center, Joint Center for Technology Integration
John H. Hennings, Huntsville, Technical Center, Joint Center for Technology Integration
Michael A. Huhlein, Huntsville, Technical Center, Joint Center for Technology Integration

Gregory W. Jones, Huntsville, Technical Center, Joint Center for Technology Integration
Michael E. Lash, Huntsville, Technical Center, Joint Center for Test and Evaluation
Daniel A. Peterson, Huntsville, Lower Tier Air and Missile Defense Project Office, Systems Engineering Division
Vernal R. Scales, Huntsville, Technical Center, Joint Center for Technology Integration
Kenneth H. Shipman, Huntsville, Program Executive Office Air, Space and Missile Defense, JLENS Office
Jere S. Singleton, Huntsville, Technical Center, Joint Center for Technology Integration
Elaine M. Waldrep, Huntsville, Office of Legal Counsel
Jason A. Williams, Huntsville, Technical Center, Kinetic Energy Interceptor Directorate Core

Time-Off Awards

David G. Berge, Colorado Springs, FDIC West, Proponency Organization and Training Division, Space
Kirby R. Brown, Colorado Springs, Battle Lab, Space Directorate
Owen B. Carleton, Colorado Springs, Intelligence Directorate, G-2
Deana R. Clark-Moller, Colorado Springs, FDIC West, Proponency Organization and Training Division
Willie W. Davis, Colorado Springs, Intelligence, G-2
Kerren E. Denham, Colorado Springs, Intelligence, G-2
Ron K. Irons, Colorado Springs, Intelligence, G-2
Norma J. Jenkins, Colorado Springs, Intelligence, G-2
Don W. Larimore, Huntsville, Logistics, G-4, Supply and Service Division

Denise D. Newcomb, Colorado Springs, Intelligence, G-2
Paul D. Schambach, Colorado Springs, Intelligence, G-2
Craig S. Seiler, Colorado Springs, Intelligence, G-2
Daniel J. Selman, Colorado Springs, Intelligence, G-2
Douglas W. Smith, Colorado Springs, Intelligence, G-2
Alexis P. Vonspakovsky, Huntsville, GMD Joint Project Office
James Williams, Colorado Springs, Intelligence, G-2
Joseph W. Wychulis, Colorado Springs, Intelligence, G-2

Superior Civilian Service Award

James L. Courtney, Arlington, Logistics, G-4
Portia M. Davidson, Arlington, Personnel, G-1, Community and Family Programs Division
Jeffrey S. Larkin, Arlington, Operations and Plans, G-3, Command Evaluation Division
Pamela G. Mitchell, Arlington, Office of the Chief of Staff
Diane G. Schumacher, Arlington, Office of the Commanding General

Commander's Award for Civilian Service

Connie B. Black, Arlington, Information Management, G-6, Washington Information Management Division
Dene A. Jackson, Arlington, Personnel, G-1, Community and Family Programs Division
Ellen M. Smith, Arlington, Personnel, G-1
Dennis R. Stout, Huntsville, Intelligence, G-2, Security Division

Home

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The team was then released to spend time with friends and family until the official 1st Space Brigade welcome home ceremony. It was there that Col. David Shaffer, commander of the 1st Space Brigade, reminded all those gathered that it was the forward deployed Soldiers, Soldiers like ARSST 2, who were the tip of the spear for the 1st Space Brigade.

"As you welcome home these returning space warriors, do not forget the Soldiers from the 1st and 2nd Space Companies who are deployed today, serving the warfighter. Keep them in your prayers," said Shaffer.



Photo by Capt. Angela Johnson

Family member Hannah Zweig, left, Army Space Support Company 1st Sgt. Tim Gore, company commander Maj. Richard Lewis, 1st. Lt. Lauren Schultz, and family member Anne Zweig welcome Army Space Support Team 2 home from Iraq.

Space Soldier vacations o

By Capt. Jason Held
193rd Space Support
Battalion

MARS DESERT RESEARCH STATION, Utah — With President George W. Bush's announcement of a human Mars program, accented by the stunning successes of Opportunity and Spirit rover landings, Mars is in the hearts and on the minds of many Americans today.

Mars sparks the imagination, moves the mind and creates images of humanity normally seen in science fiction and dreams, rather than the reality it may become. There is a lot of engineering we need to do before we go, as well as sound politics and sound science. Many questions exist — how would a person live on Mars? How would you eat? How would you live and work?

It is with those questions in mind that I took a vacation from my holiday vacation and drove an old, beat-up pickup truck into the heart of the Utah desert for an exploration of my own.

I'm a member of the Mars Society, a group of space advocates and engineers from all over the world led by former Martin Marietta Mars lead engineer Dr. Robert Zubrin. Zubrin invented a human Mars mission plan which was radically different and logistically much sounder than the NASA plan published for then-President George Bush in the 1980s and early 1990s.

The original plan, requiring more than a thousand tons in orbital construction, years of advanced scientific engineering work, and tons of supplies was an ambitious idea. But priced at \$500 billion, the plan sent Congress into sticker shock faster than you can say "low Earth orbit forever."

Zubrin's plan, called "Mars

Direct," required less than \$50 billion. He created the resources needed to live on Mars "in-situ." All of the usable resources, from fuel to precious oxygen, can be produced on the surface before explorers even arrive, making the plan much more modest and manageable. It is this plan, or a version of it, that the current President Bush and NASA intend to send to Congress for ratification.

The Mars Society has two research stations refining the tactics, techniques and procedures astronauts will need to live and work on Mars. These stations are crewed by volunteers and scientists from all over the world. One station, located on Devon Island in Canada and on the Arctic Circle, is a perfect location to test space weather phenomena. The Desert Station, in Utah, has a perfect sky for an observatory. They are funded by a wide variety of organizations, from PayPal.com guru Elon Musk to the Discovery Channel, to the Plumbers and Pipefitter's Union, to NASA. At these stations, crews conduct research that helps develop both the technology and operations of living on Mars, but often has Earth applications as well.

Lt. Col. John Blick, a Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency engineer, used the station to test robots that were eventually used (and destroyed) during the Sept. 11, 2001, rescue at the World Trade Center. It was not the first time the Mars Society conducted joint research with the U.S. Army.

My job with the Mars Society was to combine scientific skills with military management experience to create a training plan to assist new crews integrate with the habitat. The habitat is a complex structure, two stories high,

with its own internal wiring, plumbing, an Ethernet, as well as satellite and weather telemetry. There is a greenhouse (connected to partially recycled water wastes) and a professionally constructed observatory.

The Utah desert, just 10 minutes west of Hanksville, Utah, is one of the most desolate places on Earth. Nothing grows there — the ground is a deep red color from the volcanic structured

soil. The habitat itself is nestled between two of the 20-foot-high berms dotting this "foreign" landscape.

The bottom floor of the habitat consists of two airlocks, a laboratory for biology and geology experiments, and a shower and toilet facility. The toilet, by the way, was of an Incinolet variety, a steel contraption designed to burn waste at a healthy 4,000 volts. The crew lives and works upstairs, with six closet-sized staterooms (for a six-person crew), and a modest kitchen/living area.

Crews stay at the desert station for two weeks in field conditions, which means whenever you leave the habitat, you simulate working on Mars. Outside the habitat



Using an all terrain vehicle to simulate an extra vehicular activity on Mars, National Guardsman Capt. Jason Held struggles to hold a map steady in a

you wear an analog space suit. At first glance, that's not as bad as it sounds. With the kitchen and a shower every two days (to conserve water), it was certainly not a difficult deal by Army standards, though there were a few surprises.

Upon arrival we discovered that the 20-kilowatt generator that powered all the systems was gone. It was in Grand Junction, Colo., for repairs, and all we had was a 7-kilowatt generator. I now had to develop a training plan which included low power use. With myself as the crew's engineer, the team leader (an accomplished environmental engineer from Canada) and the assistant engineer (an aerospace graduate student from Sweden) managed to rewire systems to allow us to communicate with Mission Control headquarters in San Diego, Calif., light the upstairs floor and keep some appliances running. We certainly could not use the Incinolet, and had to resort to burning wastes the "old fashioned way" — Mogas, which certainly brought back memories of those more "military" deployments. This lasted a few days — until the larger generator returned.

Hands-on experience is the best way to develop a training plan. One task was an Extra-Vehicular Activity (EVA) to both validate the navigation portion of the training and collect soil samples from areas about 8



Photo by Jonas Jonsson

Scientists and volunteers involved in the Mars Desert Research project will call the habitat home for the duration of their stay. It is a complex structure, two stories high, with its own internal wiring, plumbing, and Ethernet, as well as satellite and weather telemetry. A professionally constructed observatory is to the far left, and a greenhouse sits to the right of the main structure.

n simulated Mars



Photo by Jonas Jonsson

scientist/researcher/
strong wind.



Photo by Chalbeth Reynolds

Capt. Jason Held, 193rd Space Support Battalion, takes a break during an "Extra Vehicular Activity" trip while training at the Mars Desert Research Station in Utah.

kilometers north (a kilometer equals about five-eighths of a mile). So we donned our space suits. Although the habitat's spacesuits are not pressurized, they still have their complexities, with communications system, water and electric-powered air intakes, and a specific procedure to don them. It took us almost 45 minutes to put them on, test the fittings and make radio checks before we could even enter the airlock. Part of the simulation of living on Mars meant we had to wait five minutes to "depressurize" prior to leaving for the surface.

We mounted our all terrain vehicles and then got started. Navigation in simulated Mars conditions had its challenges. With no magnetic field around Mars proper, using a compass was forbidden. A compass would be useless on an actual Mars mission. We did have a Global Positioning System, mainly for safety and for accuracy of the science (which requires accurate locations for geologic experiments). The first crews on Mars will probably not have an autonomous navigation system as precise as GPS, so I opted to use the challenge of terrain association to get to our destination and back.

Accomplishing the mission

in a space suit also presented challenges. Wearing thick gloves and a space suit severely limits your motion and vastly reduces your tactile sensations. Simple tasks, such as taking the surveyed map from the bag, required a surgeon's diligence. The helmet has a large bubble providing a solid 180-degree field of view.

Taking our soil samples and photos was awkward because of the bulkiness of the suits, but not impossible with two people working as a team. We wanted to linger and enjoy the scenery, but could not spend much more time — there was a storm front moving in and desert winds were picking up.

And that's when the navigation became difficult. It was not easy to begin with — the maps dated from 1980 and many of the features, volcanic in nature, were not on the map. New features were hand drawn in pencil, and locations were suspect. Reading the

map was becoming difficult, as the helmet started to fog from the inside, a layer of dust and mud formed on the outside, and visibility was drastically reduced.

The storm was coming closer and the map flapped in my thick gloves in 30-knot winds. The terrain, rolling berms of sand and clay, was looking the same in every direction. Looking two kilometers back, the canyon we just came from was under a flash deluge. I didn't want to think of trying to navigate in that. If things became real-world dangerous, I thought, we can always remove our helmets. There are no deluges on Mars. Nevertheless, we decided instead to press on, in simulation, racing ahead of the storm to get home.

We made it home in time, and with quite a few lessons learned. The navigation, was only 100 meters off from GPS spottings, so the soil samples taken were sound. One of the hand-drawn-map corrections

was placed a whole three kilometers too far south, and will have to be corrected. Allan Morrison, our Canadian team leader, cooked us a fine meal of, to my surprise, Army-issue Meals Ready to Eat, which we wolfed down greedily. This was not the only surprise of the day, as it turned out. The generator had returned, and the once silent Incinolet was alive again, but for some mystical reason would not shut off. As the crew's engineer, I drew the task of fixing it.

What can I say. Some jobs are dirtier than others. All for the advancement of science, my friends. The Incinolet, too, has made it into the Mars Desert Research Station's training plan.

As I write this, I remember the cover of a recent *Time* magazine — the red face of Mars with an astronaut, an American astronaut, on its surface. Will we do it? Who knows, but I was happy to be a cog along the way.

Editor's note: Capt. Held is a Colorado National Guard Soldier assigned to the 193rd Space Support Battalion. A computer engineer as a civilian, Held worked hardware-software integration on the Wide Field Camera 3 portion of the Hubble Space Telescope, and on biomedical engineering projects. He was a lead instructor at the Interservice Space Fundamentals Course teaching satellite design theory, propulsion theory, and orbital dynamics. As a member of the Mars Society, an organization comprised largely of scientists devoted to the goal of reaching Mars, Held recently participated in an experiment, funded partly by NASA, in which those involved lived and worked in a simulated Mars environment. For more information about the Mars Society go to <http://www.marssociety.org/MDRS/fs03/crew20/>.

BRAC criteria focus on military value

By Sgt. 1st Class Doug Sample
American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON, D.C. — Military value will be the focus for the final selection criteria to be used in the 2005 round of base realignment and closures.

That value represents the ability of the installation to contribute to DoD future mission capabilities and operational readiness, said Philip Grone, principal assistant deputy undersecretary of defense for installations and environment, in an interview with American Forces Radio and Television Service Feb. 26. In fact, four of the eight guiding principles are centered on military value.

The final selection criteria are also based on factors such as potential costs and savings, community support and environmental considerations, Grone said. However, he added, "ultimately, the secretary must base his recommendations principally on how it contributes to our current and future mission capabilities, how it contributes to military value, how it supports the force."

The selection criteria for the upcoming BRAC round were finalized and published Feb. 12 in the Federal Register, a publication that fulfills the legal requirements to publish items such as proposed rules and notices, among other documents, for public comment.

Grone said Secretary of Defense Donald Rumsfeld approved the final selection criteria after an earlier public comment period for the draft version. The BRAC timetable also called for sending the draft and final criteria to defense congressional committees. Congress has 30 days to carry out any disapproval action on the criteria.

More review work continues in coming months on items such as a force structure plan and infrastructure inventory. The secretary makes final recommendations on base realignment and closures to an independent commission in May 2005.

The commission's nine members will

For more information about
Base Realignment and Closure,
go to <http://www.dod.mil/brac>.

review the secretary's BRAC recommendations before making their own recommendations to the president by September 2005. The president then either approves or rejects the commission's recommendation before sending them to Congress in November 2005. Congress has 45 legislative days to enact a joint resolution rejecting the recommendations or they become binding.

While the mechanics of the basic BRAC process are similar to prior rounds, Grone pointed out that the department's emphasis on transformational options and a "capabilities-based" approach is a significant change. "BRAC can make a profound contribution to our defense posture by realigning our infrastructure to support the new defense strategy," he explained.

And equally important, he added, emphasis will be placed on joint utilization for functions and facilities, as well as converting what he called "waste to warfighting."

"We have facilities that we no longer require that are costing us millions or billions of dollars to maintain over their useful life. Those facilities are not adequate to the mission; we don't need them. Those resources that are devoted to facilities we do not need, need to be converted to warfighting capabilities," he said.

In addition to eliminating waste at bases in the United States, Grone said the department will also look at overseas assets through a global posture review. "The important part about the global review is to look at all of our infrastructure and to look carefully at how they are positioned to support the mission,

and to assess whether or not we can make changes — not just where the wars of the 20th century ended, but where we need to realign and re-position our assets to deter, or where necessary, defeat any potential adversary in the 21st century," he explained.

Meanwhile, Grone said BRAC has become a "key component" of the secretary's transformation initiatives to realign the department's warfighting capability. He said the department's transformation will not be the best possible "unless we have the infrastructure in the right place to support the missions where they need to be. ... We can only accomplish that through a comprehensive base closure and realignment effort."

Although he emphasized there are no specific goals on the number of bases the department plans to close, he indicated past studies have estimated there to be roughly a 23 percent excess capacity across DoD. However, he said, "That doesn't translate into a number of bases that we might close or realign.

"There are no lists of bases to close, we have no specific targets," he explained. "And the reason we don't have specific targets is because it is important for us to put all of our transformational options on the table and not be constrained to an artificial number that we must close a given number of bases."

Grone said that installations affected by a closure and realignment recommendation must begin to implement the closure or realignment within the first two years in which the recommendation becomes law. All closure and realignment activity must be completed within a six-year window, he said.

"So it is a phased approach, but we want to get on with it aggressively because we want to do what we can to get the missions where they need to be to support force and business transformation of the department."



Photo by Sharon L. Hartman

Marrs receives Special Act Award

John Marrs, left, assistant for operational support to the Office of the Chief Scientist, SMDC - Colorado Springs, was recognized for invaluable contributions recently with a Special Act Award. SMDC's chief scientist, Dr. Henry Dubin, presented Marrs with the award in a ceremony at the headquarters building in Colorado Springs Feb. 19. Marrs was responsible, as technical director, for a joint Army, Navy and Air Force Team, for developing a test program to improve joint tactics, techniques and procedures for space control operations. Marrs led the efforts in contracting, test concepts and design, operational exercise selection strategy, process modeling and database structure.

Bush praises DHS for year of accomplishments

**By Gerry J. Gilmore
American Forces Press
Service**

WASHINGTON, D.C. — President George W. Bush marked the one-year anniversary on March 1 of the Department of Homeland Security with a speech praising the department's accomplishments and people.

In his remarks to DHS leaders and rank-and-file employees at the Ronald Reagan International Trade Center here, Bush noted that Homeland Security Secretary Tom Ridge and other officials "are doing a fantastic job of leading this department."

Since the United States and its allies went on the offensive to combat global terrorists after the Sept. 11, 2001, terror attacks on America, Bush pointed out that Osama bin Laden's al Qaeda terrorist network has been crippled, but remains dangerous.

Therefore, although the United States and its partners are winning the war, "we'll face the terrorist threat for years to come," Bush said, noting the DHS was created to make the nation more secure.

The president listed achievements by DHS leaders and employees over the past year; strengthened border, port and infrastructure security; bolstered defenses against

potential terrorist use of biological, chemical and nuclear weapons of mass destruction against the homeland; and assisted first responders nationwide to prepare for possible emergencies.

"You faced a challenge in standing up this department," Bush told his DHS audience,

All Americans "must never forget the day when terrorists left their mark of murder on our nation."

— President
George W. Bush

noting they deserve "a gold star for a job well done."

DHS is finishing "a massive overhaul of security" at American airports, Bush pointed out, while federal air marshals patrol hundreds of commercial flights.

"We are determined to protect Americans who travel by plane," the president said, as well as "to prevent those planes from being used as weapons against us."

DHS security officials are busy guarding the nation's borders and ports, Bush said, to ensure the nation "is closed to terrorists and criminals and weapons and illegal drugs."

Other DHS employees are working with state and local governments and the private sector, Bush said, "to strengthen the defenses of our key infrastructure: communications systems and power grids and transportation networks." DHS is assisting efforts to bolster security at the nation's chemical plants, he added, and is working with Congress and industry to establish uniform chemical security standards.

A national cyber security division has been created, Bush noted, to track and assess assaults on America's computer network and coordinate nationwide responses.

DHS also has placed sophisticated chemical and biological agent detection equipment in many metropolitan areas across the United States. The national stockpile for drugs, vaccines and medical supplies has been greatly beefed up, he added. Now there is enough smallpox vaccine "to immunize every American in the case of an emergency."

The president noted he'd proposed establishing Project BioShield to Congress last year, a program that would "speed the development of new vaccines and treatments for biological agents that could be used in a terrorist attack" on

the United States.

Acknowledging there's no perfect security against terrorists, Bush pointed out that \$13 billion has been earmarked to train and equip local first responders such as firefighters, police, and other emergency and health workers. Bush said another \$5 billion has been identified for first responder needs in his proposed fiscal 2005 budget.

DHS is forming a national incident management plan to provide strategy, Bush said, to ensure that "first responders at all levels of government will know their responsibilities, will follow a clear chain of command, and will be able to work with each other effectively in a time of crisis."

Bush urged Congress to renew the Patriot Act that's set to expire next year. That act, he said, is a deterrent that "imposed tough new penalties on terrorists and those who support them."

DHS employees have participated in an "incredible year of accomplishment," the president added. And those charged with defending America and all Americans "must never forget the day when terrorists left their mark of murder on our nation."

"All of us have a responsibility that goes on," Bush said. "We will protect this country, whatever it takes."

Deployment

Continued from page 1

section conducted Soldier Readiness Program requirements to include updating wills and powers of attorney, receiving necessary immunizations and medical screening, weapons training and other preparations.

That was the easy part. The entire section pre-deployed to Fort Bliss, Texas, for individual and unit certification. Although most of the Soldiers are experienced operators, they all went through an intense two-week training program comprised of refresher training, rigorous testing and full operations in the JTAGS shelter to include 24-hour operations and simulated missile events. Throughout this process, the Soldiers remained highly motivated and focused on their mission. With full trust that the company headquarters would take care of all personnel issues — to include keeping their families informed — the Soldiers accepted their mission with quiet professionalism.

For some, the deployment was a first, for others, like Sgt. Patrick Arellano and Pfc. Wesley Wright, this was a second trip to the Central Command Area of Operation. Regardless of experience levels, the new section concept seems to be working well.

"The transition was very smooth," Wimberly said. "We were able to observe the prior team, who had rotated in and out individually, in action for awhile. Moving in to take their place went like satin. All the training we'd done together had developed our level of trust in ourselves as a section, which made everything easier."



Photo by Sharon L. Hartman

Attention!

Lucy Reaux, dressed in the garb of a Buffalo Soldier, portrays a black American woman during SMDC — Colorado Springs' celebration of Black History Month. Reaux, a member of Company A, 38th U.S. Infantry, Buffalo Soldiers, said she was honored to "stand in" for Cathy Williams, who disguised herself as a man and assumed the name William Cathay to enlist with the Buffalo Soldiers in 1866. Wearing a blue uniform and serving beside her male comrades, Williams experienced hard duty during a winter campaign against the Apaches of southwest New Mexico. Her gender was discovered after injuries, and she was discharged. She and other famous African Americans were commemorated at the ceremony.

Women's roles change face of military

By Janie Blankenship
Staff writer, VFW Magazine

Women may make up 15 percent of today's active-duty forces, but there was a time when females had to don men's clothing to serve their country.

In 1778 during the Revolutionary War, there was Deborah Samson, alias, Robert Shurtliff, who served with the 4th Massachusetts Regiment for three years until her femininity was discovered when a brain fever put her in the hospital. Later, in the Civil War, Jennie Hodgers served with the 95th Illinois Volunteer Infantry as Albert Cashier. Her identity wasn't revealed until 1913.

Not all women served in disguise, though. Dr. Mary Walker was a contract employee with the Army during the Civil War and was taken prisoner in Richmond, Va., for five months in 1864. President Andrew Johnson awarded her the Medal of Honor, but it was later rescinded during a comprehensive congressional review. In 1977, President Jimmy Carter restored the honor.

One female veteran of great historical significance is Theresa Erickson. The first regular Army nurse to set foot on the Philippines in 1898, Erickson stayed there for three years. She later did duty along the Mexican border in 1916 before heading to France in World War I. After serving her country in three wars, Erickson returned to Minnesota during the 1920s.

'I thought they needed a woman'

In World War II, women joined the military to see the world and also because patriotism was at an all-time high. Opportunity was knocking, and the women knew how to answer. They were much like the women of today, except times have given way to many changes.

Prior to the start of World War II, women in both the Army and Navy Nurse Corps were enjoying military life. Those seeking adventure sailed off to the Philippines where they would work during the day and plan their evening activities, which included taking in a movie, bowling or having a few drinks.

The lure of the world captured the imagination of many young women, like Helen Cassiani, who volunteered for service in the Philippines in early 1941. When she told her mother good-bye before shipping out, it would be their last words to each other, since her mother later died. "Cassie" as she was known, later became

'I had promised myself I wouldn't scream unless I was in life-threatening danger or something was so painful I couldn't stand it ...'

— Maj. Rhonda Cornum
2nd Battalion,
229th Attack Helicopter Regiment,
101st Airborne Division

one of the Army nurses held by the Japanese on Corregidor.

Nurses serving in Vietnam saw their fair share of wounded. In her book "American Daughter Gone to War", former Army nurse Winnie Smith recounts the smell of phosphorous burning through layer upon layer of flesh and the sight of blood pulsating from a young Soldier's chest after being hit by shrapnel. And she remembers the dying. In one instance, she actually recalls a sense of relief following a death.

"The doors bang open again. Despair clutches at my throat. We can't handle any more," she wrote. "I see Luke there alone. The last burn [victim] must have bitten the dust. I realize I'm grateful he's dead. I've traded my soul for one less Soldier to worry about."

Not all women in Vietnam served with the Army Nurse Corps. Stationed at Long Binh from 1968-69, Cathy Brock was a WAC secretary assigned to the Force Development Division, U.S. Army, Vietnam. She wound up making the Army a career, retiring in 1985.

"For young women, the military is probably the best equal opportunity employer in the United States," said Brock, a member of Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 3274 in Hobbs, N.M. "Do the best you can do at everything, and you will advance based on your abilities, man or woman."

Having served at Camp Bondsteel in the Balkans in 2001, former reservist Cherie Davis-Keeter found this to be true. "The worst treatment — believe it or not — was from fellow women Soldiers who had something to prove," Keeter said. "I would take a male drill instructor over a female nine out of 10 times."

Keeter, who was a chaplain's assistant with the 399th Combat Support Hospital, said she would encourage other women to consider joining the military. Still, she thinks doing a tour in the Reserves or National Guard is the way to start.

Women make strides in military roles

Women have come a long way in their roles in the armed forces. Lt. Sarah Fritts, for instance, is one of only two female pilots with the 3rd Squadron, 7th Cavalry, 3rd Infantry Division. A platoon leader, Fritts discovered her attitude toward fighting in Iraq last spring was different from that of her male comrades.

"Everyone was like, 'Yeah, get them,' and I was having trouble with that really aggressive attitude," Fritts told the "Christian Science Monitor". "I was saying, 'There's no reason to go level 50 homes.'"

Then there's Capt. Jennifer Wilson, a B-2 pilot with the 393rd Expeditionary Bomb Squadron. Last April, she became the first female B-2 pilot to fly a combat mission. Formerly a B-1 Lancer pilot, Wilson also flew in OPERATION ALLIED FORCE over Kosovo in 1999.

"I wasn't scared," Wilson said after the mission in Iraq. "We've all trained quite a bit leading up to this operation. I knew I was going to be able to come through and get the job done."

Army Capt. Kimberly Hampton of Easley, S.C., epitomized the strides women have made in the military before dying Jan. 2 in a helicopter crash in Iraq. She was an 82nd Airborne Division commander of a company-sized unit of eight Kiowa helicopters and about 80 Soldiers.

According to Brig. Gen. Richard Rowe, the 82nd's assistant commander for operations, Hampton was typical of the men and women in today's military. He told The State newspaper (S.C.) that it's sad the American public is learning about today's Soldiers only after they die in combat. Hampton was 27 and had wanted to fly since third grade.

Women as prisoners of war

Long before the days of \$1 million book deals and made-for-television movies, women were taken prisoners of war. Though their physical abuse was minimal

in comparison to their male counterparts, the malnourishment and psychological torment were equally punishing.

In fact, the 88 Army and 12 Navy nurses imprisoned on Corregidor in



World War II continued to care for the sick and wounded even though they, too, were in a weakened state.

In Elizabeth Norman's "We Band of Angels", Army nurse Helen Cassiani recalled hobbling around. "We lived on the second floor of the main building. It got to the point where you had all you could do to make the first set of stairs when you'd discover you have to sit down."

These mothers, wives, sisters and daughters found themselves trying to survive under horrific conditions. When the nurses couldn't figure out how to operate the foreign toilets, the Japanese captors sprayed the "contents" onto them.

Josie Nesbit noted the drastic changes in her fellow nurses: "Their eyes gradually sank deeper into hollowed cheekbones. Their gait slowed down more and more as their strength grew less."

Fast forward 60 years to the Iraq War when Shoshana Johnson and Jessica Lynch joined the prisoner of war ranks. The nation seemed stunned, as if this were the first time female POWs were held in Iraq.

True, the experiences of Lynch and Johnson were traumatic, but not new. In 1991, Maj. Rhonda Cornum, a doctor with the 2nd Battalion, 229th Attack Helicopter Regiment, 101st Airborne Division, was taken prisoner after Iraqis shot down her Black Hawk helicopter.

Among other injuries, she suffered two broken arms, making her imprisonment even more painful. In her book "She Went to War", Cornum chronicles her experiences, including assault by her captors. Even with broken limbs, Cornum was sexually abused, something she said she had always expected would happen if captured.

"I had promised myself I wouldn't scream unless I was in life-threatening danger or something was so painful I couldn't stand it," she wrote. "But when he [her Iraqi captor] tried to yank the flight suit down over my shoulder, it was like a jolt of electricity had shocked me to the bone. My scream made him stop for a second."

Cornum survived her time as a POW, pursuing a successful military career. She is now the commander of Landstuhl Regional Medical Center in Germany — the first female commander since the hospital's opening in 1953.

(Reprinted with permission from the March 2004 issue of VFW magazine)

A great day for space education

Space operations officer course graduates earn credits for master's in space systems operations management

COLORADO SPRINGS, Colo. — Over the past 18 months, representatives from the Force Development and Integration Center and Webster University have worked closely to fashion a program that will provide 15 graduate credit hours to graduates of the Army's Space Operations Officer Qualification Course given here. The Memorandum of Agreement ensuring the awarding of those credits was signed on Feb. 18, at the FDIC-West facility in Colorado Springs.

"It all began about a year and a half ago, right here in our training shop," said Tom Coleman, chief of training development at FDIC.

"It was our intent from the beginning to take a close look at colleges and universities that offer graduate degrees in a space-related field of study. The FDIC Training Division sent out the required education and training documents to six institutions. The colleges and universities conducted a thorough review of the SOOQC curriculum to determine how many graduate credit hours the SOOQC would be worth for graduates of the course who wish to apply for entry into a master's degree program at a particular college or university," Coleman said.

Following several months of curriculum review and local meetings between FDIC and local colleges, Webster University announced that, after a lengthy review by several members of their graduate curriculum committee, they were willing to offer 15 graduate credit hours toward their master of science degree in space operations management.

How the program works

The MOA establishes a cooperative degree program between the U.S. Army Space and Missile Defense Command and Webster University. SOOQC graduates will have an opportunity to obtain a master's degree in space systems operations management with emphasis in either engineering and technical management

or in acquisition and program management through shared academic credits between the SOOQC and Webster University.

Requirements for admission to this degree program for SOOQC graduates are completion of a bachelor's degree from a regionally accredited college or university and submission of an official transcript reflecting conferral of the degree, and completion and submission of the Webster University graduate school application form.

Participants in this program will not be required to complete separate graduate entrance exams and letters of recommendation will not be required.

"This agreement between SMDC and Webster University provides an additional avenue for the SOOQC graduates to obtain a master's degree in space right here in Colorado Springs," said Marjorie Doyle, the senior director of Webster University's Colorado Springs campuses. "I am delighted in what has happened, and I anticipate the popularity of this important partnership with Webster University will continue to grow rapidly in the future."

The SOOQC course lays a foundation for space training; providing a variety of subjects ranging from coordinating space asset tasking and utilizing space analysis tools to participating in the Joint Operations Planning Process and analyzing course of action from a space perspective.

"This degree program will serve as a next step in professional space education and training for those who wish to take



Photo by D.J. Montoya

Randy Wright (left), Associate Vice President for Academic Affairs and Director of Military Campuses, Webster University, and Col. James Pierson, director of FDIC, sign their respective portions of the memorandum of agreement between Webster University and SMDC on a degree program that allows graduates of the FA40 course an opportunity to complete a Master of Science degree through shared academic credits.

advantage of it," said Larry Mize, chief of Space Education and Training at FDIC. It is something we have been working hard on with Webster University, and now we are very pleased to see the result for both us and Webster," Mize said.

"The FDIC Training Team continues to expand and enhance space education and training for our Army," said Col. James Pierson, director of FDIC. "Space education and training will move forward with this and any other new initiatives that promise to provide quality space training to the space cadre. We are pleased and honored to have reached this milestone with Webster University, an institution with a long history of partnering with the U.S. military community in many locations around the globe."

For more information go to the FDIC Training Division Web site at www.smdc.army.mil/FDIC/Training/Training.html. For questions about the program contact Tom Coleman at (719) 554-4541, thomas.coleman@arspace.army.mil or Marjorie Doyle at (719) 590-7340, doylemc@webster.edu.

Sights set on Navy Sailor of the Year

JTAGS Sailor makes name for himself in competitions

By 1st Sgt. Darren Hamilton
Unit reporter

COLORADO SPRINGS, Colo. — Seven days a week and 24 hours a day, Joint Tactical Ground Station personnel assigned to U.S. Army Space and Missile Defense Command provide crucial tactical ballistic missile early warning to specific theaters.

Through hard work and consistent success JTAGS Soldiers and Sailors have made a name for themselves in various locations around the world.

One JTAGS-assigned Sailor in particular is also making a name for himself via another avenue. Intelligence Specialist 1 Brett Herner is racking up the victories in various Sailor of the Year



IS1 Brett Herner, a JTAGS-assigned Sailor, recently won the Detachment Echo Sailor of the Year Board and was named the Command Sea Sailor of the Year.

competitions and if you ask him — the sky is the limit.

Herner is assigned to Detachment Echo, Naval Network and Space Operations Command (NNSOC) in Stuttgart, Germany. Sailors are home stationed with the detachment but serve in multiple JTAGS locations worldwide. Currently he is the Navy liaison and instructor at the JTAGS course in Fort Bliss, Texas.

Over the last three months, Herner has competed in and won two separate boards. In December 2003 he claimed the Detachment Echo Sailor of the Year Board and most recently triumphed at the Claimancy Board for NNSOC in Dahlgren, Va., where he

was named the Command Sea Sailor of the Year for 2004.

The latest proceeding was held over a four-day period and included a physical training test, several command briefs, and an appearance before a distinguished panel of senior enlisted advisers from throughout the Navy.

This month he will compete in the Navy's Network Warfare Competition where another victory would lead him to the final level of Sailor boards, the Department of the Navy Sailor of the Year Competition.

"It was great to be among Sailors again for awhile, and tell them Army stories. But the best part probably was leading them in Army style PT — they were impressed, I could tell," said Herner.

Instructor: a history in himself...

By Staff Sergeants Franklin Barrett, Charlie Co, and David Hall, Alpha Co.
1st SATCON Battalion
Unit reporters

Beloved by generations of Soldier students, instructor Lewis Frasier has become something of an institution with Satellite Control Soldiers. In fact, Frasier is such an appreciated personality that, learning his course would soon cease to be offered — ending the opportunity to learn from the venerable instructor — tributes to him were written by two reporters. The following is a blending of their two stories.

In the high-tech world of satellite communications, those who teach the subject are often viewed to be as distant and unreachable as their sophisticated, metallic and gizmoed topic. Not so Lewis Frasier, the 78-year old instructor of the Production Satellite Configuration Control Element (PSCCE) course.

The intensive four-week training course is designed to teach satellite network controllers the knowledge, skills, responsibilities and duties of the communication payload controller for the operation of the PSCCE. Upon successfully completing the PSCCE course and the required 200 hours of participation with industry, Soldiers are able to provide operational command and control of the Defense Satellite Communications System (DSCS) III satellite to satisfy real-time user requirements and directly support the warfighter.

The PSCCE system is scheduled to be replaced within the next five years, making this year's PSCCE courses the final ones to be taught. Although



Lew Frasier, the 78-year old instructor of the Production Satellite Configuration Control Element Course is fabled to have forgotten more about the DSCS III and PSCCE than all his students have ever learned.

technology continues to evolve, and as such, is welcomed by the "leading edge" nature of the students, one aspect of the to-be superseded system will be greatly missed — its primary instructor.

Students for 13 years have walked away from the intensive training with more than book knowledge on the PSCCE — they left richer because of lessons taught simultaneously in military history, professionalism and dedication to duty by their veteran instructor.

Charlie Company, 1st Satellite Control Battalion recently had the pleasure of hosting the traveling instructor when he came through on his route of teaching the Lockheed Martin class to a new group of young Soldiers. This training is usually afforded to each company in the battalion only once per year, so a new group of trained controllers is always eagerly welcomed to unit operations.

While the completion of this year's course will bring eight new payload controllers to C Co.'s mission, there is much more to this story than linear solid state amplifiers and multi-beam antennas. The history of the PSCCE course carries with it many stories and memories, far beyond the knowledge gained by its students.

"Lew is awesome," said Sgt. Matthew Goddard, the Charlie Co. communications payload control position NCO. "One uses Lew to describe others. He is a 'satellite' icon, an archetype for our industry. He is incredibly detail-oriented, and his course is exceptional, above the mark."

Since 1986, the same year the only two Defense Satellite Communications System Phase III satellites were launched into orbit from a NASA space shuttle, Frasier, along with four other instructors, began teaching fledgling military satellite network controllers about communications payload control.

Frasier has personally instructed more than 900 students with the conclusion of the current course. Two 1st Satellite Control Battalion command sergeants major — Ricky Judy and Dan Russell — as well as two 1st SATCON company commanders, and two chief warrant officers from Falcon Mission Control, Colorado Springs, were students of Frasier's.

The fabled tale that Frasier has "forgotten more about the DSCS III and the PSCCE than we have ever learned," is still whispered among experienced controllers. Frasier chuckled at the sound of this, and with a modest grin, merely commented that he has enjoyed this career.

Many warm-hearted stories about Frasier have passed from generation to generation of satellite controllers.

"It's almost like folklore," said Staff Sgt. Francis Schaf, a Charlie Co. squad leader. "What I know of him comes from the stories that have been passed down."

The history behind the gentle resident of Media, Penn., is likely less known than the fantastic "war stories" he tells about his experiences. He is well known for capturing the minds of even the

youngest and most "now generation" Soldiers he teaches. In a military occupational specialty so full of bright men and women, it's no wonder his tales often lead him astray during instruction, to the delight of students with brains perhaps temporarily overloaded by sophisticated gadgetry.

Contrary to many stories, Frasier did not begin his career with the advent of satellite technology.

"In 1946, while serving as a white hat in the Navy, I earned an aeronautical design engineering degree at the University of Minnesota," said Frasier.

After completing his degree and earning a commission, he was released to the Reserves. With World War II at a close, fewer and fewer cadets were earning active commissions.

Later though, times and needs changed



Lew Frasier

with the breaking out of tension in the Korean Peninsula.

"I kept getting billets in electronics after being commissioned as an active Naval officer. I wanted to get assigned as a student to the Naval Officer's Electronics Course, but was told that I was 'too well trained,'" said Frasier.

As fate would have it, after moving from assignment to assignment, he finally came down on orders for the Electronics Course, but with a twist. He was assigned as an instructor rather than a student — ultimately ensuring an even greater learning opportunity.

Frasier eventually retired from the U.S. Navy with 25 years in service.

It wasn't until after military retirement that he started his career in satellite communications, when he began working for a subsidiary of General Electric, the company responsible for the development and implementation of the DSCS III satellites and PSCCE equipment. At the time, General Electric had the military contract for providing support to satellite earth terminals.

Today, after numerous contract changes, and corporate mergers, Lockheed Martin provides specific satellite systems support to the government, often through subcontracts like Frasier's.

Over the past seven years, Frasier has considered retiring from the business, but the demand for qualified communications payload controllers in the battalion kept pushing his retirement plans back.

"I keep on working to help me keep working," he said.

In that spirit, he continues to make his annual trips to Alpha and Bravo Companies in Maryland, Charlie Co. here, Delta Co. in Camp Roberts, Calif., and Echo Co. in Okinawa, Japan.

Twelve Soldiers from both A and B Companies recently enjoyed the dedicated and interesting teaching talents of the man many regard as a true space pioneer.

Between lessons on basic mission and operation of the satellite, Frasier shared tidbits of communications history, to include a photograph of his own mother using one of the original operator connection telephones.

Frasier challenges Soldiers to compare his experiences to those found in military careers today. The vivid detail and passion for duty that Frasier passed on to students captivated them unlike any history book or "how-to" manual ever could.

Confirming the legend, C Co.'s Sgt. Michael Trowbridge joked, "Lew has been in this field longer than the satellites have."

On a more serious note, Trowbridge added "and we're extremely lucky to be the beneficiaries of all that experience."

Newspaper readership survey helps define *Eagle* audience

The Eagle recently conducted an online readership survey to gain baseline information on reader opinion regarding the command newspaper. In all, 77 employees responded, most with favorable comments. The results are posted on the CommandNet.

We received some very good suggestions for improvement that will help us with future editions of *The Eagle*. One recurring comment was that *The Eagle* is too military oriented. *The Eagle* staff has already implemented measures to include more articles about civilians and contractors in the newspaper. Each of the major subordinate elements has been asked to provide a point of contact for writing stories and submitting story ideas to the editor.

Respondents also raised a few issues, some of which will be addressed here.

Classified section, advertisements and upcoming events columns. *The Eagle* format is different from a local military community newspaper such as the *Redstone Rocket*, the *Pentagram*, or any other military community newspaper, in that it is an Army-funded paper. Community newspapers are generally civilian enterprise newspapers. Army-funded means no commercial advertising is authorized; the Army pays for printing of the newspaper. The *Redstone Rocket* and *Pentagram*, for example, are civilian enterprise newspapers and are contracted out to publishing firms for printing. The publishing firm has the

exclusive right to advertising in the publication. In exchange for this right, the publishing firm provides the newspaper at no cost to the Army.

In regard to employee classified ads and upcoming events columns, *The Eagle* is a monthly publication and too geographically dispersed for this type of information to serve any real purpose. For employee ads and information about upcoming events, readers should rely on community newspapers.

Style for Army newspapers. Army newspapers follow Associated Press (AP) style, which is the industry standard for newspapers. The information is intended to educate, inform and entertain readers. To accomplish this, writers translate military jargon and "big" words into terms and words that are easily understood.

Differences between government style and AP style include military rank and postal abbreviations. Government style for military ranks is SGT or CPT; AP style is Sgt. and Capt. Government style uses the two-letter postal abbreviations, such as AL, CO or VA; AP uses the older postal abbreviations, such as Ala., Colo. or Va. If you see something that looks "wrong" to you, it is probably the government vs. AP style.

Thank you for your interest in *The Eagle*. If you have an idea for a story, please forward it to EagleEditor@smdc.army.mil.

Nominate SMDC's great families for Great American Family Award

Do you know an outstanding U.S. Army Space and Missile Defense Command family? Now is the time to nominate them for recognition as the Great American Family.

All SMDC family members (soldiers and their family members and civilian employees and their family members) are eligible. Award honorees will be selected based on project or program achievements, innovation, ongoing involvement and ability to meet community and family needs.

The winning family will represent their units as delegates at the SMDC Army Family Action Plan Conference Aug. 3-6 in Arlington, Va., and their names will be forwarded for higher-level competition.

The nomination process is simple; however, nomination packages must be received at SMDC Headquarters in Arlington, Va., no later than May 1. More information is available on the CommandNet or call Portia Davidson at (703) 607-2605.

To nominate an outstanding family, answer the following four questions:

1. Detail how the individual growth of the family (including parents) has been encouraged and supported. Growth can be intellectual, emotional, social, spiritual, etc. Include specific accomplishments, challenges overcome, and honors received. How has the family helped each other or been changed? Mention useful experiences or approaches that may provide useful "best practices" or insights to other families.
2. Detail how teamwork and love is nurtured in the home. How have family members shared quality time together? How has the family coped with deployments and avoided challenges that confront many

families?

3. Detail how the family extends friendship and community service to others in the community. What volunteer activities has the family undertaken? What challenges have they tackled? How has the family (individually or as a unit) helped others attain their goals and dreams? Mention successes, affiliations, years of service, recognitions received. We are interested in compassionate services to individuals and organizations. Mention innovations or unique approaches to solving problems.

4. How have family members advanced educational, cultural or social opportunities in the family? (examples of positive family home life through leadership initiatives).

Along with the answers to the questions, submit a cover letter of nomination signed by the individual's major subordinate element commander/director or designated representative. Include a family photo (recommended, not required) and supporting material (videos, photos, news articles (recommended, not required). Mail complete nomination packages with cover letter endorsement to:

USASMDC
1941 Jefferson Davis Hwy.
Crystal Mall 4, Suite 900
ATTN: Portia Davidson
Arlington, VA 22202

All entries will be compiled and submitted to the judges.

Winners and MSEs will be notified no later than June 1. SMDC will submit Great American Family winners to higher-level competitions sponsored by the Association of the United States Army (AUSA) by June 18.

Airships may play key homeland defense role, officials say

By Gerry J. Gilmore
American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON, D.C. — The dirigible, or airship, may be employed as a tool to detect potential attacks against the United States, DoD officials told House of Representative members March 4.

"We believe the best way to protect Americans is to defeat terrorists as far away from our homeland as we can," Air National Guard Maj. Gen. John A. Love said in his prepared testimony before the House Terrorism, Unconventional Threats and Capabilities Subcommittee. Love is a senior officer with U.S. Northern Command, the unified command charged with defending the United States from land, air and sea attack.

Paul McHale, assistant secretary of defense for homeland defense and National Guard Bureau Chief Lt. Gen. H. Steven Blum also provided testimony.

While U.S. troops are taking the fight to terrorists in places like Afghanistan and Iraq, Love asserted it's also important "to

win the 'home game' by protecting, defending and defeating threats against our nation."

Recent technology demonstrations, Love said, point to the potential use of airships to patrol a 500-mile "buffer zone" established outward from the American coastline.

High-altitude airships, Love continued, could provide "over-the-horizon" surveillance across North America "and out from our coastal waters for air, ground and maritime threats."

Use of airships for homeland defense purposes, McHale explained, is consistent with DoD's charter to provide "the military defense of our nation from attacks that originate from abroad." Testing of prototype dirigibles, he said, demonstrated they "could provide wide area surveillance and communications capabilities."

McHale pointed out DoD's partner role with the Department of Homeland Security in its mission of protecting the nation against, and preparing for, acts of terrorism. DoD, McHale said, stands ready

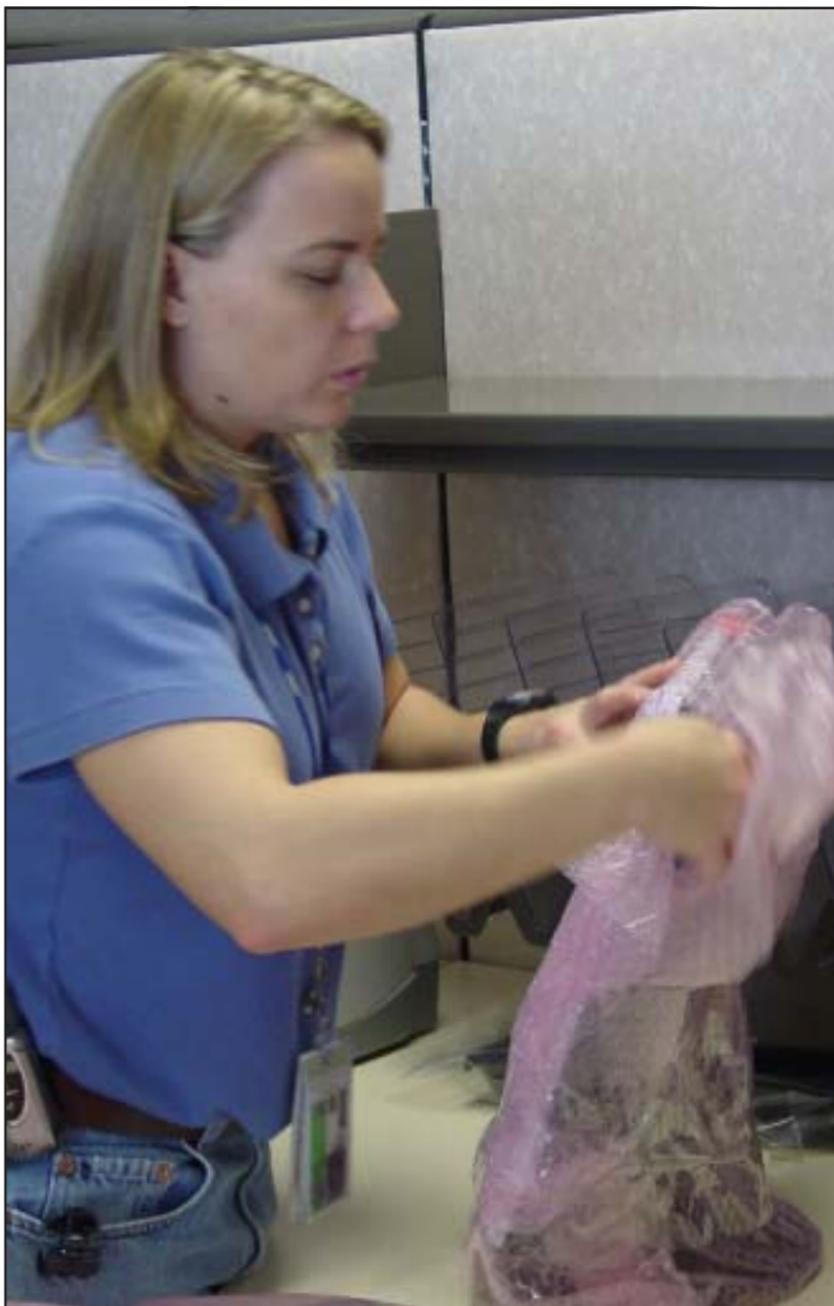
to "provide assets and capabilities in support of civil authorities, consistent with U.S. law."

National Guard Bureau chief Lt. Gen. Blum told House committee members the Guard "is uniquely suited for operational missions inside the U.S. to help protect both the American people and our critical infrastructure."

In fact, there are now 32 certified Weapons of Mass Destruction Civil Support Teams, the three-star general said, noting, "More are on the way." Blum said each team features 22 Army and Air National Guard specialists trained to detect and identify chemical, biological or radiological hazards, and assist in follow-on activities.

Another initiative involves the reinforcement of WMD civil support teams, Blum noted, with "existing medical, engineer and security forces from either the Air or Army National Guard."

The result, Blum pointed out, is "a more robust capability in response to a WMD incident."



Movers and shakers

Since Feb. 17, there has been a constant flow of people, boxes, furniture and equipment from 106 Wynn Drive to SMDC's new home in Bldg. 5220 on Redstone Arsenal in Huntsville, Ala. Making the move happen involved a large team of people from logisticians and engineers to information technology specialists, computer technicians and others. These photos are representative of the hard work on the part of many people who are making the move as seamless as possible. Everyone and everything should be relocated to the new building by the end of March.

Lorie Longshore, Helpdesk operations manager for the CIMS contract for the Communications Information Office, unwraps one of hundreds of computer monitors moved from Wynn Drive to Bldg. 5220.



Photos by Becky Proaps

James Clark, a communications specialist with SAIC, moves boxes and boxes of telephones to the new cubicles in Bldg. 5220.



Scott Stunkard, a senior network engineer with SAIC, is cross-connecting network lines for phones and computers in the telephone/communications closet of Bldg. 5220, SMDC's new home.



David Stewart, loading dock monitor, with INFOPRO Special Services, oversees the loading of every truck that leaves Wynn Drive.



Teresa Brown, physical security officer for U.S. Army Space and Missile Defense Command, discusses upcoming moving plans with Twigg Hackett, the moving company owner.



Kathy Stephens, the construction representative for the Deputy Chief of Staff Engineer, meets with Marshall Stout, the fire marshal for Redstone Arsenal, assuring the building is ready for its inhabitants.