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# The Eagle

United States Army Space and Missile Defense Command

Volume 12, Number 4, April 2005

## Local AUSA chapter names SMDC employee DA Civilian of the Year

By Kim Gillespie  
SMDC Public Affairs

The Association of the U.S. Army, Redstone-Huntsville Chapter, honored a U.S. Army Space and Missile Defense Command employee with its 2005 Department of the Army Civilian of the Year award.

Steve F. Pierce, chief, Studies and Analysis Division, Space and Missile Defense Future Warfare Center, received the award at the local AUSA annual dinner March 30.

AUSA hosts the award presentation and dinner each year in conjunction with the Technology Exposition for Advancing multi-Market Solutions (TEAMS) week, and uses the event to recognize and honor



Photo by Kim Gillespie

The Association of the U.S. Army, Redstone-Huntsville Chapter presented U.S. Army Space and Missile Defense Command employee Steve Pierce with its 2005 Department of the Army Civilian of the Year award.

See **DA Civilian** on page 16

## SMDC lends situational awareness expertise to test common command post concept

By Debra Valine  
SMDC Public Affairs

**FORT BLISS, Texas** — In a nondescript beige building on Fort Bliss — far away from the action of EXERCISE ROVING SANDS 05 — important work is being done.

Taking a live feed from the actual exercise, a team of government and contractor employees are testing an Air and Missile Defense concept that involves two weapon systems: Patriot and Avenger/SLAMRAAM (Surface Launched Advanced Medium Range Air-to-Air Missile).

"We asked the Space and Missile Defense Command to support us in this effort," said Chief Warrant Officer 3 Odie Huffman, AMD Battle Lab's project officer for the experiment. "This partnership is invaluable. What we brought to the table is basically the need — the requirement — to do this based on real world

events. We are incorporating lessons learned from OPERATION IRAQI FREEDOM. SMDC brings considerable technical expertise. We are coming together to try to work through some issues. We have a long way to go."

Inside the common command post, operators sit at computer terminals watching large video displays that are monitoring the skies over the exercise areas, looking for any sign of an incoming threat missile or aircraft. Avenger/SLAMRAAM and Patriot weapon systems stand ready to shoot them down.

And that's what the Air Defense Community is looking for — a common command post that can participate on the battlefield using multiple weapon systems.

SMDC provided its Future Operational Capability/Tactical

See **Roving Sands** on page 17

## DOD seeks billions for missile defense program

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

**WASHINGTON, D.C.** — Pentagon leaders charged with protecting the country against a ballistic missile attack asked Congress March 15 for \$7.8 billion to sustain development of the nation's first missile defense system through fiscal 2006.

The request is approximately \$1 billion less than the fiscal 2005 budget.

Appearing before the House Armed Services Committee, Air Force Lt. Gen. Henry A. Obering III, director of the Missile Defense Agency, told lawmakers the billion-dollar request will help his agency further develop and field a joint, integrated, multi-layered ballistic defense system.

That system, he said, "will defend the United States as well as deployed forces and our allies and friends against ballistic missiles of all ranges by engaging them in the boost, midcourse and terminal phases of flight."

Obering said \$1.4 billion is needed to

continue "fielding and sustainment" of long-range, ground-based, midcourse defense components, as well as "short- to intermediate-range" defenses that will be installed aboard Aegis-class ships.

Another \$6.4 billion will be invested in the development foundation for continued testing and evolution of the system, he said.

According to the general, \$2.3 billion will help further development, ground and flight-testing of a ground-based midcourse defense capability against the long-range threat.

"This request includes up to 10 additional ground-based interceptors, their silos and associated support equipment and facilities, as well as the long-lead items for the next increment," he explained.

To address the short- to intermediate-range threat, Obering said approximately \$1.9 billion will continue development and testing of our sea-based midcourse capability.

That capability involves ballistic missile defense systems on Navy Aegis-class ships and a land-based Terminal High Altitude

Area Defense system. Known by the acronym THAAD, this system is a rapidly transportable, forward-deployable capability designed to intercept and destroy ballistic missiles in and above the atmosphere while they are in their final, or terminal, phase of flight.

In addition, funding will be used to purchase more Standard Missile-3 interceptors and to upgrade Aegis ships to perform the BMD mission, Obering said. He added that the agency is hoping to have up to 28 SM-3 interceptors on three Aegis cruisers and eight Aegis destroyers by the end of 2007.

"This engagement capability will improve our ability to defend our deployed troops and our friends and allies," he said. "Six additional destroyers, for a total of 17 Aegis ships, will be capable of performing the surveillance and track mission."

Smaller budget requests for fiscal 2006 include \$521 million to execute the agency's Space Tracking Surveillance System and Ballistic Missile Defense System radar; \$680 million for rocket

See **Missile Defense** on page 5

# The Command Corner



**Lt. Gen. Larry J. Dodgen**  
Commanding General



**CSM David L. Lady**  
Command Sergeant Major

**T**he increased complexity of the current strategic environment has resulted in significant changes in our military's approach to providing security for the nation. Secretary of Defense Donald Rumsfeld emphasized the urgency and importance of this effort when he stated, "We need to change not only the capabilities at our disposal, but also how we think about war. All the high-tech weapons in the world will not transform the U.S. armed forces unless we also transform the way we think, the way we train, the way we exercise and the way we fight." In an historic example of turning insight into action, publication of the Unified Command Plan (UCP) in April 2002 initiated a realignment of missions, theaters and responsibilities among our nation's combatant commands.

Subsequent changes to the 2002 UCP created the new globally focused U.S. Strategic Command (STRATCOM) by merging the former STRATCOM and U.S. Space Command. STRATCOM was assigned the mission to establish and provide full-spectrum global strike, coordinated space and information operations capabilities to meet both deterrent and decisive national security objectives, and to provide operational space support, integrated missile defense as well as global command and control, communications, computers, intelligence, surveillance, and reconnaissance and specialized planning expertise to joint warfighters.

Our command is a proud and vital member of the STRATCOM team. We have played pivotal roles in supporting and enhancing STRATCOM's capabilities since our designation as the U.S. Army Space and Missile Defense Command (SMDC)/U.S. Army Forces Strategic Command (ARSTRAT), the Army Service Component Command (ASCC) to STRATCOM. Our full support of this priority mission is critically important to joint warfighters and the nation.

In our role as ASCC, SMDC/ARSTRAT serves as the focal point for planning, integrating, controlling and coordinating Army forces and capabilities in support of STRATCOM missions. Since our designation as the ASCC, we have conducted detailed mission analysis of the Army's role in support of STRATCOM missions, realigned the staff, initiated work on concepts of operation and operations plans, and participated in multiple training exercises and wargames. Our contributions in the areas of Joint Blue Force Situational Awareness, spectral operations and satellite communications are great examples of the type of support that we provide to STRATCOM — and joint warfighters — on a daily basis. These capabilities have also been instrumental in supporting warfighters engaged in the Global War on Terrorism.

Our role as ASCC has continued to expand concurrent with STRATCOM's responsibilities. STRATCOM's responsibilities now include serving as the Department of Defense lead for the integration and synchronization of capabilities in combating weapons of mass destruction: chemical, biological, nuclear and radiological weapons. Mission analysis is ongoing regarding this new responsibility.

My recent designation as the commander, Joint Functional Component Command for Integrated Missile Defense (JFCC-IMD) highlights the new approach STRATCOM is taking to execute its global missions. The mission of JFCC is to conduct operational and tactical level planning, force execution and day-to-day management of missile defense forces to provide optimized layered missile defense in depth while meeting strategic objectives. Significant work is ongoing with the JFCC-IMD staff at Schriever Air Force Base, Colo., to develop the operational concept and architecture to ensure integration with the other STRATCOM JFCCs. We are also working closely with the planning staffs at STRATCOM, the Missile Defense Agency and

*continued*

**T**oo many Soldiers are dying in vehicle accidents. The Army has suffered 112 Class A-C Army privately owned vehicle (POV) accidents resulting in 64 Soldier deaths from the start of FY05 to March 25. Seventeen of these crashes involved excessive speed ... killing 17 Soldiers. Most initial accident reports are incomplete with seatbelt usage; however, of the 18 Soldiers reported not wearing seatbelts in FY05, 15 died.

This command has lost one Soldier in the past year, from a motorcycle accident.

We should be grateful that no more have died. We should be grateful for our generally mature and careful Soldiers. We should also be grateful for the leaders who are emphasizing safe driving as part of their training programs, to include pre-deployment training.

Both 1st Space Battalion, and 193rd Space Support Battalion have incorporated convoy operations into their pre-deployment training program. All four battalions regularly train and certify their military vehicle drivers, and all are training their Soldiers in the individual Warrior Task "operate a vehicle in a convoy."

As we emphasize basic combat fundamentals, we noncommissioned officers can reinforce good life habits such as driving safely for road/weather conditions and the use of seatbelts. We NCOs must ensure the safety of our Soldiers and equipment.

Enforcing safety standards will make sure all our Soldiers arrive on the battlefield, ready for battle.

Performing risk assessments is another life habit that is reinforced when regularly performed by leaders during operations and training exercises.

When units are training and conducting operations, leaders cannot become risk adverse. Soldiering is dangerous business. Leaders must assess risks, reduce these risks, accept the remaining risks and accomplish the mission.

We Soldiers can learn to do a risk assessment each and every time we travel or engage in an activity. While tools and tables exist to aid completing a risk assessment, what is really needed is a critical mind and self-discipline.

We consider what we want to do and the risks involved (equipment, weather and other conditions). We identify ways to reduce the risks. We carry out the risk-reducing measures while going about our business.

Risk assessing should become an internalized "life drill." Leaders demonstrating and enforcing useful risk assessments and safety standards will help guide their Soldiers into internalizing this drill.

**ON POINT!**

## **Commander's column continued**

other combatant commands to ensure global ballistic missile defense plans and operations are fully integrated. Initial Operational Capability was declared on April 1 for the JFCC-IMD. We are on track to achieve Full Operational Capability by the end of September.

During my overseas trip earlier this month to the U.S. European Command area of responsibility, I had the opportunity to meet with Soldiers participating in JUNIPER COBRA, an air defense training and live fire exercise conducted in conjunction with Israeli military forces. I was particularly impressed with the tremendous progress that has been made over the past couple years in harmonizing our command and control and battle management procedures, actions that will be especially vital as we continue to fine-tune our JFCC-IMD plans and procedures. SMDC/ARSTRAT's support of STRATCOM is essential to joint warfighters and the nation's defense. All of us should be justifiably proud of this role and the continued opportunities that enable us to remain at the forefront of this important mission.

**SECURE THE HIGH GROUND!**

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# April: Month of the Military Child

**Diane Schumacher**  
SMDC Public Affairs

*Commentary*

**A**pril is the month of the military child. What does that mean exactly? On Feb. 1, 1986, then Secretary of Defense, Casper Weinberger, declared April the "Month of the Military Child" in an effort to recognize the unique circumstances of military children and the many methods used to provide military children quality services. The services are to assist children whose parents serve on active duty in the military.

From a mother's (and Army wife's) perspective, I saw how rough it was for my children to have a military parent. Sometimes you are expected to follow orders rather than behave as a child and that's hard to do. Sometimes your mom or dad go away (TDY) for a long time, and when they come back it's like you are strangers and have to start a relationship all over. You have little or no say in where you live. You are told you have to move and that you will meet new friends ... but what about the old friends? Another new school, new teachers, new bullies to deal

with. Your parents say you can keep in touch with friends via letter writing (and now e-mail). So you write, but your friend's parents perhaps are too busy or not home enough to help out with return letter writing.

Yes, it's rough and tough, being a child in a military family, but it can also be unique and fun. Not many other children can tell stories about visiting many different countries and cultures, or learning to snow ski on the European Alps mountain range.

How many children have had the experience of visiting Paris and eating peanut butter and jelly sandwiches in an alley between two stores because the food cost too much in a restaurant or from a vendor? Or, how many children can tell the story of being rescued by the ski patrol in Germany because you and your mom didn't know how to ski down an icy glacier? Being a military child might have its times of not being fun at all and even suffering through tragic times, but it is also a world full of adventure. And isn't it neat

that the beautiful month of April has been designated by grown-ups to honor you, your experiences, your work, your stories, and even putting together fun stuff to do.

I can say though (from experience), that most Army post commanders, through their staff elements, ensure military children are kept busy and/or entertained by learning to be of service to others through a number of activities — such as Scouting, outdoor sports, indoor games, gymnastics, ballet, or even, yes... reading programs.

All military services have volunteer programs and some sort of Youth Activity Center. All of the military services pay some sort of honor and recognition to their military children during April. Secretary Weinberger's 1986 memorandum addressed to all secretaries of the military departments states "In recognition of the essential role that military child care services and youth activities play in the life of military families, I declare April 1986

and henceforth every April as 'The Month of the Military Child.' ... affiliate groups focus public attention on the issues concerning young children and society's responsibility to children. ... I encourage each Service to develop promotional materials and plan events that emphasize the importance of providing children quality services covering all facets of their lives."

The Department of the Army does not sponsor a definitive protocol on activities for the month of the military child at each Army location. Rather, it is the garrison commander and proper staff elements who decide what is appropriate and how to accomplish those plans in recognition of their military children. Sometimes the method of recognition comes through the Youth Activities Center or through the Morale, Welfare, and Recreation agency or perhaps through the efforts of wives' clubs.

If you want to find something good, fun, entertaining and educational for your child to participate in during April, in a safe location, all you have to do is check with your nearest military installation Youth Activity Center.

## What We Think

### The Eagle asks:

*What are your thoughts on daylight saving time and how do you feel about Congress debating about extending it?*



Teresa H. Brown  
Information Security Specialist  
Huntsville, Ala.

If Congress is looking at expanding daylight saving time from 6 to 8 months, then Congress needs to decide which way we are going to go and just stay there. Daylight is daylight — it has no clock. There are certain states that do not observe daylight saving time (Arizona) and some states that are split (Indiana). If the thinking is that daylight saving time decreases crime, traffic problems, and conserves energy, then let us just stay on that time year round.



Portia Davison  
Chief, Community and Family Support Programs  
Arlington, Va.

I fully support the proposal to extend daylight saving time a month earlier and end a month later. Research shows this bill will save consumer energy, extend recreation and productive work time, promote less crime and fewer traffic fatalities. The value added benefits of this bill are too numerous to mention.



Spc. Evan Lane  
HHC, 1st Space Battalion JTAGS  
Colorado Springs, Colo.

I think it is a good idea in general. I think it is most useful in agriculture. I do not believe it is such an inconvenience that it needs to be changed or modified. I believe it makes commuting back and forth to work easier because of the longer hours of daylight.



Maj. Cleo Thomas  
1st Satellite Control Battalion  
Executive Officer  
Colorado Springs, Colo.

I support Congress adding to the time at both ends of the period we have now. I enjoy the very early morning scenery with the view we have of the mountains. But the best part is the extra time I get to be with my family. My son and my daughter get to go to the park with me, and we have more time for our fun activities.



Mark Mingilton  
1st Space Battalion  
Contractor  
Colorado Springs, Colo.

I am in favor of extending DST because it would give me more time on the golf course as well as other outdoor activities.

# Air Force Space Command supporting war effort

## Commanding general stresses importance of space advantage

By Skip Vaughn  
Redstone Rocket Editor

The commander of the Air Force Space Command plans to be a frequent visitor to Huntsville.

"I'm really impressed with the people, the capability and the operations, what folks are doing," Gen. Lance Lord said during a stopover here March 15-16. He planned to return after testifying in Congress before the Armed Services Committee on the fiscal 2006 budget.

Lord visited Marshall Space Flight Center and the Space and Missile Defense Command. "We share a lot of programs and technology with SMDC," he said.

The Air Force Space Command is heavily involved in the War on Terror with such aspects as the global positioning system, intelligence, surveillance, reconnaissance and missile warning.

"Just about everything we do in space is connected with our Army on the ground, and Navy and Marine Corps," Lord said.

He discussed a new concept called "near space" which uses high-altitude balloons and tethered aerostats to provide research, development, test and evaluation for the Air Force, Defense Department, other government agencies, universities and industries. The Near-Space Access Program is operated by the High-Altitude Balloon and Tethered Aerostat Group in the Air Force Research Laboratory Space Vehicles Directorate, Space Integration and Demonstration Division.

"I suspect by the end of April we'll have a better feel on that," Lord said of the concept's potential. "Near space offers some promise, we want to take a look at it. But I'm going to keep my cards close to my vest."

He stressed the importance of the U.S. maintaining its edge in space after more than 50 years in the business. "Space superiority is important to us," he said.

"We want to make sure we protect our advantages in space and deny somebody the capability to use space against us," Lord added.

Air Force Space Command, created Sept. 1, 1982, is a major command with headquarters at Peterson Air Force Base, Colo. AFSPC defends North America



Photo by Debra Valine

Gen. Lance Lord, right, commander of the Air Force Space Command, meets with Michael C. Schexnayder, deputy to the commander for Research, Development and Acquisition when Lord visited Huntsville March 15-16.

through its space and intercontinental ballistic missile operations, vital force elements in projecting global reach and global power.

# Space support enhances division's planning efforts

By Debra Valine  
SMDC Public Affairs

The last time the 10th Mountain Division (Light Infantry) deployed, the Plans and Operations officer had to rely on terrain maps for battlefield awareness. It was all they had. The next time 10th Mountain deploys, things will be different. Soldiers will have access to space.

In July 2004, the U.S. Army Space and Missile Defense Command transitioned a Space Support Element to the 10th Mountain Division at Fort Drum, N.Y. The Fort Drum SSE is made up of three space operations officers and one noncommissioned officer. They are trained in exploiting space-based capabilities to improve battlefield awareness for the warfighter. The objective SSE will have four space officers and two NCOs.

"In the past, I kind of bumped around because I did not know where to get this expertise," said Col. Michael Coss, 10th Mountain Division Plans and Operations officer. "When the space operations officers first showed up, I had no idea what they would do. Since they've been assigned, we have had four command post exercises and in every case, they have

provided me with the kinds of operational capabilities on the battlefield that the UEx (Unit of Employment) Headquarters is charged to do. There is no turning back. We are dependent on technology. It is a tremendous enhancement, but you have to have experts that can keep it up and create workarounds when something is not functional. Our space experts provide us that."

The 10th Mountain SSE includes Lt. Col. Dennis Brozek, Maj. Joseph Bolton and Maj. Brian Soldon, all SMDC-trained space operations officers and Staff Sgt. Lee

Rawlins, a satellite maintainer/operator. This is the second of three teams SMDC has transitioned into the new units of employment. The 3rd Infantry Division received the first team in June 2004. That team is now with 3rd ID in Baghdad. Another SSE was assigned to the 101st Airborne Division (Air Assault) in July 2004 and plans are to assign SSEs to all the divisions by 2007.

"I was originally assigned to SMDC's G-3 (Plans and Operations) in July 2002, straight out of the Command and General Staff College at Fort Leavenworth, Kan.," said Brozek, who had flown attack helicopters for 14 years before being selected to become a space operations officer. He attended the FA40 Space Operations Officer Qualification Course in Colorado Springs, Colo.

"I was the first one on the ground at Fort Drum, but I already knew the two majors who were coming in," Brozek said. "It was like starting from ground zero in a new environment. There was no support, no plan for setting up a new section as part of the UEx. As we worked through the logistics issues of setting up a new section, I was explaining what the SSE would add to the division.

"We're all watching the 3rd ID SSE to see how they set up," Brozek said. "We will be providing the same support within the theater. It won't be a

mirror operation, but it will be the same type of support."

The SSE officers use their expertise to plan, integrate and coordinate space mission areas into all aspects of the UEx. The team is involved in anything that goes to, through or from space, such as blue force tracking, satellite imagery, and global positioning systems — position, velocity and navigation of the GPS, Brozek said.

Having an embedded SSE helps the unit understand space and they communicate what space can do across domains such as intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance, geospatial information and services and blue force tracking.

"We talk in terms of two capabilities: space support to lethality and space support to force protection," said Lt. Col. Rick Dow, SMDC's command lead for SSE fielding. "Space support to lethality comes from commercial space sources or other sources of targetable information such as ONIR (overhead on-imaging infrared). Knowing where the targets are and how to get them enhances lethality. Space support for force protection means providing space-based blue-force tracking for situational awareness and understanding."

"Understand that the SSE relies heavily on reach-back to SMDC because that is where the expertise is," Brozek said. "We have a SATURN system for communication so that we can talk to the experts to get the answers we need." SATURN —



Photo by Spc. Tony White, 10th Mountain Division Public Affairs Office

Lt. Col. Dennis Brozek, right, Space Support Element, 10th Mountain Division (Light Infantry), discusses a satellite imagery product with Staff Sgt. Joseph Szafranski, G-3, 10th Mountain Division (LI), during a recent command post exercise at Fort Drum, N.Y., involving the division's 3rd Brigade Combat Team.

See **Support** on page 16

# President appoints 2005 base closure commissioners

**P**resident Bush announced on April 1 he appointed nine people to serve on 2005's Defense Base Realignment and Closure Commission. By making recess appointments to the BRAC he completed creation of the nine-member independent commission to review the Pentagon's list of proposed base closings this year.

By appointing members to the panel while the Senate was in its spring recess eliminates the requirement of Senate confirmation of the commission. The appointments expire at the end of the Senate's session next year, long after the panel is scheduled to finish its work.

The 2005 BRAC Commission members are:

- Anthony J. Principi, of California. The President has designated Principi, a former Secretary of the Department of Veterans Affairs, as the BRAC Commission Chairman.
- Former Nevada Rep. James H. Bilbray, who was a member of committees on foreign affairs, armed services and intelligence. He served in the Army Reserve from 1955 to 1963.
- Philip Coyle of California, a senior adviser to the Center for Defense

Information. He has served at DOD as an assistant secretary of defense and as director of operational test and evaluation.

- Retired Navy Adm. Harold W. Gehman Jr. of Virginia. He served more than 35 years on active duty, and his last assignment was as NATO's supreme allied commander, Atlantic, and as commander of U.S. Joint Forces Command.
- Former Utah Rep. James V. Hansen, who served on the House Armed Services Committee. He served in the Navy from 1951 to 1955.
- Retired Army Gen. James T. Hill of Florida. He served 36 years, and his last assignment was as commander of U.S. Southern Command.
- Retired Air Force Gen. Lloyd W. Newton of Connecticut, Vice President at Pratt and Whitney.
- Samuel Knox Skinner of Illinois, who served as President George H.W. Bush's chief of staff and as secretary of transportation. He served in the Army Reserve from 1960 to 1968.
- Retired Air Force Brig. Gen. Sue Ellen Turner of Texas, a member of the American Battle Monuments Commission. She served for 30 years, most recently as the director of nursing services in the Office of the Air Force Surgeon General.

Base realignment and closure is the process DOD uses to reorganize its installation infrastructure. This reorganization allows more efficient and effective support of forces as well as a way to increase readiness, officials said.

Defense officials said DOD's process will not vary much from the past BRAC rounds. But this year's BRAC process includes a statutory requirement that the military value of an installation be a primary element of the criteria used in deciding whether an installation needs to be closed or realigned.

Military value includes criteria such as bases' mission capabilities now and in the future, and space available for force maneuver. The review will also consider the bases' ability to accommodate contingency and future force requirements and will look at the bases' operations costs and manpower implications.

The secretary of defense must submit a list of installations recommended for closure or realignment to Congress and the BRAC commission by May 16. By Sept. 8, the commission must send its recommended BRAC list to the president, who has until Sept. 23 to approve or disapprove the findings.

## Missile Defense

*continued from page 1*

boost-phase programs; and \$82 million to continue development of the Multiple Kill Vehicle system, designed to shoot down incoming missiles.

"MKV is a generational upgrade to ground-based midcourse interceptors to increase their effectiveness in the presence of counter-measures," Obering explained. He said the agency looks forward to the first intercept attempt using MKV by 2008.

Justifying the need to sustain funding for missile defense, Obering said the threat the U. S. faces from proliferating and evolving ballistic missile systems and associated technologies and expertise "continues unabated."

According to the general, in 2004 there were nearly 100 foreign ballistic missile launches around the world. "This is nearly double the number conducted in 2003 and slightly greater than the number of launches in 2002," he said.

He told the committee that more than 60 launches last year involved short-range ballistic missiles; over 10 involved medium-range missiles; and nearly 20 involved land- and sea-based long-range ballistic missiles.

"OPERATIONS DESERT STORM and IRAQI FREEDOM demonstrated that missile defenses must be integrated into our regional military responses if we are to provide adequate protection of coalition forces, friendly population centers and military assets," he explained.

"We must expect that troops deployed to regional 'hotspots' will continue to encounter increasingly sophisticated ballistic missile threats."

Moreover, Obering said that nuclear-capable North Korea and nuclear-emergent Iran have shown serious interest in longer-range missiles. "They underscore the severity of the proliferation problem," he said.

"Our current and near-term missile defense fielding activities are a direct response to these dangers," he explained. "There are also other ballistic missile threats to the homeland that we must address in the years ahead, including the possibility of an off-shore launch."

Obering said the funding request will help develop and field the next increment of missile defense capability to improve protection of the U. S. from the Middle East and expand coverage to allies and friendly nations.

To that end, Obering said he believes the country's missile defense program is on the "right track" to deliver multi-layered, integrated defense capabilities to counter current and emerging ballistic missile threats.

"For the first time in its history, the United States today has a limited capability to defend our people against a long-range ballistic missile attack," he said. "I believe future generations will find these years to be the turning point in our effort to field an unprecedented and decisive military capability, one that closes off a major avenue of threat to our country."

## Video-teleconference suites installed at 100th Missile Defense Brigade headquarters

**By Sgt. Sara Storey  
100th Missile Defense  
Brigade (Ground-based  
Missile Defense) Public  
Affairs**

**COLORADO SPRINGS, Colo.** — Two video-teleconference suites were recently installed at the 100th Missile Defense Brigade (Ground-based Midcourse Defense) headquarters by a crew from U.S. Army Space and Missile Defense

Command Chief Information Office.

The suites have the capability to perform unsecured video-teleconferences. Eventually, the brigade will have the capability to hold classified secret VTCs with this equipment.

VTCs are quickly becoming the norm and commanders' preferred method of communication, said Maj. Brian Gary, brigade communications officer.

The two Missile Defense Brigade VTC suites are in the command conference room and the large training room of the headquarters building. These locations allow more versatility for meetings and training with different sized groups, Gary said.

The VTC suites are linked to two separate circuits so they can each act as a back-up system or the unit can hold two separate VTCs simultaneously.

"These VTCs will give us the ability to link up with units anywhere in the world," Gary said. "They allow us to collaborate with peers and our headquarters without the expense of traveling."

The VTCs also provide another valuable asset to the command — time, Gary said.



Photo by Sgt. Sara Storey

**Tom Potter, Chief Information Office, SMDC, installs a video-teleconference suite at the 100th Missile Defense Brigade (Ground-based Midcourse Defense) headquarters.**

## Civilian News

### ASMDA Space Camp scholarships available

The U.S. Army Space and Missile Defense Association (ASMDA) is offering 15 scholarships to selected children to attend a one-week Space Camp July 3-8, at the U.S. Space and Rocket Center in Huntsville, Ala. Any child, aged 9 - 11, of a parent or guardian currently assigned to SMDC, PEO-MS, STRATCOM and GMD JPO (Huntsville), including matrix personnel, is eligible. The deadline to apply is May 6. Applications are available online at [www.smdc.army.mil](http://www.smdc.army.mil).

### DFAS and myPay: Watch out for scams

With "phishing" scams occurring more frequently, Defense Finance and Accounting Service customers should be aware that the DFAS agency and its Web-based system, myPay, do not ask for personal or financial information by e-mail. Individual DFAS customers can enter the myPay Web site with a personal identification number to access the secure financial page to make changes to personal information. Phishing attacks trick people into passing personal information by luring them to false corporate Web sites or by requesting personal information be sent in a return e-mail. People are directed to a Web site that mimics a legitimate organization's site.

### Officials Announce Thrift Savings Plan Open Season

Civilian and military employees can sign up for, or change, their Thrift Savings Plan contribution amounts during the "open season" April 15 to June 30. This open season applies only to regular TSP contributions. It does not include TSP catch-up contributions, as they are not tied to open seasons. Contribution elections and/or changes made between April 15 and June 11 will take effect June 12, for service members and civilians. Changes made on or after June 12 will become effective at the beginning of the pay period following the one in which the election is made for civilians and the following month for military. Public Law 108-469, signed into law Dec. 21, 2004, will eliminate TSP open seasons. The Federal Retirement Thrift Investment Board is implementing this law July 1. As a result, beginning July 1, civilian employees and service members may start, change, stop or resume contributions at any time. For civilians, the elections will be effective at the beginning of the pay period following the one in which submitted, and for military members elections will be effective the following month. For more information, visit the TSP Web site at <http://www.tsp.gov>.

### Voting program kicks off slogan contest

The Federal Voting Assistance Program is accepting entries until July 10 for its latest slogan contest. The winning slogan will be featured in the FVAP's 2006-2007 media campaign, which will focus on increasing voter awareness among U.S. citizens worldwide and encouraging them to participate in the democratic process. Slogans also will be posted on the FVAP Web site in the 2006-2007 Voting Assistance Guide and on motivational posters, audiovisual materials and in other FVAP publications and manuals. The aim is to promote interest in voting among people covered by the Uniformed and Overseas Citizens Absentee Voting Act — members of the uniformed services, the Merchant Marine, their families, and all U.S. citizens residing outside the U.S. Submitted slogans should address the importance of voting or inspire someone to vote, and people may enter as many times as they like, but contest officials request that each entry be submitted separately. A panel of independent judges will choose the winning slogan based on originality and motivational value. The contest winners and runners-up will receive a certificate signed by Defense Secretary Donald H. Rumsfeld. Entrants may submit their slogan by e-mail, fax or mail. It should include their full name, their service (if military), mailing address, daytime telephone number, fax number and e-mail address. E-mail entries should be sent to [slogan@fvap.ncr.gov](mailto:slogan@fvap.ncr.gov) and should be text only, one slogan per e-mail, with contact information on each e-mail. Enter "Voting Slogan Contest" on the subject line. Due to security concerns, any e-mail message with an attachment will be deleted. Slogans can be faxed to (703) 696-1352 or DSN 426-1352. The FVAP Web site has toll-free fax numbers from 51 countries. Submit separate pages for each slogan with contact information on each page. No cover sheet is necessary. People may also mail their entries to Federal Voting Assistance Program, Department of Defense, Attn: Voting Slogan Contest, 1155 Defense Pentagon, Washington, DC 20301-1155.

## Military News

### Operation Purple Summer Camp registration began April 15

Registration for "Operation Purple" summer camps for children of deployed service members began April 15 on the National Military Family Association's Web site. The 22 Operation Purple camps worldwide provide summer camp experiences for more than 2,000 children whose parents are deployed in the U.S. armed forces. The camps are funded through the Sears American Dream Campaign allowing children to attend the camps free of charge. According to NMFA officials, Operation Purple is the only summer camp program that focuses on helping children deal with deployment-related issues, and is open to children of personnel from all branches of the U.S. armed forces. Applications will be available April 15 through May 15 on the NMFA Web site: <http://www.nmfa.org>.

### 22nd National Retired Military Golf Classic held in May

The 22nd National Retired Military Golf Classic is being held in Myrtle Beach, S.C., from May 31 to June 4. The Classic is played on five different courses at the Myrtle Beach National and Wildwing Golf Clubs. A total of 864 men and 132 women are accepted for this event, which is the largest retired military golf event in the world. Over \$125,000 in cash and prizes will be awarded. Applications are available at most military golf courses around the country. Priority will be given to those who have played in the classic. Acceptance is on a first-come, first-serve basis. A waiting list will be established once the classic is full. For applications call (800) 255-4763 or (866) 469-7853, or write to National Retired Military Golf Classic, P.O. Box 3608, Myrtle Beach, S.C. 29578.

### College fund for children of fallen Soldiers

A new education assistance fund has been established for the children of fallen Soldiers. The purpose of the fund is to assist the children of men and women who have died while bravely serving in the U.S. Armed Forces, fighting the war on terror. Sponsored by the General Steel Corporation, in partnership with The Mike Gallagher Show Charitable Foundation, each award will be determined based on individual need and may be used for tuition, books, and/or room and board at a two- or four-year college/university that is accredited by recognized accreditation agencies and offers an associate's or bachelor's degree upon completion of the course of study offered. Awards may be renewed depending on available funds. To download an application form, go to <http://www.gallaghersarmy.com/Education%20Fund/Application.pdf>. To find millions of dollars in scholarships and grants exclusively for the military community go to our Scholarship Finder at [http://benefits.military.com/education/scholarship/Scholarship\\_Search.jsp](http://benefits.military.com/education/scholarship/Scholarship_Search.jsp).

### Thrift Savings Plan gaining more flexibility

Beginning July 1, service members will have greater flexibility in investment planning under new options in the Thrift Savings Plan. These options include the introduction of new funds that will be based on asset allocation, the end of open seasons and the combination of the uniform and federal service forms. Allocations to professionally managed life cycle funds will be tailored according to a participant's time horizon or when individuals plan on withdrawing their money. As a result of a law change, TSP open seasons will be eliminated, effective July 1, and the TSP will combine both the uniform and federal service forms in July. The new election form (currently TSP-U-1) will feature a slightly different look.

### Department of Defense announces criteria for two new campaign medals

The Department of Defense announced the creation of two campaign medals for Afghanistan and Iraq to recognize members who made specific sacrifices and significant contributions in these areas of operation. Service members authorized the Afghanistan Campaign Medal must have served in direct support of OPERATION ENDURING FREEDOM on or after Oct. 24, 2001. Those authorized the Iraq Campaign Medal must have served in direct support of OPERATION IRAQI FREEDOM on or after March 19, 2003. For more information, including eligibility requirements, go to <http://www.defenselink.mil/releases/2005/nr20050407-2441.html>.

# Arlington information management team strives to support its customers

By Marco Morales  
SMDC Public Affairs

In the dazzling speed communications and digitized language environment of computers, users of the U.S. Army Space and Missile Defense Command's e-mail and Web server system may sometimes take for granted how the people behind the scenes continue to support their daily missions.

The information management team in Arlington, Va., is just one piece

and one at the Directorate of Combat Development, to accomplish our mission," said John Upp, supervisory information management specialist, Chief Information Office — Arlington.

And for Upp and his team, the biggest challenge in meeting the CIO mission, in coordination with other Command locations, involves delivering top notch service 24/7.

"With the three major locations of the command being in different time zones, there are sometimes occasions where some of our colleagues have to get up earlier in the morning to support a video teleconference mission, for example. And, conversely our people here in Arlington have to sometimes stay beyond their normal duty hours to support a mission."

Upp says the customer is always first on their list. "We take care of one-stop shopping — including all of the computer network service needs of our customers which includes software and hardware," Upp

said. "We also take care of the telephone system for the headquarters suite in Arlington and, in coordination with our Public Affairs Office, the unofficial photography for such events as award, promotion or other related ceremonies."

But what is most enjoyable

about being a perceived computer geek?

"It's never the same. I don't know from one day to the next what new missions or challenges are going to come up. Being the only government employee here in Arlington representing the CIO, I find myself involved in all of the operational aspects of information and automation support. And that's what makes this job exciting," Upp said, adding, "without communications the command just grinds to a halt."

A member of the IM team, Billy Lindsay, Science Applications International Corporation (SAIC), and lead for special projects, adds that users of the e-mail system should be security conscious.

"Computer security is a never-ending battle in detecting viruses that attack our command server," Lindsay said. "The difference between us and a computer hacker is that the hacker gets up in the morning to play on his/her computer for enjoyment all day while we have to actually work to guard the system. It's like the guy with his fingers in the dike trying to prevent flooding."

Working behind the scenes running the command video-teleconference control room is also a challenge.

"The biggest challenge in this job is trying to accommodate requests for VTC support that conflict in scheduling, in other words, when two customers want to conduct a VTC at the same time. Other than that, the job is enjoyable and the people I work with are great," said Jorge Bonilla, SAIC, VTC operator.

Upp adds that people in the command don't always realize what types of effort or technology is provided to support their mission.

"In a way that's good. They don't need to see the man behind the curtain. While a lot of our people do respect and understand the technological challenges we face, there's also a little bit of a mystique, magic as it were, where all of a

sudden things just start to happen. That turns out to be a good blend," Upp said. Ron Caldwell, SMDC system administrator says customer service involves routing

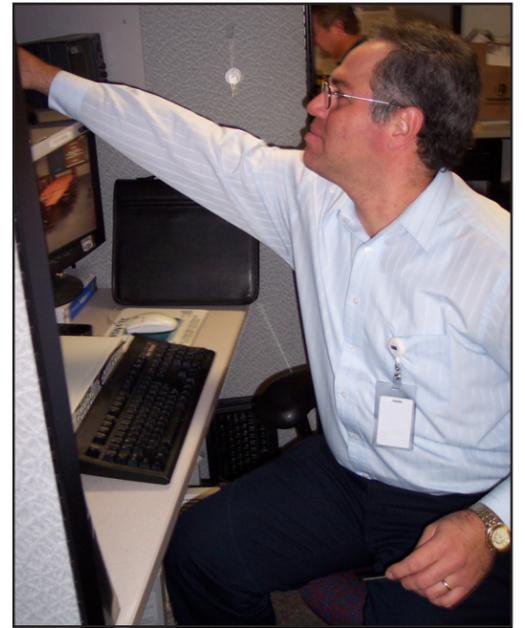


Photo by Marco Morales

Jorge Bonilla, one of SMDC's video teleconference operators in Arlington, Va., adjusts a control on the equipment inside the control room for the main conference room.

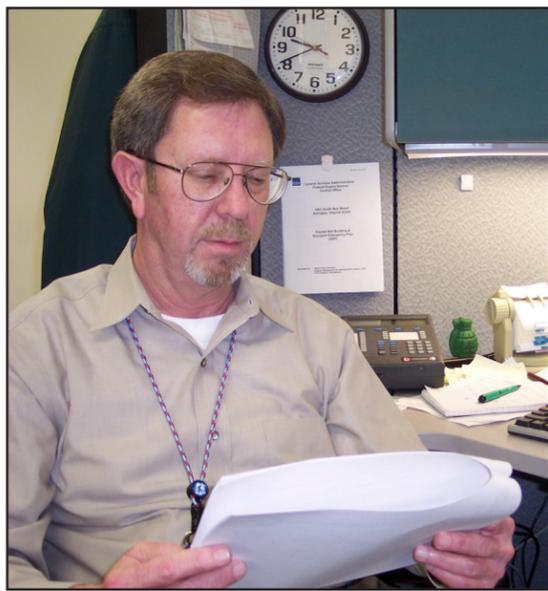


Photo by Marco Morales

John Upp, supervisory information management specialist and lead, Chief Information Office — Arlington, reviews a printout on some of the work orders his team has worked on recently.

of the integral information management (IM) architecture that ensures each SMDC employee's personal computer, telephone or other communications equipment is up and running around the clock.

"I have six automation technician contractors at the Arlington headquarters suite

**Computer security is a never-ending battle in detecting viruses that attack our command server ... It's like the guy with his fingers in the dike trying to prevent flooding.**

**— Billy Lindsay  
Lead for Special Projects  
SAIC**

glitches that need fixing to the right people in the CIO.

"My biggest challenge is trying to convince the customers that the fastest way to get their request for assistance addressed is to put in a trouble ticket with the help desk first," Caldwell said. "It's very important because it gives everyone an equal opportunity to get their unique problems addressed and resolved in a systematic and timely fashion. Whether it is a telephone, file permission or a network access problem, tickets are prioritized and addressed as quickly as possible," he said.

And keeping the command's customers connected is one key to Caldwell's success.

"What I enjoy is giving the customer a quick and customized response to their particular issue, and what I really enjoy the most is seeing the smile on the customer's face and hearing the words, 'Thank you Ron,' for a job well done," Caldwell said.



Photo by Marco Morales

Billy Lindsay, right, lead for special projects in the Chief Information Office in Arlington, Va., explains to Maj. Randy Wheeler one of the options related to a program on a personal computer in the headquarters suite.

# Awards/Promotions

## Civilian Promotions

**Douglas E. Burdette**, GS-14, Huntsville, Technical Center, Space Technology Directorate

**Mark S. Daniel**, GS-11, Huntsville, Test and Evaluation Center

**Donna H. Davis**, GS-14, Huntsville, Personnel, G-1, Civilian Personnel Division

**Douglas M. Deason**, GS-14, Huntsville, Technical Center, Advanced Technology Directorate

**Daniel B. Godwin**, GS-13, Huntsville, Future Warfare Center, Simulations and Analysis Directorate, Studies and Analysis Division

**Doris H. Ingram**, GS-13, Huntsville, Resource Management, G-8, Program Support Division

**Billette Kimbrough**, GS-8, Huntsville, Future Warfare Center, Simulations and Analysis Directorate

**Thang Q. Lai**, GS-14, Huntsville, Technical Center, Data Analysis and Exploitation Directorate

**Michael M. Lee**, GS-14, Huntsville, Technical Center, Space Technology Directorate

**Louis H. Torrez**, GS-9, Colorado Springs, Operations and Plans, G-3, Blue Force Tracking Branch

**Stacey Wilkes**, GS-12, Huntsville, Business Initiatives Office

**Lisa F. Williams**, GS-5, Huntsville, Future Warfare Center, Space and Missile Defense Battle Lab, Frontiers Division

**Scott J. Wilson**, GS-14, Huntsville, Technical Center, Test and Evaluation Directorate

## Military Promotions

**Sgt. Andrea Stanek**, Charlie Detachment, 1st Space Company (TMWC), 1st Space Battalion, Osan, Korea

**Spc. George Stratakos**, Charlie Detachment, 1st Space Company (TMWC), 1st Space Battalion, Osan, Korea

**Spc. Brian Yoder**, Charlie Detachment, 1st Space Company (TMWC), 1st Space Battalion, Osan, Korea

## On-the-Spot Cash Awards

**Karol Cortright**, Colorado Springs, Future Warfare Center, Space and Missile Defense Battle Lab

**Steven R. Groves**, Colorado Springs, Future Warfare Center, Space and Missile Defense Battle Lab, Experiments and Transformation Division

**Douglas B. Hoskins**, Kwajalein Atoll, USAKA/Reagan Test Site, Test Support Division

**Kenneth H. Jordan**, Huntsville, Technical Center, Information Science and Technology Directorate Matrix

**Michael D. Lundberg**, Kwajalein Atoll, USAKA/Reagan Test Site, Test Support Division

**William A. McQueen**, Colorado Springs, Logistics, G-4, Supply and Transportation Branch

**Donny D. Rodgers**, Colorado Springs, Logistics, G-4, Supply and

Transportation Branch

**Teri B. Steele**, Colorado Springs, Logistics, G-4, Supply and Transportation Branch

**Kenneth L. Wren**, Colorado Springs, Future Warfare Center, Space and Missile Defense Battle Lab, Experiments and Transformation Division

## Special Act Awards

**William M. Burrows**, Huntsville, Technical Center, Space Technology Directorate Matrix

**John F. Crawford**, Huntsville, Technical Center, Systems Directorate Matrix

**Seyed M. Hamidi**, Huntsville, Technical Center, Information Science and Technology Directorate Matrix

**Russell C. Hutcherson**, Huntsville, Technical Center, Information Science and Technology Directorate Matrix

**Gary F. Indihar**, Huntsville, Technical Center, Systems Directorate Matrix

**John M. McGary**, Huntsville, Technical Center, Kinetic Energy Interceptor Directorate Matrix

**Phillip S. Palmer**, Huntsville, Technical Center, Information Science and Technology Directorate Matrix

**David Payne**, Huntsville, Technical Center,

Information Science and Technology Directorate Matrix

## Time-Off Awards

**Timothy R. Huwe**, Colorado Springs, Office of the Engineer, Operations Branch

**Donald Powers**, Colorado Springs, Office of the Engineer, Operations Branch

**Deborah Vaughn Teague**, Huntsville, PARC/Office of Contracting and Acquisition, Branch K

## Length of Service Awards

### 25 Years

**Thomas Hamilton**, Huntsville, Technical Center, Directed Energy Directorate Matrix

### 30 Years

**John Tomkovich**, Colorado Springs, Future Warfare Center, Space and Missile Defense Battle Lab, Experiments and Transformation Division

### Schexnayder honored with Meritorious Civilian Service Award

Michael C. Schexnayder, right, deputy to the commander for Research, Development and Acquisition, U.S. Army Space and Missile Defense Command, received the Meritorious Civilian Service Award from Brig. Gen. Roger Nadeau, commanding general, U.S. Army Research, Development and Engineering Command, Aberdeen Proving Ground, Md. Schexnayder was recognized by the Army Materiel Command for his exceptional efforts as the associate director for Aviation and Missile Systems, U.S. Army Aviation and Missile



Photo by Dorothy Moore, Redstone Photo Lab

Research, Development and Engineering Center, a Senior Executive Service position

he held prior to his current position at SMDC.



Photo by Joe Ramirez, Redstone Photo Lab

### Pinning on those eagles

Nicholas Tuder, left, and Eric Tuder, right, pin on their father's new rank during a promotion ceremony in the Wernher Von Braun Complex on Redstone Arsenal, Ala. Col. Jack Tuder, an Air Force acquisition/developmental engineer assigned as the Air Force Research Laboratory commander's representative to the U.S. Army Space and Missile Defense Command and the National Aeronautics and Space Administration was promoted April 1.

**Congratulations go to Mig Owens and Dan Adler of the Kwajalein Hourglass for receiving Department of the Army Keith L. Ware Journalism awards.**



Mig Owens

Category H — Sports Article  
 2nd Place — **Mig Owens** (*Kwajalympics build teamwork with fun, spirit, sports*), Kwajalein Atoll and Reagan Test Site (U.S. Army Space and Missile Defense Command)



Dan Adler

Category L — Contribution by Stringer (Writer)  
 3rd Place — **Dan Adler** (*Spirit stories can happen when you don't know it*), Kwajalein Atoll and Reagan Test Site (U.S. Army Space and Missile Defense Command)

*New sergeants take part in 100th Missile Defense Brigade (Ground-based Missile Defense) NCO Induction ceremony*

**T**hree newly promoted sergeants took part in an NCO Induction Ceremony at 100th Missile Defense Brigade (Ground-based Midcourse Defense) headquarters March 18. Inductees are Sgt. Juan Andrini, left, GMD crew member; Sgt. Russell Bonham, LAN manager; and Sgt. David Ott, senior LAN manager. During the ceremony, these sergeants recited the Creed of the Noncommissioned Officer and were presented a framed copy of the creed by Command Sgt. Maj. Dan Marques, 100th Missile Defense Brigade. Command Sgt. Maj. Jimmie Thorp, Colorado Army National Guard, spoke to the Soldiers about their new responsibilities as NCOs.



Photo by Sgt. Sara Storey

From left to right, Sgt. Juan Andrini, Ground-based Midcourse Defense crew member; Sgt. Russell Bonham, LAN manager, Sgt. David Ott, senior LAN manager, Command Sgt. Maj. Jimmie Thorp, Colorado Army National Guard; Command Sgt. Maj. Dan Marques, 100th Missile Defense Brigade and 1st Sgt. Herbert Rodriguez, Headquarters and Headquarters Battery first sergeant participate in an induction ceremony in Colorado Springs March 18.

***Noncommissioned Officer induction: rite of passage for newly promoted sergeants***

**PETERSON AIR FORCE BASE, Colo.** — “I will discharge carefully the duties of the grade to which I have been promoted and uphold the traditions and standards of the Army,” said the newly promoted sergeants to the assembly of Soldiers witnessing the ceremony.

This ceremony of acceptance marks a crucial time in the career of any Soldier. It is a time when the individual moves from the ranks of Soldiers to the ranks of the Noncommissioned Officer Corps — the backbone of the Army. It is a formal recognition of the fact that these Soldiers have demonstrated the qualities of leadership and mastery of Soldier skills enabling them to move to the next level.

Nine specialists were inducted Feb. 10. They are Sgt. James Beall and Sgt. David Brady of Headquarters and Headquarters Company (HHC), 1st Space Brigade; Sgt. Alicia Durant and Sgt. Christopher Pernel of HHC, 1st Space Battalion; Sgt. Matthew Brown, Sgt. Esgar Reyes and Sgt. Matthew Zellner of 1st Space Company; and Sgt. Christopher Rivero and Sgt. Francena Scott of 2nd Space Company.



Photo by Sgt. 1st Class Dennis Beebe

Command Sgt. Maj. Daryall Sumpter, left, welcomes nine new Soldiers from the 1st Space Battalion to the ranks of the NCO Corps in ceremonies held Feb. 10 in Colorado Springs, Colo.

“These young sergeants represent the future of the Army,” said Command Sgt. Maj. Daryall L. Sumpter, the senior non-commissioned officer of the 1st Space

Battalion. “Their enthusiasm, integrity, skills and knowledge are what the force will be built upon. I think the Army will be in good hands.”

# Army Space and Missile Defense Association dedicates Distinguished Civilians Wall at SMDC

By Debra Valine  
SMDC Public Affairs

**HUNTSVILLE, Ala.** — In the lobby of Bldg. 5220 on Redstone Arsenal, home of the U.S. Army Space and Missile Defense Command's Huntsville element, there is a Distinguished Civilians Wall containing photos of 29 individuals who were key leaders and engineers in Army space and missile defense efforts.

The Army Space and Missile Defense Association (ASMDA) hosted a dedication ceremony March 10 to honor these pioneers for their lifetime of accomplishments and contributions.

Fourteen of the distinguished civilians attended. Honorees attending included: Fred Stevenson, Dr. Michael Holtcamp, Dr. William Davis Jr., Alan Sherer, A.Q. Oldacre, Frank Vann, Robert Menotti, William Graves, Dr. Edward Wilkinson, Lois Spruiell Cain, James Pignataro, William Roberson, Wallace Kirkpatrick and Melvin Capps.

"For many of our honorees, this is the first time they have been in the new building," said Garth Bloxham, representing ASMDA. "Our purpose today is to officially cut the ribbon on the new and improved Distinguished Civilian Wall."

The U.S. Army Space and Missile Defense Distinguished Civilians Wall honors selected civil servants who made a significant engineering, scientific, technical, analytical, management or administrative contribution to the research, development, test and evaluation of missile defense and space technologies or systems. Selected civil

servants must also have maintained a high level of commitment to the Army's and the nation's missile defense and space missions.

"Engineers and scientists generally work to get something done, shake hands and move on to the next project," said Michael C. Schexnayder, deputy to the commander for Research, Development and Acquisition, SMDC. "All of you had done real things while you worked for SMDC and other agencies, and many of you have continued to do work for the community since retiring from SMDC."

"SMDC thinks a lot of what you have done," Schexnayder continued. "As individuals and as a group, you are responsible for making a difference in this country. Your accomplishments are the basis for the systems we are deploying today and the basis for the systems deployed in the 1970s. The value to the country is knowing that there is protection against threats to the country. It gives this country an asymmetrical advantage over our foes. It cautions them to think twice before taking action against us. That means a lot to everybody in the country."

Schexnayder made reference to the number of years the group had contributed to space and missile defense efforts. "I understand the 14 of you represent 420 years of service; 870 years of service from the 29 recognized on the wall. That is a lot of service from each of you. And I know you continue to contribute."

After the ceremony, honorees and current employees renewed old friendships and shared refreshments. "I think it is a real honor to be

remembered after you have been retired for 13 years," said Lois Spruiell, who was comptroller for the U.S. Army Strategic Defense Command in 1986. She functioned as the principal staff adviser and action officer for financial and program management.

"Working for the Army was a real pleasure. The Army was very good to me, and I appreciate the career I had. It was an honor to work with all the people I see today."

Dr. Michael Holtcamp, who served in the NIKE-X Project Office as deputy program manager for the Joint Theater Missile Defense Project, program manager for Arrow and as the chief engineer of the Program Executive Office Air and Missile Defense, agreed that to be recognized is an honor.

"It is an honor because you really think, 'what have I done to deserve this?', but it is great to be considered in the same vein as some of the pioneers who served with me and for me. It is nice to remember those of us from the past," Holtcamp said.

The 29 honorees pictured on the U.S. Army Space and Missile Defense Distinguished Civilians Wall are:

**SARA L. BRUCE** held various supervisory budget and program analyst positions during her tenure with the organization until her retirement from the Systems Technology Project Office in August 1979.

**C. E. RICHARDSON JR.** served with the Safeguard program from its inception. He was the chief engineer, Safeguard System

continued on next page



Photo by Dorothy Moore, Redstone Photo Lab

Fourteen of the 29 honorees on the U.S. Army Space and Missile Defense Command's Distinguished Civilians Wall attended the ceremony dedicating the display March 10. Front row, left to right, Fred Stevenson, James Pignataro, Lois Spruiell Cain and William Graves. Second row, left to right, Robert Menotti, Mike Holtcamp, Melvin Capps, Bill Davis and Ed Wilkinson. Back row, left to right, Wallace Kirkpatrick, A.Q. Oldacre, Frank Vann, William Roberson and Alan Sherer.

## Distinguished Wall

Command in 1972 and the deputy commander for Ballistic Missile Defense Systems Command in 1975.

**PAUL O. PHILLIPS** served in the positions of deputy director, Research, Development, Test and Evaluation Directorate; deputy director, Test and Systems Engineering Support Directorate; chief scientist; and chief engineer.

**DR. JULIAN DAVIDSON** served in the positions of chief, Threat Analysis and Systems Effectiveness Branch; director, Advanced Ballistic Missile Defense Agency; special assistant for Site Defense Safeguard System Office; and deputy Ballistic Missile Defense Project Manager.

**WILLIAM F. GRAVES** served in the Engineering Division of the Zeus Project Office. He also served in various supervisory positions until his retirement from the Systems Technology Project Office in February 1980.

**DR. WILLIAM A. DAVIS JR.** served as director, Ballistic Missile Defense Advanced Technology Center from 1971 until 1977, when he was assigned as deputy Ballistic Missile Defense program manager.

**WILLIAM O. TURNEY** served in the contract office in 1958, where he became the top contractual authority for the command. He also served as special assistant for Management and Administration.

**DR. WILLIAM O. DAVIES** served in the positions of director, Army Ballistic Missile Defense Advanced Technology Center Optics; director, Systems Analysis/Battle Management; and technical director for the commander.

**CECIL DALE (RICH) RICHARDSON** served as director of Systems Project, Ballistic Missile Defense Systems Command, and developed the Army's Defense-In-Depth Approach to the President's Strategic Defense Initiative.

**JOHN E. REECE** joined the U.S. Army Ballistic Missile Defense Systems Command serving as program manager for the Sentry Ballistic Missile Defense System, a \$300 million per year research and development effort with a staff of 300.

**ALAN D. SHERER** led the High Endoatmospheric Defense Interceptor Project Office. In 1991 he was the U.S. Army Program Manager of the Year. He also served as acting Program Executive Officer for Missile Defense.

**BOBBY SISCO** led the analysis team for the Sentinel Antiballistic Missile Defense System deployment as a special assistant to the Missile Defense System Manager. The goal of the Sentinel Program was to provide a "thin umbrella" of protection against a limited nuclear strike, such as might be launched by Communist China. After a brief retirement, Sisco returned to government service as deputy director of the Advanced Technology Center.

**FRED STEVENSON** was the program manager for the Missile Site Radar (MSR). The MSR was a major element of the Stanley R. Mickelsen Safeguard Complex, the U.S.' only operational ABM (antiballistic missile) defense system. The sensitivity and selectivity of the receiver enabled the detection and discrimination of targets within a background of electrical noise and debris and could detect targets of small cross section at ranges of several hundred miles.

**JAMES C. KATECHIS** was the program manager for the Ground-Based Interceptor Program and was responsible for the successful, non-nuclear, high exoatmospheric, hit-to-kill of a test re-entry vehicle.

**LOIS N. SPRUIELL** was the comptroller for the U.S. Army Strategic Defense Command in 1986. She functioned as the principal staff adviser and action officer for financial and program management.

**WALLACE E. KIRKPATRICK** established the Advanced Research Projects Division in Huntsville. He also served as director, Program Management, and deputy director, Ballistic Missile Defense Advanced Technology Center.

**JERRY W. CAVENDER** served as director, Systems Analysis and Battle Management. He also served as program manager for both the Ground-based Surveillance and Tracking System and the National Missile Defense Program Office.

**DR. EDWARD L. WILKINSON** joined the U.S. Army Ballistic Missile Defense Advanced Technology Center in January 1977. In 1981 he was the program manager for the Homing Overlay Experiment and in 1986 the director of the Kinetic Energy Weapons.

**A. Q. OLDACRE** served as deputy program manager for the Patriot during OPERATION DESERT STORM and was responsible for Patriot



Photo by Dorothy Moore, Redstone Photo Lab

Angie Gunderman, vice president, Redstone Arsenal Chapter, Association of the U.S. Army, and Michael C. Schexnayder, deputy to the commander for Research, Development and Acquisition, U.S. Army Space and Missile Defense Command, cut the ribbon dedicating the Distinguished Civilians Wall in the lobby of Bldg. 5220 of the Wernher Von Braun Complex on Redstone Arsenal. The ceremony took place March 10, with 14 of the 29 honorees present.

Advanced Capability-3. He also served as deputy Program Executive Officer for Air and Missile Defense.

**ROBERT G. MENOTTI** worked in the Army Rocket and Guided Missile Agency and NIKE-X Project Office. In 1984, he became the deputy program manager for the Airborne Optical Adjunct where COBRA JUDY and COBRA BALL became key data collection sensors.

**DR. MICHAEL A. HOLT CAMP** served in the NIKE-X Project Office, deputy program manager for the Joint Theater Missile Defense Project, program manager for Arrow and as the chief engineer of the Program Executive Office Air and Missile Defense.

**TOM A. BAIR** served as the deputy chief of staff for Resource Management and the assistant career personnel manager. Prior to SMDC, he also worked with Tank Automotive Command, Aberdeen Proving Ground, Md., and the Corps of Engineers.

**FRANK VANN** served as program manager for collecting missile defense data using infrared optical sensors. He was responsible for breakthroughs including Beryllium Mirrors and silicon long-weave infrared detector focal plane arrays.

**DR. THOMAS PATTON** served as the Arms Control and Treaty Adviser for the U.S. Army Strategic Defense Command and was highly respected as a recognized national authority within the Defense Department's Arms Control community.

**DONALD S. RUSS** specialized in re-entry physics and was chief of Radar in the Ballistic Missile Defense Advanced Technology Center. He also served as the director of the

Ballistic Missile Defense Advanced Technology Center.

**JAMES R. PIGNATARO SR.** served as chairman of the Ballistic Missile Defense Advanced Technology Center Active Search Program and was the technical director for Science and Technology of the Advanced Technology Center.

**DR. PETER G. PAPPAS** served as the chief scientist of the U.S. Army Space and Strategic Defense Command. He demonstrated real-time stereo processing of early warning satellite data to detect ballistic missile launches.

**WILLIAM E. ROBERSON JR.** served as deputy program manager and acting program manager for the Ground-Based Interceptor Project Management Office. His activities included the successful Integrated Flight Tests (IFT) 3 through 7.

**MELVIN CAPPS** served as a program director for the advanced research and development plans and programs for strategic and tactical survivability, lethality, advanced materials and power.

The Army Space and Missile Defense Association (ASMDA) is proud to sponsor the U.S. Army Space and Missile Defense Distinguished Civilians Wall. New members are nominated and selected every other year. For more information on nominations, please e-mail Pete Schofield at Pete.Schofield@sparta.com. ASMDA is a non-profit organization whose purpose is to support SMDC, Program Executive Office — Missiles and Space, and the Ground-based Midcourse Defense Joint Program Office — Huntsville in the attainment of their goals and visions.

# Band of Soldiers rocks/leads, from the front to the future

By Maj. Laura Kenney  
100th Missile Defense Brigade  
(Ground-based Midcourse Defense)  
Public Affairs

**COLORADO SPRINGS, Colo.** — Begin with a strong riff of rock, add seasoned leadership and friendship tested under fire, blend in some hip hop and a touch of wry humor, fold in sweat, blood, fear and salt from the Iraqi desert, throw in rhythmic, pointed rap and finish with lyrics red, white, blue and olive drab green, and you get... *Lucid Dissent*.

Lucid Dissent is the name of a band formed of four Soldiers, who, serving together in Iraq during OPERATION IRAQI FREEDOM, created a musical combination that is now earning acclaim locally — for their unique sound, but, more importantly, for their distinctive message. Two, Capt. Chris Wolfe and Capt. Dave Childress, belong to the 1st Space Brigade, another, Capt. Luis Castellanos, hails from the 100th Missile Defense Brigade (Ground-based Midcourse Defense), and the fourth, Geoff Burgess, has traded in his battle dress uniforms and captain's bars for civilian clothes.

The group is gaining popularity in this area and in Denver, has been interviewed on local television channels, played at Vail Ski Resort, had numerous other gigs and was part of a huge multi-band benefit-for-Soldiers concert in Denver in March. They have one CD out, a Web site — [www.luciddissent.com](http://www.luciddissent.com) — and a growing fan base; even a T-shirt.

The four men, all ranging in age from 26 to 27, and all West Point graduates, served together in Iraq with the 1st Squadron, 3rd Armored Cavalry Regiment, out of Fort Carson, Colo. Each was an executive officer for various line units within the squadron. Arriving overseas in April 2003, their initial six-month tour

turned into a yearlong deployment. They were primarily stationed along the Syrian border, in the province of Al Anbar, which included the hotbeds of Fallujah and Al Qa'im. Their missions varied from day to day — combat patrols aimed at putting down insurgents; civil affairs-type assignments such as helping to rebuild hospitals and schools; and training Iraqis who would become future leaders of a civil defense corps.

Their primary message and their band's thought-provoking name are based on the same premise.

"The mainstream media pretty much presents what we consider a skewed version of what's happening over there," said Burgess. "We don't, in our songs, sugarcoat things — we experienced a wide range of emotions, we had Soldiers die and others were horribly wounded — but there is so much good getting absolutely no recognition whatsoever. We think that the jobs our Soldiers, Airmen, Marines and Sailors are doing around the world, sacrificing their own freedoms to earn or preserve them for others, is a story worth telling. We do so in many of our songs."

Lucid, meaning clear thinking, and dissent, as in differing from the mainstream, characterizes more than their music.

"We," said Childress, looking at each band member as he spoke to ensure he was talking for them all, "joined the military, went to West Point, and were proud to serve in Iraq. We did this because we wanted to serve something greater than ourselves. We think that holds true for pretty much everyone serving in the military — which speaks to the integrity of these fighting men and women. These people should be recognized as America's role models; we're not talking about ourselves, but about the larger whole. If we can, individually and

through our music, influence for the greater good, then that's a good thing."

Apparently, they're already reaching some of those goals, as the following excerpt from a fan's e-mail attests:

"My friend's daughter told me about your band. I listened to a bit, wondering if my 12-year-old son would enjoy your music (I think he will!). I worried about the lyrics, but you incredibly included them on the Web site! No more worries. I think what you guys are doing is absolutely fantastic! This Army wife is proud of you; you stand up for what you believe in; you've found a way to express your creative side; AND you're finding a way to give back. You guys are terrific ... I only hope my son grows up to be a little like you!"

Not that, idealism and enthusiasm aside, these combat-tested young vets are saintly and only play to do good. Far from it ... making music is a passion for each one, and the original making of it was a form of escape from the hostile and sometimes fearsome landscape of Iraq.

Burgess already knew how to play drums and piano, but neither offered portability when it came to deploying to a hostile fire zone, so he brought with him a guitar that he planned to learn to play. In August of that year, all four officers found themselves, after a squadron reorganization move, at Base Camp Tiger. They started jamming together as a release valve, a way to let off steam after a demanding and sometimes dangerous day.

"You'd get shot at while driving in a convoy to get supplies, so playing music during some rare down time was an escape, a release," Wolfe said.

The other three already knew how to play guitar, and Childress had his own mailed to him from home. Castellanos and Wolfe grew tired of sharing, and paid some contractors with more mobility to purchase guitars for them during a trip to Baghdad.

The wry humor portion of the group's mix, of a decidedly morbid and soldierly bent, is noticeable in the names the two gave their guitars. They named them Uday and Qusay, after deposed dictator Saddam Hussein's sons, who were killed during the conflict.

The group originally just played music they all knew and had grown up with. They mostly played in Burgess' office, set up in a blown-out train station. It was also conveniently located next to a Morale, Welfare and Recreation office, so they often had what equated to a ready-made audience.

Soon, however, they began writing their own songs, expressing the sometimes warring feelings of anger, patriotism and fear engendered by their dangerous occupations. The following is excerpted from a song called "Through these eyes."

#### Chorus

I've shed my blood and tears, pushed aside my screaming fears  
A fallen brother in my arms, takes his last breath  
Virtue in his heart remains, all my innocence now stained  
Rage consumes me, darkness looms, could I've done more

#### Bridge

I just can't close my eyes I won't  
Turn from this tearing at my soul  
Stand by and watch this storm take hold  
Take a look ... through these eyes

#### Verse

A blackened silence, the folding of our flag  
Lone pair of empty boots, behind a sharpened blade  
The lasting memories of sacrifices made  
Never forgotten, a child of the brave



Photo by Capt. Dave Childress

Capt. Chris Wolf, right, and Capt. Geoff Burgess practice during a quiet moment while deployed to Iraq during 2003-2004.



Photo by Sgt. 1st Class Dennis Beebe

Lucid Dissent Band Members, left to right, Capt. Dave Childress — guitars, vocals; former Capt. Geoff Burges — drums, percussion, vocals; Capt. Luis Castellanos — guitars, lead vocals; and Capt. Chris Wolfe — bass guitar, vocals. The band is performing at a farewell concert for the Soldiers of the 3rd Armored Cavalry Regiment, in a hangar at Butts Army Airfield at Fort Carson, Colo. The 3rd ACR is re-deploying to Iraq, and the band wanted to perform for their friends, peers, Soldiers and officers who were in their former command when they went to Iraq in 2003-2004.

The idea of actually forming a “real” group, going professional, didn’t take root until the group was in the redeployment phase. They had relocated again, to Kuwait, and, while relaxing at a well set up MWR facility nicknamed the Marble Palace, the soon-to-be band had an epiphany.

“The place had electric guitars, drums and a good sound system. Geoff (Burgess) casually said, ‘Hey, I can play drums,’ and we were like, cool, okay, play. He picked up the sticks, and ... went to town. We were blown away, literally, our jaws dropped, he was so tremendous. People were pouring in the doors to see who and what was playing. The three of us just kind of looked at each other, and we knew then we could make it as a band,” Childress said.

Castellanos is the lead singer, but the other members of the band also sing, and take turns at lead. Wolfe does most of the rapping and plays bass. All four also write. Burgess plays drums, and Childress and Castellanos play guitar.

They came up with the name Lucid Dissent in a brainstorming session.

“Dave (Childress) and I were kicking around words to go with ‘lucid’ ... we knew we wanted that in there ... then, one of us said ‘dissent,’ and it clicked for all of us,” Castellanos said.

After returning stateside in April 2004, the group, as part of their squadron, took block leave for a month, then returned to military life and the pursuit of dreams of musical glory.

“Using our ‘Baghdad Savings Plan’ (reference to — no place to spend the tax-free money one earns in a hazardous duty zone) we were able to buy top-notch equipment for our band, from sound systems to instruments. Things took off after that,” Wolfe said.

Burgess left the military, although he remains in the Individual Ready Reserve, and is considering joining the Active Reserve. He found a local job in construction management, enabling him to continue work with the band. The other three secured military positions within SMDC and the new Missile Defense Brigade, both based locally.

“We’ve been blessed; our commands are very supportive of our musical aspirations. We just played for our old regiment’s farewell party; they’re going back to Iraq soon, so it felt right to be part of that ceremony,” Castellanos said.

The band has written and played more than their trademark songs about war, loyalty and loss. They have love ballads, fun songs, etc.

“We have dark stuff, happy stuff, depends on the mood we were in at the time,” Childress said. “In Iraq, if we happened to be separated, and inspiration struck, we’d be sending musical files via e-mail. Chris (Wolfe) got in this creative streak while on a different mission for awhile, and he was burning up the wires.”

What does the future hold?

“It would be great if we became rich and famous with this, but a part of our philosophy and goals is to influence people for good through our music, so to whatever extent we do that, we feel successful,” Burgess said. “And no matter what, we enjoy what we do.”

Lucid Dissent also contributes a significant portion of proceeds to Soldier-affiliated charities as a way of giving back. They focus on organizations that help Soldiers and families affected by the Global War on Terror.

As to the hero label some of their fans put on them, and the role model image they want to project? The band rejects the concept that they, particularly, are heroes, but ...

Castellanos was awarded the Soldiers Medal for risking his own life twice in attempts to save Soldiers from drowning. Burgess received the Purple Heart after being wounded in combat operations and the Bronze Star for valor. Wolfe was awarded the Bronze Star for excellence in performance of duty in a combat environment. Childress earned a Bronze Star for valor in his efforts at subduing violent insurgents.

All four band members served with honor and distinction at a dangerous time in their nation’s history. All four figuratively or literally wear the American flag on their sleeve ...

And in their music.

Capt. Luis Castellanos, performing as lead singer during a benefit concert for the Armed Forces at the Walnut Room in a club in Denver, Colo.



Photo by Sgt. 1st Class Dennis Beebe



Photo by Sgt. 1st Class Dennis Beebe

Capt Dave Childress, front left, Capt. Chris Wolfe, front right, Geoff Burgess, back left and Capt. Luis Castellanos in front of the Garden of the Gods with Pikes Peak in the background showing some of the beauty of the area around Colorado Springs, Colo. where the band members are stationed.

# Treaty adviser retires, recalls 'busier' days

By Marco Morales  
SMDC Public Affairs

When Dr. Matthew Nichols joined the Air Force in 1965, it created a bit of friction between him and his father who served in the Army, saw extensive combat in World War II and retired as a colonel. Nichols' grandfather also retired as an Army colonel. But after serving in the Air Force for more than 24 years and also retiring honorably as a colonel, Nichols laughed at the irony of, much to his father's delight, serving the Army as a civilian employee from 1991 to this year.

Nichols, 62, retired from civil service last month and has begun his golden years in sunny Florida.

Before his position as the U.S. Army Space and Missile Defense Command's Arms Control Treaty Adviser, Nichols performed arms control analysis as a defense contractor at the Science Applications International Corporation (SAIC) for two years. While at SAIC, he was responsible for developing arms control guidelines for the extended range intercept technology, Arrow and anti-satellite programs.

Nichols served as deputy director of strategy, arms control and compliance in the Office of the Under Secretary of Defense for Acquisition from August 1992 to July 1993. While in this position, he was chairman of the Department of Defense Compliance Review Group for the Anti-Ballistic Missile (ABM), Intermediate Range Nuclear Forces (INF) and Strategic Arms Reduction Talks (START) treaties. In this role, he directed the development of arms control compliance guidelines for all DOD programs and activities affected by the ABM, INF and START treaties.

For Nichols' successor at SMDC, the job of treaty adviser is winding down. Treaty affairs has not been seeing as much activity as when the ABM treaty was still



Photo by Marco Morales

Dr. Matt Nichols served as the U.S. Army Space and Missile Defense Command's Arms Control Treaty adviser for 14 years until his recent retirement. He retired with 38 years of federal service.

in effect. The Bush administration walked away from the ABM treaty in 2002. Nichols said that when he first joined SMDC it was called Strategic Defense Command (SDC).

"As the SDC treaty guy I was often called upon to address some issues that were important — even at the highest levels of government. And I enjoyed some notoriety that kind of went away with the departure of the ABM treaty," he said.

"The environment has changed," Nichols said. "I'm not saying for the worse — in some ways it's for the better — we, the command adopted the space elements of the Army Space Command in 1992 and then became SSDC (Space and Strategic Defense Command) as a field operating agency until 1997 when we became SMDC.

"Interestingly, when I first went into the Air Force as a second lieutenant, my first

assignment was at the Strategic Air Command," he said. "Today, this command, is the U.S. Strategic Command and with SMDC being the Army's service component command to STRATCOM, I feel like I've come back home."

The San Francisco, Calif., native earned a bachelor of science degree in physics from the Case Institute of Technology in Cleveland, Ohio, a master's degree in aerospace engineering from the Air Force Institute of Technology and a doctorate in mechanical engineering from Arizona State University.

Nichols said missile defense is still important for the command but is no longer the only important thing for the command.

"The command has branched out into more and more space orientation than we used to have," Nichols said. "Space issues are probably at least equal to a lot of the missile defense issues."

With Army warfighters being more dependent on support from space, Nichols added that our relationship with the Air Force and other services has become even stronger.

"This command will have a very important role to play for the Army and the joint warfighter in the future," he said.

Nichols said the biggest threat facing the U.S., in his opinion, is no longer as predictable as during the Cold War when nuclear détente and mutually assured destruction were the geopolitical buzz terms.

"Today the enemy is different," Nichols said. "We don't have a rational decision maker on either side of the game. You have people who are willing to commit suicide for religious zeal, for example. Perhaps they see themselves as being rational and us (the U.S.) being irrational. But whatever the reason, the same calculus that was used in the competition between us and the former Soviet Union just doesn't work against people who are irrational," he said.

## Cultural exchange furthers understanding

By Ed White  
SMDC Public Affairs

American Soldiers have been performing direct diplomacy since the Army was formed during the American Revolution. The circumstances may vary, but the Soldiers, representing the U.S., never fail to leave a lasting impression.

It is also true that wherever they go, our Soldiers are also impressed with and affected by the cultures they encounter.

During EXERCISE YUMA SAKURA 47, at Camp Higashi-Chitose in Hokkaido, Japan, Sgt. Heather Rozyczko and Sgt. John Velasquez were chosen to make a cross-cultural visit and have dinner with local Japanese families in an effort to promote cross-cultural understanding.

"Two other Soldiers and I went to the home of an older Japanese couple," Rozyczko said. "They had some close neighbors there as well. We

were given kimonos to wear and the male Soldier was given a male version of the kimono. We also had translators because we didn't speak Japanese and the family did not speak English.

"They were so hospitable and friendly," she added. "We ate a traditional Japanese meal and then we had a gift exchange. I gave them a T-shirt with a map of Colorado and they gave me a small wall hanging of Japanese art and some chocolate."

For Velasquez things were a bit different. "I had met my host during a karaoke night at the Friendship Town Hall," he said. "He has a wife and 2-year-old daughter. Since I have a 1 year old, I felt very comfortable."

After a traditional Japanese meal they also had a gift exchange. "I brought along a bottle of Jack Daniels for them, and they gave me a set of tea cups, chopsticks and a bottle of Sake. The whole thing was a great experience," he added.



Courtesy Photo

Sgt. Heather Rozyczko, left, with an unidentified I Corps Soldier in traditional Japanese dress during a home visit arranged by the Japanese Defense Forces and I Corps during EXERCISE YAMA SAKURA 47.

# First OPERATION IRAQI FREEDOM Medal of Honor awarded

By Terri Lukach  
American Forces Press Service

**WASHINGTON, D.C.** — A combat engineer with the Army's 11th Engineering Battalion, 3rd Infantry Division, was posthumously awarded the Medal of Honor in a White House ceremony April 4 — the second anniversary of his death in Iraq.

Sgt. 1st Class Paul R. Smith is the first to receive the nation's highest award for battlefield gallantry in OPERATION IRAQI FREEDOM and the Global War on Terror.

President Bush presented the award to Smith's widow, Birgit, who was accompanied by the couple's two children, Jessica Martha Smith, 18, and David Anthony Smith, 11.

The following day, a photo, citation and plaque were unveiled and added to the permanent display at the Pentagon's Hall of Heroes. Also on April 5, the headstone marking Smith's grave at Arlington

National Cemetery was unveiled in a special ceremony.

Smith was killed April 4, 2003, in the battle to capture Baghdad Airport. He died defending the Soldiers under his command against a numerically superior enemy. Officials determined he saved the lives of more than 100 Soldiers.

Smith was serving as a platoon sergeant in Bravo Company, 11th Engineer Battalion, Task Force 2-7, 3rd Infantry Division. He had been serving in the Army since October 1989.

For more information about Smith, including detailed accounts of his action, see other stories on the Army News Service Web site at



Photo courtesy of Army News Service

Sgt. 1st Class Paul R. Smith while on duty in Iraq. Smith received the Medal of Honor posthumously during a White House ceremony April 4.

[www.army.mil/arnews](http://www.army.mil/arnews). The special tribute Web site is at <http://www.army.mil/medalofhonor>.

## A Soldier's wife remembers

By Eric Cramer  
Army News Service

**WASHINGTON, D.C.** — Birgit Smith's husband died defending his troops in a battle outside the airport then known as Saddam Hussein International.

Two years later, she does not remember the harsh taskmaster or the tough Soldier her husband's troops knew.

"Paul was a very funny person," she said. "You could do almost anything with him and have a good time."

Born in Germany, Birgit Smith said Sgt. 1st Class Paul Smith is still her husband.

"We were married for 11 years until his death, but now it is 13. He was a great father and a devoted husband," she said.

Before he left on what became his final deployment with the 11th Engineer Battalion, Birgit said Smith was "ready."

"Before he even knew his unit was going to go, he told me that if there's any way I can get 'my boys' over there, I'm going," Birgit said. "He was ready to go and excited to go."

In the days leading up to his departure, he did not see a lot of his wife, or the two children, Jessica, 18 and David, 11.

"He was gone a lot — before they go off on his deployment they're always gone. He worked long hours making sure everything was good-to-go," Birgit said. "He always wanted to be certain everything worked to keep his boys safe."

This was not her husband's first combat experience. He fought in the Gulf War in 1991.

Birgit said that experience was one reason he wanted to return.

"When he came back from the Gulf War, he felt like he didn't finish the job. I think Paul was always ready — he wanted to make the change over there. He wanted to finish the job," Birgit said.

She said the action in which he was killed, and his performance in it, was natural for him. She said he probably would not have seen it as an attempt to do something

heroic, but just as part of his job he needed to do well.

"What he did that day doesn't surprise me," she said. "Paul was married to the military before he was married to me, in a way, so I'm not surprised

he would give himself up so his boys would come home."

Birgit said she did not recognize the magnitude of the Medal of Honor when she first found Smith had been nominated for the award.

"At the beginning, I didn't know the significance of the Medal of Honor. What he did, he would have done at any time," she said, "but now I know Paul receiving the Medal of Honor is a huge thing, a thing that makes us proud. To know that his name never dies out makes me feel very good."

She said it is her hope the country can take heart from her husband's example.

"Speaking as a military spouse, I want that America doesn't give up hope. In the media, we get to hear about the Soldiers' deaths, but we don't get to see the good things they're doing. The media doesn't always tell what Soldiers are achieving over there," Birgit said.

**'What he did that day doesn't surprise me ... Paul was married to the military before he was married to me.'**

**— Birgit Smith  
Wife**

## First Medal of Honor flag presented during ceremony

By Eric Cramer  
Army News Service

**WASHINGTON, D.C.** — When Sgt. 1st Class Paul Smith's family received his Medal of Honor, they also received a new item that will be given to all future recipients of the medal — a Medal of Honor flag.

The flag consists of a field of blue, with 13 stars arranged in the same formation that the stars appear on the Medal of Honor ribbon. It is fringed with gold.

The design was the brainchild of Sarah LeClerc of the U.S. Army Institute of Heraldry. A panel of eight members made of representatives from each Service (Army, Navy, Marine Corps, Air Force and Coast Guard), one Office of Secretary Defense staff, one historian and one representative from the Medal of Honor Society was formed to review and evaluate all designs submitted and make a final recommendation to the Principal Deputy to the Under Secretary of Defense for Personnel and Readiness.

"Several of us in the Creative Section worked on the design," LeClerc said. "I wanted the simplicity of the 13 stars on a blue field."

LeClerc said her initial design also contained a canton, similar to the canton containing the stars on the U.S. national flag. On her original design, the canton of red and white stripes, contained the word "valor" as it appears on the Medal of Honor. The committee asked if the canton could be removed.

"They felt the design was better without the canton. We said that as it is an Army design, we can change it however you want, and so we removed it," said Pam Madigan an industrial specialist with the Institute of Heraldry.

A law created in October 2002 called for the creation of the flag, and the institute solicited designs via an announcement in the Federal Registry, Madigan said.

"It didn't take long for the committee to make a selection. The meeting only lasted four hours, and they asked me if we could remove the canton. They decided to go with Sarah's ribbon design, with gold fringe," Madigan said.



A newly designed Medal of Honor Flag will now also be awarded to all those who receive a Medal of Honor.

## Support

*continued from page 4*

Space Application Technology User Reachback Node — provides unprecedented global wideband commercial satellite communications to the warfighter.

"I think it is incredibly important for the SSEs to be assigned to the divisions. All the branches of the military — particularly the Army — depend very heavily on space for satellite communications systems; imagers — both national technical means (government) and commercial; and GPS systems," Brozek said.

"The amount of receivers is growing so fast it is incredible. The need for bandwidth is growing at a tremendous rate. We need someone at the division who has the knowledge of how it works and knows who to go to for help. The amount of assets being pushed to the division is growing because space is now down to the muddy boot level — to the Soldiers. Without someone to translate that expertise, the Soldiers would not be able to get the information."

Coss said the key is having the SSE as an in-house conduit to all the space-based capabilities available.

"There is a series of space-based products and services that previously I did not know where to get," Coss said. "I had no conduit; now I do. I used to

go to my terrain guys to see if I could get an image or go to someone else about a satellite communication link that wasn't working. There are so many things linked to space now, such as GPS and other devices. Having trained space operations officers assigned to the division gives me a staff expert to leverage space-based products, platforms and services.

"This area has become so important to the way we fight," Coss said. "We have taken risks with some of our systems by reducing capabilities because we thought we could use joint capabilities to fill the gap. The bridge between the services is sustained by space-based products."

SMDC started having space operations officers in 1998 when the Army started creating functional areas. The first formal FA40 Space Operations Officer Qualification Course was in 2001. To date 128 space operations officers have graduated from the course. The next class is scheduled to begin in June.

Each SSE receives an additional three-week refresher course before being assigned to a division.

"Because this was such a new mission and concept for us, it was good for them to get the refresher training and get updated on the equipment. It changes frequently," said Lt. Col. Michael Powers, chief of

SMDC's Space Proponency Office.

"The biggest reason they were put into the divisions was to provide that continuous planning capability," Powers said. "Before we started

fielding the SSEs to the divisions, we would send in an Army Space Support Team just in time before deployment. The SSE provides continuous integration so that the SSE is part of the team."

## FA40 Training Conference set for May 31-June 3

The 2005 FA40 Training Conference will be held May 31-June 3 at the Westin Hotel in Long Beach, Calif. The conference is open to FA40 space operations officers, related military space professionals and DA civilians and support contractors. The intent of the annual conference is to ensure FA40s and other space professionals are updated on key space issues that impact the Army and to exchange information on how to best integrate space capabilities to support commanders and DoD decision makers. FA40s from throughout the Army attend the conference and share their experiences, lessons and perspectives from their "foxhole" on issues ranging from current operational support to future space concepts related to Army Transformation. It is also an opportunity to strengthen the FA40 and Army Space professional community by meeting all the officers and hearing from the senior leadership. The conference will include presentations and panels addressing current space operations issues, the status of the FA40 career field, operational support and career-related instruction. As well as attending the FA40 Training Conference, attendees will participate in the 2005 Association of the U. S. Army Greater Los Angeles Chapter Symposium, which is being held during the same timeframe at the same location. Optional industry tours and social activities are also planned. More information on the conference is available on the Web at <https://sonet.smhc.army.mil> and <http://www4.army.mil/FA40/index.php>.

## DA Civilian

*continued from page 1*

local DA civilians who have demonstrated exceptional performance as professional members of the Army team.

Pierce was nominated by his supervisor, Larry Burger, director, Space and Missile Defense Future Warfare Center, and Michael C. Schexnayder, SMDC deputy to the commander for Research, Development and Acquisition, to represent SMDC in the 2005 DA Civilian of the Year Award competition. Burger notes that Pierce represents the Army values of LDRSHIP (Loyalty, Duty, Respect, Selfless Service, Honor, Integrity and Personal Courage): "He is focused on his duty to support the warfighter while looking out for the development and welfare of his people," Burger said.

Pierce competed against nine other DA civilians representing their local organizations.

"I was shocked," Pierce said. "The quality of the work force here in Huntsville is incredible, so I just couldn't believe I would win after seeing my competition." But Pierce's reaction is typically understated. His accomplishments range from recently having his division selected to conduct operational analysis for Homeland Defense and the combatant commanders — to being selected the Technical Study Director for the Army Equity in Space — Intelligence, Surveillance and Reconnaissance (AEIS-ISR) Study for the Army G-8.

Pierce's job requires his studies and analysis teams to determine the capabilities and usefulness of systems and

make recommendations to commanders and organizations based on the team's data.

"Sometimes I have to tell them things they don't want to hear. I can think of at least three times this has happened, and one of these studies was done at the organization's request regarding its system," he explained. "But I always try to do what is in the best interest of the Army."

Schexnayder considers Pierce's honesty to be one of his best characteristics. "His strongest attribute has been the courage to present the results of his analysis to decision-makers, no matter how unpopular the results."

Pierce's division was also presented the Alabama Silver Quality Award for its development and execution of the SMDC Analysis Campaign process. Pierce said he took a great amount of pride in the award, but he credits the great team he works with for his accomplishments.

"The culture here (at SMDC) is what makes a difference. It's just a great place to work and has very talented people."

Pierce specifically credits his three teams — led by Paul Page, Martin Goodman and Robert O'Connell — for conducting the great analysis that has impacted on major Army and Department of Defense decisions. He credits Jim Angus with bringing him to Huntsville after he retired from the Army. "He's the one that called me and convinced me what a great place this is," Pierce said.

Pierce, a West Point graduate with a master's degree from Georgia Tech, is working on his dissertation at the University of Alabama in Huntsville and

hopes to have it completed "sometime in the next year." Somewhere between work and school, he has also managed to give back to the community. He volunteers as a regional adviser and promoter for the U.S. Military Academy, has been active as an assistant scoutmaster, and was recognized as a "Who's Who Teacher of the Year" in 2002 for working as an unpaid, volunteer instructor in mathematics at a local school.

In addition to his outstanding professional life, Pierce is also the father of seven children ranging in ages from 3 to 22. So how does he do it all? "My wife, Debbie," Pierce said. "Her support has allowed me to do the long work hours, the TDYs ... I could not have done any of this without her."

During his acceptance speech at the award dinner, a surprised Pierce did make sure he thanked his wife publicly "for supporting me through all the good times and bad." He also paid tribute to his faith, thanking God, "for everything good that has ever happened in my life." In addition to his personal thanks, he also expressed his appreciation for his professional associates. "My team executed the actual quality work that this award represents. Mr. Burger and Mr. Schexnayder also gave me the opportunity to work in a job that I feel is important as well as fun," he said.

Pierce will now compete for AUSA's regional 2005 DA Civilian of the Year honor in June. The winner of that competition competes for AUSA's national award. "Huntsville and Redstone are the Army's best kept secret. It's just an honor to be recognized in such an outstanding community," Pierce said.

## Roving Sands

*continued from page 1*

Operations Center II Testbed to support the Common Command Post Joint Experimentation Test and Evaluation Advanced Concept Technology Demonstration (CCP JETA ACTD).

interfaces by the battle captain staff which includes the battle captain, the S-2 intelligence officer and the S-3 operations officer.”

The FOC Testbed Program is a hardware and software technology testbed that allows SMDC to demonstrate emerging

Robinson said. “The results of this experiment, along with previous efforts, will contribute to the combat developer’s CCP requirements definition process. Findings also will be shared with the System of Systems Office of the U.S. Army Program Executive Office for Missiles and Space, which is tasked with establishing a System of Systems user lab at Redstone Arsenal, Ala. This experiment is using the ROVING SANDS and JOINT RED FLAG 2005 military exercises to generate activity for the experiment’s equipment.”

The SMD Battle Lab had previously participated using this equipment and software during EXERCISE AMALGAM VIRGO 04 at Tyndall Air Force Base, Fla., in August 2004.

EXERCISE ROVING SANDS is a three-week joint air training exercise involving U.S. and coalition troops and aircraft to practice joint air defense interoperability and incorporate lessons learned from OPERATION IRAQI FREEDOM.

ROVING SANDS is part of the larger exercise JOINT RED FLAG, a

multi-service and multi-national exercise involving 12,000 participants at various locations across the U.S. Allied forces from the Netherlands, United Kingdom, Canada and Kuwait are participating this year. The exercise focuses on Joint Theater Air and Missile Defense (JTAMD) and Joint Tactical Air Operations while integrating Army, Air Force, Navy and Marine Corps command and control nodes and associated air and missile defense systems.

“This CCP JETA concept came about as a method to inform the TSM (Training and Doctrine Command System Manager) here and inform our Directorate of Combat Developments requirements people about System of Systems integrated fire control and also to help understand fire control solutions for air and missile defense battalions that are standing up,” Huffman said. The new air defense units are a composite of Patriot and Avenger missile batteries.

“There are three parts to the CCP JETA,” Huffman said. “We



Photo by Debra Valine

Paul Gierow, a contractor with SRS in Huntsville, Ala., adjusts the deployable satellite communications antenna outside the Future Operational Capabilities/Tactical Operations Center Testbed at Fort Bliss, Texas, March 31, during EXERCISE ROVING SANDS.

“The experimental command post includes two Reconfigurable Tactical Operations Simulators representing a Patriot Information Coordination Center and a SLAMRAAM Integrated Fire Control System in lieu of the actual systems,” said John Robinson of SMDC’s Future Warfare Center. “Also included are the Northrop Grumman Gateway manager and Thales Raytheon Systems Sentry correlator as well as SMDBL’s Advanced Warfare Environment (AWarE) software. Satellite Tool Kit, ArcView (with TIGER) and BattleScape are used as graphical

technologies and concepts in a warfighter context to support systems requirements definition for both system developers and industry. In its current form, the FOC Testbed permits warfighters to conduct exercises, experiments and combat operations with an enhanced decision-making capability using a significantly reduced footprint.

“The CCP JETA is an experiment to align command and control functions within a central command post to control air defense battlefield operations and to direct coordinated fire control efforts for multiple weapon systems.”

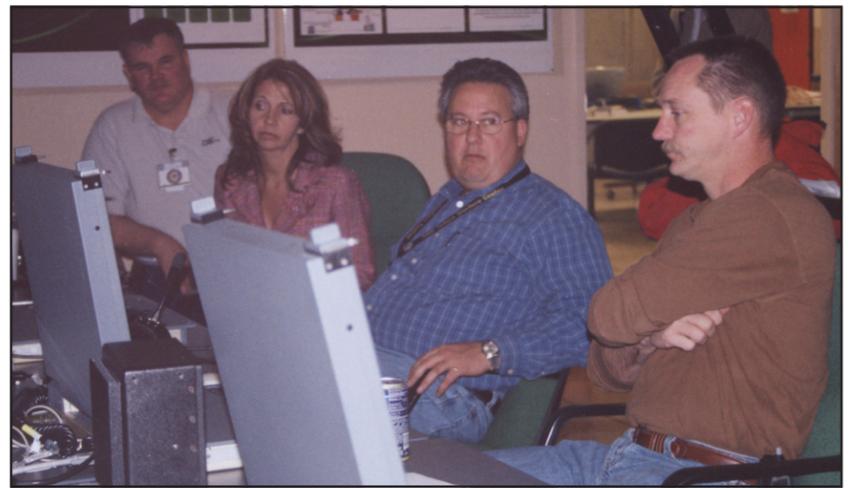


Photo by Debra Valine

From right: Billy Stender, CAS, contractor lead for SMDC’s participation in EXERCISE ROVING SANDS at Fort Bliss, Texas, tests the system with the help of Tony Kirkpatrick, Symbiont Enterprises; Terri Innes, SMD Future Warfare Center; and Dave Fortune, CAS.



Photo by Debra Valine

Chief Warrant Officer 3 Michael Hamlin, left, and Chief Warrant Officer 3 Odie Huffman, Air and Missile Defense Battle Lab, Fort Bliss, Texas, project managers for the Common Command Post Joint Experimentation Test and Evaluation Advanced Concept Technology Demonstration, check out the capabilities of the Future Operational Capability/Tactical Operations Center II Testbed during EXERCISE ROVING SANDS, March 31, at Fort Bliss.

have the FOC studio, along with a team from the Boeing Company and their software. Boeing is using this exercise as a way to develop and improve their software. And we have the Acoustic Research Lab and MILTEC from the University of Mississippi. They have four engineers located north of Nellis Air Force Base, Nev., who are collecting some acoustic data on cruise missiles.

“Without SMDBL, we would not be able to do this,” Huffman said. “We would have to use simulation. We are using real components, taking live feeds, and we are exercising engagement operations and force operations using real equipment. We are using real operators so we get a lot more in-depth feedback about how things are really working. The problems we solve here have real application to the future force. This is not a science experiment.”

# Medical screening promotes Soldiers' readiness

By Sgt. Sara Storey  
100th Missile Defense  
Brigade (Ground-based  
Midcourse Defense)  
Public Affairs

**COLORADO SPRINGS, Colo.** — More than 75 members of the 100th Missile Defense Brigade (Ground-based Midcourse Defense) participated in the brigade's first-ever "readiness day" March 6.

This annual requirement for Soldiers helps the command pinpoint medical problems, update immunizations and identify profiles, according to Maj. Berton Pennell, brigade adjutant, 100th Missile Defense Brigade.

Readiness days typically consist of medical assessments. In addition to this, the readiness stations included nuclear, biological and chemical mask fitting and personnel file screening.

Soldiers double-checked and validated information regarding life insurance policies, emergency contact phone numbers, bank accounts and personal contact information. Pennell also provided tutorials on Web sites such as myPay ([mypay.dfas.mil](http://mypay.dfas.mil)) and Official Military Personnel File ([ompf.hoffman.army.mil](http://ompf.hoffman.army.mil)).

"The screenings are designed to make individuals deployable and promotable," Pennell said. "It also gives each Soldier an outlook on their health since their last physical as well as increasing overall mission readiness for the unit."

Detachment 5, Colorado Army National Guard, visited the unit and provided personnel and equipment for the medical screening. Bringing the medical readiness element to brigade headquarters was very convenient, according to



Photo by Sgt. Sara Storey

A member of Detachment 5, Colorado Army National Guard, draws blood from Capt. Dennis Keener during the 100th Missile Defense Brigade (Ground-based Midcourse Defense) readiness day March 6.

Pennell.

Additionally, the medical screening provided military occupational specialty training for the members of Detachment 5.

"The day was well organized, and we kept a steady flow of Soldiers through the various stations," Pennell said. "It provided good training for both units."



Photo by Sgt. Sara Storey

Master Sgt. James Green, 100th Missile Defense Brigade (Ground-based Midcourse Defense), receives an immunization from a member of Detachment 5, Colorado Army National Guard, during the unit's readiness day March 6.



Photo by Sgt. Sara Storey

Sgt. 1st Class Kale Murray, Nuclear, Biological and Chemical NCO, 100th Missile Defense Brigade (Ground-based Midcourse Defense), ensures proper fitting of brigade Soldiers' NBC masks during the unit's readiness day March 6.

## Space important to U.S. national security, general says

By Gerry J. Gilmore  
American Forces Press Service

**WASHINGTON, D.C.** — Almost 70 years ago, actor Buster Crabbe first portrayed space swashbuckler Flash Gordon, battling Ming the Merciless to protect Earth. Few theatergoers then would have imagined that space would become an important component of national defense.

Flash's adventures on the planet Mongo were fantasy, but mankind conquered space on July 21, 1969, when American astronaut Neil Armstrong became the first man to walk on the moon.

Today "the importance of the space mission to our national security cannot be overstated," Marine Gen. James E. Cartwright said in his April 4 testimony before the Strategic Forces Subcommittee of the Senate Armed Services Committee.

Cartwright heads the U.S. Strategic Command at Offutt Air Force Base, Neb., which oversees U.S. military global strategic planning, including nuclear deterrence and space operations. In June 2002, U.S. Space Command and U.S. Strategic Command were merged.

The U.S. economy and Americans'

quality of life and national defense, Cartwright observed, "are all linked to our freedom of action in space." Today's orbiting satellites, he pointed out, help conduct routine financial activities such as automatic teller machines or international currency and stock market transactions.

The telecommunications and transportation industries and federal, state and municipal governments are also highly dependent on space operations, the general noted. Airliners, ships, trains, trucks, police, fire departments, and ambulances, he said, rely on space-based global positioning systems to enhance efforts to safely deliver people, goods and services.

However, potential U.S. adversaries, Cartwright noted, are aware of America's dependence on space for commerce and security. That's why, he said, it's important to "protect our space assets and our ability to operate freely in — and from — space."

And, while America currently leads the world in space technology, Cartwright noted that competitors "are gaining on us."

Cartwright pointed to the need to

revamp America's space surveillance systems that are responsible for scanning the outer atmospheric region for potential terrestrial-based threats, like missiles, and non-terrestrial-based threats, like asteroids. Today's space-launched payloads, he pointed out, are more numerous and smaller in size than those launched in years past.

Also, current surveillance systems were created in the latter part of the 20th century and weren't designed "to detect or track the current magnitude of new, smaller objects, including micro-satellites," Cartwright said. He added that this situation enhances "the chances of collisions" and threatens U.S. manned space flight programs.

DOD, other U.S. government agencies, and American industry "must do a better job of leveraging the capabilities of our space assets," Cartwright said.

"We must also maintain the ability to protect our own space assets and capabilities, both actively and passively, while denying our adversaries the military use of space — at the time and place of our choosing," he concluded.

Flash Gordon would have understood.

# University explains Vertical Integration of Space and Missile Defense Surveillance Data Program progress to SMDC leaders

By Mary Peoples  
Equal Employment Opportunity Office

In July 2004 Jackson State University in Jackson, Miss., received a contract award from the U.S. Army Space and Missile Defense Command to conduct research on Vertical Integration of Space and Missile Defense Surveillance Data.

Michael Schexnayder, deputy to the commander for Research, Development and Acquisition, U.S. Army Space and Missile Defense Command along with team members Jess Granone, director, SMD Technical Center; Larry Burger, director, SMD Future Warfare Center; Bill Reeves, director, Technical Integration and Matrix Center; Col. Wilbur Parker, deputy director, SMD Technical Center; Bill Andre, chief, SMDC Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency; William Bet-Sayad, program manager and Mary Peoples, Equal Employment Opportunity Office, visited JSU March 8 to attend a review of SMDC's Vertical Integration Program and a demonstration of the technology being developed.

While only under contract for eight months, JSU and their team (University of Mississippi and University of Southern Mississippi) demonstrated the ability to rapidly assess targeting information from surveillance data. This will support the warfighter decision making process for



Photo by Radliance Technology

Michael C. Schexnayder, deputy to the commander for Research, Development and Acquisition, U.S. Army Space and Missile Defense Command, addresses a group of U.S. Army Space and Missile Defense Command employees and Jackson State University representatives during a review of SMDC's Vertical Integration Program March 8 at Jackson State University.

targeting locations, movement, detection and classification.

Research capabilities for JSU are growing and have proven to make significant contributions, illustrating the value of using university research as a tool to bring cutting edge technologies to the SMDC community.

OJSU graduates participate in this research during their education and will

provide an excellent human resource pool of highly qualified candidates for employment.

Dr. Robert Whalin, associate dean, College of Science, Engineering and Technology, is the principal investigator for the program. He is the former director of the Army Research Laboratory in Maryland.

## College recruiting trips aim to build qualified, diverse SMDC work force

By Mary Peoples  
SMDC Equal Employment Opportunity Office

Recruitment teams from the U.S. Army Space and Missile

Defense Command are visiting minority institutions across the country looking for a few good prospective employees.

The visits are an effort to increase minority participation in student employment



Photo by Robert Karl

Veronica Collins, SMD Future Warfare Center, interviews University of El Paso, Texas, students during a recent visit.

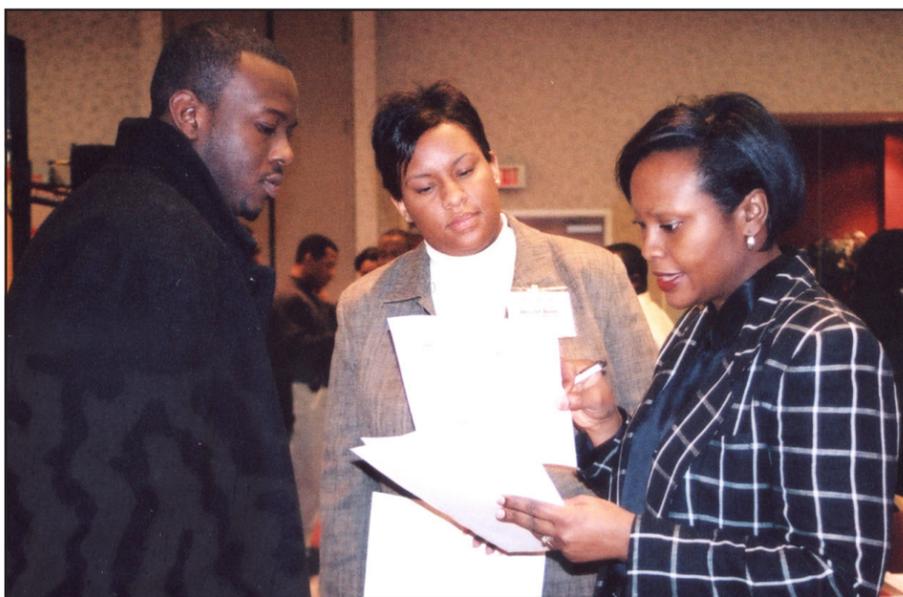


Photo by Debra Valine

Vairy Spencer, right, with SMDC's Technical Center, and Jennifer Jones, center, with SMDC's Technical Integration and Matrix Center, talk with Adrick Bass, a mechanical engineering student with Alabama Agricultural and Mechanical University in Normal, Ala., about setting up an interview with the U.S. Army Space and Missile Defense Command at the A&M Co-op Recruitment Day March 8.

programs and help to meet SMDC's goals of supporting Minority College Relations Program (MCRP) initiatives.

In fiscal year 2005, the teams visited the University of Texas at El Paso in El Paso, Texas, a predominantly Hispanic Serving Institution; Tennessee State University in Nashville, Tenn., and Alabama Agricultural and Mechanical University in Normal, Ala., two Historically Black Colleges and Universities.

Recruitment teams visited job fairs and

co-operative education interview day activities, interviewing students for potential employment under the Student Employment Program in Resource Management and Engineering disciplines.

A group of SMDC executives from the Research, Development and Acquisition Center and the MCRP program manager visited Jackson State University in Mississippi, another Historically Black College and University (HBCU).

This visit was in conjunction with MCRP goals to help build and enhance research capabilities of HBCUs to support Department of the Army programs.

# SMDC, Air Force play Space war game

By D.J. Montoya  
SMDC Public Affairs

**PETERSON AIR FORCE BASE, Colo.** — It was more than just a “roll of the dice” for the U.S. Army Space and Missile Defense Command when it recently had an opportunity to participate in what might be considered an ultimate game of chance Schriever III Space War Game. It’s the very heart of the Space warfighter.

The setting was the Space Warfare Center at Nellis Air Force Base, Nev., just outside the gaming capital of the world — Las Vegas. Over a five-day period in early February, more than 20 SMDC personnel comprised of military, civilians and contractors took their places alongside their counterparts from 20 Department of Defense agencies, as well as those from Australia, Canada and the United Kingdom.

Their mission, along with more than 330 other participants, was to investigate future space systems, the missions they support and how to ensure their survivability set in the year 2020.

Although billed as a “space war game,” senior Air Force leaders were quick to point out that the focus was “how best to use space assets to coordinate the joint terrestrial fight.”

According to Kirby Brown, director, Space and Missile Defense Future War Center, Battle Lab, this was an opportunity for SMDC to engage with the Air Force as a full partner in its premier space game.

Some of the main goals for SMDC during the exercise were to see how the Army Theater Space Support Concept is applied and how it interrelates with the Air Force Joint Warfighter Space Concept in the areas of command and control, missions, force structure/organization, and tactics, techniques and procedures.

Other goals included assessing U.S. Strategic Command Joint Functional Component Command (JFCC) missions in support of the Global Decision Support Team concept; the ability of near-space platforms to provide persistent command, control, communications, computers, intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance and force application across the range of military operations; and applying insights/lessons into Army and SMDC documents.

The comments from SMDC participants following the exercise were positive and reflected most of SMDC’s and the Army’s goals.

Lt. Col. Raymond Maier, chief of the Space Integration Section, SMDC G-3 PLEX, was a player within the Joint Functional Component Command - Space and Global Strike (SGS) cell.

“We were attempting to replicate the staff planning and coordination required to support two Joint Task Forces (JTFs) — one within U.S. Pacific Command and one within U.S. Central Command — as well as support the integration task U.S. Strategic Command has directed for SGS,” Maier said.

“This integration was necessary to ensure that all the Joint Functional Component Commands are providing the necessary support to the warfighter.” Additionally, Maier served as the principal space liaison for a friendly blue forces JTF. “Since this was an exercise played in the 2020 timeframe, most of the capabilities were notional, but we did attempt to look at near-space assets to include potential payloads. Additionally, the Joint Functional Component Command for Integrated Missile Defense (JFCC-IMD) introduced a Kinetic Energy Interceptor that provided in-theater anti-missile support.”

According to Maier, the Army benefits from participating in this exercise by engaging with the JFCCs as they work their way through future planning, coordination and integration tasks.

“Since we must work in a joint environment engagement with our peers in the Air Force, Marine Corp and Navy, it is beneficial to understand the many variables each service requires for conducting operations; the capabilities they bring to the fight; and planning/integration tasks each service and joint functional component requires.”

Col. Craig Whitehill, chief of Operations, SMDC, acted as the “commander” of the JFCC-IMD, supporting STRATCOM operations during experimentation of their JFCC concept.

Whitehill described the JFCC-IMD “cell” as consisting of five players: himself, Capt. Jason Conroy and Josh Silver, all from SMDC; and Ken Hall along with Col. (U.S. Air Force) Mike McGauvran, from STRATCOM.

“The JFCC-IMD cell replicated the planning, coordination and integration of Global Ballistic Missile Defense (GBMD) operations,” Whitehill said.

“This included apportionment and allocation of GBMD forces to optimize the deployment and employment of forces protecting the U.S. Homeland, deployed U.S. forces and Allies.”

He believed SMDC’s unique experiences in missile defense, which have been acquired during the past two years, allowed both the Air Force and STRATCOM an opportunity to explore integrated missile defense in a future scenario.

“This capability was never fully played/exploited in previous Schriever war

games.”

Whitehill’s assessment of this exercise based upon a “Year 2020” scenario was it was successful in a variety of areas.

“Specifically for SMDC, we were able to acquire some insights as to how STRATCOM may employ all JFCCs in the future. The integration of JFCC-IMD planning with the future JFCC-SGS, allows synergies, which could prove critical in future joint operations,” Whitehill said.

“In addition, near-space platforms were demonstrated in the war game and proved to be a unique concept, worthy of further consideration. Finally, SMDC was able to influence work on the conceptual development of the Air Force’s ‘Joint Warfighter Space Concept.’ Members from the SMD Future Warfare Center provided an outside service perspective, thus allowing a more ‘joint flavor’ as the Air Force evolves and develops their concept,” Whitehill said.

Another SMDC subject matter expert involved in the exercise was David Carrithers, from the Futures Concepts and Architectures Division, SMD Future Warfare Center, Battle Lab.

“I was in the joint warfighting space cell,” Carrithers said. “we focused on the Air Force’s ‘Joint Warfight - Space Concept’ that Whitehill mentioned, examining the potential for using near-space capabilities to augment space systems to support the Joint Force Commander (JFC). Our assessment examined the utility of using capabilities such as Tactical Satellites, High Altitude Airships and Near-space Maneuvering Vehicles to fill gaps in intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance and communications for the JFC.”

Carrithers said SMDC defined for Air Force planners the capabilities that the ground force commander required to execute his mission, and was also instrumental in keeping the focus on what kind of information is relevant to ground forces and when the information is required by the commander on the ground.

“Lessons from this war game will be used to update the ‘Army Theater Space Support Concept’ currently under development,” he said.

“I believe that the Army and the Air Force both agree that additional joint work is required to define the concept of operations for joint warfighting space if the effort is to be successful.”

Like his colleagues, Carrithers thought the exercise was extremely beneficial. “It was an excellent opportunity for focused interaction between members of all services who have a common interest in providing space support to the warfighter.”

## Wideband working group meets, addresses commanders’ issues

By Ed White  
SMDC Public Affairs

**PETERSON AIR FORCE BASE, Colo.** — Army modernization, unmanned aerial vehicles and tsunami relief efforts were just a few of the topics discussed at the recent Wideband Working Group meeting. The working group, made up of members of operations, acquisition and management communities from across all services, meets twice yearly to discuss issues that affect combatant commanders.

These meetings were originally instituted by the former U.S. Space Command and are now held under the auspices of U.S. Strategic Command.

“These are integration meetings,” said Wanda Woodson, a member of U.S. Army Space and Missile Defense Command’s Deputy Chief of Staff, Communications (G-6). “However, a lot of it is educational. These meetings allow the participants to understand where the community is going

in support of the combatant commanders. They improve our synchronization of effort.”

In between the two meetings each year is a third meeting which is a report to the combatant commanders. This meeting ensures that the community’s efforts are coordinated to the requirements of the supported commanders.

Several topics were addressed at this meeting, including the Army modernization architecture; implementation of unmanned aerial vehicles; control systems; certification

and test strategies; and end of life testing results on satellites that have applications for use on existing and future systems.

One of the issues sure to be briefed back to the combatant commanders is the after action report on the Pacific Command’s operation UNIFIED ASSISTANCE which provided relief to the tsunami victims in Southeast Asia.

The report will address lessons learned and how to provide better, more focused support to the PACOM Theater in the future.

# JTAGS detachment practices strategic movement procedures

By Staff Sgt. Craig Labreck  
B Detachment, 1st Space  
Company

**FORT BLISS, Texas** — Having never done it before, B Detachment, 1st Space Brigade Joint Tactical Ground Station (JTAGS) successfully executed a strategic movement exercise, practicing airload planning and preparation for contingency deployments, at Biggs Army Airfield, Texas.

Under the supervision of Chief Warrant Officer 2 Jeffrey Robinson and Sgt. 1st Class Todd Avery, the detachment airload planner, the Soldiers of B Detachment march-ordered the JTAGS system, prepared and loaded all the associated equipment to simulate an actual deployment. Following the guidance of senior leadership, B Detachment convoyed to the airfield where they learned, step-by-step, how to conduct joint inspection and final load preparation of the JTAGS section in the event of a contingency mission.

The preparation and planning by the detachment went smoothly. Deployment experience was the determining factor to the overall success of the



Photo by Capt. James Prendergast

Members of B Detachment, 1st Space Brigade, conduct a Strategic Movement Exercise at Biggs Army Airfield, Texas. The exercise allowed the detachment Soldiers to experience the procedures involved in preparing for a strategic airlift to a theater of operations.

operation. Staff Sgt. Christopher Lamb, having deployed overseas prior to his assignment at Fort Bliss, proved to be an integral player in the vehicle preparation for the movement to the airfield. His extensive knowledge and experience was essential in effectively familiarizing the other noncommissioned officers (NCOs) in the detachment to properly load and secure the equipment for deployment.

During the movement, the Soldiers and NCOs also trained on convoy operations. The movement was short, but every element in the convoy arrived safely and awaited the receipt

of the next mission.

At the airfield, several new concepts of training were introduced by civilian and reserve component instructors. The detachment was trained on proper procedures for weighing vehicles and identifying the center of balance for weight distribution on the aircraft. Once the vehicles were weighed, the Soldiers were walked through the joint inspection process. The inspection identifies any mechanical deficiencies on the equipment to be loaded and also checks to ensure that the secondary loads are secure and properly packed. During air movement there can be no

metal-to-metal contact. This ensures that no sparks are created during flight. After the joint inspection, the Soldiers filled out hazardous materials paperwork and made modifications to the load plans. Finally, the detachment's equipment was loaded onto a mock C-5A simulating an actual aircraft.

Loading and unloading the JTAGS shelter onto the mock C-5A was the most difficult portion of the entire training exercise. This was a time-consuming, detailed process that involved a number of ground guides and an intricate safety briefing and risk assessment.

Experienced drivers placed two five-tons with the JTAGS shelter and a 60KW generator along with a High-Mobility, Multi-Purpose, Wheeled Vehicle (HMMWV) and trailer onto a single aircraft. Once all of the vehicles were on the aircraft, loadmasters showed the Soldiers how to secure the vehicles for flight.

Overall, the exercise was a great success. Each Soldier in the detachment obtained first-hand experience in the process and requirements for strategic airlift of the JTAGS system to a theater of operations.

## Fort Greely bids farewell to mobilized Alaskan Scouts

By Spc. Jack W. Carlson III  
Unit Reporter

**FORT GREELY, Alaska** — The post bid farewell in a ceremony March 29 to mobilized Alaskan Scouts who had served for 11 months augmenting security forces for the 49th Missile Defense Battalion (Ground-based Midcourse Defense).

The 40 Soldiers of Bravo Company, 1st Eskimo Scout Battalion, 297th Infantry assisted a security force already in place. During their activation, the Scouts were trained on military police tasks by the 49th Missile Defense Battalion Military Police Battery.

Staff Sgt. Joseph Brunsvold,

a Scout from North Pole, Alaska, with 18 years in the military and experience as a youth corrections officer prior to being activated, enjoyed his recent active duty stint.

"We all got the opportunity to work with Soldiers who hold different military occupational specialties than those we might normally work with on

drill weekends," Brunsvold said.

At the deactivation ceremony, Capt. Gary Rowe, MP battery commander, said to the departing Scouts, "Each individual person here contributed significantly to the success of the missile defense mission."



Photo by Spc. Jack W. Carlson III

Soldiers from 1st Eskimo Scout Battalion, 297th Infantry Scouts pose with commanders from 49th Missile Defense Battalion during their deactivation ceremony March 29.

# Soldier finally comes home from Vietnam

By Lira Frye  
Redstone Rocket

**ALBERTVILLE, Ala.** — When he left for Vietnam, Chief Warrant Officer Randy Ard told his mother, "Momma don't cry, I love you." Those were the



Courtesy Photo

Chief Warrant Officer Randy Ard poses in front of an OH-6 in 1970 during his flight training at Fort Rucker, Ala.

last words Emmie Ard heard from her son.

Thirty-four years later he came home. On March 17, the procession carrying Randy's remains passed through Redstone Arsenal on its way to Albertville. Soldiers and civilians lined Martin and Patton roads to pay final respects.

Randy's remains were located in December at a remote location in Laos, at Ban Kahn Village, near the Vietnamese/Laos border. According to military reports and information Randy's brother John Ard gathered from talking with survivors, Randy flew from Quang Tri, in what was then the northern portion of southern Vietnam, with three other Soldiers and was headed to a landing zone in Laos.

On March 7, 1971, as he was hovering over what he

thought was a friendly landing zone, his OH-58 Kiowa helicopter was shot down by enemy fire.

Although both Randy's legs were broken and his pelvis fractured during the ensuing crash, the other survivors managed to pull him from the wreckage. As enemy soldiers approached the crash site, Randy pulled his service pistol and began shooting. The others escaped to safety. Randy didn't make it out.

"The hard part was just not knowing," Emmie Ard said. "It's very much of a relief to know that he died quickly and was buried decently. I thought after all these years I'd never know. Thirty-four years is a long time to wait for an answer."

For three decades the Ards hoped the answer would be seeing Randy walk through the door.

"When he didn't come home we were hurt," John said. "We thought more could have been done to help him. For several years we thought he might come home, but that didn't happen."

"He was laid to rest beside my dad, something I thought we'd never see," John said. Randy's father, Tess, died November 2002. Randy Ard was buried March 19 during a ceremony at Marshall Memorial Gardens in Albertville.

## Army at the door

Randy's sister, Nell Vanvooren remembers the night they were notified. At the time, the family was living in Pensacola, Fla.

"I remember when the Army came to tell us," she said. "It was late at night and I looked out and saw Army men. I knew what it was. I knew it was bad."

Vanvooren said she didn't think anything like that would happen to her family. It tore their world apart, but was hardest on their parents.



Photo by Debra Valine

Soldiers and civilians lined Martin and Patton Roads on Redstone Arsenal, Ala. March 17 to pay final respects to Chief Warrant Officer Randy Ard. Ard died in 1971 during the Vietnam conflict. His remains were recently found at a remote location in Laos.

"I was so sad, I cried all the time," Emmie said. "Then I told myself you can't do this. I made up my mind to focus and kept myself busy."

Information about Randy came to the family throughout the years, but details were sketchy. John said the Department of Defense would send update letters and the family spoke with the survivors of the crash. But not until they received a notification letter in December did the family begin to fill in the pieces of the story.

"We have a report written by the U.S. Army," John said. "They interviewed Vietnamese soldiers who were involved in the battle. They gave a different perspective. But we're happy about the knowledge. We were always getting information, but at times it was contradictory. Now we feel like we're getting both sides of the story, and we have an accurate picture of what happened."

Vanvooren said that although she has mixed feelings, she's glad the family finally knows what happened.

"He died fast and didn't suffer," she said. "I appreciate that the Army finally found him and that they kept on looking."

## Doing what he loved

As a teenager, Randy washed and refueled planes at the airport in Pensacola, where the family lived in the late 1960s. Randy exchanged his

work for flying lessons and had his private pilot's license at 16.

"That's all he was into was flying," John said. "He had an appointment to the Air Force Academy, but turned it down because the Army guaranteed he'd be able to fly."

Randy dreamed of flying his entire life, Emmie said.

"He talked to me about going (to the Army)," she said. "I told him I didn't want him to do that, because of what was going on in Vietnam, but I told him you're grown, and it was his choice."

The Army that Randy served has now brought him home to Albertville, where the Ards moved in 1975, and put to rest the questions that lingered in the minds of his family.

"We're happy we're finally getting the whole story, and that the military after all these years continued to look until they found him," John said. "He was a good Soldier, a good American. He did what he did because he wanted to, not because he had to."

"Never a day goes by that I don't think about him," Vanvooren added. "I think maybe we can finally bury him."

With a look of peace, Emmie said, "He's finally home. I can lay him to rest."

## Federal Long Term Care Insurance Program growing

**T**he U.S. Office of Personnel Management sponsors a high-quality long-term care insurance program for members of the Federal family.

The Federal Long Term Care Insurance Program (FLTCIP) is the largest group long term care insurance program in the country, probably in the world. Created in 2000 by Federal law (Public Law 106-265, the Long-Term Care Security Act), it is the only long term care insurance program sponsored by the Federal government.

Long term care insurance pays benefits to cover services that individuals may need because they are unable to care for themselves due to chronic mental or physical conditions.

The program offers a flexible benefits package covering a variety of services, such as nursing home care, home health care, assisted living facilities and adult day care.

The Long-Term Care Security Act of 2000 makes approximately 20 million people eligible to apply for this insurance. It provides active and retired members of the uniformed services, Federal employees and annuitants, and their qualified relatives (parents and in-laws of active employees or members of the uniformed services, and the adult children of actives or retirees/annuitants) the opportunity to apply for coverage at group rates.

The FLTCIP is administered by Long Term Care Partners, LLC, and offered by

John Hancock Life Insurance Company and Metropolitan Life Insurance Company.

You can contact Long Term Care Partners toll-free at 1-800-LTC-FEDS (1-800-582-3337), TTY: 1-800-843-3557 to request an information kit and application or to speak to one of their certified long term care insurance consultants. These highly trained LTC Partners employees do not work on commission.

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## Five universities awarded more than \$95k in grants

By Kim Gillespie  
SMDC Public Affairs

A total of \$962,388 in grants from government agencies in Huntsville, Ala., was awarded to five universities as part of the 2005 Education and Employment (E2) Technology Exposition for Advancing multi-Market Solutions (TEAMS) week.

Mark Lumer, contracting executive for the U.S. Army Space and Missile Defense Command made the presentations at the TEAMS kick-off breakfast on March 29.

The purpose of the grants is to pool local federal (civilian and military) resources in accomplishing research and development missions by supporting colleges and universities (and the students attending them) that have the ability to assist Huntsville organizations in maintaining the U.S. lead in space and national defense.

The 2005 grants were awarded based on proposals received earlier in the

year for research in three topic areas: SMART Systems; High Energy Density Materials for Propulsion and Power Generation; Application of Micro Electrical Mechanical Systems (MEMS) and Nano-Technology to Sensors, Advanced Materials, Propulsion and Structures.

The grants are made possible by an interagency project that includes SMDC; the Program Executive Office for Missiles and Space; The Program Office for Aviation; the Aviation and Missile, Research Development and Engineering Center; The Ground-based Midcourse Defense Joint Program Office; and the National Aeronautics and Space Administration at the Marshall Space Flight Center.

More than 53 proposals were received for the grant awards. The 2005 awardees included:

- Alabama A&M University (Ala.), \$197,127 for "Development of Broad-Band Pyroelectric Thick-Film Based Uncooled Infrared Sensors."

- Alabama A&M University (Ala.), \$199,994 for "Electromagnetic Control of Hypersonic Shockwaves for Re-Entry Bodies."

- Harvard University (Mass.), \$199,470 for "Toward Metallic Hydrogen: A Possible Metastable Super-high Specific Impulse Chemical Rocket Fuel."

- Auburn University (Ala.), \$175,868 for "Electrostatic MEMS Platforms with Integrated Controllers."

- Tuskegee University (Ala.), \$189,929 for "Formulation and Characterization of Nanostructured Thermoplastic Polyimide Coating."

The dollar amount for each grant is based on the cost estimated by the university's individual proposal so each award amount varies. However, no individual grant can exceed \$200,000.

## 1st Space Brigade executive officer recounts time in Iraq

Sgt. 1st Class Dennis Beebe, SMDC Public Affairs

**COLORADO SPRINGS Colo.** — The executive officer of the 1st Space Brigade used his unique speaking style and real-life experiences in Iraq to inform the local chapter of the Army Space and Missile Defense Association how space is supporting warfighters.

Lt. Col. Eric Henderson's March 14 luncheon presentation illustrated the structure of the command, but what was more gripping was his personal account of how his in-country team brought critical space products to the ground combatant commander exactly when they were

needed.

"My team hit the ground in Tikrit and the first night, we got mortared practically the entire night," Henderson said. "After the dust settled down a bit, I went into the Tactical Operation Center (TOC) and found the G-3 (Plans and Operations officer). The place was in chaos and the G-3 was using what looked like a 'Rand-McNally' road map."

In the TOC's defense, Henderson revealed that the original plan was for the 4th Infantry Division (Mechanized) to come into Iraq through Turkey, so all the TOC's maps and images of Iraq were still on a boat coming around the Red Sea and up the Persian Gulf.

When that plan fell through, they had to come around Saudi Arabia and up through Kuwait.

Consequently, everything they couldn't carry was still on the boat. So the 4th ID (M) was making do with what they had. Henderson went back to where Cpl. Chad A. Duncan, his space-imaging specialist was and had him print out one of their preset images of the

area they were in. Henderson had brought along the imagery of where they were going to be, thinking it might be useful. He took the large image that Duncan had just cranked out on the plotter and headed back into the TOC.

Henderson laid the satellite image in front of the G-3, pointing out where the building they were in was, and that there was a soccer field just to the south of them, and an area near Saddam Boulevard where the G-2 (Intelligence) thought the bad guys were operating out of.

"Well, he took that 'Rand McNally' map, flung it away and started lining out his Quick Reaction Force Elements in positions using the satellite photo of real world imagery I had just given him," Henderson said.

"I had brought a current space-based product and put it directly into the fight. That's how we do business. Bringing space-based products to the warfighter," he said.

He went on to tell how some of the mass graves in Iraq were located by using imagery from the Command's Spectral Operations Resource Center (SORC) to determine where large patches of ground had been disturbed. The SORC had taken images of the area near the city of Irbil just after the first Gulf War in 1991 and compared them to present day imagery. They were able to tell where the ground had been disturbed from the time of the first images to the time of the current images. The spectral analysis also revealed the presence of gypsum, an evaporate mineral, in abnormal quantities. When the top

layer of soil is disturbed, elements mobilized by the influx of fluids allow the precipitation of gypsum and it can then be identified on the surface. This allowed the SORC to distinguish the locations of mass graves.

The Red Cross trucks then went out to the places the SORC had indicated and were followed by Iraqi people who would work right alongside the archaeologists to see if they could find their missing relatives. If they could recognize or identify the remains, either from clothing, hair or even wallets with identification papers still intact, they would gather up the remains of their loved ones and take them home for proper burial. This allowed for them to grieve more suitably and brought some closure to their lives.

During the luncheon, Henderson also pointed out how much space is involved with most people's daily lives. From cell phones, to global positioning system handheld units, to NAVSTAR systems in some cars to most TV broadcasts. He stated that people have become so accustomed to these things that they really don't think about where the services are actually coming from.

"It's the mission of SMDC/ARSTRAT (U.S. Army Space and Missile Defense Command/Army Forces Strategic Command) to provide space support to the warfighters on the ground and in the air to get his or her job done better," Henderson said. "A big part of my job is to let everyone know that the Army is in space and how we can help them."



Photo by Sgt. 1st Class Dennis Beebe

Lt. Col. Eric Henderson makes a point about space support to the warfighter during a luncheon hosted by the Colorado Springs chapter of the Army Space and Missile Defense Association March 14.

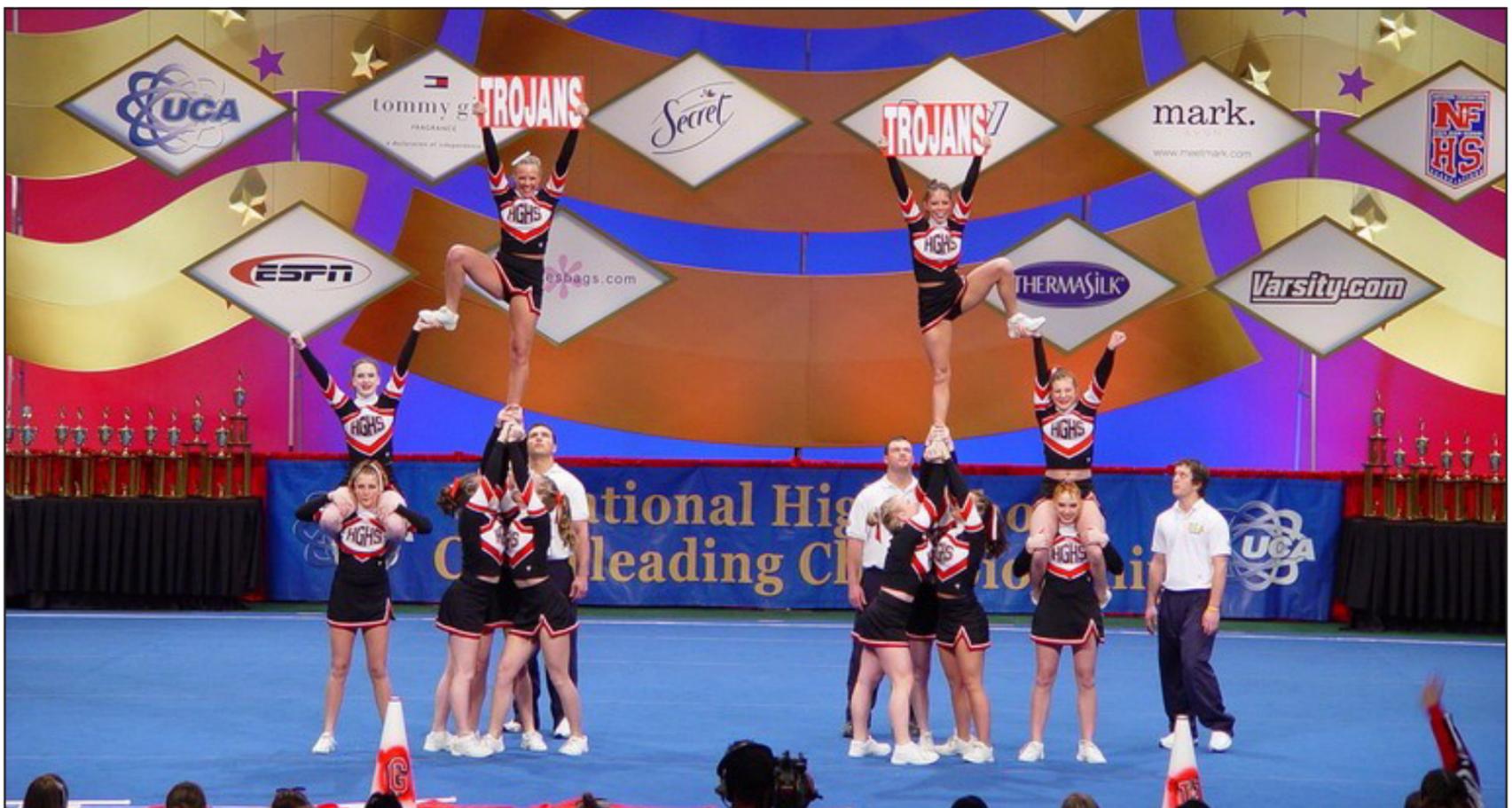


Photo courtesy of Varsity.com Web site

The Hazel Green Trojans varsity cheerleading squad performs at the 2005 National High School Cheerleading Championship where members captured the championship.

## Employee's daughter member of national championship cheerleading squad

By Kim Gillespie  
SMDC Public Affairs

Jack Miller, team leader visual information, Chief Information Office, might be called a proud father, which he is. But he also might be considered "cutting edge" among sports fans because he supports cheerleading as a competitive sport. His daughter, Alanna, is a member of the Hazel Green (Ala.) High School varsity cheerleading squad which won the 2005 National High School Cheerleading (small varsity, which includes as many as 12 members to a squad) Championship this spring. "Most of these kids have been working toward this goal since they were 4 or 5 years old," Miller said. "And they are tough ... I've seen cuts, bruises and broken bones," he added.

Miller hopes to see cheerleading get the recognition it deserves, since it now requires more than just school spirit. "Dance, gymnastics, tumbling, recreational league cheering, middle school cheering," are now almost prerequisites for any students wanting to become cheerleaders, according to Miller. Miller should know. He and his wife, Tami, have spent the better part of the last 10 years helping their daughter prepare for the championship, just like the parent of any star basketball, football or soccer champion.

"It's 11 months out of the year, and while they are not formally participating that one month, they are still involved in activities related to cheerleading" Miller said. "And she has missed the last two family vacations because of competitions," he said.

The cost of cheerleading also seems to increase with the level of competition. "Going to the National High School Cheerleading Championship costs each cheerleader roughly \$1,000 (this year's championship was held at Disney World), plus you have to factor in the other costs

that are incurred throughout the year, such as camps, uniforms, etc.," he explained. Between the cost and the timing of this year's National Championship competition, the rest of the Miller family had to forego the trip. "It didn't really sink in that they won the National Championship until we saw her, at the airport, wearing the white jacket," Miller said.

Miller is quick to emphasize that it is all worth it. "This is THE competition to win. The white jacket (each member of a national championship team is issued a white jacket with the year and "National Championship" emblazoned across the back) says it all." The National High School Cheerleading Championship, like any other major sporting championship, has major corporate sponsors and is

broadcast each year on the ESPN cable network (Miller thinks it will air sometime in April this year).

So what is left for a 15-year old National Champion? According to Alanna, another National Championship, or more importantly, "I would like to get a college cheerleading scholarship," she said. Alanna also has a comeback for anyone who dares to imply cheerleading is not a "real" sport. "Try doing a back-handspring tuck!"

Alanna credits her family's support for her success. "They have always been very supportive," she emphasized. Miller credits his wife and two younger daughters, Staci, 11, and Savannah, 7, with making Alanna's dreams come true. "It has to be a family thing. It really is all consuming." Miller's daughter Staci has chosen basketball as her sport, which according to Miller, is a financial blessing: "It costs you the price of basketball shoes," he joked. But Savannah has chosen to follow her oldest sister's jumps and stunts, "She asked to cheer, so we have her in a recreational league this year," Miller said.

Miller said he hopes to see more recognition for cheerleaders as athletes in the future, and he indicated that the sport seems to be growing. "Schools represented in cheerleading competitions used to be primarily from the Southeastern U.S., but now you are beginning to see more schools from other areas. You also see more of the city schools competing now. Many of the city schools were not allowed to perform stunts (which are required for competitions) because of insurance and liability factors, but those issues seem to be getting resolved," Miller said.

Like any other sport, Miller also thinks cheerleading can help build character. "Alanna's cheerleading coach at Hazel Green, Christy Baeder has been wonderful, a good role model," Miller said. "It's about teamwork and commitment." And according to Alanna, winning a national championship is ... "AWESOME!"



Photo by Tammy Miller

Proud father Jack Miller is shown greeting daughter Alanna after her return from the National High School Cheerleading Championship. Alanna is a member of the Hazel Green High School varsity cheerleading squad, winners of the 2005 National Cheerleading (small varsity) Championship.