

Gridiron Glory

Delta Company, 53rd Signal Battalion

CAMP ROBERTS, Calif. — The lineman briskly shook his head and blinked slowly. The rain was coming down harder now. He didn't see it, but the quarterback had just stomped his foot and then the ball was snapped. All Sgt. Justin Brock saw was the opposing team's line shift as they planted their feet and took the first steps forward. The opposing line, consisting of Spc. William Wilson, Sgt. Nathan Crandell and Spc. Christopher Taylor, tried to break the wall Brock and his fellow linemen were making, as they tried to take down the quarterback, Staff Sgt. Jason Avila. As much as it felt like a high stakes battle, this was actually the January Squad Cohesion Day for 1st and 3rd squads of Delta Company, 53rd Signal Battalion.

There was a smack as irresistible forces met immovable objects. The line held as the quarterback rolled right looking for his receiver. He found one, did a quick pump,

and then tossed out a nice spiral. The pass did not complete as Pfc. Steven Miller lost his footing trying to plant and turn into the pass on a particularly muddy section of the field.

It was now third and goal at midfield. The offense and defense lined up again and the ball was snapped once more. Avila again rolled right looking for the same receiver. This time Miller had run a slant to the left and was in the middle of the field headed for the opposite sideline. The ball launched high and far, the receiver turned up field. This was going to be a touchdown-or-nothing play because fourth and goal at midfield would mean having to punt. The ball dropped into the receiver's outstretched hands and he pulled it into his chest while making the last few strides toward redemption and victory. Touchdown! The muddled players celebrated with high-fives all around. The units hope to have another game in the near future and are even hoping for a little rain.



Photo by Sgt. Justin Brock

Delta Company, 53rd Signal Battalion's 1st and 3rd squads take a break for the camera during their January Squad Cohesion Day football game.

Lean Six Sigma Yellow Belt Training and Certification

- **What:** LSS Training and Yellow Belt Certification
- **Who:**
 - For all SMDC/ARSTRAT employees
 - Open sessions or by organization
 - Conducted by Command LSS Team
- **When:**
 - 9, 17, 24, or 30 April in Huntsville
 - 5 ½ hour training
- **Why:**
 - LSS knowledge and team member preparation
 - LSS Yellow Belt Certification
 - 5 CLPs



For more information or to schedule a class
contact Christi Stewart
256-955-3990 (DSN) 645

LSS Yellow Belt training will also be conducted in Colorado Springs, Colo. in April, further information on that or questions may be directed to Christi Stewart, (256) 955-3990 (DSN 645).

Echo Soldiers now "CrossFit"

By Sgt. Vicente Gonzalaz
Unit Reporter

FORT BUCKNER, OKINAWA, Japan — To be a good Soldier in the U.S. Army, there are a lot of requirements that must be met. A good Soldier needs to be proficient at his job, proficient with his weapon and he must be physically fit. A Soldier's physical prowess is something that can be the difference between surviving and not surviving in combat. This is something that could affect any Soldier in this time of war.

In an effort to find new ways of keeping physically fit, two Soldiers from Echo Company, 53rd Signal Battalion attended a class on CrossFit. 1stLt. Donald Thomas and Spc. Carlos Halsell took the three-day class in late January with hopes of learning a new way of getting in shape and maintaining physical fitness. As it turns out, the two Soldiers learned more than they bargained for.

CrossFit is a fitness program based on three principals: functional movement, constantly varied exercises and high intensity. These three principals work together to provide an extremely intense workout that serves to prepare the Soldier for any type of physical challenge. Because CrossFit offers such an intense workout, in most instances a person can get the benefits of a rigorous full body workout in as little as 20 minutes a session.

There are multitudes of exercises included in the CrossFit program; these exercises emphasize the idea of "functional movement" as opposed to isolated movement that you would normally get from working out on standard workout machines. Some of the exercises that are heavily used in CrossFit are dead lifts, overheads presses,

sumo lifts, and various types of squats just to name a few. These exercises are completed in rapid succession for a total body workout that is appropriate for people of nearly any fitness level. There is a large variety of exercises that are included in the program so that the same exercises are not repeated in concurrent workout sessions, this helps to keep you body guessing to avoid building up a single muscle group.

Since participating in the Cross Fit seminar on Torii Station, Okinawa, Halsell has been determined to share his knowledge with his fellow soldiers.

Currently he is developing a CrossFit program of his own to administer to his fellow Soldiers. "You can scale down the exercises for people who are new to working out, it is good for any fitness level", says Halsell when asked how Soldiers of lower fitness levels would be able to cope with the intense CrossFit program. It has become apparent that Halsell's excitement of this new workout regime has caught on and other Echo Company Soldiers have been actively trying to learn about how they can get involved with CrossFit.

CrossFit is a program that has been embraced by large numbers of people from athletes, military members including Special Forces Groups, Navy SEALs and casual fitness enthusiasts. Due to the scalability of the CrossFit program, anyone can reap the benefits of being CrossFit. For more information on CrossFit, there is a wealth of information available on their Web site, crossfit.com. On this site, there are videos available of people taking part in the program as well as blog posts documenting people's experiences with CrossFit.



Photo by Sgt. Vicente Gonzalaz

A CrossFit class attended by Echo Company, 53rd Signal Battalion Soldiers, 1st Lt. Donald Thomas and Spc. Carlos Halsell were instructed on the proper technique of a muscle up.

Snofest: A first timer's perspective on skiing safety and fun

**Commentary by Pfc. Ryan Shea
Headquarters & Headquarters Battery
53rd Signal Battalion**

KEYSTONE, Colo. — For Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 53rd Signal Battalion, Jan. 25 was a great opportunity to get out on the slopes during Keystone Resort's annual Snofest. A few Soldiers, including myself, had never had an opportunity to ski before. Originally, I intended to experience the sights and sounds of a busy ski resort; but I found myself tempted to get out on some rentals and experience skiing firsthand. As the Soldiers of the unit dispersed from an early morning formation, I found myself looking for last-minute rental equipment.

As I would learn on the morning of SnoFest, safety is essential, and having the proper gear is crucial to having a great experience on the slopes. Waterproof gear including a jacket, pants and gloves will keep a skier dry. A ski mask will prevent skin exposure to the elements at the extreme cold and high speeds associated with skiing. Goggles are your last piece of critical equipment, allowing you to see through the worst of whiteout snow conditions while still maintaining good eye protection. A good pair of goggles may be tinted, will block UV rays and provide anti-fog lenses to keep you seeing clear throughout the day. Though many skiers

do not wear helmets, it is great protection from hard impacts and trees. It only takes one moment on the ski slopes to regret not wearing a helmet.

Geared up and ready to go, I met up with four fellow Soldiers to learn how to conquer the slopes. With two snowboarders and two experienced skiers, I practiced the basics of speed control, maneuvering and stopping. My first few turns involved working up more and more speed until finally losing control, with snow and skis flying all over the place. I worked at the basics, but it was not without pain, just as the saying goes, "If you aren't crashing, you aren't learning." Speed control was difficult at first, but the Schoolmarm ski trail was a great place to begin learning with quite a few ski patrols around to help out in a worst-case scenario. If your skiing became too reckless, the ski patrol would issue you a few warnings, but after that there is no more skiing for you if you have your pass revoked.

After finishing two runs, the few of us still learning were perhaps too confident in our abilities. Our first blue trail started much like a majority of the green trails, with wide, sweeping turns. The turns slowly became steeper and tighter as we made our way down the trail. This was where the blue slope really showed itself. Mounds at irregular intervals proved to be the biggest challenge for the day. More

challenging trails helped me to develop new tricks for handling this much more difficult slope. This blue trail took us longer than most of the other trails, as most of my time on this trail was spent picking up my skis every few turns. We reached the bottom of the slope eager to take a much-needed break to warm up and rest.

The remainder of the day was spent on the green slopes for us, sharing the opportunity to ride through the powder with friends, family and fellow Soldiers. We gained better technique, and with it, the spills and falls that we could laugh about later.



Stock Photo USAFAServices

Sakura (Cherry) blossoms

**By Spc. Daniel Gifford
Unit Reporter**

FORT BUCKNER, OKINAWA, Japan — Soldiers at Echo Company 53rd Signal Battalion have excellent opportunities to enjoy a unique cultural perspective while on assignment to Japan. In addition to the opportunity to learn a new language amid the natural beauty of a tropical island, Soldiers can attend some of the many festivals and celebrations that comprise an important part of the Okinawan and Japanese cultures.

This month across Japan is the viewing of the cherry blossoms, known as "Hanami." The elegant flowers, called "sakura" in Japanese only survive for about

two weeks. Many see their luminous and fleeting beauty as an analogy for the ephemeral nature of life.

Spc. Carlos Halsell, on viewing the flowers on the grounds of ancient Nakijin Castle responded that, "The atmosphere is so peaceful here. It is really very beautiful and serene."

Flower viewing parties have been a part of Japanese culture for centuries and was originally a pursuit limited to the Imperial Family and the nobility.

Every year millions of Japanese visit the many parks, shrines and castles whose grounds have been planted with cherry trees in order to spend time with their families, drink sake and enjoy the splendor of nature.

The Japanese government's weather bureau issues a blossom forecast every year to help people predict the best time to go and view the blossoms.

There is an anecdotal story that the great haiku poet Matsuo Basho once visited Mount Yoshino, considered by many to be the most beautiful location in the world for Sakura viewing. Upon seeing the flowers he was unable to compose his customary haiku, saying that no human could properly describe it in words.

In modern times the cherry blossom festival has spread across the globe, with the substantial cherry orchards in Washington, D.C among the largest in the world, and a significant symbol of



Google Image

Enjoying the cherry blossom trees at Mount Yoshino, Japan.

the friendship between Japan and the United States.

Thousands of Washingtonians, Virginians and Marylanders try to find time to stroll along the edges of the Potomac River and its Basin where the gift of the cherry blossom trees are planted when they bloom in early Spring, said

Diane Schumacher, an SMDC/ARSTRAT employee who used to live in the suburbs near Washington, D.C. "I've lived on Okinawa and in Virginia and I know that those who go to see the blossoms in D.C. enjoy the beauty of them just as much as the Okinawans and Japanese do in their countries," said Schumacher.

More Safety

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Defense Battalion in Fort Greely, Alaska, have additional unique safety concerns.

"We target at the brigade and battalion a lot of our safety days ahead of the season so that as breakup occurs in Alaska, our folks are already educated on the challenges they will see that

coming season," said Yowell. "We face summer challenges of wildlife in Alaska to the winter challenges of limited daylight and brutal temperatures. Over the past two years we have seen a marked reduction in safety incidents that I attribute to a change in outlook by our Soldiers and their Families."

As each leader spoke in detail about specific safety programs, the common thread became

became apparent: Being successful at combating safety issues requires a commitment to that along with thinking about the second and third order effects that Seward discussed.

"It's not your program, it's not your Soldier's program, it's everybody's program," said Borja to wrap up the conference. "And it's not just the program, but the way we all live our lives."



Photo by DJ Montoya

Brigade and battalion unit leaders listen as Brig. Gen. John E. Seward addresses safety issues at the March 11 semi-annual Safety Conference.

HHB loses great leader, gains another

By Sgt. Michael Cost
SMDC/ARSTRAT Public Affairs

COLORADO SPRINGS, Colo. — The old saying that nothing is certain but change is especially true in the military, with rotations in and out of position, promotions, deployments, etc. The common thread that provides stability throughout those changes is the dedication to shared values. Both multiple change factors and the common core values were highly visible in a single ceremony held at Headquarters and Headquarters Battery, 100th Missile Defense Brigade (Ground-based Midcourse Defense) Jan. 18.

The new year of 2008 began with a new commander for the unit charged with the defending the nation against ballistic missile attack. Capt. Karl Gansler relieved Capt. Marc Reyher during a change of command ceremony at Brigade headquarters.

Immediately after the changing of the colors, the old commander was promoted to the new rank of major — a promotion he had delayed until he finished his battery command. The new Major Reyher then departed to finish final preparations for his departure to Afghanistan, where he volunteered for a year of duty to help train Afghan commanders in security tactics.

Before he left, he addressed the unit.

"As the third battery commander for this still-new unit, I inherited a lot from the commanders before me. They built the foundation; I think my job was primarily putting up a

lot of the rest of the house," said Reyher. "So hopefully, the new commander will build on what's been done during my command, and will be happy with the job I did on the windows and doors."

"Maj. Reyher had a genuine concern for Soldiers," said Sgt. Michael Loper, training NCO (noncommissioned officer), HHB, 100th MDB. "He had a very straight forward mentality that was evident in his day to day duties."

The battery is left in the very able hands of its new commander, who stresses care of the family and Army core values as his leadership guidelines. Gansler comes to the command from a position on the Operational Readiness Evaluation team, so brings plenty of experience in the operational side of missile defense to the challenge of making it all work administratively and logistically.

"Operating any HHB is a task that requires long hours and a supportive family. I most definitely have that," said Gansler, pausing to introduce his wife and four children to the unit. "Family is the backbone of the Army and of our unit."

"I have complete and total confidence in Capt. Gansler," said Staff Sgt. Kristine Bombard, supply sergeant, 100th MDB. "I am interested to see what he brings to the table as the new HHB commander."

Changes in command, promotions, deployments, new faces at the helm, ready to face the new year, that's HHB, 100th MDB.



Photo courtesy of Reyher Family

Col. Michael Yowell, commander, 100th Missile Defense Brigade, receives the unit guidon from the outgoing Headquarters and Headquarters Battery Commander, Capt. Marc Reyher and prepares to pass it off to the incoming Commander, Capt. Karl Gansler (facing front) during a ceremony at 100th MDB headquarters Jan. 31. in Colorado Springs, Colo.

The Tennessee Valley Combined Federal Campaign (CFC) is accepting applications from non-profit charitable human health and welfare organizations for 2008. Under Federal Law, the charitable organization must be a current 501(c) (3) organization. The open period for accepting applications is March 3 to April 10, 2008. On behalf of federal donors, the CFC is responsible for overall management, collection, and disbursements of donor designations from Federal, Military, and Postal personnel within the Tennessee Valley area. A copy of the 2008 CFC package may be acquired by calling Donna Johnson, LFCC Chairperson, or Melinda Seigler, CFC Director, (256) 842-1037 or the local Web site: cfc.redstone.army.mil

Space Soldiers inducted into NCO Corps

By DJ Montoya, 1st Space Brigade

PETERSON AIR FORCE BASE, Colo. — Fourteen newly promoted Soldiers from the 1st Space Brigade were inducted into the ranks of the time-honored United States Army Noncommissioned Officer Corps during a ceremony at the Base Auditorium on Peterson Air Force Base in mid-January.

The ceremony began with a brief history of the NCO Corps. Soldiers from the 1st Space Brigade showcased the various NCO ranks beginning with sergeant, then proceeding to staff sergeant, platoon sergeant, and ending with first sergeant. Three brigade NCOs read the Noncommissioned Officer Creed, while three others performed the Lighting of the NCO Spirits on stage.

Those inducted into the NCO Corps during the ceremony were: 1st Space Brigade, Sgt. Randolph Brown, Sgt. Betty Lott, Sgt. Martin Santistevan, Sgt. Teresa Triplett, and Sgt. Amber Starr, all from Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 1st Space Brigade; Sgt. Jose Mosquera, 53rd Signal Battalion; Sgt. Chad Cousineau, HHC, 1st Space Battalion; Sgt. Bernadette Rowlinson, 2nd Space Company, 1st Space Battalion; Sgt. Jonathan Aultman, Sgt. Christopher Crook, Sgt. Melissa Grund, Sgt. Robert H. Parshall, Sgt. Michael Scott, and Sgt. Patricia Young, all from the 1st Space Company, 1st Space Battalion.

The Charge of the Noncommissioned Officer was then given to the inductees by 1st Space Brigade Command Sgt. Maj. Kevin B. McGovern, host for the ceremony.

Afterward brigade members came forth to perform "A Soldier's Request" and "The First Sergeants' Request" involving the new inductees.

The ceremony ended with Lott, one of the new inductees, performing the "Lighting of the Eternal Flame" on stage.

During his opening remarks McGovern addressed the assembly by saying, "I'm extremely honored to be here today."

"What you see from these

noncommissioned officers here today sends chills up and down my back. And to know that they are doing this in order to create a bridge for these future leaders, well it makes me safe and confident to know that when I leave there is a wake and a legacy of many to come that will fill my shoes."

Guest speaker for the event, Command Sgt. Maj. Joseph B. Rhodes from the 100th Missile Defense Brigade (GMD), imparted some words of wisdom covering his 32 years of experience to the new inductees.

"If you read 'the book' it tells you to be, know, and do," said Rhodes.

"I have ten rules. They work for civilians, military, and they kind of work for everybody."

"The first is to remember the Commander's intent because that's your mission. The second is to do your job like you are suppose to do it, not like you think you are supposed to do it. And by the way, do it right, do it now, and even if you don't want to do it anyhow."

Rhodes continued the list by stating "it is not about you, so don't act like it is."

"Learn as much as you can, get your degree, go to your military schools, do your correspondence courses and do it as soon as you can because life has a way of closing doors as soon as you open them."

"Seek the difficult jobs and then do them as well as you can."

"And if you are doing something where there is the possibility you are going to make a mistake. Go ahead and admit it. Accept the responsibility and move on."

"Respect others even if you don't think they deserve it because they are part of your team. Don't lie to me and I won't lie to you. Lies, agendas and things like that undermine the mission."

"Shut up, stand up, and Soldier. If there is a problem, let them know but don't whine."

"And finally, help little old ladies across the street. Why, because she might be my mom."

In closing Rhodes said, "Study hard, work hard and play hard. And then be, know and do."



Sgt. Michael Scott receives a field manual entitled *The Army Noncommissioned Officer Guide* along with a framed personalized copy of the Noncommissioned Officer Creed and the Noncommissioned Officer Charge from Command Sgt. Maj. Joseph Rhodes, 100th Missile Defense Brigade (GMD), during the 1st Space Brigade NCO Induction Ceremony.

Photo by Larry Hulst

11th Annual Space and Missile Defense Conference Exhibition coming up

SMDC/ARSTRAT Public Affairs

Mark your calendars now! The 11th Annual Space and Missile Defense Conference and Exhibition is scheduled to take place Aug. 11-14, 2008 at the Von Braun Center in Huntsville, Ala.

The theme for this year's event is *Space & Missile Defense ... the Next 50 Years*.

The SMD Conference is widely attended by more than 6,000 professionals from throughout the United

States and our allies around the world. Event sponsors include the National Defense Industrial Association — Tennessee Valley Chapter (NDIA-TVC), Air Space and Missile Defense Association (ASMDA), and the Air Defense Artillery Association—Huntsville Chapter (ADAA).

This year's SMD Conference will have a greater international emphasis than in previous years, including information on ballistic missile

defense in Europe and Japan. The conference will also emphasize a "Joint" nature, with each service well represented and their contributions spotlighted. Exhibits and presentations on topics such as future technologies, command and control with and without our allies, increasing roles in each of the services, space protection and persistent surveillance will explore these issues with attendees. Exhibits are open to the public.

Confirmed speakers

include Gen. James E. Cartwright, vice chairman of Joint Chief of Staff; Mr. John Rood, under secretary of state for Army Control and International Security (acting); Lt. Gen. Kevin T. Campbell, commanding general, U.S. Army Space and Missile Defense Command/Army Forces Strategic Command; Lt. Gen. Henry A. "Trey" Obering III, director, Missile Defense Agency; and Bob Barnes, Missile Defense Agency Advanced Technology.

Other invited speakers

include Gen. Kevin P. Chilton, commander, U.S. Strategic Command, and Gen. C. Robert Kehler, commander, Air Force Space Command.

Register before June 27, 2008, to save!

To register for the conference, visit the Web site at www.smdconf.org, or contact Jeanne Weaver at (256) 533-6986/fax (256) 533-4508.

For additional information, please contact Giselle Bodin at (256) 955-3889 or, e-mail giselle.bodin@smdc.army.mil.

LEAP

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include lab, ground and flight testing." The LEAP was "a complete program."

The Army LEAP, developed by the Hughes Aircraft Company began testing in the early 1990s with the laboratory strap-down test which simulated actual flight. The LEAP achieved a major milestone on June 18, 1991, with a free-flight hover test conducted at a special hangar on Edwards Air Force Base, California. The Command announced, "The LEAP locked onto an infrared target source and maintained that lock for a full seven-second free-flight hover utilizing its organic divert and attitude control propulsion systems to maintain flight stability." During these seven seconds, the divert engines fired approximately 100 times while the attitude control engines fired more than 1,200 times.

The March 5, 1994, hover test of the LEAP kinetic kill vehicle incorporated some changes to the system, most significantly a solid propulsion system. Still the lightest weight kill vehicle developed, the LEAP now weighed nine kilograms (20 pounds) with almost half devoted to the propulsion system. One second after liftoff the LEAP acquired its target and continued to hover performing preprogrammed maneuvers until the fuel was spent. The test demonstrated four key goals for the program: (1) controllability and performance of the integrated solid propulsion kinetic kill vehicle; (2) target acquisition and track with an advanced long-wave infrared seeker (3) lock-on to target after launch and (4) the interferometric fiber optic gyroscope based inertial measurement unit.

With this success, the LEAP technology was ready for the

flight test phase. The LEAP II suborbital test conducted at White Sands Missile Range, N.M. introduced a new facet to the testing. Could the system locate and track cold body targets in space? Future tests were conducted in conjunction with the Navy's Upper Tier Theater Missile Defense Flight Test Program at Wallops Island, Va. Known as the Terrier LEAP, the tests integrated the Army LEAP kill vehicle into a modified standard missile. The first LEAP intercept attempt, conducted in March 1995, achieved 42 of its 43 objectives. Although a malfunction in the launch system caused the kill vehicle to be deployed early, the "robust technology" of the LEAP operated perfectly acquiring and tracking its target until its fuel was exhausted.

While the Army opted to pursue other programs, the Navy selected the Army LEAP kill vehicle for its Upper Tier

Theater Missile Defense program in 1996.

Modifications required to accommodate a ship-based deployment and a revised mission ensued. Flight tests for the new SM-2 Block IV began in September 1999.

Now known as the Aegis Ballistic Missile Defense System, the SM-3 has since achieved twelve intercepts in fourteen attempts. The Navy initiated deployment in October 2004 with the "Aegis ballistic missile defense long-range surveillance and tracking capability." In 2005, they fielded "a short and medium range ballistic missile emergency engagement capability" – the SM-3 with its next generation LEAP kill vehicle – originally designed and developed by the U.S. Army.

Contributions to this story by Gisele Wilson, Chief, Systems Test Support Division, Technical Center, SMDC/ARSTRAT.

Training

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Taking the RDA and Technical Center purpose for this training to a broader scale, the FWC also looked at space professional development for the Army as a whole. As such, the training provided was based upon that also taught to Army personnel for Functional Area (FA) 40 certification as Space Cadre to become Space Operations Officers.

It may be easy for the warfighter to underestimate the importance of space. Its benefits are largely transparent but nonetheless absolutely critical in modern warfare. For the Soldier, the majority of communications, intelligence, surveillance as well as most of his high tech equipment, weapon systems and munitions work in conjunction with space.

Just a few examples: GPS (Global Positioning System) for geo-location guides the Soldier and tracks logistics. BFT (Blue Force Tracking) keeps friendly forces identified to eliminate/reduce fratricide. Smart-precision munitions are guided to their targets from space. Space also provides for missile warning, weather and environmental monitoring.

But dependence upon space is not limited to the warfighter. The quality of life for the average civilian has been greatly improved with man's use of space. GPS is now readily available equipped in new cars, commercial aircraft or via hand-held models.

All communications, from standard home phones to cell phones use satellites. Home satellite dishes, provide television and internet service. For even the most spartan homes, space still provides the accurate weather service and advanced warning for impending storms. Therefore everyone is affected by space in one way or another.

Given the magnitude of this training effort and large auditorium courteously provided by Aviation and Missile Command, Michael C. Schexnayder, deputy commander for Research, Development and Acquisition, and Dr. Rodney Robertson, director of the Technical Center, invited not only all of SMDC/ARSTRAT military and civilians here but the entire Arsenal space systems acquisition community to the unclassified training days.

This brought additional participation from AMCOM, PEO Missiles & Space,

Missile Defense Agency (MDA), NASA's Marshall Space Flight Center, Missile & Space Intel Center (MSIC), Aviation & Missile Research, Development and Engineering Center, University of Alabama at Huntsville and several support contractors.

Training did not culminate at the Bob Jones Auditorium but continued for SMDC/ARSTRAT personnel at the secret and top secret levels on Feb. 28-29 to provide for a full week of professional development.

At the conclusion of the event, the trainers were thanked for their outstanding efforts and were presented Deputy Commander and Director coins on behalf of Schexnayder and Robertson. The trainers from SMDC DCD receiving these coins were: Larry Mize, Lenny Gehrke, Tom Gray, and their support contractor Tom Falconer. Frank Giegerich from NRO was also presented a coin after presenting classified training on Feb. 29.

SMDC Technical Center Space Division employees who made the event a success also received coins. They were: Lee Hilbert, Don Severn and their support contractor Ms. Carla Jones.

“A great help to Soldiers”...

New satcom system lightweight, portable, deployable — and zips?

By Diane Schumacher,
SMDC/ARSTRAT
Public Affairs

It's round, green or sand colored, made of high endurance modified racing sailcloth, has a zipper in the side of it, has antennas and cables, can be 76 inches tall or 101 inches tall and looks like a giant beach ball. What in the world could it be?

It's called a GATR-Com inflatable deployable satellite communications system. There are two sizes, 1.8 or 2.4 meters and both units come in checkable airline hard cases so that either can actually be carried through an airport and loaded onto planes as luggage. Soldiers in the field don't need to have it shipped, they can carry it with them where ever they go. Two Soldiers can set up the satcom system in about 45 minutes.

Paul A. Gierow, president of GATR Technologies, held a briefing to explain his company's invention. He said several special

operation units have found the deployable satcom antennas to be very useful in their missions and some Joint units have placed orders for their troops as well.

During Hurricane Katrina the GATR-Com was there before any other communication unit could get to the scene to let the nation hear what was going on, Gierow said. It turned out to be the most reliable communication tool available to the outside world, he said. “Even CBS News used the system for live radio broadcast from the scene,” said Gierow.

This satcom system provides high-bandwidth communications for secure data transmission and nonsecure transmissions for “quality-of-life” communications and data flow. The bandwidth capability of the system is very high since the antenna is so large. It's a manual set-up. It ties to the ground and the antenna is manually pointed and aligned to the heavens.

There is beacon tuning for satellite acquisition, peaking, and cross pol adjustment. There's CAT-5 cable for IP/Data flow application for voice over internet, secure communications and video conferencing. GATR is developing an auto-tracking system for future models.

The design integrates a patented inflation-deployed radome integrated with an inflation-rigidized, highly accurate antenna. The radio frequency feed mechanism is mounted to the radome and no additional physical support structure is required.

There is a parabolic dish mounted at the equator of the ball and there are two hoses of air going inside the ball to inflate it. The shape of the ball doesn't change with deflation.

According to Roy Priest, program manager for the GATR-Com, wind isn't a problem for the ball. “The ball is very rigid and stable, due to the aerodynamic shape,” he said. The antenna is

connected by springs so there's good give and take with wind, plus the ball is made of sailcloth; with their research and development they have no worries. On the other hand if there are questions [about stability], all they have to do is unzip the ball [to deflate] until they feel it's safe to re-inflate it.

Range testing and certification is ongoing and several broadcasting companies are interested in purchasing the satcom systems, Gierow said, adding that the Department of Defense is testing the inflatable antenna with their existing communication equipment now. GATR anticipates fielding units with half a dozen more units in four to six months and will be conducting range tests during March, Gierow said.

Dr. Rodney Robertson, director, SMDC/ARSTRAT's Technical Center who attended the briefing, appreciated the company's efforts as he stated, “Great out of the box thinking! This is a great help to Soldiers.”



Photos by Dottie White

Roy Priest, program manager at GATR Technologies, explains how the GATR-Com satcom terminal works.



Priest demonstrates how to deflate the satcom terminal and explained how to pack it in its case and to reinflate.



Paul A. Gierow, president of GATR Technologies explains to Dr. Rodney Robertson and Dr. Michael Lavan the process for making the deployable satcom terminal.

Army lays foundation for Navy success

By Sharon Watkins Lang,
SMDC/ARSTRAT Historical
Office

On Feb. 14, 2008, the Department of Defense announced the U.S. Navy had been tasked to intercept an errant spy satellite heading towards Earth with an expected impact of early March. The USA-193 satellite, loaded with 1,000 pounds of toxic hydrazine rocket fuel, was launched in December 2006 and began to malfunction shortly thereafter. Officials expressed concern that if the beryllium-lined fuel tank survived reentry, it could cause potential fatal injuries and contaminate an area the size of two football fields with debris scattered over several hundred miles.

Less than one week later, on Feb. 20, 2008, the Navy reported mission complete. A modified SM-3 missile launched from the *U.S.S. Lake Erie*, an Aegis cruiser sailing in the Northern Pacific, successfully intercepted the satellite at 10:36 p.m. EST. Equipped with new guidance

systems, the heat-seeking SM-3 was able to recognize the smaller signature represented by the failing satellite. With a 10-second window as the satellite passed overhead, the intercept occurred at the edge of the Earth's atmosphere at an altitude of 133 nautical miles, at speeds of 17,000 mph. The interceptor ruptured the fuel tank, eliminating the threat and minimizing debris as most of it burned up in reentry.



U.S. Navy Photo

Moments after this SM-3 interceptor launched from the *USS Lake Erie* on Feb. 20, 2008 it successfully intercepted a malfunctioning American satellite, as planned.

Marine Gen. James Cartwright, vice chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff commended the invaluable expertise of all personnel involved with this mission including U.S. Army Space and Missile Defense Command/U.S. Army Forces Strategic Command. SMDC/ARSTRAT personnel in Colo., Alaska and Kwajalein Atoll (Marshall Islands) supported the effort providing data from ground based radars and sensors.

The Army and this command's relationship with the program actually dates back much further to the 1980s and the Hypervelocity Launcher Product Office's lightweight exoatmospheric projectile or (LEAP). Begun as the Gremlin at Picatinny Arsenal in 1986, the program transferred to the command one year later and became the LEAP. An advanced technology integration demonstration program, the LEAP sought to develop, integrate and demonstrate the capabilities of a lightweight kill vehicle.

Originally designed to be a “high g capability projectile

launched in space from an electromagnetic rail gun”, the LEAP was designed to meet more stringent requirements. The LEAP kill vehicle weighed approximately six kilograms (12 pounds). This compact package incorporated an advanced long-wavelength infrared imaging sensor, a compact electronics unit and inertial sensor assembly, a miniaturized high-performance divert propulsion system, thermal batteries, and a command data link. Thus equipped, the LEAP was designed to acquire, track and intercept a variety of targets.

Although the LEAP program experienced some funding difficulties, they repeatedly demonstrated the LEAP capabilities in a series of laboratory tests, hardware-in-the-loop simulations, free-flight hover tests and a space flight test. Gisele Wilson, former LEAP Program Manager explained, “The Army team worked the design and development of the individual components, system integration, and testing to

See **LEAP** on page 13

Safety

Motorcycle Safety – It's time to ride again

Your skills are good as you may think. You rode your bike every week last year during good weather. Two years ago you took the Basic Rider Course and last year you took the Experienced Rider Course. Turning around in the street, two-up, is a breeze. And you do your SIPDE so well, watching 12–15 seconds ahead, that you can't remember the last time you had to do an emergency braking or swerving maneuver.

But perhaps the problem is that you are so good at avoiding using emergency maneuvers that you're out of practice. If you ride properly, you don't get to practice some of your skills on the street. That doesn't mean you should let them deteriorate until the next time you take a rider course. It's time to refresh your skills before jumping back into the general populated traffic areas.

That's why they make parking lots. And you thought those painted yellow lines were just there to corral the cars. Their real purpose is to provide a marked area to practice so you can keep all your skills sharp — not just the ones you use every day. The same skills which degrade in a few months can be returned in a few minutes of practice.

Quick stops are easy to practice on a good parking lot with a good surface. Bring your speed up to 15–20 mph, look at a distant object straight ahead, and squeeze the front brake while you press on the rear brake. You squeeze quickly, progressively and hard. Do not grab the front brake. If you keep the speed the same for several tries while you start braking at the same yellow line, you can measure your progress.

Now comes the fun part—swerving around an object. Recently, one study found that an expert rider could swerve as sharply on his Gold Wing as he could on a much smaller bike. You won't believe just how quickly you can swerve. Try swerving around an eight-foot wide obstruction at 15 mph. Remember, do not brake or downshift while swerving.

Once you bring these two skills up to par, it's time to put them together. Quick stops on a curve require you to (1) straighten up before you (2) brake hard to stop. Let's look at that order again. First press on the handlebar near the outside of the curve. (If you're turning right, press left.) Press until the bike is completely vertical. Be sure to straighten the handlebars as the bike straightens up. Once you are straight, all your traction is available for stopping. Look at a distant object straight ahead, and quickly and progressively squeeze the front brake while you press on the rear brake.

You have just put two skills (swerving and stopping) together (but not too closely) to practice quick stops on a curve. Now you're ready to go out and face the world again, much better prepared than when you rode into that parking lot. You've tuned yourself up for another few months.

PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT (PPE)

Properly fitted and functional PPE makes riding more comfortable and much safer. High visibility PPE is required by the military and preferred in all cases. Information on proper fit and function of PPE can be found at the web sites listed below: www.msfsa.org or www.nhtsa.dot.gov.

Today we are discovering some newer composite materials, such as Kevlar. These new items replace such materials as corduroy, denim or leather. Many provide flow-through ventilation and are more comfortable during warmer weather. Information on the performance characteristics of motorcycle clothing can be found at www.roadsafety.mccofnsw.org.au.

Helmet

There are two organizations setting safety standards for motorcycle helmets in the United States, the Department of Transportation (DOT) and the Snell Memorial Foundation. DOT sets minimum standards that all helmets sold for motorcycling on public streets must meet.

Snell Memorial Foundation has independently tested manufacturer's helmets since 1957. Its first safety standards for protective headgear were issued for auto racing in 1959. Subsequently, other specific helmet standards for motorcycling, equestrian sports, bicycling, rollerblading and skateboarding, snowboarding and skiing, and karting have been issued. These standards address performance, not specific materials or design. Periodically, utilizing specially designed test equipment, the Foundation upgrades its specifications on performance characteristics of helmets to keep pace with advances in materials, helmet technology and design. Information on the Snell Standard can be found at smf.org/stds.html.

Helmets are required by DODI 6055.4, para E3.2.7.1.1. and AR 385-55 Appendix B-3, d. must meet DOD standards at a minimum. Helmets are the single most important item of PPE.

Eye Protection

Eye protection is required by DODI 6055.4 para E3.2.7.1.2. and Army Regulation 385-55, Appendix B-3.e.

The following clothing items are required for safe motorcycle operation — all items must meet the regulations listed below:

Jacket

A high-visibility upper garment is required by day and a retro-reflective garment is required at night IAW DODI 6055.4 para E3.2.7.1.5. and Army Regulation 385-55, Appendix B-3.e.

Pants

Pants are required to cover the entire leg IAW DODI 6055.4 para E3.2.7.1.4. and Army Regulation 385-55, Appendix B-3.e.

Most motorcyclists prefer pants that are similar to their jackets and some are available that zip together. Pants should provide the same protection against abrasion as jackets.

Gloves

Closed-finger gloves are required by DODI 6055.4 para E3.2.7.1.4. and Army Regulation 385-55, Appendix B-3.e. The intent is to protect the riders fingers from strikes from flying objects. The Glove should be made for motorcycle use. Gloves that are not for motorcycle use provide less grip and protection.

Boots

Over-the-ankle footwear is required IAW DODI 6055.4 para E3.2.7.1.3. and Army Regulation 385-55, Appendix B-3.e. Footwear should be made of sturdy leather and have a good oil-resistant sole to reduce slipping hazards. Army boots meet the requirement.

Rain Suit

Rain suits are not required by the military, but riding is much more comfortable and likely safer if you are dry.

Legal Responsibility

Keep in mind you represent the Army at all times on and off duty. Driving is a privilege, so you must prove competence to be licensed. If you are reckless or ignore the rules you can lose your privilege. Laws are not intended to harass you; they are intended to improve safety by keeping incompetent people off the road.

Most states require riders to either have an endorsement to their automobile license or a separate motorcycle license. In most states the Department of Motor Vehicles will have a Web site listing the requirements for a rider to get a license. Soldiers must comply with state and local requirements as well as those of the Army.

Army motor vehicle registration policies apply to motorcycles IAW DODI 6055.4 and Appendix B AR 385-55, as do state and local regulations.

State registration should not be a problem if you follow all local laws and pay the license plate and registration fees.



Google Image

Are these motorcycle riders in proper gear?

Civilian News

OPM unveils new RetireEZ system

The Office of Personnel Management (OPM) on Feb. 25 launched its new electronic retirement administration system—RetireEZ—which it said will more quickly calculate benefits for retirement processing. The first rollout of the new system will cover approximately 26,000 employees in agencies served by the General Services Administration's (GSA) payroll processing center. These agencies include GSA, OPM, the National Archives and Records Administration, and the Railroad Retirement Board. Subsequent rollouts will cover the remainder of employees in the executive branch, the U.S. Postal Service and the legislative and judicial branches, with the fifth and final rollout scheduled for February 2009, OPM said in a statement. "With the efficient electronic transfer of retirement-related documents to OPM," said OPM Director Linda Springer, "employees will receive their full annuity from the start, instead of first being subjected to reduced interim payments due to missing paperwork." To see more, go to: opm.gov/news/opm-unveils-new-retirement-administration-system-for-26000-federal-employees-in-first-wave-of-rollout,1358.aspx.

New Army civilian training reporting requirements

New Office of Personnel Management (OPM) regulations require all Federal agencies to report workforce training accomplishments into the OPM Enterprise Human Resource Integration (EHRI) data warehouse. The OPM EHRI report is being submitted monthly for Army civilians. The Civilian Information Services Division (CISD) of AG-1 (CP) creates the report by pulling required data fields from the Defense Civilian Personnel Data System (DCPDS) on completed training instances. There are 26 mandatory fields that are reported monthly for each training history instance for Army Civilians. The CISD, Functional Automation Branch, provides technical support for issues with DCPDS. The Civilian Human Resources Agency, Training Management Division, provides workforce training oversight of Army's monthly submissions by tracking the number of records and the types of training being reported. Army Training reports have been submitted for the entire calendar year 2007 with the most current report sent on Jan. 22, 2008. The January 2008 report included 57,837 instances of training. For calendar year 2007, Army reported a total of 544,560 instances of training to OPM. Usage of the Army Training Requirements and Resources System (ATRRS) as well as the Civilian Human Resources Training Application System (CHRTAS) are contributing significantly to Army's reporting efforts. All NSPS training as well as Civilian Education System training completions are being reported to the EHRI system via ATRRS, CHRTAS, and DCPDS. By the end of December 2007, the US Army Corps of Engineers modified their Corps of Engineers Financial Management System to output training completions and update DCPDS. All other existing Army Learning Management Systems were also required to have completed training update capability into DCPDS by December 2007.

Enabling reduced sign-on for CAC users

OPM will implement Reduced Sign-on (RSO) access to the DCPDS with a date to be decided (TBD). This change will immediately and directly affect each of the Army's 260,000+ Appropriated Fund, Nonappropriated Fund, and local national employees and their military supervisors. Starting on a date TBD, employees must log into My Biz and My Workplace with a CAC. In addition, employees will be **UNABLE** to log into My Biz/My Workplace from home **UNLESS** they have government issued computer equipment and access to a military network.

Federal employee's rights & Unions

Employees have the right to form, join or assist a union or to refrain from doing so. Employees shall be free to exercise this right without fear of penalty or reprisal and shall be protected in exercising this right. Employees have the right to: • Act as a union representative, and in that capacity, to present union views to agency management, the Congress or other authorities, and/or, • Negotiate over conditions of employment through their chosen representative. -- While typically an employee has limited control over whether he or she is in a bargaining unit, it is the employee's decision whether to be a union member, and if a union member, how actively engaged to become in the administration of the union. Additionally, management does not have a say in which bargaining unit employee serves as a union official as union officials are elected by the union members.

Military News

5 must-know GI Bill facts

First time users of the GI Bill can find the process confusing and often frustrating. If you are planning to use your GI Bill benefit, there are 5 facts you must know to help make the process easier.

1. You have 10 years to use your benefits.
2. The GI Bill is not federal financial aid.
3. You can stop and start using the MGIB as needed.
4. A "month" of benefits doesn't always mean a month.
5. The GI Bill pays according to the number of credits you take.

It is also important to know that the MGIB Payment rates increase every year. See the current GI Bill payment rate tables (see Web site: military.com then go to education, money for school, active duty, GI Bill, active duty GI Bill payment rates) to view the details and this year's payment rate.

As a Veteran you may have more than \$56,000 in Military Education Benefits. Start using them today. Take the first step by requesting free information from schools. (Source: military.com)

4 things you need to know to take advantage of the GI Bill "buy-up" program

You can increase your GI Bill benefit by making additional contributions through a program called "Buy-Up." Buy-Up makes it possible for you to increase your total GI Bill benefit by as much as \$5,400. However, there are four important facts you need to know to take advantage of this benefit.

Fact One - How it Works: If you are an eligible active-duty servicemember* the GI Bill Buy-Up program can help you get up to an extra \$150 a month added to your standard MGIB "pay rate." This could increase your total benefits by as much as \$5,400. The program lets you make additional contributions in \$20 increments up to \$600. Each \$20 contribution results in a \$180 total increase to your GI Bill benefit.

***New rules** now allow Reserve Education Assistance Program (REAP) eligible Guard and Reserve members to participate in this program.

Fact Two - The "Buy-Up" Payment Rates: The following table lists the amounts that your GI Bill monthly payments will be increased if you participate in the Buy-Up program.

Fact Three - How to Contribute to Buy-Up: To apply you must have joined the military for the first time after June 30, 1985, still be on active duty, and elect to contribute any amount from \$20 to \$600 before you separate. To participate you must contribute through your military branch using form DD 2366-1 to process your request.

Note: The Air Force refers to this program as a GI Bill kicker.

Fact Four - How to Use Your Buy-up Benefit: Currently the VA does not have a way to interface with the US Department of Defense to verify if you have made additional contributions. VA asks each servicemember who paid this contribution to submit photocopies of the following:

- DD Form 2366
- Your LES's - if deductions are payroll deducted
- DD Form 1131 - Cash Voucher if paid cash in full

Note: These documents provide proof to VA that the \$600 was paid and will help them process your claim to include this kicker.

There's a buy-up rate chart found at: military.com/money-for-school/gi-bill/gi-bill-buy-up-program.

Active-duty discounts help avoid out-of-pocket expenses

Have you checked out the cost of a college education lately? It's getting more expensive all the time - especially for a quality online education. As the cost continues to increase each year, the \$250 per semester credit-hour military tuition assistance program caps has remained the same. The result: many can see an increase in out-of-pocket expenses.

The value of an education will always out-weigh the cost, but most military servicemembers don't have the cash to cover the increased costs. Fortunately, many schools - both online and on campus - helping to reduce, if not eliminate, out-of-pocket expenses by offering active-duty discounts, scholarships, and grants. These tuition rate reductions range from 15 - 20 percent off the civilian tuition rates and have the goal of reducing the tuition to match the current military tuition rates.

Be sure to take the time to shop around and find the schools that are eager to serve those who serve by offering lower tuition rates and fees. You can start your search by accessing the School Finder at military.com which will help you find a school that offers the study program you want at a price that will help you avoid out-of-pocket expenses. (Source: military.com)

U.S. Ambassador gives views on Kwajalein transition, relations with Marshall Islands

By Marco Morales, U.S. Army Kwajalein Atoll Public Affairs Officer

The U.S. Ambassador to the Republic of the Marshall Islands, Clyde Bishop, stopped over on Kwajalein Atoll last week in conjunction with his official visit to Ebeye in support of the Kwajalein Memorial Day celebration on Saturday. Bishop has been working closely with the Col. Stevenson Reed, U.S. Army Kwajalein Atoll/Reagan Test Site commander on its Transformation Plan.

Q. Ambassador Bishop, how do you see our relationship [U.S. government] with the Republic of the Marshall Islands government?

A. As you probably know I've been the U.S. Ambassador to the RMI for a little over a year now. And I'd have to say that in characterizing our relationship with the RMI it has been extremely positive. I think there exists a mutual respect and a mutual interest in what is of benefit to both nations. This is not surprising since the relationship between the U.S. and the Marshall Islands goes back numbers of years. And what I've seen in the year that I've been here is just a re-amplification, a reinforcement, and a recommitment to those. Part of your question probably also deals with the fact that there's a change in the administration. Some have suggested, ironically, that my extended absence from the RMI was a reflection in terms of the outcome of the election. Nothing could be further from the truth. As I indicated previously, I had personal commitments in the U.S. which required me to stay for an extended period of time. But I think the election was a classic example of democracy in action. The people spoke and their representatives are now empowered to move forward. I anticipate nothing more than what we've experienced in the past – a very cooperative, mutually respectful and mutually beneficial relationship. And I look forward to working with the administration and the cabinet.

I've already had an initial meeting with the president which was very cordial and respectful and I look forward to us working together to deal with some of the issues that are common to both countries.

Q. How do you feel about the USAKA/RTS Transformation?



U.S. Ambassador to the Republic of the Marshall Island Clyde Bishop speaks at the Kwajalein Atoll Memorial Day Ceremony, on Ebeye, Republic of the Marshall Islands on Feb. 9.

A. I must commend Colonel Reed for his involvement with the embassy in the process. He took our concerns quite seriously and I see them reflected in the Transformation program. I think what you can characterize in terms of the plan which is still evolving and ultimately needs the blessings of the key leadership of the United States government. But what you see there is a conscious effort to mitigate the consequences of the inevitable reduction of a footprint here at Kwajalein. And that goes both in terms of Americans and in terms of Marshallese. The colonel [Reed] and his staff have done an extraordinary job in trying to address the unfortunate economic and financial necessities; at the same time, trying to preserve to degree possible the job opportunities for both Americans and the Marshallese. Colonel Reed and I are very much aware that the final [Transformation] plan will have an impact on the Marshallese community. And, in the past, we have kept the administration abreast as the plan began to develop in a more formal fashion. When it is in its final phase – which should be shortly, it is being addressed

by the leadership in Washington – we intend to share the plan with the present administration so they know that, not only are we concerned, but recognize our responsibility to communicate with them in terms of the consequences, and to some extent, some of the resolutions that the plan reflects.

Q. The Marshall Islands celebrated its Annual Kwajalein Atoll Memorial Day on Saturday; how do you feel about the ceremony conducted on Ebeye?

A. This was my second opportunity to participate in it. I think what is important is that we ought not forget what the ceremony represents. And as I mentioned in my remarks, what is I think most emblematic of the ceremony is the fact that when we reflect back, we're talking about a very unfortunately bloody period in the history of the United States. And in that particular case, in its conflict with Japan. Yet today, we see the Japanese government and the U.S. government working collectively and jointly to address some of the concerns in the Marshall Islands. So,

when I look at the memorial service one cannot dismiss the fact that there were many lives lost. But what I take away from it is the fact that there is evidence that peace and tranquility and cooperativeness between two nations can evolve and the Marshall Islands is an example of a platform in which we've been able to do that with a country that many years ago was our mortal enemy.

Bishop was confirmed as U.S. Ambassador to the Republic of the Marshall Islands Sept. 28, 2006, and assumed his duties Dec. 5, 2006. Bishop is a career diplomat and Minister Counselor in the Senior Foreign Service of the United States. Before his assignment to the RMI, he served as the Consul General at the U.S. Embassy Santo Domingo, in the Dominican Republic. He also served as Principal Officer in Naples, Italy. His previous Foreign Service postings include Hong Kong, Bombay, Rio de Janeiro, and Korea. He began his career as a Consular/Economic officer in Palermo, Italy. Ambassador Bishop served as Diplomat in Residence at City College New York. After his promotion into the Senior Foreign Service, he participated in the Foreign Service Institute Senior Seminar. Ambassador Bishop earned a bachelor of arts degree in sociology from Delaware State in 1964. He further earned a master of arts degree in sociology from Delaware University in 1972 and was awarded a doctorate degree from the University of Delaware in Public Policy Analysis in 1976. He is fluent in Italian, Spanish and Portuguese. He is a recipient of two Meritorious Honor Awards and a Superior Honor Award.



More than 1,000 attend 64th annual Kwajalein Atoll Memorial Day ceremony

By Marco Morales,
U.S. Army Kwajalein Atoll Public Affairs
Officer

"Indeed there is a dire need for the government to carry out its mandated role to improve the daily life and well-being of the citizens here on Ebeye as soon as possible. The people must come first," said H.E. Litokwa Tomeing, newly elected president of the Republic of the Marshall



Photos by Nell Drumheller

Republic of the Marshall Islands President H.E. Litokwa Tomeing speaks at the Kwajalein Atoll Memorial Day Ceremony, Feb. 9, on Ebeye, Republic of the Marshall Islands.

Islands, drawing a strong round of applause.

Addressing an audience of more than 1,000 people on sunny Ebeye, including several groups of school-age children, Tomeing was the keynote speaker for the 54th Annual Kwajalein Atoll Memorial Day commemoration ceremony Saturday.

Also attending were Iroj Kotak Loeak, who gave welcome remarks, the Honorable Clyde Bishop, U.S. ambassador to the RMI, Col. Stevenson Reed, commander, U.S. Army Kwajalein Atoll/Reagan Test Site, the Honorable Johnny D. Lemari, mayor of Ebeye, and other VIPs.

"I reaffirm my pledge that the government will do everything in its power to improve the welfare of all Marshallese," Tomeing said, adding, "I ask the leadership and people of Kwajalein and the people of these communities to persevere and allow some time for the government to explore and undertake needed measures to solve these crucial issues."

In support of the opening ceremony and official raising of the RMI and the U.S. flags, members of the Kwajalein Junior and Senior High School marching band provided appropriate musical selections.

Bishop followed Tomeing after he presented his remarks. Bishop spoke of the significance of the occasion reminding those in attendance of the costly price - more than 8,000 Japanese, Marshallese, and Americans lost their lives - in the fight over the Marshall Islands during World War II.

"By remembering the men who lost their lives here, and the greater conflict they took part in, we can see the cost when people and nations lose sight of their common humanity and let artificial distinctions make enemies of one another," Bishop said. "And here in the Marshall Islands, I see hope that more tragic conflicts like the second World War can forever be avoided.

"Here we find two nations who fought one another in that bloody war - the United States and Japan - working together to help the people of a former battleground. Close

cooperation like this between nations who were bitter enemies 65 years ago proves that differences can be resolved and people working together can improve the lives of others," Bishop said. "As a diplomat, I have dedicated myself to this prospect. I believe the conflicts can be resolved or better yet, averted, if we just take the time to find our common ground and work together.

"As such, I am glad to be here in the Marshall Islands today," Bishop said. "Where those who once were enemies can work as friends and where people seek to help each other. Furthermore, as an ambassador, I am pleased to be able to help my government as we fulfill our obligations to help the Marshall Islands as we have promised in the Compact.

"The United States is fully committed to the Compact and the goal it envisions of a strong and prosperous Marshall Islands," Bishop said. "This commitment is spelled out in the provisions and obligations of the Compact and we shall not swerve from our responsibilities and obligations.

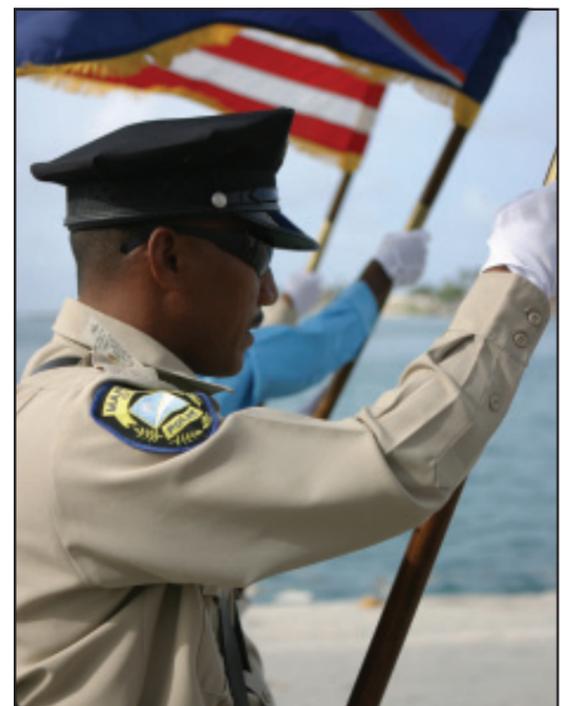
"So, as you go from this place today, I urge you all to remember the cost of losing sight of our common mix. I urge you to remember what can be accomplished by cooperation and in willingness to help each other. Remember our obligations to one another and hold fast to them."



Mike Hillman, a senior at Kwajalein High School, U.S. Army Kwajalein Atoll, Republic of the Marshall Islands, performs in the parade with the Kwajalein Junior/Senior High School Band at the Kwajalein Atoll Memorial Day Ceremony, on Ebeye, Republic of the Marshall Islands, on Feb. 9.



A Marshallese honor guard leads the parade, Feb. 9, followed by the Kwajalein Junior/Senior High School Band at the Kwajalein Atoll Memorial Day Ceremony, on Ebeye, Republic of the Marshall Islands.



A Marshallese honor guard carries the U.S., Republic of the Marshall Islands and Kwajalein Atoll flags Feb. 9 at the Kwajalein Atoll Memorial Day Ceremony, on Ebeye, Republic of the Marshall Islands.

Celebration of women in history in America

By SMDC Equal Employment Opportunity Office

The idea of having a time set aside to honor the contributions of women began in Europe in 1911.

At the time, Europeans celebrated March 8 as International Women's Day to recognize the plight of women who were trying to gain equal rights. Women's rights were a major issue throughout the region and many women fought to gain the same rights as men.

Women's suffrage was a priority for many activist groups and individuals who felt that they should be allowed to vote and receive the same privileges that their male counterparts received.

To accomplish this goal, those who were in favor of the women's suffrage movement focused their efforts on showing people the contributions that women have made to society over the years.

As recently as the 1970's, women's history was virtually an unknown topic in the K-12 curriculum or in general public consciousness.

To address this situation, the Education Task Force of the Sonoma County (California) Commission on the Status of

Women initiated a "Women's History Week" celebration for 1978. They chose the week of March 8 to make International Women's Day the focal point of the observance. The activities that were held met with enthusiastic response, and within a few years dozens of schools planned special programs for Women's History Week, over one hundred community women participated in the Community Resource Women Project, an annual "Real Woman" Essay Contest drew hundreds of entries.

In 1987, the National Women's History Project petitioned Congress to expand the national celebration to the entire month of March. Since then, the National Women's History Month Resolution has been approved with bipartisan support in both the House and Senate.

Each year, programs and activities in schools, workplaces, and communities have become more extensive as information and program ideas



Photo by Diane Schumacher

This static display for Women's History Month was set up for all to see in the lobby of Von Braun Complex I, Redstone Arsenal by Woody Patrick and Mary Peoples of the Equal Employment Office and Staff Sgt. Marcus Church, Headquarters and Headquarters Company, all from SMDC/ARSTRAT.

have been developed and shared. The popularity of women's history celebrations has sparked a new interest in uncovering women's forgotten heritage.

A President's Commission on the Celebration of Women in History in America recently sponsored hearings in many sections of the country. The commission took reports about effective activities and institutions that are promoting women's history awareness and heard recommendations for programs still needed.

The Women's Progress Commission will soon begin

hearings to ascertain appropriate methods for identifying and then preserving sites of importance to American women's history.

In many areas, state historical societies, women's organizations, and groups such as the Girl Scouts of the USA have worked together to develop joint programs.

Under the guidance of the National Women's History Project, educators, workplace program planners, parents and community organizations in thousands of American communities have

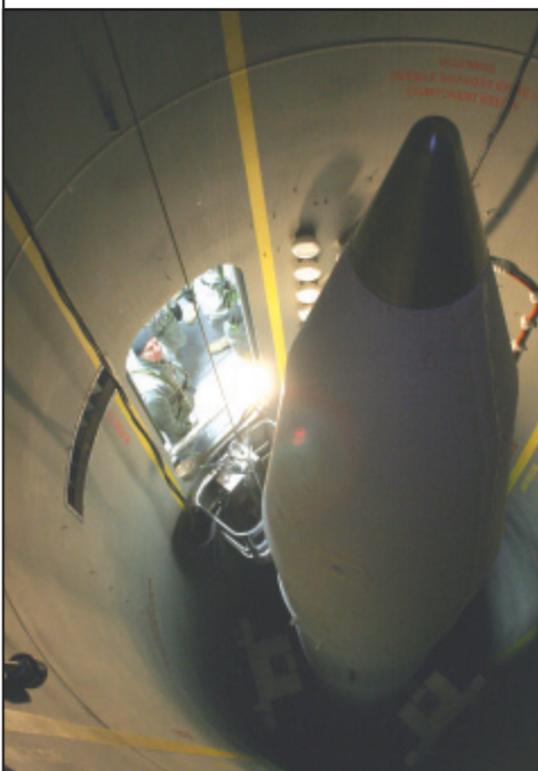
turned National Women's History Month into a major focal celebration, and a springboard for celebrating women's history all year 'round.

SMDC/ARSTRAT Headquarters will have a Women's History Jeopardy game on March 24 in the command conference room, 5014, at 1:30 p.m.

Four teams entered, all vying for the trophy currently held by the Legal Office. Competing teams will represent the Legal Office, Public Affairs Office, Future Warfare Center and the G-8.

Happenings at Fort Greely — Stories in pictures

Photo stories by
Sgt. Jack W. Carlson, III
Unit Reporter, 49th Missile Defense Battalion



Above- Maj. Gen. Roger Nadeau, Commander, Army Test and Evaluation Command, peers up through the blast door at a Ground based Interceptor during his recent visit to the Missile Defense Complex. As the commander of ATEC, Nadeau is responsible for the Cold Regions Test Center located on Fort Greely, Alaska, as well as the other testing grounds for military technologies.



Above- During a prayer luncheon held at the Fort Greely Chapel, Lt. Col. (CH) Bret Oxman, Chaplain, U.S. Strategic Command, spoke to members of Team Greely and met with members of the 49th Missile Defense Battalion. Charged with defending the nation from an intercontinental ballistic missile attack, the 49th falls under Strategic Command through SMDC/ARSTRAT for command and control.



Above- Adam Crape, 11, a Fort Greely Middle School student, helps Charles Bailey cut a birthday cake for Martin Luther King Jr. celebration Jan. 17 at the installation theater.



Left- Fort Greely Garrison Commander Lt. Col. Gregory McClinton makes opening remarks during the Martin Luther King Jr. celebration at the Installation Theater on Jan. 17.

SMDC/ARSTRAT HQ runs its annual Black History Program

By Diane Schumacher
SMDC/ARSTRAT Public Affairs

The Black History program for Headquarters, U.S. Army Space and Missile Defense Command/U.S. Army Forces Strategic Command opened Feb. 26 with an in-depth film about an African American woman living in the early 1900's who believed in educating the people of her race; but that's wasn't the entire program, as local businessman, Samuel Batts stopped by to speak to the group of enthusiastic listeners as well.

The movie was informative, interesting and biographical on Mary McLeod Bethune. A black woman who rented a two-story framed building to run a school for black girls. Her first six students were five little girls and her own son. Her school opened in October 1904, with those six students, there was no equipment; crates were used for desks and charcoal took the place of pencils; and ink came from crushed elderberries. So that was the beginning of Bethune's Daytona Literary and Industrial School for Training Negro Girls, at a time when most African American children received little or no education.

In the beginning she was teacher, administrator, comptroller, and janitor. Later she earned enough money to hire a staff, many of whom worked loyally for many years. To finance and expand the school, Bethune and her pupils baked pies and made ice cream to sell to nearby construction gangs. In addition to her regular classes, Bethune organized classes for the children of turpentine workers. In these ways she satisfied her desire to serve as a missionary, something she had desired to do since her teenage years.

As the school at Daytona grew, it became necessary to secure an adequate financial base. Bethune began to seek financial aid in earnest. In 1912 she met James M. Gamble (of the Proctor and Gamble Company of Cincinnati, Ohio) who contributed financially to the school and served as chairman of its board of trustees until his death.

In 1923 she allowed her school to merge with an all-boys school and it was renamed the Bethune-Cookman College.

Bethune became good friends with wealthy white people of influence such as

President and Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt, Vice President Wallace, John D. Rockefeller and Gamble, of course, who in turn became her close friends and allies helping her bridge the gap of inequalities, at least for a little while. This allowed black children, men and women to gain education, and yes, even college educations they may otherwise never have received if not for Bethune's determinedness.

Bethune gained national recognition in 1936, when President Franklin D. Roosevelt appointed her director of African American affairs in the National Youth Administration and as a special adviser on minority affairs. She served for eight years and supervised the expansion of employment opportunities and recreational facilities for African American youth throughout the United States. She also served as special assistant to the secretary of war during World War II and in the course of her government assignments became a close friend of Eleanor Roosevelt.

Women, such as the likes of Mrs. Roosevelt and British gentry visited in Bethune's home in Daytona, Florida. Such activities weren't heard of in the early 1900's, but these out-of-the-ordinary events were methods women of both races were willing to take upon themselves to show all walks of life that equality was possible and necessary for the betterment of the citizens of the nation, according to the film narrators. Bethune was doing what she could when she could to make equality happen.

The educational film was cut short so the meeting could begin and turned over to the guest speaker who had arrived.

Mary Peoples, black employment program manager, Equal Employment Office, SMDC/ARSTRAT, explained that she always likes to start off meetings with films of educational value even if they have to be shut off early. Then she introduced SMDC/ARSTRAT Chief of Staff, Col. John C. Hamilton, who explained the purpose of the morning's program and who in turn introduced Melvin Kelley, EEO.

Kelley took a few minutes to introduce the guest speaker, who, he stated, he had known for many years and could tell private stories about but would not, other than to say that the guest speaker's

daughter (M.D. Batts) is a member of SMDC/ARSTRAT staff and that he, Mr. Hundley Batts Sr., had made a simple statement as a child that he would grow up to be a business man. Kelley was strong in his emphasis regarding Batts' declaration: Not that Batts thought he MIGHT like to be a business man, but that he WOULD be a business man.

Batts, owner and general manager of his own insurance agency took his place at the podium and spoke with a soft humble voice repeating many famous words and mentioning famous works of now deceased famous African American men and women, such as Carter G. Woodson, Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., Harriet Tubman and others. He talked of "how those people influenced all of America and how those great people dared to overthrow the shackles," he said.

"They made contributions to schools, they preached sermons, and we examine their footfalls. We're here because of their sacrifices. We owe a debt and we're indebted to them."

Batts spoke of the wisdom he saw in the words of his own father.

"My daddy said, 'you'll be successful when you work only half a day and it doesn't matter which half you work; whether's it the first 12 hours or the second 12,'" said Batts.

He remembers his father's sayings, because he said, "we must know our history and stay in touch with it."

"What footsteps are we leaving?" he asked the audience. "Are you building a legacy for others to brag about?" he asked attendees.

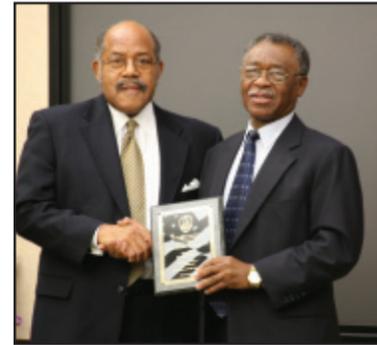


Photo by Diane Schumacher

Hundley Batts Sr. receives a plaque from Melvin Kelley, SMDC/ARSTRAT EEO, as token of appreciation for speaking at the Feb. 26, 2008, SMDC/ARSTRAT Black History Program.



SMDC/ARSTRAT wins again!

Pictured above is a second static display for Black History month which captured second place for SMDC/ARSTRAT. [The first display entered in January by Sgt. Andre Powell received third place.] This display, entered on behalf of the command, was assembled by members of the Equal Opportunity Office and by command group staff members. Winning team members hold the second place trophy, Feb. 26, 2008, in photo on the right. L to R: Mary Peoples, black employment program manager, Sgt. Andre Powell, Command Group, Staff Sgt. Marcus R. Church, Command Group, 1st Sgt. Petey Smith, HHC First Sergeant. Team member not pictured, Woody Patrick, EEO Intern.



Photos by Diane Schumacher

SMDC/ARSTRAT Redstone Arsenal employee selected as Volunteer of the Year for Huntsville

By Diane Schumacher
SMDC/ARSTRAT Public Affairs

In January David Steinhauser, assistant director of Modeling and Simulation, Hardware-in-the-Loop, Technical Interoperability and Matrix Center (TIMC), U.S. Army Space and Missile Defense Command/U.S. Army Forces Strategic Command, received a prestigious award from the Mayor of Huntsville, Loretta Spencer.

Steinhauser was recognized as the Volunteer of the Year for Huntsville because of his dedicated and continuous efforts during 2007 for ensuring homes that had been worked on for repairs were completely repaired.

Several houses of the low-income and elderly had work done on them for major repairs. But since the work was done by volunteers who have paying jobs and had to get back to them once the weekend was over or scheduled days-off ended, the repair work on some of the houses remained incomplete, Steinhauser said. So, he took many weekends amounting to six to seven weeks throughout the year, spearheading residual work to be completed. He even took leave from work to finish up the work on the houses needing the final touches, he said, while volunteers who work at NASA (National Aeronautical and Space Administration) were given administrative leave to go do volunteer project work.

Steinhauser enjoys this type of housework.
"I can drive by the houses where we've



Photo by Diane Schumacher
David Steinhauser poses with the 2007 Volunteer of the Year trophy he received.

worked on projects and see the results of the efforts of the volunteers," he said. "I want to learn about carpentry, plumbing, electrical and other aspects of constructions," he also wrote in an e-mail. "I've already learned a lot. I found out that if you have those skills or want to work those types of projects, there is great demand. Otherwise you paint. I hate to paint. So I made sure that I could contribute some other way other than painting."

Steinhauser volunteers with people from a variety of backgrounds, several of whom

are NASA engineers, and he enjoys the work they do. "We worked on building a wheelchair ramp awhile back. You should see NASA engineers trying to design a wheelchair ramp, it was really fun to watch," he said, laughing. "It was funny and the ramp turned out great."

In early February, Steinhauser went to Pearlington, Miss., for the weekend to do rough electrical work and put up vinyl siding on some homes of Hurricane Katrina victims, he said. People there are still living in trailers and he wanted to let them know that other people still care about them, he added.

Steinhauser got into volunteerism as a result of the Golden Rule one could say.

"Thirteen years ago our house got hit by a tornado, it was two days after I had knee surgery," he said. "Friends came over to help us; I felt to help others as I had been helped. I like to help people, it gives me a good feeling; a thank you is all I need. When you look at a house you've worked on at the end of a day or a week you can see that you've made a difference."

In an e-mail Steinhauser wrote, "At the end of the day, when you have a wheelchair ramp built and see the smiling face of someone that has been freed from the confines of their house, it is much easier to see the results of your efforts. I will continue to help people for as long as I can and then hope that someone will do the same for me if I become unable to do things for myself."

Such are the rewards of "paying it forward."

SMDC/ARSTRAT's Future Warfare Center and Missile Defense Agency reach agreement on GMD Operator Course Transition

Larry Burger, director of U.S. Army Space and Missile Defense Command/U.S. Army Forces Strategic Command's Future Warfare Center and Brig. Gen. Gary Conner, program director of the Ground-based Mid-course Defense Program Office of the Missile Defense Agency, signed an agreement Feb. 22 for the transition GMD Operators Course to the Army. The course is one of five courses taught at the MDA's GTEC (GMD Training and Exercise Center) in Colorado Springs. Army operators from the 100th Missile Defense Brigade and the 49th Missile Defense Battalion have been attending the nine-week course since 2003 to qualify as GMD operators. The FWC's DCD (Directorate of Combat Development) was scheduled to provide a COR (Contracting Officer's Representative) to the GTEC starting March 1. The COR will be responsible for the GMD Operator Course. Army GMD Operators receive a unique ASI (Additional Specialty Identifier) following completion of the Operator Course. FWC hopes that this first limited transition step will lead to a complete transition of the GTEC if future POM funding allows.



Photo by Diane Schumacher
Brig. Gen. Gary Conner, program director, GMD Program Office Missile Defense Agency, and Larry Burger, director, FWC, SMDC/ARSTRAT, sign a memorandum of agreement to transition the GMD Operators Course over to the Army. Mike Ragoza, Director of Logistics and Operations Support (GMD) Program, Missile Defense Agency, looks on.

Safety

continued from page 1

three in the morning. The senior NCO took the wheel as his passengers passed out in the vehicle. Reaching the speed of 80 miles per hour the driver came around the corner and crashed into a concrete pole. The crash killed both passengers but not the driver. None of them were wearing seat belts.

"Somebody was not thinking about the

second and third effects," said Seward.

As the conference continued, Col. Timothy Coffin, 1st Space Brigade commander, addressed current safety practices to combat driving in inclement weather and safe motorcycle operations. Coffin illustrated plans for mentorship programs and using civilian programs such as, master drive, to provide necessary safety skills to each Soldier within

the brigade.

One thing the Space Brigade has done in efforts to be safe with driving in bad conditions is to delay start times based on regions across the county. The concept behind this is to empower junior leaders to make smart safety decisions and to teach Soldiers to evaluate the conditions and make smart decisions and communicate with their leaders," said Coffin.

Command Sgt. Maj.

Kevin B. McGovern, 1st Space Brigade command sergeant major, elaborated on the importance of mentorship for young Soldiers.

"A mentorship program makes things in my bio — personal things, my spiritual content, and my activities on and off duty — important to those I'm mentoring," said McGovern. "It personalizes relationships in order to try to bridge the ineffectiveness of our communica-

tion with the younger generation."

Those in the 100th Missile Defense Brigade (GMD) face many of the same safety issues as Soldiers in the 1st Space Brigade, according to Col. Michael Yowell, 100th Missile Defense Brigade (GMD) commander. But some, especially those Soldiers in the 49th Missile

See **More Safety** on page 15

Army's Female Athlete of the Year belongs to 53rd Signal Battalion

By Giselle Bodin SMDC/ARSTRAT
Public Affairs

The Army has been awarding Male Athlete of the Year, Female Athlete of the Year, and Coach of the Year awards to outstanding Soldiers for many years now. While these accomplished athletes are always an integral part of celebrating Army accomplishments, this year U.S. Army Space and Missile Defense Command/U.S. Army Forces Strategic Command is prouder than ever to have one of the command's own Space Soldiers as the 2007 Army Female Athlete of the Year.

Staff Sgt. Evevetta Crawford was chosen as the Army's 2007 Female Athlete of the Year. She is joined by endurance runner Sgt. Maj. Ruben "Ben" Cavazos with the 8th Human Resources Sustainment Center, named 2007 Army Male Athlete of the Year, and All-Army soccer coach Sgt. 1st Class Agustin Mendez, named the 2007 Army Coach of the Year.

Crawford, assigned to Echo Company, 53rd Signal Battalion, Fort Buckner, Okinawa, Japan, is a six-foot, 35-year-old All Army and Armed Forces All Star Team basketball player. Her selection as an All Army athlete for eight consecutive years, her participation as a member of the All-Tourney Team in the armed forces competition for seven consecutive years and her selection as the All Army team captain on the Gold Medal Team shows her talent as an athlete and leader. As a forward, she was the leading scorer at the 2007 Armed Forces Championship, outperforming her next closest competitor by more than five points.

Her athletic prowess, an Army official said, has been instrumental in ensuring that the Army has been a champion in Armed Forces basketball competition for 26 of the 30 years the competition has been in existence.

In March 2007, Crawford helped the Army defend its title during the Women's Armed Forces Championship at Fort Indiantown Gap, Pa. Crawford, "the Army's top gun" as one sport's writer called her, scored an average 20.2 points over six games in which the Army went undefeated against the Air Force, Navy and Marines.

Crawford joined the SMDC/ARSTRAT family in February of 2005 as a human resource specialist and has served in the Army for nearly 11 years. Throughout her championship endeavors, she was supported by Echo Company tremendously as they kept up with her progress and accomplishments through news bulletins, e-mails, and phone calls.

Crawford started playing on the All-Army Women's Basketball Team in 2000 and has helped garner eight medals — four consecutive gold medals, two silver medals

and two more gold in 2006 and 2007.

Looking back on her performance during the 2007 championship, Crawford commented, "I feel I was at the top of my form. I know what it takes to win a gold medal and the championship, so that is what I strive for before basketball season starts."

Crawford's love for basketball began in the fourth grade with Junior Pros at Booker T. Washington Elementary. In 1990, she graduated from Christian County High School in Hopkinsville, Ky. Crawford then went on to Shelby State Community College (now called Southwestern Community College in Memphis, Tenn.). There she was named to the first team All-American and was the second leading scorer in the nation and fourth in rebounding among junior colleges from 1991 to 1993. She helped Shelby State win a conference title in 1993. Crawford then went to Arkansas State University in Jonesboro, Ark., to finish her last two years of college, playing on a full basketball scholarship in the Sun Belt Conference.

The Army has always been a part of Crawford's life as well, from the time she was born at Fort Campbell Army Hospital in Kentucky. Her father did two tours in Vietnam while serving in the Army and received the Bronze Star Medal. "I decided to join the Army after I had played professional basketball overseas. I had always wondered what it was like to be in the Army and to serve our country. I thought it would be a good career move for me," Crawford said.

Not only is Crawford a valuable member on the court, she is also a very important member of Echo Company, according to Capt. Jason Shin, the acting commander during the time of the 2007 championships. "She takes her job very seriously and is an incredible asset. In turn, her transition from basketball player to Soldier and back is flawless and her dedication to her work shows that she is truly a consummate professional."

For these reasons and more, Crawford was a natural selection as the 2007 Army Female Athlete of the Year. The Army athletes of the year were selected in late January at the U.S. Army Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation Command, Alexandria, Va. In addition to their athletic endeavors, the Soldier-athletes' military accomplishments and community service were also considered by a panel of judges.

Awards recognizing the accomplishments of the three Soldier-athletes were presented at the Association of the United States Army's Winter Symposium and Exposition in Fort Lauderdale, Fla.

Under Secretary of the Army Nelson Ford joined Gen. Gordon R. Sullivan, USA, Ret.,

president of the Association of the United States Army, to make the presentations at the symposium's dinner Thursday, Feb. 28, at the Broward County Convention Center.

"These three outstanding Soldier-athletes," Sullivan said, "represent the best of America's Army as they compete in athletic competitions for America and our Army. We are proud to honor these outstanding noncommissioned officers at our symposium."

SMDC/ARSTRAT is proud to honor Staff Sgt. Evevetta Crawford as the 2007 Army Female Athlete of the Year.

Story contributors: AUSA News, Don Montoya, 100th Missile Defense Brigade Public Affairs.



Photo by Pfc. Matthew E. Jones

Sgt. Evevetta Crawford, a member of Echo Company, 53rd Signal Battalion, in Fort Buckner, Okinawa, Japan, averages 20.2 points and 6.8 rebounds in six games to lead the All-Army Basketball team to its 26th crown in 30 years of the Armed Forces Women's Basketball Championships, March 12-17, 2007, in Fort Indiantown Gap, Pa.

ASMDA awards SMDC/ARSTRAT employee during luncheon

SMDC/ARSTRAT
Public Affairs

REDSTONE ARSENAL, Ala. — The Air, Space, and Missile Defense Association held their annual luncheon Jan. 31 in Huntsville, Ala.

During the luncheon ASMDA presented awards to 16 local government civilians and contractors.

John Wachs, chief of the Directed Energy Division in the Technology Directorate

won the government technical achievement award.

"Mr. Wachs's personal drive and ambition are the reflection of his fierce patriotic desire to ensure advanced Directed Energy

technologies are rapidly integrated on future combat systems tactical vehicles and into the hands of the American Warfighter," said the ASMDA board upon selecting him to receive the award.



John Wachs

What We Think

The Eagle asks:

This is Women’s History Month, so tell us about a woman you admire and why. She may or may not be well known.



Col. Michael Yowell
Commander
100th Missile Defense Brigade
(Ground-based Mid-Course
Defense)
Colorado Springs, Colo.

I admire both of my grandmothers who were born at the start of the 1900’s. My mother’s mother moved from Slovenia to Aspen, Colorado then she learned English and became a U.S. citizen. My father’s mother grew up in Kansas and her first flight in an aircraft was right after WWI in a “Barn-Stormer” bi-plane over the Kansas plains. I admire them a lot not only for what they did in their lives but for doing it in the hard times that they grew up in.



Master Sgt. Ronald Olson
Senior Supply Sergeant
100th Missile Defense Brigade
(Ground-based Mid-Course Defense)
Colorado Springs, Colo.

Maj. Victoria Mawaka, 100th MDB Logistics Officer, because she is the best boss I have ever had ... male or female. She displays an exceptional amount of common sense and wise leadership and that is something I appreciate.



CW3 Jeffrey Sprague
HHC, 1st Space Battalion
Colorado Springs, Colo.

Abby Wombat plays for the women’s national soccer team. She’s probably more admired for her presence on the field, number of goals scored, assists and the fact that she’s the team captain for the women’s national team. I think I admire her more from the aspect of my daughter and the positive influence that she has on my kids and the presence my daughter plays in soccer.



Sgt. Christopher Mavec
2nd Space Company
1st Space Battalion
Colorado Springs, Colo.

I admire my mother. For the most part she raised me and both my sisters on her own ... so for that I admire my mother very much.



Maj. Stephen “Murph” Murphy
SGS, Command Headquarters
Redstone Arsenal, Ala.

Susan Brownell Anthony (1820-1906). Susan B. Anthony was known as an American Feminist Leader, Suffragist and Freethinker. She, along with Elizabeth Stanton, became lifelong feminist collaborators starting in 1850. She fought tirelessly for equality for women and that every person, no matter what religion or non-religion they are, should have the same rights. Miss Anthony was arrested for illegally voting in the Nov. 5, 1872, Presidential election.

Women’s History Month: Former Army colonel astronaut also SMDC ARSTRAT member

SMDC/ARSTRAT Public Affairs

Dr. Nancy J. Currie is a retired Army colonel and former Army astronaut who once was a member of U.S. Army Space and Missile Defense Command/U.S. Army Forces Strategic Command. She retired from the Army in 2005.



NASA Photo
Col. Nancy J. Currie

Selected as an astronaut in 1990, Currie is a veteran of four space shuttle missions.

Currie was a mission specialist and flight engineer on STS-57, June 21 to July 1, 1993. The primary objective of the mission was the retrieval of the European Retrievalable Carrier satellite (EURECA). Currie operated the Shuttle’s robotic arm.

During STS-70, July 13-22, 1995, the five-member crew deployed the final NASA Tracking and Data Relay Satellite to complete the constellation of NASA’s orbiting communication satellite system and Currie

conducted biomedical and remote sensing experiments on the mission. STS-88 was the first International Space Station assembly mission during Dec. 4-15, 1998. Currie’s primary role was to operate the Shuttle’s 50-foot robotic arm to retrieve Zarya the first Russian-made module, and connect the first two station segments; she also operated the robot arm during space walks. Her last mission was STS-109, the fourth Hubble Space Telescope servicing mission in 2002.

For an interesting read on women’s history by SMDC/ARSTRAT’s Equal Employment Office, turn to page 7 in this publication.

Duty

continued from page 2

demonstrating this sense of “duty” through dedicated effort, organization, thoroughness, reliability, and practicality. A conscientious Soldier or Civilian will do what’s right—even when tired or against overwhelming odds.

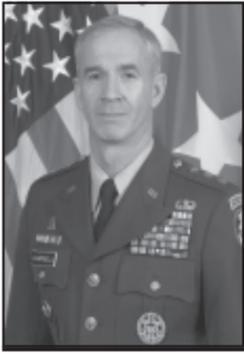
So, fulfilling your obligations means doing your very best at every task,

taking the initiative, and being conscientious.

Embracing the Army value of Duty is critical to mission success and is a fundamental building block in our never-ending quest to remain professional Soldiers and Civilians, carrying out our sworn duty to defend and protect the Constitution of the United States of America.

SECURE THE HIGH GROUND!

The Command Corner



Lt. Gen. Kevin T. Campbell
Commanding General



CSM Ralph C. Borja
Command Sergeant Major

The Army has been engaged in protecting our nation from ballistic missile attack for 50 years. While the Army continues to have a key role in defending the United States from missile attack, today's environment requires a Joint team approach.

Last month's engagement of a failing satellite, albeit a one-of-a-kind operation, was an excellent testament to the joint nature of integrated missile defense. The operation to engage the satellite was extremely complex and involved multiple levels of command, multiple geographic regions, modified software, and trained and ready missile crews. It was a Joint team effort that successfully tracked the satellite in order for the Navy to pull the trigger.

The fielding of Ground and Sea-based defenses and sensors that are located across geographic areas bring us into what is a truly Global Integrated Missile Defense System. This quantum leap in capability requires an integrated command and control capability based on an open architecture that can provide optimum flexibility at all levels of operations, from strategic down to the tactical level.

What does that mean to SMDC/ARSTRAT? Our immediate challenge is to develop a global ballistic missile defense concept of operations. We have to define the operational architecture and the command relationships required that will move us from the theater-centric approach in place today to a globally focused approach.

Major strides have been made in developing and fielding a Ballistic Missile Defense System to defend the United States, our deployed forces, friends, and allies against ballistic missiles of all ranges in all phases of flight. The BMDS currently includes an increasingly integrated system of interceptors, sensors, battle management, command and control, and communications. These systems improve the depth, range and reliability of our defenses and provide options to address uncertainty in the future.

SMDC/ARSTRAT's efforts for the near term will focus on improvements in command and control and integrated fire control systems. The capability to network sensors and then link them to shooters allows us to take full advantage of the capabilities of the kill vehicle as well as the aggregate capabilities on the battlefield across geographic boundaries. In plain English - we will have multiple "eyes on target" before the shooter pulls the trigger.

In coordination with the Air Defense Artillery School and the Program Executive Officer for Missiles and Space, we will advocate for the development of an integrated command and control system that can function with legacy and future systems, is mission effective, and is affordable to acquire, staff, maintain and upgrade.

We have also learned many valuable lessons as far as infrastructure. We have Soldiers located in remote sites around the globe that serve as our nation's first line of defense against any launch of a ballistic missile toward our shores. We may have an opportunity to shape the GMD site(s) that could be deployed overseas. We will work with the Combatant Commanders, Missile Defense Agency, Army Component Commands, and the Services to ensure the mission infrastructure meets the Army requirements for effectively operating and securing the missile defense complex. We will also ensure that the mission-support infrastructure meets the Army standard. Too often, the quality of facilities and services varies from location to location. Our goal is to ensure that at each location our organizations and people receive, as a minimum, the standard level of service.

I believe we have accurately anticipated the strategic and tactical missile environments and are posturing appropriately to

Last month I started a discussion on Army values and their importance to the men and women who chose to serve our great nation as members of the United States Army. **LDRSHIP**, the acronym we use to remind ourselves of our Army Values provides the platform for our continued discussion. The second letter "**D**" is there to remind us of the critical importance of always doing our duty. Army Field Manual 6-22 defines duty.

DUTY: Fulfill your obligations.

Fulfill your obligations... A simple enough definition, but what does it mean? Do I fulfill my obligations by showing up for duty each day and putting in eight hours? Are my obligations met when I do enough to keep the Boss / Sergeant / Captain / GS-13 off my back? I meet my suspenses and I work myself back into good enough shape to pass my fitness test twice each year, does that fulfill my obligations?

As noted in FM 6-22, "duty extends beyond everything required by law, regulation, and orders." I'm reminded of a commercial the NFL used to run showing players running the same drill over and over again. The message behind the drill was simple, "amateurs practice until they get it right, and professionals practice until they can't do it wrong." As Army professionals, we must always strive for more than meeting minimum standards for performance. Doing our duty as Army professionals, demands that we always try to do our very best. Army Soldiers and Civilians must be committed to excellence in all aspects of their duty—we must strive to be the very best in our profession.

The Army's approach to fighting is through the use of "centralized control and decentralized execution." Simply put, this means stating the objective or goal and allowing our Soldiers and Civilians determine the best way to meet it. This approach has been successfully used to wage and win wars since our country was founded. It works because the Army expects its members to use initiative.

A key part of fulfilling duty is to exercise initiative—anticipating what needs to be done without being told. Exercising initiative means meeting the purpose, not just the letter, of the tasks assigned or the orders received. No task is complete until the intended outcome is achieved. FM 6-22 gives an excellent example: "When a platoon sergeant tells a squad leader to inspect weapons, the squad leader only fulfills a minimum obligation when checking weapons. If the squad leader finds weapons that are not clean or serviced, a sense of duty alerts the leader to go beyond the platoon sergeant's instructions. To fulfill that duty, squad leaders must correct the problem and ensure that all the unit's weapons are up to standard. When leaders take initiative, they also take full responsibility for their actions and those of their subordinates."

Being conscientious is a human trait. A conscientious person has internalized a strong sense of duty. From the Army's perspective, being conscientious means having a high sense of responsibility for your personal contributions to the Army, and

See **Duty** on page 3

meet those challenges. I also believe that SMDC/ARSTRAT is up to the challenge to take missile defense to the next level to ensure that our nation is protected for the next 50 years.

SECURE THE HIGH GROUND!

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

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The Eagle

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

Volume 15, Number 3, March 2008

Space operations training – for all space professionals

By Lt. Col. William “Mike” Ford
Acquisition Corps
Research & Development Integrator,
Army Programs, SMDC/ARSTRAT

REDSTONE ARSENAL, Ala. — The U.S. Army Space and Missile Defense Command/U.S. Army Forces Strategic Command Technical Center, Space Division and SMDC/ARSTRAT’s Future Warfare Center (FWC) Director for Combat Developments (DCD) initiated, coordinated and conducted a major space professional development training event Feb. 25 to 29 here.

The overarching purpose of this professional development training was part of an effort by SMDC/ARSTRAT Research, Development and Acquisition and Technical Center to create true space “professionals” within the research and development community.

These professionals are the engineers, scientists, acquisition and contracting employees involved in the early research and development efforts in the pre-systems acquisition phase of the acquisition process. All of these individuals are experts in their areas.

However, the training conducted provides significantly more insight to the unique requirements of the space environment, requirements for launch, orbit and rendezvous of satellites, satellite command & control and several system space missions. It further helps our system designers and acquirers to better understand the operator’s requirements in support to the warfighter.

Space Operations Training

27 courses!

21.5 hours TIPS credit for all 3 days for Unclassified Training

TIPS: SPT01.1 7.5hrs

1. Space Organizations
2. Space Power
3. Space Policy
4. Doctrine & Strategy
5. Space Law
6. Orbits and Trajectories
7. Launch and Reentry

TIPS: SPT01.2 7 hrs

1. Orbital Rendezvous
2. Space Environment
3. Spacecraft Subsystems and Payloads
4. Space Acquisition
5. Global Positioning System
6. Blue Force Tracker

TIPS: SPT01.3 7 hrs

1. Space Surveillance Network
2. Space Mission Operations
3. Satellite Command and Control
4. Threats to Space Systems
5. Military Applications of Commercial Imagery
6. SATCOM
7. Space Based Weather METOC

TIPS: SPT01.4 8 hrs

SECRET

1. Missile Warning
2. Foreign Space ISR
3. Foreign Space C&C
4. Space Threats
5. National Systems
6. CENTCOM Space Operations
7. Military use of Commercial Imagery

TIPS: SPT01.5 4 hrs

NRO Course: National Systems

TS / SCI

Coordinated by the Tech Center

Funded by Tech Center, TIMC and FWC

Training by Future Warfare Center

This poster advertises space courses available to interested operators. The purpose of the professional development training is to create true space professionals. Everyone involved in early research and development efforts who attended the training may have gained some greater understanding in fields for which they had little or no understandings.

This initiative by SMDC/ARSTRAT Technical Center, Space Division started last year with three days of similar training. Its success formed the basis for this year’s expanded training, adding ten completely new courses and two additional days of intense training. The Technical Center

worked hand-in-hand with the FWC-DCD who provided trainers for both events with some support from the National Reconnaissance Office.

See *Training* on page 13

Safety is serious business

By Michael Kahl
Colorado Springs, Colo.

PETERSON AIR FORCE BASE, Colo. — “Safety is a serious business ... you’ve got to be committed to it,” said the senior leader who hosted a semi-annual Safety Conference with U.S. Army Space and Missile Defense Command/Army Forces Strategic Command’s brigade and battalion leaders on March 11.

The purpose of the one-day conference co-hosted by Brig.

Gen. John E. Seward, SMDC/ARSTRAT deputy commanding general for operations and CSM Ralph A. Borja, SMDC/ARSTRAT command sergeant major, was to discuss the internal safety programs of the brigades and battalions. The leaders also discussed new ideas and reviewed current procedures.

“People seem to have accidents because they didn’t read the instructions, something else influenced them — could be alcohol, could

be other things — but they did something wrong at the wrong time or they didn’t think before they acted,” Seward continued.

To further illustrate his point, Seward recounted time he spent in the Pacific. A sergeant first class and two staff sergeants were out drinking until



Photo by DJ Montoya

Brig. Gen. John E. Seward discusses safety issues with Col. Michael L. Yowell during a recent one-day Safety Conference in Colorado Springs, Colo. with brigade and battalion commanders in SMDC/ARSTRAT. Seward is the deputy commanding general for SMDC/ARSTRAT operations and Yowell is the commander of the 100th Missile Defense Brigade (GMD).

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