

NOVEMBER 29, 2012

A Space & Missile Defense NewsWire

# THE EAGLE

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## Prepared to serve



*U.S. Army photo*

*From left, Col. Edward "Ted" E. Hildreth, commander, 100th Missile Defense Brigade, (Ground-based Midcourse Defense); Command Sgt. Maj. John Drew, command sergeant major, 49th Missile Defense Battalion; and Lt. Col. Joseph L. Miley, commander 49th Missile Defense Bn., serve Thanksgiving dinner to Soldiers and family members at the Fort Greely, Alaska, dining facility's "Launch Room" Nov. 22 to show their appreciation for all they do.*



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U.S. Army Space and Missile Defense Command/Army Forces Strategic Command publishes the Eagle bi-weekly as a digital newswire. The newswire is an authorized publication of the USASMDC/ARSTRAT in accordance with AR 360-1. The SMDC commanding general has directed that the publication of this periodical is necessary in the transaction of the public business as required by law. The views and opinions expressed in the Eagle are not necessarily those of the Department of the Army or SMDC. The Eagle is intended to inform members of the command on happenings within the Army space and missile defense community. Distribution is made to the service members, civilians and contractors, and to the general public.

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## Colorado Springs, Huntsville offering space cadre course

The Army Space Cadre Basic Course is taught by the U.S. Army Space and Missile Defense Command/Army Forces Strategic Command Directorate of Training and Doctrine and is the preferred space foundational course for Army military and civilian personnel.

The course is presented in two, one-week phases; Phase 1 must be completed first, but the two phases do not have to be completed in consecutive weeks.

The ASCBC provides a fundamental understanding of space concepts and capabilities for the Army Space Cadre. The two-week ASCBC also fulfills the education requirements for the Basic Space Badge and Level 1 Civilian Space Professional certification.

Additionally, the USASMDC/ARSTRAT Training and Leader Development Guidance states: "The Army Space Cadre Basic Course Phases 1 and 2 are required for all personnel assigned to space cadre positions who have not previously attended a foundational level space course. Phase 1 is required for all new SMDC personnel within one year of being hired."

With this in mind, all eligible employees are encouraged to complete the ASCBC as soon as possible. The next classes are in Colorado Springs, Jan. 7-18 and in Huntsville, Dec. 3-14 and May 6-17.

If you would like to attend, call (719) 554-1905 or email [James.A.Schlichting.civ@mail.mil](mailto:James.A.Schlichting.civ@mail.mil).

## It's open season for health

The dates for the Federal Employee Health Benefits open season run through Dec. 10. If you have questions, contact a counselor at the Army Benefits Center at (877) 276-9287.

## Toys for Tots marches on

Toys-for-Tots is beginning its 2012 campaign. Boxes are located across from the first floor elevators in Bldg. 5220 on Redstone Arsenal, Ala. There is also a box for donations at 6000 Technology Drive in Huntsville, Ala. Cash or check donations are also accepted. The toys will be presented to the Marines on Dec. 13 at 10 a.m. in the lobby of Bldg. 5220. For more information, call (256) 955-2430 or 955-4931 or (256) 799-4445.

## Eagle's last edition for 2012

Dec. 13 will be the last issue of 2012 for the Eagle. Please submit all articles to [Jason.B.Cutshaw.civ@mail.mil](mailto:Jason.B.Cutshaw.civ@mail.mil) by Dec. 7. The Eagle will return Jan. 10. Submissions will be due by Jan. 4.

# Bravo Company weathers storm

From staff reports  
SMDC Public Affairs

**FORT MEADE, Md.** – Throughout Hurricane Sandy’s devastation along the East Coast Oct. 29-30, businesses, schools and the federal government closed, but Bravo Company, 53<sup>rd</sup> Signal Battalion (Satellite Control) continued providing and maintaining communications to support the executive branch and the Warfighter overseas.

The storm, nicknamed “Frankenstorm” in honor of the imminent Halloween holiday, collided with two other systems – a cold front and winter storm from the Northwest and a high pressure system from Greenland.

It produced strong winds, large amounts of rain, and storm surges that left more than 2.1 million people without power, many for weeks, and extensive flooding in business and residential areas.

Through all of this, Bravo Company’s Soldiers continued to carry out the battalion’s and the Army’s mission.

On Monday, Sgt. Christopher Lingle, Sgt. Justin Evan, Spc. James Cole, Spc. James Wingate, Spc. Chad Kolod, Spc. Jason Banas, Spc. Bennet Elder and Pfc. Tricia Snider kept communications lines open.

Monday evening through Tuesday morning was manned by Sgt. Benjamin Mages, Sgt. Christina Podskalan, Spc. Luke Turner, Spc.



*U.S. Army photo*

**One of the satellite receivers used by members of Bravo Company, 53<sup>rd</sup> Signal Battalion (Satellite Control) during their efforts to maintain communication lines during Hurricane Sandy Oct. 29-30.**

James Messner, Spc. Jennifer Weiss and Pfc. Ethan Wilkinson.

“These Soldiers of Bravo Company, 53<sup>rd</sup> Signal Battalion are the ‘unsung heroes’ ensuring that those across the world have reliable communications and are able to conduct their mission,” said Capt. Matthew Mills, Bravo Company commander. “There are no weekends, holidays, or days off when it comes to Bravo’s mission, and we will continue to conduct our mission through rain, snow, or even a hurricane.”

The Soldiers from Bravo Company are different from other Soldiers by their vast knowledge and understanding of satellite communications.

They represent only a fraction of the Army’s Signal Corps.

“Our Soldiers’ ability to ‘Control the High Ground’ under these circumstances showcases their competence, professionalism, and dedication to our mission,” said 1st Sgt. E. Mitchell, Bravo Company first sergeant.

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 1st Space Brigade and 53<sup>rd</sup> Signal Battalion, HHC

# 49th Missile Defense Battalion kicks off winter resiliency training

**Capt. Michael Odgers**  
**49th Missile Defense Battalion**

**FORT GREELY, Alaska** – The 49th Missile Defense Battalion sponsored a two-day resiliency training Nov. 15-16 which began with a spiritual luncheon at the Community Activity Center on Fort Greely, Alaska.

For the Army, fall begins a new training year and a renewed focus on required training. One of those required training programs is resiliency. The program teaches that six core competencies – self-awareness, self-regulation, optimism, mental agility, strengths of character and connection – will significantly increase one’s ability to cope with life’s stress.

“Resiliency is one of my top five priorities,” said Lt. Col. Joseph Miley, 49th Missile Defense Battalion commander. “We had some challenges last year, and I wanted to increase access to the resiliency training program.”

The program’s intent is to provide the tools necessary to help Soldiers bounce back from life’s hurdles. The program is a proactive, rather than reactive, approach.

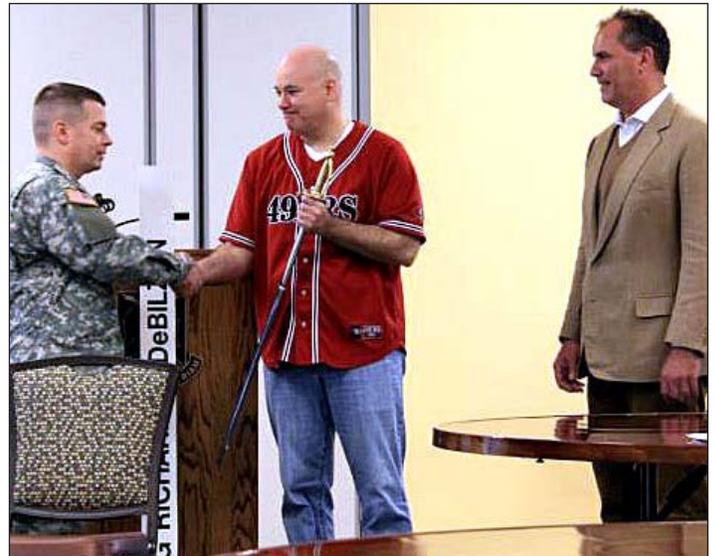
With the remote location of Fort Greely, winter right around the corner and the days with sunlight getting much shorter, there could not be a better time to start talking about resiliency.

“People who have never been up here to Alaska don’t understand what we mean by remote,” said Sgt. 1st Class Charles Boldt, chaplain assistant Alaska National Guard. “When you’re in a remote location in Alaska, especially in the dead of winter, you are so isolated. Then, when you add the long periods of darkness it really just wears on you.”

Communities in Alaska are not just categorized by large or small but on or off the road system. The capital, Juneau, is only accessible by boat or air.

Getting resources to Soldiers is paramount for Lt. Col. Richard Koch, the Alaska National Guard chaplain. Whether those are spiritual, counseling or even quality of life resources, getting them to the Soldiers helps to maintain their resilience.

The Alaska National Guard occasionally does commissary runs by bringing a commissary, in the form of a loaded C-130, to some of Alaska’s more remote areas.



*U.S. Army photo*

**Lt. Col. Joseph Miley, 49th Missile Defense Battalion commander, presents a sword to retired 1st Sgt. Richard DeBilzian as Riki Ellison of the Missile Defense Advocacy Alliance looks on. The sword was presented during a resiliency luncheon Nov. 16 at the Fort Greely, Alaska, Community Activity Center. Because of the challenges of long, dark winters and the remoteness of Fort Greely, Miley considers resiliency training one of his top priorities.**

Virtually all of the Soldiers at Fort Greely come from somewhere else. They’re working around the clock and they are a long way from the resources they might need.

“Being at Fort Greely is almost like you’re deployed, but now you have your family with you,” said Bowles. “We have a large contingent of Puerto Ricans here. The size of the community and language barriers can create their own isolation.”

Because of the factors that can affect family members, Miley has been focusing his efforts on increasing training access to family members and civilians. He plans to bring this training to the local schools.

“Forty-four percent of the school children in the community are dependents of 49th Soldiers,” said Miley. “Ages 16-19 are at the highest risk of self-injury, and Alaska in general has higher rates.”

According to the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention, Alaska ranks second in suicides with 23.1 suicides per 1,000. Wyoming is first with 23.2 and

**See RESILIENCY on page 7**

# Leaders learn about space capabilities

By Mike Howard  
SMDC Public Affairs

**COLORADO SPRINGS, Colo.** Key senior-level enlisted leaders from around the U.S. Army visited the U.S. Army Space and Missile Defense Command/Army Forces Strategic Command's operational elements here Nov. 20.

The leaders included primarily command sergeants major and sergeants major from U.S. Northern Command/North American Aerospace Defense Command, U.S. Army North, U.S. Army Training and Doctrine Command, U.S. Army Forces Command, and the Army Capabilities Integration Center.

"The Army is the single biggest user of space," said Col. Greg Bowen, SMDC deputy commander for support.

Bowen welcomed the group to the Building 3 commander's conference room for introductory briefings on the command's capabilities.

"Think of all the Army does today. If you take space away from it – if you don't have space in the equation – we go back to the way we fought in the Korean War," Bowen said.

Command Sgt. Maj. Larry Turner, SMDC command sergeant major, followed up with the message.

"I'm going to set the stage for what you are going to learn today. A lot of people in the Army are not aware of what we do on a day-to-day basis," Turner said. "They don't know just how much space is a part of what they do. I know I had no idea. So, that's why we asked you here. We want you to know as we work together into the future. You are in for an exciting day. This com-



Photo by DJ Montoya

**Command Sgt. Maj. Hu Rhodes, U.S. Army North command sergeant major, launches the Combat SkySat system during a demonstration of its capabilities Nov. 20 in Colorado Springs, Colo. Rhodes visited the command as part of a group of senior enlisted leaders to become more familiar how its space and missile defense capabilities apply to the Army mission.**

mand touches each and every one of you, every day."

During the day-long visit, the group learned about the primary space and missile defense capabilities provided to the nation. These included space support, friendly force tracking, early missile warning, ground-based missile defense, payload control for satellite communications, and integrated missile defense, along with future capabili-

ties such as high altitude communications.

The group received briefings from NORTHCOM/NORAD, USASMD/ARSTRAT, 1<sup>st</sup> Space Brigade, 100<sup>th</sup> Missile Defense Brigade, and SMDC's Future Warfare Center. They also toured and saw capability demonstrations on the SMDC G-3's Mission Management

See **LEARNING** on page 7

# Observe safe driving tips during winter

As we move into the winter months be mindful of the hazards associated with cold weather.

This time of year can produce rapidly changing weather patterns and unfavorable road conditions. Snow and ice-covered roads can significantly impede the flow of traffic, increase traffic congestion, and create adverse driving conditions.

Be aware of the hazards that may be encountered during traveling. It's important during severe weather conditions to travel at safe speeds, maintain a safe distance from other vehicles, and use properly fastened seatbelts or child safety seats.

Here are a few additional safety tips for consideration:

- \* Preplan the trip, including scheduled rest stops. Safe driving demands full attention.

- \* Fatigue on the road can be a killer. Know the symptoms and causes of fatigue and what to do to control it. The obvious cause of fatigue is lack of sleep. Not getting seven or eight hours of sleep the night before a trip is likely to cause fatigue. Get enough rest.



- \* Do not start a trip late in the day or in the evening. Long-distance driving is hard work and drivers need to be fresh and alert.

- \* Ensure vehicles are properly maintained, and be prepared with a car care kit in the event a vehicle becomes disabled.

- \* If traveling with small children, provide quiet activities that they can do in the car.

- \* Leave an itinerary with a trusted neighbor or friend.

- \* Don't overload the car or obstruct views with suitcases and

packages.

- \* Consider mailing packages to the destination ahead of time.

- \* Avoid eating a heavy meal before leaving for the trip.

If driving in snow, stay in the plowed lane and avoid driving over the ridges between the plowed areas.

Follow other vehicles – especially trucks – at a safe distance. Remember if the trucker's mirrors are not visible, they cannot see the vehicle.

Visit [safetracar.gov](http://safetracar.gov) or <https://commandnet.smdc.army.mil/SafetyOffice/Topics.html> for more information on winter driving.

Also, the U.S. Army Combat Readiness/Safety Center has created a webpage with additional winter safety tips at <https://safety.army.mil/multimedia/CAMPAIGNSINITIATIVES/KnowtheSigns/WinterSafety2012/tabid/2385/Default.aspx>.

You can also contact the Command Safety Office at (256) 955-4800 or (719) 554-2142 for additional information.

*Command Safety Office gathered information from various resources*

## USAKA/RTS briefs Air Force secretary



*Photo by Chris Delisio*

**Col. Shannon L. Boehm, U.S. Army Kwajalein Atoll/Reagan Test Site commander, left, briefs Secretary of the Air Force Michael B. Donley during the secretary's tour of Kwaj Nov. 19. On his tour, Donley got a better understanding of how RTS supports Air Force Minuteman Missile testing and space operations.**

## Earning the Space Badge



Photo by Mike Howard

**Linda Swihart pins the Master Space Badge onto her husband's uniform during a farewell ceremony for him in Building 3 in Colorado Springs, Colo., Nov. 19. Maj. Michael Swihart, a U.S. Army Reservist assigned to the U.S. Army Reserve Strategic Command Troop Program Unit, deployed later in the week as part of the U.S. Army Central Command's Space Support Element.**

## LEARNING from Page 5

Center, 1st Space Brigade's Joint Tactical Ground Stations and Army Space Support Teams, the Future Warfare Center's Combat SkySat, and the Joint Functional Component Command for Integrated Missile Defense.

"I'm a ground guy," said Command Sgt. Maj. Hu Rhodes, command sergeant major for U.S. Army North. "I guess I affect the strategic level by what I do, but these guys in this command are living in the strategic level every day. I've been a user of space all during my career. I just counted on it working.

"This was really good for me today. I just left U.S. Army Africa Command, which is a part of your more typical combatant command in a foreign country," he continued. "Now I am in U.S. Army North. Our direct customer is the American people. You get a completely different perspective because you're looking your customer in the eye each day.

"So for me, coming here to see how space touches me and the others who are here, it gives us all a better idea how we can all get our organizations to work together better," Rhodes added.

## RESILIENCY from Page 4

Montana is third at 22.9.

The luncheon had several speakers discussing the importance of spirituality in maintaining resilience.

The keynote speaker was Riki Ellison, former NFL player, three-time Super bowl winner and founder of the Missile Defense Advocacy Alliance.

"The guest speakers were just

great," said Sgt. 1st Class Diane Singh. "I loved the way Riki Ellison used his life as a football player to show the adversity that he overcame."

Singh is a body builder, fitness and nutritional expert and football fan who related to Ellison's stories about life.

"He said things in life don't fulfill us, it's what we do for each

other," Singh recalled of Ellison's comments. "He was a successful football player. He had gained a lot of wealth, but in the end it left him empty. It's the people that we impact that give us that fulfillment.

"He was saying a lot of things to me," Singh continued. "I thought, 'Wow, this is exactly what resiliency is about – serving others is the bottom line.'"

# Historic Mickelsen site bids end

**Sharon Watkins Lang**  
**SMDC Command Historian**

Bidding ends Dec. 4 for the purchase of former Missile Site Radar and four Remote Sprint Launch Sites from the Stanley R. Mickelsen Safeguard Complex in North Dakota, ending an era in U.S. Army Space and Missile Defense Command/Army Forces Strategic Command history.

Built in the 1960s, the Stanley R. Mickelsen Safeguard Complex, or Stanley R., was the first missile defense site deployed in the United States and the Western Hemisphere, and the first new military installation built in the United States since World War II.

The five sites housed the Perimeter Acquisition Radar, the Missile Site Radar, 30 Spartan and 70 Sprint missiles, and the associated housing and community structures for the Army Safeguard Command which manned the sites 24 hours a day, seven days a week, 365 days a year to protect the nation.

Operational for only a short period in the mid 1970s, the command explored reopening the facility in the 1990s to establish a new missile defense facility, in compliance with the 1972 Anti-Ballistic Missile Treaty.

The complex was named in honor of Lt. Gen. Stanley Raymond Mickelsen, whose career spanned from 1917 until 1957 from coast artillery to anti-aircraft systems and finally the nuclear armed weapons of the air defense artillery.

A leader in the guided missile programs since the end of World War II, Mickelsen was an ardent advocate of the Army's air defense capabilities.

Mickelsen concluded his career as the commander of the Army Air Defense Command at Ent Air Force Base, Colo., as the overseer of the Army's national defenses against an air attack.

As the threat evolved from massed bombers to nuclear-tipped-missiles, Mickelsen observed in 1956 that, "NIKE is capable of killing any known guided missile and will be effective against the intercontinental missile when it materializes."

To ensure the Army's readiness in this mission, Mickelsen was an early advocate of the Nike-Zeus, the first missile system designed to serve as an anti-missile missile. He frequently urged the Department of the Army to make this anti-ballistic missile system a "firm Army requirement" with the highest priority level.



*U.S. Army photo*

**The missile field and Missile Site Radar at the Stanley R. Mickelsen Safeguard Complex located in Nekoma, N.D.**

Even in retirement, Mickelsen remained a dedicated supporter of the NIKE programs arguing in November 1957, that "In this atomic age, no nation can survive to fight a global war unless it protects itself from the rain of enemy atomic bombs."

Nike missiles and the Army's Air Defense program were the means to protect the nation.

Bids are being accepted to own a piece of history. As of Nov. 20, the bids were: MSR (431 acres) – \$10,000; RSL #1 (40.61 acres) – \$21,011; RSL #2 (35.76 acres) – \$20,056; RSL #3 (43.23 acres) – \$14,159; RSL#4 (49.48 acres) – \$34,059.

Caveat emptor, however, North Dakota has an estimated clean up costs at \$4 million-\$6 million.

Farewell Stanley R.

## Demonstrating Capabilities



Photo by DJ Montoya

**Jeff Faunce, U.S. Army Space and Missile Defense Command/Army Forces Strategic Command Future Warfare Center's Battle Lab, explains the capabilities of the Combat SkySat system and how it can be applied to the Army mission. Faunce facilitated the briefing during a visit of key senior enlisted leaders visiting the command Nov. 20 in Colorado Springs, Colo.**

## Home for Thanksgiving



Photo by DJ Montoya

**Capt. Kent B. Gneiting from Army Space Support Team 21 talks to fellow Army Space Soldiers during the team's welcome home at the Colorado Springs, Colo., Airport Nov. 18. Two Army Space Support Teams returned home Nov. 18 from duty in Afghanistan where they had been deployed since earlier in the year providing space-based products to Warfighters on the ground.**

## Moving on up



Photo by Sgt. Benjamin Crane

**Col. Edward Hildreth, 100th Missile Defense Brigade commander, pins new rank insignia on Chief Warrant Officer 2 Marcus Kent during a promotion ceremony for Kent Nov. 2 at the brigade's headquarters.**

View SMDC's photos at [www.flickr.com/armysmdc](http://www.flickr.com/armysmdc)