

OCTOBER 24, 2013

A Space & Missile Defense NewsWire

# THE EAGLE

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## LTG Mann hosts town hall at Redstone Arsenal headquarters



*Photo By Carrie E. David*

**Col. Dewey A. Granger, chief of staff, U.S. Army Space and Missile Defense Command/Army Forces Strategic Command, addresses an issue at the SMDC's Redstone Arsenal, Ala., workforce during a town hall Sept. 30 at the Von Braun III auditorium. Listening to Granger's response on stage are Lt. Gen. David L. Mann, SMDC commanding general, left, and Command Sgt. Maj. James N. Ross, SMDC command sergeant major. This was Mann's first town hall with SMDC since assuming command in August.**



OCTOBER 24, 2013

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COMMANDING GENERAL

Lt. Gen. David L. Mann

COMMAND SERGEANT MAJOR

Command Sgt. Maj. James N. Ross

DEPUTY TO THE COMMANDER

Ronald E. Chronister

DEPUTY COMMANDING GENERAL FOR OPERATIONS

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## SMDC chief retires from federal service



Photo by Dottie White

**Ronald Chronister, deputy to the commander, U.S. Army Space and Missile Defense Command/Army Forces Strategic Command, pins the Meritorious Civilian Service Medal onto Jerry Esquibel, chief, Advanced Hypersonic Weapons Division, Rapid Transitions Directorate, USASMDC/ARSTRAT's Technical Center, during Esquibel's retirement Sept. 24 at the command's Redstone Arsenal, Ala., headquarters. Esquibel retires with 33 years of federal service.**

## Learning to ride safely



Photo by Dottie White

**Riders participate in the U.S. Army Space and Missile Defense Command/Army Forces Strategic Command Safety Office's Motorcycle Safety Course Sept. 20. The course, open to military members and civilians, began with an hour of classroom instruction on Sept. 19 and followed with outdoor instruction and a long distance group ride the following day.**

# 'Space Cowboys' help with floods

## Staff Reports

### COLORADO SPRINGS, Colo.

– In mid-September, the state of Colorado received more than a year's worth of rain in a matter of a few hours. The influx of rain created a 100-year flood across the northeastern part of the state, closing dozens of state highways, damaging dozens of bridges, and impacting thousands of lives.

As flooding continued across the state, the Colorado Department of Transportation was not only facilitating continued highway closures, but beginning to try to determine the extent of damages to the impacted highway infrastructure in an effort to start rebuilding.

With limited resources to evaluate areas with minimal accessibility, CDOT reached out to the Colorado Army National Guard for help. The 117th Space Battalion, called the "Space Cowboys," is a specialized unit based in Colorado Springs consisting of Army Space Support Teams. It was brought in to directly support the National Guard Engineer Coordination Center, or ECC, and help assess infrastructure damage utilizing unclassified commercial satellite imagery.

The seven-member team supporting CDOT and the Colorado flood recovery included: Maj. Robert Heslin, team leader; Capt. Chris Meyer, operations officer; Staff Sgt. Will Eger, lead geospatial engineer; Pvt. Miranda Yost, geospatial engineer; Sgt. Nathan Faith, satellite communications specialist; Spc. Lauren Klotz, information technology specialist; and Sgt. Alex Paxton, analyst.



Photo by Colorado Army National Guard

**Maj. Robert Heslin, Army Space Support Team team leader, 117th Space Battalion, reviews satellite imagery products of Colorado flood damage for the Colorado Department of Transportation with his operations officer, Capt. Chris Meyer.**

“For the flooding recovery efforts in Colorado, the team worked directly with the ECC and CDOT to identify highway infrastructure damage, create operational maps of the highway corridors to help plan infrastructure reconstruction, produce individual project site assessments utilizing commercial satellite imagery, and oversee the National Guard construction efforts,” said Lt. Col. Martin Bortolutti, 117th Space Battalion commander. “The team also coordinated with CDOT, the State Emergency Operations Center, and Federal Emergency Management Agency geospatial specialists to share geospatial and map data among several state and federal agencies.”

To achieve mission objectives, the team deployed with their ARSST-tactical set consisting of an

independent satellite communication terminal that offered broadband communications capabilities and space operating systems.

“These provided the capability to download current satellite imagery to provide the CDOT incident commander and his staff with incident awareness and assessment by using the imagery of each of the damaged or destroyed areas as overall route reconnaissance of highways that had been completely cut off,” Bortolutti said.

CDOT deputy director of operations, Scot Cuthbertson, who was tasked with leading recovery efforts through Colorado Gov. John Hickenlooper’s Infrastructure Recovery Force, is a former member of the Colorado Army National

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# Assistant secretary of the Army visits USAKA

**Sheila C. Gideon**  
*Kwajalein Hourglass*

**U.S. ARMY KWAJALEIN ATOLL, Republic of the Marshall Islands.** – Katherine Hammack, assistant secretary of the Army (installations, energy and environment) visited U.S. Army Kwajalein Atoll Sept. 12-13.

She was accompanied by Col. Timothy Faulkner, Installation Management Command-Pacific deputy director. While here, Hammack toured various infrastructures on both Kwajalein and Roi-Namur, and visited the host nation at Enniburr Island.

There were multiple purposes to her visit. One of the primary reasons was the upcoming change of management to IMCOM taking place Oct. 1 here at USAKA.

“Sometimes, at a time of transition, it’s a good time to take a look at what was done before and why, and what the plans are for the future, and how,” Hammack commented. “That was information I wanted to get while I was here.”

She wanted to better understand the mission at USAKA and to take a look at the facilities, infrastructure, energy, environmental challenges and get an idea of the responsibility IMCOM is going to be taking over.

While here, Hammack tried to get an idea of what USAKA’s needs are. This is especially important because the last 10-12 years have seen budgets increasing; now they’re decreasing.

“We have to focus on the critical,” she explained. “That’s part of my role – to help put together the budgets and defend the budgets to



*Photo by Sheila C. Gideon*

*Dr. Paulette Galbraith, center, Kwajalein Hospital chief medical officer, explains the functions and needs of the Kwajalein Hospital to Assistant Secretary of the Army, Katherine Hammack, right, and Col. Nestor Sadler, commander, U.S. Army Kwajalein Atoll, Republic of the Marshall Islands.*

Congress and the president. I really need to know what we need, why we need it, and where we need it, so I’m able to represent the needs of the entire installation community.”

Hammack regards the mission at USAKA to be interesting and important. Sometimes, Hammack said, the focus on the mission is so direct, that some of the installation needs are neglected. At USAKA, that neglect can be seen in some of the infrastructure.

“IMCOM [recognizes] that if we don’t support our infrastructure appropriately, it will decay to a point where it’s extremely costly to replace,” Hammack said.

Part of the mission is to ensure that the Soldiers, support staff and families have adequate places to live and work. IMCOM will bring advantag-

es that come from being managed by a central organization.

“With the Installation Management Command team here, there will be that reach back capability to other assets and other resources throughout the organization to ensure that you’re deploying the appropriate technologies and strategies,” she said.

When Hammack tours installations, she looks for consistency. If she sees the same challenges at multiple locations, that tells her there’s a policy or strategy that is flawed. One consistency she said she has seen is poor construction from the 1970s to the 1990s.

“In that time period, there was a low cost to produce electricity, and

**See USAKA on Page 9**

## SMDC employee volunteers to support African mission

**Capt. Alexander Urosevich**  
**SMDC G-3 TREX**

**REDSTONE ARSENAL, Ala.** – Serving others extends beyond the daily mission for one U.S. Army Space and Missile Defense Command/Army Forces Strategic Command Department of the Army civilian and former Soldier.

Jason Scarborough, a management analyst with SMDC's G-3 Training, Readiness and Exercise Division, left Sept. 20 on a 10-day medical mission trip to Muzgola Village in Malawi, Africa.

MedReach, a non-profit organization that assists churches in mobilizing medical mission teams, coordinated with Shiloh Baptist Church in Somerville, Ala., to organize the trip.

Scarborough, a former Army medic, and Wounded Warrior, was accompanied by a team of five doctors, two nurses, two pharmacists and eight interpreters to treat more than 2,300 patients during their stay in Muzgola Village.

The medical professionals treated various diseases and illnesses, including cases of malaria, gastrointestinal issues and malnutrition.

The team also provided physical therapy, nutritional counseling and instruction on wound care and treatment.

Every evening after the clinic closed, Scarborough and his team members traveled to nearby villages for ministry education and spiritual



*Courtesy photo*

*Jason Scarborough, a management analyst with U.S. Army Space and Missile Defense Command/Army Forces Strategic Command's G-3 Training, Readiness and Exercise Division, conducts an initial consult on an incoming patient to the Muzgola Village Clinic during a mission trip to Malawi, Africa, in September.*

support for the Malawians.

The ministry trips also doubled as a means of spreading the word about the Muzgola medical clinic. Within a few days, the clinic was receiving patients from more than 30 miles away.

“This trip was amazing and it warmed my heart to know that my gifts could be used through medicine again,” Scarborough said. “It was fulfilling and humbling at the same time.”

Malawi, Africa, is among the world's least-developed countries. The Malawian government depends heavily on outside aid to meet development needs; however, the aid offered for this need has decreased since 2000.

The Malawian government faces challenges in building and expanding the economy; improving education, health care, and environmental protection; and becoming financially independent.

Deadline for comments and submissions for the Nov. 7 issue is Nov. 1.  
Please submit to Jason B. Cutshaw at [Jason.B.Cutshaw.civ@mail.mil](mailto:Jason.B.Cutshaw.civ@mail.mil).

# New tool aids DTS compliance program

Donna Bowden  
SMDC G-8 office

**REDSTONE ARSENAL, Ala.** – The 2012 National Defense Authorization Act required the Department of Defense to create and maintain a compliance program to minimize inaccurate, or duplicate travel claims.

Defense Travel Management Office has launched the Travel Policy Compliance Tool in an effort to identify Defense Travel System errors.

The automated tool reviews all DTS travel vouchers in near-real time and identifies duplicate or incorrect payments in an effort to ensure travel claims are paid in accordance with regulations and recoup funds for erroneous payments.

The tool is being incrementally implemented across the Department as organizations are added to the pilot.

Initially the tool focused on identifying three of the most common and clear cut policy compliance errors: OCONUS laundry expense, OCONUS foreign lodging tax, and duplicate lodging payments.

Additional items have been added since initial deployment. The OCONUS lodging tax query has been expanded and an Administrative Foreign Lodging tax



*Defense Travel System graphic*

query has been added that identifies when lodging tax is added is a non-mileage reimbursable expense but does not exceed the locality per diem rate when added to the lodging cost.

New queries will also be added as they are tested and become available including:

- ◆ Excess Lodging – identifies additional lodging costs claimed as a reimbursable expense when full locality rate is claimed as per diem.

- ◆ Incorrect Government Quarters Rate – identifies when travelers do not change the default \$55 per day for government quarters when that is not the rate for that location.

- ◆ Contingency Operation Per Diem – identifies when travelers receive more than \$3.50 per day per diem when the combatant commander directs that all meals

are available and limits per diem to the government incidental rate of \$3.50.

- ◆ Duplicate Airfare – identifies when travelers claim airfare for tickets that were cancelled or refunded to their government travel charge card

This tool will be utilized to ensure DoD is operating in accordance with the Under Secretary of Defense Robert Hale's memo, dated July 18, subject: Implementation of the DoD Travel Pay Remediation Plan.

The Plan requires each DoD organization to have an overall error reduction target rate of 3.26 percent for fiscal year 2013 and 3.25 percent for fiscal year 2014.

For more information on the program and the Compliance Tool, visit: [www.defensetravel.dod.mil/site/compliance](http://www.defensetravel.dod.mil/site/compliance).

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# History: First anti-missile systems office formed

Sharon Watkins Lang  
SMDC command historian

On Oct. 3, 1957, a very important day in the history of U.S. Army Space and Missile Defense Command/Army Forces Strategic Command, the Army Ordnance Corps established the first anti-missile systems office, the first organization specifically to address the development of a missile defense system.

Known as the Redstone Arsenal Anti-Missile Missile Systems Office, or RAMMSO, the office was part of the Army Ballistic Missile Agency.

This date is important to USASMDC/ARSTRAT because it marks the beginning of the Army's missile defense mission. Although some elements had begun to look at the feasibility of a missile intercept, RAMMSO was the first unit created for solely that mission.

Following the successful launch of an SS-6 intercontinental ballistic missile by the Soviet Union in August 1957, Pentagon officials had stressed an interest in an early anti-missile missile capability to defend the nation.

In an Oct. 11 letter to the Chief of Ordnance, Brig. Gen. John G. Shinkle, deputy commanding general of Redstone Arsenal, reported that, "Redstone Arsenal has taken interim actions responsive to the increasing urgency given the Anti-Missile Missile Program by your office and higher headquarters."

Specifically, the project had been separated into a single office that would report directly to the commanding general.

An acting commander was selected and staff identified from the personnel of the Research, Development, Industrial, and Field Services personnel.

Shinkle further recommended that the Ordnance Corps initiate planning to expedite the program with a dedicated ordnance general officer overseeing these efforts on Redstone Arsenal, with delegated maximum procurement authority; authorization of waivers and/or relief from regulations to expedite actions; and reassignment of personnel from other headquarters and other services working anti-missile related actions to Redstone Arsenal.

With all these preparations, the new organization was not publicly announced until Oct. 28. The Oct. 30 edition

**The Redstone Rocket**  
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## Anti-Missile Systems Office Set Up

**Col. Collins To Head Unit**

The establishment of the Redstone Arsenal Anti-Missile Missile Systems Office was officially announced Monday afternoon by the Department of the Army. The new office, located in Building A-156, will be headed by Col. Matthew H. Collins, who will also continue in his present capacity as director of the Research and Development Division-Ordnance Missile Laboratories.

Initially the office will be manned by five officers and 19 civilians. Three officers and 15 civilians will be transferred from the R&D Division, one officer and three civilians from the RSA Industrial Division, and one officer and one civilian from the RSA Field Service Division.

The Anti-Missile Missile Branch of Project Management Staff will become an integral part of the new office, and is moving to Building A-156 from its present location in Building 715.

Redstone's Air Defense Labs continue their work as an independent operation.

**GEN. MEDARIS GETS OAK LEAF CLUSTER TO LEGION OF MERIT**

The Oak Leaf Cluster to the Legion of Merit was to be presented by Army Secretary Wilber Brantler to Maj. Gen. J. R. Medaris at a military review Tuesday afternoon at Ft. Lister, McNair, Va.

The award was given for Gen. Medaris' services as commander of the Army Ballistic Missile Agency from February, 1948, to October, 1957.

The citation hailed his "dynamic leadership and initiative, technical ability, and eminent skill in combining the work of science and industry which has resulted in the eminently successful Jupiter missile."

**CONNECTION**

Maj. Andrew J. Draper was incorrectly identified in last week's issue of the Redstone Rocket as the Commanding Officer, Maj. Draper is actually the Post Quartermaster. The Rocket regrets this error in identification and is happy to correct it.

### Ordnance Safety Award Is Presented to Post

A Certificate of Merit for Safety for 1956 has been awarded to three agencies located at Redstone Arsenal by Lt. Gen. E. L. Cummings, Chief of Ordnance.

Maj. Gen. H. M. Tolby accepted the certificate for all three commanders from Brig. Gen. George W. White, chief of Ordnance's Office of Manpower, in a brief ceremony in his office last week.

During 1956 the civilian man-hours at the Arsenal increased 11 per cent, and at the same time the accident frequency rate declined 17 per cent.

Military personnel and activities increased during 1956 seven per cent, while the accident rate was reduced 23 per cent.

Contractor personnel increased 20 per cent, with no change in the accident frequency rate over the previous year.

The mileage of motor vehicles was up by 40 per cent, while the accident rate dropped by 20 per cent.

"This reduction in the accident rate was achieved while operations were increasing and while new personnel were employed," Gen. White said in making his presentation.

"This is indeed considered to be an outstanding achievement in the field of accident prevention, and one for which Redstone Arsenal, the Army Ballistic Agency, the Ordnance Guided Missile School, and the Ordnance Guided Missile School are commended, as all employees should feel exceedingly proud," he said. "Your activities are varied and hazardous and a great deal of research money, there do not exist established conditions or standards which can usually be applied to your operation."

W. E. Allright is safety officer — See 32ND ORDN on Page 2

### 32ND ORDNANCE DET. CELEBRATES FIRST BIRTHDAY

The 32nd Ordnance Detachment, a "jack of all trades" unit assigned to the Ordnance Guided Missile School, celebrated its first birthday Tuesday, Nov. 5.

The unit, a Nike missile direct support organization, with a present strength of 80, was activated for many purposes.

Attached to the school's Unit Training Center, it has a primary mission on the Nike missile and its related fire control systems.

W. E. Allright is safety officer — See 32ND ORDN on Page 2

### FIRE SIRENS WILL SOUND OFF POST PROGRESS IN UGF

The Arsenal's fire sirens are sounding off at noon each day to report the installation's progress in the United States Fire Drive.

Each blast represents \$1,000 contributed to the Huntsville-Madison County UGF.

This auditory method of reporting will continue until the installation's goal of \$240,000 is reached.

"When you hear the siren, you should naturally feel proud of your part in holding a leading hand in those in need," says C. H. Hahn, chairman of the executive committee for the drive.

### 12 SOLONS DUE

Courtesy photo

of the Redstone Rocket reported the reorganization with a front page banner headline.

Col. Matthew R. Collins Jr. was identified as the first commander of the new unit. At that time, however, Collins was dual hatted, having retained his duties as the director of the Research and Development Division-Ordnance Missile Laboratories.

Under the initial orders, the RAMMSO was composed of five officers and 19 civilians, located in building A-156, now known as Bldg. 7156 on Redstone Road.

RAMMSO was a short-lived organization, however. It was abolished in April 1958 with all missions, functions and responsibilities assumed by the newly established Army Rocket and Guided Missile Agency, headed by Shinkle.

Already given urgency category "S", the highest possible rating, the NIKE-ZEUS program nevertheless continued to move forward with all plans recommending an accelerated timetable.

# Command Safety Gram

## *At Work Fire Safety*

Each year fires destroy homes, office buildings, warehouses, factories and lives.

Almost 17,000 fires occur annually in industrial and manufacturing facilities across the United States. Losses to property and human life vary widely from fire to fire, as do the reasons behind them.

That is why it is important to be aware of the fire hazards in surroundings and eliminate them before they cause serious, or even fatal damage.

### Seven ways to prevent workplace fires:

- ◆ Practice good worksite house-keeping habits. Do not let trash and waste material accumulate. Empty trash bins regularly. Oily rags must be stored and disposed of in covered metal containers, according to company policy.

- ◆ Do not store materials or allow clutter to accumulate around exits and stairways. Fire doors should be kept closed as directed. Fire exits should always remain free and accessible.

- ◆ A common cause of workplace fires is machinery or equipment that becomes overheated. Be sure to follow operating guidelines to prevent overloading. Follow manufacturer's instructions in using and maintaining equipment.

- ◆ Electrical malfunctions are also a major contributor to fires in the workplace. Electrical equipment should be checked regularly for signs of trouble such as damaged cords or worn insulation. Never overload circuits, and never force



circuit breakers to remain in the on position. Only qualified and authorized personnel should carry out electrical repairs and maintenance, but everyone is responsible for being alert to the signs of electrical malfunction.

- ◆ It is important to understand the fire hazards of frequently used materials. They may be combustible, flammable, explosive or reactive. Read the labels and know where to locate the Material Safety Data Sheet for further information. Carefully follow any instructions when using any materials that might pose hazards.

- ◆ Be sure to observe any smoking restrictions. Smoke only in designated areas. Smoking in unauthorized areas such as storage rooms has resulted in serious fires. Do not empty ashtrays until smoking materials are cold.

- ◆ Observe company security policies and be alert to any suspicious persons or activities. Many workplace fires are set by

arsonists; do your part to prevent these incidents.

### Know what to do:

Be ready to deal with a possible workplace fire. Make sure safety training answers these questions:

- ◆ What are responsibilities in case of fire – to report the fire, fight it or leave the building?

- ◆ Where is the fire alarm located?

- ◆ Where are the fire extinguishers located? How are they used, and on what kinds of fires?

- ◆ Know how to use other fire emergency equipment such as fire blankets, hoses and sprinklers?

- ◆ What safety procedures should be carried out in case of a fire? Who is responsible for shutting down equipment or operations before leaving?

- ◆ Where is everyone supposed to meet for a head count after leaving the office?

– *Courtesy of the U.S. Army Combat Readiness/Safety Center.*

## Vietnam era unit commander visits A Company



*Courtesy photo*

*Lt. Col. Karen Roe, 53rd Signal Battalion commander, talks to retired Lt. Col. Karl Richard Brunner Jr., former commander of A Company, 53rd Signal Battalion during the Vietnam War, during a recent visit to the company's headquarters at Fort Detrick, Md.*

### USAKA from Page 4

air conditioning meant you did not have to build infrastructure to be as well insulated. This led to the construction of flimsy buildings, which on Kwajalein can be seen in the 'New Housing' area of homes that are now mostly condemned," she said. "Looking at buildings that were built in the 1950s, you find better construction, as can be seen in the 'Old Housing' area of homes.

"That was really evidenced here," Hammack said. "Some of the older buildings are the most durable and some of the newer buildings – housing was a case in point – are the least durable."

The challenge for the future, Hammack said, is the timing of the management transition.

"If this was done five years ago ... when our budgets were in a different environment, we would have been able to apply more funds," she said. "The Army is getting smaller and funding is being reduced. We're

going to have to get creative and figure out how to solve some of these problems ourselves. One of those solutions includes the continuation of the Net Zero Energy Program at USAKA."

Hammack established the Army's Net Zero Program and 17 installations were identified to achieve Net Zero status by 2020; USAKA was chosen in 2011 as one of those installations.

"The whole Net Zero program is focused on resilience," Hammack said.

The Net Zero Program from an energy aspect looks at how USAKA can become more resilient through a diversity of power sources, water sources, water efficiency and waste management.

This was discussed at length with Jamie Heidle, USAKA Department of Public Works director. Future energy projects include solar and wind plans.

There was also an energy saving performance contract signed recently on the island.

"That's where you hire a contractor and they install energy and water efficiency strategies, and you pay them out of the savings," Hammack explained. "If the strategies they install don't operate or show savings, they don't get paid. It's holding someone else accountable, and working with the private sector to get the best technology employed."

Now that Hammack and Faulkner have gathered information about USAKA's critical needs, Faulkner will present the requirements to IMCOM. IMCOM then represents the needs to the assistant chief of staff for Installation Management, along with National Guard, Reserve and Army Materiel Command requirements.

Any requests will then cross Hammack's desk for approval before funding is granted.

# USAKA operations transferred to IMCOM-Pacific

**Sheila C. Gideon**  
*Kwajalein Hourglass*

**U.S. ARMY KWAJALEIN ATOLL, Republic of the Marshall Islands.** – U.S. Army Garrison-Kwajalein Atoll headquarters was officially transferred from U.S. Army Space and Missile Defense Command/Army Forces Strategic Command to Installation Management Command in a ceremony Oct. 2 at the metro hangar.

The ceremony marked the official establishment of U.S. Army Garrison Command Kwajalein Atoll, or USAG-KA as part of the IMCOM organization. The official party consisted of Debra Zedalis, regional director of Installation Management Command-Pacific, USAG-KA Sgt. Maj. Roderick Prioleau, and Col. Nestor A. Sadler, commander of USAG-KA.

A brief history of Kwajalein narrated how the command has changed through the years. Kwajalein officially became Kwajalein Test Site in July 1964, under the U.S. Army Space and Strategic Defense Command. Command changed to SMDC in October 1997.

IMCOM was stood up in October 2002, in an effort to standardize Army garrisons. As of Wednesday, IMCOM is now responsible for synchronizing, integrating and delivering installation services and sustaining facilities in support of senior commanders to enable a ready and resilient Army here at USAG-KA.

The IMCOM colors were uncased by Zedalis, Sadler and Prioleau. The uncasing ceremony serves two purposes.

First, it allows the commander the opportunity to assess the readiness and discipline of the unit and second, marks a definite point in time to commemorate the beginning or continuation of a unit's history and lineage. The uncasing signified the official transfer of all base operations from SMDC to IMCOM.

Sadler welcomed guests and distinguished visitors to the ceremony. "This is a special day for the Kwajalein family," he said. "Today truly marks a day of unity as Installation Management Command becomes an official partner of the Space and Missile Defense Command."

Sadler said that IMCOM's expertise in the management and resourcing of base operations will have a positive impact on the quality of life for the residents and the mission.

"The Kwaj family will no doubt continue to work as a



*Photo by Sheila C. Gideon*

**Col. Nestor Sadler, U.S. Army Garrison, Kwajalein Atoll, commander, and Debra Zedalis, director of Installation Management Command-Pacific, cut the cake after the uncasing ceremony Oct. 2.**

team and continue to meet and exceed all expectations as we move forward together," he said in closing.

Next, Ronald Chronister, deputy to the commander, SMDC, thanked the Kwajalein team for all their hard work, especially with the busy mission schedule over the past few months.

"What you all do here is phenomenal in terms of its criticality to the defense of the nation," he said.

Chronister visited Kwajalein earlier this year in January. He was given a tour of the island infrastructure and saw firsthand the magnitude of repairs needed.

"I was a little concerned when I left," Chronister noted. On Tuesday, he repeated the same tour and was very encouraged by the progress that had been made.

"I think that's a direct reflection of the base ops being

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**FLOODS from Page 3**

Guard and a former commander of the 117th Space Battalion.

“His understanding of the ARSST mission and capabilities was critical to the integration of the team with CDOT,” Bortolutti said. “Jonny Olson, CDOT incident commander, and Keith Schafer, CDOT operations director, were very supportive of the integration of ARSST capabilities and products into the overall recovery operations.”

The 117th Space Battalion is a specialized unit, and is the most deployed unit in the National Guard.

“The 117th Space Battalion has an extensive background in the application of satellite technology, and it is the only unit of its kind in the entire National Guard,” Bortolutti said. “We have consistently rotated teams every nine months into Iraq and Afghanistan since 2006 as part of our ongoing mission.

“Historically speaking, the ARSST provides combat commanders with the staff expertise necessary to fully utilize the space component of communications, precision engagement, geospatial intelligence, environmental effects on satellite



*Photo by Colorado Army National Guard*

**Capt. Chris Meyer, Army Space Support Team operations officer, 117th Space Battalion left, gives guidance to Pvt. Miranda Yost, geospatial engineer, on the type of products Colorado civilian authorities need during the Colorado floods in September.**

communications, and overhead persistent infrared imaging capabilities to efficiently and effectively communicate, navigate, target the enemy, and protect forces,” he continued. “These areas of expertise are also relevant to providing assistance during national and local disasters as adapted capabilities to those without such impressive resources.”

Most recently, the team provided assistance to authorities during the Black Forest and West Fork fires in Colorado during the summer.

In May, they provided assistance via limited remote support for the tornadoes that hit Moore, Okla. And in 2012, the team was called upon to provide assistance during Colorado’s High Park and Waldo Canyon fires.

“This was the second time this year the 117th Space Battalion deployed a space team to assist in civil support and recovery efforts,” Bortolutti said. “We remain committed to assisting Colorado in a time of need. It’s evident that Army space capability adds value to civil support efforts.”

The 117th Space Battalion falls under the 89th Troop Command Brigade, Colorado Army National Guard, based out of Denver. The 117th works closely with the Army’s 1st Space Brigade.

*Editor’s note: This article was adapted from a press release written by Ashley Mohr, public relations manager, Colorado Department of Transportation Regions 3 and 4.*

## Signal Soldiers earn prestigious German award



*Courtesy photo*

**Six Company A, 53rd Signal Battalion Soldiers earned the Silver Badge during the German Armed Forces Proficiency Badge qualifications hosted by the Walter Reed Army Institute of Research that began in August. From left are: Pfc. Eric Merritt, Spc. Edy Bridges, Staff Sgt. Justin Hamic, Staff Sgt. Ruben Martell, Sgt. Kyler Colgrove, and Staff Sgt. Levi Lindley. The event, which is part of the German armed forces annual physical fitness test, took place through August and September and featured a revamped set of challenges including timed swimming, timed sprinting, and 9 mm qualifications.**

## CSM Ross visits Soldiers in Pacific theater



*Courtesy photo*

**Command Sgt. Maj. James N. Ross, third from left, command sergeant major, U.S. Army Space and Missile Defense Command/Army Forces Strategic Command, meets with Soldiers from D Company, 53rd Signal Battalion located at Wahiawa, Hawaii, Sept. 20. Ross was on a trip meeting with outlying units of the command in the Pacific theater, and spent the day with the company's Soldiers.**

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[transferred] to IMCOM," he said.

Everyone at SMDC is committed to this transfer and will continue to support the RTS mission, Chronister added.

Finally, Zedalis addressed the guests. She began by saying, "To the entire Kwajalein community, I extend an official welcome to the Installation Management Command-Pacific region."

On Wednesday, USAG-KA became the Pacific region's 12th garrison and the second garrison in support of SMDC. IMCOM-P includes American and Korean soldiers, supporting U.S., Korean, Japanese, and now Marshallese, civilians and

contractors in all garrisons. The region supports more than 202,000 servicemembers and their families spanning an area of 15,000 nautical miles that make up the Pacific area.

But IMCOM is even more than the Pacific. IMCOM is a worldwide enterprise covering 17 time zones, seven different countries on three different continents, with more than 76,000 employees serving more than 1.2 million active-duty Soldiers, civilian employees and contractors in 74 garrisons.

"And so it is an exciting day for everyone in the Pacific region and in IMCOM," Zedalis said. "I hope it is an exciting day for everyone here

at Kwajalein because you have now joined an installation management enterprise that spans the globe, and contributes significantly to the U.S. Army.

"I tell our team we have the best jobs in the U.S. Army, because daily we get to positively impact the lives of our great Soldiers and families," she added. "To all the units represented here today, I wish to personally thank you for your support. I know that Col. Sadler and his garrison staff will work with you to ensure they provide the finest installation capabilities, services and quality of life for your Soldiers, civilians and families."

### CSM visits 94th AAMDC Soldiers



Courtesy photo

U.S. Army Space and Missile Defense Command/Army Forces Strategic Command's Command Sergeant Major James N. Ross visits with the 94th Army Air and Missile Defense Command at Fort Shafter, Hawaii, Sept. 19. Ross visited with leaders to learn about Soldier issues and what the command can do to support their needs.

### HHC conducts Change of Command



Photo by DJ Montoya

1st Sgt. Joshua S. Ochs, left, Headquarters and Headquarters Company, U.S. Army Space and Missile Defense Command/Army Forces Strategic Command, receives the company guidon from Capt. Eric J. Sidio, the new HHC commander, during a Change of Command in the Training Rooms of Building 3, USASMDC/ARSTRAT Operational Headquarters, Sept. 27 at Peterson Air Force Base, Colo. Col. (P) Jeffrey A. Farnsworth, deputy commanding general for operations, was the senior officer presiding over the ceremony.

### Pays to play



Courtesy photo

Capt. Adrian Donnahoe, center, presents the first place team members from the 1st Space Battalion Golf Tournament with their trophy Sept. 28. From left are: Col. Tom Powell, Master Sgt. Rex Fortner, Donnahoe, retired Sgt. Maj. Chet Miller and Michael Viland. The tournament took place at the Air Force Academy's Eisenhower Golf Club Silver Course in Colorado Springs, Colo., and included 58 participants. More than \$2,100 was raised to help fund the battalion's annual holiday party.