

Redstone Rocket

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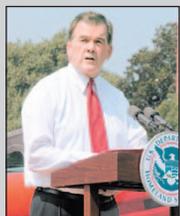
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Buyouts helping shape work force

Voluntary separations
better than alternative

By SKIP VAUGHN

Rocket editor

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Some people need an extra push to end their government careers. And money seems to be the way.

That's the idea behind Voluntary Separation Incentive Pay — giving people a buyout to avoid involuntary layoffs. It has worked here for years and continues to be used in fiscal 2003.

"Voluntary Separation Incentive Pay is a tool that was authorized by Congress to allow management to negate the adverse effects of reduction in force and base closures," Lori Reynolds, a supervisory management planning specialist in Personnel and Training Directorate, said.

When approved for a buyout of up to \$25,000, a worker leaves to save someone who might have been separated involuntarily. The buyout amount is based on the

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Photo by Skip Vaughn

PERSONNEL STAFF— Lori Reynolds, left, a supervisory management planning specialist, talks with management planning analyst Carolyn Wolfe at the Personnel and Training Directorate.

Army's new chief of staff returns from retirement

Gen. Pete Schoomaker
had 31-year career

ARMY NEWS SERVICE

WASHINGTON — In a small, inconspicuous Pentagon ceremony Gen. Pete Schoomaker came out of retirement Aug. 1, and swore to uphold the duties as the Army's 35th chief of staff.

Secretary of Defense Donald Rumsfeld was the first to make remarks during the ceremony, which was held in the office of Les Brownlee, the acting Army secretary. More than once Rumsfeld thanked Schoomaker and his wife, Cindy, for returning to duty.

"I'm absolutely delighted that General Schoomaker is going to undertake this responsibility," Rumsfeld said. "It's an enormously important one — not just for the Army but for the country."

Before retiring in August 2000, Schoomaker served 31 years in the military. He said that he knows this Army is very different from the one he entered.

"I truly feel blessed to be part of the Army's future," Schoomaker said. "I have the opportunity to contend and help the Army as it becomes more relevant and ready."

Schoomaker will lead the Army on the heels of retired Gen. Eric Shinseki, the former chief of staff of the Army. Shinseki started the move toward transformation and later oversaw an Army transforming while at war.

The War on Terror is not a new war, according to a statement Schoomaker released shortly after his swearing-in ceremony. Twenty-three years ago in the Iranian desert during Operation Desert One, Schoomaker said he lost eight of his comrades.

Schoomaker said he knew grief, but he didn't know that he was in the opening engagements of this country's long struggle against terrorism.

"Our enemies have been waging (this war) for some time, and



Photo by Jerome Howard/ARNEWS

TAKING OFFICE— Gen. Pete Schoomaker is sworn in as the Army's 35th chief of staff by Les Brownlee, acting Army secretary, in the Pentagon Aug. 1. Schoomaker's wife, Cindy, is holding the Bible.

it will continue for the foreseeable future," according to the statement. "As the president has stated, 'This is a different kind of war, against a different kind of enemy.' It is a war we must win, a war for our very way of life."

Schoomaker's vast experience in both conventional and special operations, along with his genuine care and concern for soldiers and their families qualifies him to lead the Army at a very critical time in history, Brownlee said in a press release.

See **Chief** on page 9

Letters to the editor

Scouts appreciate Redstone support

During their 14-year history, Boy Scout Troop and Cub Pack 400 have enjoyed the support of the Redstone Arsenal Thrift Shop, the Civilian and Officer Women's Club, the NCO Academy, units of the School Brigade and many of the caring members of the Bicentennial Chapel family.

The Thrift Shop, women's club and members of the chapel family have provided funds and materials to ensure that the boys participate in as many character-building activities as possible. The NCO Academy and School Brigade have

provided some of the most caring soldiers to act as father and mother stand-ins at events that require the presence of a parent or guardian. The majority of the boys in Troop and Pack 400 are from single-parent moderate to low income families and would be excluded from the Scouting program were it not for the support of these caring organizations and individuals. Thank you, Redstone, for your support.

Albert Farrar Sr.
Scoutmaster

Rules at play for gyms on post

I would like to inquire as to why NASA employees are allowed to use the Army fitness/wellness facilities and gyms, but Army employees are not allowed to use the NASA fitness center? The NASA fitness center offers some activities that the Army does not offer. It only seems fair that all federal government employees be allowed to use all the government facilities on post. What could be done to change this situation?

Bob Mulkey
AMCOM Safety Office

Editor's note: The garrison provided

the following response. "The facilities that the National Aeronautics and Space Administration operates for the enjoyment and recreation of the Marshall Space Flight Center staff are subject to their own NASA rules and regulations and their rules do not allow non-NASA affiliates access to their fitness centers. Our Army Morale Welfare and Recreation facilities and programs, however, are covered by AR 215-1, which allows federal government civilians who work on Army installations (DoD, FBI, TVA, homeland security, as well as NASA) to use the Army's facilities subject to capacity considerations and the commander's approval."

Stand up for Sept. 11 ceremony

Last year Team Redstone through the Americans, United We Stand Committee planned and performed a ceremony in recognition of a tragedy that should not be forgotten, neither in history books nor in our lifetime. On Sept. 11, 2002 that ceremony was performed in the Sparkman Center's Bob Jones Auditorium. The ceremony was attended by representatives of the federal, state and local governments and fully supported by the AMCOM and garrison commanders at its highest levels.

The Americans, United We Stand Committee envisioned a setting that would bring together our diverse work force. It was not only purposed to give recognition to those who lost their lives in the Sept. 11 terrorist attack, its aftermath and the heroes who risked their lives in the rescue of others; it was also to unite Team Redstone's diverse work force and to encourage unity on the days

following under the symbols and banner of our nation. Thus the saying goes, "I'm Proud to be an American," which brought an end to the ceremony.

We would like to continue where we left off last year and to establish a tradition that will keep our focus on "One nation, indivisible with liberty and justice for all." While it may seem out of place to celebrate on the very day we lost so many people to such a tragedy, it was this tragedy that brought us to the realization that we need to stand together under one banner and give credence to the fact that we, as citizens of this great nation, have inalienable rights. This tragedy violated our rights and infringed on the very freedoms we have for so long enjoyed.

It is with this same vision we plan to celebrate our American heritage and give

See Ceremony on page 3

Manage with perception in mind

The response to "best friend misses buyout" provides the official bureaucratic response, and I'm sure all was done within the rules when determination was made on which positions were eligible for buyout. The perception of the majority is: those in power with the knowledge make these determinations with themselves or their chosen few in mind. It's normal to suspect those of power, especially if you are not and when you are not privy to all the knowledge. The example is typical, but is the perception true? ... One would think, AMCOM would make every effort to avoid this perception. It negatively affects morale and productivity of the non-chosen many. Some say perception

is the truth, to those who perceive. So what does that make our managers?

Let's expand our ethics to include the perception of wrongdoing and favoritism where possible. With the ability to re-engineer positions, move slots, etc., we should manipulate the system to avoid the perception, not encourage it. When VSIP is justified, simply apply it by time in service or use a lottery system.

Name withheld by request

Editor's note: The statutes and regulations that govern Voluntary Separation Incentive Pay do not include a lottery system as an option, according to Personnel and Training Directorate officials.

Taking note of concert audience

Initially when I heard about the Aug. 9 Ted Nugent/Lou Gramm concert on Redstone Arsenal, I thought, oh well, MWR is missing the point about the Army's slogan "Army of One" yet again.

Since 2001, the headliners of the MWR/Miller Genuine Draft Concert Series at Redstone Arsenal have been the following: 2001 Lynyrd Skynyrd, 2002 Styx and Kansas, and 2003 Ted Nugent and Lou Gramm.

At first my thinking concerned why is MWR promoting exclusivity within a U.S. military base? It seems that way because all of the bands for the past three years in a row have been bands that cater mainly to white male audiences.

As a side note, Civil War era rebel

battle flags were banned during the 2001 Lynyrd Skynyrd show. That is pretty ironic that MWR banned the rebel battle flags but promoted a band that uses a rebel battle flag as one of their main logos. That is quick thinking, MWR! This is the problem I have with MWR

See Concert on page 3

Quote of the week

'Every single one of us has the power of greatness, because greatness is determined by service to yourself and to others.'

— Oprah Winfrey

An open lane random survey

Who is your role model?

By **KELLEY LANE**
Staff writer
kelleyqa@bellsouth.net



*Pvt. Chastity Polin,
Charlie Company*

"My mom is my hero because I admire all of her strength in going through all the hard times that she's had in life. I look up to her for that."



Linda Harris, Army civilian

"My mother is my role model because she has struggled a lot to get to where she is. I just admire her strength. She's been through a lot."



*Pvt. Charles Lombardo,
Charlie Company*

"My role models would have to be Jesus Christ and veterans. Jesus has helped me out through my whole life and veterans because they fought for us and our freedom."



*Pvt. Zach Gravelle,
Charlie Company*

"John Wayne, he's just the man."

Redstone Rocket

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The Provost Marshal Office provided the following list of reported incidents:

Aug. 1 — A contractor was found to be driving with a suspended driver's license during an inspection of his vehicle at Gate 9. He was issued a violation notice and released.

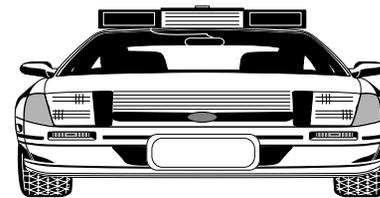
Aug. 2 — An individual observed driving in an erratic manner on Patton Road was stopped and found to be under the influence of alcohol and in possession of controlled substances. The individual was transported to the Provost Marshal Office where she was issued violation notices and held until her blood alcohol level reached the legal limit.

Aug. 6 — A contractor was found to be driving with a suspended driver's license and found to have an arrest warrant outstanding during an inspection of his vehicle at Gate 9. He was issued a violation notice and released to the Huntsville Police Department.

Aug. 6 — An individual was stopped for operating his motor vehicle while it was raining without his headlights on and found to be driving with a suspended driver's license and also found to have an arrest warrant outstanding. He was issued a violation notice and released to the Huntsville Police Department.

Aug. 6 — An individual working on Redstone Arsenal was charged with misuse of a government computer after an investigation by the Provost Marshal Office revealed that he had been using a government computer to access sexually explicit adult web sites. Investigation continues by the Provost Marshal Office.

Aug. 7 — A soldier reported that someone removed a pressure washer from



his carport area which was left unsecured valued at \$510. Investigation continues by the Provost Marshal Office.

Aug. 7 — A contractor working at Redstone Arsenal reported that she has been receiving harassing telephone calls from someone while at her workplace. Investigation continues by the Provost Marshal Office.

Aug. 7 — A dependent reported that someone by unknown means broke her vehicle's passenger side window while at an off-post location and stole her purse containing her military dependent identification card.

Aug. 7 — A soldier reported that someone removed his Murray lawn mower valued at \$139 which was unsecured in his carport area. Investigation continues by the Provost Marshal Office.

Aug. 7 — An individual reported that someone by unknown means scratched her vehicle while it was parked and unattended in a parking area off Patton Road. Investigation continues by the Provost Marshal Office.

Violation notices issued: speeding, 20; parking violation, 1; driving with a suspended/revoked/canceled driver's license, 3; driving without headlights when required, 1; no proof of liability insurance, 1; and failure to obey traffic control device, 1.

■ Concert tour entertained other music options

Concert

continued from page 2

and the MWR/Miller Genuine Draft Summer Concerts. The concerts have no concern for the other thousands of military residences on Redstone who are not of a white male demographic.

If MWR is really concerned about morale, welfare and recreation of all soldiers and families on Redstone, MWR would focus on a show that would bring together the diversity of Redstone and not drive a wedge by bringing mainly white male audience summer concerts to Redstone. With that said, I have come to the realization that my thinking about this was only focusing on MWR and their lack of foresight and this is only part of the problem.

The other focus is the fact the Miller brewing company is in the business to sell beer, and based on marketing and demographic data, the main consumer of Miller beer is white males; hence the concerts that focus on white male audiences. Basically the MWR/Miller Genuine Draft Concert series is just one big commercial to sell Miller beer.

My suggestion to help build Redstone as a unit using entertainment would be to take the \$50,000 to \$90,000 budget for the evening concerts and contract 4 to 5 bands to create a Redstone Jazz and Blues festival. This festival could start in the early afternoon to allow parents and their small children to enjoy some of the

activities and then as the evening progressed have better and better musical acts. This would not only bring more people out to the shows, but it would give people of all ethnic backgrounds something to talk about on Monday morning after the show and this in turn enhances communication overall and the end product could be a tighter more united Redstone military community. And in reality isn't that what MWR should really be about?

Name withheld by request

Editor's note: MWR management provided the following response. "Thank you for taking the time to send us your thoughts and comments concerning Army Morale, Welfare and Recreation and festivals/concerts on Redstone Arsenal. Customer feedback is crucial in providing the customer driven MWR events, programs and services. The Army MWR program is a quality of life program that provides community recreational activities and services. Two of our primary goals are customer satisfaction and customer volume. Your input will give us a good chance to explain the Army Concert Tour history and selection process to the entire community.

"Since 1995 Redstone Arsenal MWR has applied to the Community and Family Support Center's Army Entertainment Division to become a host installation for the Miller Concert Tour. Redstone Arsenal was selected in 1995, 1996, 2001, 2002 and 2003.

"In 1995 the two-day open air Concert Tour included country recording artists David Ball and Sammy Kershaw the first night.

Ceremony

continued from page 2

recognition to those who have and continue to give of themselves to make this a great nation. It is also our vision to continue this tradition in years to come and assure those who follow that we are still a great nation of diverse people united under one banner. So as we light candles for our fallen heroes, as we give recogni-

There were approximately 1,000 in attendance. The following evening the tour hosted a rhythm and blues and soul concert featuring Vybe, an "up and coming" female group opening for the "Prince of Romance" Peabo Bryson. Bryson had previously won Grammy's and an Oscar for his hits. Approximately 375 were in attendance. The artists for both concerts were very good but unfortunately they were poorly attended. Feedback received after the R&B concert focused on preferences for a different R&B venue. 'An indoor venue with air conditioning' would have been preferred where concert-goers could have "dressed nice and possibly had dinner prior to the concert" versus sitting on a lawn chair or blanket on the field.

"After being chosen to host the tour in 1996, the headliner pulled out several weeks prior to the concert due to illness. The country music concert was canceled that year.

"In 2000 the local MWR booked Country Music Association's Artist of the Year Neal McCoy to closed out the Springfest with a concert. Neither the Springfest nor the concert was well attended. Approximately 850 attended the concert.

"In 2001 Classic Rock musicians were making a strong comeback. Together with Army Entertainment Tour managers, Redstone Arsenal MWR chose the Lynyrd Skynyrd/ 38 Special show based on their popularity, radio Arbitron ratings, and work force demographics in our market. They entertained close to 5,000 concert-goers on Redstone Arsenal. It was the most successful, highest grossing concert on the tour that year and best attended.

"We continued with the classic rock genre with Styx and Kansas for 2002 based on the success of the 2001 show. Again, classic rock proved successful with close to 4,700 concert-goers in attendance, despite the strong winds and rain.

"Promoting exclusivity is in no way a goal of the Concert tour but rather to bring in a quality entertainment package that will

tion to those missing in action and the fearless that continue to stand; this Sept. 11 we want to take time to celebrate our citizenship and say, "I'm Proud to be an American."

Anyone interested in serving on the Americans United We Stand Committee, please send an e-mail to September11@redstone.army.mil.

Samuel Wright
chairman, Americans United
We Stand Committee

appeal to thousands of patrons and at a good value. The track record seems to prove the successful mix of Classic Rock with the Redstone Arsenal community as well the surrounding areas.

"Demographics, Arbitron ratings and a proven genre again were key components in the selection of classic rock entertainers Ted Nugent and Lou Gramm for 2003.

"Redstone Arsenal was one of only 11 installations selected to host the Miller Lite Army Concert Tour this year. Miller Lite and Miller Genuine Draft personnel have never requested or been involved in the selection of artists or entertainers for Redstone Arsenal. It is rather a joint effort between installation MWR personnel, AED and the concert tour promoter, Glenn Smith Presents Inc.

"Other national sponsors for the Army Concert Tour include AT&T, Bank One, Pepsi Twist, Gillette and Jack Daniel's Country Cocktails. National sponsors fund a significant portion of the costs for the Army Concert Tour or many of the installations including Redstone Arsenal could not hold events of this magnitude, nor bring it to the community for an almost unheard of low price of \$15 in advance.

"Media sponsorship was also secured locally from WTAK, WDRM together with Clear Channel Communications, WAAY TV Channel 31 and The Huntsville Times to help promote the community-wide event.

"Outdoor concerts and festivals in general are risky business ventures and can be very costly. A Redstone Arsenal Jazz and Blues festival could possibly be successful and MWR management would welcome proposals from music promoters to host such an event in a mutually beneficial partnership.

"We thank you for your input and ask you to continue providing your comments and feedback to MWR. MWR is one of your most valuable benefits for working on Redstone Arsenal. It's for you and your family ... for all of your life. Visit us online at www.redstonemwr.com."

Dental clinic gives soldiers something to smile about

Cleanings, fillings fill days' routine

By **KELLEY LANE**

staff writer
kelleyqa@bellsouth.net

The Army strives to keep its soldiers in top form. This includes diet, exercise and excellent medical care. It also includes something that might not spring to mind at first, their teeth.

Redstone's Dental Clinic, located inside Fox Army Health Center, is at work ensuring soldiers' teeth are all they can be.

The clinic provides maintenance, diagnostic and treatment services for active duty servicemembers. Its services are part of a soldier's benefits and are provided at no cost to the soldier. The clinic does exams and cleanings, routine fillings, root canals, crown and bridge work, and oral surgery that does not require general anesthesia. Those needing to be put to sleep for a procedure are sent to the clinic's headquarters in Fort Campbell, Ky., as are those needing more specialized treatment that Redstone cannot provide.

Cleanings and fillings take up most of the schedule.

"Right now, it's getting the students ready to go," Pat Schell, medical clerk for the Dental Clinic, said. "They've been to basic training, so this is really the first



Photo by Kelley Lane

HOT SEAT— Dental assistant Michelle Petersen prepares Pvt. Tyler Houvener for X-rays as Pat Schell, left, checks his chart.

place that they've had time to see anybody. About one-third of our appointments are going to the students."

The students' dental records are reviewed by Dr. (Col.) Robert Toney on

their arrival and then a list is sent, to their first sergeant, bearing the names of those who need to come based on their X-rays. An appointment has already been made for them.

Those with a dental injury or unanticipated problem can report to sick call at the

clinic Monday through Friday at 7:30 a.m. "That's something we're trying to remind folks of," Schell said. "We still have people coming into the afternoon saying 'This has been hurting for two days.'"

Depending on the number of people there for sick call, the problem may be resolved right away. "If someone comes in, they're hurting and need a filling, and no one else is there then they can go ahead and take care of that filling most of the time," Schell said. The staff has more than 50 years of combined experience in dentistry and in the clinic.

In addition to Toney, contractor dentist Dr. George Painter and two hygienists are on staff. The clinic is open weekdays from 7:30 a.m. until 4 p.m. and is closed from 11:30 to noon for lunch. It is also closed on federal and training holidays. After hours and on weekends or holidays, those needing assistance should call 955-8888 and follow the automated prompts. During normal operating hours, the desk can be reached at 876-1643 for appointments or information.

Schell said the clinic still receives many calls from dependents and retirees seeking dental services. While staff members are happy to provide referrals or a list of off-post dentists, the services at the clinic are restricted to active duty. "Every day we still get calls, even though the insurance program has been out there for maybe seven years or so," Schell said. "Right around school time we have a lot of moms calling for their kids."

Scouting programs on post have signup opportunities

GARRISON RELEASE

Scouting teaches children values and an awareness of the world around them. Redstone Arsenal and North Alabama both have active Boy and Girl Scout programs that meet on the Arsenal.

In addition to local activities, the Scouts participate in a variety of North Alabama and national events ranging from campouts to exploring the Space and Rocket Center.

It is easy to get involved in Scouts.

To join the Boy Scouts, call the Scout office on Drake Avenue at 883-7071 and ask about joining Redstone Arsenal Troop 308. The requirements for joining are that the boy must have completed fifth-grade or be 11 years old or has earned the Arrow of Light Award but is under 18. The troop meets most Mondays from 7-8:30 p.m. at the Scout Hut, building 3466, at the cor-

ner of Snooper and Hercules. Its next meeting is Aug. 18. Other upcoming events are CPR training Sept. 8 and a campout Sept. 20-21. Cave exploring will be the theme for the campout.

To join Cub Scouts, watch for the Williams Elementary signup night and sign up for Troop 234; or you can call Col. Bob Devlin at 876-8861 or e-mail at devlinrj@redstone.army.mil. The requirements for joining are that the boy be 7 years old and at least entering first-grade. Meetings are normally one hour a week at School Age Services. The kickoff camping and fishing derby will be in September.

To join the Girl Scouts, you can show up at the registration clinic Aug. 23 and Sept. 6 from 11 a.m. until 1 p.m. at Riggs field off Jordan Lane; or call Regina Sullivan at (256) 551-4763. The troops will start meeting in late August.

First lesson for young students: Stay safe

Provost Marshal Office gives back-to-school tips

PROVOST MARSHAL RELEASE

The reopening of local schools means a return to busy hallways, band rehearsal and football practice. It also means busy streets and sidewalks.

Members of the Provost Marshal Office members want youngsters to follow their back-to-school safety suggestions.

Riding the bus

School bus transportation is safe. In fact, buses are safer than cars. Even so, last year 26 students were killed and another 9,000 were injured in incidents involving school buses. More often than not, these deaths and injuries didn't occur in a crash, but as the pupils were entering and exiting the bus. Remember these safety tips:

- Have a safe place to wait for your bus, away from

traffic and the street.

- Stay away from the bus until it comes to a complete stop and the driver signals you to enter.
- When being dropped off, exit the bus and walk 10 giant steps away from the bus. Keep a safe distance between you and the bus. Also, remember that the bus driver can see you best when you are back away from the bus.
- Use the handrail to enter and exit the bus.
- Stay away from the bus until the driver gives his or her signal that it's OK to approach.
- Be aware of the street traffic around you. Drivers are required to follow certain rules of the road concerning school buses, however, not all do. Protect yourself and watch out.

Walking and biking

Even if you don't ride in a motor vehicle, you still have to protect yourself. Because of minimal supervision, young pedestrians face a wide variety of decision-making situations and dangers while walking to and from school.

Here are a few basic safety tips to follow:

- Mind all traffic signals and the crossing guards — never cross the street against a light, even if you don't see any traffic coming.
- Walk your bike through intersections.
- Walk with a buddy.
- Wear reflective material; it makes you more visible to street traffic.

Car passengers

- You might have heard before that most traffic crashes occur close to home — they do.
- Safety belts are the best form of protection passengers have in the event of a crash. They can lower your risk of injury by 45 percent.
- You are four times more likely to be seriously injured or killed if ejected from the vehicle in a crash.
- Everyone needs to be buckled up properly. That means older kids in seat belts, younger kids in booster seats and little kids in child safety seats.

Bicyclist struck by car returns to Huntsville home

Research lab employee was en route to work

By MORGAN ANDRIULLI
For the Rocket

Redstone employee David Stone returned home from the hospital July 31, one week after being struck head-on by a motorist while bicycle commuting to work.

Stone, 31, suffered extensive upper body injuries, including a broken collarbone, ruptured spleen, a collapsed lung and nerve damage to his left arm and right eye. He is resting comfortably at home, according to Stacey Stone, his wife.

The long-term prognosis for the arm, which is paralyzed, is uncertain at this time, according to David Stone.

“Right now, we're looking at about six months for the arm, one to four weeks for the eye (requiring a patch) and four to six weeks for the collarbone,” he said. “The spleen is gone, but there is no other damage. I'm happy to get the healing process under way.”

Stone, of the Research Development and Engineering Center, was to begin physical therapy last week. He believes he can return to part-time work in “a couple of weeks.”

“I can probably work from home. With the modern marvels of a laptop, calling card and a web page, I can do just about anything from the house,” said Stone, team leader for non-metallic materials and composites for the Materials Branch

of the Aviation Engineering Directorate.

Support has been “excellent” from the community, friends and family, he said. “I haven't had so many visitors, ever. We had to keep a logbook — who called, who brought flowers, who brought food.”

‘I'm happy to get the healing process under way.’

— David Stone
RD&E Center

Though he does not recall the accident, Stone said he distinctly remembers turning around on Redstone Road, west of Memorial Parkway because he saw that it was too foggy for safe cycling onto the Arsenal. He last remembers riding eastward on Hobbs Road near Cheney Thompson Road under clear conditions. The police accident report lists the location of the collision on Hobbs Road, between Chunn and Wellingburg. He said there is “no way” he could have been riding in the opposing lane or could have pulled in front of the motorist at the time of the accident.

The accident report states that the driver claims to have looked down to “hit a bee” at the time of the accident.

Stone transferred to RD&E Center from the Naval Air Systems Command in Maryland in March 2000. While in Huntsville, he has been an active advocate of cycling as a routine choice for transportation and was instrumental in campaigning for paved shoulders on the Four Mile Post Road extension and the upcoming widening of Patton Road.

Question & answer on alcohol abuse

Mike Sabolek, director of the Army Substance Abuse Program, provided the following information on alcohol abuse.

Q: What is the difference between “passing out,” and “blacking out”?

A: Passing out is losing consciousness. A blackout is an amnesia-like period that is often associated with heavy drinking. Someone who is, or has been drinking may appear to be perfectly normal. He or she seems to function quite normally with the task at hand. Yet later,

the person has no memory of what transpired. The blank spaces in memory may be total or partial. A person who has been drinking and who experiences a blackout will not be able to recall how he got home, how the party ended, how he drove the commander's vehicle, how she did open-heart surgery, or how the important decisions were made at a staff meeting.

For more information or training opportunities, call the ASAP at 842-9899.

Strykers make first overseas deployment

Brigade combat team has training in Korea

ARMY NEWS SERVICE

FORT LEWIS, Wash. — After “grinding” through two years of training, a unit from the Army’s first Stryker Brigade Combat Team flew to Korea for its first international training mission July 30.

Sixty soldiers and six Stryker vehicles, from the Fort Lewis-based 3rd Brigade, 2nd Infantry Division’s, Company C, 5th Battalion, 20th Infantry Regiment, flew from McChord Air Force Base, Wash., on two C-17 Globemasters and then moved to a live-fire training exercise shortly after arriving.

“It’s the first time we really get the chance to do a long-haul movement with the Strykers,” said SSgt. Matthew Goodine, the noncommissioned officer in charge of the battalion’s force modernization office.

The training exercise affords the soldiers the opportunity to conduct realistic training and familiarize themselves with the terrain and conditions on the Korean peninsula.

The unit wasn’t allowed to deploy outside the U.S. during its training period because of its congressional mandate, Goodine said. The Army also wasn’t allowed to form more than three Stryker brigades until the first brigade’s rotations at the National Training Center at Fort Irwin, Calif., or the Joint Readiness Train-

ing Center at Fort Polk, La., were reviewed, Goodine added.

After “grinding” through the last two years, Goodine said it was exciting to see the payoff.

“There’s pain involved in standing up a unit, so being at the culmination of that, we’re ready to go out and start doing stuff and being operational,” Goodine said. “It’s just a good feeling. When you put that much work into something, it’s always good to see it through to completion.”

In addition to being a great training opportunity for the infantry soldiers, the week long trip to Korea also gives other U.S. forces an opportunity to check out the newest member of the Army’s team, Goodine said.

“I think a lot of the guys are excited because we’re part of the 2nd ID (Infantry Division), and the 2nd ID doesn’t know what we do,” Goodine said. “So, we’re getting a chance to go over there and show the folks with the 8th Army and the 2nd ID a new capability that those who are in the Army can do.”

The 2nd ID, part of the U.S. VIII Army, is headquartered at Camp Red Cloud, South Korea. Most of the division’s units are there but the 3rd BCT is at Fort Lewis. They were chosen to be the Army’s first Stryker BCT in 2000 and were recently certified for overseas deployments after a rotation at JRTC.

Cpl. Matthew Sagabaen, a gun team leader, said all the training reminded him a little of school sports.



Photo by Gerry Gilmore

HEAVY ARMOR— The rubber-tired Stryker weighs 38,000 pounds, can mount a machine gun, grenade launcher, or a 105mm cannon, and can travel more than 60 mph on hard roads and maintain 45 mph cross-country.

“It’s like in high school football when you have two-a-days (practices) all summer you’re just waiting for the games to start,” he said.

In addition to the extended-travel training and the practice at loading and unloading, the trip also offers the unit the chance to practice setting up communications from scratch and much more.

“When we go into country, no one is going to support us digitally,” Goodine said. “So, we’re going to have to set up our own digital network so that we can practice command and control aspects as well. At a whole bunch of different levels we’re getting a chance to test stuff we haven’t done.”

Sagabaen said the training also pro-

vides the unit’s newer soldiers an opportunity to get up to speed as well.

“We’ve got a lot of new guys right now, so my priority is making sure that they get trained well,” he said.

The essence of the exercise from start to finish is speed and agility, said SSgt. Michael A. Fulmer, with transformation’s Plans and Operations office.

“We can roll the Strykers off of Fort Lewis, load them on C-17s here at McChord Air Force Base and have them on the ground ready to fight in Korea in only 12 hours,” he said.

Editor’s note: Joe Barrentine is a journalist with the Northwest Guardian at Fort Lewis, Wash.

Warrior Sweep disposes of weapons caches



Photo by SSgt. Keith Thompson

EXPLOSIVE DISCOVERY— Spec. Edgar Huezo, left, and SFC Brian Kern, both from Company A, 307th Eng. Bn., set up explosives in one of the weapons caches discovered Aug. 4 during Operation Warrior Sweep.

Ordnance found in Afghan caves

By SSgt. KEITH THOMPSON
Army News Service

AYUBKHEL VALLEY, Afghanistan — Weapons caches containing more than 75,000 pounds of miscellaneous Russian, Chinese and Pakistani ordnance found in two caves were destroyed during Operation Warrior Sweep.

The two caches were the largest among six found by coalition forces consisting of Afghan National Army soldiers, U.S. Special Forces and 82nd Airborne Division troops Aug. 3.

The troops determined that the two were to be destroyed because of their size, said SFC Charlie Holloway, an explosive ordnance disposal technician, 797th Ordnance Company.

“These caches aren’t the biggest one that have been found in theater, but they’re the biggest ones I’ve blown,” said Holloway, who added that the tunnels are believed to be part of a nearby former Taliban stronghold.

The ordnance in the caves was also traced to an improvised explosive device discovered on the road between Gardez and Khowst, said SFC Brian Kern, a platoon sergeant in the 82nd Airborne’s Company A, 307th Engineer Battalion.

“This right here was a pretty sizeable shot today,” said SSgt. Chuck Gross, an explosive ordnance disposal technician in the 704th Ordnance Company. “It’s not the kind of cache we find on a daily basis. Most of the stuff we find

is small ... this cave was definitely a major supply point for local anti-coalition militants.”

“If we can take the stuff out of their hands then we can basically inhibit the hostiles’ ability to attack us from this area,” Gross added.

“This entire area is a cache site,” said Capt. Jeffrey Ford, commander of the 797th Ord. Co. “These two were determined to be the most important – they had the most threat ordnance and that’s why we went after them.”

In addition to ridding anti-coalition forces of resources, blowing the caves gave Kern’s combat engineers a chance to try a new technique on the smaller of the two sites.

“We’re trying something new,” Kern said. “We’re using explosives not as powerful, but we’re using shape charges to collapse the cave.”

“To do this job you have to be part physicist, part chemist and the rest is pure ingenuity,” he said.

But the successful demolition of the caves couldn’t be accomplished without a team effort from the Afghan National Army, U.S. Special Forces and infantrymen from the 2nd Bn., 505th Parachute Infantry Regiment, officials said.

“Our job is to come out here and find any caches and destroy them,” said Capt. Tho Nguyen, Co. D, 2nd Battalion, 505th Parachute Inf. Regt., company commander. “We also provide security for EOD. We’ve destroyed a lot of caches.”

Operation Warrior Sweep is the largest and longest combat operation by coalition forces in Afghanistan since Operation Anaconda ended in March 2002.

Editor’s note: SSgt. Keith Thompson is a journalist with the 4th Public Affairs Detachment in Afghanistan.

Rangers have annual rendezvous on drop zone

Paratroopers gather to honor regiment

By Spec. JENNIFER EIDSON
Army News Service

FORT BENNING, Ga. — More than 1,500 Rangers of the 75th Ranger Regiment and its three battalions kicked off Ranger Rendezvous 2003 by jumping onto Fort Benning's Fryar Drop Zone Aug. 3.

Ranger Rendezvous is a weeklong regimental gathering that celebrates the unit's heritage and unites current and veteran Rangers for intramural competitions, memorial ceremonies and a regimental change of command.

The regiment's 1st and 2nd Battalions flew here from Fort Lewis, Wash., Hunter Army Airfield, Ga., to Fort Benning, Ga., prior to conducting the rare mass jump.

"They will do a jump like this every two years in concert with Ranger Rendezvous," said Brig. Gen. Howard Yellen, deputy commander of the Army Special Operations Command, and also the event's first jumper. "There is nothing more exhilarating than going out the door with the 75th Ranger Regiment."

Col. Joe Votel, commander of the 75th Ranger Regiment, said the jump is significant because it brings the entire regiment together.

"It is special to have all the battalions here, coming from outlying locations," he said. "Everyone participates in the jump. It is kind of a traditional activity for us."

Another thing that made this jump special, Votel said, was the fact that the Rangers had been to war together.

"We had the opportunity to go to combat with all of them over the past couple of years," he said. "It is a great opportunity to finish out with everybody on the drop zone."

Maj. David Morrison from the regiment's headquarters said the paratroopers jumped from 1,200 feet and had a soft, smooth landing because of low winds.

"After all the rain we had, it was nice and soft out there (on the drop zone)," Morrison said.

Airborne assaults like this are the standard at the regiment, according to Morrison.

"This is our meat and potatoes right here — jumping out and seizing the objective," he said.

Even though a storm was approaching the drop zone, veteran rangers and family members showed up for the jump, said SSgt. Jacob Cogins, a Ranger with the 75th Ranger Rgt.

"It is great to see such a turnout and this much support for the regiment as a whole," Cogins said. "It is great to meet a bunch of the old Rangers and for them to meet some of the new guys."

Although the rangers were happy to gather on the drop zone, Yellen said he knew they hadn't forgotten about the rangers who would not be able to rendezvous with them this year.

"We are all jumping here, but we still have rangers that are in harm's way," he said. "And I know all their ranger buddies will be thinking of them throughout the week as they continue to do our nation's business in support of the Global War on Terrorism."

Editor's note: Spec. Jennifer Eidson is a journalist with Army Special Operations Command at Fort Bragg, N.C.



Photo by Spec. Jennifer Eidson

RANGER RALLY— Two rangers make their way to a rally point after a mass tactical airborne assault onto Fort Benning's Fryar Drop Zone Aug. 3 during Ranger Rendezvous 2003.

Letterkenny cleans up at headquarters ceremony

Depot wins national recognition for environmental stewardship

LETTERKENNY RELEASE

FORT BELVOIR, Va. — Recent strides in the long-term cleanup of soil and groundwater at Letterkenny Army Depot, near Chambersburg, Pa., has captured the Army's highest honor for environmental stewardship.

Letterkenny Army Depot won the Secretary of the Army Environmental Award for Environmental Restoration for 2002. During a special awards ceremony held at the Army Materiel Command headquarters, Letterkenny commander Col. William Guinn accepted the award which was presented by Geoffrey Prosch, principal deputy assistant secretary of the Army for installations and environment.

"This award demonstrates the tremendous efforts and innovative techniques indicative of great civilians," Guinn said. "I am delighted that Letterkenny won this award. Our environmental team has worked long and hard for years to clean up sites which were inadvertently polluted decades ago. They truly deserve this recognition."

"While I'm honored to accept this award on behalf of Letterkenny, it is the Environmental Team who truly deserve the credit."

At Letterkenny, a 17,500-acre base that is the nation's primary provider of air defense and tactical missile support, environmental restoration work focuses on sites used in the 1940s for the maintenance, modification, storage and demilitarization of vehicles, missiles and ammunition. These past activities left behind solvents, heavy metals, petroleum hydrocarbons, polychlorinated biphenyls and volatile organic compounds.

Recent accomplishments in the cleanup of soil and groundwater at these sites earned Letterkenny its award. These successes include:

- Completing the cleanup and transfer of 563 acres of land to the local community for industrial and commercial redevelopment. At project completion, nearly 1,450 acres of restored land will go to Franklin County's Letterkenny Industrial Development Authority for reuse.
- Removal of 14,300 tons of contaminated soils from old scrap yards, landfills and storage areas.
- Pursuit of advanced technologies to clean groundwater. Letterkenny has entered into three pilot programs to

test new methods of cleaning groundwater. These methods involve the injection of hydrogen peroxide and other solutions into the groundwater's bedrock aquifer to identify contaminants and neutralize them. The results of the pilot studies were shared at the National Research Council in Washington, D.C., with the goal of helping other Army installations combat similar environmental challenges.

• Cost savings of more than \$300,000 for alternative land disposal initiatives.

A panel of non-military and Army experts, including representatives from the Department of Defense and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, judged competitors for the environmental restoration award. Each year, Army environmental professionals from around the world compete for recognition in the categories of natural resources conservation, cultural resources management, environmental quality, pollution prevention and environmental restoration.

Senior Army leaders from Army Materiel Command, including Gen. Paul Kern, commander; Lt. Gen. Richard Hack, deputy commander; and Maj. Gen. Mitchell Stevenson, deputy chief of staff for operations, attended to congratulate the depot on this achievement.

Letterkenny Depot, Teledyne launch partnership

Parties reach agreement to combine expertise

TELEDYNE BROWN RELEASE

Teledyne Brown Engineering Inc. has signed a memorandum of understanding with Letterkenny Army Depot in Chambersburg, Pa., to pursue joint hardware development and manufacturing work with the Army.

The partnership between Teledyne Brown and Letterkenny will add value to the Army by providing more efficient, cost effective manufacturing and design capabilities. Teledyne Brown has a long legacy of design engineering and precision manufacturing for NASA, the Department of Energy, the Air Force and the Army. Letterkenny provides the Aviation and Missile Command with

maintenance, modification, logistics and manufacturing capabilities for ammunitions and tactical missiles, including the Patriot.

"With this MOU in place, Teledyne Brown and Letterkenny can jointly pursue work with the Army that takes advantage of each of our core competencies," Jim Link, president of Teledyne Brown, said. "Our combined expertise will allow us to meet the Army's demands for excellence while delivering product at significant cost savings."

"This MOU will partner Letterkenny Army Depot with a world class leader in technical and engineering excellence," Col. Bill Guinn, Letterkenny commander, said. "I'm looking forward to exploring joint opportunities with Teledyne Brown that will enhance the support we provide to soldiers."

The Teledyne/Letterkenny partnership is consistent with the congressional and DoD emphasis on public-private partnerships.

Rivenburgh takes reins at Corps of Engineers

Huntsville center commander arrives from West Virginia

CORPS OF ENGINEERS RELEASE

Command of the Army Engineering and Support Center, Huntsville, changed hands in a ceremony Aug. 1 at the University of Alabama-Huntsville, Chan Auditorium.

Col. Harry Spear relinquished command to Col. John Rivenburgh.

Spear commanded the center for the last four years and will retire in the Huntsville area.

Spear was commissioned in 1973. Before coming to Huntsville, Spear commanded the Corps' Louisville District where he oversaw both civil and military construction covering a five-state area. He previously was assigned to the Mobile District Fort Rucker Area Office as a project engineer.

A native of Macon, Ga., Spear holds a bachelor's degree in building construction from Auburn University and a master of science in engineering from the University of Washington. He is a graduate of the Command and General Staff College and the Army War College.

After the change of command, Spear received the Distinguished Service Medal from Lt. Gen. Robert Flowers, the Corps of Engineers chief of engineers.

Before coming to Huntsville, Rivenburgh commanded the Huntington (W.Va.) District beginning Aug. 1, 2000 following a year of

study at the Naval War College in Newport, R.I.

Rivenburgh is a graduate of Clarkson College of Technology and has a master's degree in civil engineering from the University of Connecticut. He was commissioned through Clarkson College of Technology's ROTC in 1976. He is a graduate of the Army Command and General Staff College and the Naval War College and a registered professional engineer in Virginia.

The Huntsville Center is a major subordinate command of the Army Corps of Engineers and operates under a charter that is based on programs rather than geography. The center's mission involves programs and projects that require functions not normally accomplished by a Corps of Engineers division or district; are national or broad in scope; require a centralized management structure for the effective control of program development, coordination and execution; require the integration of facilities that cross geographical boundaries; or require commonality, standardization, multiple-site adaptation or technology transfer.

The Army Engineering and Support Center, Huntsville was established in 1967 as the Huntsville Division of the Army Corps of Engineers. At that time, it had one mission – the ballistic missile defense program called Sentinel. Since then the scope of the center's mission has evolved and diversified significantly to include a wide range of programs found nowhere else in the corps.



Courtesy photo

SIGNING PACT— Jim Link, Teledyne Brown president, signs a memorandum of understanding with Col. Bill Guinn, Letterkenny commander.

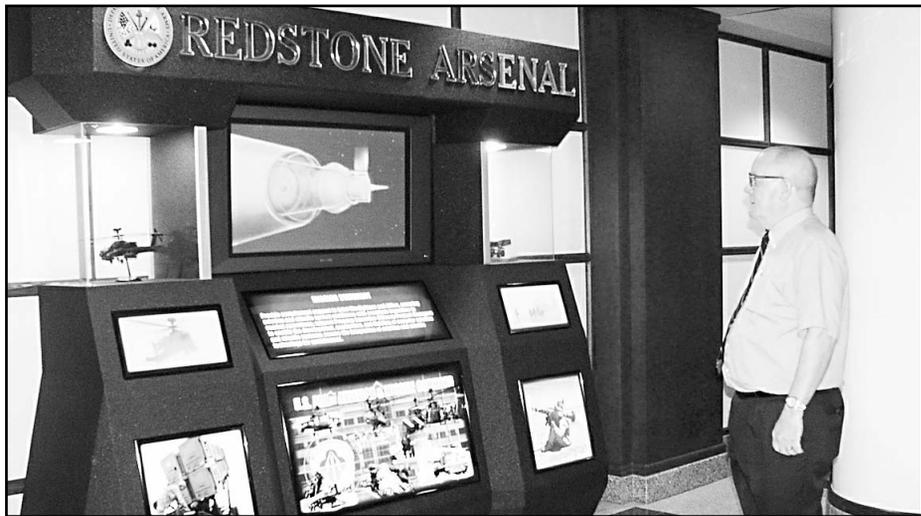


Photo by Skip Vaughn

Command display

Tom Ernst, of the Command Management Support Office, looks at the AMCOM display which was installed last week in the lobby of building 5300. The garrison provided the permanent unit which includes six back-lit panels and three different videos that play in a continual loop. The idea behind the display is to let visitors know they have entered Aviation and Missile Command headquarters and give them an idea of what the command does.

■ Command uses both reshape and special buyouts

Separation

continued from page 1

same formula used to calculate severance pay.

In fiscal 2001 the Department of Defense was also authorized to offer VSIP in different circumstances such as to correct skill imbalances, reduce the number

of supervisors in an organization or apply mission changes. These special buyouts create vacancies which management can restructure for its mission needs.

Reshape buyouts negate the need for a reduction in force; and special buyouts are used for restructuring. The Aviation and Missile Command has used both tools in fiscal 2003.

Authorizations for special buyouts come from higher headquarters — from

■ Schoomaker hails from household of career military men

Chief

continued from page 1

The Army's newest chief of staff is the first retired four-star officer ever to be called back to serve as the Army chief of staff. He and his father are also one of the few father-and-son teams to serve in the Office of the Chief of Staff of the Army.

His father, Fred Schoomaker, who also had a long-standing military career, was the assistant to Army chief of staff Gen. Harold Keith Johnson from 1964-68.

Schoomaker comes from a household

of career military men. His younger brother, Brig. Gen. Eric Schoomaker, is the chief of the Southeast Regional Medical Command.

Before hanging up his uniform in 2000, Schoomaker spent three years as commander-in-chief of the U.S. Special Operations Command at MacDill Air Force Base, Fla. Prior to that he commanded the Joint Special Operations Command, United States Special Operations Command, Fort Bragg, N.C. Then he became commanding general of the Army Special Operations Command at Fort Bragg until October 1997.

the Defense Department down through the Army Materiel Command — based on identified needs. AMCOM got 168 allocations in fiscal '03, the last 20 within the past two weeks. Gen. Paul Kern, the AMC commander, specified that those 20 had to be used for work force revitalization. This means setting up local intern, co-op or trainee positions.

The special buyout allocations are given on a fiscal year basis, meaning those approved must be off the employment rolls by Sept. 30.

As for the other type of separation incentive, 82 people took the reshape buyout in fiscal '03. Sixteen were approved during the first application period, Aug. 1-7, 2002; 13 in Aug. 8-14; and 21 in the Aug. 28 through Sept. 4 window. "And that was reshape authority which we had requested for FY '03," Reynolds said. Based on results from cost-cutting reviews and studies, management subse-

quently saw a need for another window to avert layoffs. Thirty-two people were approved from Jan. 15-22, bringing the total to 82.

"We're assessing where we are now with FY '03 reshape," Reynolds said. The command had 57 surplus employees as of last week.

Voluntary Separation Incentive Pay has been "an invaluable tool," Reynolds said. "We need to continue to create opportunities to bring new people into the work force. And separation incentives are ways to create opportunities to do that so we can continue to meet our mission needs, meet our objective force requirements."

"I think it's a wonderful tool for management to revitalize the work force, to manage a situation without using a reduction in force," management planning analyst Carolyn Wolfe said. "Voluntary separations are much better than involuntary separations."

International students have home away from home

Post residents invited to share hospitality

By **KELLEY LANE**
staff writer
kelleyna@bellsouth.net

Soldiers at Redstone know firsthand the stress of leaving their homes and families to go to unfamiliar places with unfamiliar customs. They have the comfort of being part of a group, company or mission. There are a few who do not have such an emotional and social safety net. They are far away from their homes, families, native language and pretty much everything familiar to them. They are the international military students.

These officers and NCOs come to Redstone from around the world to train as part of the Foreign Military Sales Program. The International Military Student Office strives to make them comfortable during their stay and teach them about American life, culture and history during the short time they are here.

With the assistance of the International Service Council of Huntsville, host families are found for the visiting soldiers to provide support for holidays and observances, and to give a closer look at the American way of life. While civilian host families have been an asset to the IMSO program, they would like to add service-members to the roster.

"We're trying to not only come up with a host family in the local community, but have a military family to sponsor each of these soldiers as they come on post," Scott

Huther, international military student officer, said. The office staff hopes to draw on Redstone's volunteer spirit to match some of the foreign soldiers with families on post.

Military families have experience with the hardships and joys of a soldier's life. While their uniforms may be different, their experiences may be similar. Military families are uniquely equipped to understand the situations foreign soldiers find themselves in here — miles away from home. Their involvement does not have to be complex or time consuming; simply invite the soldiers to be a part of regular family life and activities.

"It doesn't necessarily mean every day, just when they have a chance invite them into the household and be someone they can rely on while they are here as a military support in addition to their host family downtown," Huther said. "It's another support and another way for them to interface."

Huther and Ron Garrett, assistant IMS officer, want to expand the soldiers' circle of friends and acquaintances outside of the others in the program and the office itself. "We're with them a lot of the time," Huther said. "But they're just getting the perspective of us — which they like — but if they get different perspectives and meet different families then they can see how other families live."

"We don't want them to go back to their countries thinking most Americans are like Scott and myself," Garrett said. "We want them to get a better view of the



Photo by Kelley Lane

PLANNING TRIP— Discussing an upcoming rafting trip for the international student soldiers are, standing from left, Capt. Haitham Afifi from Egypt, Lt. Col. Moe Aladwan from Jordan, Lt. Hazem Khalil from Egypt, Ron Garrett and seated Scott Huther.

big picture. The only way to get that is to hang out with people, even if it's just a couple times." He also encourages families to get involved with the foreign students as a way to not only share what it means to be American, but to also learn something about the countries and cultures the soldiers come from.

While the preference is for families, single soldiers are also welcome to befriend program visitors. Most are from 20-30 and single. They want to meet Americans with similar interests. While the office arranges some functions and outings for the group, they are of a more

educational nature. Having a host, mentor or friend to spend time with the students would offer a chance for them to experience American life firsthand.

"The thing they most want is your friendship," Huther said. "They would trade all the trips in the world for an American friend."

There are 23 international students here, 16 for extended periods up to one year. If you are interested in becoming a host family or for more information call the International Military Student Office, located inside Headquarters and Alpha Company, at 842-0582.

Fraud doesn't pay when claiming damages

Suspect submissions open to investigation

By Capt. JONATHAN THOMAS
Claims judge advocate

Thinking of submitting a fraudulent claim? Think again. The rules recently changed.

Simply put, a claim is a written demand for payment of a specified sum of money signed by a claimant or a properly designated representative. Claims against the government may be filed under a number of federal laws. Two of the most widely-known are the Federal Tort Claims Act and the Personnel Claims Act. Claims

under the PCA include claims for household goods damage. Typically, claims documented by sufficient evidence are adjudicated and paid, while unsupported or fraudulent claims are denied.

Under the former rules, it was possible to submit a claim containing fraudulent information and still receive payment. Formerly, the Claims Office simply voided any line items tainted by fraud and paid other line items that were substantiated.

Recently amended because it produced unjust results, the policy now requires claimants or their representatives to support their claims with accurate and truthful evidence or lose their entire claim. Under the new policy, the Claims Office may completely deny all line items, sub-

stantiated or not, of any claim tainted by fraud.

Examples of fraudulent activities include: submitting a claim with altered estimates that falsely represent a significant portion of the claim; submitting a claim for numerous "missing" items that were never owned in the first place; and submitting a claim in which the ages or other conditions of items were intentionally and substantially misrepresented.

If the Claims Office discovers after a claim was paid that the claim was fraudulent, it will either ask the claimant to voluntarily repay the monetary award or will initiate action to garnish the claimant's wages.

Although the vast majority of claims

filed are legitimate, any person who files a false or fraudulent claim commits a crime. Claims suspected of being fraudulent will be turned over to the proper authorities for investigation. Claims determined to be fraudulent will be prosecuted to the maximum extent permitted by law.

Persons submitting claims are encouraged to double-check their work before submitting claims for adjudication and payment. If we can answer questions or provide further assistance, please call the Claims Office at 876-9005.

Editor's note: Joe Friday and Capt. Erika McPherson contributed to this article.

Bush: Good progress in Iraq but more work remains

By KATHLEEN RHEM
American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON — One hundred days after major combat ended, the United States and coalition partners are making "good progress" in Iraq, President Bush said. But, he acknowledged, "We've got a lot more work to do."

Accompanied by Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld during a press conference at his Crawford, Texas, ranch, the president cited improvements in security, democratic processes and the economy as

signs of progress in Iraq. In many cases, he said, infrastructure is up to pre-war conditions, which he called "satisfactory" but not "the ultimate aim."

"The ultimate aim is for the infrastructure to be the best in the region," he said.

In response to a reporter's question about continuing deaths among American troops in Iraq, Bush said the United States is "a country that grieves with those who sacrifice."

He offered "heartfelt sympathies and appreciation ... to the loved ones of any soldier who's willing to defend the securi-

ty of the United States." Bush then noted that the fighting in Iraq remains part of the broader war on terrorism.

The attacks of Sept. 11, 2001, taught Americans that "our nation is vulnerable to attack," Bush said and stressed, as he has often in the past, that the best defense is a strong offense. "The best way to secure America is to get the enemy before they get us," he said.

The president pledged to not forget the lessons of Sept. 11. "I made a pledge to the American people and the (victims') families and those who grieved that we will hunt down the terrorists wherever they are and bring them to justice," Bush said. "And that's what we're going to do."

During meetings before the press conference, Bush and Rumsfeld discussed the situation in Iraq and military transformation.

"We spent time making sure that our military is configured in such a way as to represent the modern era, which means it

will be more likely that the world will be peaceful," Bush said. "A modern, strong, light, active military will make it easier to keep the peace."

Force size is a common area of debate when discussing tomorrow's military. Rumsfeld noted there are about "two dozen things we can do that reduce stress on the force" without raising the number of servicemen and women.

The secretary explained there is a "significant lag" between when additional forces might be needed and when they can be recruited, trained and equipped so it makes more sense to look into other ways to reduce stress on current troops.

However, adding more forces in the future isn't entirely out of the question. "To the extent at any point it looks as though an end-strength increase is appropriate, we, obviously, would recommend it," Rumsfeld said. "But we certainly don't see the evidence of that at the present time."



Mary Petty/Photo Lab

Photo support

Russell L. Moore, of Omni Government Services, receives a certificate of appreciation Aug. 4 from Col. Bobbie Bell, deputy state surgeon of the Tennessee Army National Guard for his professional photography support to the NCOs and officers in Tennessee Army National Guard. It was signed by Maj. Gen. Gus Hargett, the adjutant general.

Ridge applauds Coast Guard's 213 years of service

Homeland security secretary notes anti-terrorism support

By SFC DOUG SAMPLE
American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON — Homeland Security Secretary Tom Ridge helped the Coast Guard celebrate its 213th birthday Aug. 6 by applauding the service for its efforts in the war of terrorism and welcoming the service as part of the "new team."

"Clearly we're extremely fortunate to have such a veteran player in the Coast Guard that makes up a vital part of the new team," Ridge said during ceremonies at Coast Guard headquarters. "Your expertise and your experience, and your mindset and your 'can-do' attitude garnered from more than two centuries of work to secure our ports and protect our nation's waters has been an invaluable resource in the fight against terrorism."

Ridge noted during his address that the Coast Guard has played a vital role in the aftermath of Sept. 11. He pointed out that the service mobilized more than 2,000 reservists to increase security along major U.S. waterways, including establishing boat patrols to guard the nation's capital.

Another critical area for the Coast Guard during post-9-11 has been protecting U.S. ports, where thousands of containers pass each day, he noted. "With 95 percent of our nation's international cargo carried by ship, securing our ports is crucial to securing both our country and our economy."

He said that since 9-11, the Coast Guard has instituted a 96-hour advance check-in for foreign flagged ships, increased the boarding and escort of ships coming into the United States, and established maritime safety and security rapid-response teams.

In addition to the Coast Guard's efforts, Ridge said his department has added "layers of security" around commercial shipping. Those layers, he said, include greater information sharing with international partners, increased levels of inspection, more state-of-the-art technology, and added intelligence about the crews, the cargos and the vessels entering

the United States, with "100 percent" of high-risk ships coming into U.S. ports being boarded.

The homeland security secretary told the Coast Guard that with its expanded mission, the president has asked Congress for the largest increase ever in Coast Guard funding. That money will be used for better equipment and to acquire the new Defender-class response boats and to support the "deepwater" acquisition project. The multibillion dollar deepwater project is aimed at modernizing Coast Guard vessels with state-of-the-art navigation and communications equipment to conduct missions farther out to sea.

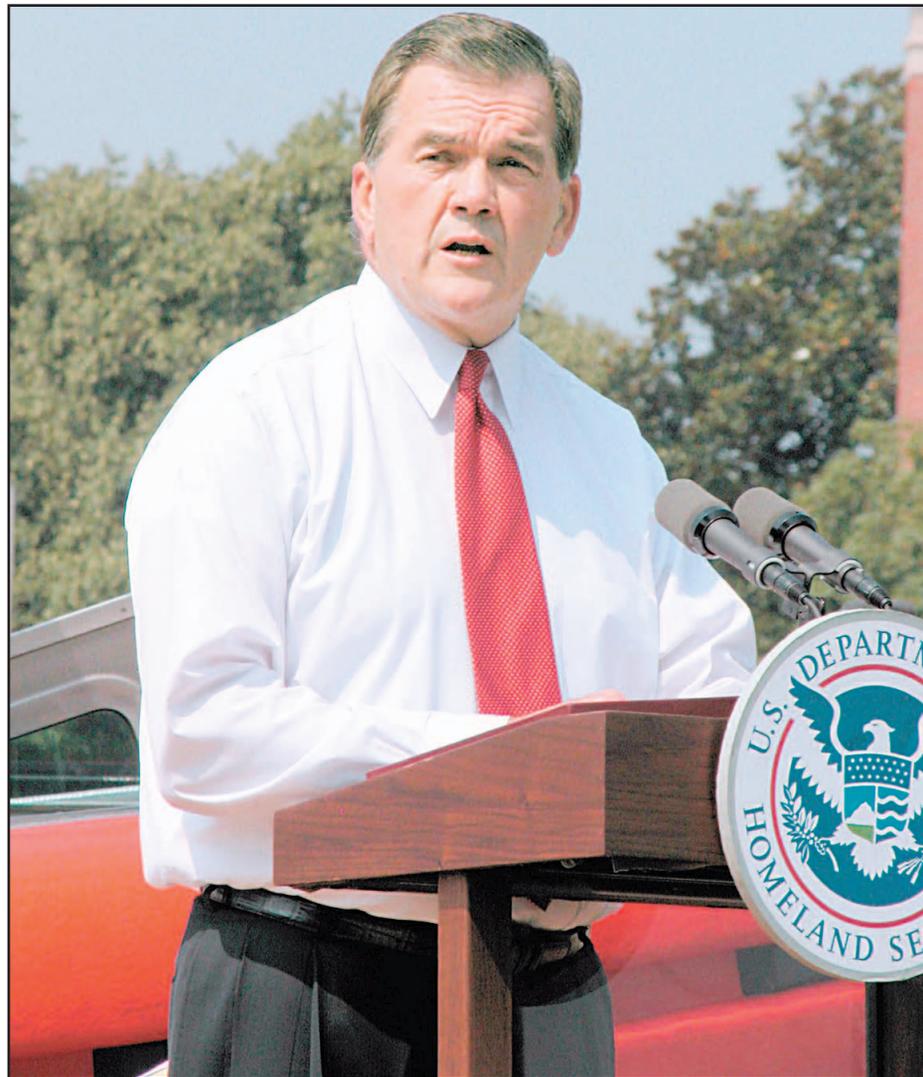
He told the audience that for 213 years the Coast Guard has protected the American people by securing the nation's waterways and ensuring the free flow of commerce. "And you have done so with a tireless determination and dogged devotion to preserve the tenets of democracy and freedom for which our country stands," Ridge noted.

He said that before Sept. 11 many Americans viewed the United States as a "mighty fortress" that could not be penetrated. However, he said that Sept. 11 demonstrated that enemies of the U.S are neither deterred by "tactical difficulties nor strategic impossibilities. They are not even deterred by the thought of taking innocent civilian lives."

Ridge said America's enemies today have no regard for the innocents and no desire for peace. "They will stop at nothing to destroy our way of life," he said. "We, on the other hand, will stop at nothing to defend it. That's why we created the Department of Homeland Security, to unify our resources into one team, to ready ourselves against a new enemy and to ensure the highest level of protection for the country and the citizens we all serve."

Ridge offered the best way to deter terrorism is to go after terrorist networks "where they live, where they operate, where they train, where they get support."

"That's why your role in Operation Iraqi Freedom has been so important and so appreciated and so valued," he told the Coast Guard audience. "You helped your



American Forces Press Service

BIRTHDAY SPEAKER— Homeland Security Secretary Tom Ridge addressed the Coast Guard during ceremonies to honor the service's 213th birthday Aug. 5. The Coast Guard moved to the new Homeland Security Department from the Department of Transportation in March.

country disarm a rouge regime that threatened our national security. You helped liberate an oppressed people suffering at the hand of a merciless tyrant. You fought and you served bravely."

Ridge presented several awards to Coast Guardsmen and units. The Bronze Star medal was presented to Lt. Cmdr. Sean MacKenzie, Lt. Christopher Barrows and Lt. Holly Harrison. Harrison is the first Coast Guard woman to receive the award.

The three officers helped ensure the

safety of coalition forces working to clear mines in the waterways to allow humanitarian aid shipments to Iraq.

The Coast Guard Unit Commendation Award was presented to the service's Patrol Forces Southwest Asia for that unit's collective work during Iraqi Freedom.

Coast Guard Chief Petty Officer Jeffrey Cole received the Meritorious Service Medal for his leadership role in developing a security force that became the prototype for a permanent security unit now used to protect the nation's capital.

Underdog Bulldogs topple HHC 59th



Photo by Skip Vaughn

MAKING PITCH— HHC 59th pitcher Michael McGilton delivers but his team lost to Bravo 11-10.

Second-place Bravo beats league leader

By SKIP VAUGHN
 Rocket editor
 skip.vaughn@redstone.army.mil

Bravo Company's defending post champion softball team had the underdog role entering last Thursday's game against HHC 59th.

The 59th was unbeaten after eight games and the only undefeated team in the league. Second-place Bravo was 7-2.

But Bravo's 11-10 win over the 59th shows these Bulldogs have bite.

"We've been practicing, we got a couple of new players in and just the old blood and guts," Bravo coach Kenneth McCoy said of the victory.

The Bulldogs (8-2) were led at the plate by sluggers Reggie Williams and Henry Hayes but they got plenty of help from their teammates.

"It was a total team involvement — the offense as well as the defense," McCoy said.

Bravo's win spoiled an otherwise stellar week for the 59th (8-1) which beat MEDDAC 22-4 on Aug. 4 and Delta 20-17 on Aug. 5.

Against Delta, the 59th's Joe Cox went 3-for-4 with a home run, three runs scored and two RBIs. Charles Hemm went 3-for-

4 with a triple, three runs and an RBI. Stephen Dix and Brett Holder added three hits apiece; and Michael McGilton hit a two-run homer.

"It was a fun game, the closest game we had all year," Dix said after the win over Delta but before the loss to Bravo. "I like close games better than I do blowouts. They're just a lot more interesting."

Delta's Johnny Kennedy went 3-for-5 with a triple and three runs scored. Roy Sands went 3-for-4 with a home run, double and two runs for the Devastating Dragons (7-3).

"They're a solid team," Kennedy, Delta's coach, said of the 59th. "They're not really hurting in any one position."

Here were the standings after the fifth week of the season: HHC 59th (8-1), Bravo (8-2), Delta (7-3), Charlie (6-5), AMCOM (4-4), 2117th (4-4), MEDDAC (5-7), Marines (3-9) and Headquarters & Alpha (0-8).

Results included:

Aug. 4 — 2117th d. Marines 14-4, AMCOM won by forfeit over Charlie and HHC 59th d. MEDDAC 22-4.

Aug. 5 — Charlie d. Headquarters & Alpha 9-4, Bravo d. Marines 21-3 and HHC 59th d. Delta 20-17.

Aug. 7 — Bravo d. HHC 59th 11-10, Delta d. 2117th 21-5 and MEDDAC d. Marines 15-13.



Courtesy photo

Top golfers

From left Dwain Zehr, Dave Keefauver, Eric Zehr and Darrell Faint are members of the winning team at the annual American Society of Military Comptrollers benefit golf tournament, held Aug. 1 at Redstone Golf Course in memory of ASMC member Pepper Takayama. Proceeds will be donated to the American Diabetes Association.



Sports & Recreation

Fall bowling leagues

Redstone Lanes is gearing up for fall bowling season. Leagues are open to the Redstone community — anyone who works on, lives on or can access Redstone Arsenal. Leagues include Monday Military League, 6 p.m.; Tuesday Night Mixed, 6 p.m.; Wednesday Night Mixed, 5 p.m.; Wednesday Night Men's, 7:30 p.m.; Thursday Morning Ladies, 9:30 a.m.; Thursday Night Mixed, 5 p.m.; Friday OCWC Ladies, 9:15 a.m.; and Friday Night Mixed, 6 p.m. To register or for more information, call 876-6634.

Rocketman triathlon

The 10th annual Rocketman Triathlon is Aug. 24 at 7:30 a.m. at the Col. Hudson Recreation Area. For information call Bob Mulkey 883-7399.

Ten-miler tryouts

Redstone will have a tryout for its Army Ten-Miler team 7 a.m. Aug. 23 on a 10-mile course that begins and ends in the parking lot at Sparkman Fitness Center. The team will have six military and four civilian members. The annual race is Oct. 5 in Washington, D.C. For more information, call Skip Vaughn 876-1500 or Alexander Steel 876-3867.

Youth baseball

Central Babe Ruth League will hold registration for the 2003 Fall Ball season Saturday from 9 a.m. until noon at Brahan Springs Recreation Center. Players age 13-19 and living in southwest Huntsville and Redstone Arsenal are invited. Bring a copy of your birth certificate and a parent or guardian to fill out the registration form. For more information call 533-9350, e-mail bgambrell@knology.net or call BSRC 883-3710.

Golf benefit

The third annual Liz Hurley Breast Cancer Foundation charity golf tournament is Aug. 23 at Redstone Golf Course. There will be a hole-in-one contest and many prizes. Barbecue and refreshments will be provided. Proceeds benefit local charity. For more information, send an e-mail to sbraz@knology.net or call 533-3643. The signup deadline is Aug. 15.

Boating safety class

The U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary will conduct Boating Safety Classes through Sept. 25 on Thursday evenings at 6:30 in building 3305, Stillwell Hall, Zeus Drive, room 215. There is a \$22 fee to cover text and materials. This boating safety class will satisfy requirements for the state boating operators license and can reduce the cost of boat insurance. For more information, call Tom Kunhart 885-7096 or 830-6621.

Volleyball league

Youth Sports is offering youth age 9-15 the opportunity to participate in a volleyball league. Due to the late notification of this sport, interested players must call to pre-register. When enough youth are registered, teams will be formed and will enter the City of Huntsville League. Pre-registration continues through Friday. Age groups are 9-10, 11-12 and 13-15; and this is open to all youth in the Redstone community, including contractor dependents. There's a minimum of eight players per team; and cost is \$40 per player. Play begins Sept. 8. Coaches are needed. For information call 876-3704 or 313-3735.

Inline hockey

Child and Youth Services will have an inline hockey clinic with its annual inline hockey league Sept. 8 through Oct. 30 for ages 6-17 at the CYS Inline Hockey Rink on Goss Road. Cost is \$100 for dependents of active/retired/reserve military, civilians, Redstone contractors and NASA personnel. Cost is \$125 for non-government affiliated dependents who wish to play in this league. CYS Registration fee is \$15 per child or \$35 per family per year. A current physical and a copy of the child's birth certificate are required at registration. Registration will be held Aug. 18-30. Youth affiliated with Redstone Arsenal personnel will register at CYS, building 1500 on Weeden Mountain Road. All others may register at S&V Sports, 3190 Leeman Ferry Road. To register or for more information, call 883-9917 or 876-3704.

Youth bowling

Redstone Lanes will hold a Youth Appreciation Day, Aug. 23 from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. for ages 5-21. There will be free games with instructional coaches on hand, free hot dogs, hamburgers and sodas. Sign up for the Young American Bowling Alliance League and receive a free T-shirt or bowling towel. For more information, call 876-6634.

Gymnastics for kids

Child and Youth Services is enrolling first- through eighth-graders for its "Cheernastics" program at the Youth Center, building 3148. Enrollment is also under way for ages 2-5 for Kindernastics. Both programs will be taught in six-week sessions beginning Aug. 18, Oct. 13 and Dec. 1, as well as next Feb. 9 and April 5. For more information, call 876-3704 or 313-3699.



Conferences & Meetings

Alcoholics anonymous

An Alcoholics Anonymous group meets each Thursday at 11 a.m. in Sparkman Center building 5304, room 4309. For information call 313-1478. The Redstone

Arsenal group of Alcoholics Anonymous meets each Wednesday at noon and Friday at 5:15 p.m. in room 11 of Bicentennial Chapel.

Resource managers

The American Society of Military Comp-trollers will hold its monthly meeting Thursday at 11:30 a.m. at the Trinity Personal Growth Center on Airport Road. Tim Grey, director of personnel and training, AMCOM, is to speak on the future work force. For tickets — \$9 members, \$10 non-members — call Virginia Moore 955-6262, ext.165.

Sergeants major

The Sergeants Major Association will hold its monthly meeting Aug. 21 from 6:30-7:30 in the morning at the Redstone Golf Club. For more information, call retired CSM Jean Rose 313-1659.

Admin professionals

The Redstone Arsenal Chapter, International Association of Administrative Professionals invites you to its monthly meeting at 11 a.m. Aug. 19 at the Officers and Civilians Club. Chapter attendees at the International convention in Albuquerque, N.M., will report on the workshops they attended. Members and guests will go through the buffet for lunch.



Miscellaneous

Logistics course

The Tennessee Valley Chapter of the International Society of Logistics is offering a 50-hour Logistics Management course. The course provides a comprehensive review of logistics, preparing interested students for the next CPL exam scheduled Nov. 1. For more information, call Joyce Bilodeau 842-9968.

Interpersonal relationships

South Central Civilian Personnel Operations Center is holding a Maximizing Interpersonal Relationships workshop Aug. 19. The target audience is anyone wanting to build productive teams, develop effective managers, improve customer service, or ease frustration and conflict. There is a \$25 investment per person to cover the cost of the participant's workbook and self-assessment instrument. For more information or to register, call John Bentley 876-2760.

Thrift shop

Thrift Shop, building 3209 on Hercules Road, is open for shopping Wednesdays 9-5 and Thursdays and Fridays from 9-4. Walk-in consignment hours are Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays from 9-12:30. Appointments are Wednesdays and Thursdays 12:30-3. The shop now accepts

handmade craft items for consignment. It is a collection site for New Futures, so bring your cell phones that are in working order (Audiovox, Ericsson, Kyocera 3035, Motorola and Nokia). The shop can recycle inkjet, fax, printer, copier and laser jet cartridges. Donations are accepted and tax slips are available. More volunteers are sought for Thursdays and Fridays. For more information, call 881-6992.

Male singers

The Rocket City Barbershop Chorus invites all male singers to join it for a musical tribute to the fallen heroes of Sept. 11. This program is dedicated to the families and victims of the terrorist attacks — New York, Pentagon, American Airlines Flight 11, United Airlines Flight 175, American Airlines Flight 77 and United Airlines Flight 93 — and to all the heroic emergency service personnel and volunteers who gave of themselves unselfishly to aid them. This tribute will be performed Sept. 11; and rehearsals are being held at 7 p.m. every Thursday in the fellowship hall of Aldersgate United Methodist Church, 12901 Bailey Cove Road southeast. For more information, call John Gonzalez 852-2408 or Gerald Roberts 881-3762.

Johnson High reunion

Johnson High's Class of 1983 will hold its 20-year reunion Oct. 17-18. For more information, call Sheila Luck (Smith) 536-0341.

Huntsville High reunion

The Huntsville High School Class of 1978 will hold its 25th reunion Sept. 20. "There are still a number of classmates we are seeking," a prepared release said. "Are you one of them or know their whereabouts?" For more information, visit the reunion web site: <http://www.78hhs.com>.

Children's center

Child and Youth Services is accepting applications for its Child Development Center (ages 6 weeks to 5 years), School Age Services (kindergarten through fifth-grade), middle school and teen (grades 6-12), and Family Child Care (4 weeks to 12 years). Items needed for registration include completion of the registration packet, current shot record and current physical. You may pick up the registration packets at the Challenger Activity Center, building 1500 on Weeden Mountain Road. You may also visit the web site at www.redstonemwr.com and download the CYS forms. Registration cost is \$15 per child or \$35 per family. These programs are open to children of anyone who works on, lives on or can legally access Redstone Arsenal. For more information, call Chris Carter 876-3704 or Pam Berry 955-6309.

See Announcements on page 17

Environmental course

The South Central Civilian Personnel Operations Center has announced a Clean Air Act overview/refresher course for civilian and military employees. The course dates are Sept. 23-24 at the Sparkman Center. Cost is \$300 per student. Possible areas that may have a need for this training include risk management, environmental directorates, health and safety, and attorneys that may become involved in Clean Air Act issues. Registration deadline is Aug. 19. For more information, call course manager Louise Olszewski 842-6540.

Las Vegas night

Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Xi Omicron Chapter will hold "Las Vegas Night/Silent Auction 2003" on Aug. 22 from 7 p.m. to 1 a.m. at the Von Braun Center. The grand prize is an all-expense-paid trip for two to Las Vegas. Proceeds help support the chapter's annual scholarships with a special contribution provided to the Harris Home for Disadvantaged Children. The donation is \$20 in advance or \$25 at the door. For more information call 721-1447, 851-9494 or 852-2230.

Master's degrees

Nova Southeastern University will hold an information meeting on its master of business administration program Aug. 21 at 6 p.m. at Calhoun Community College, conference room 101-E, 102 Wynn Drive. Classes meet in Huntsville on an 18-month alternate weekend format. For more infor-

mation call Bill Spade 800-672-7223, ext. 5046 or e-mail bill@huizenga.nova.edu.

Logistics achievement awards

The Integrated Materiel Management Center is accepting nominations for the 2003 E.A. Young Logistics Achievement Award. Two awards — the Management/Executive Award for GS-13s and above and the Professional/Technical Award for GS-13s and below (or military equivalents) — will be presented at a luncheon Nov. 6 at 11:30 a.m. at the Officers and Civilians Club. Eligible population for the award includes all Team Redstone personnel who contribute to the logistics mission at AMCOM and meet the awards' criteria. Nominations will be accepted through Sept. 9. For more information, call Faye Yates 876-1757 or Debra Foley 842-6783.

Charitable needs survey

United Way conducts a Needs Assessment survey every three to five years that is shared with social service agencies and public and civic leaders. In addition to allocating resources, the results of the survey may also be used to design programs and increase efficiency through collaboration. Therefore, they are asking for your opinion about issues affecting our lives in Madison County. Your responses will be kept confidential; they do not ask for your name. If you wish to participate in the Household Survey for the Needs Assessment you may do so by going online to www.uwhsv.org and following the link to

the Household Survey. For more information, call 536-0745.

Financial class

An orientation for "Financial Peace University" is tonight at 7 at Central Assembly of God, 1701 Sparkman Drive. The class, which costs \$99, begins Sept. 2 from 7-9 p.m. For more information, call Richard Dougherty 430-0126 after 5 p.m.

PX news

With the school year under way, the Army and Air Force Exchange Service wants to remind its customers that America's best selling brand of school uniforms, French Toast, is available at the eX, the All-Services Exchange Online Store, at www.aafes.com, www.usmc.mccs.org, www.navy-nex.com, and cg-exchange.com. AAFES' Cyber Region and French Toast have teamed up in an effort to provide a first rate product at an exceptional price for the eX All-Services Exchange Online shopper. As always, there is a military discount or reduced or free shipping, and returns are hassle free when

shopping CentricMall stores, a Post Exchange release said.

Prayer breakfast

The next IMMC Prayer Breakfast is Aug. 19 at 7:30 a.m. in Sparkman Center building 5308, room 8124. "No food or drinks will be served, but you are welcome to bring your own or feast on the message for the morning," a prepared release said. Everyone is welcome. For more information, call Richard Doty 313-1537.

Call for papers

Abstracts are due Aug. 20 for the Synthetic Aperture Radar Technology Workshop, Oct. 22-23. For information on submitting abstracts and potential topics, call Carrie Hawes 876-2628.

Base supply center

Redstone Base Supply Center will have customer appreciation day, today from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. There will be muffins and juice from 8-10 and a barbecue lunch from 11-1.

