

Redstone Rocket

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Team Redstone goes to front lines

Command representatives visit Soldiers in Southwest Asia

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

There were compliments everywhere. Thanks for what you're doing for us. Thanks for the equipment, for the support.

That's what Soldiers and civilian workers in Southwest Asia were saying about Team Redstone. Representatives from the Aviation and Missile Command heard the accolades while visiting Afghanistan, Kuwait and Iraq from July 15-23.

"It was really neat to hear from the folks," Tom Pieplow, associate director for aviation in the Integrated Materiel Management Center, said.

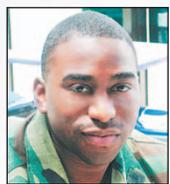
The travel group included Pieplow; Maj. Gen. Jim Pillsbury, commander of AMCOM and Redstone; Tom Ingram,

See **Visit** on page 12



Photo by Tom Pieplow
LOOKING OUT— A Soldier watches from his helicopter over Iraq on July 20.

Survey says



What you like most about the South
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Hail and farewell



New product manager for directed energy
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Soldier story



Army orthopedic surgeon operates in Afghanistan
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Win or lose



Postseason playoffs decide champion
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Letter to the Editor

Hats off to great outdoorsmen

Regarding the Aug. 4 letter titled "Straight shooting from outdoorsmen," it's a great article that hits home.

We must realize that all is never great in conservation and environmental. The hunters and fishermen are still the greatest conservationists and environmentalists.

Hunters and fishermen have many programs and should join them in the enhancement of wildlife. There is something for everyone.

On Redstone Arsenal, I have seen ups and downs through the years on the hunting program. The good years were attributes of conservation, environmental and true hunters.

Hunters: In the early years I observed many signs shot by individuals claiming to be hunters. I haven't really noticed that in the last 10 years. This is due to our enforcement and education on hunting and fishing (heads up to the Outdoor

Recreation Center and our game warden on RSA).

Conservation and environmental: Ten years ago there was very little; however, over the last 10 years accomplishments have been great. My hat goes off to the biologist and forester for their contributions to this great cause. The planting of food plots for game and the control of infectious diseases — pine beetles, etc. — have produced healthy animals and forest.

Hunters and fishermen: Join a group in your favorite outdoor sports whether it be turkey, quail, deer, ducks or any organization affiliated with your sport/hobby. Remember if things get bad on RSA it's not like a four-year term, it runs normally in two-year cycles and the problems move out. Respect the RSA decisions; however, always question non-productive conservation and environmental policies.

Jim Deweese
retired Army/civil service

An open lane random survey

What is the best thing about the South?

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



Staff Sgt. Stanley Blanco
NCO Academy
"The state fairs and all the festivities are great."

Staff Sgt. Bernard Gaines

NCO Academy
"I would have to say the hospitality and politeness of the people."



Melanie Betterton
military spouse

"I like the food. It's the Southern cooking — fried okra, macaroni and cheese, and sweet iced tea. You can't get those anywhere else."



Willie Williams
retiree

"I'm an outdoorsman, so I'd have to say it's the weather."

Getting to know you

By **KIM HENRY**
Staff writer
kimberly.henry2@redstone.army.mil

Name: Capt. Chris Robinson

Job: Bravo Company commander, 308th Military Intelligence Battalion

Where do you call home?
Detroit, Mich.

What do you like about your job?
I love all the travel that I get to do.

What do you like to do in your spare time?

Go to football games — or any sporting event, read and swim with my son.

What are your goals?

To be a happy, productive citizen in the greatest country in the world.



Crimes, accidents and other occurrences

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

Aug. 1: An individual was found to be in possession of a small amount of marijuana during a vehicle inspection at Gate 10. He was issued a violation notice and released. Investigation continues by the Provost Marshal Office.

Aug. 4: An individual was found to be in possession of a small amount of marijuana during a vehicle inspection at Gate 3. He was issued a violation notice and released. Investigation continues by the Provost Marshal Office.

Aug. 4: An individual was found to be operating his motor vehicle with a suspended driver's license during a vehicle inspection at Gate 10. He was issued a violation notice and released.



Aug. 5: An individual was found to have been using his government issued computer to view sexually explicit material. Investigation continues by the Provost Marshal Office.

Traffic accidents reported: 2 without injuries, none with injuries.

Violation notices issued: 19 speeding, 3 possession of a controlled substance, 1 open container, 1 no proof of liability insurance, 1 no driver's license in possession, 1 failure to obey traffic control device, 1 driving with a suspended driver's license, 1 parking and 1 failure to control pet.

Quote of the week

'Most people use statistics the way a drunk uses a lamp-post: more for support than for illumination.'

— Mark Twain

Letter policy

Letters to the editor must be signed by the writer. The *Rocket* will withhold names upon request. Letters can be sent via e-mail to skip.vaughn@redstone.army.mil or faxed to 955-9138. The deadline for letters and all other submissions to the *Rocket* is noon Friday.

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Rocket Staff

Public Affairs Officer: Al Schwartz

Editor: Skip Vaughn

Reporters: Sandy Riebeling

Kelley Lane

Kim Henry

Copy Editor: Scott Seeley

Advertising Sales: Aletha Pardue

Petie Sims

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Field of dreams: If you build it, they will come

Attractions planned for area near Gate 9

By AL SCHWARTZ
For the Rocket

Redstone Arsenal has its own "Field of Dreams" – on the west side of Rideout Road near Gate 9.

"Right now it's just a field being prepared for the new Visitor Center," garrison commander Col. Bob Devlin said. "But just imagine what we can do with that field to make it more valuable to the Arsenal and the community."

And imagine he has. Construction for the 3,000 square foot Visitor Center began in May; and completion is expected in early 2005. It will be the one-stop for all new employees as well as visitors to the installation.

"People will be able to get visitor passes for Redstone Arsenal and Marshall Space Flight Center, and Army employees will be able to get badges and vehicle decals," provost marshal Lt. Col. Brad Scofield said. Army and Marshall Space Flight Center employees and contractors will staff the new facility.

Rideout Road will be widened by two lanes heading on to the post. "Visitors will be able to use the right-hand lanes and pull into the Visitor Center area to get passes and to have their vehicles inspected," Scofield said. "We expect to reduce the time spent in line entering the Arsenal because by the time anyone gets to the gate, he or she will have been issued a decal or pass."

That's entertainment

There are approval processes to follow, funding to secure and environmental and other issues to consider. But, with the Visitor Center as the anchor, the Field of Dreams could start to take form.

About 50 acres are vacant west of Rideout Road. "Some of the area could be made into an activity field for concerts and special events," Devlin said. "That way it would be on Arsenal property, but outside the gate and we could create an area for concerts with adequate parking."

"We'll plant trees and shrubs along the perimeter to block the view from I-565 and deaden the sound of traffic," Joe Davis of the Garrison Master Planning Office said. "And we'll build parking lots and roads so entertainers can get backstage easily and attendees have ample parking space." The entertainment field will be about 1.5 times the size of the current area east of Patton Road.

Night moves

Today, employees departing the Arsenal about 4 or 5 p.m. witness an influx of traffic most weeknights at Gate 9 — students who attend class at any of the seven colleges and universities that offer night courses on the installation. Because the classes are held inside the perimeter fence, the students are treated like visitors and have to get passes and have their vehicles inspected. "With an education facility on the Arsenal property, but outside the fence line, students could have easy access to attend courses during the day or at night," Devlin said.

Heightened security concerns eliminated bus tours from the U.S. Space and Rocket Center to the MSFC Rocket Park during the past few years. However, both Marshall Space Flight Center and the Army are considering moving artifacts and equipment so they can be displayed where the public can see them. The equipment could be relocated outside Gate 9. "Visitors may once again be able to see the types of rockets that flew astronauts to the moon and the weapon systems that help protect American servicemembers," Davis said.

"We would really like to partner with the local communities as much as possible," Devlin said. "Think about the synergy that we could develop. Look at this as a package – U.S. Space and Rocket Center, Botanical Gardens, rocket and missile park, outdoor concerts ... all next door to each other. Together we can help make the area a greater place to visit."

Up to par

And if there are places to visit, there need to be places for refreshment. "Why not a fast food restaurant? Why not a convenience store or AAFES Shoppette? Why not have all the things that make it convenient to visit?" Devlin asked.

On the east side of Rideout Road, part of the dream is already becoming a reality.

"We plan to break ground this fall for the first three holes of a planned new nine at the Arsenal's Golf Course and finish the full nine additional holes by fiscal year 2006," Dan Ahern, director of morale welfare and recreation, said. The funds to do so are being requested in the FY '05 and '06 non-appropriated fund budgets; and according to Ahern, it looks like approval will occur.

"After all, these dollars are those which Redstone Arsenal MWR generates itself, so we'll simply be returning the earnings back to our community. With these additional nine, we will be the premier course on the military golf circuit," he said.

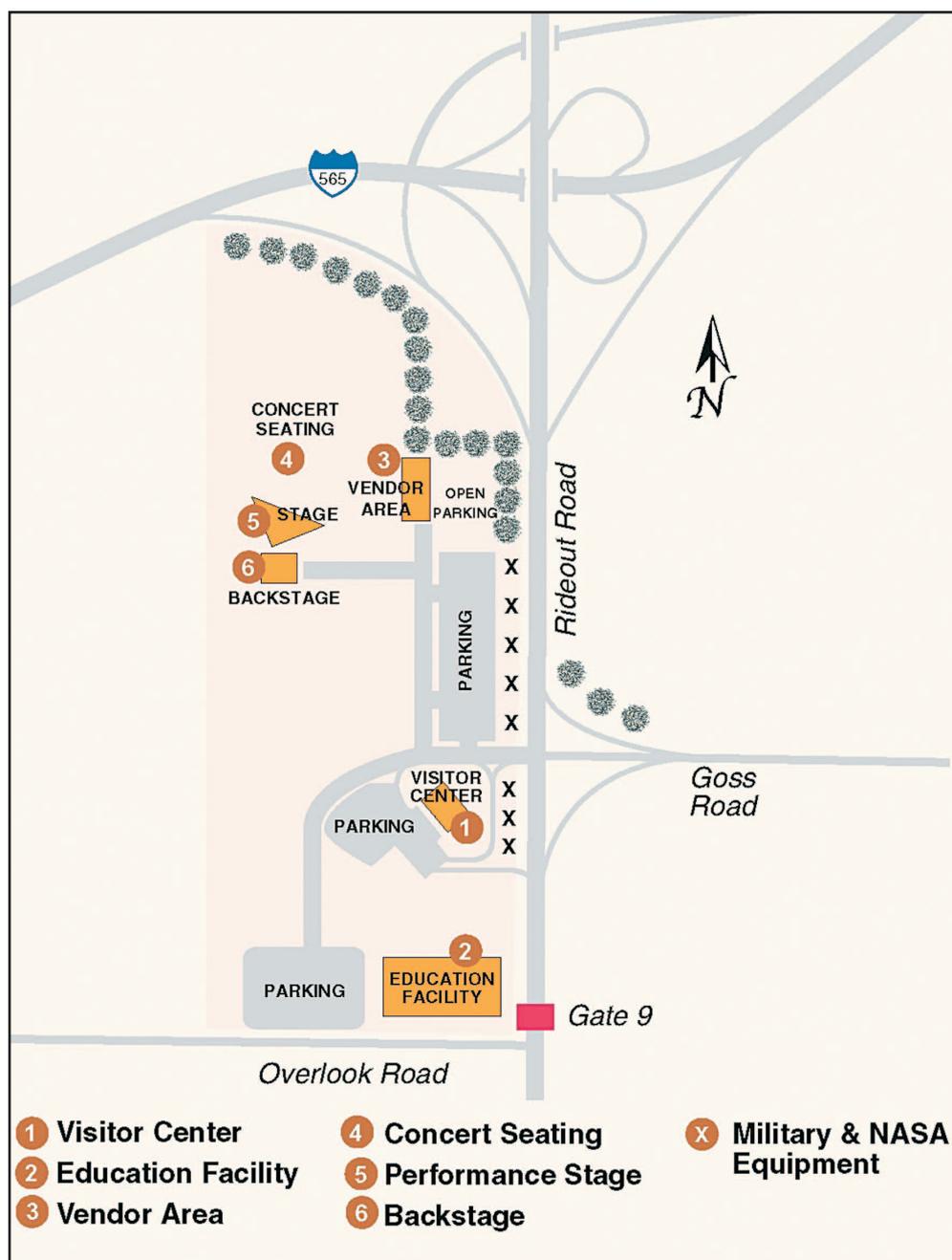
And adding to the golf course is just one element on the east side of Rideout Road.

Cabin fever

Next year, Morale Welfare and Recreation will build two "recreational lodging units" – log cabins – along the hillside between Fox Army Health Center and the golf course. The plan is that they will be located above the first tee of the Meadowview course. The Arsenal has justified 19 of the rustic, two- and three-bedroom cabins, according to Ahern. "Eleven percent of the Arsenal's occupancy today is leisure or unofficial travelers," he said. "These cabins are big enough for families or two or three couples, or for a group of golfers."

But that's not all.

There is a good chance that in a few years the Arsenal will replace its 30 separate lodging facilities with a single hotel.



"We have shown the need for more lodging for the many travelers who come here for meetings and conferences," Ahern said. "We're looking at either of two possible sites for a 250-room hotel: either near the Redstone Officers and Civilians Club where building 112 is today, or in the 1200 area along Vincent Road and south of the new car wash." A private firm

would build and manage the hotel.

If everything falls into place during the next several years, visitors, employees and family members should not be surprised if they see much, much more than grass growing from the Arsenal's Field of Dreams.

Joint Force Headquarters- NCR testing new tools

National Capital Region gets operations center

By TOM MANI
Army News Service

WASHINGTON — The new Joint Force Headquarters – National Capital Region got a big boost Aug. 2 in its command and control capability.

A new Joint Operations Center at Fort McNair and a Mobile Command Center are both being tested during Determined Promise '04, a U.S. Northern Command readiness exercise that runs Aug. 5-10. Determined Promise is serving as the validation exercise for JFHQ-NCR, formed last October and due to achieve "full operational capability" this October.

"This represents the center of the flagship," Maj. Gen. Galen Jackman, the commanding general of JFHQ-NCR, told staff members gathered in the new Joint Operations Center. Jackman, who commands U.S. Army Military District of Washington as well, praised the teamwork of G3/J3 and the Naval Air Warfare Center in developing the new operational capability – including the JOC whose finishing touches were still being applied even as it was coming on line in the Global War Against Terror – and a Mobile Command Center, parked just outside the Fort McNair building that houses the JOC.



Photo by Tom Mani

NETWORKING— The new Joint Operations Center for the Joint Force Headquarters- National Capital Region networks area military with the national homeland defense structure.

"This is our piece of transformation," Col. James Bartran said, "taking an Army administrative headquarters focused on ceremonies and base support and transforming it into a joint and interagency operational command."

"It's all starting to come alive now in this exercise," he said. "The people, the equipment, the tools. There's a lot of energy here and it's the first chance to stand up and practice our new mission."

The JOC has more than 50 worksta-

tions with both secure and non-secure network access from each station, secure and non-secure phones on each desk, secure and non-secure video teleconferencing, a round-the-clock radio/watchdesk operation, networked links with law enforcement and civilian agencies as well as integration with the Northcom secure communications systems.

Add to this Geospatial Information System capability, "red phone" hookup, and satellite communications to and from the

Task Force Logistics restructures theater support

ARMY NEWS SERVICE

WASHINGTON — A Task Force Logistics conference July 28-30 at Fort Lee, Va., asked operations officers from the field to provide their take on the new Theater Sustainment Command.

This conference was the most recent phase of Task Force Logistics' design of a new organizational structure that will help the Army be more effective and efficient in its battlefield operations, officials said.

"We're bringing in the best and brightest from the field to get the fields' expertise," said Col. John Wharton, Task Force Logistics deputy.

Field attendees include operations officers from major military commands, the current theater support commands, and joint commands, Wharton said. The invited joint commands represented a push to involve all the services in the development of the joint-capable TSC.

"Certainly (Army Chief of Staff Gen. Peter Schoomaker) has made it clear that he is a joint Soldier first," Wharton said.

The changes in logistics have been in the making since February when the chief of staff approved the separate focus area task force for logistics.

The new TSC will eliminate layering of commands by combining operational level functions of the current corps support command and the theater support command, officials said.

"(Theater Sustainment Command) is going to work on (eliminating) redundancy and maximizing flexibility," said Maj. Chris Stolz, Task Force Logistics operations officer. "We want to maximize throughput by knowing demands and tai-

loring to the needs of the units of actions."

TSC will be a modular organization with a standard headquarters and subordinate support units tailored for the mission requirements of specific operations. Modular subordinate units will provide capabilities for theater opening; theater distribution; medical; petroleum, oils and lubricants; aviation, civil engineering and multifunctional supply, maintenance and transportation support.

'Everybody knows we have to do this, everybody wants to see it done and everybody is working to get it done as quickly as possible.'

Maj. Chris Stolz
operations officer, Task Force Logistics

Wharton emphasized the collaboration with CASCOM to develop new standard requirement codes, known as SRCs, that are associated with tables of organization. He said SRC teams as small as one or two Soldiers will be able to provide support based on their specific capabilities. Currently, a whole unit would be required to be mobilized to provide support for a job that could be done by a few.

TSC will work under the new unit of employment operational headquarters known as the UEy, with the TSC commander serving as the senior Army logistics commander in the UEy. TSC headquarters will provide command and control of assigned, attached and operational-controlled units.

Sustainment brigades will provide support to operational-level units in the UEy's area of operations and sustainment support to tactical-level forces engaged in combat in forward areas. This will allow throughput of critical sustainment, like fuel and ammunition, from the theater logistics hubs at ports to brigade units of action engaged in combat, Stolz said.

Right now, both COSCOM and TSC have to funnel supplies and services through different layers of management before getting to Soldiers in the rear and forward of the battle areas. With the new technology, trucks will be able to transport materiel right from the ports to the brigade or units of action where they are needed.

Eventually, predictive technology will even be able to tell where units of action will be and what they will need, officials said. They said, consequently, UAs will have their necessary supplies even sooner. This technology is still in the conceptual phase, officials added, but said the prediction will take into account the operational environment of the units and anticipate their needs.

The big difference is in the way that the logistics systems will operate, according to Stolz. He called the present systems "stove-piped systems" that do not talk to each other. The emerging systems have integrated communications. This means that the logistics information system will receive all requirements and the computer network will show that.

"The big difference is everybody will see what everyone else sees," Stolz said. In the past units could only see what affected their specific segment. With integrated communications, it will be possible to look down the entire pipeline and speed the

Mobile Command Center and a smaller communications vehicle obtained since 9/11 that the command nicknames "Dagger."

The 41-foot-long MCC is built on a commercially available truck chassis, a 10-wheel Freightliner, but the inside, including the overall dimensions, is entirely to specifications drawn up with the task in mind, integrating fully with JOC.

Jackman singled out Maj. Robert Alexander for his management of the project on behalf of MDW and JFHQ-NCR. Alexander, an MP officer with the Force Protection Division, got the assignment soon after arrival at MDW in March 2002.

"Colonel (Egon) Hawrylak (the then MDW G3) gave me the job a couple of weeks after I arrived," Alexander recalled. It was an additional duty, a side project that became a full-time job – "about 98 percent of my time, Force Protection might get 2 percent," Alexander said, free with his praise for others involved in the project, such as the NavAir engineers and IT personnel from NCR-DOIM who "came through in a big way" to getting everything connected at the end.

Now, the Force Protection team, the rest of MDW and the Joint Forces Headquarters will be better able to communicate with each other and with the other agencies, federal and local, that they will need to work with in Determined

process by prioritization and reallocation.

The objective is to get rid of the layering of commands and redundant combat services support activities to get the necessary services to the field.

"The Soldier is going to see that he or she is not going to have to ask for the same thing two or three times," Stolz said. "Soldiers will see shortened echelons of support, but the support that is forward with them is much more robust."

The goal is to have much more rapidly deployed equipment and the way to do that is through visibility to the Soldier and the command, Stolz said. The command will be able to know where the Soldier is and what he or she needs and the Soldier will know when he or she will be receiving the supplies needed.

TF Logistics is working with the Army Logistics community (Army Staff, the Army Materiel Command, the Army theater support commands) to develop the required capabilities based upon tasks, functions and missions. Collaboration includes work with the Joint Forces Command and several regional combatant commands.

"Everybody knows we have to do this, everybody wants to see it done and everybody is working to get it done as quickly as possible," Stolz said.

The new modular structure is under way with brigade combat teams and the 3rd Infantry Division which now has four units of action. Stolz said it's imperative to implement an end-to-end distribution system that can support the modular Army. TF Logistics hopes to have 80 percent of the TSC design in place no later than Sept. 30.

Federal family members invited to insurance program

Educational seminar scheduled Aug. 24

LONG TERM CARE RELEASE

Long term care is ongoing care for people who need lengthy or even lifelong assistance with daily living due to an illness, injury, or severe cognitive impairment such as Alzheimer's.

Created solely for members of the federal family, the Federal Long Term Care Insurance Program is a valuable benefit designed to protect insured individuals from the potentially high cost of long term care. The insurance is sponsored by the Office of Personnel Management and offered by John Hancock and MetLife. It is administered by Long Term Care Partners, LLC, a joint venture company between John Hancock and MetLife.

This program features group premiums for eligible members of the federal family, coverage for informal home care, access to care coordination services for qualified relatives of enrollees, and international benefits, among other benefits.

A representative from LTC Partners is holding an educational seminar Aug. 24 in Bob Jones Auditorium. For your convenience, the seminar will be presented at noon and again at 2. Workers are encouraged to attend.

Federal and postal employees, members of the uniformed services, federal, postal

and military annuitants, their spouses, and adult children (18 and older) can apply for the insurance. Additionally, parents, parents-in-law and stepparents of federal and postal employees and members of the uniformed services are eligible to apply.

Groups eligible to apply include federal and postal employees in positions that convey eligibility for the Federal Employees Health Benefits Program; members of the uniformed services who are on active duty or full-time National Guard duty for more than 30 days, as well as members of the selected Reserve; federal and postal annuitants; surviving spouses receiving a survivor annuity, individuals receiving compensation from the Department of Labor who are separated from federal service; retired members of the uniformed services entitled to retired or retainer pay, and retired military reservists at the time they qualify for an annuity; and qualified relatives of these groups.

The cost of coverage can be determined by using the premium calculator on the LTC web page, www.LTCFEDS.com, or by requesting an Open Season Information Kit on the web or via the following toll free numbers. For more information regarding the Federal Long Term Care Insurance Program or for details on the educational meetings, call 1-800-LTC-FEDS (1-800-582-3337), TDD number for the hearing impaired is 1-800-843-3557, or visit the web site at www.LTCFEDS.com.

■ Operations center seen as transformation piece

Center

continued from page 4

Promise – or any real-world scenario in the capital that calls for a military response.

Hawrylak, who has taken the post of civilian deputy G3/J3, said the Army command's Pentagon 9/11 recovery effort pointed out the need for a better operations center and for a mobile command capability.

"The credit for making the tough early decisions goes to Maj. Gen. James T. Jackson," Hawrylak said. The MDW commanding general needed both to be onsite at the Pentagon and to take daily update briefings at the MDW Emergency Operations Center.

"We had no vehicle then that was capable of anything more than a non-secure telephone connection," Hawrylak said. "The EOC was basically an unclassified environment.

"He made the commitment to secure a modern mobile command center and to fund it from the MDW budget," Hawrylak said. Similarly Army funds were also earmarked for a major building renovation that would include an up-to-date operations center.

9/11 also pointed to linking the military services for joint defense of the homeland – nationally, as with U.S. Northern Command and the North American Air Defense Command, and at the military and political nerve center, with a Joint Force Headquarters-National Capital Region.

It was NORTHCOM that ultimately funded the National Capital Region's JOC, however, achieving the capability far sooner than what would have occurred. But for both the JOC and the MCC, the G3 planners were already thinking jointly.

The NavAir Warfare Center's Special Communications Requirements Division at St. Inigoes, Md., was well equipped to handle the job and had handled similar tasks for the Department of Defense and other agencies. They were well chosen to get MDW out of the "Conestoga wagon" from which it was operating.

At the ribbon cutting were NavAir personnel from Patuxent River who helped determine the requirements and find ways they could best be met; senior engineer Steve Snyder, Doug Hosea, the project manager for the MCC, and Eric Stevens, the project manager for the JOC.

Editor's note: Tom Mani writes for the MDW News Service.

Product manager directs energy toward mobile laser

Pennsylvania native arrives at Redstone

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

A laser system at White Sands Missile Range, N.M., has shot down more than 20 rockets in flight and five artillery shells.

"It's hard to believe we have that capability for force protection," Lt. Col. Jeff Souder, product manager for directed energy applications in the Short Range Air Defense Project Office, said.

His job is to make that capability mobile by 2008. This will be a mobile laser prototype to counter rockets, artillery and mortar.

Souder assumed leadership of the newly-activated Directed Energy Applications Product Office in a ceremony Thursday at building 5250. Within the SHORAD Project Office, he will be supported by about 12 Army civilians and 50 contractor employees. Scott McPheeters is his deputy.

"It's an awesome responsibility for an incredible new weapon system," Souder, 41, said.

The Quakertown, Pa., native arrived a few weeks ago for his first Redstone assignment. He formerly served as project manager for Army Space Exploitation and Demonstration Program, as well as chief of the experiments division in the Space and Missile Defense Battle Lab- Space Directorate, Peterson Air Force Base, Colo.

"It's been a great experience so far," he told those assembled in room A-115. "I think you'll agree that this is a crucial technology."

"This is part of a greater vision," SHORAD project manager Col. Richard De Fatta said.

Souder and his wife, Trisha, have two daughters, Courtney, 9, and Kendall, 7.



Photo by Skip Vaughn

WELCOME ABOARD— Lt. Col. Jeff Souder is greeted after becoming product manager for directed energy applications.



Photo by Kim Henry

Purple Heart tribute

Ben Tainatongo, sergeant at arms for the Military Order of the Purple Heart, Chapter 2201, rings the bell in honor of each Purple Heart recipient who has died. This was part of the 14th annual Purple Heart memorial service Thursday at Heiser Hall.

Some suggestions for keeping cool

The Redstone Arsenal Energy Management Office provided the following tips regarding cooling.

- Don't set the thermostat colder than normal to cool a room faster. The lower setting will not cool any faster; it will cool to a lower temperature than needed and use more energy.

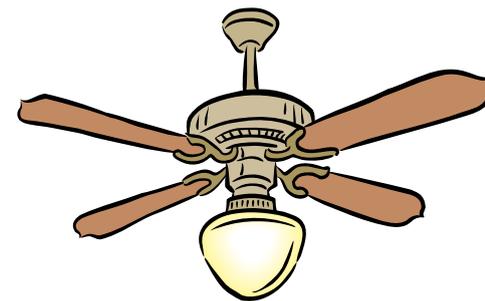
- To operate an air conditioner more efficiently, use ceiling fans to move air across the skin, lowering skin temperature by evaporation. The temperature can be raised about 4 degrees Fahrenheit without any decrease in comfort. Each degree set above 78 F will save about 7-8 percent

on cooling costs.

- Use landscaping, awnings and overhangs to shade the outside of a house in summer. A shaded house will cost less to cool than one in direct sunlight.

- When possible, use fans to keep cool instead of using the air conditioner. Fans use a small fraction of the energy that an air conditioner will use.

- When leaving a room for a few minutes or more, turn fans off. Letting it run wastes energy and does not cool the empty room. The heat from the motor could warm the room a little.



For more information, call energy manager Mark Smith 842-0014 or resource efficiency manager Bob Quick 842-0235.

Spartan aircraft puts on international show

C-27J made stop on post last fall

The C-27J Spartan airlifter, a transport plane that debuted at Redstone Arsenal last September as part of a national tour, was a premiere attraction at this year's Farnborough International Air Show, July 19-25 outside of London.

The air show is an annual gathering of military and aerospace contractors from all over the world. This year more than 1,300 contractors from 30 countries attended.

Aerospace executives, military officers, civilians and reporters alike weaved their way through the exhibits – many zoned in on the C-27J Spartan, a joint venture between Lockheed Martin and Alenia Aeronautica. The Lockheed Martin/Alenia partnership, operates under Lockheed Martin Alenia Tactical Transport Systems.

The aircraft's display became mobile every afternoon when it took to the skies for in-flight demonstrations.

"The C-27J is world renowned for its advanced avionics, superior speed, great range and ability to take off and land on short and unimproved runways," said Giorgio Zappa, chairman and CEO of Alenia Aeronautica. "The aircraft is making a great impression all over the world, and we have had a positive initial response from the United States Army and the United States National Guard."

The C-27J is primarily for intra-theater usage, war scenarios and rescue missions. Thus far, 12 C-27Js have been sold to Italy and 12 to Greece. Canada is considering a purchase for search and rescue, as are other countries around the world.

Editor's note: This release came from Dentsu Communications Inc. of New York.



Courtesy photo

TRANSPORT PLANE— Giuseppe Giordo, Alenia Aeronautica's vice president of marketing and North American operations, stands in front of the C-27J.

Coordinator brings enthusiasm to charity drive

Combined Federal Campaign
scheduled to start Oct. 4

By KIM HENRY
Staff writer
kimberly.henry2@redstone.army.mil

Helping people is a personal goal for Donna Johnson.

"As a pastor's wife, giving has always been a part of my life," she said. "It is very near and dear to my heart."

Johnson has helped with fund-raising for Army Emergency Relief since 1989, when she and her husband moved here. She also served as the garrison's CFC financial chairman for the last two years. So it is no surprise that she was asked to serve as the Local Federal Coordinating Committee chairman, a position responsible for heading up the Combined Federal Campaign on behalf of Maj. Gen. Jim Pillsbury, the Tennessee Valley CFC chairman.

"I am very excited about being a part of the CFC team and I thank Maj. Gen. Pillsbury and (garrison commander) Col. Devlin for giving me the opportunity to work with CFC," she said. "I am looking forward to a very successful campaign this year."

Johnson hopes to make every military, federal and postal worker aware that their contributions to the campaign will enhance the quality of life in the community and to give each the opportunity to support CFC. She hopes to accomplish this through recruiting good keyworkers,



Photo by Kim Henry

FIRM FOUNDATION— Donna Johnson, chairman of the Local Federal Coordinating Committee for CFC, encourages federal workers to drop by the Combined Federal Campaign office.

who serve as financial chairmen, monitors and solicitors for the campaign.

Linda Readus, secretary of the general staff, said she thinks Johnson is off to a great start for this year's campaign.

"I am real excited about Donna becoming the LFCC chair," Readus, who serves as the AMCOM representative for the committee, said. "She's already brought a

great amount of enthusiasm and energy to the campaign. She is a great leader and we'll all be ready to play an active role to make the campaign a success."

Last year, the CFC goal of \$1.6 million was exceeded by more than \$200,000. Johnson said the goal for this year has not been set. "I have no doubt that with all of the caring individuals in the Tennessee

Valley we will not only meet our goal, but exceed it again."

Johnson, who previously served as a management analyst with the garrison, feels the key to a successful campaign is teamwork. "I want every federal agency that is a part of the Tennessee Valley to look at this as a team effort," she said. "We will come together as a team to make a difference, to let our community know that the local federal workers care."

Most importantly, Johnson sees the actual donation to the community as the real value of CFC.

"It gives me great pleasure to be a part of a campaign that is helping our community. Our theme again for this year's campaign is, 'You Are Not Alone' and that is the message we want to send out to the community at large," she said. "The same help you are providing someone may be the same help you need one day."

Her husband, retired Sgt. 1st Class Clarence Johnson, has been in the ministry 17 of the 20 years they have been married. He is pastor at Poplar Creek Missionary Baptist Church in Athens. The Johnsons reside in Huntsville and have three children: Clarence, 30, Latoya, 25 and Angel, 18.

The Combined Federal Campaign is Oct. 4 through Nov. 12. All military, federal and postal employees with questions or concerns are encouraged to call the CFC office at 876-9143 or e-mail cfc-ten-valley@redstone.army.mil. Johnson also invites individuals to stop by the CFC office on the corner of Aerobee and Patton roads.

Repairs en route to Patton Road Bridge overpass

Work area to be closed
for about six weeks

GARRISON RELEASE

Repairs will begin Aug. 17 on the Pat-

ton Road Bridge overpass at Martin Road. The repairs are necessary to replace three steel beams supporting the bridge deck.

The beams were damaged by an over-height load traveling east on Martin Road. Since it was hit, the bridge has been restricted to a gross vehicle weight load

limit of less than 3 tons. During the repairs, Patton Road Bridge will be completely closed to all traffic for about six weeks and the two eastbound lanes of Martin Road will be closed as well.

Every effort will be made to keep the traffic flowing as smoothly and normal as possible; however, all of Gate 1 traffic will be transitioned to the two northern lanes. The peak traffic schedules will be maintained as normal as possible in accordance with the following gate schedule. Gate 1, Martin Road east, will continue to be open 5:30 a.m. to midnight Monday through Friday and from 6 a.m. to midnight on weekends and holidays. Two lanes of traffic will continue to flow inbound on Monday through Friday from 5:30-8:15 a.m. and two lanes will be operated outbound from 3-6 p.m. Speed limits will be reduced within the construction zone to provide for safe driving conditions and reduce the chance for accidents.

Someone traveling eastbound on Martin Road expecting to continue north on Patton Road is encouraged to plan an alternate route. This path will be function-

al; however, some inconvenience will be experienced as the following directions will confirm. A motorist should exit toward south Patton Road then cross Patton Road and enter the on-ramp back to Martin Road, then proceed to Martin Road and approach a stop before crossing the two northern lanes. These lanes could have two lanes of traffic traveling either west (5:30-8:15 a.m.) or east (3-6 p.m.) or two way traffic at any other time Gate 1 is open.

Traffic traveling either northbound or southbound along Patton Road will be required to exit and stop before crossing Martin Road. After crossing Martin Road, travel along the on-ramp back to Patton Road and continue north or south depending on the required destination.

The safety awareness and driving patience of the Redstone Arsenal motorists is appreciated during these needed repairs. The garrison Directorate of Public Works thanks you in advance and apologizes for any inconvenience encountered while traveling through this required work zone.

Shadow unmanned aerial vehicle knows milestone

System frequent flier for troops in Iraq

On July 21 during an operational flight of an RQ-7A Shadow 200 Unmanned Aerial Vehicle, in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom, the Shadow 200 TUAV program surpassed 15,000 total program flight hours.

This milestone is just four months since surpassing the 10,000 hour mark on March 11, and is the fastest of any DoD UAV program in achieving 15,000 flight hours.

“The Tactical UAV, Shadow 200, continues to impress the Army by its high operational usage in Iraq – 15,000 hours in a couple years,” Paul Bogosian, program executive officer for Army aviation, said. “The system shows its flexibility by meeting different mission requirements from the Army’s divisions and brigades there.”

The Shadow 200 UAV is also the first Defense Department UAV system to successfully pass formal operational testing and the only UAV program in the Defense Department to have passed a Milestone III acquisition review and moved forward into full-rate production.

“The Shadow program has been developed, fielded and deployed at a very rapid rate,” Tim Owings, deputy product man-

ager for the Army’s Ground Maneuver UAVs, said. “Achieving the 15,000 flight hour milestone is an accomplishment that everyone who has developed, trained, operated and/or supported the Shadow system, especially our Soldiers supporting our freedom, should be very proud of.”

Shadow has been fielded to operational units (including two to the National Guard), as well as to the UAV Training Center. Shadow TUAV systems are deployed in support of OIF, with additional units scheduled for deployment by the end of the year. Since April 2003, Shadow units supporting OIF have flown more than 2,200 operational missions, totaling over 8,700 flight hours, almost 60 percent of the entire Shadow program totals.

Shadow is developed by AAI Corporation, a subsidiary of United Industrial Corp. Each Shadow TUAV system consists of four air vehicles, two ground control stations and associated components and support equipment. The Shadow air vehicle has an approximate wingspan of 13 feet and is 9 feet long. It weighs in at about 330 pounds. It has a maximum range of more than 125 kilometers, can fly up to 14,000 feet high (mean sea level), with an endurance of over five hours.



Courtesy photo

READY TO GO— Shadow systems are deployed in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom, with additional units scheduled for deployment by the end of the year.

Army surgeon finds his calling in Afghanistan

He volunteers for entire year

By Sgt. FRANK MAGNI
Special to American Forces Press Service

KANDAHAR AIRFIELD, Afghanistan — When Army Col. (Dr.) Richard Gonzales arrived in Afghanistan, his mission was to serve 90 days before he could return to his family and private practice in Puerto Rico. Now, six months later, his private practice is sold and he has signed on for an entire year.

One of three surgeons at the Pfc. Jerrod Dennis Combat Hospital on Kandahar Airfield, Gonzales said he immediately found his calling when he came to Afghanistan.

"After I was here for just a month, it was obvious that this country needed a lot of training in all medical areas," said Gonzales, an orthopedic surgeon. "With the projects I wanted to begin here, there was not much I could accomplish in 90 days."

It was at this point that Gonzales volunteered to remain an entire year and follow through with a plan to bring modern orthopedic medicine to Afghanistan. He began with a young medical student he met within his first month here.

A recent graduate of Kandahar University of Medicine, Abdul Wali had expressed an interest in orthopedic medicine. Now, five months later, he is a contracted medical assistant at the combat hospital. He also is working as a resident, well on his way to learning methods and techniques common in the United States but rare in Afghanistan.

"When I first arrived here, they had no modern ways to treat fractures," Gonzales said. "They were not using any surgical techniques. Everything was being treated with traction."

Taking Wali under his wing, Gonzales began teaching him modern orthopedic procedures. He even had his entire medical library sent from home to assist in Wali's education. "He has required reading and completes assignments," Gonzales said. "Even though this is somewhat of a crash course, because his education is being done with one-on-one mentoring, it can be done faster."

Although the training is fast-paced, Gonzales feels it will be fruitful. "I'm being very thorough with his training. ... I know in a few years he will be teaching other

Afghans," he said.

"There is only one other orthopedic surgeon I know of in Afghanistan," Wali said. "This is a very good opportunity for me and my country."

In addition to mentoring Wali, Gonzales works with other physicians from Mier Weis, the local hospital in Kandahar. Because they are attending physicians with years of experience, Gonzales said he is only trying to demonstrate modern procedures so they can eventually be used here.

With a small class of interpreters and servicemembers, Gonzales also teaches a science class for college credit.

As Gonzales works tirelessly to educate, his efforts have not gone unnoticed. Cure International, a non-governmental organization, is assisting his efforts. "Right now Cure International has pledged a 20-bed orthopedic facility in Kandahar city," he said. "Cure International normally attends to the needs of children but is expanding its role in Afghanistan because of my commitment here."

With six months still remaining on his current tour, Gonzales said he would not stop his efforts to bring modern orthopedic medicine and education to Afghanistan. He is so committed that he has already applied to return to active duty, with the eventual goal of returning to Afghanistan for another rotation. Gonzales said he didn't expect to become so passionate when he initially came to the country, but there are many factors that encourage him.

Being from Puerto Rico he knows the positive effects that come from U.S. aid, and setting up educational programs is one of the best ways for Afghans to stand on their own two feet, he said. "In my contact with the people of this country (I've found) that they are very eager to learn," he said. "I see that many of the younger generation here appreciate the importance of education."

Wali affirms Gonzales's efforts with his plan for his education. "When I finish my training here, I want to remain in Afghanistan and serve my own people in my own country," Wali said.

Gonzales said he already is very encouraged by the progress made in a short time. "There is a lot of fertile soil for education and growth here," he said. "If you practice medicine for the sake of what it truly is, what I'm doing right now is the most pure form of medicine."

Even with his full schedule, Gonzales still is canvassing the country for other doctors like Wali to come and train with him.



Photo by Sgt. Frank Magni

GET WELL— Col. (Dr.) Richard Gonzales, an orthopedic surgeon, operates on an Afghan boy at the Pfc. Jerrod Dennis Combat Hospital on Kandahar Airfield, Afghanistan. The boy suffered injuries to his elbow and wrist falling into a well.

"Even after I retire, I will return here with an NGO," he said. "That is how strongly I feel about improving medicine for the Afghan people."

Editor's note: Army Sgt. Frank Magni is assigned to the 17th Public Affairs Detachment.

Gulf War veterans have web site information source

Exposed to smoke from oil well fires

PREVENTIVE MEDICINE RELEASE

In addition to the risk of sustaining combat casualties, some of the U.S. troops deployed during the 1991 Gulf War

were also exposed to the smoke from hundreds of oil well fires that burned out of control over a period of about nine months in 1991.

Depending on their proximity to the burning oil wells, veterans could have been exposed to varying levels of petroleum combustion pollutants. Now, Gulf War veterans can get an assessment of the

health risks from their exposure to the smoke by logging on to a U.S. Army Center for Health Promotion and Preventive Medicine Gulf War Fires web site <https://gulfwarfires.apgea.army.mil>.

To document the extent of environment pollution from the burning oil wells, USACHPPM gathered air and soil samples in Kuwait and Saudi Arabia from May 1991 until November 1991, when the last oil well was capped. By combining this sample data with troop location data, the personnel registry, satellite images, and meteorological models, USACHPPM can estimate a Gulf War veteran's exposure to oil well fire smoke and any health risk from that exposure.

By entering their social security numbers on USACHPPM's Gulf War Fires

secure web site, Gulf War veterans can get personalized information about their exposure to oil well fire smoke, including a map of their units' known locations in theater, their health risk associated with exposure to oil well fire smoke and USACHPPM's method of calculating exposure and health risk.

An online form makes it easy for veterans to request a signed copy of their exposure and risk report. Answers to frequently asked questions related to exposure and health risk calculation are also provided on the web site.

For those who would like to learn more about the oil well fires set in Kuwait by retreating Iraqi forces during the 1991 Gulf War, read DoD's Oil Well Fires Environmental Exposure Report at http://www.gulflink.osd.mil/owf_ii/.

Army releases last women from Abu Ghraib

*Soldier keeps his word
at Iraqi detention facility*

By 1st Lt. CHRISTOPHER HEATHSCOTT
Army News Service

BAGHDAD, Iraq — Lt. Col. Don Cronkhite, chief of staff and executive officer of the 39th Brigade Combat Team, made a promise to the people of Adhamiyah and he was going to follow through.

Three weeks ago, a crowd of Iraqis had gathered in a peaceful demonstration at the front gate of Camp Cooke wanting answers concerning the status of more than 80 individuals who were detained at the Abu Ghraib Detention Facility prior to the brigade's arrival in Iraq.

Following a meeting with the demonstration leaders, Cronkhite addressed the assembly and repeated the promise he made to the sheik, the imam and the Adhamiyah district councilman just moments earlier.

"These people, I pledge — if they are in fact innocent — to work to get them released as fast as I possibly can," Cronkhite said.

He stressed the fact that if there was evidence against them justifying their continued detention, Abu Ghraib is exactly where they would remain.

Following days of continuous coordinated effort with military lawyers and military intelligence officials, Cronkhite was now ready to make his first and most important delivery on that promise. This time, it is good news for the people of Adhamiyah, the release of Nehel, one of the only two females left in the detention facility. The second female, Huda, the sister of the first, was the next target of release.

"They were very concerned about the women in the group," said Lt. Col. John Edwards, of Little Rock, Ark., the 39th BCT staff judge advocate.

Cronkhite said the trip was politically sensitive. Each time a convoy leaves the gate, a certain amount of risk is taken, but the safe return of this passenger was exceedingly important.

Once Cronkhite entered the facility with the brigade's provost marshal, Maj. Tommie Brasfield, and his entourage of military police, the paperwork was

handed to the major behind the counter in exchange for the female prisoner, Nehel.

The paperwork was signed and Nehel was placed under a conditional release to the 39th BCT. The Soldiers safely transported the detainee to the 39th Brigade Interrogation Facility at Camp Cooke, where Spc. Loreen Davenport, of Little Rock, began the facility's out-processing procedures by providing Nehel with a medical checkup.

"She was very appreciative for all we did for her," Davenport said. "She continually expressed how grateful she was for the kindness that we showed to her at the detention center and also in escorting her to her family."

With Nehel undergoing her medical checkup, Cronkhite once again found himself sitting across the conference table from the district councilman, who was there to sign the final release.

Once the papers were signed, Cronkhite had honored one promise and revisited another.

"I promised her sister, as I have promised the people from the (neighborhood council) of Adhamiyah and the other Iraqis that have actually risked their lives to help this moment come together, that we will continue to work for the release of Huda, and we hope she will be with you very soon."

When the councilman announced his intent to stand up another protest in a week and a half for the release of Huda, Cronkhite said it would not be necessary.

"It is my hope that if we wait a week and a half it will be too late to request her release. She will already be free," he said.

"Shukran Jazeelan," said Nehel as the interpreter turned to Cronkhite translating the response "thank you very much," a term he knew well.

The mission was complete and two days later, Huda was released.

"We feel like that's a good thing for the district council and we think it's a show of good faith by the leadership of this brigade and this division that we are working with the new Iraqi government to demonstrate that we can be counted on to do the right thing," Edwards said.

Editor's note: 1st Lt. Christopher Heathscott is the 39th Brigade Combat Team public affairs officer.



Photo by 1st Lt. Christopher Heathscott

CONVOY— A convoy escorted by Task Force 1-206, heads to the Abu Ghraib Detention Facility to follow through on the release of one of the last female detainees in the facility. A break in one windshield, evidence of a previous engagement, served as a reminder that all convoys are considered combat operations.

Visit

continued from page 1

director for readiness at IMMC; post Command Sgt. Maj. Gregory Lunn; and Capt. Rich Hall, the general's aide-de-camp.

"The theater asked General Pillsbury to come over to attend the senior aviation summit in Baghdad (July 21-22) and we used this as an opportunity to perform a field visit to the other locations en route," Ingram said.

During this readiness field visit they talked with the Soldiers who were actually performing the maintenance on equip-

ment, flying the helicopters and so on. They heard mostly good things but some concerns that will be addressed. "There's always ways we can improve," Ingram said.

"Everywhere we went people were complimentary of what Team Redstone has done," Pieplow said. "There were minor issues but no major issues."

"Our deployed Army forces in Southwest Asia are making a positive difference in the lives of the Afghani and Iraqi people," Pillsbury said. "They're proud of what they're doing and they're doing a marvelous job in a very harsh environment. Morale was extremely high. And they were very appreciative of AMCOM's support. While we have challenges in certain areas, such as distribution of repair parts, the overall support to missile and aviation weapon systems is topnotch."

Distribution of equipment has been a challenge since the onset of the ongoing war on terrorism. In Kuwait the group visited the 1107th Aviation Classification Repair Depot, a National Guard unit out of Springfield, Mo., on July 18.

"One of the ways that we feel we can address the problem we have with distribution is through the use of the AVCRAD," Pieplow said.

Organizations throughout Team Redstone are involved

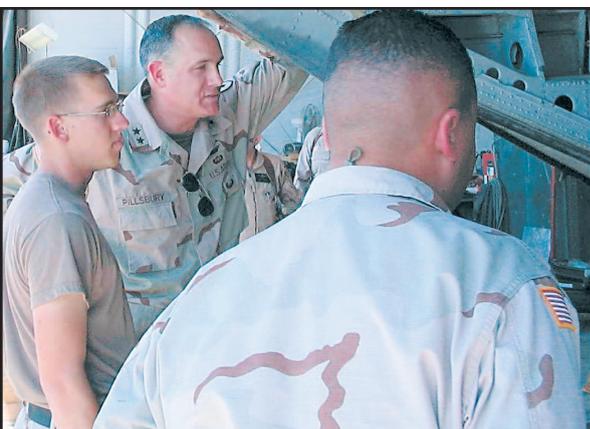


Photo by Tom Pieplow

EQUIPMENT CHECK— Maj. Gen. Jim Pillsbury, commander of AMCOM and Redstone, views aircraft equipment while visiting Afghanistan July 16.



Photo by Tom Pieplow

SECURITY PATROL— These Soldiers accompanied Redstone's visitors in Iraq July 22.

in the war effort – from AMCOM to the project managers, to the program executive offices, to the Research Development and Engineering Center. "Each one of those organizations has a presence in theater and an interest in supporting the Soldier," Ingram said.

"In very general terms, we are helping the Soldier sustain his readiness – ensuring his aviation and missile systems work when they need to work," he said.

Part of the reason for the trip was to learn what Team Redstone can do strategically to ensure long-term support for the Soldiers and their equipment in theater. "This is not going to be a short-term commitment, we're going to be there awhile," Pieplow said.

The travelers came back with 62 action items that are being worked throughout Team Redstone. They also returned with a new sense of appreciation for the Soldiers fighting the war.

"In the three or four days in Iraq, we had 10 or 15 mortar attacks," Ingram said. "The civilians, the Soldiers, continue to do their job and don't worry about the danger. It's become part of their lives. They take precautions but it's not going to stop them from doing their jobs."

Pieplow said he was struck by the youthfulness of the war fighters and by the total integration of the National Guard with the active component. "It's truly one

Army now," he said. "The active and Reserve components are truly transparent."

Pillsbury had personal interaction with the young Soldiers. He would ask their hometowns and give an anecdote about where they were from. He promoted a young enlisted Soldier on July 16 in Baghdad, Afghanistan.

"The CG's in his element when he's with those Soldiers," Ingram said.

"As we go about this global war against terrorism, the Soldiers on point for this nation right now are performing magnificently," Pillsbury said. "We concentrated on aviation because that was the request from the field commander. And aviation Soldiers are saving lives over there as they conduct convoy security and overall security missions."

Morale seemed to be high. But people in the U.S. can help by letting the Soldiers know their efforts are appreciated.

"The thing that would really do them good is just send them a letter," Pieplow said. "What they really could use right now is just somebody sending them a letter."

He recalled one Soldier who was carrying around a letter of thanks from a church. "It meant so much to him that somebody back home was thinking of them," he said. "Send them a letter saying we really appreciate what you're doing."

Back to school safety has green light

Those alarm clocks are ringing again. No more sleeping late on weekdays.

It's back to school time.

The Garrison provided the following safety tips for youngsters and their parents.

Riding the bus

School bus transportation is safe. In fact, buses are safer than cars. Even so, last year, approximately 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/or 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.

Riding in a car

- 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.

Leadership backs absentee voter registration

By DARSI BUSLER

Army News Service

"It's your future – vote for it."

This is the message from the Army's top leaders as they take starring roles in public service announcements to encourage Soldiers to fill out absentee voter registration forms by Aug. 15.

Acting Secretary of the Army Les Brownlee and Sgt. Maj. of the Army Kenneth Preston took time to film television

ads for the Army's Voting Assistance Program that will air on the Pentagon Channel, American Forces networks overseas and local command channels beginning the week of Aug. 9. Gen. Peter Schoomaker, chief of staff of the Army, is scheduled to film a third PSA.

The Aug. 15 deadline to vote absentee enables Soldiers deployed overseas to receive their ballots in September and have them sent out by Oct. 11 to reach their home states by election day, Nov. 2,

said Jim Davis, the Army's voting assistance officer.

Preston knows firsthand the importance of registering for absentee voting.

"I've been a Soldier for almost 30 years and have never had the chance to vote in my home state of Maryland," he said.

The Army wants to make sure all Soldiers are provided with the opportunity to register and cast their ballot. In May an e-mail was sent to 1.3 million AKO users, reminding them of the importance of this and the details of how to do so.

To apply for an absentee ballot, Soldiers must fill out the federal postcard application, standard form 76, which can be found at the Federal Voting Assistance Program's web site or from a voting action officer.

If Soldiers located outside the United States send in their request for an absentee ballot in sufficient time and don't

receive their ballot, they can use the Federal Write-In Absentee Ballot (SF 186), which allows them to write in their votes and send it in by the deadline.

All but three states require absentee ballots by close of business the day of the election. Louisiana requires the ballots to be in by midnight before the election. New York absentee ballots need to be postmarked the day before the election. North Carolina requires the ballots to be in by 5 p.m. the day before the election.

Brownlee recognizes the roles Soldiers play in the voting process.

"As a Soldier you have a duty to fight. As a citizen, you have the right to vote. Now it's time for you to exercise that right," he said.

For more information on federal voting policies, go to the Federal Voting Assistance Program's web site at <http://www.fvap.gov/>.

Win or lose

Softball championship goes to Delta Company



Photo by Skip Vaughn

FIELD READY— Recreation specialist Joe Reed mows Linton Field before the postseason playoffs. The 50-year-old field will be rededicated with a ceremony at 6 p.m. Aug. 31 followed by an Army vs. NASA all-star game.

Dragons slay Bravo Bulldogs in postseason tourney final

By SKIP VAUGHN

Rocket editor

skip.vaughn@redstone.army.mil

Delta beat Bravo 8-14, 13-7 for the softball championship Monday night at Linton Field.

Delta advanced from the winners bracket by beating MEDDAC 14-4 last Thursday. Later that night, Bravo advanced by beating HHC 59th 15-5 and MEDDAC 19-4.

Rob Coppage went 3-for-3 with two doubles and scored two runs for Delta against MEDDAC. The medics had entered the postseason tournament as the No. 1 seed.

“A lot of the players have stepped up and we had some players come back from leave,” Delta coach and right-center Michael Shambaugh said. “And the team stepped up and played well. They’re playing like a team and being patient.”

Bravo’s Reggie Williams slammed



Photo by Skip Vaughn

COUNT IT— Delta’s Tyrone Tention scores on a double by Rob Coppage in the fourth inning of a 14-4 win over MEDDAC last Thursday.

three homers against MEDDAC as the Bulldogs earned a rematch against Delta. The Devastating Dragons had beaten Bravo 12-9 on Aug. 3.

“We just owed Delta a little revenge because they put us in the losers bracket,” said Bravo coach and All-Army selection Lee Diaz, who pitched against the medics. “We didn’t hit against them. But they better come ready to play on Monday.”

Results from the postseason tournament included:

- Aug. 2 — HHC 59th def. Marines 15-0, Bravo def. Charlie 16-5 and Delta def. Headquarters & Alpha 14-4.
- Aug. 3 — MEDDAC def. HHC 59th 16-4, Delta def. Bravo 12-9 and Charlie def. Headquarters & Alpha 16-6.
- Aug. 4 — HHC 59th def. Charlie 12-2 and Bravo def. Marines 25-10.
- Aug. 5 — Delta def. MEDDAC 14-4, Bravo def. HHC 59th 15-5 and Bravo def. MEDDAC 19-4.

Two Soldiers selected for Olmsted scholarships

Overseas study chances available for captains

By JACQUELINE GARRELTS
Army News Service

WASHINGTON — Two Army captains have been selected as recipients of Olmsted scholarships and will study overseas next year in Romania and Spain.

The Olmsted Scholarship program offers servicemembers the opportunity to experience different cultures overseas. For two years, scholar recipients gain an advanced education that exposes them to a country's language, viewpoints and international issues.

This past November, the U.S. Army Human Resources Command Olmsted Scholarship Selection Board picked seven Army captains to represent the Army at the Olmsted Foundation Board. Two scholars, Capt. Scott Sendmeyer and Capt. Geoffrey Van Epps, were chosen as recipients of the Olmsted Scholarship for the 2005 class.

Sendmeyer, assistant division engineer, 7th Infantry Division, will be attending the University of Bucharest in Romania.

Van Epps, who has commanded Company B of the 249th Engineer Battalion (Prime Power) at Fort Bragg, N.C., will be attending the University of Navarra in Pamplona, Spain.

Captains who are interested in the Olmsted Scholarship program next April

should apply now through HRC.

Maj. Tim Chafos of the brigade S3 for the 704th MI Bde., was part of the Olmsted class of 2000 and studied at the University of Siena in Italy. He went to the Defense Language Institute in 1999 and studied in Italy from 2000-02.

"Both my wife and I feel that it was absolutely the opportunity of a lifetime, which is difficult to duplicate in either military or civilian life," Chafos said.

Upon completing the program, "there is always an opportunity to serve in a joint staff. Having that edge and expertise of another country makes a Soldier very valuable," said Robert Yablonski, executive vice president, The George and Carol Olmsted Foundation.

In the past, three to five Army officers have been selected annually, but last year the Army allowed six captains to participate in the program. During the 2004 class, Army captains studied in Russia, France, Cairo, Spain and Germany.

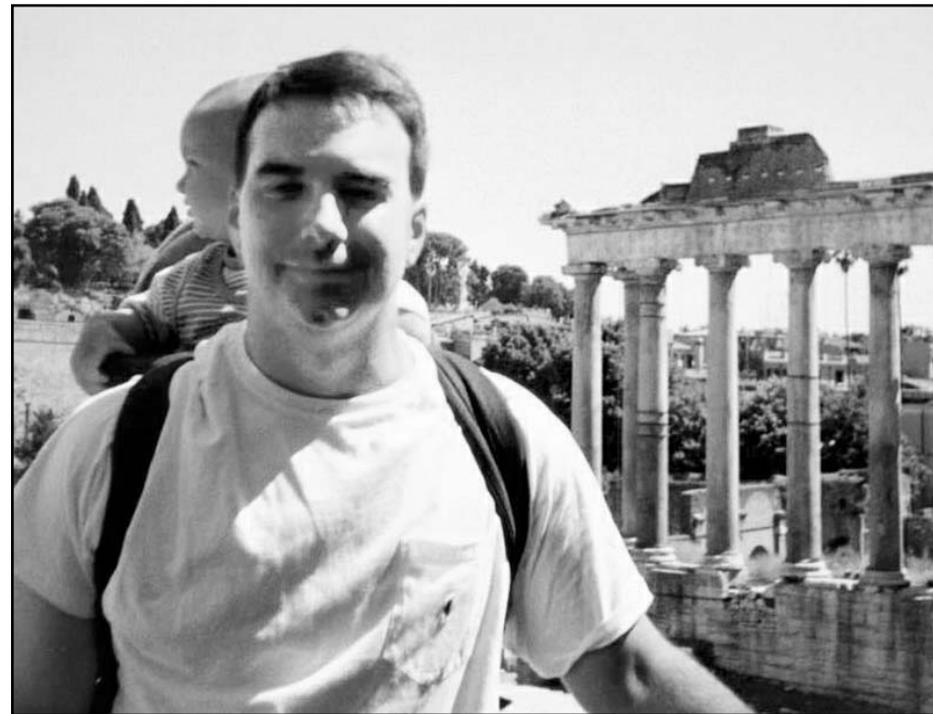
"This year the OPTEMPO of deployment had an impact on the pool of candidates," Yablonski said. "We knew that the pool was going to be considerably smaller."

Eligible captains must be: an active-component captain in a combat arms or combat support arms career field; have the potential for future military service; have a minimum of three active federal commissioned service years, but not more than 11 by April 30, 2005; have a minimum graduate record examination score

of 500 verbal and 500 quantitative; have a minimum undergraduate grade point average of 3.0; meet Army height and weight requirements; be branch qualified; have a minimum defense language aptitude battery score of 85; must not be competing for any other Army-sponsored program, fellowship or scholarship.

Captains who are interested in the Olmsted Scholarship must submit a DA Form 4187 to their career assignment officer by Oct. 22, along with an active-duty service obligation statement.

Questions about applying for the program should be sent to Joel Strout, stroutj@hoffman.army.mil.



Arnews photo

SIGHTSEEING— Maj. Tim Chafos visits sights with son, Andrew, on his back, at the Forum in Rome. Chafos was selected for the Olmsted scholarship in 2000 and studied at the University of Siena in Italy from 2000-02.

Going back to school in latest fashions

POST EXCHANGE RELEASE

The second annual Back-to-School Fashion Show, held July 24 at the Post Exchange, was a big success due to parent volunteers and store associates. Hitting Redstone's runway this year were both back-to-school basics plus trendy necessities.

More than 50 models, ages 5-18, signed up to show off all the top brands and private labels clothing in store now.

"We invited everyone in the communi-

ty to participate which in turn created a large interest of everyone from grandparents to spectators," Sonya Boyd, PX fashion coordinator and visual merchandiser, said. "After the show, shoppers were asking 'when is the next one so we can be involved.'"

Next year will be even better with additional involvement of community organizations and promoters. Redstone looks forward to this annual event and hopes to make it even more successful next year.

'Operation Purple' camps meet military family need

Children of deployed servicemembers participate in weeklong programs

BY GERRY J. GILMORE
American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON – The armed services offered a plethora of youth activities, but until recently there was a lack of programs that directly address children's anxieties when one or both parents are deployed overseas, a military family advocate said Aug. 5.

That's all changed, National Military Family Association executive director Julia Pfaff noted at the "Operation Purple" youth camp at Ellerbe, N.C. Camps, Pfaff noted, were held this summer in 11 states and Guam, and are co-sponsored by the Defense Department, the NMFA, and Sears, Roebuck and Co.

Citing results from a NMFA study conducted from Sept. 11, 2001, to March 31 of this year, Pfaff noted there were plenty

of DoD youth programs for fun and entertainment, but none that helped military youth "deal with the stressors of deployment."

About 1,000 children participated in this year's Operation Purple, according to a NMFA news release. About 50 children attended the weeklong camp at Ellerbe, which concluded Aug. 5.

A key purpose of Operation Purple, Pfaff explained, is to communicate with children of deployed servicemembers, assuring them, "if you're angry because your dad or mom is gone, it's OK. That's a normal feeling, but you have to channel that in a positive way."

Sears donated \$2 million to the NMFA to develop and enhance programs that address the unique challenges faced by military families, and the company will support an expanded Operation Purple for next year, Sears' senior public relations executive, Robert J. O'Leary, noted Aug. 5 at the Millstone 4-H camp in Ellerbe.

Operation Purple youth camps are cost-free, except for a small registration



Courtesy photo

STYLING— Jessica Kennemore participates in the fashion show at the PX.

fee, for children of active, reserve, and National Guard members.

Besides group discussions led by motivational speaker Paul Vann, who'd also worked at other Operation Purple camps, the Ellerbe camp also featured horseback riding, canoeing, archery and more.

The Ellerbe camp featured participants from several states, such as Tye Gray, 16, from Waldorf, Md. Gray said his active-duty Army mother is now serving state-side. The camp, Gray said, provides a good service by providing servicemembers' children the opportunity to discuss their feelings about their military parents' deployments. "They get to meet other people with the same problem," Gray pointed out.

Chris Aubright, 15, said he remembers when his Navy corpsman father was deployed to the Middle East in recent years, noting he'd "had to help my mom out a lot" with additional chores. Aubright said it's important for family members to keep in contact with deployed military fathers or mothers because "it matters to them and it really helps them" perform

their mission.

Aubright's father, Anthony, had stopped in Ellerbe to pick up his son. The Ellerbe 4-H facility, he said, "is a beautiful place," while noting his thanks for those who'd created Operation Purple.

Operation Purple, Pfaff said, should greatly assist National Guard members, since they and their families may live far away from their assigned units, and therefore have less in-house support.

Kim Durham's sons Michael, 15, and Kory, 11, attended the Ellerbe camp. Durham, a family readiness coordinator for the North Carolina National Guard's 1452nd Transportation Company in Winston-Salem, N.C., said her husband, Michael, has been serving in Iraq for the past five months.

Kim Durham recommended that wives or husbands "work out any differences" with their spouses before deployment. "Don't bog them down while they're there, because they lose focus" on the mission, Durham explained. "Then, that puts their life in danger," she concluded.



Photo by Gerry J. Gilmore

CAMP SITE— Front row from left: Jasson Balboa, Ryan Vendrely, Tye Gray and Mike Bryant and (back row from left) Cecelia Wallace, North Carolina National Guard youth coordinator, Michael Durham and Jonathan Leist pose for a photo Aug. 5 at the Millstone 4-H camp in Ellerbe, N.C.

Soldiers helping restore cultural treasures in Ninevah

By Sgt. 1st Class JULIE FRIEDMAN
Army News Service

MOSUL, Iraq — Two major historic sites in Mosul dating back to the 8th century B.C. are being restored with help from the 416th Civil Affairs Battalion.

Maj. Wayne Bowen, head of the 416th's Higher Education and Antiquities Team, is working with Ninevah Director of Antiquities, Muzahim Mahmood, to facilitate restoration projects at the Nergal Gate and King Sennacheribe's palace.

"The Nergal Gate is just one of 15 gates that surrounded the ancient Assyrian capitol of Ninevah, but we decided to focus on this one first because it was in the best condition," Bowen explained.

The \$22,000 project, funded by the Commander's Emergency Response Program, includes repaving the ramp leading up to the gate using the authentic Assyrian cobblestone pattern, renovating the gate itself to provide museum displays in both wings and building roofs to protect the various statues and reliefs on the site.

Because most of the structure is still intact and there was historic documentation preserved over the years, the gate will soon look much as it did in ancient times.

"There are reliefs that show the gate at that time so they can fairly accurately recreate the site," Bowen said.

The second project involves restoring the site of King Sennacheribe's palace, which is strategically located high on a hill overlooking the Tigris River and was the seat of government in Ninevah during his reign in the early 8th century B.C.

According to Bowen, the site had remained relatively unchanged for nearly 3,000 years, but in April 2003 it was extensively looted and damaged.

"It's heartbreaking to see this palace," Bowen said, "but the multinational forces are committed to working with the Iraqi government to restore the site and recover the artifacts that were stolen."

The United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, known as UNESCO, had already certified the site as a cultural treasure prior to the war, and preliminary work such as building roofs over the reliefs and erecting a temporary fence has already been completed by UNESCO archaeologists. Security guards were also added for the first time in history.

The 416th is working with UNESCO to complete the second phase of the project, which will provide additional security with an improved fence and lighting, improve the road for better access and remove a large oil tank that was installed on the property during the Second World War.

Bowen hopes that once the site is restored and protected it will again be an important site for tourism, along with the renovated Nergal Gate.

"They are a part of the cultural heritage of Iraq and they belong to the people of Iraq, but they are also an essential part of the history of mankind," he said. "So much of what we know about the beginnings of civilization, culture and technology came directly from this region of the world."



RAMP UP— Local workers painstakingly recreate the ramp leading up to the Nergal Gate using the authentic Assyrian cobblestone pattern.

Photo by Sgt 1st Class Julie Friedman

Sports & Recreation

Ten-miler tryouts

Redstone will have tryouts for its Army Ten-Miler team 7 a.m. Aug. 21 on a 10-mile course that begins and ends in the parking lot at Sparkman Fitness Center. The team is to have six military – including active duty, National Guard and Reserves – and four civilian members. The 20th annual race is Oct. 24 in Washington, D.C. For more information, call Skip Vaughn 876-1500 or Alexander Steel 876-3867.

Volleyball signups

Child and Youth Services' youth volleyball signup continues through Aug. 16 at the CYS Central Enrollment Office, building 1500. Open to children and youth of active duty, retired, and Guard/ Reserve military, DoD, DoA, RSA/NASA contractors and dependents ages 8-15 as of Sept. 1, 2004. Cost per child is \$40, and children must be enrolled in CYS to play. Additional \$18 fee will apply if not currently registered. A copy of birth certificate and current sports physical required at time of registration. Volunteer coaches always needed and greatly appreciated. Teams are coed in age groups: 10 and under, 12 and under, and 15 and under. For more information, call 313-2177.

Rocketman triathlon

The 11th annual John Masterson Memor-

ial Heart Center Rocketman Triathlon is Aug. 29 at 7:30 a.m. at the Col. Hudson Recreation Area on Redstone Arsenal. The race benefits the Marine Corps Reserve "Toys for Tots" Program. For more information, call race director Bob Mulkey 883-7399 evenings.

Bike ride

The Spring City Cycling Club will hold an 18-mile bike ride through NASA and Redstone technical test areas Aug. 30 at 11 a.m. at Sparkman gym in conjunction with Test Week 2004, Aug. 30 through Sept. 2. Signup forms are on web site www.testevaldays.com or can be obtained from Sherry Hilley 842-6715. There is no fee for participation.

Bowlers wanted

Two bowlers are needed for a team sponsored by American Legion Post 237. Bowlers must be retired military, veteran, active military or in the Guard or Reserves. The team bowls Wednesday evenings at 5:30 at Parkway Lanes. For more information, call Paul 876-2525.

Youth tennis

Tennis lessons for children ages 5-18 are being offered for an entire month beginning Aug. 3 and again Sept. 2. Cost is once a week: \$32 per month, and twice a week for \$56 per month. Classes are scheduled for four-week sessions. Register at CYS Central Enrollment, building 1500 on Weeden Mountain Road, or call 313-3704.

Chess players

Chess enthusiasts are invited to the Diane Campbell Recreation Center, building 3711, at 6:30 p.m. Aug. 24 to meet Donald Maddox, a renowned author and international expert on chess and computers. For more information, call 876-4531 after 1:30 p.m. daily.

Conferences & Meetings

Test and evaluation

"Test Week 2004," Aug. 30 to Sept. 2 at South Hall, Von Braun Center, represents a partnership between the Army Test & Evaluation Days Conference and the International Test and Evaluation Association annual International Symposium. Keynote speakers, workshops and panels of experts will address the future of armed forces, systems engineering processes, automotive and aerospace activities, and international T&E. An exhibition featuring more than 90 industry, government and academia organizations demonstrating products and capabilities will be held in conjunction with the technical program of the conference. Web sites for information are www.itea.org or www.testevaldays.com. For more information, call Sherry Hilley 842-6715.

Sergeants major

The Sergeants Major Association will hold its monthly meeting Aug. 19 from 6:30-7:30 in the morning in the Twickenham Room at the Officers and Civilians Club. For more information, call retired Command Sgt. Maj. Jean Rose 313-1659.

Enlisted spouses

The Enlisted Spouses Club will meet at 6:30 p.m. Thursday at the Challenger Activity Center. For more information call Jennifer Kennedy 837-3310, ext. 3.

Resource managers

The American Society of Military Comptrollers will hold its monthly meeting Thursday at 11:30 a.m. at the Trinity Personal Growth Center on Airport Road. Lyle Douglas is to speak on "Exercise in Your Busy Lifestyle." For tickets — \$9 members, \$10 non-members — see your organization ASMC representative or call Kim Jean 876-7208 or Lisa Lowry 876-1423.

Women accountants

American Society of Women Accountants will meet Monday at the Tom Beville Center, 550 Sparkman Drive on the University of Alabama-Huntsville campus. Social begins at 5:30 p.m. with dinner at 6 and the program at 6:30. Lori Womack of Beason & Nalley is to speak on estate planning for women; and the program will qualify for one hour CPE credit. Cost is \$16.50 for members, \$17.50 non-members. For reservations call 830-0377 by noon Thursday.

Hospitality room

Tennessee Valley Chapter of Women in Defense invites the Redstone community to its Space and Missile Defense Conference Hospitality Room, located across from the registration area at the Von Braun Center South Hall, from 5-7 p.m. Aug. 16.

Logistics engineers

The International Society of Logistics and the American Helicopter Society are co-sponsoring a luncheon Aug. 24 at 11:30 a.m. at the Holiday Inn, Madison Square Mall. Paul Bogosian, program executive officer for aviation, is to speak on "PEO Aviation's Implementation of Soldier Focused Logistics and Performance Based Logistics." Cost is \$13.75 for members, \$14.75 for non-members. For reservations call Emma Louise Cooper 313-6763 or Randy Gibbs 313-2942 by Aug. 20.

Marine league

This month's meeting of the Brandon-Wilbourn Marine Corps League Detachment has been changed to this Saturday at 10:30 a.m. at American Legion Post 237 on Drake Avenue. Thomas "Mike" Beard is to give an update on the Veterans Administration program in Alabama. "Before the meeting we will serve a fine \$3 breakfast from 9 until 10," a prepared release said. "The proceeds will go to help

Miscellaneous

various league programs."

Reserve unit openings

A local Army Reserve detachment doing weekend drills on Redstone Arsenal has openings for computer specialists. The unit seeks prior active duty Soldiers or transfers from other Reserve/National Guard units with a specialty of 25B/74B information systems operators and 75B/H unit administration. For 74B, the unit will consider reclassification action to 25B if you can document with resume your Civilian Acquired Skills to include your education/experience in the following computer skills: data base management, programming, networking and telecommunications. Minimum of a secret clearance is required. And you must possess the personal qualifications to pass a SBI background investigation process to obtain a top secret clearance soon. Specialties 74C and 74F are now authorized to convert to 74B as well. For specialty 74C or 74F, they are now authorized to convert to 75B as well. For an interview, call Charles Vartan 876-0604 (work) or 883-8891 (home).

Civilian deployment

Civilian employees are needed to support Aviation and Missile Command missions overseas. Deployment opportunities exist in Southwest Asia in support of Operation Enduring Freedom and Operation Iraqi Freedom. Skill sets needed include acquisition, maintenance, supply, quality assurance, engineers, operations officers, logistics and automation, among others. Volunteers must be currently employed by AMCOM. Contractors cannot be considered to fill these positions. Civilians interested in deploying should notify their supervisor and call Eddie Allen 876-4106 or Carl Washington 876-2082. Contractors and other interested people can access www.cpol.army.mil for openings and opportunities for overseas employment.

