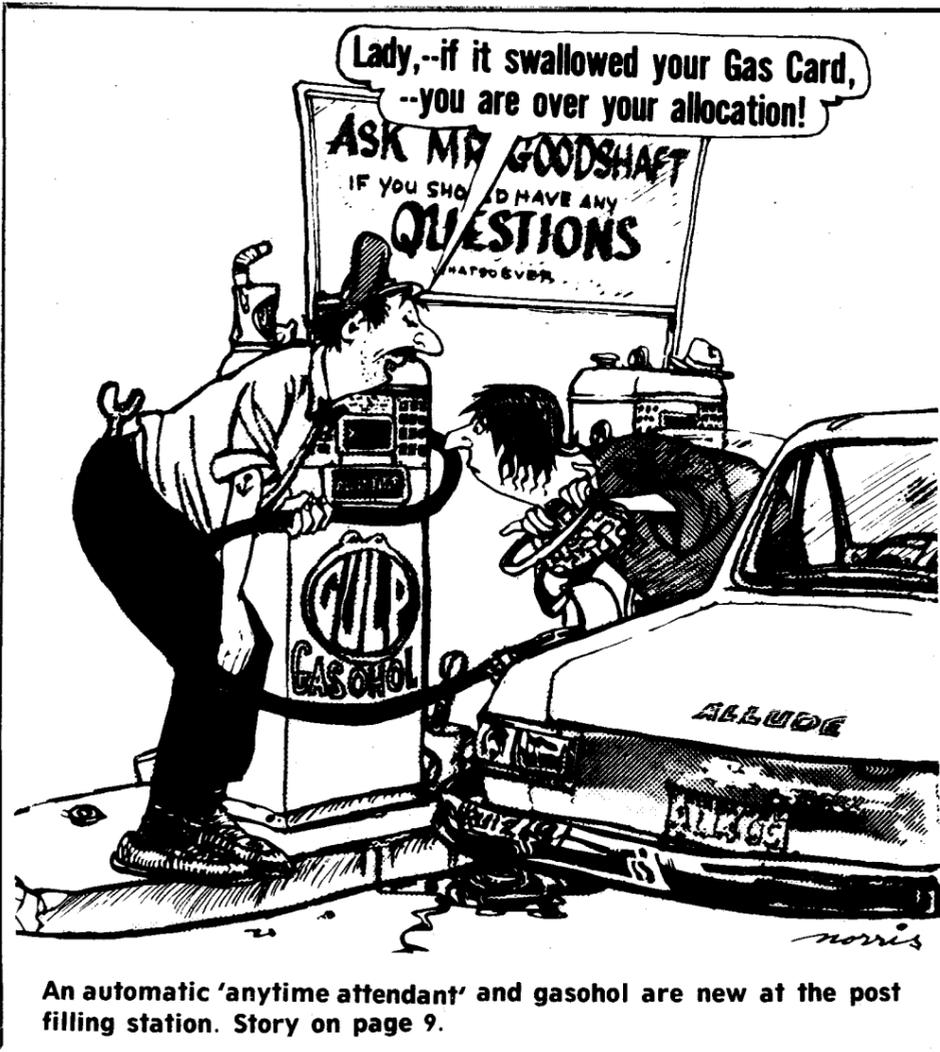


The Redstone Rocket

Vol. XXX; No. 3

June 17, 1981



An automatic 'anytime attendant' and gasohol are new at the post filling station. Story on page 9.

Carpool parking plan gets nod

BY ED PETERS

A plan to give carpools the best parking spaces on the arsenal was to take a giant step forward with the signing yesterday of the MICOM-AFGE Local 1858 union contract.

The pact gives management and union support to a preferential parking plan that designates the choice parking spaces at Army buildings here as carpool-reserved.

Close-in parking will continue to be provided for handicapped, official visitors and officials vehicles.

Reserved parking for managers and directors and some shift workers will continue also, but will be moved "out back".

Under the new parking plan, blocks of close-in parking at buildings will be set aside for use by carpools only on a first come, first served basis, not by num-

bered spaces. But, "The worst carpool space will be better than anything else in the lot," said Wayne Jordan of Facilities Engineering, who carries the title MICOM personnel transportation coordinator.

Various requirements for federal reservations to provide reserved parking for carpools have been around since 1974.

But until now implementation of a program had been stymied locally by inability of management and labor to negotiate a program as required by union contracts.

Jordan expects it will take about four more months to implement the new program, allowing time to print forms, conduct registration and collect ride sharing data, survey parking and post the reserved areas.

(Continued on page 8)

Bluebirds

Leg banding will help chart migration, behavior

BY ED PETERS

A sociobiologist, a laser physicist, a troop of boy scouts and the U. S. Army are partners at Redstone Arsenal in a project to help insure survival of the bluebird.

The sociobiologist in Marcy Lawton, a University of Chicago Ph.D candidate studying bluebird migration and breeding as part of a broader interest in the evolution of social behavior in social organizations.

The laser physicist is Bill Friday of MICOM's directed energy laboratory, and the scouts are members of Troop 15, First United Methodist Church in Huntsville, where Friday is active in scout work.

The last partner, the Army, provides the protected place where Friday and his scouts have been putting bird houses on fence posts for four years, quietly building the bluebird population that will be used for field work in a study of how bluebirds disperse from the nest, migrate and choose mates.

"We almost lost the bluebird, so it's important to know how their population dynamics work," said Lawton of the study.

She and Friday have obtained permission from U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to conduct a program of banding baby bluebirds on the arsenal.

They will chart the banded birds'

(Continued on page 16)



Banding

Lawton holds bird while Friday bands its tiny leg. Her son Michael, almost a year old, goes afield with his mom.

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not to be considered an official expression by the Department of the Army. The appearance of advertisements in this publication does not constitute an endorsement by the Department of the Army of the products or services advertised.

Opinion

The lobster racers' reunion

In the old days you could spot the bunch from Redstone Arsenal in a crowd. At busy Washington National Airport, when the passengers lined up for the late afternoon Viscount for Huntsville, you just looked at their socks. Those wearing white ones were the Army missile people. And those who worked on Hawk would kill the long haul home after yet another meeting at the Raytheon plant outside Boston, by opening the boxes they carried and race live lobsters down the aisle.

That's one of the stories that will be retold in many variations as the old and new Hawks gather here next week to observe an event special to the thousands of soldiers and civilians, men and women from government and industry, who have been closely involved over the years with that most adaptable air defense guided missile system they call Hawk.

They are coming for the silver anniversary of a moment on June 22, 1956, when their creation smacked a speeding jet fighter head on at 11,000 feet above White Sands Missile Range and shattered the plane into a hundred twisting, burning fragments.

A few of them saw it happen. Many of the others heard it shouted down the halls here and in contractor offices and plants where the lines were open to White Sands.

"A hit. They got a hit!"

Each one of them can tell you exactly where they were, what they were doing, how they felt at that instant 25 years ago.

And even in that moment of euphoria, not even the most optimistic would have predicted what was yet to be, the remarkable record their long-lived system would go on to write



and is still writing. In those days of white socks and crew cuts, it was all still new. You did things by feel and instinct for what might work, not because the book said that was the way to go because the book had yet to be written. Almost all the many missile systems that came to life then had a few years of operational use and then faded away. Not Hawk.

Unlike even the old soldiers of legend, it refuses to die, flat won't fade away. It can truly be said to be getting better, not older.

Hawk today is the most widely used and desired air defense system in the free world. And because it is, there are more people at Redstone, and many other places too, who can be counted as members of the Hawk team than there were 25 years ago. A whole lot more.

Someone said the other day, "You know, when we can go home every night feeling proud of what we have done today, the country will be all right."

The country will be all right. And one reason is that the people who made Hawk, those who support it and those who stand ready around the world to fight with it if they must, go home feeling proud of what they did today.

If you listen closely next week, don't be surprised if you hear the former lobster racers planning the golden anniversary.

—Dave Harris



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The Rocket is published weekly, on Wednesday. The publisher will receive editorial content for publication in The Redstone Rocket through the Information Office, Army Missile Command, Redstone Arsenal, Ala. 35809, Bldg. 5250, Room A-134, Extension 876-1500.

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New union pact

Local management and union officials were scheduled to meet at MICOM headquarters yesterday morning and sign a new contract covering more than 6,000 non-professional workers at Redstone.

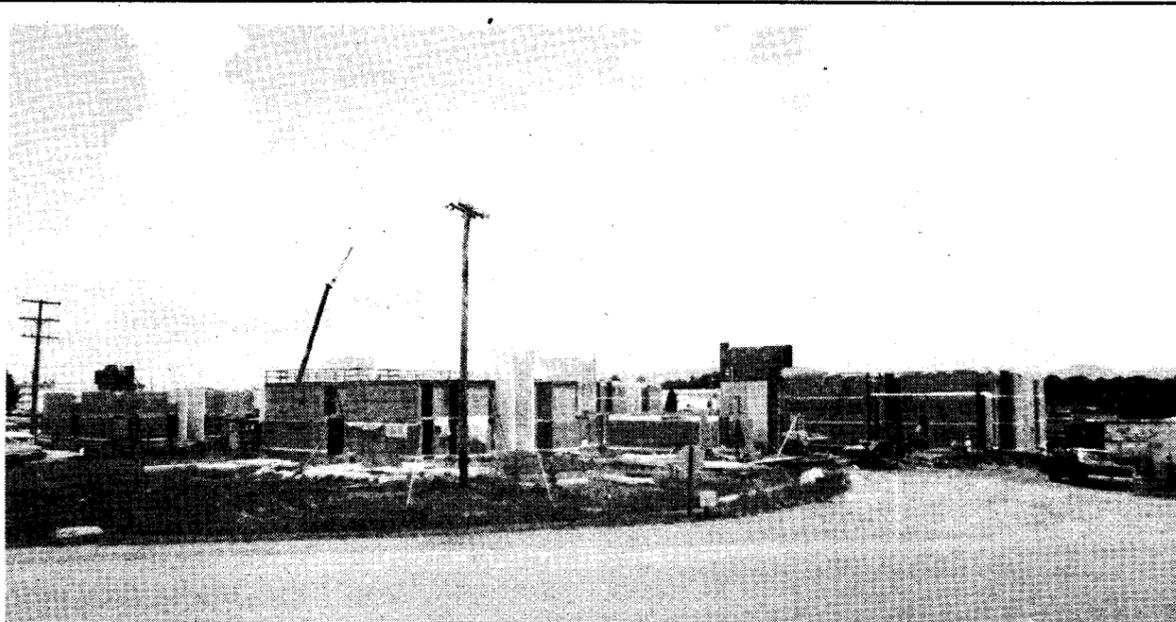
The new labor agreement containing 69 articles was hammered-out during more than six months of negotiation and will guide management-labor relations here for a two-year period beginning June 16. It applies to the Missile Command, the U.S. Army Communications Command Agency-Redstone, and the commissary store.

Richard Wright, management's chief negotiator, said the new contract features an article that specifies in more detail the workings between management and union, and an article on merit promotion that expands the area of consideration for promotion from best qualified to highly qualified. This article should benefit management by giving them more candidates to pick from and workers by opening up the chance for promotion to more people.

Other negotiators for management were Fred Carodine, Joe Holder, and Harry Trent.

The union negotiating team included Dennis Garrison, Herb Ivey, Hershel Cramer, Bill Pruett, Don Fulton, Mike West and Diane Trick.

Chief management negotiator Wright said "items covered in the agreement should benefit both management and union . . . and better communications should occur between employees, supervisors and union officials."



Taking shape

New barracks under construction in the troop area are beginning to take shape. The four

new buildings will house 536 soldiers. The \$7.3 million project is running ahead of a scheduled April 1982 completion.

Soldiers train for apprenticeships

Two soldiers were awarded certificates of apprenticeship last week for completing the required 7000 hours of skill documentation under the Army Apprenticeship Program (AAP).

SSgt. Dewey J. Exon from Company B and SSgt. Gene A. Preston from RASA both finished the AAP early last year in the Electrical Instrument Repair program.

The AAP is a beneficial way for the Army to document the soldiers skills that he or she has learned while in their MOS, said SFC Ronald E. Crawford, the NCO for the AAP.

The 7000 hours of work-time is divided into five different categories; 640 hours of orientation, 360 hours of basic circuits repair, 1000 hours of electrical instrument repair, 2500 hours of shop work, and 2500 hours of sight work.

According to Preston, the AAP is geared for civilian-bound soldiers because "as far as the Army is concerned, I'm already certified.

"But if I get out," he said, "I'll be at a

journeyman's level in the instrument repair field. The program will basically certify me as a senior repairman instead of a fresh recruit on the outside."

"It's hard to realize the benefits while you're in the Army because the results aren't that evident," agreed Exon. "It mostly benefits a person when they get out of the service and apply for a job because they'll be at a higher level.

"But what you do get in the Army from the program is a sense of personal pride, a feeling of accomplishment, and a more professional attitude which makes the program well worth it."

There are currently 143 MOSs covered by the AAP. Although you can enroll in any of the programs anywhere in the world, only 19 of the MOS producing courses are taught here; 21L, 22L, 22N, 23N, 23V, 24H, 24J, 24K, 24L, 26N, 27B, 27E, 27G, 27H, 35F, 35H, 46N, and 55G.

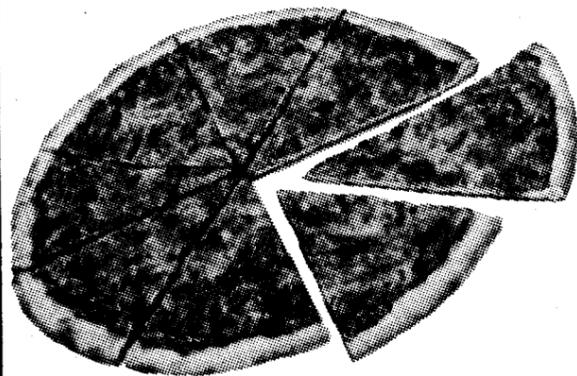
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What do you think of the transferability clause in the proposed GI Bill?



Pvt. Dianne K. McMahon, 8th S. C. — "I think it would be alright to pass it on. If I had a kid and couldn't afford college, the clause would definitely help them more."



Sp5 Mural R. Tackett, DENTAC — "In a sense I think it would be good but I would basically say not. It's the tax payer's money that should be spent on people actively serving in the Army. Of course, if there was a death that would be different."



Sgt. Joyce E. Duckworth, Co. A — "I feel it's a good idea for the soldiers that do not continue their education. They can pass it down to their dependents and the dependents can use it as a big advantage toward their education."



Sp4 Richard L. Brock Jr., 95th Svc. Co. — "I think the return of the GI Bill is great and they never should have taken it away. I also think the soldiers should be able to transfer their Bill because in these days, if you can help your kids get education through the government, then that's great."

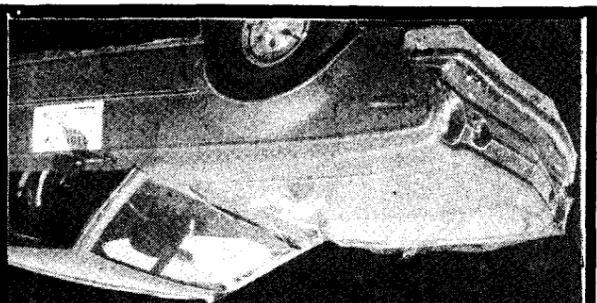


Pvt. Sarah A. Enzenbacher, 7th S. C. — "I think it's an excellent idea because education is so expensive and everybody worries about sending their kids to college. If they pass the bill, it would remove that worry."



Sp4 Richard N. Lofgren, 7th S. C. — "I think it makes common, logical sense. The cost of education is and has been prohibitive but not only in the cost of education but with the rest of the things like housing and loans."

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Army successfully demonstrates infrared optical sensors in test

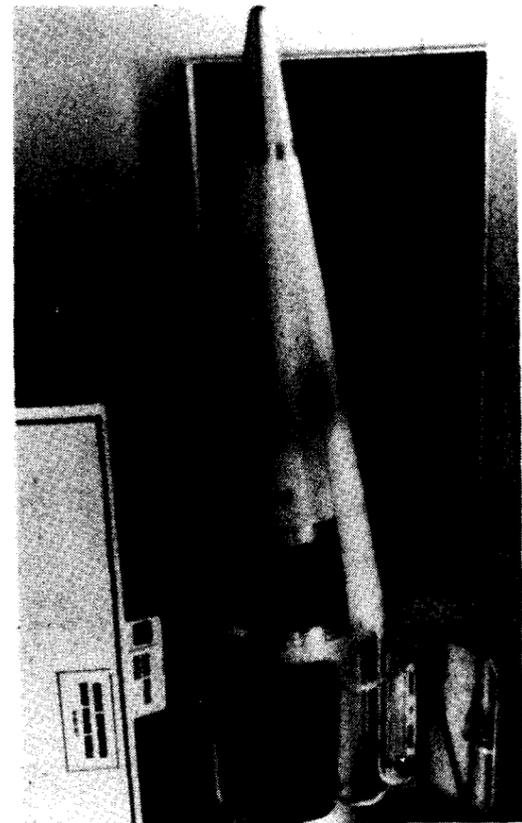
In a flight test over the Central Pacific June 12, the Army successfully demonstrated the effectiveness of infrared optical sensors in monitoring the reentry of intercontinental ballistic missiles (ICBMs), according to the Ballistic Missile Defense Advanced Technology Center in Huntsville.

This mission was the fourth in a series of progressively more complex test flights for the Designating Optical Tracker experiment. DOT is part of the Army's Ballistic Missile Defense research and development effort to provide viable options for defending the United States against an enemy ICBM attack.

The long wavelength infrared optics technology demonstrated by the DOT experiment is a key element in the development of an Overlay Defense system capable of tracking and destroying enemy missiles above the atmosphere. Overlay is one of the major thrusts of the Huntsville-based Army BMD program.

During the test flight, the DOT sensor monitored the test firing of a U.S. Air Force Minuteman missile. Several minutes after the U.S. ICBM was launched from Vandenberg Air Force Base, Calif., the DOT sensor, mounted in the nose cone of a rocket vehicle, was launched above the atmosphere from Roi-Namur Island in the Kwajalein Missile Range in the Marshall Islands. From its vantage point, the sensor was able to detect and record the incoming ICBM target complex. After successfully gathering the required scientific data, the payload carrying the sensor was parachuted into the ocean and recovered.

Boeing Aerospace Company, prime contractor for the DOT program, built the rocket vehicle, prepared it for flight, and conducted the launch. Hughes Aircraft Company built the infrared sensor, and Teledyne Corporation furnished the real-time, on-board computer.



Nose cone like this one carried the infrared telescope



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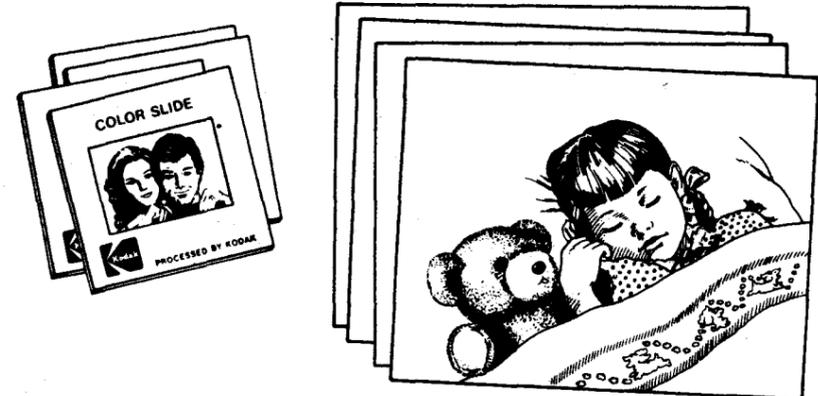
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Reservists may lose dual pay



WASHINGTON — Reservists who are federal employees may lose the dual pay they receive during their annual training, according to officials of the Office of the Chief of Army Reserve (OCAR).

In a move to save about \$40 million, the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) proposes to end the dual pay. The change would allow reservists to receive the greater net pay of their two salaries for the period covered, but not both salaries.

OMB officials stress that, despite the loss of dual pay, affected reservists would still get the same amount of annual leave time from their federal jobs for annual training.

If approved, the proposal would affect some 30,000 federal employees, or slightly less than 8 percent of the army reserve force, OCAR officials say.

OMB officials do not expect the plan, if approved, to result in significant USAR

manpower losses. They hope bonuses and other incentive programs for reserve service, benefits which continue to be supported in the Defense Department budget, will foster recruiting and retention. This would offset the danger of personnel losses due to the dual-pay cutoff.

OMB director David Stockman, testifying before the House Post Office and Civil Service Committee, called the plan "eminently fair and reasonable." Stockman said that, despite the proposed change in federal policy on dual pay, the federal government would continue to press civilian employers of reservists to recognize the importance of reserve service.

"The Department of Defense, through the National Committee for Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve, will be intensifying its efforts with private employers to provide no less for those employees who are reservists," he told the committee. (ARNEWS).

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Richard Kolb, Advertising Manager



Broadwing hawk

Darkroom technician Andy Pike looks over a broadwing hawk found by Chief Photographer Don Godwin near test area 2. The hawk was on the road shoulder unable to fly when Godwin picked

it up enroute to work. It's legs, feet and tail were paralyzed. Godwin turned the hawk over to a local veterinarian who arranged for state wildlife officials to take it but the bird died, of poisoning, apparently.



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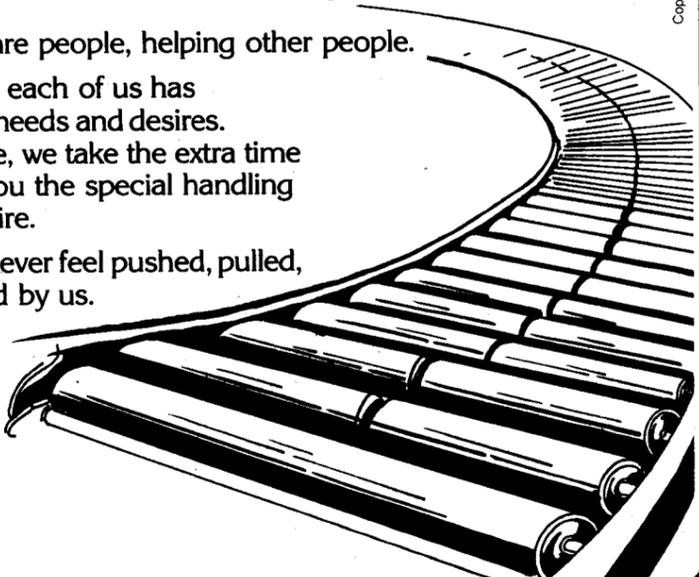
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Parking

(Continued from front page)

Carpoolers will be required to register to get reserved parking. Two or more people sharing a ride is considered a carpool. Each registered carpool will get one dash placard authorizing it to park in reserved areas. "You just put it on your dash and Security won't bother you," said Jordan.

A month-long sign up period will be announced at a later date, Jordan said. From that reserved parking requirements will be determined and sufficient space marked off in parking lots. Reserved parking will be set

aside based on the number of carpools registered, not the number of people in the carpools, Jordan said.

Carpools will designate a "carpool leader" who will be issued the carpool's reserved parking permit after filling out a computer data card listing members' names, work places and hours, and where their homes are located on a grid map.

This data will be put in a computer where it will serve a dual purpose as a record of parking permits issued and also as a source of

ridesharing information for use in helping people establish carpools or locate rides or riders. "We'll try to find someone who lives and works close for them to contact", Jordan said.

People will be able to get ridesharing information from Jordan at 876-1031, or from their building custodians who will also conduct the initial registration and determine carpool parking requirements for each building.

Jordan said an effort has been made to devise a program that is easy to use, useful and not subject to abuse. Registration, yearly revalidation, and issuance of parking permits can all be handled through internal mail while ridesharing information will be available over the phone.

The carpool parking program will apply to all Army organizations here except Fox Hospital, where close-in parking is set aside for patients and visitors.



Jordan works on ride matching map



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About the Leader

Rod Stewart is an executive with 10 years experience in cost analysis that includes technical and management capacities in instruction, project formulation, proposal preparation,

technical report writing and engineering analysis. He has directed the preparation and publication of over 50 cost estimates, cost analysis studies, and technical memoranda relating to cost estimating techniques, methodologies and automated data processing systems for estimating and analysis. Stewart was president of the National Estimating Society for three years and has authored a book **Cost Estimating** to be published this year by John Wiley and Sons of New York.

Additional Information

For more information, contact Len Iselyke, associate director of management studies, Division of Continuing Education, the University of Alabama in Huntsville, Huntsville, AL. 35899, (205) 895-6010.



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GOOD NEWS FOR FEDERAL EMPLOYEES

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FOR MORE INFORMATION CALL:

The Bagwell Chiropractic Clinic
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Computer age arrives at filling station

BY ED PETERS

A new computerized dispensing system should soon take the hassle out of gas(ohol)ing-up Army cars.

The filling station on Patriot Drive by the motor pool is being converted to automatic operation by a mechanical "anytime attendant".

What's more, it will dispense not gasoline but gasohol, a gasoline mixture containing 10 percent alcohol distilled from grain.

The new system will work something like a 24 hour "anytime teller" booth used by some local banks, said Capt. Leotis Henry, chief of the motor pool.

"I believe it's the first system of its kind in this area," he said.

To turn the pump on at any time of the day or night you insert a plastic card that "looks like a credit card", Henry said. Each Army vehicle will have a card encoded with a customer account number.

"You put it in a slot, it alerts the computer and the system's ready," said Henry. The pump dispenses the gallonage you punch up . . . provided the order doesn't exceed your allocation or the cars tank capacity, which data the computer has along with much other information that can be called up instantaneously.

Behind the scenes the computer will replace cumbersome manual records and provide to Henry and his people a wealth of inventory, consumption and similar data. "We'll just press a button and get it in 10 seconds," the captain said.

The computer will also make it much easier to track fuel consumption of individual cars. Where excessive, the car can be checked for mechanical problems or fuel theft investigated.

Henry said 'round the clock operation should cut congestion at the filling station and bring an end to the morning and evening rush to the pumps.

He said the new system should be in operation by the end of the month. There will be a daytime attendant to check drivers licenses and trip tickets and inspect cars.

Station attendants say not many people seem to have noticed the recent change in fuels even though pump signs now read "gasohol" instead of "mogas".

Henry said a local decision was made to



Henry holds filter for mechanics Leamon and Pope to install

convert to the alcohol and gasoline mixture as an economical way to lessen dependence on petroleum fuel.

Most drivers probably won't notice that their cars run any differently with gasohol, but Henry is expecting some problems initially.

He explained that the alcohol acts as a cleaning solvent in the fuel system, dislodging trash that may clog the car's fuel filter. When this happens the car may run rough or quit running altogether like it is out of gas,

which has happened to one car already and probably will to others, Henry said.

He said people experiencing problems should try to get their cars to the run-in maintenance shop where a new fuel filter can be installed in a few minutes. Once the system is cleaned out the filter shouldn't clog anymore.

Filters have been installed on gas pumps to catch trash that may be present in storage tanks.

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Computer links MMCS to big library network

BY RAY ROWDEN

On the shelves of the Redstone Scientific Information Center, MMCS Technical Library and Recreation Services Library are millions of pages of information on a seemingly endless variety subjects. But in the middle of an official or personal research project, a key bit of information may be missing.

Even the Scientific Information Center's computer access to the NASA RECON and Defense Technical Information Center's (DTIC) data bases may not help.

Perhaps TRALINET can.

The MMCS Technical Library recently installed a telephone linked computer terminal and joined the TRADOC Library Information Network.

The system offers unclassified access to DTIC information (the Scientific Information Center can provide classified access to qualified patrons) as well as access to a wealth of information collected by two organizations not affiliated with the Department of Defense.

This includes more than 45 million records of the commercial Lockheed-Dialog data base covering subjects in science, technology, engineering, social sciences, business and economics.

If a complete text is needed, it can usually be acquired from the On-line Computer Library Center's Interlibrary Loan Subsystem.

While explaining the new capabilities to the Technical Library Council June 10, librarian Eva Cathey said that a patron need only provide a topic for a library worker to begin a search that will soon result in a thorough list of related books, articles and documents.

According to Nora Zeman, who operates the computer terminal, the waiting time for an interlibrary loan may be reduced from a month to about a week.

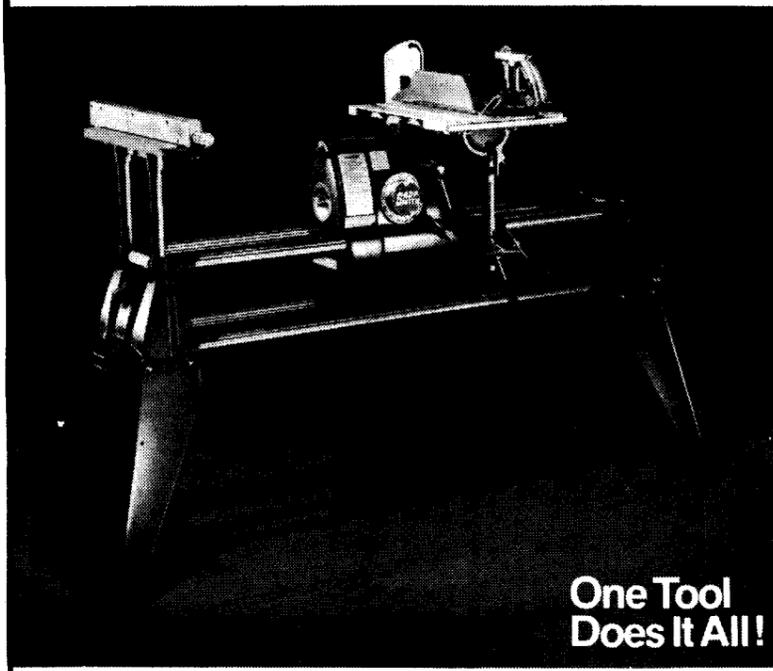
The new service should make those elusive bits of information easier to find and get them into Redstone hands and minds much more quickly.



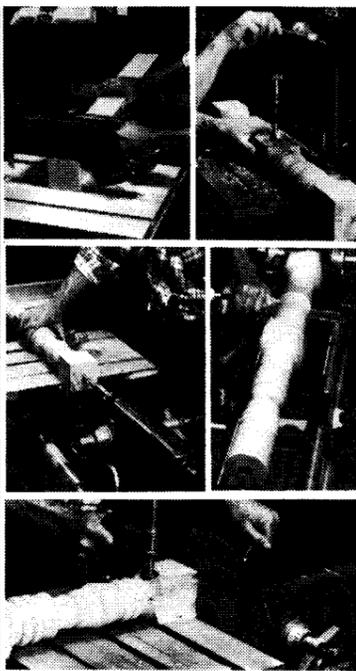
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Eleven stallions given to Old Guard

WASHINGTON — Ten Lippizan Stallions have been donated to the U.S. Army for ceremonial use in the Washington, D.C., area.

The horses were accepted by Army Secretary John O. Marsh Jr., on behalf of the Caisson Platoon, 3rd U.S. Infantry (The Old Guard) during ceremonies at Fort Myer, Va.

The Platoon participates in traditional military funerals at Arlington National Cemetery and supports other events such as inaugural parades and pageants.

The horses were donated by Tempel farms in Illinois, a division of the Tempel Steel Company.

Army Chief of Staff Gen. E.C. Meyer also participated in the Fort Myer Ceremony.

The Lippizans are noted for their strength, intelligence and grace. They're trained to perform a variety of feats with and without riders.

Improvements eyed in M16A1 rifle

WASHINGTON — "There are no rifles in the world that offer significant, across-the-board advantages over the M16A1 rifle." That's the conclusion of a recently completed study by the Joint Service Small Arms Program Management Committee (JSSAPMC).

The study, to determine if the rifle should be replaced, also concluded that there is a need to develop an improved combat rifle.

The Army is addressing the need to improve the rifle's ruggedness and maximum effective range. Improvements would include a heavier barrel, a more rugged handguard and butt stock, plus a better sight.

The JSSAPMC will also look at the rifle's

performance with the SS109, 5.56MM Belgian bullet. The SS109 is an improved bullet that won the recent NATO small arms trials and will be the basis for the NATO standard 5.56MM bullet. It offers greater range and penetration than the M193, 5.56MM bullet now in use.

In the NATO trials, the M16A1 ranked ahead of all other NATO candidates in the individual weapons test.

In the words of one official, the JSSAPMC study report, along with the NATO trials results, shows that the "M16A1 is equal to or better than any rifle in the world and the proposed improvements will make it even better. (ARNEWS)

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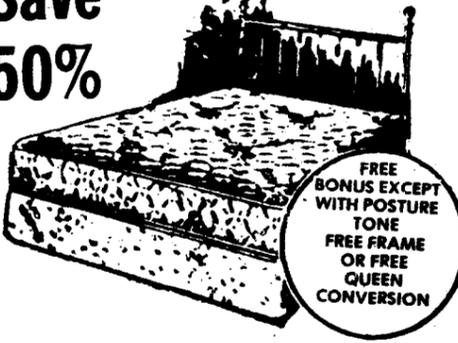
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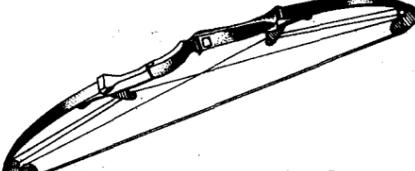
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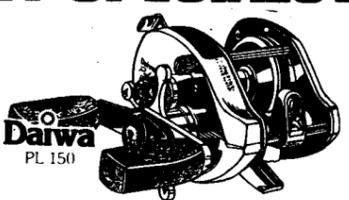


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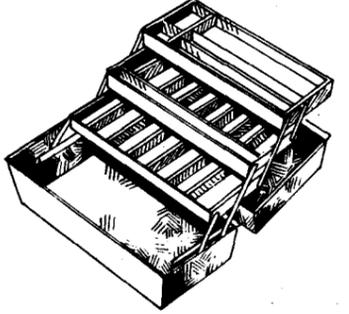
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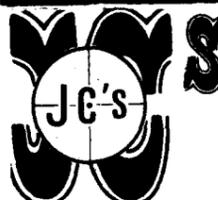
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Some soldiers get second duffle bag

WASHINGTON — A second duffle bag for storing organization clothing and individual equipment (OCIE) could become a reality for some soldiers as early as 19 months from now, say Army officials.

The second duffle bag will be in addition to the personal duffle bag soldiers receive when they enter the Army. However, the second bag will be issued only by organizations requiring soldiers to carry or store OCIE. This includes both stateside and oversea posts, officials note.

The decision to allow the item comes after years of turning down requests for an additional bag or for additional or larger field packs for enlisted soldiers. The Army had maintained that the two barracks bags now allowed could be used to store or carry OCIE.

Several ways for issuing the second bag were considered before the Army decided on the organizational bags. These were — to issue both bags as organizational items, to issue

both bags as personal items or issue the second bag as an organizational item. Another alternative would have redesigned the second bag in a camouflage pattern, but this would have meant extra expense.

Officials expect the second duffle bag to begin reaching the field after January 1983. Not enough duffle bags are now being stocked and produced to meet the added needs of organizations at this time. Current stock is used for supplying new soldiers with a personal bag.

Also, constraints on current funds prevent early implementation. It is too late to include the organizational bags in the fiscal year 82 budget requests.

The organizational bags will become part of the unit's supply and will be stenciled with the unit designation. (ARNEWS)

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HHC Team 1		6	1
Co. A Team 2		6	2
4th S.C.		5	3
7th S.C.		5	3
95th S.C.		3	3
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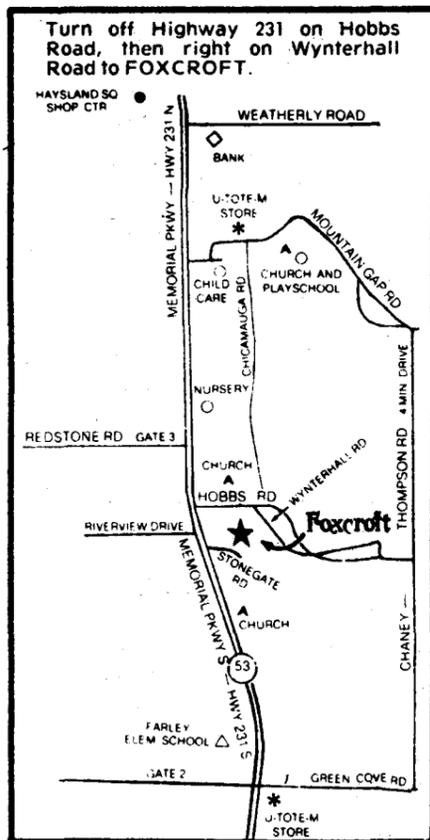
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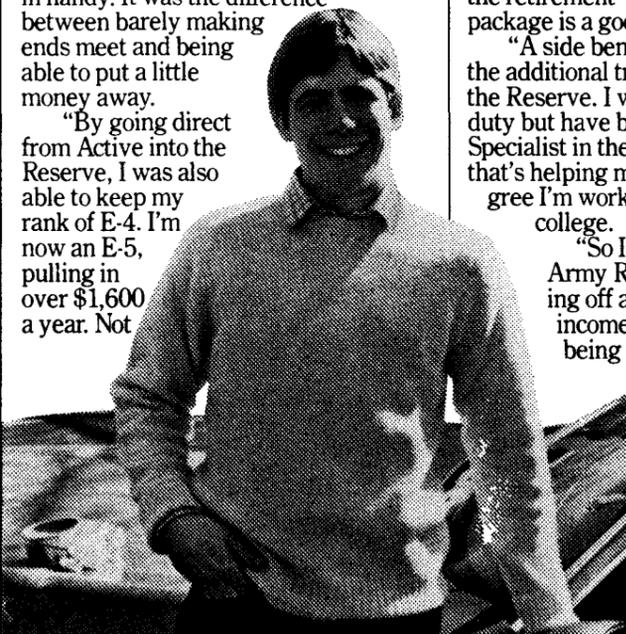
I carry low-cost government life insurance through the Reserve.

I also think the retirement package is a good deal.

"A side benefit that's helped me is the additional training I've picked up in the Reserve. I was an MP on active duty but have become an Accounting Specialist in the Reserve. Right now, that's helping me with the business degree I'm working toward at a local college.

"So I can recommend the Army Reserve to anyone coming off active duty. The extra income is good, and it's nice being with people who can appreciate what you achieved in the service."

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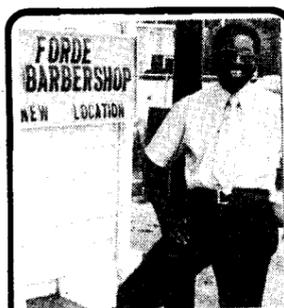
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Army team tops in recon match

WASHINGTON — A U.S. Army Europe team netted top honors over 10 other NATO teams recently during international armored reconnaissance competition in Germany. In head-to-head competition lasting four days, the 3rd Squadron, 11th Armored Cav regiment placed first in the guest class.

Although the reconnaissance "Boeselager Competition" has been conducted annually by the Germany Arm for 10 years, this year marked the second one in which the U.S. took part. The competition is designed to "improve the performance of reconnaissance units," said Lt. Col. Emroy Gehlsen, director of operations, U.S. Army Europe's Seventh Army Training Command. "Naturally, the tasks are designed to test the German Army doctrine. Which is different from our own."

Nine German teams, two each from the U.S. The Netherlands, France, and Italy, and single teams from Canada. The U.K. and Belgium competed in nine separate events. Team activities included a night orientation march, small arms firing, obstacle course, swimming and cross country running.

"For a U.S. team to do better than teams from Canada, the Netherlands, France, Belgium, Great Britain and Italy speaks highly of each GI's individual ability and the teamwork of the unit as a whole," Gehlsen said.

The 1st Squadron, 1st Cav from the 1st Armored Division, placed fourth this year in the competition. (ARNEWS)

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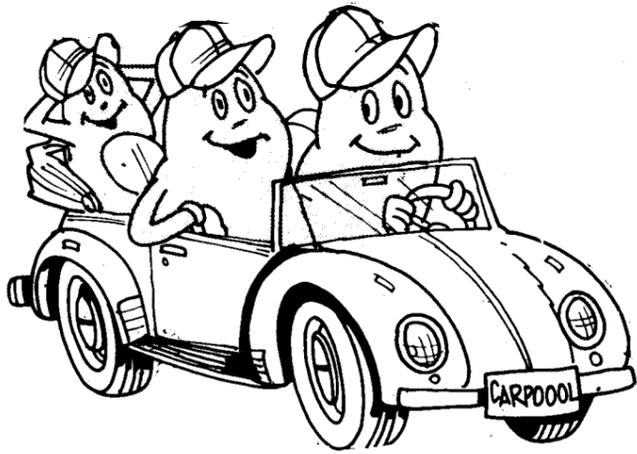
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Carpool member wanted from Eva to 4200 or 3633, hours 7:30-4. E. J. Suggs 876-3078/3587.

Announcements

MMCS Wives fashion show

A fashion show presented by Parisian will highlight the MMCS Wives brunch on June 30 at 11 a.m. at the Officers Club. The student wives will sponsor the event. They urge members to attend and bring guests. Cost is \$4.35 per person. For reservations call Gwen Porter, 837-3227, no later than June 26.

Recreation Center

Tonight — Movies at 7 p.m. Thursday — Bingo at 8 p.m. Friday — Pool Tourney at 7 p.m. Saturday — Point Mallard Tour at 1 p.m. Sunday — Flossie Mae Show at 7:00 p.m. Monday — Coffee & Cookies at 4:30 p.m. Tuesday — Rummy Night at 7 p.m. The Recreation Center is open daily from 1:30-10 p.m.

Golf tourney for cancer research

A golf tournament to raise money for cancer research will be held July 10 at Colonial Golf Course in Meridianville. The American Cancer Society-sponsored Walter Hagen Golf Tournament is open to all golfers. Teams are invited to play and can be sponsored by a business, club or individuals. Prizes will be awarded. Cost is \$40 per player or \$160 per team, and is tax deductible. For more information call the local American Cancer Society Office at 881-7820.

Protestant women meet

The Protestant Women of the Chapel invite you to attend their meeting at 9:30 a.m. on June 18 in the Assembly Room of the Bicentennial Chapel. Bobby La Croy, pastor of the Downtown Rescue Mission, will speak on "What God is doing at the mission." Special music will be provided by Barbara Ball, of the mission staff. Refreshments will be served. Free child care is provided at the Child Care Center for mothers who attend but reservations must be made for each child eligible.

Swap wanted

MOS 63B30 at Fort Stewart, Ga., wants a duty swap for Redstone Arsenal. Contact SSgt. John Williams Jr., 224th Military Intelligence Battalion, Fort Stewart, Ga.

Radar report

Military police will use radar on the arsenal at the following locations during June 18-24. MPs make the list available as a service to encourage drivers to voluntarily obey speed limits.

Thursday June 18

7:00 a.m.-8:30 a.m. — Goss-Vincent. 10:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m. — Buxton Road. 3:00 p.m.-5:00 p.m. — Martin Road.

Friday June 19

7:00 a.m.-8:30 a.m. — North Housing Area. 10:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m. — Vincent Road. 3:00 p.m.-5:00 p.m. — Patton Road.

Monday June 22

7:00 a.m.-8:30 a.m. — Goss-Rideout. 10:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m. — South Housing Area. 3:00 p.m.-5:00 p.m. — Martin Road.

Tuesday June 23

7:00 a.m.-8:30 a.m. — Neal-Toftoy. 10:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m. — Housing Area. 3:00 p.m.-5:00 p.m. — Patton Road.

Wednesday June 24

7:00 a.m.-8:30 a.m. — Goss Road. 10:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m. — North Housing Area. 3:00 p.m.-5:00 p.m. — Rideout Road.

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SOUTH GALLERY
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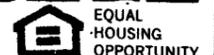
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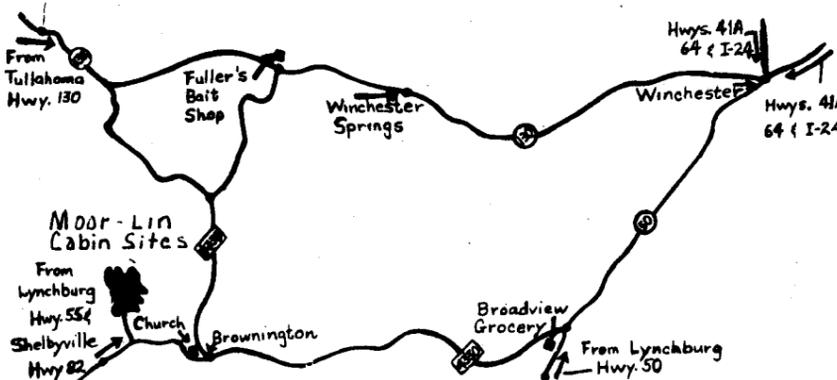
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Bluebirds

(Continued from page 1)

movements for several years in an attempt to learn more about their social behavior.

Lawton, whose husband Dr. Robert Lawton teaches biology at the University of Alabama in Huntsville, learned of Friday and the scouts' work with bluebirds through the North Alabama Birdwatcher Society and "got real excited", in her words, recognizing the arsenal bluebird population as "ideal" for a breeding and migration study as it had expanded so rapidly.

In only four years the Troop 15 project brought about a fourfold increase in the arsenal's once-endangered bluebird population — from 19 nesting pairs in 1977 to 80 pairs last year.

Friday and the scouts have put up about 200 bluebird houses on the arsenal, most in the eastern portion. They built many of the houses and received others from Jack Finch, a Bailey, N.C. man who runs "Homes for

Bluebirds", a non-profit organization to help the bluebird by providing nest boxes.

The bluebird was perilously close to extinction nationwide just a few years ago. A major reason was loss of nesting sites. Bluebirds hardly will nest anywhere but in holes in dead trees or fence posts in open fields.

But farmers don't fence with wooden posts like they used to, and to make a living they must clear their fields and plant crops, and must spray the crops with poisons that may be toxic to bluebirds and the bugs they feed on.

Probably even more of a threat to the bluebird has been the population explosion in starlings. These aggressive birds took over most of the blue birds' natural nesting spots for their own use.

The bluebird houses Friday and the scouts put up serve as a substitute for the natural nesting places. The size of the hole thwarts starlings that try to enter but lets bluebirds pass through.

The plywood houses are eight inches tall and five inches wide with a 1½ inch hole. Troop 15 cleans and repairs the houses each year prior to nesting season.

"Bluebirds were in need of help and there are things that can be done to help them that you can't do for other birds, like give them a box to nest in that will keep starlings out," said Friday.

The laser physicist said he chose the arsenal for the scout project because of the protected habitat of open fields with fence rows which provide both a place to mount nest boxes and a perch for the birds to use as they scan the fields for food for themselves and their young.

Friday and Lawton have been opening the nest boxes and clamping tiny leg bands on this spring's young.

Each baby gets attached to its leg a metal U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service band and one or more plastic bands color-keyed to the bird's family.

Slim-nosed pliers are used to clamp the bands on the tiny legs. Banding takes only a few minutes and does not hurt the bird.



Friday shows special bluebird house

Opening the boxes and handling the birds will not, as some people mistakenly believe, cause the parents to abandon the young, Friday pointed out.

Lawton and Friday intend to keep an eye on the banded birds for several years observing their behavior and mortality.

They want to determine how the birds disperse from the nest, who migrates and who overwinters, and how this affects their breeding life, specifically what behavior and dispersal mechanisms are at work to reduce family inbreeding.

The Redstone bluebird project is significant in two respects, said Lawton — in helping a population to recover and in yielding information on bluebird population dynamics and life history of individuals. "That's important for bluebirds all over the country," she said.



Lawton bands a bird

'Old' definitions apply to June 30 Merit Pay rating

Redstone merit pay employees will be getting June 30 their first yearly performance appraisal using the five-category rating system.

They will be rated using the same set of rating definitions that applied for their mid-year reviews, according to Al Monger, CPO merit pay project officer.

He said DA has issued a new set of definitions that will be used after the initial rating periods. These definitions will apply for the appraisal year which begins this July 1 and continues through June 30, 1982.

The new definitions for merit pay employees are similar to the ones which will be used for rating non-merit pay workers under GPAS, the General Performance Appraisal System which could be implemented here as early as August 1.

Here is a chart comparing the new and old merit pay performance rating levels:

Merit Pay Performance Rating Levels

Old definitions:

Exceptional: Performance in relation to performance standards is of such quality that it could only be achieved by the most outstanding management official or supervisor. Persons given this rating at least meet standards for all major elements; and exceed standards for some major elements. This management official or supervisor deserves special recognition.

Highly successful: Performance in relation to performance standards is of such quality that it could only be achieved by management officials or supervisors who are substantially above average. Persons given this rating at least meet standards for all critical elements; exceed standards for some major elements; and set a standard of performance which serves as an example to others.

Fully successful: Performance in relation to performance standards is of such a quality that it would be expected only of a proven, competent management official or supervisor. Persons given this rating must at least meet standards for critical elements.

Minimally satisfactory: Performance in relation to performance standards is less than that expected of a proven, competent management official or supervisor. Performance indicates a need for improvement in one or more of the critical elements.

Unsatisfactory: Performance in relation to performance standards is clearly unacceptable. Fails to meet requirements for one or more critical elements.

New definitions:

Exceptional: Performance that exceeds standards (other than absolute standards) for all major job elements. Performance in relation to standards is of such quality that it could only be achieved by the most outstanding management official or supervisor. This management official or supervisor deserves special recognition.

Highly successful: Performance that exceeds performance standards (other than absolute standards) for all critical elements and meets standards for all other major elements. Performance in relation to performance standards is of such quality that it could only be achieved by management officials or supervisors who are above average.

Fully successful: Performance that at least meets performance standards for all major elements. Performance in relation to standards is of such quality that it would be expected only of a proven, competent management official or supervisor.

Minimally satisfactory: Performance that meets performance standards for all critical elements and fails to meet the standards for one or more other major elements. Performance compared to standards is less than that expected of a proven, competent management official or supervisor.

Unsatisfactory: Performance that fails to meet performance standards for one or more critical elements. Performance is clearly unacceptable and corrective action is required.