

The Redstone Rocket

Vol. XXXI No. 10

August 4, 1982

'Contracting out' proposals due

BY ED PETERS

Proposals from private industry for providing support services for Redstone Arsenal under contract were due here Monday, August 2.

The proposals are in response to a solicitation issued here February 23. Their receipt is considered a "key milestone" in a cost comparison study to determine if certain housekeeping-type installation support functions can be done at less cost to taxpayers by the private sector than by government employees.

Most of the support services are presently performed by several hundred government civilians assigned to Redstone Arsenal Support Activity.

The contractor proposals will undergo a technical evaluation that is expected to take about two months.

Then on Dec. 10 a cost comparison will be made against the in-house bid, the government's sealed estimate of the cost to continue performing the support functions using government employees. The government's cost estimate is based on a "streamlined" workforce that resulted from a 6-month-long management study to put the in-house organization in the best possible competitive position.

Depending on who is low bidder, installation support services are

scheduled to begin in July 1983 under either a contractor or the streamlined in-house organization.

The cost comparison is being done under the Army's commercial activities program which was established to carry out a government requirement to rely on private enterprise instead of civil servants for "commercial" type functions when economies would result.

The Army announced late in 1980 that certain support functions at Redstone Arsenal and many other installations would be studied for possible conversion to commercial contract.

Meanwhile, the Redstone Arsenal in-house organization is the apparent winner of a competition for installation security support.

The Army announced May 24 a conditional decision not to contract out security services following a cost comparison that showed the in-house team could perform more economically than a contractor. A DARCOM appeal board has upheld that decision.

At a future date, a solicitation will be issued for contractor proposals on performing certain key punch functions now done by government workers.



Purple Heart

A medal established August 7, 1782, by the father of our country, George Washington, honors brave Americans wounded in action against an enemy of the United States. Several local veterans of World War II, Korea and

Vietnam have received the Purple Heart award. Many recipients work here at the Missile Command. For stories about some of these brave men, see pages 10 & 11.

Fish collection boosts environmental protection

BY ED PETERS

A "reference collection" of fish species found on the arsenal is being assembled for environmental protection purposes.

The intent is to collect a specimen of every fish that occurs here "So if we say we have a rare or endangered species, we have a reference, something to verify that what we say we have on paper is what we actually have," said Dave Lukens, an ecologist

with the Facilities Engineering environmental office.

"In the past the only fish data we had for the arsenal was from Wheeler Wildlife Refuge or we got it from literature, basically," he said.

Lukens also plans a reference collection of arsenal reptiles and plants. "It's important that we have this kind of information for long range planning" for construction and land use, he said.

Lukens is part of the three-man FE environmental staff who make sure that arsenal construction and mission work conforms to environmental law.

Lukens, a PhD limnologist or "fresh water oceanographer", as he describes it, works with Bill Schroder and Ron Hagler.

Schroder is active in arsenal historic preservation while Hagler has been trained in plant science.

"We want to survey the arsenal and find out what species are here, and if any are rare or endangered, and try to avoid those areas in terms of environmental impacts. So we don't knowingly or unknowingly destroy some unique habitat or species," said Lukens.

The fish reference collection so far contains minnows, shiners, silversides, shad, gar, mosquito fish, log perch, several varieties of sunfish, and a few

(Continued on page 13)



Lukens shows fish in reference collection

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Letters

Those bicycles

Editor:

I am writing concerning bike riding on Redstone Arsenal. I, for one, enjoy riding bicycles. They are an excellent means of exercise in the right places & times, but in the rush hours of Redstone Arsenal traffic, they are deadly!

Hardly a morning or afternoon goes by that I don't see a near accident by a motorist trying to pull around a biker into the opposite lane of oncoming traffic. These bikers probably know the extra risk they are taking, but they may not be aware of the extra danger they are causing motorists trying to avoid them. Redstone Arsenal should not allow bicycles on the road during rush hours!

James A. Wilkes

On soap box

Editor:

I realize that having guard duty at the various gates isn't the most desirable or glamorous daily assignment an MP can draw. Nevertheless, it is an important job that, if done in a haphazard nonconsistent manner, can disrupt efficient and orderly movement of incoming traffic.

Entry access runs the gamut from efficiency plus at Rideout (gate 9) to the absurdly difficult at Goss (gate 8). It becomes a real "can I do it" game at Goss road. The MP's favorite bluff is looking the other way or staring off into space while the incoming employee anxiously anticipates which whim may dictate the guards action today. Will he wait until your car is within 10 feet of the shack and

traveling 5 mph? Then suddenly turn, with a surprised expression at the sight of a car approaching, of course give you and your registered auto an indignant if not thorough scrutiny before deciding to stop or wave you thru.

The posted speed limit at Goss is 25 mph but if you approach the guard at any more than 10 mph he/she will stop you.

Another aspect of their job that seems to be baffling them is trying to figure out which sticker is expired. Perhaps it will help if they are informed that any new Redstone stickers that is on the windshield is good until at least 1985. Also, traffic flow would be more efficient during high volume times if the MP's would instruct motorists to move to the right lane to ask questions and not stop at the shack door (there is a sign explaining this). Those of us who don't have



vital questions and are able to read can then travel thru instead of waiting in 90 degree heat, only to be told by the MP, after he notices our flustered expression, not to be in such a hurry.

Since I'm on the proverbial soap box I'd also like to comment on food service operations. I don't have any complaints, only thanks and praise for the fine job done by the food service staff at Fox Hospital, where I eat every day. Being a bachelor, I eat my main and best meal of the day there. The staff is beyond courteous and is downright friendly.

Gary P. Skaggs
USA MEDDAC

Suggestion

Editor:

If Mr. Donald Dixon can receive an award for his suggestion on streamlining the merit promotion program, (Rocket, July 21), then he should also get the award for the Golden Fleece award for wasting Government money.

His suggestion for streamlining the merit promotion system has cost the taxpayers untold thousands of dollars in the man hours it takes to complete his little SMI 1219 & 1219-1 forms. Then you use a government copying machine to make a copy of your "Talent Bank", another brainstorm of so-

meone at Redstone Arsenal. After you have used at least one hour of government time you put all of these papers together and send them to CPO, so they don't have to pull your civilian personnel file because they already have all of the information that you have wasted at least an hour of work time to put on these brainchild forms someone has dreamed up. If we are going to do CPO's work for them why not classify all of us in a 301 series and put the personnel at CPO in a more productive position where there won't have to be a duplication of effort for everyone on Redstone Arsenal.

Elmo W. Cash, Jr.
Military Finance

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Right or wrong

Editor:

I would like to know what good is it to get yourself qualified for a number of series and set up laterally to be told in an interview that you are not qualified.

When the highest office in the United States is filled no one asks, "Have you been a President before?", or, "Are you qualified to be the President?"

If a person is qualified for a job by CPO then that person should be capable of performing the job.

Right? or Wrong?

This seems to be a real serious problem once you're promoted past the GS 11 level.

Jean Brown

Letters to the editor should be signed (name withheld on request) and sent to: The Redstone Rocket, DRSMI-G. Unsigned letters will not be used.

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Keith explains DARCOM objectives to local group

BY BOB HUBBARD

Managing the equipment modernization program is a major challenge confronting both the Army and industry and most assuredly touches everyone here at the Army Missile Command, Gen. Donald Keith told a Huntsville audience Thursday night.

The challenge is clearcut: the Army must modernize and at the same time maintain day-to-day readiness.

"We must learn to manage change while maintaining a credible fighting force," said the commander of the Army Materiel Development and Readiness Command in Washington.

Keith said the modernization program, the biggest in peacetime history, will add more than 500 new weapons and equipment systems to the Army inventory.

The massive program started in the 1970s, the general said, and both DARCOM and industry deserve tremendous credit for developing a new family of Army weapons which can restore our qualitative edge over the Soviet Union.

"We pulled all the stops to make maximum use of available technology to design the most effective systems possible and for the most part we have done it."

DARCOM's CHALLENGE

DARCOM's challenge now, Keith said, is to buy the new equipment at economical rates and deliver it to our soldiers.

Keith's remarks were made at a dinner meeting of the AUSA Redstone-Huntsville Chapter Association of the U.S. Army, at the officers club. While at Redstone, he met with Maj. Gen. Robert Moore, MICOM Commander, for talks and briefings on several of the command programs.

Keith said the primary driver in the modernization program is that the Army is short of equipment. Since the Army cannot match the potential enemy in quantities, it must regain the qualitative edge.

"That is our strategy and it brings with it a ripple effect. Nothing will be thrown away. As high priority units get their new gear, the displaced equipment must be refurbished and passed on to a lower priority unit. In each case modernization is occurring and the management challenges are similar."



Keith talks with AUSA official Joe Rogers and Sp4 Todd Rickman of MEDDAC, arsenal soldier of the year.

Keith cited six DARCOM objectives for smoothing the transition to modernization:

ACQUISITION

— Improve the acquisition process. Development time has been too long. We are committed to shortening that time, but prudently. Another problem has been the lack of early commitment to a complete acquisition strategy covering development, procurement and fielding. The strategy must be fully coordinated with the user and ratified by the senior Army leadership if we are to establish a good cost baseline and hope for program stability.

We must translate that strategy into a request for proposal and, ultimately, a contract that industry can readily understand, bid on with greater competence, and produce the items required. Repeated changes to requirements have gone the way of the Army mule. Program stability is essential for effective management control.

— Improve cost control methods. Qualitative and quantitative changes in requirements, overoptimism by both the Army and contractors, and inflation have combined to make the relationship between original estimates and actual costs tenuous at best. We are improving our cost estimating ability throughout the acquisition life cycle and more "should cost" studies will be completed before contracts are negotiated. A new management control system requires a full description of the program and resources needed for completion. There will be no changes without assessing all costs from development to production.

PRODUCABILITY

— Improve producability. DARCOM is emphasizing production engineering and manufacturing technology to insure that high quality equipment can be produced efficiently.

— Improve supportability and sustainability. State of the art technology will be nullified if new weapons and equipment can't be supported in the field. We must allocate R&D money for supportability early in the acquisition cycle.

— Improve integrated logistics support (ILS) concepts. The Army and DARCOM are making front-end planning and funding for ILS considerations during contract source selection. ILS funding will be fenced in R&D programs and industry asked to design in maintainability for all echelons of repair. Only when ILS is incorporated in the early stages can the design be adequately influenced to reduce life cycle support costs.

While some ILS shortfalls may be corrected after system fielding, given time and money, that is too late for the soldier on the line who might have to fight the day after he gets his new gear.

FIELDING AND TRAINING

— Improve fielding and training. Most of the new systems will be 'handed off' to users according to fielding plan, considering everything from operator and maintenance training to provisioning for support.

Keith said the Army is looking forward to working with all segments of the community — military, civilian and industry — toward achieving the critical modernization goals.

"If we are to keep pace with potential adversaries in a period of very short technological half-life, we must learn how to manage constant change, constant modernization," he said. "I am confident that it will be easier for our successors. We must be sure that it is. There is literally no choice."



School Brigade has new commander

Col. James A. Hall will assume command of MMCS' School Brigade in ceremonies at 10 a.m. tomorrow. The ceremonies will take place in the quadrangle behind Bldg. 3440 (School Brigade headquarters).

He is replacing Col. Joseph Cote, who became commandant on July 15.

The public is invited to attend the event, which will include music by the 14th Army Band from Fort McClellan.

Hall comes to MMCS from duty as chief, Nuclear Chemical Division, DCSOPS, Headquarters,

FORSCOM, at Fort McPherson, Ga. He has commanded the Newport Army Ammunition Plant, Newport, Indiana, and the Akizuke Army Ammunition Depot in Japan. Staff assignments have included duty with the XVIII Airborne Corps, the 9th Infantry Division, and the Ordnance Center and School.

He is a native of Loraine, Texas and entered the Army in 1959 upon graduation from Hardin-Simmons University, Abilene, Texas with a bachelor's degree in chemistry. Hall is also a graduate of the Command and General Staff College.



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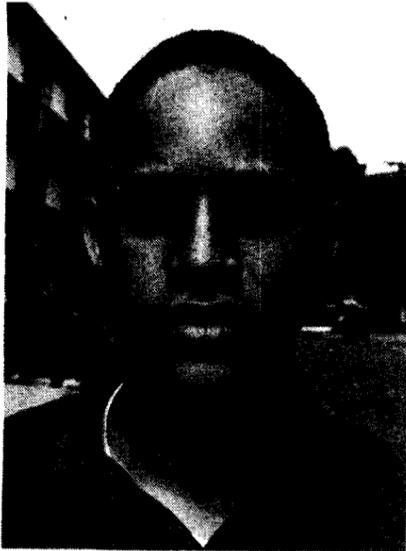
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Should overweight soldiers be allowed to extend or reenlist?



Pvt. 2 Dwayne Evans, Co. A — "It depends upon whether the soldier has tried to lose weight. If he hasn't made an effort then my answer is no. If he has made an effort, he should be able to stay in."



Sp4 James Higdon, Co. A — "If a soldier really wants to continue in the Army he or she should show it by being within the Army's weight standards by reenlistment time. So I don't think an overweight soldier should be retained."



Pvt. 1 Ross Ellis, 4th S.C. — "I don't think so, unless they can pass the P. T. test. A soldier who is a little overweight but physically fit should be allowed to stay in."



Pvt. 1 Karol Banks, 4th S.C. — "No. I think it sets a bad image for the Army. And the Army needs to strive for higher standards."



Sgt. Willis Jorgensen, HHC MICOM — "Yes, if they are currently involved in an active overweight program and showing progress toward meeting Army standards."



SFC William Hutchins, Co. A — "I think so, if they can pass the P. T. test. If they're fairly fit, and if the extra weight isn't interfering with their job performance, why bar them?"

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Soldiers visit nursing home

BY JOHN WAGNER

Being elderly and living in a nursing home can be a depressing and lonely existence.

Members of Redstone Arsenal's 6th Student Company decided to uplift the spirits of many of the residents of the Huntsville Nursing Home by visiting them the evening of July 30.

"Staff Sergeant Phillip Goodwin of our company sponsored this and 28 of us came tonight," explained PFC Kenneth Imlej. "And it's important to point out that we weren't ordered to do this. Each of us volunteered to come here and if not for the fact that this is payday night I'm sure many more would have."

Soldiers were sitting in each room conversing with residents who seemed to deeply appreciate it.

"I'm glad to see you all come out," smiled Ocie Pinchon, sitting in a wheelchair. "A lot of the soldiers don't know what this means to us. Many of us are often not even that sociable with each other."

Another resident who was pleased was Dwight Hendershott. "I enjoy them coming," he said as he sat with Pvt. 2 Cathryn Keller and Pvt. 1 Rick Wyman. "These soldiers are good men and women."

Privates Larry Sims and Randy Marler helped make things more enjoyable by playing a guitar. "I played for a half hour and then went to talk to some of the people, while he (Marler) played for a half hour," explained Sims, sitting in the rear of a hallway with a group of soldiers and elderly.

"I think this is part of our job as soldiers," said

Pvt. Tim Holland. "Letting people know who we are and getting to know community residents such as these elderly. You know, even when some of them can't talk very well you can see that they communicate a lot of feelings with their eyes."

When the soldiers were ready to leave, there were warm good-byes. "Do I get a hug?" PFC Lee Seal asked resident Mary Howard. He got one. "Now you behave yourself," Seal smiled.

They were then briefly served some refreshments by the nursing home staff. "The staff of course, is giving us a lot of moral support," said Imlej.

"This is the third time members of our company have come here," he continued. "We did it twice last year. But beginning with this visit, we will be doing it once every two weeks."



Pvt. Tim Holland says goodbye to Clemmie Stone of Huntsville Nursing Home after a visit. (Photo by John Wagner)



PFC Bill Moon listens intently to Dwight Hendershott of Huntsville Nursing Home during the July 30

visit by members of 6th Student Company. (Photo by John Wagner)



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MPs report bikes unsecured

About 90 percent of the bicycles observed in a recent check of the housing area were unsecured and unattended, according to Redstone military police.

"This lack of security has been reflected in the crime statistics since 1 June 1982," MPs reported. Nine bicycles were reported stolen and, during the same period, five were found or recovered.

Military police encourage all quarters' occupants to participate in the Neighborhood Watch Program by reporting to the MP Desk (876-2222) any suspicious activity in the housing area.

As an extension of the Neighborhood Watch concept, MPs provide a quarters check service for arsenal residents away on leave. Persons wanting those checks should call the MP desk at least one hour before departure. Arrangements will be made to have a MP available as the quarters are secured and the quarters will be added to the MP quarters checklist.

Residents are encouraged to mark their valuables with "USA" and the last four digits of their Social Security number. The MP crime prevention section (876-1369) has etchers and will provide any assistance for marking property. A MICOM regulation requires that bicycles be registered on post which "greatly facilitates the investigation and recovery of stolen bikes," MPs said.

Military police will respond to emergencies observed by patrols or reported to the MP desk. They will also investigate anonymous tips, observations or concerns recorded on the MP Hotline (876-1502).



Rachels takes CWF lead

Rachels took over first place in a 13-7 win over the Cougars in CWF play last week and likely will become league champions.

"This week will end the season and barring an upset it looks like Rachels has got it," said league spokesman Doug McKee.

League play will be followed by either an Army-NASA tournament or a league tournament starting August 9.

	How they Stand			GBH
	W	L	PCT	
Rachels	17	2	.895	—
Cougars	16	3	.842	1
R&D	16	3	.842	1
P&P	14	4	.778	2½
Logistics	11	8	.579	6
F&A	8	11	.421	9
T&E	7	11	.389	9½
USATSG	5	13	.278	11½
Tech Pub	3	16	.158	14
SIO	3	16	.158	14
TMDE	3	16	.158	14

Hunting program volunteers needed

Volunteers willing to assist in the post hunting program are being sought by Morale and Welfare.

Interested individuals should apply in writing to Joe Hopkins, Bldg. 114, DRSMI-KPS. Applications will not be accepted before 8 a.m. Aug. 5 nor after 4 p.m. Aug. 19.

Those eligible include active duty and retired military personnel and civilian employees of the United States who have personal vehicle bumper

stickers for admittance to the arsenal and personal identification badges.

Volunteers have been used in the hunting program for several seasons to do administrative work at the Outdoor Recreation Center. This year for the first time they will also be used in the field to assist with deputy game warden functions.

For more information contact Jim Griffin at 876-4868 or Hopkins at 876-3030.

LOGEX '82 starts August 15

WASHINGTON — More than 2,000 active duty and reserve component soldiers from various military units will take part in LOGEX 82, a special logistics exercise to be held at Fort Pickett, Va.

LOGEX, scheduled to begin Aug. 15, will train units in joint logistics command and staff pro-

cedures. Although the annual exercise is modified slightly each year, its basic goal is to present problems that military units would encounter in a wartime theater of operations. LOGEX will stress interdependence of combat, combat support and combat service support elements. (ARNEWS)

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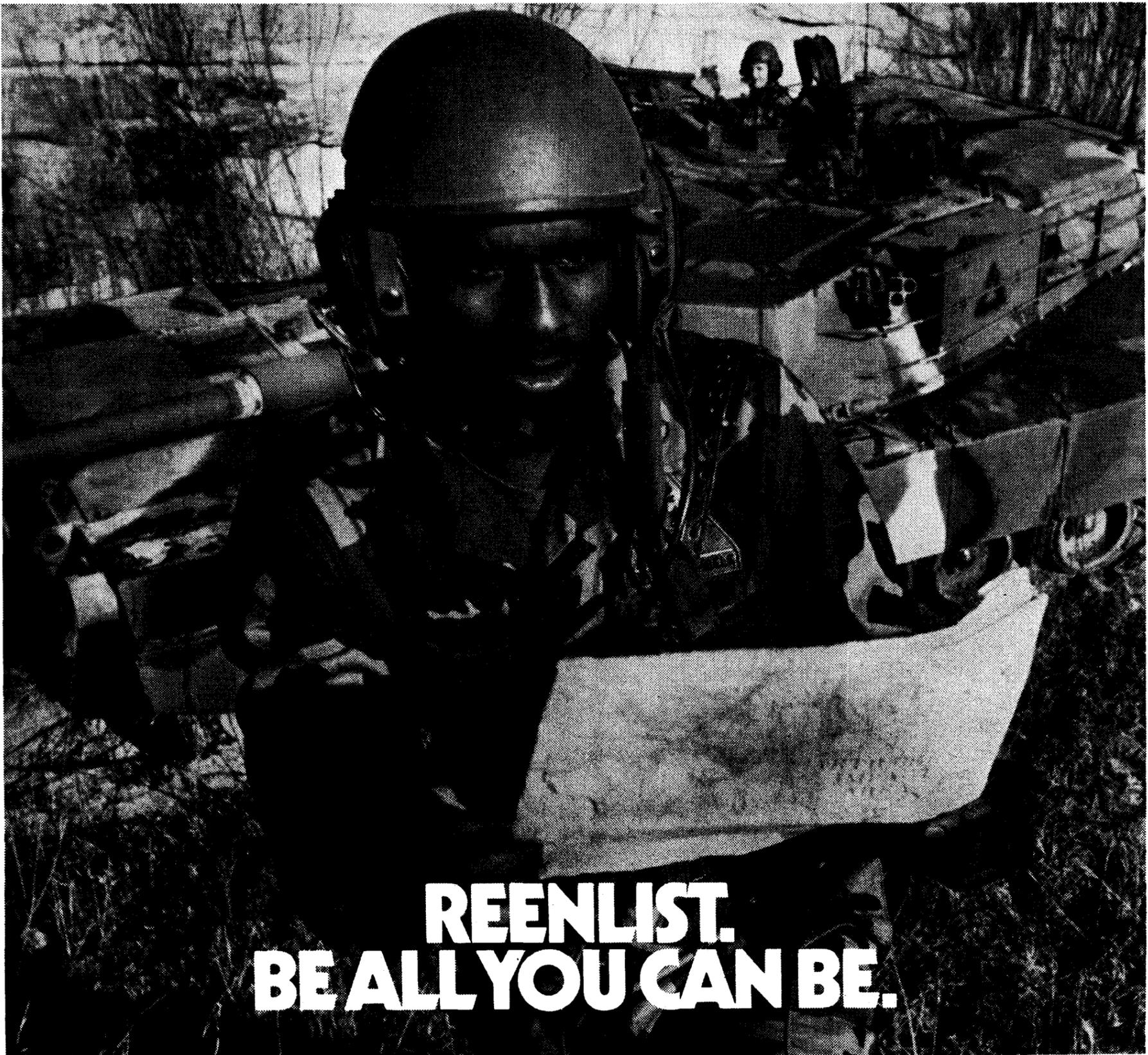
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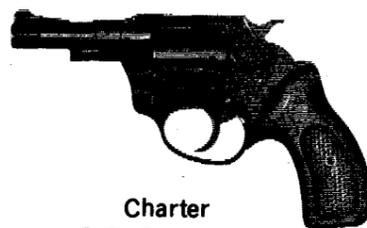


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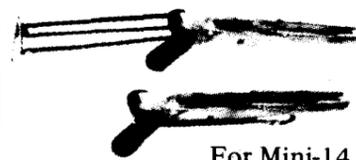
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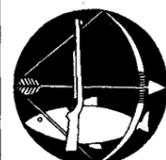
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Program helps sergeant join civilian workforce

BY HARRY SARLES

The Army Apprenticeship Program helped one Redstone Arsenal worker change from motor sergeant to civilian automotive mechanic even though he didn't complete the program.

Ed Downing was a sergeant with the 291st Military Police Company when he began his apprenticeship as an automotive mechanic in 1980. He left the service one year later and is now working for the Missile and Munitions Center and School's Directorate of Logistics as a mechanic repairing tactical vehicles.

He began his apprenticeship in 1980 and by the time he got out of the Army he had accumulated 5,900 hours of credit toward the 8,000 hours required for the program. This included credit for training and experience prior to entering the program. The Army issued Downing a certificate of partial completion of the apprenticeship program when he left the service.

The certificate helped to get Downing a civil service rating as a journeyman automotive diesel mechanic and that rating helped him to land a WG-8 position in the MMCS motorpool after brief stints as a bus driver and mechanic for the post motorpool.

Since joining MMCS he has been selected for training as a turret mechanic for the Bradley Fighting Vehicle System and is undergoing training on that system.

Downing has continued to work

toward his apprenticeship goal. He hopes to complete the training and receive his journeyman's certificate in the next six months.

In addition to the apprenticeship training he is also enrolled in the Calhoun Community College and is working toward an associate's degree as a machinist. He hopes to turn his education, training and experience into a career in maintenance management or quality control.

Downing began his apprenticeship on the advice of a friend. He encourages everyone to participate in the program. "You should take advantage of what you can while in the Army. It's a good thing to have in your record," said Downing. "Most of the guys in our shop are in the program."

According to SSgt. Bob Busbee, Army Apprenticeship Program NCO, more than 300 people are on the apprenticeship rolls here. Busbee explains that there are five programs which cover the MOSs that MMCS trains and that there are more than 135 programs Army-wide.

Busbee says that any soldier who works in a field that requires manipulative skills is eligible to enter one of the apprenticeship programs.

More information on the program can be obtained from Busbee or SFC Wanda Starling at the Army Apprenticeship Program office in the Education Center, building 3222, telephone 876-4388.



Downing works inside the engine compartment of a truck at the MMCS motor pool. He was rated as a journeyman mechanic by the civil service based on a certificate of partial completion from the Army Apprenticeship Program. (Photo by Harry Sarles)

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The Purple Heart — Yesterday, today, tomorrow

by Faith Faircloth

It's probably the least-sought medal in military history. Yet, it was the first such award set up to recognize enlisted men of the U.S. Army.

"The General, ever desirous to cherish a virtuous ambition in his soldiers, as well as to foster and encourage every species of military merit, directs that whenever any singularly meritorious action is performed, the author of it shall be permitted to wear on his facings, over his left breast, the figure of a heart in purple cloth, or silk, edged with narrow lace or binding."

The above general order was issued by the commander-in-chief of the Continental Army from his headquarters in Newburgh, N.Y. on Aug. 7, 1782.

The order went on to say, "The road to glory in a patriot army and a free

country is thus opened to all. This order is also to have retrospect to the earliest days of the war, and to be considered as a permanent one."

With this order, George Washington created the Purple Heart.

Although a board was appointed on Sept. 9, 1782, to review applications for the award, it wasn't until April 1783 that a newly appointed board acted on two claims for consideration. The first was for Sgt. Elijah Churchill of the 2nd Regiment of Light Dragoons. The second candidate for the award was Sgt. William Brown of the 5th Connecticut Regiment.

Both awards were approved by the board. Churchill and Brown received their Purple Hearts on May 3, 1783. A third award was made on June 8, 1783, to Sgt. Daniel Bissell, Jr., of the 2nd Connecticut Regiment.

Official records exist for only these three awards of the Purple Heart until it was revived by Presidential Order in 1932.

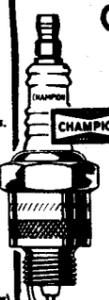
On the 200th anniversary of George Washington's birth, Feb. 22, 1932, the War Department made the following announcement:

"By order of the President of the United States, the Purple Heart established by Gen. George Washington at Newburgh, N.Y....is hereby revived out of respect to his memory and military achievements."

The Purple Heart is now awarded to officers as well as enlisted soldiers wounded in action in any war or campaign; its scope includes the Navy, Air Force, Marine Corps and the Coast Guard.

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'It means freedom'

BY SKIP VAUGHN

Larry Welch was serving as a squad leader during combat operations in Thua Thien province when he was again wounded in action in Vietnam.

It was April 12, 1971 and Welch earned his third Purple Heart award for being wounded in action. The Purple Heart means a lot to this man who grew up on a farm in Mississippi.

"It means freedom," says Welch. "It's just like the guy (Patrick Henry) that was hanged said 'Give me liberty or give me death.' And knowing that I shed some of my blood to keep our country free regardless of the consequences.

"At least I feel even though that (Vietnam) conflict has been hashed around for years with the American people, they'll never know the true story of it. I was there. I know when I shed my blood it was for our country's freedom regardless of what people think. It was for our heritage, our freedom, and I'd do it again if I had to."

SFC Welch, a legal clerk in the office of the staff judge advocate, served in Vietnam from March 1968 to March 1969 and again from October 1970 to October 1971. He received a bullet wound in the leg and fragmentations in the arm and chest.

He describes two of the three wounds as minor but feared at first that he would lose his leg. "I was fortunate that apparently it didn't do the damage I thought it had done."

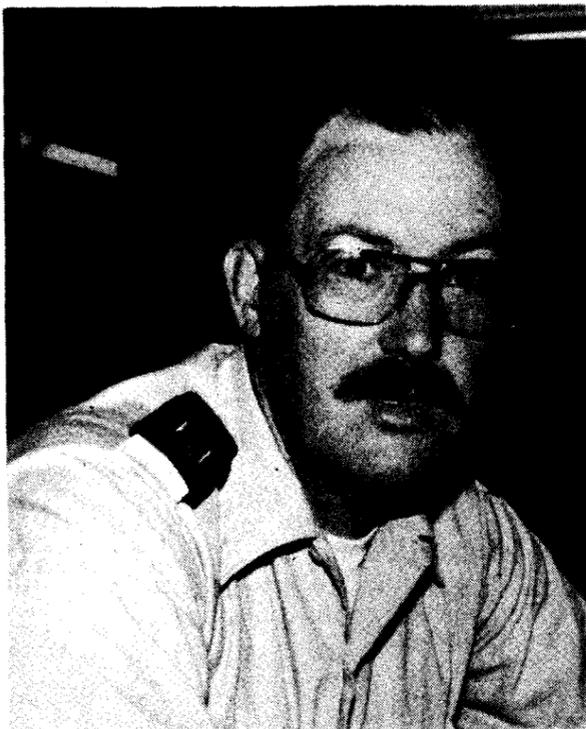
The 33-year-old soldier enlisted in the service when he was 18. Welch was an infantryman when he received the Purple Heart and says the awards had nothing to do with his becoming reclassified as a legal clerk.

"I got back from Vietnam in '71 and my own initiative has helped me get this MOS (military occupational specialty)," he says.

The Purple Heart, a distinguished honor, did have an impact on his life.

"The whole experience to include getting those awards made me realize and appreciate things more," Welch says. "I just feel like a better person; I really do.

"It helped me. It made me mature and it's a high honor to have the Purple Heart because a lot of people don't have the Purple Heart," he says. "And to me, the Purple Heart is a higher award than the Congressional Medal of Honor. The Congressional Medal of Honor is for valor, for being brave. But on the other hand, it takes a hell of a man to see himself bleeding and continue to function in a hostile situation."



Welch

'People realize you've been there'

BY SKIP VAUGHN

Ernest Balarzs was an Army medic trying to evacuate two soldiers who were injured by a German mine when a young medic stepped on another mine.

The "shoe" anti-personnel mine exploded, injuring both medics. Balarzs was wounded in both eyes and suffered a concussion.

"I couldn't see anything for 28 days," recalls Balarzs, a human factors engineer in the Human Engineering Laboratory Detachment at MICOM. He was awarded the Purple Heart for being wounded that day in February 1945 during the Battle of the Bulge.

Balarzs also received the Bronze Star for that incident in extreme west Germany on the Belgium border. After the explosion he aided the other medic who, like the two soldiers, had suffered a leg injury.

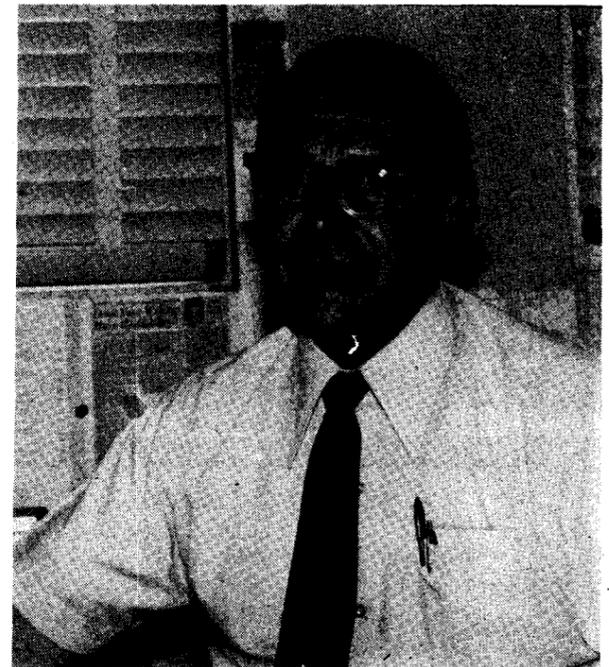
Balarzs was taken to the 198th U.S. General Hospital in Paris and spent about 48 days in the hospital. "They operated on my eyes and cleared all the debris out of them," he recalls. He returned to the lines as a tank gunner because of his previous field artillery training.

"I went into Frankfurt on a tank," Balarzs says. "And that was the end of my war. I never fired a round from the tank."

The 59-year-old West Virginia native believes the Purple Heart "gives you a lot of respect in having done a job well for the government. You've been exposed to the frightening aspects of war."

"People realize you've been there. In my business, they respect that," he says. "They respect that experience, and knowing what we went through in that Belgium Bulge."

Balarzs was a pre-med student at Concord College, Athens, W. Va. when he enlisted in the Army in



Balarzs

1943. He served 10 months overseas during World War II and earned four Battle Stars, two Bronze Stars and a Purple Heart.

"I think it's an honor," he says of the Purple Heart. "It's not a thing anybody would covet, would like to get. It's something that's the result of being there, of doing a job.

"It's a compensation you receive as the result of an undesirable incident. I don't think anybody goes out there with the purpose to earn a Purple Heart."

Balarzs, who earned a degree in life sciences when he returned home from the war, adds "I think more than anything else, people do pay respect to it. They respect people who have it."

'Would serve again'

BY SKIP VAUGHN

James Cuff was an Army artillery officer in Korea in 1951 when he suffered a gunshot wound in action.

"It just distinguishes people that were wounded," he says of the Purple Heart award he received.

Cuff, a supervisory general engineer at the System Development Office here, acknowledges that he is lucky. He served in the Korean war from about May 1951 to May 1952 and suffered a gunshot wound to the leg.

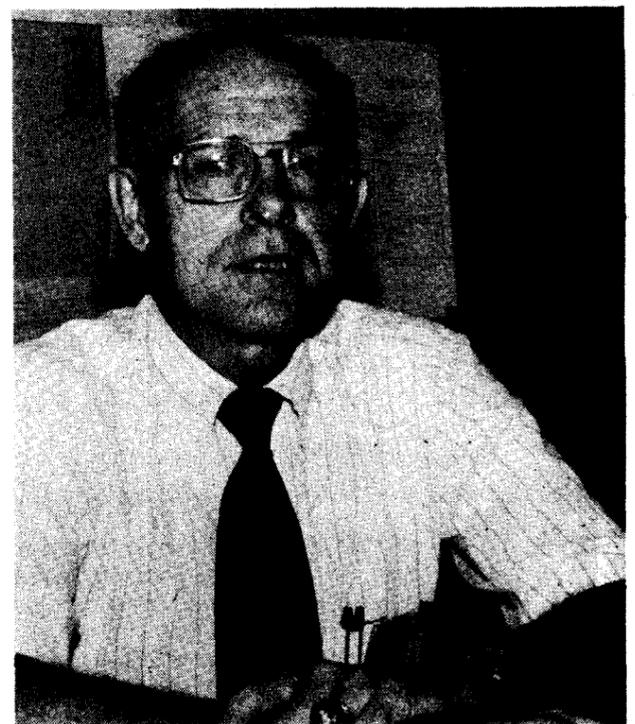
"I'm drawing disability for that incident," Cuff says. "There are some things I can't do because of the very slight disability."

The 51-year-old Minnesota native feels it was all worth it and "would serve again if required."

He mentions the "domino theory" at the time of the Korean war. "I don't know if that's been repudiated. The idea was to stop communism wherever it starts," he says.

Cuff enlisted in the Army in 1948, served until 1953 then got out and went to college in North Dakota.

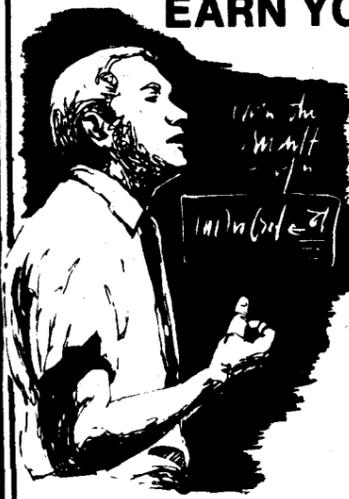
He and his wife Babetta, also from Minnesota, have four children who are "all off and married now."



Cuff

Asked what the Purple Heart means to him, Cuff says "It just means I got hit."

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Section II: April 12 - June 15, 1983

Program Leader

W. M. Cortner, III, is a consultant to organizations in business, industry, government and education in human relations, leadership and management development, team development and management by objectives. He is the primary instructor for the Supervisory Development Program and is president of A Better Way Consulting Services.

Through a balanced blend of academic exposure, training and consulting, he has acquired the necessary skills and knowledge to facilitate the growth and development to individuals, work groups and organizations.

Hours: 6:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.
Location: UAH Campus, Madison Hall - Room 110

For further information contact Len Iselydyke Associate Director of Management Studies, Division of Continuing Education, The University of Alabama in Huntsville, Huntsville, Alabama 35899, telephone (205) 895-6272.

An Affirmative Action/Equal Opportunity Institution

Collection

(Continued from page 1)

other common species. "We haven't found anything uncommon yet," Lukens said.

He said there is little likelihood of finding a rare or endangered fish here, but the possibility can't be entirely ruled out since darters, a variety of fish whose entire population may be confined to a small geographic area or lone body of water, are found in this locale.

To insure accuracy of identification, Lukens uses a microscope where necessary. With the log perch, for example, which is a type of darter, "I didn't know what species it was till I keyed it out," he said. With darters and some other small fish "you have to count and evaluate certain features to know what it is".

In the recent snail darter dispute it became apparent that public law and a lot of people are on the side of obscure fishes.

In that dispute the courts had to decide whether to kill a nearly completed multi-million dollar water project, or let it go through and probably kill the world's entire population of the snail darter, a finger-sized minnow known only to a segment of river where Tennessee Valley Authority decided to build a dam.

After a long, heated court battle the giant utility eventually won out over the tiny fish, but the lesson of the snail darter was not lost on Lukens.

"It's important that we know about the environmental impacts beforehand, so we can include

this kind of stuff in our original planning," the ecologist said.

"Where you usually have confrontations is when you do the study after the fact, when you've started work with no alternative site.

"So we need to know beforehand, 'Is there any environmental impact in this area that can be avoided? Is it better to build there than here? Can we move 100 feet and avoid a confrontation?'"

Lukens said the fish inventory will be included in an environmental assessment that will become a part of arsenal master planning documents.

He hopes to be able to hire graduate students part-time to assist in completing the reference collections.

"We need to include this kind of stuff in our original plans, so we don't have to make decisions like, 'how much is the snail darter worth,'" the ecologist said.

Join the Payroll Savings Plan.



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SESSION 4, 1982

August 9, 1982 through October 2, 1982

<u>COURSE NO.</u>	<u>COURSE TITLE</u>	<u>PREREQUISITE</u>	<u>DAYS</u>	<u>INSTRUCTOR</u>	<u>TIME</u>
BUS 150	Introduction to Business	None	MW	Smalley	5:00-7:30
BUS 294	Microeconomics	BUS 293	MW	Traylor	5:00-7:30
ENG 112	English Composition II	ENG 111	MW	Dyar	5:00-7:30
PHIL 201	Introduction to Philosophy	Soph. Stand.	MW	Brumment	5:00-7:30
PSY 101	Introduction to Psychology	None	MW	May	5:00-7:30
<hr/>					
Astron 101	Introduction to Astronomy	None	MW	Patty	7:30-10:00
BUS 370	Strategic Management	BUS 360	MW	Smalley	7:30-10:00
ENG 333	English Novel	Junior Stand.	MW	Dyar	7:30-10:00
PSY 392	Psychology of Adolescence	PSY 101	MW	May	7:30-10:00
<hr/>					
BUS 280	Accounting I	Soph. Stand.	TT	Jacobs	5:00-7:30
BUS 333	Public Relations	BUS 231	TT	Rouse	5:00-7:30
CJ 351	Probation and Parole	CJ 101	TT	Moon	5:00-7:30
ENG 104*	Developmental Eng. Comp.	None	TT	Morgan	5:00-7:30
(*No tuition is charged for this course.)					
<hr/>					
BUS 321	Small Bus. Management	BUS 260	TT	Dodson	7:30-10:00
CJ 101	Introduction to CJ	None	TT	Bill	7:30-10:00
CJ 411	Criminal Law II	CJ 409	TT	Price	7:30-10:00
ENG 111	English Composition I	None	TT	Morgan	7:30-10:00
PA 305	Admin. Regulation of Bus.	Soph. Stand.	TT	Rouse	7:30-10:00

ACADEMIC CALENDAR — SESSION 4, 1982

Early Registration Begins July 6
 (Early Registration continues to Aug. 6)
 Tuition Assistance Form Deadline (Absolute Deadline!) August 9
 Regular Registration August 9

Classes Begin August 9
 Late Registration Ends August 16
 Last Day to Drop Without Penalty August 20
 Classes End October 2

Classes are open to Active Duty Military, their dependents and civilians employed on the Arsenal. The Columbia office is located in Bldg. 3650 on Roland Drive. The office hours are

9:00 to 5:00, Monday through Friday. Tuition Assistance students should allow one full week for the processing of TA forms.

Counseling and registration are available on a walk-in basis.

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OPM implements overseas career credit

WASHINGTON — Spouses and certain other family members of military personnel and federal civilian employees who work in local-hire jobs overseas may now qualify for non-competitive appointment to civil-service jobs when they return to the United States.

The U.S. Office of Personnel Management (OPM) has issued interim regulations allowing civilian personnel offices to carry out a recently signed executive order authorizing such appointments, and to begin processing applications of eligible candidates.

The new policy became effective July 2, according to personnel officials, and proposed draft regulations cite the following eligibility requirements:

- The applicant must —
- A. Be a U.S. Citizen
- B. Have accumulated 24 months of creditable service in an appropriated-fund position(s) under a

local-hire appointment(s) after Jan. 1, 1980, within a 10-year period from the date of initial appointment.

C. Have received a satisfactory or better performance rating for his or her overseas service.

D. Currently be a family member of a federal civilian employee or of a member of the uniformed services who was officially assigned to the overseas area, and have been in this status while serving in the overseas position(s).

E. Have accompanied the member of the uniformed services or federal civilian employee on official assignment to the overseas post of duty while serving in the overseas position(s).

F. Exercise his or her eligibility for non-competitive appointment within two years of returning to the United States from the overseas tour of duty during which he or she acquired eligibility.

G. Meet all qualification requirements for the position in the United States for which he or she is applying.

Employment opportunities for military and civilian family members overseas are generally confined to embassies or military bases because most foreign governments generally limit private-sector employment to local citizens, said OPM officials. Positions available to military and civilian family members within U.S. activities are usually non-permanent, low-grade jobs. Although similar to stateside career positions in terms of job qualification and classification requirements, they offer no civil service status. Thus, family members returning to the United States after working for several years in overseas positions have been unable to use their overseas service to obtain a career civil service appointment.

OPM officials say the executive order and subsequent regulations are designed to overcome a growing reluctance of U.S. Government employees and military personnel to accept overseas assignments because of the lack of career employment opportunities for their family members. (ARNEWS)

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Variety of warrant officer specialties open

Qualified persons can apply now for a variety of warrant officer specialties ranging from bandmaster to legal administrative technician.

"Anyone basically that's technically qualified" can apply for a selected warrant officer specialty, according to Jean Manley, a military personnel clerk in the personnel actions branch of Military Personnel Division.

He or she can be active military, reserve military or civilian. "Individuals should have at least six years of federal service for a regular warrant appointment," Manley said.

General requirements for appointment to warrant officer include General Technical score of 110

or higher and age 18-46. The Department of Army has established prerequisites for each specialty such as experience and schooling. "The more prerequisites you meet, the better your chances of getting selected," Manley said.

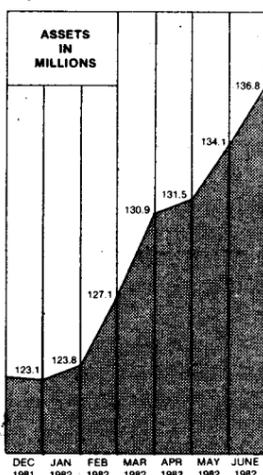
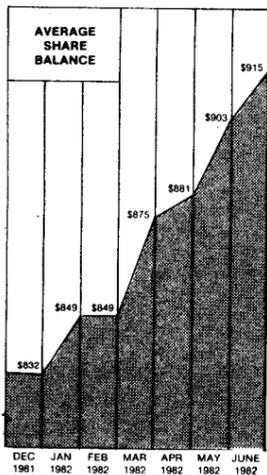
A new specialty, air traffic control technician, is to open for warrant officer procurement on Oct. 1. Specialties open now include food service technician, military physician's assistant, and club manager, among others.

Interested individuals should pick up a packet of forms at the Military Personnel Division, building 3710. Applications go through the chain-of-command back to military personnel which sets up an interview before a local board.

The local interview board, selected the first of each month, consists of a lieutenant colonel, a major and usually a warrant officer from the specialty the individual applied for. If not a warrant officer, the third member would be a commissioned officer who is "technically qualified," Manley said.

An application is sent to the Department of Army for final processing if the board recommends approval. If the board disapproves, the application is returned to the individual who can reapply in a year. He or she may be allowed to reapply earlier if "you request an exception to policy" for such things as completion of a course of instruction, Manley said.

REDSTONE FEDERAL CREDIT UNION GROWTH STRONG IN 1982



BALANCE SHEET June 30, 1982

ASSETS	
Loans	\$ 80,321,487
Allowance for Loan Losses	(275,645)
Cash	1,815,400
Investments	49,289,158
Furniture, Fixtures & Equipment (Net)	807,743
Land, Buildings & Improvements (Net)	3,104,503
Prepaid Expenses	111,346
Other Assets	1,724,843
Total	\$136,898,835

LIABILITIES & EQUITY	
Accounts Payable	\$ 67,078
Notes Payable	33,000
Taxes Payable	8,189
Dividends Payable	3,314,076
Other Liabilities	220,385
Share & Share Certificates	129,652,623
Reserves	3,603,484
Total	\$136,898,835

Redstone Federal Credit Union is growing stronger every month. Assets showed growth each month in the first half of 1982. Since December, 1981, assets rose \$13.7 million or 11.13% and Regular Shares (savings) and Share Certificates of Deposit rose \$12.9 million or 11.05%. Second quarter-end results demonstrate consistent, solid, growth. Earnings allowed not only meeting required reserves, but created a surplus.

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And to ensure even greater safety for our members deposits, a conservative investment policy restricts investments in Certificate of Deposits in bank and savings and loan associations to the insured coverage (\$100,000) in any one financial institution. No losses have been incurred in investments in banks or savings and loan associations by investing over the insured limit.


Roy Hollihan, Manager

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OFFICE	BUSINESS HOURS	OFFICE	BUSINESS HOURS
MAIN OFFICE 220 Wynn Drive Huntsville, Alabama 35805 Telephone 837-6110 Monday-Friday	9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.	REDSTONE ARSENAL BRANCH OFFICE Redstone Arsenal Shopping Center Redstone Arsenal Telephone 881-0534 Monday-Friday	9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.
PARKWAY CITY MALL BRANCH OFFICE Parkway City Mall South Memorial Parkway Telephone 539-0758 Monday-Friday	10:00 a.m. - 8:00 p.m. 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.	SCOTTSBORO BRANCH OFFICE John T. Reed Parkway (Highway 72 Bypass) Scottsboro, Alabama 35768 Scottsboro Telephone 259-0138 Bridgeport Telephone 495-3395 Monday-Friday	10:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.
THE MALL BRANCH OFFICE The Mall, North Memorial Parkway Telephone 539-4168 Monday-Friday	10:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m. 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.	HAYSLAND SQUARE BRANCH OFFICE Haysland Square Shopping Center Telephone 881-6200 Monday-Friday	10:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.
BUILDING 4200 BRANCH OFFICE Marshall Space Flight Center Telephone 881-7724 Monday-Friday	9:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.	MAIN OFFICE DRIVE-IN TELLER Monday-Friday	9:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.



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Engineer says python's a good pet

BY ED PETERS

Sara Willis of Product Assurance says the people she works with think she is "weird" for having a pet snake, but many gathered around attentively as she showed the big reptile that she brought to work in a sack one day last week.

Her bosses, however, were less enthusiastic. "They slapped my hands, but they're understanding, really. After all, it's a seven-foot snake," said Willis, 25, a quality engineer for air defense in Bldg. 4566.

"He's very much a baby," she said, stroking the slithering Burmese python draped on her shoulders like a scarf. "He'll get to be 30 feet long."

The python is a non-poisonous constrictor that kills by wrapping tightly around things. "He squeezes real tight. He doesn't squeeze the air out

but when you let air out he squeezes harder so you can't get air back in," she explained.

The snake was only eight inches long when she got it in Knoxville two years ago, a Valentine's present from her boy friend. She named it Nickajack for her home community. "He's a good pet. They're interesting," said Willis. She keeps Nickajack in her home in northwest Huntsville "in a glass cage about the size of my desk that I used to raise orchids in."

She feeds him rats twice a month that she buys in a pet shop. She did raise rabbits to swap for rats. "I worked out a deal with the pet shop so I wouldn't have to feed him the cute little bunny rabbits," she said.

"We had ferrets too," she went on. Once a ferret, which she describes as

"kind of a mongoose," escaped its cage and got in a fight with the snake. She tried to separate them by grabbing the snake and it bit her.

Another time she got bit 13 times trying to get the snake away from her boy friend who was trying to pull its head off. "Kind of like Pac Man" is the way she describes the way the snake bit. "It left three parallel rows of snake teeth, hundreds of little teeth marks and four large ones for the fangs. It hurts but it scares you more than it hurts," she said.

Willis said she developed her affection for snakes as a child. Raised "a country girl on a farm," she and her brother had pet snakes, "everything from black racers to green snakes to copperheads."

Before Nickajack, she had a pet boa that was electrocuted by a heat tape in

its cage. "He had third degree burns over two-thirds of his body. He got antibiotic shots but died three days later of a heart attack," said Willis.

She said people do not like snakes because they mistakenly think they are "slimey" and because "people are scared of things they don't know about. But I know about them."

And apparently Nickajack knows about her. "He knows me from anybody else," she said. As proof, when she let co-workers handle him, "he kept trying to get back to me," she said.

As wrapped up as she is in Nickajack, Willis accepts that she won't be able to keep him much longer. "I'm going to give him to a zoo soon, Knoxville if they want him. "As he gets older, more likely he will try to hurt somebody. You can't train that out of them."

Outdoor recreation events set for soldiers

Active duty soldiers can take a backpacking trip or learn kayaking through Redstone's outdoor recreation activities for August.

A backpacking trip to Sipsey Wilderness Area of Bankhead National Forest will be held Aug. 21-22. A \$5 fee includes all equipment (except personal footwear and clothing), transportation, food and guide. Sign up now at the Recreation Center, building 3711.

On Aug. 24 & 31, a kayak class (session 1 and 2)

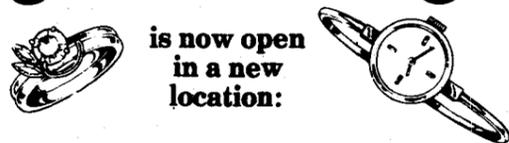
will be held at 7 p.m. at swimming pool one on Vincent Drive. Learn the basics of kayaking and become eligible for the overnight river trip on Sept. 11-12.

All equipment will be provided at the classes at no charge. Sign up now at the Recreation Center, building 3711. There will be an \$8 fee for the river trip which includes transportation, equipment, food and instruction.

For more information on these activities, call Jim Griffin 876-4868.



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Recreation Center

Today — "Stuntman" movie at 2 and 7 p.m. Thursday — Bingo at 8 p.m. Friday — Pool Tournament at 7 p.m. Saturday — "Anzio" movie at 2:30 p.m. Sunday — "Upsetter Band" rock/soul at 7 p.m. Monday — Bumper Pool at 7 p.m. Tuesday — Foosball Tournament at 7 p.m.

Education Center

The fall school term will start soon and college schedules are available at the Education Center, building 3222 on Snooper Drive. The staff of professional education counselors assist servicemembers from 7:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Friday in these and other areas: high school completion program (pre-GED and GED), Army apprenticeship program, CLEP and DANTES test, college degrees and courses, financial aid programs, tuition assistance, BSEP I and II, vocational schools, and employment outlook.

Civilian counseling briefing

A briefing on the purpose and functions of civilian counseling services will be presented by the Human Resources Development Office from 8:30-10:30 a.m. Aug. 17 in room A115, building 5250. The briefing should be of interest to civilian workers, civilian supervisors and military personnel who supervise civilians. It will cover criteria for referral, enrollment procedures, information and referral services, rehabilitation programs, protection of information and reporting limitations. This presentation will be repeated on the third Tuesday of each month.

Newcomers Coffee

The Redstone Officer's Wives Club will host a Newcomers Coffee, Tuesday, August 10 at 10 a.m. in the home of Carol Lee Moore, 1 Wadsworth Drive. All officers' wives who have arrived at Redstone between May and August are welcome and no reservations are needed. If you need more information call Nell Parsons 859-5870.

Prayer breakfast

Prayer breakfast is a weekly event at the Post Chapel which features a guest speaker and is widely attended by officers and enlisted personnel assigned to Redstone Arsenal. Recent speakers included Col. James Heyward, professor of military science at Alabama A&M University. His talk on the theme "The More Things Change, the More They Remain the Same" highlighted tradition and leadership.

Soccer coaches

A soccer clinic will be conducted Aug. 20-21 at the Bicentennial Chapel for all prospective DYA coaches and assistant coaches. It will stress the fundamentals of soccer and coaching techniques. There is no charge for the clinic which will begin at 7 p.m. Friday the 20th. The public is invited.

Yacht club

The Redstone Yacht Club will hold its next meeting at the RYC clubhouse, building 8014, at 7 p.m. Aug. 13. Non-members may call the membership officer, Lt. Col. Stephen Torok, at 876-4221 (office) or 883-1838 (home).

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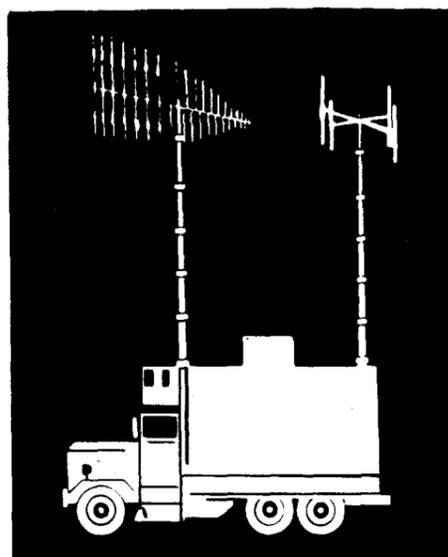
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