

Redstone Rocket

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Drug detection tests credited with decline in abuse

BY SKIP VAUGHN

Drug use in the Army has been declining and urinalysis may serve as a deterrent, according to the alcohol and drug control officer for MICOM.

Even though the numbers are down, there has been a shift at Redstone toward cocaine, said Jane Seltzer.

"I think overall we've seen a decline in drugs the last several years as urinalysis testing becomes more active and more sophisticated," she said. "What we've seen at Redstone, though, has been some shift. For years we'd see predominately marijuana as the drug other than alcohol. Now we've seen this past year some shift toward cocaine."

Cocaine abuse runs number three behind alcohol and marijuana. For the past two years, officials here have also seen cases of people who have become addicted to synthetic drugs such as dilaudid and opiate.

Seltzer serves as chief of the Community Counseling Center, under Personnel Training and Force Development. That center is involved in drug awareness education and treatment, and performs urinalysis testing.

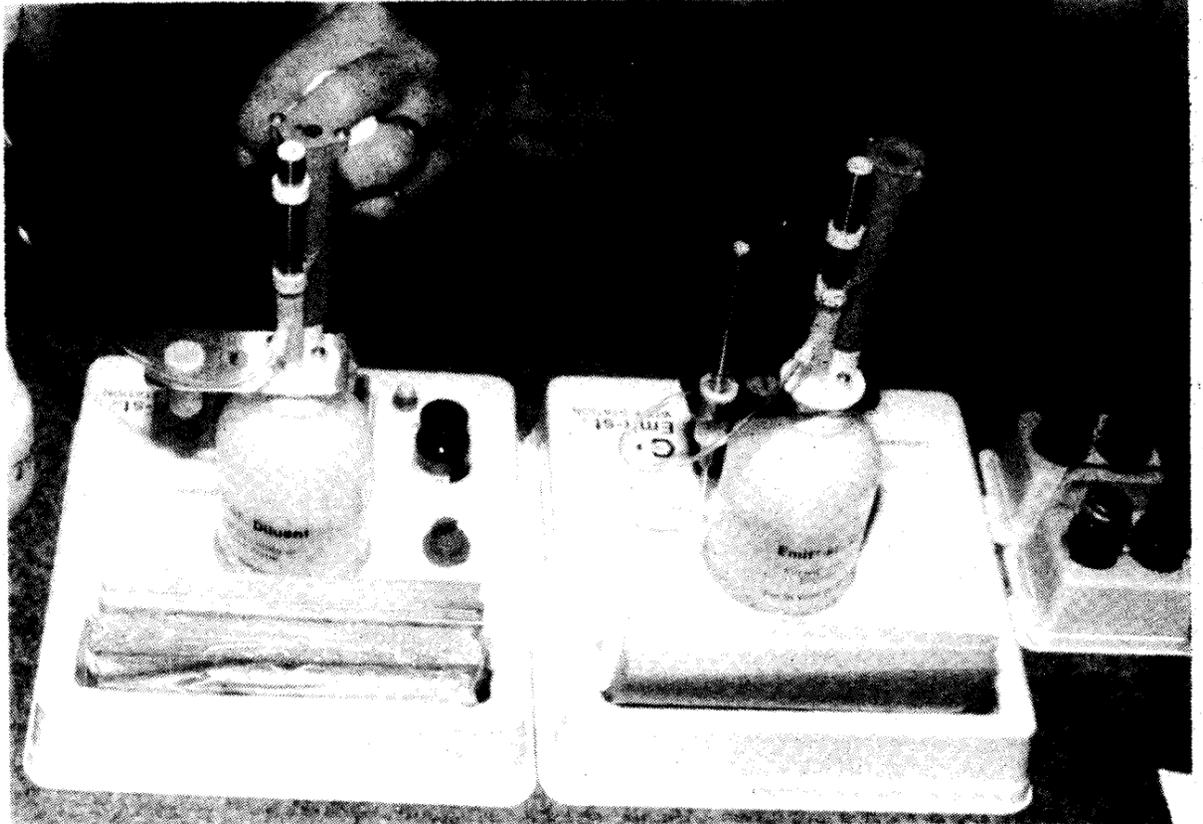
"I haven't observed any particular grade range or economic range with the (drug) user," Seltzer said. "It seems it can affect all grades and all socioeconomic statuses."

The urinalysis testing is conducted mainly for military members. In July, testing began for currently employed civilians in particular job categories. They include the guard force, people involved in aviation, and those holding certain positions under the personnel reliability program (includes people involved in nuclear and chemical surety). The total will be around 200 to 225 positions at Redstone, according to Seltzer. Testing has been conducted since about April for applicants for such jobs.

From 500 to 700 of the mostly military urinalysis tests are conducted each month. Samples can be field tested for marijuana and cocaine before being sent to a laboratory for confirmation. "We don't field test them all," said July Milner, social science technician at the Community Counseling Center. "We send the majority of them to the laboratory to test." If a field-tested sample comes up positive, it is retested and sent to the lab for confirmation.

"There's a lot of checks in the system to ensure you're doing it right, that no mistake has been made," Milner said. A sample is shipped either the same day or the next day, if taken at night. It takes a week to 10 days to get the results back from Compuchem Laboratories, a defense contractor in North Carolina.

Of the 500 or so tests conducted monthly, the number of drug users identified represents "about 2 percent— about 10 individuals," according to Seltzer. That number is down. "There were times within the past 12 months that the percentage would be as high as



DETECTION — This apparatus can be used to test urine samples for marijuana and cocaine. Samples are sent to a laboratory for confirmation.

5 percent (about 25 people) so the testing we believe is serving as a deterrent as well as a means of identification," Seltzer said.

Military people who test positive for drug use are scheduled for an appointment at the Community Counseling Center. Their company commander has to make a decision concerning any kind of disciplinary action he or she might want to impose. "If the (identified) individual is E-5 or above, the commander has to initiate a discharge packet. That doesn't necessarily mean that individual will be removed on first offense, but that consideration has to be made," Seltzer said. After the counseling center evaluates the extent of drug use, it makes a recommendation to the commander on proposed rehabilitation treatment.

The first test results for current civilian workers were being awaited as of this writing. In the case of an identified civilian, "it would be put into the civilian personnel channels," Seltzer said. The supervisor would be contacted. Actions of the supervisor would be determined with the guidance from the civilian personnel office, according to Seltzer.

"There is a requirement that the people who occupy

these (tested) positions be drug-free," she said. Options would include temporary assignment to a job outside the testing requirement, permanent reassignment to another job, or possible loss of government employment.

Seltzer sees balanced efforts in the Army's "four-pronged" approach to drugs: Education, identification, treatment for those who have problems, and law enforcement or suppression activities. "Overall I'd say probably the identification and urinalysis testing gets the most publicity; but as far as resources go and manpower, I'm not aware that there's any more (emphasis) put into that than any of the others," she said.

"To reduce drug abuse to the lowest possible level" is the Army's goal, Seltzer said. "I'm not sure we'll really know when we're there. As long as there are impacts on human lives and families and jobs and missions, we haven't gotten there yet."

(Editor's Note: A drug prevention seminar will be conducted at the post theater on Aug. 13, from 9-11 a.m. and from 1-3 p.m. Each member of the Redstone Arsenal community is invited to attend one of the sessions.)

Summer employment introduces many to 'world of work'

BY SKIP VAUGHN

More than 230 people are working at MICOM or other local Army agencies under the summer employment program.

The program, started in 1969, provides for a variety of types of temporary hiring. These include the summer hire program, summer aid program, career awareness program, summer employment of faculty members of historically black colleges, and national science fair finalists program.

"The program was designed to attract youths in considering the federal sector as an employer," said Ted Acklin, chief of special recruitment branch in the Civilian Personnel Office.

There are two main objectives behind the Army's summer employment efforts, according to Acklin. One is to introduce students to "the world of work in the federal sector." In addition, "we use the program not as a nicety but as a necessity at the Missile Com-

mand in that it's during the summer months that we have a heavy concentration of vacation schedules.

"The summer employment programs provide temporary relief in alleviating a workload precipitated by permanent employees on vacations," Acklin added.

Here are the types of programs offered:

* Summer Hire Program provides clerical and technical positions in grades GS-3 through GS-5 for college students. They must have an academic grade point average of at least 3 on a 4 point scale. Most of the summer employees were hired under this program.

* Summer Aid Program provides jobs for youths 16-21 who are economically disadvantaged.

* Career Awareness Program was developed to steer top high-school minority students toward so-called nontraditional careers such as engineering. Students must have excelled in math and science.

* Summer Employment of Faculty Members of Historically Black Colleges provides temporary

employment in engineering, science, physics and other areas.

Employed for the summer were 148 summer hires, 48 summer aids, 32 career awareness students, and seven faculty members from historically black colleges. In addition, two national science fair finalists were hired as engineering aids. The summer employment program "did afford consideration for handicapped persons and we were able to employ (one) under the 1986 program," Acklin said. Besides these 238 people, 12 positions— including 11 clerk typists and a summer aid —were filled with workers expected to start soon.

The summer employment positions have all been filled, according to Dr. Homer McCall, the summer employment program counselor. An assistant professor in the department of English and foreign languages at Alabama A&M University, McCall was

(See Summer cont'd on page 5)



Smoking comment

Editor:

Why are so many people either applauding or criticizing the latest Army directive on smoking? Human rights or health has nothing to do about it. There is the right way, the wrong way, and the Army way!

1986 has been a good example. There is no seat belt law in Alabama, but instead of harshly penalizing the drunk and incompetent drivers, everyone on the arsenal has to wear belts. And to stop the drunk drivers, the Army in its infinite wisdom bans liquor sales until 4:30 p.m. This means if you want to treat your VIP visitors, you drive off base for lunch and meet the Huntsville drunk drivers.

Now a virtual ban on smoking. Fine - soldiers should be in good health! Twelve million smoking soldiers won WW II. But why penalize civilians? Because it's the Army way. The shotgun approach. But it doesn't work that way. An addicted smoker isn't going to quit.

He or she will just work less to take the authorized smoke breaks, and then nervously drive home subject to a greater risk of accident. And the non-smoking coworkers will still take excessive leave, but this time blame it on something else.

The government will still subsidize the tobacco growers, the Army will still sell cigarettes, and for all government workers another right will have been eroded - like cost-of-living pay raises. Next we'll have mandatory prayer sessions and out-in-the-open urinalysis tests for drugs at the command headquarters flag pole at 12 noon.

Graydon K. Parker
AIAMS-YDI

Double standard

Editor:

I would like to voice my objection, which is shared by many, to the "generous" leave policy that is enjoyed by some employees. They habitually arrive 10 to 20 minutes late to work and are the first out the door at quitting time. With flextime, if you can't get to work on time, you can change your hours to fit your schedule or you can work over in the afternoon to make up for the time you came in late. Ten to 15 minutes a day adds up to an hour or so a week, folks. The majority of us work a full 8 hours and then some to earn our leave.

Lets do away with the double standard and give everyone the same leave policy. And if the shoe fits, wear it.

Name withheld by request

Foul language

Editor:

The Federal government says we must wear seat belts in our own car or pay a fine if caught. Smokers must be placed in different areas to smoke. I was wondering if this command would answer a couple of questions? Can they do something about the language that people use? Why should I or any other person have to put up with foul or abusive language? From the top management to the lowest rank in the civil service or armed forces this language is used everyday. It is nothing for these people to use the Lord's name in vain or any of the other four and twelve letter words of foul and abusive language. Why should good Christian people have to listen to this type of language? Some people who use this form of expression say they are church-going people and Christians, but are they really?

My other question deals with the morality environment. What of women in the United States Army, here on Redstone Arsenal, that are pregnant and not married? Statistics show more women in the United States armed forces are pregnant and not married. Again, why is this allowed and why should Christian people have to be subjected to this environment? Do Christian people have any rights? I figure since we must be told to wear seat belts, and smokers must be placed in different areas, how about this? Freedom of speech should be restricted. Put the foul and abusive language people in a separate area. Enforce morality and Christian living. Are we a nation that believes in God, or is this just more talk.

Name withheld by request

Cartoon section

Editor:

It is very refreshing to note that the *Redstone Rocket* has decided to add a cartoon section to the front page as evidenced by the July 16 *Rocket*.

The idea that awarding sick leave certificates as an incentive to not use sick leave is almost as hilarious as awarding \$250 to the person who suggested it. Sick leave abusers have always been with us and always will be without competent supervision.

I have a suggestion that will save the government much more money: Find all the individuals responsible for awarding the \$250 and fire them. We don't have to question their competency because by approving this award they demonstrated incompetency.

William K. Pennington
AIAMS-YDI
Bldg 4505

What's next?

Editor:

Is sex next? We have endured campaigns on weight control, physical fitness, alcohol consumption, dental readiness, financial management, and smoking. I figure that within a year, a board will be appointed to study the effect sex has on combat proficiency. One year will be needed to analyze the effect. One more year to staff it, and one more year to implement the plan. Thank God I'll have retired before I'm told that I can have sex once a month and then only in conjunction with a three day pass.

SFC Paul C. Anderson
291st MP Company

Puff up and float off

Editor:

My father smoked all his life and according to him he wanted to quit. After he was admitted into the hospital the first doctor told him he had bronchitis, the second doctor came in and told him he had pneumonia and shortly after that the third doctor came in and said, I'm sorry sir, but you have lung cancer.

He really, really wanted to quit and he did. I loved my dad, but he never cared about the fact that his family had to breathe his smoke in our home or in the car. You see, he was a "smoking wimp."

Reading the past few *Rockets*, I'm convinced that MICOM is infested with "smoking wimps." You see,

smokers don't care if they blow smoke in our faces, hack and cough, and slobber all over us in meetings.

As far as I'm concerned, all smokers should keep puffing, turn green in their faces, and inhale only, until they puff up like a balloon and float off into outer space. Then we wouldn't have to read their wimpy comments bleeding all over the pages in the *Rocket*.

Name withheld by request

Sign your letter

Letters will not be considered for publication in the *Redstone Rocket* unless they are signed and contain an address or phone number for the writer. Names are withheld on request but unsigned letters will not be used. Send letters to: *Redstone Rocket*, AMSMI-IN.

Chaplains Corps has 211th anniversary

The 211th anniversary of the Chaplains Corps will be observed on Redstone Arsenal this Sunday.

Scheduled guest speaker is Chaplain (Col.) James Edgren, director of information, resource management and logistics in the Office of the Chief of Chaplains at Army headquarters in Washington, D.C.

Edgren is to speak at both the 9 a.m. Protestant Service at Post Chapel and the 10:45 a.m. Protestant Service at Bicentennial Chapel.

He has a master's degree from American University and a doctor of ministry from Wesley Theological Seminary. His religious denomination is the Christian and Missionary Alliance.

Edgren's assignments have included responsibilities as 9th Infantry Division chaplain at Fort Lewis, Wash.; management officer in the Office of the Chief of Chaplains in Washington, D.C.; and staff chaplain ecclesiastical relations officer for U.S. Army headquarters in Heidelberg, Germany. He has published several articles on the ministry based on his experiences in Vietnam.

History accounts show that the military chaplaincy is not a recent institution. At Concord in April 1775, Chaplain William Emerson of the Massachusetts Provincial Congress was the first to report for duty when the alarm bell called out the minutemen. His successor, Chaplain William Gordon, was among those who visited soldiers in the camps around Boston in the weeks before General Washington took command. The legal origin of the Corps of Chaplains is to be found in a Resolution of the Continental Congress, adopted July 29, 1775. This provided that the pay of chaplains should be \$20 per month (which was the same as that provided for a captain by the same resolution).



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Aviation drug and alcohol abusers face career change

WASHINGTON — Soldiers serving in aviation specialties who abuse drugs or alcohol will not be allowed to remain in their field, according to Lt. Col. Marvin H. Baker, chief of the Military Personnel Center's Enlisted Personnel Aviation/Transportation Branch.

"As part of its continuing crackdown on alcohol and drug abuse, and to enhance aviation safety, the Army will prevent soldiers with histories of substance abuse from holding aviation military occupational specialties," Baker said.

The Army made changes to AR 611-201, Enlisted Career Management Fields and Military Occupational Specialties, because lives may depend on the ability of aviation soldiers to function in their jobs, said Baker. Aviation soldiers identified as substance abusers will be reclassified, but instances of abuse identified before the regulation was issued on April 30, 1986, will not be considered, he said.

Any soldier identified as having wrongfully used, manufactured, transferred, sold or held in possession a narcotic, controlled substance or dangerous drug will be disqualified from aviation service, suspended from aviation duties and reclassified into a non-aviation MOS.

"Reclassification is mandatory whether the abuse was identified through a urinalysis test, conviction by a civil or military court or punishment under Article 15," Baker said. These soldiers will also be referred to

the Army Alcohol and Drug Abuse Prevention and Control Program, he added.

Soldiers involved in alcohol abuse but who have no history of drug abuse and have not been previously identified as alcohol abusers may be temporarily removed from aviation duties and referred to the Prevention and Control Program, Baker said. Such soldiers will not be returned to aviation duties until they have successfully completed the program and received waivers from the MILPERCEN commanding general. Soldiers involved in second incidents of alcohol abuse will be removed from aviation duties and reclassified into new military occupational specialties, said Baker. A soldier identified for reclassification may request a specific MOS, but final MOS choice is based on the needs of the Army, he added.

A soldier who is identified for reclassification can appeal the decision.

"These (regulation) changes are intended to send a clear message to soldiers and commanders," Baker said. "There is no place in aviation for those guilty of substance abuse. The importance of the mission, cost of aviation equipment and chance of injury or death if a soldier suffers from drug or alcohol abuse on the job permit no compromise."

The following MOSs in the following career management fields (CMFs) are governed by the new regulation: CMF 28 (Aviation Communications and

Electronics) — MOSs 28L, 28M, 28K, 28R; CMF 67 (Aviation Maintenance) — Technical Inspector MOSs 66G, 66H, 66J, 66N, 66R, 66S, 66T, 66U, 66V, 66Y; Aviation Repairer MOSs 67G, 67H, 67N, 67R, 67S, 67T, 67U, 67V, 67Y, 67Z; Aviation Mechanic MOSs 68B, 68D, 68F, 68G, 68H, 68J, 68K, 68M; and CMF 93 (Aviation Operations) — MOSs 93H, 93J, 93P, 93D.

Officers and civilians can also be removed from aviation jobs. There has always been a provision for the removal of aviation officers who have been identified as drug and alcohol abusers, according to Maj. Robert Johnson, also of MILPERCEN. A board of

aviation officers senior to the officer in question convenes to make a recommendation to the officer's commander regarding his removal from an aviation assignment, Johnson said. On an individual case basis, officers removed for alcohol abuse may be returned to aviation service after rehabilitation, he said. Similarly, Army civilians in the aviation field are subject to urinalysis, and individuals who are identified as drug users are moved to jobs in other areas, according to Bill Fanelli of the Office of the Deputy Chief of Staff for Personnel. Every effort is made to find the individual a job at the same grade level, and, in the future, a civilian employee removed for substance abuse may be reinstated to aviation service after rehabilitation, he said. (Arnews)

Training and Doctrine Command has anti-smoking policy

WASHINGTON — The Training and Doctrine Command has issued a policy letter that restricts the use of tobacco products by soldiers attending TRADOC-sponsored courses.

The anti-tobacco policy, which carries out the Army-wide smoking policy put into effect July 7, applies in varying degrees to trainees in basic and advanced individual training as well as to soldiers attending officer, warrant officer and NCO courses.

Drill sergeants and other military and civilian cadre also are prohibited from using tobacco products in the presence of students and trainees.

The new policy supports the TRADOC Tobacco Cessation Program designed to enhance readiness and personal health, said Maj. Gen. Carl H. McNair Jr., TRADOC chief of staff. He explained that tobacco use affects military readiness by impairing physical fitness and by increasing illness, absenteeism, premature death, and health-care costs.

In TRADOC, more than 230,000 trainees are processed through basic and one-station-unit training each year. After July 7, when the new TRADOC policy went into effect, trainees arriving at their reception battalions will not be allowed to smoke or use other tobacco products during the entire training period. The prohibition will remain in effect until the trainees graduate.

Sales of tobacco products from vending machines in basic training areas will be eliminated to the extent possible, McNair said. Still to be determined are the requirements of vendor contracts now in effect.

"We hope that by the time trainees graduate they will have given up tobacco use," said Wally Hunt of TRADOC's office of the deputy chief of staff for personnel, administration and logistics.

Hunt, an alcohol and drug abuse control officer, said cadre will not use tobacco products in front of trainees during the training day. "We want the cadre to serve as role models, and to encourage a tobacco-free environment for soldiers. This is a time when they are very impressionable — learning about the Army and its standards."

During advanced individual training, use of tobacco products will be controlled and limited to designated areas during the training day. Cadre are cautioned to refrain from referring to use of tobacco products as "smoke breaks," Hunt said.

As in basic training areas, sales of tobacco products from vending machines in advanced training areas will be eliminated if possible.

The new policy also will limit tobacco use for students attending officer and NCO courses to designated areas during the training day. Cadre also will not be permitted to use tobacco in the presence of their students during training time.

Programs of instruction and other lesson materials for Basic, one-station and advanced training will incorporate information on the adverse effects of tobacco, Hunt said.

Written materials on the Army's and TRADOC's Tobacco Cessation Programs will be given to officer and NCO students and they will be reminded of their responsibilities as leaders to discourage the use of harmful substances such as tobacco, Hunt said.

Cadre throughout TRADOC includes many civilian employees, and local civilian personnel offices must be contacted to work out labor/management responsibilities and union consultation, Hunt said. (Arnews)

OPM issues guidance for 'parental leave'

WASHINGTON, D.C. — The Office of Personnel Management has issued new guidance concerning "parental leave" to federal government managers encouraging them to be flexible in granting not only traditional maternity leave but leave for adoption, foster care and the care of sick children or elderly parents.

"Traditionally, federal managers have exercised good judgment in granting annual or unpaid leave in special circumstances," OPM Director Constance Horner said in releasing the new guidance. "This guidance is designed to encourage managers to exercise that discretion in keeping with President Reagan's ongoing initiative to keep government policy from interfering in the indispensable business of caring for families."

Under existing regulations, federal employees can earn 13 days of paid sick leave each year. Unused sick

leave can be carried over from one year to the next. Federal workers can use leave from this category for childbirth. Other forms of parental leave are drawn from annual leave which is earned at the rate of 13 to 26 days per year, depending on years of service, or leave without pay.

Employees can be granted leave without pay for an indefinite period proving it does not affect the agency's ability to accomplish its mission.

"Managers in the federal sector have demonstrated good judgment in granting paid or unpaid leave to help the federal worker face a critical family situation. After all, they are parents too," Horner said. "As is so often the case, federal supervisors and workers offer a good example of cooperation in lieu of extensive regulation for other sectors of the domestic and international marketplace."

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Official explains Army smoking policy

WASHINGTON — The Army has issued a policy, titled "Controlling Smoking," that major commands were to have implemented by July 7. The policy bans smoking in all buildings on Army installations and in all Army-occupied space in other buildings, except those areas specifically designated for smoking. It also prohibits smoking in Army vehicles and aircraft.

This policy is part of the Army's anti-tobacco-use campaign that focuses on education and assistance for those who want to stop using tobacco products. It acknowledges freedom of choice for both smokers and non-smokers. The intent is not to restrict individual freedom, but rather to encourage soldiers and civilians, principally through education and information efforts, to make intelligent choices about tobacco use. The Army encourages smokers to quit because it recognizes that tobacco use presents a threat to the health and readiness of soldiers and civilians in the total Army.

In a recent interview with the Army News Service, Maj. Jim Paige, a project officer in the Office of the Deputy Chief of Staff for Personnel at the Pentagon, explained Army smoking policy.

ArNewS: At what level will smoking cessation education programs be controlled and managed?

Paige: At the MACOM or installation level. The Office of the Deputy Chief of Staff for Personnel, along with the Army's Office of the Surgeon General, has developed a model installation program on smoking cessation. It pretty much parallels what was done for the suicide prevention program. We're sending this program out in July to all installation commanders for review. But it's only a guide. If they want to use it, fine. If not, they can tailor their own programs.

ArNewS: How will smoking areas be designated?

Paige: Leaders should remember that the intent of the policy is to protect non-smokers from the effects of secondhand smoke. Whether an area is suitable for smokers must be gauged by the impact smoking there would have on the comfort, health and fitness of non-smokers. Therefore, supervisors must identify areas where smoking materials may be used without interfering with non-smokers and limit smoking to those areas. They must also, however, take care to minimize inconvenience to those who wish to smoke. With imaginative and caring leadership, this policy can be implemented without undue hardship.

ArNewS: What are the requirements for designated smoking areas?

Paige: Smoking areas may be located only where secondhand smoke can be sufficiently isolated to protect non-smokers from its effects. There is no effective way to set up a uniform quantitative standard that would be applicable to all situations. Local supervisors must make the judgement whether a particular area provides sufficient protection to non-smokers based on the unique characteristics of the area.

But we're not talking in terms of specifics. We're not going to say that each person must have at least a 9-by-9 foot area in which nobody can enter while smoking. We're not in the business of measuring for adequate space. Local commanders have the latitude

to develop whatever policies or mechanisms it takes to protect non-smokers.

ArNewS: Why do non-smokers need to be protected from secondhand smoke? Are there any statistics showing harm to them?

Paige: Yes. The American Medical Association estimates that at least 34 million Americans are sensitive in one way or another to tobacco smoke. Smoke can cause such symptoms as eye irritation, tearing, burning, redness, headaches, coughing and wheezing. A marked decrease in mental efficiency also has been cited as an example of the harmful effects of secondhand smoke.

The Surgeon General of the United States said that secondhand smoke also leads to disease and ultimate death among non-smokers.

ArNewS: How could readiness be improved if personnel quit smoking and others weren't breathing secondhand smoke?

Paige: This question is one of logic. Military readiness is based on the individual fitness of each soldier. Since smoking causes soldiers to be less than 100 percent physically fit, then, logically, if you smoke, you won't be as fit as you could be. Basically, therefore, if soldiers aren't fit, then their units won't be 100 percent combat ready.

ArNewS: May people with private offices declare their offices as smoking areas?

Paige: No, but supervisors may designate a private office as a smoking area if it isolates secondhand smoke sufficiently to protect non-smokers from its effects. Obviously, if a "private office" is frequently used as a common meeting place, or if it is so poorly ventilated that smoke affects adjoining common work areas, then it would be inappropriate to designate it as a smoking area merely for the convenience of the occupant.

ArNewS: May a common work area where all workers are smokers be designated a smoking area?

Paige: Yes, if it isolates secondhand smoke sufficiently to protect non-smokers from its effects. However, if the work area is open or other people visit it frequently or if it's so poorly ventilated that smoke affects adjoining work areas, then it would be inappropriate to designate it as a smoking area.

ArNewS: May an office of smokers and consenting non-smokers be designated as a smoking area?

Paige: No. Smoking areas may be designated only where secondhand smoke from tobacco products can be sufficiently isolated to protect non-smokers from its effects. While this policy promotes individual health and fitness, it does so primarily to enhance overall readiness and productivity of the workforce.

You have to remember that right now 48 percent of soldiers and about 68 percent of the civilian workers don't smoke. Therefore, supervisors have an obligation to protect non-smokers from the effects of secondhand smoke, whether or not they actively complain. Additionally, we have come to the point where non-smokers should not be asked or expected to consent to exposure to tobacco smoke for the convenience of another who desires to smoke; that old approach subjects people to social pressure which belongs on the shoulders of the supervisor.

ArNewS: Isn't it inconsistent to set a strict anti-smoking policy yet continue to sell tobacco products at post commissaries and exchanges?

Paige: No. The smoking policy does not prohibit smoking; it respects the rights of soldiers and their families to choose between the legal alternatives of smoking or not smoking. The availability of tobacco products in the PXs and commissaries is consistent with longstanding Army policy to provide our people with the benefit of a wide variety of products to choose from in our retail outlets. However, the Army is taking steps to deglamorize the sale of cigarettes and to reduce impulse buying.

ArNewS: What is the Army doing to reduce impulse buying?

Paige: We've moved cigarette displays away from checkout counters, and stores will no longer put cigarettes on "sale" or offer "double-coupon" discounts. Also, we have displayed the Surgeon General's warning to conspicuous places. To help those trying to quit, the stores will stock smoking suppressants.

ArNewS: Does the smoking policy apply to such unit functions as dinings-in, dinings-out, dinners, etc.?

Paige: Yes, if those functions occur at facilities under Army control. Otherwise, commanders have a general responsibility to protect non-smokers from the effects of secondhand smoke and should regulate off-post functions accordingly.

ArNewS: Will smokers attending outdoor athletic events sponsored by the Department of Defense Dependent Schools be prohibited from smoking?

Paige: My first answer would probably be "yes." We must remember the intent and spirit of the policy — to protect non-smokers from secondhand smoke. However, there are some cases where that might not be appropriate. For instance, if the event is on an Army installation, then we have control over that. If the event is sponsored off post by someone else, however, then commanders will have to play it by ear and work it out locally.

ArNewS: What actions are likely for violators of the policy?

Paige: We expect that caring leadership and common sense will be applied in enforcing this policy. Accordingly, violations should be dealt with administratively as with any other minor dereliction; that is, with on-the-spot corrections or oral counseling. Only extreme cases involving willful disregard for the health or comfort of non-smokers should be dealt with more severely. Cases involving civilian employees are subject to the protections afforded by civil service disciplinary rules and collective bargaining agreements.

ArNewS: What articles of the Uniform Code of Military Justice could apply to military violators?

Paige: Army policy limits the use of Uniform Code of Military Justice punishment to violations of lawful orders (Article 92) that demonstrate a willful disregard for the health and comfort of non-smokers. We expect such cases to be few and far between, as almost all violations can best be handled with an on-the-spot correction.

ArNewS: Can civilians be given administrative leave to attend smoking programs?

Paige: Yes. Commanders can grant what they consider a reasonable amount of administrative leave for education.

ArNewS: How can the Army prevent discrimination, however subtle, against either smokers or non-smokers?

Paige: It can't. There might be situations where a supervisor makes a bad decision. But there are checks and balances in the system. And if you run into a situation where you're being treated unfairly, whether you're a smoker or a non-smoker, then you have a right to go to that person's supervisor and have that problem resolved. The important thing to remember about this policy is that the Army is not banning smoking or telling people that they can't smoke. We are protecting the rights of non-smokers and encouraging smokers to kick the habit.

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Summer

(Cont'd on page 1)

among those hired under the program for faculty members of historically black colleges. This is his second summer in the civilian personnel office.

Through the summer employment program, students get work experience and a means for financial help to further their education, McCall said.

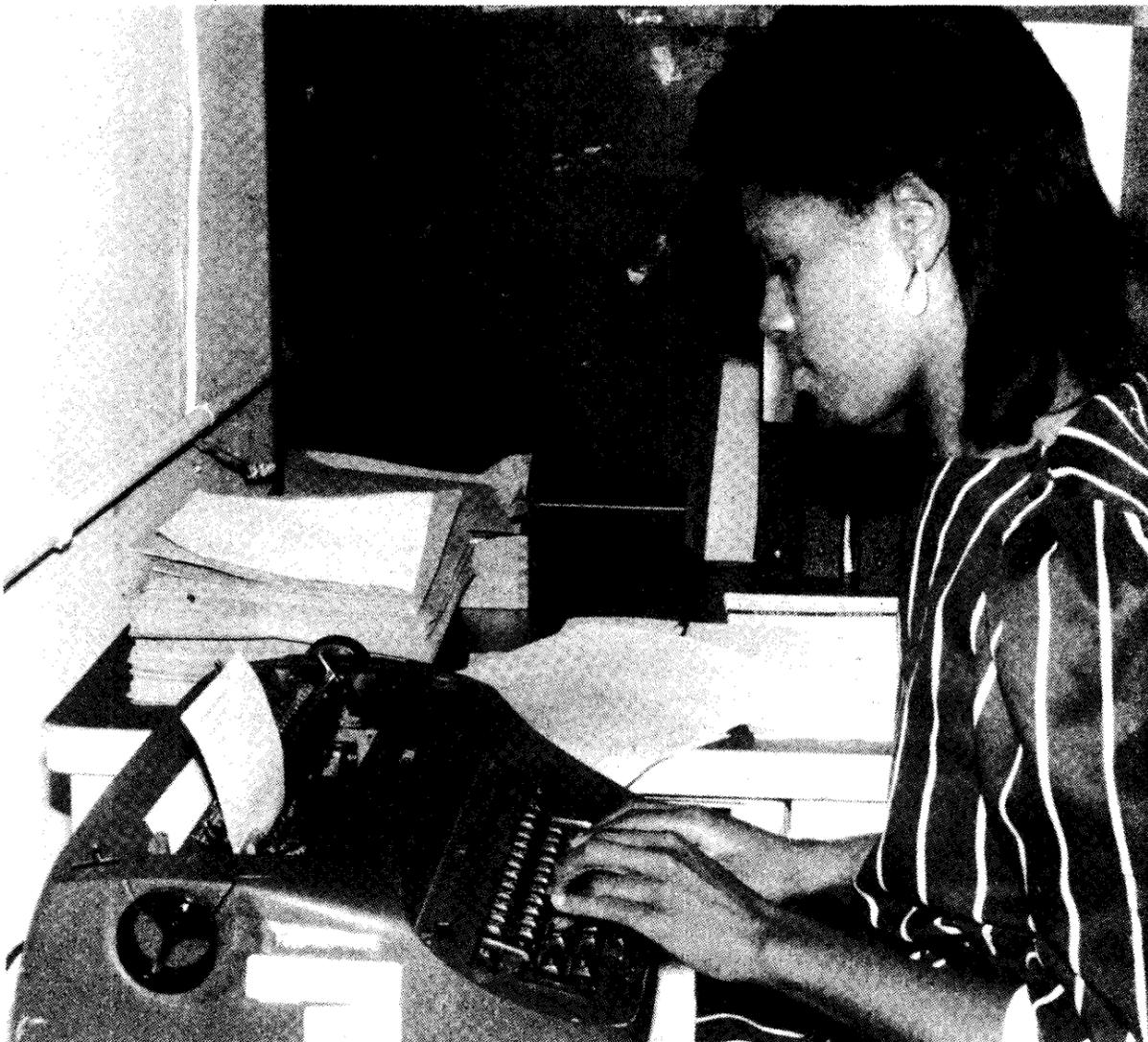
"It gives them the dignity and the joy to work and also increases their self esteem. Rather than just having a handout, they work *themselves*," he said.

Most of the summer hires are GS-3 (\$5.49 per hour) and GS-4 (\$6.16 per hour). The faculty members from historically black colleges range from GS-7 to GM-14 (an individual hired as a special consultant to management in the Research Development and Engineering Center). The summer aids get minimal wage, \$3.35 an hour.

"There was a great need for clerical support," said Acklin, pointing out that most of the positions are clerk typist. "The second most popular would be engineering aid." Students hired under the career awareness program were recruited as engineering aids at the Research Development and Engineering Center. Other positions that were filled include math aid, clerk, and supply clerk.

This year's summer employment program succeeded despite hiring and funding constraints, according to Acklin. "One thing unique about the 1986 summer program is that the outlook was bleak and dismal in terms of the number of recruitments we would have at the Missile Command due to the Army Materiel Command civilian employment level," he said. "We were instructed by the command group that the summer hire level would not exceed 150." Thanks to requirements submitted by other local Army agencies, many summer workers could be placed in those organizations.

Cynthia Azoroh is spending the summer as a clerk typist in the civilian personnel office. She has finished her classes at Alabama A&M and is doing academic internship with the personnel office. Her degree this summer will be in telecommunications. "I think it's great," Azoroh said, referring to the summer employment program. "I think that it provides students with opportunity to improve their self esteem as well as provides work experience in an academic setting."



SUMMER HIRE— Cynthia Azoroh is a clerk typist in the civilian personnel office.



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Military said to be leading in black managers

BY EVELYN D. HARRIS
American Forces Information Service

Blacks hold a larger share of management positions in the military than they do in business, education, journalism, government or any other significant sector of American society.

So says Charles C. Moskos, a sociologist at Northwestern University who has written about race relations in the military since he was a draftee in 1957. He summarized those views recently in a national magazine: The military is a good career choice for blacks, whether they're middle class college graduates or persons seeking to raise themselves from poverty.

Furthermore, blacks who have served in the military earn more after discharge into civilian life than blacks who have never served, according to Moskos. The armed services still have race problems, but these are minimal compared with the problems that exist in other institutions, according to Moskos.

The military was integrated in 1948 by order of President Harry S. Truman. By the mid-1950s, the military was 12 percent black.

Of the 2.1 million persons in the active duty force today, more than 400,000 are black, says Moskos. By the fall of 1985, blacks made up 30 percent of the Army, 13 percent of the Navy, 17 percent of the Marine Corps. The Army leads in the percentage of black officers, with 10 percent, twice the percentage found in the Air Force and Marine Corps and three times that of the Navy.

Moskos notes that the black presence is most notable in the Army's non-commissioned officer corps; a third of all sergeants (E-5s) and staff sergeants and a quarter of all first sergeants, master sergeants and sergeants major are black.

One turning point for blacks in the military came in the early 1970s when a new category — race relations skills — appeared in the efficiency and fitness reports for officers and non-commissioned officers. Some officers with poor race relations records were relieved of command.

Moskos notes that not only has the military been good for blacks, but blacks have been good for the military. In 1985, 95.4 percent of black men joining the Army had high school diplomas versus 87.6 percent of white men. And more blacks make it through their first hitch — three out of four blacks versus two out of three whites.



Fort Lewis earns environmental award

WASHINGTON — The Department of Defense announced July 9 that Fort Lewis, Wash., is the winner of the 1985 Secretary of Defense Environmental Quality Award.

The award, which has been presented annually since 1973, recognizes outstanding environmental quality programs on military installations in an effort to promote the protection and improvement of the environment.

Fort Lewis was chosen for outstanding hazardous waste management, groundwater pollution curtailment and prevention, and efficient waste disposal methods.

Fort Lewis has extended the life of the post's landfill with a new waste-fueled heat recovery incinerator, and

has developed a water-recycling system for washing vehicles to keep area water cleaner. And Washington state officials have called Fort Lewis' new hazardous waste storage facility "the best designed and constructed facility in the state."

Fort Lewis became the Army's nominee for the award in June when it won the 1985 Secretary of the Army Environmental Quality Award.

The other installations considered for the DOD award were Charleston Naval Shipyard, S.C.; Seymour Johnson Air Force Base, N.C.; and Marine Corps Recruit Depot, San Diego, Calif.

This is the fourth time an Army installation has earned the DOD award. Fort Sill, Okla., won it in 1973 and 1978, and Fort McClellan, Ala., won it in 1982. (Arnews)

Troop softball

Here are the troop softball standings as of July 18:

Eastern Conference		
	W	L
515th	15	3
95th	14	5
4th Students	11	9
Marines-2	10	9
Avcom (HHC-2)	10	12
6th Students	8	11
A Company-2	6	14
B Company-2	3	15
291st MPs	0	16

Western Conference		
	W	L
Marines-1	17	3
7th Students	14	4
HHC-1	13	5
C Company	13	6
B Company-1	12	6
5th Students	11	6
A Company-1	9	6
Meddacc	9	10
EOD	3	13

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New movies to be featured soon in theaters overseas

BY DONNA BOLINGER

American Forces Information Service

"Manhattan Project." Big Trouble in Little China." Aliens."

These are the first-run movies you're likely to see this summer at movie theaters throughout the United States. And if you're stationed in West Germany, Korea, Okinawa, Spain or Italy, these are the movies you, too, are likely to see.

Service members and their families stationed in non-English speaking countries will now have the opportunity to see first-run movies from 20th Century Fox in designated Army and Air Force Exchange Service theaters.

Army and Air Force Exchange Service spokesman Gary Haynie said the offering of first-run movies is part of a test the military has attempted to arrange for many years. The now-defunct Army Motion Picture Service first presented movies to the troops in 1920.

The agreement between 20th Century Fox and the Army and Air Force Exchange Service is expected to speed up considerably the time it takes new movies to reach service members stationed where they have no access to English language movies.

Before the test, the Army and Air Force Exchange Service received new movies about six months after their initial release. By the time they were circulated to some of its theaters, these movies were already up to a year old — and often already available on videocassette tape.

Under the agreement, the new movies will be available to the Army and Air Force Exchange Service on their initial release date. However, they will be offered only in those overseas areas where English is not the main language. This is designed to reduce the likelihood that the exchange service will compete unfairly with the local private sector movie business.

The Army and Air Force Exchange Service will receive five copies of each new movie: two to be shown at selected theaters in West Germany, one to be shown throughout Korea, one in Okinawa and one to be shown in both Spain and Italy, Haynie said.

To cover the higher rental fee for these movies,



ticket prices will be \$3 for adults and \$1.50 for children. Seventy percent of this price will be paid to 20th Century Fox, Haynie said.

VCRs are considered to be a major cause in the drop

in the number of moviegoers. Haynie said the Army and Air Force Exchange Service has had a steady decline in moviegoers since the mid-1970s, with a slight reversal during the first quarter of 1986.

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Terrorism takes 'immeasurable' toll on society

BY DONNA BOLINGER

American Forces Information Service

April 5, 1986. Sgt. Kenneth Ford is killed when a terrorist's bomb explodes in a West Berlin disco frequented by U.S. servicemen. Staff Sgt. James Goins died two months later of injuries received in the blast.

Ford and Goins had no enemies and never met their murderers. Their deaths represented still another indiscriminate act of violence against U.S. military personnel, businessmen, public servants, educators and churchmen abroad — violence that has left more than 1,000 Americans dead or maimed since 1969.

During the past decade, terrorist attacks against U.S. government officials and installations overseas have occurred on the average of one every 17 days. Since 1969, almost 50 percent of all international terrorist incidents have been directed against U.S. citizens and property.

"The U.S. presence abroad has become a prime target for international terrorists," Secretary of Defense Casper W. Weinberger recently told the American Bar Association, "because we are the symbol of the success of democratic institutions, because we stand for fulfillment of human aspirations by non-violent means, and because, by renouncing violence except in self-defense, we become more vulnerable to them."

Terrorism's toll is immeasurable, Weinberger said, not only in terms of human misery, fragmented societies and shattered families, but in its effect on the American people and their way of life.

"It also threatens to corrode our ideals, our social order, and the fundamental values of our civilization," he said.

The way we respond to this threat, Weinberger said, "will be the measure of our character as a society."

Weinberger warned against despair, which ultimately could allow terrorism to spread unabated. But just as dangerous, he said, would be extreme solutions that could endanger the very political liberties they seek to protect.

"We must heed the complexity of the problem without being overwhelmed by it," Weinberger said. "Terrorism is a problem that cannot be solved simply by changes in policy. Innovation is needed, but it must be wedded to perseverance, to prudence and to an appreciation of the many sides of modern terrorism."

Critical to this need, he said, is a framework for decisive government action against terrorists. This includes:

□ freedom of action to protect U.S. citizens from terrorist acts;

□ the right to prosecute terrorists for their crimes; and
□ the right to strike, as a last resort, against a state or foreign organization that willfully orders the murder of U.S. citizens or the destruction of U.S. installations.

Weinberger stressed that a military response must never be exercised unless other courses of action, such as diplomatic pressure, economic leverage, political action, improved security and intelligence collection, have been exhausted.

"Our response to terrorism is carefully crafted to take account of particular circumstances, and employs all of these measures to make them complementary and mutually reinforcing," he said.

"The effectiveness of these non-military approaches is always increased, however, if those who use and export terrorism understand that behind these measures stands the might of our armed forces that can administer a response capable of deterring future acts.

"The terrorists must be made to understand that there is a heavy cost to their acts of terrorism, and that that cost will be brought home to leaders and executioners of terrorism."

F&A Chargers team again pulls upset

For the second straight week, the F&A Chargers have knocked off a division leader of the civilian softball league.

This time, the Cougars were the victim. The Cougars remained atop the East Division, however, with a 15-3 record. In the previous week, the F&A Chargers knocked then-division leading T&E into second place.

Harold Jacobs had two hits, including a triple, and drove in four runs to lead the F&A Chargers to the 10-3 win over the Cougars. Jethro Dailey slammed a homer, a double and drove in two runs. Mark Tinker

hit a double and drove in a run; Shawn Blackburn doubled and drove in two runs. For the Cougars, Kenny Brooks had three hits in three at-bats.

In other games, T&E clobbered Mercury 16-3, MSIC Bandits whipped RADS 7-2, and the Stallions nipped Express 8-7. In the West Division, MED slaughtered Patriot 18-1, CPO outfought COE 19-15, and PAD beat Thiokol 12-7.

Danny Smith had two hits, including the game winner, to lead the Stallions over the Express. Pete Barnes contributed three hits.

Calibrator swims to precision finish

A calibrator with the TMDE Support Operation at Fort Bliss, Texas won the swimming event and placed second overall in the 1986 Triathlon Championship held by the Air Defense Artillery Center and Fort Bliss.

Bill Hatzman Jr., 20, of the 1st Support Battalion, finished with a time of 2:26 to win the 200-meter swim,

open division. The triathlon also included a pistol shoot and two-mile run.

From Tulare, Calif. Hatzman had a perfect score (300 points) on his latest Army physical readiness test, has been his battalion's Soldier of the Quarter and was named battalion swim coach.

CWF standings

Here are the standings for Civilian Welfare Fund softball after last week's games:

East Division		
	W	L
Cougars	15	3
T&E	14	4
MIA	13	5
Stallions	12	5
F&A	12	6
RADS	11	6
Express	11	7
Mercury	9	9
West Division		
	W	L
PAD	8	9
Patriot	7	9
Thiokol	7	9
MED	7	10
Pershing	4	12
CPO	4	14
COE	1	16

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		13 AND A PITCHER OF BEER OR SOFT DRINK Adults..... \$4.50 Children..... 2.50 Members' kids..... FREE under 5	14 IF YOU LET GATE GUARDS KNOW IN ADVANCE WHO YOUR GUESTS ARE, ENTRY SHOULD BE NO PROBLEM	15 VARIETY DJ in the Lounge 9-1	16 CLUB MEMBERSHIP All Military Personnel in grade SP4/CPL and higher All Redstone/MSFC Government Civilian Employees GS-4 and higher All Redstone Contractor Personnel GS-4 equivalent and higher

Significant 1985 Terrorist Incidents Involving U.S. Citizens

From the Public Report of the Vice President's Task Force on Combatting Terrorism, February 1986

February 2 Greece
A nightclub frequented by U.S. servicemen near Athens is bombed. Seventy-eight people are injured, including 69 Americans.

April 12 Spain
Eighteen people are killed and 37 wounded when a bomb destroys a family restaurant in a suburb of Madrid. Seven Americans are injured.

June 14 Greece
TWA Flight 847 is skyjacked by Shi'ite terrorists minutes after takeoff from Athens. The ordeal lasts 17 days. The 145 passengers include 104 Americans.

A U.S. Navy diver is tortured and shot. His body is thrown out of the aircraft at Beirut Airport, Lebanon.

June 19 El Salvador
Four U.S. Marines and two American businessmen are gunned down at an outdoor cafe in San Salvador. A total of 13 people are murdered.

June 23 Over the Atlantic Ocean
An Air-India flight explodes over the Atlantic Ocean, killing everyone aboard, including four Americans.

August 8 West Germany
A powerful car bomb explodes at the U.S. Rhein-Main Air Base near Frankfurt. The blast kills one U.S. airman and the wife of another. Fifteen other Americans are injured.

Minutes before the blast, the body of an American soldier is discovered near Wiesbaden. His identification card had been stolen. Authorities believe the ID was used to gain access for the bomb-laden car at Rhein-Main Air Base.

October 7 The Mediterranean Sea, Near Egypt
The Italian cruise ship Achille Lauro is hijacked by Palestinian terrorists. A 69-year-old American tourist is murdered and thrown overboard.

The four terrorists are apprehended when U.S. Navy fighters intercept the aircraft carrying them to safehaven.

November 23 Greece
Egyptair Flight 648 enroute to Cairo is skyjacked 20 minutes after takeoff from Athens. One U.S. Air Force civilian employee is murdered and two other Americans are seriously wounded. A total of 60 persons are killed during the rescue effort.

November 24 West Germany
A U.S. military shopping mall in Frankfurt is bombed, wounding 32 people, including 23 Americans.

December 27 Italy
Rome's airport is attacked by terrorists armed with grenades and automatic rifles. Seventy-three people are wounded and 15 are killed, including five Americans. One of the Americans is an 11-year-old girl.

Austria
Minutes after the Rome massacre, terrorists strike the Vienna Airport. Three are killed and 41 wounded. Two of the wounded are Americans.

December 31 Lebanon
At the close of 1985, six American citizens continue to be held hostage.

1985 U.S. Victims of International Terrorism
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MICOM picnic 'not without heroics'

An estimated 2,000 people braved hot weather to attend the annual MICOM family picnic Saturday.

"The picnic was not without its heroics," said Benjie Robison, chairman for this year's event. He wasn't referring to the weather but to an incident in which a child fell into the water while retrieving a ball. Lee A. Ford, co-chairman of the picnic decorations committee, jumped in and pulled the child out.

That close call occurred in the early morning during the picnic softball playoffs. "Without any hesitation, Mr. Ford jumped in and pulled the child out," Robison said. Ford is a procurement specialist with the small business office in Procurement Directorate.

With temperatures in the 90s, the free snow cones in the children's area were probably "our most popular attraction," according to Robison. He estimated about 2,000 people attended the picnic. "The crowd wasn't as big as we anticipated, I think it was due to the hot weather," he said.

The picnic at the civilian recreation area near the Tennessee River featured areas for entertainment, sports, teen activities, and children's events. The tug of war contest, a new entry at this year's event, was won by Procurement Directorate which hosted the picnic.

"The combined efforts of all 24 picnic committees culminated into a successful event," Robison said. "It was the committees and people in the committees that really did all the work and were responsible for the success of the picnic." On "probably the hottest day year up to this point," he said, there was one heat-related incident reported. A softball player overexerted himself. "He didn't pass out or anything, just had to put him in the shade, and the medic had to give him some minor treatment," Robison said. "He got back on his feet."

The lucky winner of the picnic door prize—a Fisher VCR—was Edward Murks, a member of the Redstone Fire Department.

Hobart's Homers, a team with members from various organizations, won the softball tournament. Eighteen softball teams competed, according to Ken Dulaney, sports committee chairman. Maintenance Engineering Directorate proved to be the best of 14 volleyball teams. "The Nasty Boys" of Procurement Directorate won the tug of war. Individual winners included Michael Harden, horseshoes; Mike David of Missile Logistics Center, frisbee toss; and Bobby Gentle, golf shot.

High schools offer new magnet program

Informational meetings on new Academy for Academics and Arts magnet programs for students in grades 9-12 have been scheduled at local high schools.

Students can apply through Aug. 15 for either the pre-engineering program or one in creative and performing arts. Both will be offered at Lee High School beginning in the fall term.

All high school students attending Huntsville city schools may apply. The program is accepting both full-time students and "itinerants" who will go to Lee from their home school for two hours each day.

Parents and prospective students may attend informational meetings scheduled at Butler High on June 29, Huntsville High on June 30, Johnson High on June 31, Grissom High on August 4 and Lee High on August 5.

Applications may be obtained at the high schools or the Huntsville school systems' central office at 714 Bob Wallace Ave.

For more information call Bob Lipscomb 532-4668.

New military retirement system doesn't affect everyone

WASHINGTON — The Military Retirement Reform Act of 1986, signed into law by President Reagan July 1, affects only those soldiers coming into the Army after Aug. 1, 1986.

Individuals in the Delayed Entry Program, service academy cadets and ROTC cadets who are officially in the program prior to Aug. 1 are also not affected by the changes in the retirement system, said Lt. Col. Jim McFarland from the Office of the Army's Deputy Chief of Staff for Personnel in the Pentagon.

Congressional leaders project that changes in the military retirement system will save taxpayers an estimated \$3 billion.

The major change under the act will result in soldiers retiring with less than 30 years of service receiving reduced monthly retirement compensation. As an example, a soldier with 20 years of service will receive 40 percent of his computed retirement pay, which is based on the average of the highest 36 months of base pay while on active duty. Currently, soldiers on active duty receive 50 percent if they retire after 20 years and that increases with the number of years served up to 30 years, he explained.

Under the new system the retirement pay multiplier is the product of 2.5 times the years of service minus one percentage point for each year less than 30 years of service, McFarland said. He added that the maximum retired pay is 75 percent of the adjusted base pay. The following chart explains how this will work:

- 20 years of service (2.5 X 20) - 10 % 40 percent
- 21 years of service (2.5 X 21) - 9 % 43.5 percent
- 22 years of service (2.5 X 22) - 8 % 47 percent

- 23 years of service (2.5 X 23) - 7 % 50.5 percent
- 24 years of service (2.5 X 24) - 6 % 54 percent
- 25 years of service (2.5 X 25) - 5 % 57.5 percent
- 26 years of service (2.5 X 26) - 4 % 61 percent
- 27 years of service (2.5 X 27) - 3 % 64.5 percent
- 28 years of service (2.5 X 28) - 2 % 68 percent
- 29 years of service (2.5 X 29) - 1 % 71.5 percent
- 30 years of service (2.5 X 30) - 0 % 75 percent

Cost of living adjustments will be made annually under the new law and will be based on the government's Consumer Price Index less one percentage point. If the CPI for a year is up 3 percent, then the cost of living raise would be 2 percent to the retiree's base compensation, he said. This COLA will have a "one time only" restoral when the retiree turns 62. At that time the retiree's base pay will be recomputed to the level he would have been receiving had he been drawing full COLA since the day he retired. This is intended to ensure that retired soldiers are compensated

for lost COLA in their later years when they may need it the most, he said.

At age 62 the penalty for retiring with fewer than 30 years of service is also removed. As an example, a soldier who retired at 20 years of service and receiving 40 percent of base pay would have his retired pay increased to 50 percent, McFarland explained.

The retirement system of the Reserve components is not affected by this law because Congress wanted the Sixth Quadrennial Review of Military Compensation to look at their system. The 6th QMRC is scheduled to begin in January of 1987 with a final report due to Congress by Feb. 1, 1988.

"It's very important for our soldiers on active duty to know that the changes contained in the 1986 retirement reform act do not affect them. This is something they should consider when deciding to re-enlist. The retirement system in effect when they came into the Army has not changed," McFarland said. (Arnews)

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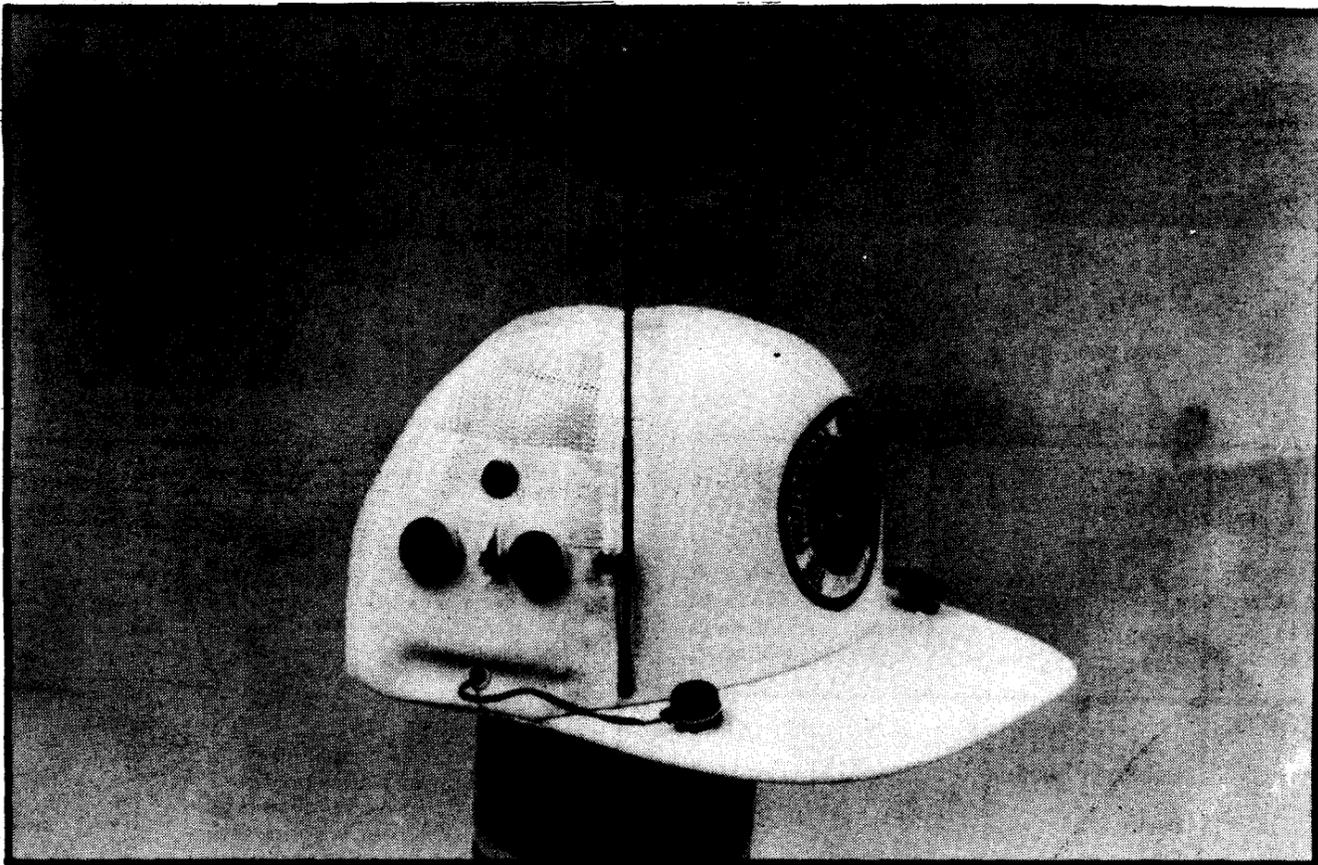
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Military families get help when tragedy strikes

By Donna Bolinger

American Forces Information Service

Capt. Sally Bock remembers hearing the first radio report of the Gander, Newfoundland, plane crash that killed 248 soldiers from the 101st Airborne Division. It was tragic news, certainly, but hundreds of miles away at Fort Meade, Md., it seemed too remote to have a direct personal impact.

Early the next morning, Bock was transformed from a distant sympathizer to a friend and adviser of a grieving 18-year-old widow and middle aged couple who had just lost their only son.

She was appointed a casualty assistance officer, a duty shared by more than 2,000 service members each year.

Every time a member of the armed forces is killed or reported missing, a uniformed officer or senior non-commissioned officer is sent to notify the next-of-kin.

This notifier or another service representative then works with the family members to ensure that their needs — physical, financial and emotional — are met. They help families:

- make funeral arrangements;
 - arrange transportation to the burial ceremonies;
 - contact a chaplain or counselor if one is desired;
- and
- file claims for Serviceman's Group Life Insurance, commercial life insurance, Veterans Administration and Social Security benefits, and a myriad of other benefits to which they might be entitled.

"And sometimes," said Navy Lt. Cmdr. Kay L. Polo, a two-time casualty assistance officer, "you simply sit there and listen and hand them tissues as they cry."

The casualty assistance representative fills a vital role, bringing sympathy to the victim's family, assistance and encouragement as its members adjust to their new circumstances, and a demonstration of the military's interest in their well-being.

"All of us are members of the armed forces family," Polo said. "This is one way we take care of that family."

It's an important duty that takes precedence over any other job a service member might have.

Yet in most cases, the men and women appointed as casualty assistance officers have limited preparation for the job. They rarely know the victim or family, and in most cases they've never had the duty before.

Speed is the first consideration; the services want to notify the family in person before they learn of the death from another source.

"We want to get to them before they see it on the television or read it in the newspaper," explained Lt. Col. Royce Halstead, deputy chief for Air Force casualty matters.

1st Lt. Paul M. McBride, who is often called on to break news of a tragedy to Marine Corps families in the Washington, D.C. area said the limited preparation a newly appointed casualty assistance representative gets isn't a serious drawback. In fact, he said all the preparation in the world wouldn't teach someone how to do the job.

"You can read the casualty procedures manual all you want, but there are no right words to say. You pretty much have to 'wing' the whole thing," he said.

McBride said that no matter how many times he does it, the duty never gets easier.

"I can't think of a harder job," he said. "If I get a call late at night, and I know I have to go tell a family the next morning, I'm usually up the rest of the night...And every time I walk up to that (family's) door, I get butterflies in my stomach."

Air Force Senior Master Sgt. David O'Connell, a personal affairs expert who frequently works with Air Force families who have lost a loved one, said there's no way to prepare for the experience because you never know what to expect.

"Once you knock on the door, you don't know what you're going to get," he said. "No two situations are the same. You always run into something you haven't seen before."

As unpleasant as the duty might be, those who have done it say it can be rewarding as well.

"You get a chance to show people that the military cares about them and wants to help them get on with

their lives. And when you watch their lives stabilize, you know you've been a part in helping make that happen," O'Connell said.

"You get an opportunity to provide an incredible service when people are really vulnerable and genuinely need you," agreed McBride. "You find yourself getting intimate with people you don't even know, but now need you."

"So you just open up your arms and help them out."



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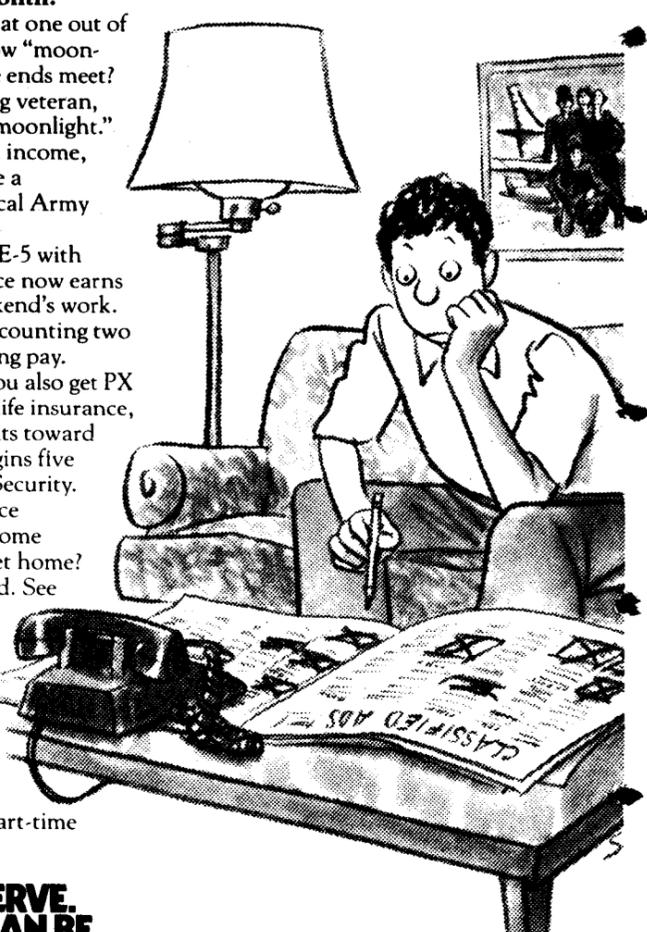
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Foreign area officers' specialty undergoes changes

WASHINGTON — Army foreign area officers gathered recently in Washington at the invitation of Secretary of the Army John O. Marsh Jr. to share their experiences and views on how certain national and international policies, strategies and events affect U.S. interests abroad.

They provided top Army leaders with "insights on key regions of the world, based on first-hand assessments," said Maj. Bruce Bach of the Army's Office of the Deputy Chief of Staff for Operations and Plans.

Since last summer, the FAO propensity office at the Pentagon has been coordinating refinements in specialty code 48, the FAO functional area.

Based on a recently completed review of all FAO-coded positions in the Army, the number of positions is being reduced from 1,400 to fewer than 800, Bach said. This cutback, he explained, will help the Army focus its resource support on those positions having a clear-cut need for an FAO's unique skills. In line with the cutback, fewer officers will be selected for functional area 48 — only 131 annually, starting with year group 1980. That figure used to be 250 to 300. The smaller quantity, Bach said, will help assure that the new officers receive complete FAO training.

As in the past, the FAO training base consists of four phases: introductory course, language training,

graduate school (leading to a master's degree in area studies), and in-country training. The phases have been slightly modified and realigned to provide better training.

Bach said that historically 60 percent of the Army's foreign area officers have come from the combat arms branches. This fact probably accounts for the small number of women in the specialty. But women have every right to apply for admission to what many observers view as both a difficult and a rewarding profession, Bach said, noting that the Army recently nominated the first woman to fill a defense attache position. (Arnews)

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Bradley fire extinguisher safe for soldiers

WASHINGTON — Soldiers assigned to Bradley Fighting Vehicles need not worry about exposure to the Halon gas contained in the vehicle's fire suppression system as long as they heed operating procedures outlined in the vehicle's operator's manual.

The Bradley operator's manual contains this warning: "Prolonged exposure to Halon could make you dizzy. Halon can irritate eyes and throat. After a Halon discharge, open hatch covers and turn on vent fans or get all soldiers out of the vehicle within five minutes." It may not be practical to open the hatch in a battlefield situation, "but there is really very little chance that Halon concentrations inside the vehicle will become dangerous, even with it closed," said Lt. Col. Hugh McAlear of the Army Surgeon General's office.

Soldiers will be exposed to only about two percent Halon for about two minutes, as long as the fans are running, McAlear said. The National Fire Protection Association considers exposure to seven percent Halon for 15 minutes acceptable. Individuals who are expos-

ed to much higher concentrations for much longer periods of time may experience dizziness, impaired coordination, and disturbance in cardiac rhythm. However, Halon exposure in the Bradley is well within recommended concentrations and exposure times, said McAlear.

There has also been some concern by soldiers about the safety of breathing Halon by-products (hydrogen fluoride and hydrogen bromide) which are produced when Halon reacts with a fire, said McAlear. Although high concentrations of these materials may form in the event of a fire, the vent fans will clear the Bradley within a few minutes, he said. With vent fans on, soldiers may still experience temporary irritation from breathing Halon by-products, but no permanent injury, he added.

The Army spent several years researching and developing automatic fire extinguisher systems, McAlear said. The Halon system is also used in the M1 (Abrams) and the field artillery ammunition support vehicle.

The fans in the Abrams come on automatically when Halon is released and, although the Bradley's fans may be altered to do the same, soldiers should keep fans on while they're in the Bradley until such a change is made, McAlear advised.

The Bradley's Halon extinguisher system senses and reacts to a fire in three-thousandths of a second. In early testing, the Halon system was occasionally activated unnecessarily in Bradleys which were hit by antitank fire but which did not catch fire. By moving the system's infrared sensors the possibility for false-alarm activation has been nearly eliminated, according to testing officials at the Hughes Aircraft Company's Santa Barbara Research Center in California.

The remote possibility of an accidental release of Halon does exist, though; and soldiers need to know how to react, McAlear said.

"The bottom line is that the soldier has a much better chance of surviving a fire in the Bradley with Halon than without it," McAlear said. (Arnews)

POW/MIA resolution process moves forward

WASHINGTON — This year's National Prisoner-of-War/Missing-in-Action Recognition Day occurs Sept. 19.

It comes at a time of an anticipated increase in cooperation on the part of Vietnamese and U.S. officials to help resolve the POW and MIA issues in Southeast Asia.

After two days of what were termed "highly productive talks" with Vietnamese officials in Hanoi, U.S. officials at a press conference July 2 in Bangkok aired their assurance that Vietnam is pursuing its two-year plan for resolving the POW-MIA issue.

U.S. delegation leader Richard Childress of the National Security Council staff said, "We and the Vietnamese will meet at the technical level in August and again in October, confirming the agreed pattern of at least six such meetings per year. Vietnamese officials said these meetings would be especially productive."

"Technical talks," which take place at the non-policy-making level, involve persons from both sides who deal with the mechanics of search, collection, identification and record-keeping.

In addition to announcing the technical talks, Childress added that the latest agreements included the following points: — Vietnamese and U.S. forensic specialists will meet in Vietnam for consultations. — Vietnam will provide the U.S. government with the results, in writing, of its investigation of reports of live-prisoner sightings. — Vietnam will permit U.S. experts to accompany its officials on investigations in accessible areas. — The Vietnamese accepted a U.S. invitation for another visit to U.S. technical facilities — the Central Identification Laboratory and the Joint Casualty Resolution Center, both located in Hawaii.

"We believe our meetings in Hanoi helped clarify understandings and commitments on both sides, and

we are encouraged by Vietnam's renewed pledge of cooperation," Childress said.

He reiterated the U.S. government's intentions to lend "cooperative support" to Vietnam's two-year plan for resolving the POW/MIA issue — a plan formally set in motion in January 1986. "If at the end of two years we still have work to do, we'll continue to work," he concluded.

In the meantime, Secretary of Defense Caspar W. Weinberger is emphasizing the uniformed services' commitment to press for a complete accounting for all Americans missing in Southeast Asia.

In a memorandum to the services, Weinberger listed several suggestions for advancing greater awareness of the issue within the services. "In particular, he said, "I propose that you give special emphasis to flying the POW/MIA flag at each military installation on appropriate occasions." (Arnews)

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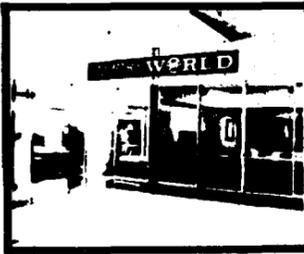


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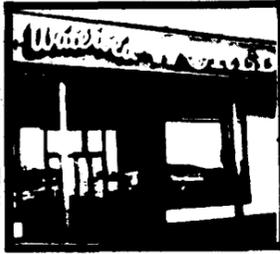
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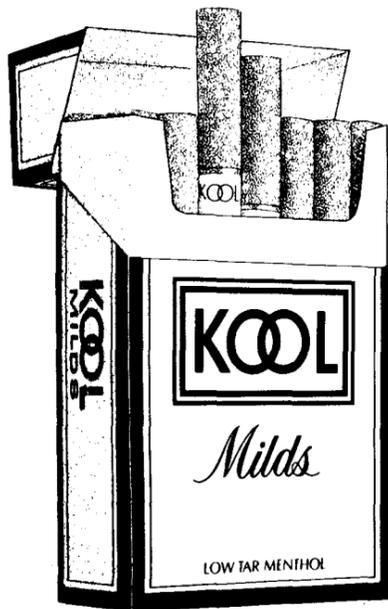
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Commissaries revise collection method for bad checks

WASHINGTON — The Army has revised its method of collecting for bad checks written in commissaries by persons serving in or retired from the military.

An agreement between the U.S. Army Troop Support Agency at Fort Lee, Va., and the U.S. Army Finance and Accounting Center, Fort Benjamin Harrison, Ind., went into effect July 1.

All armed forces active duty and reserve component servicemembers and retirees must stamp and sign their checks with the following statement:

"If this check is returned as dishonored, I consent to immediate collection from my pay for the amount of the dishonored check plus any related service or administrative charges."

Bad checks written by those in other branches of the military and their retirees are sent to either the central finance and accounting office at Denver for Air Force personnel or to the Navy finance center in Cleveland for those in the Navy, Marine Corps and Coast Guard.

According to Ann Andrews, chief of TSA's accounting and finance division, directorate of resource

management, nearly 12.5 million checks were accepted by commissaries in fiscal year 85. Of that figure, 41,388 bad checks totaling \$3 million were turned in by military finance offices serving TSA for collection.

For years, recouping this money was a time-consuming administrative burden often taking months to complete, said Gary Olson, public affairs officer for USAFAC.

The change in policy streamlines the effort because check writers, by signing the statement, agree to have their wages garnished to ensure they pay for their financial mistakes. In addition, offenders will also be assessed a \$15 service charge by the commissary for redeeming the bad check.

Commissaries in the U.S., the Caribbean and the Far East will notify persons, in writing, that they have seven days from the date the letter was sent to honor the bad checks. Andrews said bad checks and the \$15 service charge can be paid directly to the commissary check control representative, normally located in the control section of the facility.

If, after seven days, a person doesn't pay the

amount of the check plus the service charge, a request to take the total from the individual's pay— a DD form 139 —will automatically be sent to the installation finance and accounting office.

Collection procedures for commissaries in Europe are handled differently. Checks are sent directly to the finance and accounting facility (200th theater Army Material Management Center) located in Zweibruecken, Germany, said Andrews.

Family members are not included in this new procedure. However, for identification purposes, certain information relative to the sponsor, including name, rank, branch of service, Social Security number, unit or home address and telephone number is required. If not preprinted on the front of the check, this data must be written on the front of the check.

There are two ways to correct a bad check written by a soldier's spouse, Olson said. The soldier can pay the money owed plus the \$15 service fee within 15 days of notification, or the soldier may elect to have the case taken over by the local judge advocate general's office for collection. (Arnews)

OMMCS activates new detachment

A Headquarters and Headquarters Detachment has been established within OMMCS 2nd Battalion to centralize control and management of AIT students and headquarters elements.

1st Lt. Jacqueline Peterson is commander and SFC James Parrott is first sergeant of the new detachment, which will have about 50 members drawn from the Reception Center, Personnel Administrative Office and elsewhere.

In an activation ceremony July 15, Peterson challenged her new unit to become the best through teamwork, devotion to duty, communication and cooperation.

Germany requires seat belt wear

WASHINGTON — Automobile passengers in the Federal Republic of Germany will soon run the risk of fines for not wearing seat belts.

"The German Road Traffic Ordinance" took effect July 1. Since that time German police have given verbal warnings to persons riding in vehicles' back seats without wearing seat belts.

Starting Aug. 1, German Police will start imposing fines of 40 German marks [approximately \$18] to persons riding in the back seats without wearing seat belts.

German officials believe that back seat passenger injuries and fatalities, caused by their being thrown around the inside of the vehicle during a collision, will be substantially reduced.

Although the ordinance took effect July 1, the German government has agreed to postpone collecting fines from violators until Aug. 1. According to U.S.

Army Europe officials, this "grace period" of one month is designed to give everyone ample opportunity to obey the change in the law.

Officials explained that the ordinance applies only to occupants of vehicles that are required to be equipped with seat belts in the back seat. Vehicles that are exempt include European models manufactured before May 1, 1979, and U.S. vehicles made before Jan. 1, 1968.

According to USAREUR provost marshal officials, this ordinance applies to all USAREUR installations within the Federal Republic of Germany. In conjunction with German police, USAREUR military police will also give verbal warnings until Aug. 1. After that date, violators will be ticketed by the MPs and assessed two points on their driving records.

Wearing seat belts in the front seat has been mandatory since August 1984. (Arnews)



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Travel discounts available for military people

BY TOM JOYCE

American Forces Information Service

You've been told for years that if something sounds too good to be true, it probably is. But those advertisements offering military personnel discounts of up to 50 percent on airline tickets really are true.

Under the Leave/Furlough Fare Program, negotiated by the Military Traffic Management Command, 19 airlines, two major bus companies and Amtrak offer special discounts to military personnel and their dependents traveling on leave within the United States.

Air Force Lt. Col. Michael Becker, director of passenger services for the Military Traffic Management Command, said all a military member has to do to get the discount is present a military identification card.

"But it is still wise to shop around," said Becker. "In this era of deregulation, it's possible to beat the furlough fare."

Most of the discounts offered by the airlines apply only to travel in continental United States. However, Becker reports that some airlines apply the discounts to all fares, including overseas flights.

The two major bus companies, Greyhound and Continental Trailways, also offer discounts to military

people on leave and dependents who accompany them.

"Greyhound discounts tickets for seven-, 15- and 30-day passes 50 percent. Continental Trailways discounts their 15- and 30-day passes 50 percent," said Becker.

Also important is the new Package Express Program started by the bus companies in November 1984.

"Under the program," said Becker, "military personnel can ship up to 100 pounds of personal packages anywhere the bus companies serve for \$10 or less."

Becker said the Package Express Program is extremely popular during the Christmas season when servicemen and women send presents home to their families. Service members do not have to accompany the packages.

Discounts are also available on Amtrak, but the offers are a little more complicated. For instance, all military members are eligible for a 25 percent discount on all fares. The discounts for spouses and dependents will vary from 25 to 75 percent depending on whether they travel with or without their sponsor and on the ages of the children. Children under two travel free.

The Military Traffic Management Command has also negotiated discounts on rental cars with more than 50 rental car companies. "The amount of the discount depends on the company," said Becker. "But

they range anywhere from 25 to 50 percent. Again, it's a good idea to shop around." All major car rental companies are involved.

Becker strongly encourages service members making vacation travel plans to contact the commercial travel office on their installation.

"When people make their reservation through the commercial travel office, 3 percent or more of the ticket price is forwarded to the installation's morale, welfare and recreation programs."

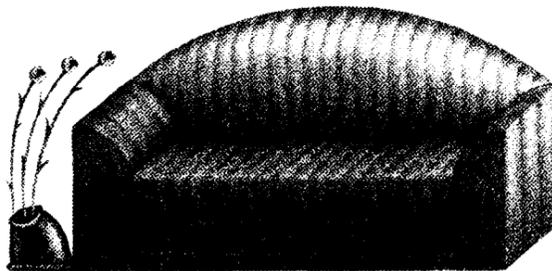
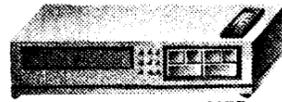
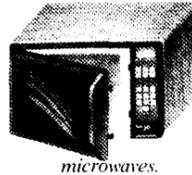
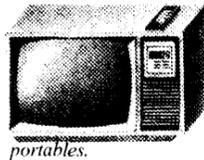
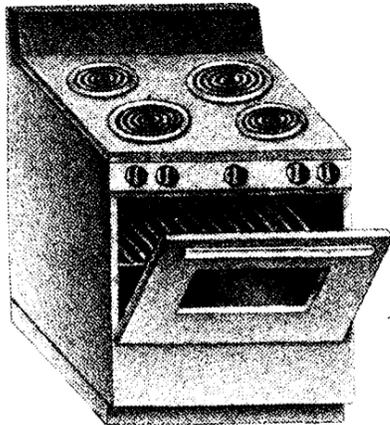
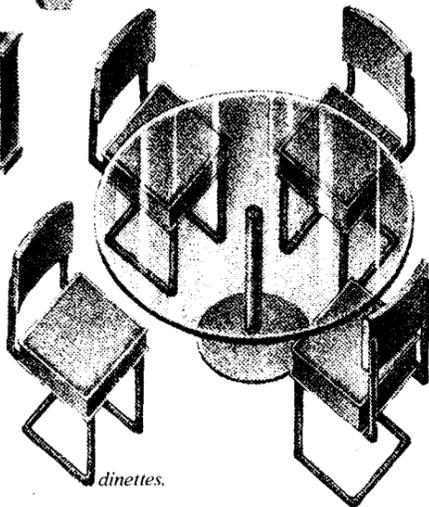
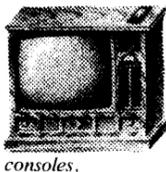
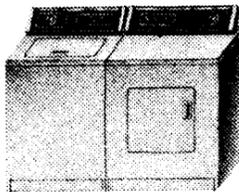
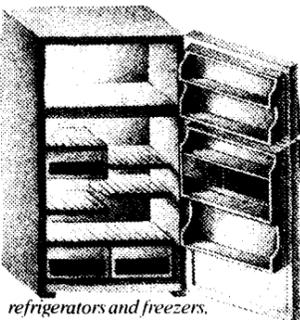
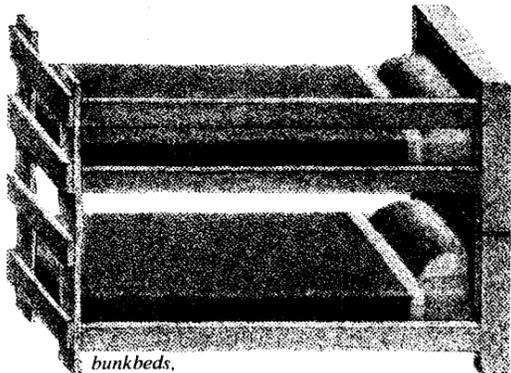
The commercial travel office is not a government agency, pointed out Becker. "They play the same role as a travel agent."

The key advice when making travel arrangements is to shop around. "With deregulation, airlines can lower fares at will and they do," said Becker. "Many of these airlines will try to get business on new routes by offering fares that are almost nothing."

The chances of getting really good discount rates are better in the major cities like Washington, D.C., Chicago, New York and Los Angeles, said Becker, because there are more air carriers flying into those cities.

"But you know the furlough fare is always there to fall back on," he said.

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Announcements

Town meeting

The third Redstone Arsenal "town meeting" where the military community can discuss issues with post officials will be held at 7 p.m. Aug. 19 at Bicentennial Chapel. There will be a "Back to School" theme and an open forum with representatives from various organizations on post. Soldiers and spouses are encouraged to attend. The child care center will remain open until 9:30 p.m. Educational opportunities Fall college schedules and educational counseling and testing are available at the Education Center, 3222 Snooper Road, for military personnel, family members and DOD civilians. Testing is available in many areas and free for activity duty military. Others pay a small fee for testing. For information on testing or other educational opportunities, call 876-9761.

NCO wives

The NCO wives will honor their husbands at a social July 26 at 6:30 p.m. at the NCO Club. For information call Blanche Moore 533-5599.

Chapel events

Chaplain (Col.) Billy Whiteside will conduct a seminar on understanding the mind, the conscious, and the subconscious and how they relate to behavior on July 29 from 7-9 p.m. at Bicentennial Chapel. The seminar is open to all, but limited to 20 persons. For reservations, call Barbara Filer 876-5751.

OMMCS wives luncheon

OMMCS officers and civilian wives luncheon will be held at 11 a.m. July 23 at the Officers Club. For reservations and/or information, call Bev Paul 830-4471 or Toni Taylor 837-9154.

Children's physicals

In August, the family practice clinic at Fox Army Community Hospital will conduct children's physicals for school. For information, the required paperwork and an appointment, call the clinic at 876-4220.

Alcoholics Anonymous

The Redstone Arsenal Group of Alcoholics Anonymous has its "Happy Hour" meeting each Friday afternoon at 5:15 in room 11 of the Bicentennial Chapel. This is an open discussion meeting. Anyone interested in the subject of alcoholism is invited to attend.

Learning center

Two videotaped in-house courses pertaining to the human heart—"Heart Sounds" and "Heart Murmurs"—are now being offered at the Army Learning Center. Each of these videotapes lasts an hour. To enroll in these courses, send a DD form 1556 to building 7446, AMSMI-CP-TC/ALC, Attn.: Army Learning Center. For more information, call 876-1061/1416.

Rodeo

The Boys' Club of Etowah County presents its 13th annual rodeo, 7:30 p.m. Aug. 1 and 2 at the Central Boys' Club on Black Creek Road in Gadsden. Bucking horses, calf-roping, steer-dogging, bare back bronc riding and bull riding are among the attractions. The Boys' Club of Etowah County says tickets may be purchased at either of the boys' clubs, area banks, K-Mart and Wal Mart stores and Sears. Advanced tickets are \$3.50 for adults and \$2.50 for children under 12. Tickets at the gate will be \$4.50 and \$3.50.

Federal employees

A meeting will be held at 6 p.m. Monday, July 28 to form a local organization of the National Alliance for Postal and Federal Employees. Felix Bell, the district president, is to be at the meeting set for the Comfort Inn, 3788 University Drive, NW. All federal and government employees are invited to attend. Refreshments will be served. NAPFE was established in 1913 to effectively counsel and help blacks and other federal and postal employees in filing grievances and equal employment opportunity complaints.

Recall

Kraft Inc. of Richmond, Va., the manufacturer of "Sealtest Polar B'ars," has issued a national recall of lots bearing the plant code 51-6426 with expiration of Jan. 31, 1987 or earlier. Consumers are urged not to use this product, according to information provided by Redstone's Veterinary Services.

Emergency medical technicians

The Emergency Medicine Program of the University of Alabama in Huntsville School of Primary Medical Care is now reviewing applications for all three levels of emergency medical technician training during the 1986 UAH fall term. Applicants must be admitted and registered according to UAH procedures. Deadlines for registration and EMT application procedures are Aug. 12 for the EMT-Basic and EMT-Intermediate courses and Aug. 8 for the EMT-Paramedic course (to be taught in Guntersville). For registration and more information, call the UAH EMT Program 536-5511 (extension 481).

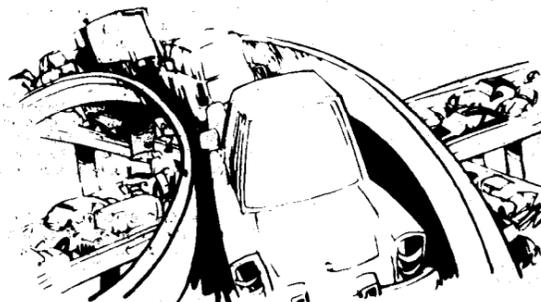
Top graduates

The following service members received Honor or Distinguished graduate awards in OMMCS courses which were graduated during July 7-11: Pvt. Robert S. Harness, distinguished, PFC Frank Rivera, honor, and PFC Michael F. Kasper, honor, Ammunition Specialist course; Pvt. Eric D. Schlundt, honor, Pvt. Thomas M. Steffenilla, distinguished, Pershing Electronic Repairer; Warrant Officer Candidate Dean E. George, distinguished, and WOC Phyllis D. Mabrey, honor, Ammunition Technician Certification; Sgt. Rhonda L. Radford, distinguished, 2nd Lt. Gerhard S. Grimm, honor, and Sgt. Michael S. Petty, honor, Technical Escort; Sgt. William R. Tiffany, distinguished, and SSgt. Jack W. Grant, honor, Improved Hawk Fire Control Repair.

Toastmasters

Mason-Dixon Toastmasters meets each Monday at 6:30 p.m. at Morrisons Cafeteria. The public is invited. For more information, call 533-6219 or 852-8935.

Carpool Hotline



Call 876-1500 to place your free carpool ad.

Learning center

The Army Learning Center is offering a group of computer-based, self-paced courses entitled "Esperanto." The 11 one-hour courses introduce the student to the Esperanto language, give a brief history of the language, a crossword, pronunciation drills and introduction to numbers, vocabulary drills, and parts of speech. The Esperanto language is intended as an international second language for everyone, for use between people who do not share a common language. To enroll in these courses, send a DD form 1556 to building 7446, AMSMI-CP-TC/ALC, Attn.: Army Learning Center. For more information, call 876-1061/1416.

MFO reunion

A local reunion is planned for anyone who served with the Multinational Force and Observers in Sinai, Egypt. Anyone who has served with the MFO is requested to contact Bill Griffiths 876-1565/2037. Suggestions for a reunion are welcome.

Adult day stay

An adult day care service is available for the homebound or for people unable to stay alone due to age or illness. The program is offered 7 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday at the First Baptist Church, 600 Governors Drive. Cost is \$20 a day or \$75 a week. For more information call Jan Ray, director, at 534-5646 (ext. 42).

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RETIRES — Eileen Hallock, secretary to the MICOM chief of staff, will be honored at a retirement luncheon July 25 at the Officers Club.

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For Sale: 19" color Magnavox TV with stand \$75; girls white French Provincial bedroom suite, full canopy bed with mattress, six drawer dresser with mirror, desk with bookcase and chair \$200. Call after 5 p.m. 881-3165.

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For Sale: SHO-BUD Custom Pedal Steel Guitar, 12 string, single neck. Excellent condition. \$400 negotiable. Days 876-6804 after 5 p.m. 852-3664.

For Sale: Casual sofa and loveseat set; contemporary styling, beige with thin brown irregular stripes, less than one and a half years old \$200 obo, must sell also Round bumper pool table; converts to card table with all accessories very good condition giving it away for \$200 obo. If you're interested leave a message at 859-2290.

For Sale: Two den sofas, like new; removable back and foot rest cushions assembled in a wooden base and arm rest. \$50 each. Call Allen 876-9235/4056.

For Sale: 1984 Toyota pickup. Clean, runs great, recent tune up and oil change, AM/FM stereo. Asking \$5500. With stock wheels \$6000 including new wide chrome truck wheels and tires with raised white letters. Will sell custom wheels separate. Call Terry Rowland 876-5460 or 837-2222.

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For Sale: 1981 Pontiac Bonneville, one owner, AM/FM tape, overdrive, V-8, clean car, \$3995 call 881-0946.

For Sale: 1973 4WD International Travelall \$200, four Gumbo mudder tires 12x15 \$100, Sears 7 HP riding mower needs repair \$50, Honda 70cc trail bike \$40. Call Vest 876-9958 or 837-7437.

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A beautiful 65 gallon Hexagon aquarium complete with tank, hood, light, stand, under gravel filter, power head, magnum pump heater \$400 call 881-6415.

For Sale: 1984 Nissan Sentra XE hatchback five speed, air, AM/FM cassette, desert tan color, 24,000 miles, must sell \$5995, call after 5 home 895-0641 work 895-2296 ask for Cherrie.

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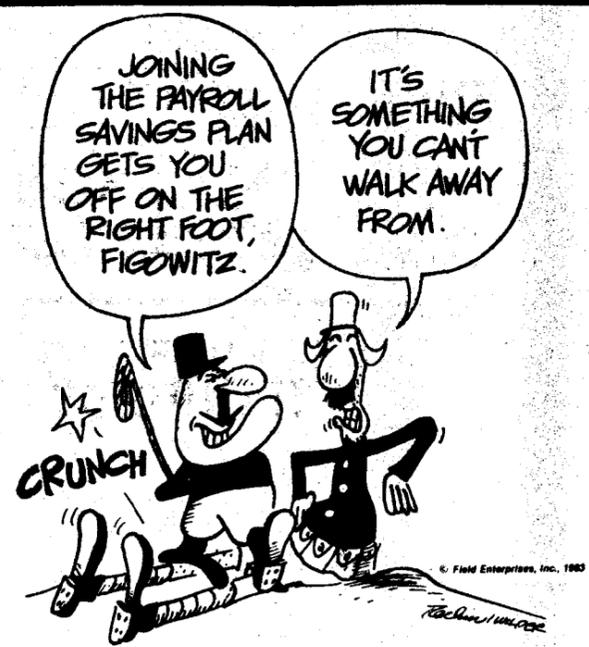
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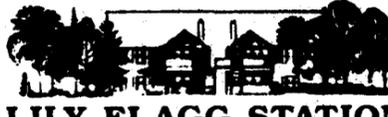
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