

Redstone Rocket

VOL. 51 No. 22

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Army in action



Civil affairs soldiers at work in Afghanistan
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Perennial volunteer gets aloha surprise
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Win or lose



NCO Academy team retains volleyball title
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Army Emergency Relief sets record

Campaign tops \$100,000 with \$5,000 contribution

By SKIP VAUGHN
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The Army Emergency Relief campaign more than doubled its \$50,000 goal this year.

A \$5,000 donation from Northrop Grumman pushed the fund-raising drive over the century mark Friday. The corporation has contributed to the campaign the past four years.

"That puts us over \$100,000 which is just phenomenal," AER officer Kristi Foster said. "We're really pleased with that."

Foster reported the final total to AER headquarters Friday for the drive which officially ended May 15. She said it represents "by far the most raised in AER campaign history at Redstone."

Northrop Grumman officials who presented the check to the commanding general were Harry Quandt, director of Land Combat Systems, Huntsville, and Jim Henderson, senior marketing representative.

"We appreciate the commitment that the men and women of the Army make to put duty to the country first before their own personal lives," Quandt said.

As a former company commander, Henderson said he saw firsthand how AER helps soldiers.

"We feel that our donation to AER is one way in which we can express our thanks to them," Henderson said.

Maj. Gen. Larry Dodgen, commander of the Aviation and Missile Command and Red-



Photo by Skip Vaughn

MAJOR CONTRIBUTION— From left CSM Roscoe Johnson and Maj. Gen. Larry Dodgen accept a \$5,000 check for the Army Emergency Relief campaign from Northrop Grumman's Harry Quandt and Jim Henderson.

stone Arsenal, thanked the Northrop Grumman representatives for the contribution.

Northrop Grumman has nearly 600 employees in Huntsville where it has operated for more than 11 years. Its two major programs locally are the Bat submunition and the Longbow missile. Quandt said the corporation hopes to start this summer on an effort to adapt Bat to the Hunter unmanned aerial vehicle.

This year's Army Emergency Relief drive exceeded expectations, according to Foster. Besides an increase in allotments from soldiers, there was a wide variety of fund-raising events — everything from car washes to Pentagon lapel pin sales.

The campaign chairman was 1st Lt.

Jack Eagly, of Charlie Company, 1st/167th Infantry, the Cullman-based National Guard unit deployed to Redstone last October to augment security. MSgt. Perry West, of HHC AMCOM, was the co-chairman.

And the final boost came from Northrop Grumman, this nation's third largest defense contractor.

"We understand that AER benefits soldiers and their families around the world, not only at Redstone, but also soldiers stationed at other commands and overseas," Quandt said. "We at Northrop feel privileged that we can take a small part in the support AER gives to these men and women."

Workers can be reimbursed for using vanpools

Mass transit benefit program arrives at Redstone Arsenal

AMCOM military and civilian employees can now get extra money for riding in vanpools rather than driving to work.

The Aviation and Missile Command is implementing the Mass Transportation Fringe Benefit Program, a Defense-wide program which initially began in the National Capitol Region in 2000. The program was extended outside the NCR in 2001.

"The purpose is to reduce traffic congestion and fuel emissions," Larry Bradley, program coordinator at AMCOM, said. He

is a logistics management specialist in the Engineering, Environment and Logistics Oversight Office.

Individuals must complete an application to qualify for the program. Maximum reimbursement for eligible employees is up to \$100 per month for actual commuting costs.

The program is available to Department of Army — active duty, National Guard and Reserve members, civilians and non-appropriated fund employees.

A mass transit program was introduced to the president in an effort to reduce high traffic volumes and congestions in large commuting areas, thereby reducing fuel emissions. In accordance with Presidential

Executive Order 13150, dated April 21, 2000, a "transit pass" was issued for National Capitol Region personnel using mass transportation and qualified vanpools. The program was extended outside the NCR to federal employees commuting in large cities. Full implementation of a transportation fringe benefit program to federal agencies outside NCR for all Department of the Army employees was authorized in 2001. The Department of Defense components are responsible for implementing the program outside the NCR.

A Memorandum of Agreement between

See Vanpools on page 4

Letters to the editor

Sounding off about fire alarm testing

First, let me say that I am all for safety and for testing of the fire alarm system. Being a former school teacher, I know the reason for the tests and I fully support the tests.

However, I question the way it is being tested in the Sparkman Complex. Around 6 a.m., an announcement was made about the fire alarm testing. Then around 6:30 a very loud horn blasted the work area. If it goes as previous tests, around 7:30 an announcement will be made that the tests are over.

I am a computer programmer. I get greatly absorbed with my work and the loud, unexpected horn blast disrupts my work concentration. After the first announcement, many of us go back to work and become absorbed with the work we are doing. To have the very loud unexpected horn blast causes us to lose

the train of thought and greatly disrupts the work area. It is especially bad for people who sit under one of the horns.

Is it possible to make the announcement, do the test and then make the closing announcement within a span of a minute? That way, programmers and others who are concentrating on their work can sit back, wait for the horn and announcements, and then continue with their work. It is my understanding that a general announcement is made in the overall Sparkman Complex and then testing is performed in the various sections. Could an announcement be made in an individual section and then the test performed in that section? By doing that, when we hear the announcement, we could sit back, put our hands over our ears and wait for the horn.

Again, let me say that I understand

the need for fire alarm tests, and I am for the conducting of these tests. I am just trying to look out for programmers and other people who concentrate on their work.

Name withheld by request

Editor's note: Edna Dye, manager of the Sparkman Complex, provided the following response. "Testing of the fire alarm system is a very important test to ensure the safety of all Sparkman Complex employees. This test is required by law each month and we give advance notice. We do other testing of the fire alarm system without Sparkman employees ever knowing. We start the testing as early as possible to keep from inconveniencing the majority of the employees. The test requires one person on each floor of each building to ensure that the horns and lights work properly in case of fire or other emergencies. If we test all

buildings at the same time, we would need 33 people to perform the test. The sounding of the horns lasts approximately four seconds. We cannot make individual building announcements from the Sparkman Management Office location. We tried in the past to perform the test by individual buildings. This required an SMO employee to go to the central plant for several hours and make announcements. It was very time consuming and people complained because when they went to another building they were hearing the same announcements over and over and were never sure if it was still a test. This is the best way we have found to make announcements and test the fire alarm system.

"We apologize for any inconveniences this test causes. I am sure the majority of the employees in the Sparkman Complex are thankful that the testing is conducted and the system works."

School bus registration just around corner this summer

Post residents should sign up in July at Bicentennial Chapel

REDSTONE ARSENAL SUPPORT ACTIVITY RELEASE

Summer has arrived but it's not too early for Redstone's military families to start planning for school bus transportation for the upcoming school year. First day of school is Aug 7.

All military people residing on Redstone Arsenal who desire school bus transportation to the three core schools for school year 2002-03 must register each child for transportation. Registration will be held from 7 a.m. to 4 p.m. July 8-12 at Bicentennial Chapel.

Redstone will provide bus transportation to the following core schools: Williams Elementary (grades K-5),

Williams Middle (grades 6-8), Westlawn Middle (grades 6-8) and Butler High (grades 9-12).

School bus transportation service for dependents of DoD personnel residing off post will be on a first-come, first-serve basis due to limited number of seats available. For DoD dependents to qualify for bus service, the dependent child should be enrolled in the School Age Service Program and Williams Elementary.

The City of Huntsville has agreed to provide bus transportation for students residing on Redstone Arsenal to special needs (handicapped) and magnet schools in the city. No transportation will be provided students residing on Redstone to private schools.

Registration for City of Huntsville bus transportation to the magnet schools and special needs schools will be conducted at the aforementioned location, dates and times.

To qualify for school bus transportation, each registrant living on post must show proof of active duty status. Department of Defense personnel living off post will show proof of active duty status or a Redstone Arsenal employee identification badge, and enrollment in the School Age Service Program. Registration shall be completed during this scheduled period to allow sufficient time to develop routes and establish bus stops, according to Redstone Arsenal Support Activity.



Rocket rumblings: New column solicits readers' ideas

We want to know how you feel about major issues of the day.

As a new feature on this page each month, the *Redstone Rocket* will pose a question on a given topic and solicit your opinion. Please limit your written response to 50 words or less.

Last month's topic — should seatbelts be installed for drivers and their passengers on all school buses? — brought the following response from Carl Woida: "The U.S. Department of Transportation and the DOTs of many states have studied seatbelts on school buses many times over. The decisions almost always were that it is not the thing to do."

Here's this month's topic: Do you think pilots of commercial planes should be armed with guns?

Send your thoughts — in 50 words or less — to the *Redstone Rocket* at the following e-mail address: skip.vaughn@redstone.army.mil; or via fax at 955-9138.



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Solid rocket motors replaced ahead of schedule

LETTERKENNY MUNITIONS CENTER RELEASE

Letterkenny Munitions Center, Chambersburg, Pa., has completed the swap-out of 222 Army Tactical Missile System solid rocket motors. The program began in December 1999 and effectively concluded in March 2002, approximately one month ahead of the scheduled completion date. Letterkenny initiated a second shift at the start of the program in order to swap out these motors and still meet

Army TACMS maintenance production schedules.

Letterkenny retrieved the Army TACMS from storage and performed preliminary tests prior to removing the missile from its pod. The missile was then positioned on a joining fixture for SRM removal and swap out. After the suspect rocket motor was exchanged with a new motor, the missile was re-assembled and final testing was performed before and after its return to the

pod. During this process, all applicable Ammunition Data Card information was updated and appropriate markings were accomplished. After successful final testing, the Army TACMS was returned to storage and all pertinent data was transferred to the Aviation and Missile Command.

A contractor will rework the 222 suspect Army TACMS solid rocket motors to upgrade them to the current configuration. The contractor provided 16 "seed"

motors for initiation of the effort and an additional eight seeds later on. These seed motors were provided to Letterkenny to preclude any adverse impact of replacement of suspect SRMs to the Army's inventory of Army TACMS.

A joint effort by everyone involved from Letterkenny, the Precision Fires Rocket and Missile Systems Project Office and the contractor were instrumental in the successful conclusion of this program ahead of schedule.

Missile school dedicates day to safety awareness

Accident prevention goal for seventh annual event

By Spec. EVAN MORROW

Staff writer
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The seventh annual Ordnance Missile and Munitions Center and School Safety Stand-Down Day took place May 22 at the Redstone parade field.

Training and Doctrine Command requires that one day be set aside for this comprehensive safety briefing before Memorial Day, the first major holiday of the summer season, said Don Cranford, OMMCS safety and

occupational health manager.

Safety Stand-Down Day activities teach the high-risk 18 to 24-year-old age group of servicemembers summer safety tips. The activities also reinforce safety procedures for older servicemembers, Cranford said.

Safety Stand-Down Day continues to be a great success, he said. There have been 32 accidents so far this year, and none have resulted in fatalities or lost time, Cranford said.

Servicemembers and volunteers from the local community gave blocks of instruction on safety topics ranging from bicycle and boat safety to heat injury prevention and barbecue safety tips.

"The coordination of the event went well, and the field preparation and tent setup went smoothly," SFC Mark Benning, training NCO for the brigade, said. "The event was a fun and informative way to get an important message across."

"There were no accidents over Memorial Day weekend," Cranford said, "and the success of the Safety Stand-Down Day activities and the support of the command had a lot to do with that."

The idea for Safety Stand-Down Day originated in a Chief of Staff of the Army memo put out in 1994. TRADOC implemented the policy in 1995 and the first OMMCS Safety Stand-Down Day was held in May 1995.

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PAC-3 missile intercepts target in operational test

Second missile fails to launch

The Missile Defense Agency and the Army conducted an operational test of the Patriot Advanced Capability-3 system at the Ronald Reagan Ballistic Missile Defense Test Site on Kwajalein Atoll in the Republic of the Marshall Islands on Thursday. Preliminary information indicates that a PAC-3 successfully intercepted the threat-representative ballistic missile target.

The test, designated OT-2, was designed to employ the tactical firing doctrine of ripple-firing two PAC-3 missiles against a single two-stage ballistic missile threat. The target was made from modified Minuteman motors with a separating reentry vehicle. This test was planned to demonstrate the

system's ability to properly classify the high-velocity, low-radar-signature target as a tactical ballistic missile, discriminate between the reentry vehicle and debris, and to destroy the target.

While the PAC-3 intercepted the target, not all test objectives were met. The second PAC-3 missile failed to launch. Analysis of why the second missile failed to launch is ongoing.

Soldiers from the 2nd of the 43rd Air Defense Artillery Battalion of Fort Bliss, Texas, conducted this firing mission in a tactical scenario.

This was the fourth operational flight test planned during Initial Operational Test and Evaluation for the PAC-3 system.

Formed in 1999 when the Army integrated developmental and operational testing and evaluation into a single com-

mand, the Army Test and Evaluation Command has been deeply involved in the PAC-3 program. ATEC's Developmental Test Command conducted extensive developmental tests on the PAC-3 system, and now ATEC's Operational Test Command is conducting the user field tests.

The PAC-3 missile is a high velocity, hit-to-kill missile and is the next generation Patriot missile developed to provide increased defense capability against advanced tactical ballistic missiles, cruise missiles and hostile aircraft. Unlike earlier versions of the Patriot missile, that use an explosive warhead to destroy its target, the PAC-3 missile literally collides with its target in mid-air at extremely high speed, destroying the target and neutralizing its payload. Other system upgrades

include: improved radar performance allowing enhanced target discrimination, and new system software that improves determination of target launch and impact points and that provides an interface with the Theater High Altitude Area Defense system.

The PAC-3 program is managed by the Missile Defense Agency in Washington, D.C., and executed by the Program Executive Office for Air and Missile Defense and the Army Lower Tier Air and Missile Defense Project Office. Lockheed Martin Missiles and Fire Control, Dallas, Texas, is the prime contractor responsible for the PAC-3 missile segment. Raytheon Electronic Systems Company of Bedford, Mass., the Patriot system prime contractor, is the system integrator for the PAC-3 missile segment.

Vanpool program available for work force

Vanpools

continued from page 1

the Army and the Department of Transportation was signed for DOT to implement the DoD Transportation Incentive program for all Army locations. Commercial vanpool usage is recommended for areas like Huntsville, Corpus Christi,

Texas, and Chambersburg, Pa., that don't have a mass transportation service to fit the needs of distance travel.

Each installation is responsible for assigning a point of contact to coordinate with headquarters Army Materiel Command concerning approval and verification of applicant participation, management control, reimbursements, review and verification of Standard Form 1164,

"Claims for Reimbursement for Expenditures on Official Business" used in processing reimbursements to authorized participants. The original SF-1164 will be sent to DFAS and a copy would be provided to AMSAM-FO-OM for obligation purposes. The major subordinate command and separate reporting activity must absorb the cost within their existing resources and use their mission funds to reimburse participants. Reimbursements are made quarterly. To receive reimbursements, authorized participants must include copies of tickets, receipts, backup documentation, and provide statement and certifying signature that the expenditures are valid. All AMCOM points of contact will establish procedures for revalidating the participants' information as of Nov. 15 of each year. Tenant activities that belong to other services and defense or federal agencies will use their own funds.

In accordance with the Provost Marshal Office, vanpool drivers must be a U.S. citizen and have a valid driver's license. The vehicles participating in this program must be registered with the local DOT, and must be insured as a commercial vehicle with liability insurance for passengers. All commercial vehicles must be registered on the participating installa-

tion, have a registered vehicle decal on its front window for identification, and ensure security requirements are met in order to gain access onto the installation. The vehicle must be six-passenger, excluding driver. Interested personnel must complete and submit a DoD Mass Transportation Benefit Program Application, ASEL-TY Form 6000-R, dated September 2000, to their separate reporting activity point of contact to qualify for eligibility and participation.

For frequently asked questions, instructions for completing and processing an application, participants eligibility, commercial vanpool requirements, and more information concerning the Mass Transportation Fringe Benefit Program, log onto the AMCOM homepage for Mass Transportation Program. The installation points of contact are: Redstone Arsenal, RASA, Jo Ann Knight, 313-0546; Corpus Christi Army Depot, Texas, Carl Revels, (361) 961-3349; and Letterkenny Army Depot, Pa., Lynn Ramsey, (717) 267-5314.

For more information, contact your respective separate reporting activity point of contact or visit the AMCOM homepage and access the Mass Transportation Fringe Benefit Program.

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Huntsville honored for support to activated Guard, Reserve

Corporate Blue Star Flag first for an Alabama city

ALABAMA AMERICAN LEGION RELEASE

Huntsville will be presented the first Corporate Blue Star Flag to an Alabama city by the American Legion's state commander during a City Council meeting 7 p.m. June 13.

The city is being honored for its support of veterans and military employees who have been called to active duty as

part of Operation Enduring Freedom. The city continually supports the American Legion and other veterans' organizations in celebrations of Memorial Day, Armed Forces Week and Veterans Day.

The national headquarters of the American Legion re-instituted the Blue Star Service Banner Program, which you see in the windows of homes across America in reminding us all to be vigilant, committed and grateful for our military personnel and to thank those families who have to sacrifice when one of their family

members are called to defend our nation during time of war.

The Corporate Blue Star Flag is awarded to and flown by corporations who recognize and support the sacrifices of America's soldiers.

Legionnaires ask that it be flown with pride each and every day until our military force returns home.

Recently the city passed a bill augmenting the salaries of its city workers who are in the Army Reserve or National Guard. Those workers, when activated for

up to a year, will be paid the difference in their military pay to ensure it meets the pay received from work. This ensures the force protection members will not lose differences in their salary while serving in uniform and defending this nation.

Department commander Tom Gentilcore will present the banner to the mayor and City Council members.

This is the first and the most prestigious award presented to a city or corporation by the American Legion of Alabama.

Information management team prepares for regionalization

Corporate information officer provides update for managers

CORPORATE INFORMATION CENTER RELEASE

The Corporate Information Center has initiated biweekly in process reviews to support the Realignment of Army Information Management, a subset of the Army's transformation of installation management.

The last IPR was held May 21 with more than 25 CIC managers, supervisors and team leaders in attendance. Mike Ivey, the corporate information officer, provided opening remarks to the group and passed on highlights from the Army DOIM Conference held in Atlanta during

the week of May 13.

He explained the Army's strategy to phase in changes over the next few years in the world of Army information management. By Oct. 1, it is estimated that there will be more than \$8 billion spent in realignment and more than 70,000 personnel actions completed throughout the Department of Army. It was reported at the conference that DA is expecting the major commands to "make it work."

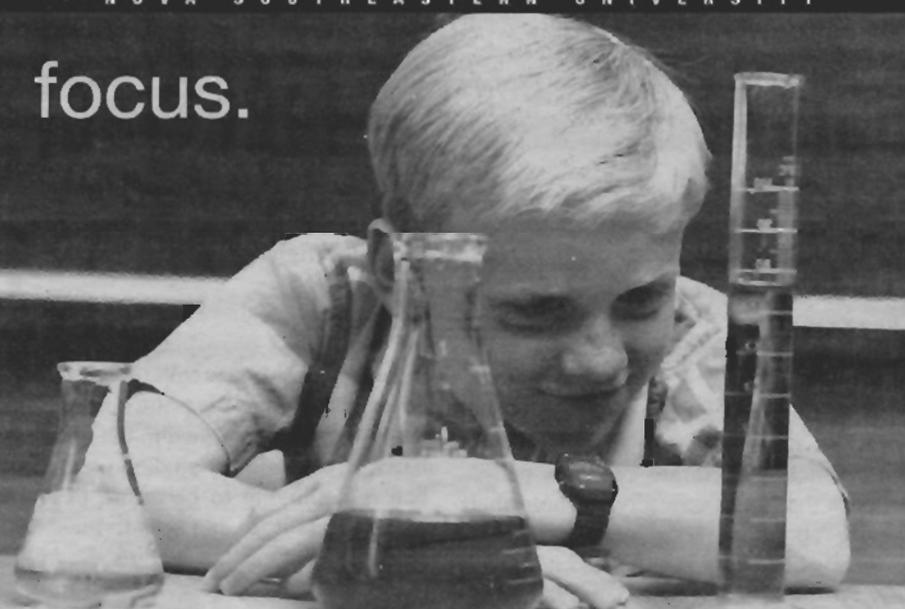
Many CIC employees are wondering, "What does this mean to me?" Ivey explained that there is no physical move from Redstone Arsenal planned for CIC employees. In addition he explained personnel rules would be strictly adhered to during this process, with appropriate

communications occurring with AFGE Local 1858, Civilian Personnel Advisory Center and the Civilian Personnel Operations Center.

On May 20, Shirley Perkey and Jo Hammon chaired an integrated process team session to begin identifying the specific functions within Corporate Information Center that will transfer to the DOIM, remain in the CIO, and identify the voids and deltas associated with these functions. Ivey requested that Corporate Information Center set up more working groups with the tenants and establish a communications strategy as soon as possible. This will ensure proper relationships are established for the DOIM, the CIO and the center's customers well before the official realignment occurs Oct. 1.

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Army in action

Worlds brought together by U.S. civil affairs team

Army reservists helping bridge gap between coalition forces, Afghan hosts

By LINDA KOZARYN
American Forces Press Service

BAGRAM AIR BASE, Afghanistan — As veteran civil affairs specialists, it's up to Army Reserve Capt. Steven McAlpin and SFC Juan Morales to bridge the gap between U.S. and coalition forces here and their Afghan hosts.

On a typical morning, the civil affairs team is in a sparsely furnished office just inside the main gate at this Afghan air base. McAlpin has just returned from a meeting, and Morales is fielding calls and walk-in visitors when an Afghan officer comes in with an interpreter.

Col. Mir Dirwiah, who heads Northern Alliance security forces at the base, is concerned about a security issue. He says Pakistani drivers without proper identification or credentials are delivering fuel to the base.

McAlpin and Morales know tensions are high between Afghans and Pakistanis at the air base. A week or two earlier, the civil affairs team was asked to intervene when a Pakistani driver came on base with no identification. McAlpin said he told the driver he was lucky he hadn't been killed.

"It was like throwing a piece of meat into a pool of piranhas," Morales noted later.

McAlpin and Morales invite Dirwiah and the interpreter to have a seat and for the next 30 minutes or so, listen intently as the colonel talks through the interpreter about force protection issues. McAlpin assures the Afghan officer that U.S. and coalition military officials at the base are working to establish a fuel transfer point.

Appearing less tense than when he arrived, the Afghan officer rises to leave, places his hand over his heart, an Afghan gesture of thanks, and bows slightly to the



Photo by Linda Kozaryn

CIVIL MEETING— From left U.S. Army Reserve civil affairs specialists Capt. Steven McAlpin and SFC Juan Morales welcome Northern Alliance Col. Mir Dirwiah and an interpreter to their office at Bagram Air Base, near Kabul, Afghanistan.

Americans. After a few more parting remarks on both sides, Dirwiah grasps each American's shoulders in a hug and then departs.

"He's a very intelligent, very strong-willed person with a good intent. He wants to help Afghanistan," McAlpin says of the Northern Alliance soldier.

The colonel's visit is just one example of daily reserve civil affairs team business. It's far different from what team members do back home in civilian life.

McAlpin, a 24-year reservist from Rochester, N.Y., is a special education teacher in civilian life. He served as an enlisted carpenter for 12 years before becoming an infantry officer and civil affairs specialist.

Morales, a 19-year reservist, also from Rochester, works as a state corrections officer in Albion, N.Y. He served on

active duty for three years with the 82nd Airborne Division at Fort Bragg, N.C., before joining the Army Reserve.

The men arrived in Afghanistan in January and their deployment is pretty much open-ended. They expect they'll remain for close to a year. It's their second overseas deployment. Both served in Bosnia, McAlpin in 1996, and Morales in 1997.

"It's funny, because I never went anywhere as active duty," Morales said. "I join the reserve and I've been deployed twice."

They were sent to serve as liaisons between the Joint Coalition Military Operation Task Force and host-nation officials. Their job has evolved in many directions.

"We've got the best job on base," McAlpin said. "The Afghan generals and the colonel — there are very few people on base that hug these guys or hold their hands walking down the stairs."

"They have done it to us, and it's a sign that you're 'in,'" Morales explained. "That means that you have their trust." Among the Afghans, a man's word is important, he added. "There are no contracts; it's all word of mouth."

Rank doesn't mean anything to the Afghan people, McAlpin said. It's the

relationship that counts.

"We've bent over backward to help him out, and he's bent over backward to help us out," he said. "If you appeal to a person's honor here, it's like butter on your bread. It's genuine. It's from the heart."

"We have never made a promise that we couldn't keep, or if we were unable to keep it, we'd explain exactly why we couldn't do it," the captain continued.

Since setting up shop, McAlpin and Morales have dealt with everything from shots being fired by a drunken Afghan soldier at a Northern Alliance general's house to helping restore a local school. The local school administration wasn't supporting the school because girls attended, McAlpin said, so U.S. engineers on base decided they would.

"We delivered 208 desks that the 92nd Engineers made to kids who had nothing," Morales said. "They were sitting on the floor."

The team also lined up a school bus for the students, did some volunteer teaching and started a program where Spanish coalition soldiers are helping to build a school. They also helped restore relations between coalition leaders and an Afghan general after military police searched his car.

McAlpin said the general was so insulted he turned around and left and vowed not to return to the base. The civil affairs team employed their reconciliation skills to get the general back on base.

"We did our homework on him and learned he was the only one who defended this land when everybody else left while the fight was going on," McAlpin said.

The civil affairs work extends beyond the confines of the office. The team visits villages and dines with local officials. After exchanging pleasantries and family news, the men get down to the business at hand. Both said they studied on their own before deploying to be aware of Afghan cultural traditions and sensitivities.

Their job is key to helping the military avoid cultural roadblocks and resolving problems that arise. "We get involved in bringing the people together to put out any fires that develop," McAlpin said.

"People say we're the buffers," Morales concluded. "We're the mediators."

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95th Maintenance Company supports equipment worldwide

Ready for war unit goes when needed

By JIM DOWNE
For the Rocket

Redstone Arsenal is home to the 95th Maintenance Company, a subordinate element of Test Measurement and Diagnostic Equipment Activity, an AMCOM primary organizational element. The 95th Maintenance Company's mission is to provide deployable, direct and general, calibration and repair support to all active Army divisions and selected corps units.

Although the 95th Maintenance Company has about 200 soldiers, only eight greensuiters serve on the TMDE staff here at Redstone, according to Maj. John Wright, the unit's company commander. "The 95th is not a training unit," Wright explained. "We are a deployable go-to-

war unit. We are the only TMDE company in the entire U.S. Army."

"We [the 95th Maintenance Company] are like no other unit," Art Macksey, a civilian mobilization planning specialist, said. "Although we have our company headquarters here at the Redstone Arsenal, we have 20 subordinate teams scattered throughout the world."

Macksey is right about the teams being "scattered." Teams are stationed at Fort Campbell, Ky.; Fort Drum, N.Y.; Fort Lewis, Wash.; Fort Riley, Kan.; Fort Bragg, N.C.; Fort Hood, Texas; Fort Carson, Colo.; and Fort Stewart, Ga. They are also stationed at Camps Casey, Humphreys and Sears, Korea; Schofield Barracks, Hawaii; Baumholder and Giebelstadt, Germany; and Vicenza, Italy. "We make sure that the weapons systems' test measurement and diagnostic equipment are calibrated," CWO 3 Eduardo

Hope, operations officer, said. "We calibrate and repair what the TMDE operator/maintainer uses in support of the weapons systems. For example, we calibrate torque wrenches, voltage meters, signal generators, things like that."

The 95th Maintenance Company's technical soldier skills include the ability to perform calibration and repair on TMDE in a myriad of measurement parameters, such as pressure, frequency, voltage, length and radiac, to name only a few.

"All weapons systems have areas/items that require calibration for readiness, accuracy and safety," Wright said. "For example, we have test equipment that measures the altimeter which tells you how far your helicopter is off the ground. If your altimeter shows that you're 1,000 feet off the ground, you'd better be 1,000 feet off the ground."

"Over the past five years, we've had a recurring mission that entails having a team in Kuwait," Hope said. "The team consists of six people. We try to rotate all the teams about every 120 days."

The 95th also has teams in Afghanistan and Uzbekistan in support of deployed Army units. "These two teams were deployed in support of Enduring Freedom," Wright said. "The six guys in Afghanistan were from Fort Campbell, and the four guys in Uzbekistan were from Fort Stewart. Although they are deployed not-to-exceed 364 days, our intent is to bring them home within 179 days."

Originally, three teams were to be deployed to support Enduring Freedom. A team from Fort Drum was supposed to go to Uzbekistan but, according to Macksey, "they were aborted and their mission was given to Fort Stewart."

"So what happened was, the Fort Stewart guys, who were supposed to deploy to Pakistan, got a mission requirement change," he said. "Instead of going to Pakistan, they went to Uzbekistan to replace Fort Drum's aborted mission. They didn't even know about the change until after they had boarded the aircraft

and were on the way."

Because the teams operate independently, Wright and his staff had to do all the ground coordination to get them to Redstone Arsenal for briefings and training. "We went to each site (Forts Drum, Stewart and Campbell) just to brief the divisions to which the team members were attached before they came to Redstone," Wright said.

"Then we had to pull them out of the field to get them trained, complete SRP (soldier readiness processing), and get them deployed," he added. "We held meetings twice a day just to feed them all the information they needed to know. It was a real joint effort among AMC, AMCOM and FORSCOM. I'm really proud of the teams. They had to do it on their own — but they did it on time and in a professional manner."



Courtesy photo

WAR ZONE — Some soldiers from the 95th Maintenance Company make themselves at home in Gandahar, Afghanistan.



Courtesy photo

Eagle Scout

Dimitri Jackson, 16, son of Sandra Lyles-Jackson of the Aviation and Missile Command, has been awarded the highest rank in Boy Scouting, the rank of Eagle Scout. His court of honor ceremony was held May 18 at Union Chapel M.B. Church. City councilman Richard Showers was guest speaker.

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Mass electronic mailing can lead to unwanted intrusion

Investigator wants to put lid on tainted spam from outside

By KIP KIPLINGER
Provost Marshal Office investigator

Mass e-mails are a normal part of our daily business; we receive them at home, and on the job. They are used by advertisers to reach the largest audience as possible and are used to forward jokes and urban legends. Those we receive on the job can have lasting effects toward the security, not only our workplace, but also the computer systems we utilize.

There are several ways used to verify e-mail addresses for mass e-mails. Some mail servers use an address generator that goes through the alphabet and generates thousands of addresses to known Internet

domains. With some you will find a removal notice message or icon at the bottom relating a message will be sent to the sender to have your address removed. This is what a lot of spammers are hoping you will do. Some use this as a means of verifying addresses, when you ask to be removed you have only verified a good e-mail address for future e-mails to be sent to. Some e-mails have been noted to contain a hidden router that when we forward the message to other people we know, the message is also forwarded back to a server that then strips the message information off and deletes it, maintaining only the e-mail address information. These addresses are then usually used in databases to send mass advertisements or to track Internet usage.

This information can be used for not only advertisers and other businesses but

by intelligence agencies and subversive organizations in order to collect data about people and specific locations. A recent e-mail was sent through the Redstone Arsenal system the last week of May, which guaranteed monetary gain from Bill Gates. I took one response to this e-mail and identified more than 3,200 civilian and military personnel from several organizations and installations. With information available on the Internet I could take those names and e-mail addresses and conduct searches that would eventually provide home addresses and telephone numbers on a majority of those listed. Using this information I could then locate and identify family members. Scary isn't it?

As employees of Redstone Arsenal, and the U.S. government, security is everyone's responsibility; it starts with the

individual and expands out. With the heightened security emphasis being placed on everyone and the ever-changing outlook on the United States by radical factions, we need to take greater care in how we conduct business to ensure we have a safe work environment.

If you receive one of these e-mails, you and you alone, have the power to put a stop to it then and there with the push of one single button, the 'delete' button. Do not acknowledge the message or send a removal notice; this just lets them know they have hit pay dirt on an address to send advertisements to. If you continue to receive unwanted messages, notify your system administrator who can relay the necessary information to Corporate Information Center to block the spam from entering the Redstone e-mail system.

THAAD missile materials undergo heat testing at Air Force center

Arnold Engineering Development Center simulates actual atmospheric conditions

ARNOLD ENGINEERING DEVELOPMENT CENTER RELEASE

ARNOLD AIR FORCE BASE, Tenn. — Upcoming testing in the Air Force's Arnold Engineering Development Center's H-1 Arc Heater Test Facility will help the Army evaluate thermal-structural survivability of the thermal protection materials developed for the Theater High Altitude Area Defense missile.

"AEDC's combined test infrastructure of hypersonic wind tunnels, ballistic ranges and arc heater facilities have been instrumental in providing the THAAD program with the critical data that is required to reduce the overall program risk," Rick Rushing, AEDC Hypersonic test manager, said. "AEDC's world-class test facilities have played an important role in the development of the THAAD missile defense system, which will give our troops the best chance to protect themselves from the

threat of incoming ballistic missiles."

The candidate materials supplied by prime contractor, Lockheed Martin, under an Army Space and Missile Defense Command THAAD program contract, will undergo aerothermal testing in H-1 to simulate the extreme thermal environment within which the hypersonic interceptor missile must operate.

According to D. Mark Smith, AEDC project engineer, the Lockheed Martin test plan calls for testing 40 two-inch square samples at temperatures up to 2,500 degrees Fahrenheit simulating up to mach 8. A variety of kill vehicle and booster candidate materials will be tested, he said.

"Ideal candidate materials will be low-cost, lightweight, structurally strong and exhibit a low thermal conductivity to thermally protect missile internal parts," Smith said.

Of particular interest to Lockheed Martin engineers are the results of ablation tests on material samples previously exposed to high-voltage electrical arcing.

"Since the operational THAAD missile will ascend

through atmospheric conditions where lightning is a risk, evaluation of materials designed to sustain strikes and still provide adequate thermal protection is important to the customer," Smith said.

According to 1st Lt. Tim Budke, Space and Missiles Test Division project manager, AEDC's Model Shop played an important role in the program by fabricating custom test hardware designed by AEDC test engineers to hold the material samples.

"Non-standard techniques are required to machine the high-temperature silica phenolics required for the sample frames," Budke said. "Our shop fabricated more than 40 of these frames as well as several related test hardware items, on a very accelerated schedule."

After testing, the samples will be returned to Lockheed Martin for post test evaluation. Lessons learned from testing will be applied to improve production processes and techniques for operational THAAD thermal protection components. A second round of materials testing in H-1 was scheduled for May.

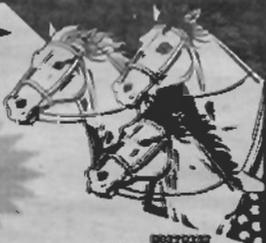
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Acquisition personnel demonstration team devising plan

Group has representatives from throughout command

The first meeting of the Acquisition Personnel Demonstration Project Integrated Process Team was held May 21. The purpose of the IPT is to develop the command's plan and to coordinate the proposed conversion to the Acquisition Demo Project.

Tim Grey, director of personnel and

training, made welcome remarks to the group. Jim Flinn, deputy to the commanding general, is the chairman of the IPT; and the Civilian Personnel Advisory Center has the overall lead of the IPT.

Other primary organizational elements supporting the IPT include the Acquisition Center, CIC, DCSS, IMMC, RMD, SAMD and TMDE. Non-AMCOM organizations supporting the IPT are the South Central Civilian Personnel Operations Center and AFGE Local 1858.



Mary Petty/ Photo Lab

TEAM EFFORT— Members of the Acquisition Personnel Demonstration Project Integrated Process Team include front row, from left, Melissa Brodersen, Peggy Wallace and Triah Golden; second row Faith Downas, Charlie Barnes, Maxine Maples-Kilgore, Ruth Easley, Phyllis Conner, Valerie Morgan, Billie Hayes, Judy Campbell and Shella Clift; and third row Kotina Hopkins, Robin Caudill, Michelle Farris, Bill Clamons, F. Rey Lewis, Don Dixon, Mike Ayres and Angie Speegle. Members not present include Viola Lipscomb, Cindy Jolley, Michelle Cobb, Vanessa Midgett, Brenda Lovejoy, Pat Andrews, Becky Akin, Ron Maasen and Sharon Zirbel.

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Hail and farewell

Aloha, Evelyn, it's been great having you at Redstone

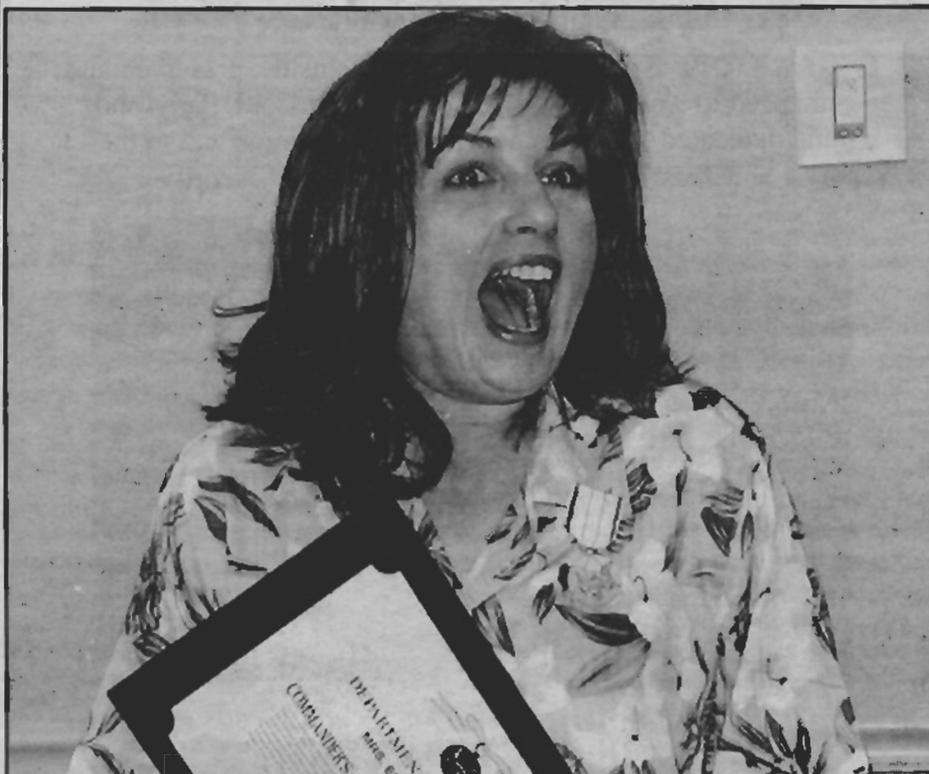


Photo by Skip Vaughn

OH MY GOSH— Evelyn Teats, volunteer for the past four years here, reacts after receiving the Commander's Award for Public Service during a surprise ceremony May 29 at Redstone Arsenal Support Activity headquarters in building 4488.

Perennial volunteer honored before moving to Hawaii

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

Evelyn Teats was speechless. That's probably news itself but Redstone's perennial volunteer had good reason. First her husband, SFC Daniel Teats, brought her and their two children to Redstone Arsenal Support Activity headquarters on the pretense of getting passports for their next duty assignment to Hawaii. Then when they arrived, she saw many of her friends gathered in the RASA commander's conference room for a ceremony that she didn't know about. To her surprise she found the ceremony was really for her. Teats received the Commander's Award for Public Service from Col. Brent Swart, the RASA commander, on May 29. "Oh my gosh!" she exclaimed. "What an honor." Teats was recognized for her volunteer work with Army Family Team Building, the Mayors Program, the Enlisted Spouses Club, and the Army Family Action Plan

Conference. She was among Redstone Arsenal's Volunteer of the Year winners in 2001. The Teats family has resided on post since arriving four years ago from Fort Sill, Okla., and will report June 14 at Schofield Barracks, Hawaii.

"It has been great," Teats said. "We really have enjoyed our time on Redstone. It's so easy to get involved if you want to volunteer, it's so easy here."

This will be the first trip to Hawaii for Teats, 32, a native of Big Spring, Texas. She said she's sad about moving away.

"It's hard because we have made a lot of very good friends," she added. "And that's the hardest thing about leaving. On the other hand, I'm excited. I think, Hawaii, what a great opportunity for like three years. Our kids are so excited, and they can't wait."

Her husband, who served as operations NCO-in-charge at HHC 59th, will be assigned to the 725th Main Support Battalion at Schofield Barracks. The Teats have a daughter, Jordan, 8, and son, Jacob, 5.

"Everywhere you got involved there was improvement, there was energy, there was vitality," Dan Ahern, director of community and family activities, told Teats during the ceremony. "And thank you for everything."

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Civilian personnel worker cited for his 'selfless service' to others

Don Dixon secured medal for Korean War veteran

As a personnel worker, Don Dixon typically does things for others. But this time he went beyond the call.

Dixon arranged for Korean War veteran William Crislip to receive the Purple Heart medal nearly 49 years after he was wounded in the war. The presentation took place March 10 in a surprise ceremony at New Life United Methodist Church in Grant.

Now it was Dixon's turn to receive a surprise.

Maj. Gen. Larry Dodgen, commander of the Aviation and Missile Command and Redstone Arsenal, presented the Commander's Medallion to Dixon on Friday

in recognition of his work in securing Crislip's award.

"The mark of service to our country is selflessness, it's doing things for others," Dodgen said.

Don Powers, commander of Huntsville's Chapter 2201 of the Military Order of Purple Heart, presented to Dixon a Military Order of Purple Heart citation. His wife, Ann Powers, president of the Ladies Auxiliary, also attended the ceremony in the commanding general's conference room. Many members of the Civilian Personnel Advisory Center were present.

"A lot of people helped with that (Purple Heart presentation)," Dixon, chief of customer support B at CPAC, said. "And I appreciate everybody's support."



Photo by Skip Vaughn

GENERAL APPLAUSE— Don Dixon of the Civilian Personnel Advisory Center is applauded by Maj. Gen. Larry Dodgen, commander of the Aviation and Missile Command and Redstone Arsenal, after receiving the Commander's Medallion. Dixon was recognized for obtaining the Purple Heart medal for Korean War veteran William Crislip.

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NCO Academy sweats out second straight volleyball title



Photo by Skip Vaughn

NET PLAY— NCO Academy's Chris Nutter (7) and Edward Sasan go for the block against Bravo Company's Damon Wallace (8).



Photo by Skip Vaughn

WE ARE THE CHAMPIONS— NCO Academy players celebrate their second straight championship.

Defending champ beats Bravo in postseason tourney final

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

Last year the NCO Academy volleyball team rolled to the championship unbeaten, but this year was a different story.

The NCOs struggled at times this season and found themselves in the loser's bracket of the postseason tournament. Several teams had momentum and the NCOs looked vulnerable.

But the NCO Academy found a way.

The NCO Academy beat Bravo Company 25-22, 25-21 in the first match and 25-22, 25-20 in the next to earn its second straight championship May 29 at Pagano Gym.

"We did it by hard work and a lot of sweat," Academy player/coach Edward Sasan said. He named Ray White his team's most valuable player.

White, a strong-side hitter, had 11 kills in the final two games alone.

"Throughout the season anytime we had all six starters, we never lost a single game," said White, who arrived shortly before the season started. "During the season we struggled but we brought it all together at the end when it mattered."

That's for sure. The NCOs (12-4) dropped to the loser's bracket May 22 by losing to Bravo Company. They had to survive elimination matches May 28 against Delta Company and Charlie Company. The NCOs dispatched Delta 25-11, 25-11 and Charlie 25-22, 25-19.

Then came the final against Bravo Company which had only two losses during the season, to the NCO Academy and Delta Company. Bravo (8-4) controlled the early action in the final but the NCOs clawed back to tie the first game 14-all and then slowly pulled away.



Photo by Skip Vaughn

TIRED WARRIORS— Bravo player/coach Luis Billingslea, left, congratulates NCO Academy player/coach Edward Sasan.

"Bravo lost some really key players (this year) but they're hanging in there," sports director Ted Compoc said during the first match.

The games were close but the NCOs never relinquished control.

"We came out here to do our best," said Bravo setter James Laban, who had eight kills in the final two games. "We did our best. I give Sergeant Sasan and his team the best of luck next year. Bravo's gonna beat them next year."

"Everybody played with their hearts," Bulldogs player/coach Luis Billingslea said. "We got a little rattled, made a couple of mistakes. We battled them and they just got a little ahead of us, and we couldn't catch them in time. I've got to say the NCO Academy had an outstanding team. We'll be waiting for them for the next season."

He congratulated his counterpart, Sasan, with whom he had exchanged good-natured barbs throughout the season and postseason. Their teams battled for the second straight year. Billingslea arrived in May 2000 and Sasan in August 2000.

"It's a repeat!" Sasan said of the championship.

Bravo Bulldogs have edge in Commander's Cup race

Bravo Company leads the race for the annual Commanders Cup sports trophy.

Sports played so far include: flag football, basketball and volleyball. Remaining sports include the 5K run, golf, softball and racquetball.

The Pagano Gym staff provided the following standings Friday:

Bravo Company (215.7 points), HHC 59th (204.8), Delta (189.3), NCO Academy (184.3), Charlie (180), Marines (125.5), AMCOM (51.7) and Headquarters & Alpha (37.8).

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Audit confirms commissary savings claims add up

Air Force agency verifies price comparison study

By RICK BRINK
Defense Commissary Agency

FORT LEE, Va. - Commissary shoppers get outstanding savings of more than 30 percent over commercial grocers, which, according to Defense Commissary Agency officials, has been substantiated in an audit of its price comparison study.

"Today, more than ever, commissary shoppers can be confident of the high level of savings DeCA delivers because of the modern technology and methodology used

in our price comparison study," Maj. Gen. Robert Courter Jr., DeCA director, said. "We are producing a net savings to our customers of more than 30 percent over the private competition. That translates into an additional \$2,400 annually for a family of four's budget."

A business case review by the Air Force Audit Agency included a look at the Defense Commissary Agency Price Comparison Study. The Commissary Operating Board, the Defense Department's commissary oversight panel, called on the audit agency to review the study's methodology and findings.

The audit agency reported last fall that it was impressed with the methodology and

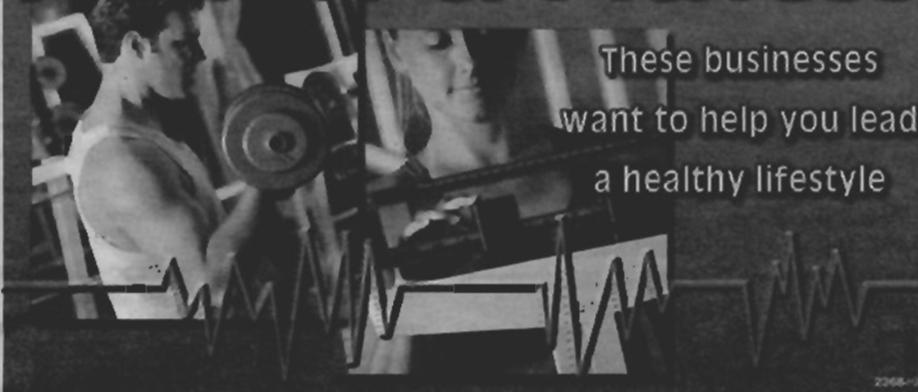
level of detail that DeCA's research analysts used in determining customer savings. The study compares commissary prices with those of local supermarkets, major grocery store chains and supercenters. It includes taxes and surcharge - the 5 percent charge added onto the total of commissary receipts.

The study uses a comprehensive database of actual prices for scannable items from commercial grocery stores and commissaries to perform the analysis for locations within the 48 contiguous states. The price database allows analysts to compare prices of virtually every item sold in commissaries in the contiguous states to identical items sold in commercial grocery stores. Items are com-

pared exactly based on Universal Product Code, which customers readily recognize as the bar codes found on products. Non-scannable items, such as fresh meat and produce, as well as data for locations outside the contiguous states, are obtained through random sampling techniques.

"This is the most exhaustive, detailed and accurate price comparison study done since the agency's inception in 1991," Courter said. "We are providing greater savings for servicemembers and their families on the goods and services they buy than at any other time in history. And we're also operating the agency more efficiently and effectively than ever before."

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