

Redstone Rocket

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Colonel's crash course on radar

THAAD Radar product manager briefs wife, co-workers' spouses

By BETH SKARUPA

Staff writer

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They were a tough audience and Lt. Col. Jeff Mockensturm, product manager of the Terminal High Altitude Area Defense Radar, knew it.

While most people were busy getting ready for the holidays last month, this group had voluntarily taken time out of their hectic schedules to learn more about the THAAD Radar ... and they weren't getting paid to do it.

The people sitting around the conference table at the Dec. 15 briefing included Mockensturm's wife Alice, his administrative assistant Marlana Good and her husband Wil and mother Suzanne Morrison, his radar integration support lead Don Ramsey of Dynetics and Don's wife Pauline and his hardware integrated product team lead's wife Genie Uptain as well as several other members of the THAAD Radar extended family. They were all there because Mockensturm had seen a need and wanted to meet it.

"You might wonder why we're doing this," he said, addressing the group. "When we first moved here, Alice was curious about what I do. So I envisioned putting a briefing together that was tailored for her needs. One and a half years later, we still hadn't gotten around to it. So we put this together and the idea was, why not have it with everyone since I was sure Alice wasn't the only one wondering what we all do and why we travel so much."

Charts and video

The briefing, titled "THAAD Radar 101 for Spouses," included more than 35 pages of charts, a video of the March 2003 Radar roll out ceremony and a piece of the radar called a Transmit/Receive Integrated Microwave Module that the attendees could look at and pass around.

"Out of respect for you, I didn't dumb any of this down," Mockensturm said in his opening remarks. "There's a tremendous amount of detail in these charts. I'm just going to hit the highlights." He pointed out that when the attendees had conversations with their spouses later on, they would have material to reference so they could quiz them in more detail.

He went on to explain, among other things, why the "T" in the acronym THAAD was recently changed to stand for "terminal" instead of "theater," why THAAD is important to Ballistic Missile Defense, how long it takes to build a THAAD Radar, and why the THAAD



Photo by Beth Skarupa

SHOW AND TELL— Lt. Col. Jeff Mockensturm, product manager of the Terminal High Altitude Area Defense Radar, shows Lynn Montgomery, middle, and Genie Uptain a piece of the radar called a Transmit/Receive Integrated Microwave Module at the "Radar 101 for Spouses" briefing he hosted Dec. 15.

flight test program will have people from his office away on extended trips in upcoming years.

"THAAD is rapidly deployable — we're mobile. That's a major distinction with us," he said. "We see our customer as the combatant commanders — the four-star warfighting generals that run our wars — like Gen. Tommy Franks."

System components

He explained that THAAD consists of the launcher, the missile, the software and the radar and that each of these components has been designed so that they can work independently if needed. The key distinction is that initially THAAD is a closed loop system but will grow to operate as autonomous components in future increments. The radar can be integrated with other systems such as PAC-3, Aegis and within the Ballistic Missile Defense System, he said.

"The THAAD Radar is the world's largest mobile x-band phased array. It's the largest tactical radar in the world and we're phenomenally blessed to be working on something so cutting edge. It's very state-of-the-art in terms of the capability it has,"

he said. "Discrimination is one of the most important things the radar does. The radar does a very good job of looking at very small objects and determining which one is the lethal object."

He explained how the THAAD system could be used to protect the eastern seaboard of the U.S., as well as U.S. allies, against asymmetric threats. He also said that it's being tested and they will begin building the first hardware unit for Soldiers next year. "We expect to have the first one ready, in the Soldiers' hands, by 2009," he said.

Thorough questions

Several of the attendees asked complicated questions that Mockensturm and Ralph Merrill, principal systems engineer of Raytheon, worked hard to answer well. Some were about the actual size of the THAAD Radar, how long it takes for the missile to travel from the launcher to the target, and why future flight tests are scheduled to take place in Hawaii instead of White Sands Missile Range, N.M. The spouses also questioned the efficiency of

See Radar on page 9

Letters to the Editor

Driver cut off at Gate 7

Physical improvements at Gate 7 on Martin Road have improved the flow of traffic during the morning commute. However, it seems that these improvements haven't satisfied the impatience of some drivers. A case in point: On Wednesday, Jan. 12 about 6:45 a.m. I pulled away from the guard and entered the concrete chutes. The left lane, my lane, has a right, left, right design. However, at least temporarily, the right lane has only a right, left design. I was pulling into the last right of my lane when a woman in a silver-gray Avalon rapidly accelerated in the right lane and cut me off. Mind you, she was still sitting at the gate with the guard when I pulled away, and I'm not exactly a slowpoke going through the chutes. The fact is that the new design of the gate has

traffic merging to one lane after the chutes. The old design had traffic merge before the chutes. With the new, if not temporary design, merging after the chutes encourages rude, aggressive driving by women driving silver-gray Avalons. Please note: I didn't attempt to use her license number, however tempting it was to post this letter to the editor as a global e-mail to all AMCOM employees including the license tag of the woman in the silver-gray Avalon. I hope that Gate 7's permanent design will return to traffic merging before the chutes; drivers seemed to be much more cooperative than the woman in the silver-gray Avalon.

Jonathan Pierce
LOGSA

Fed up with cafeteria prices

The staff is friendly and helpful, the facility clean, but there are serious problems happening in the Sparkman Cafeteria. I have a question: Why do the price increases in the Sparkman Cafeteria far outpace price increases in the local economy? While some prices are compatible with prices available locally, some are vastly inflated.

Recently I went to the cafeteria and found price increases ranging from 10-20 percent. This is ridiculous. A lunch with a drink, bread and two vegetables (served with an ice-cream scoop, by the way) was \$7.15. Want a small salad? That will be \$4.35. (I'll find an all-you-can-eat salad bar for \$4.99, thank you.)

See **Cafeteria** on page 8

Revelers contribute to Waiting Spouses

The 2004 IMMC Holiday Celebration, "Blast from the Past," was held Dec. 16 from 11 a.m. until 4 p.m. at the Officers and Civilians Club. Arlean Fontenot, chairperson, and Rene' Gregory, co-chairperson, attribute the success of the party to everyone involved — from the employees that purchased tickets to those that gave their time or talent. "Blast from the Past" included parodies of favorite television shows from the '60s and '70s.

This year's party included a special touch. Richard Frankz, a local singer who recently signed a contract with Columbia Records, entertained guests with selections from several of his CDs. After the show, Mr. Frankz sold his limited edition CD "Songs Within My Soul"

See **Spouses** on page 8



Courtesy photo

HOLIDAY GIFT— Arlean Fontenot, left, 2004 IMMC Holiday Celebration chairperson, and John Chapman, director of Integrated Materiel Management Center, present a \$75 check to Inger Frye, wife of deployed Soldier Ronald Frye. She accepted the check on behalf of the Waiting Spouses.

Congratulations, Lance Cpl. Cledus

The Marine Corps Detachment at Redstone Arsenal would like to congratulate their mascot Cledus K. Bar. Cledus was promoted this month from the rank of private first class to the rank of lance corporal. He has served with the unit since April 2004.

Thanks to the German Army, the U.S. Marine Corps has an unofficial mascot. During World War I many German reports had called the attacking Marines "teufel-hunden," meaning Devil Dogs. Teufel-hunden were the vicious, wild and ferocious mountain dogs of Bavarian folklore. English bulldogs. Teufel-hunden. Devil Dogs. They symbolize the ethos of the warrior culture of the U.S. Marines.

Man's best friend brings new meaning to the age-old Marine Corps motto "always faithful." On Oct. 14, 1922, Brig. Gen. Smedley Butler signed the enlistment papers of the first unofficial official mascot of the Marine Corps. Pvt. Jiggs' promotion was rapid and by the following July, Jiggs held the rank of sergeant major. Jiggs' passing was mourned throughout the Corps. He was buried in a satin-lined coffin and given a proper military burial ceremony.

National archives record other animals trying to fill the billet of the Marine Corps mascot to include an alligator, a

lion, a duck, a warhorse and even a rat bear. Even so, English bulldogs prevail as the traditional mascot for the U.S. Marine Corps and epitomize the fighting spirit of the U.S. Marines. Renowned for their tough, muscular and aggressive appearance, the English bulldogs have long suited the Corps' need for a symbol and a faithful mascot. Prone to weight problems, often reluctant to obey orders and always last to fall into formation for physical training, Cledus, like many other English bulldog mascots, also always finds favor with struggling junior Marines, who are relieved that the first sergeant has someone besides them to bark at!

Keep up the good work, Cledus. Semper fi!

Sgt. C. Nicole Gaines
Marine Detachment

Editor's note: Gaines said her letter includes an excerpt from "Warrior Culture of the U.S. Marines," copyright 2001, by Marion F. Sturkey.

Photo by Sgt. C. Nicole Gaines

REPEAT AFTER ME— Cledus, the Marine Detachment's mascot, looks up to his unit commanding officer, Maj. Thomas Johnson, when promoted to lance corporal Jan. 5.



Air defenders launch reception

A special group of air defenders and friends of the Air Defense Artillery gathered at the Officers and Civilians Club on Wednesday, Jan. 12. The Redstone-Huntsville Chapter of the Air Defense Artillery Association hosted a reception honoring Maj. Gen. Michael A. Vane, commanding general,

Army Air Defense Artillery School and Fort Bliss, Texas; Brig. Gen. S. Michael Cannon, program executive officer for missiles and space, and their deputies and selected staff.

The Fort Bliss personnel were in town to attend the PEO's Home-On-Home Air

See **Reception** on page 8

Civilian retirees exercise rights

It is my understanding that retired civil servants may utilize the various fitness facilities on the Arsenal at no charge — provided they have one of the newer retiree badges (DA Form 1602). I believe those newer badges are set up so that the scanners at the various fitness facilities

can read them. A number of retired civil servants do, in fact, have DA Form 1602 badges and are using the gyms at no cost.

However, Military Personnel Office (the organization that issues the retiree badges)

See **Retirees** on page 9

Redstone Rocket

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An open lane random survey

What are you doing for tsunami relief?

By KELLEY LANE
Staff writer
kelleyqa@bellsouth.net

Casondra Massey
retiree spouse

"Our church, United Methodist, is taking donations through the church and then getting it all together to donate money and items."



AGR Santiago Ivan
4/90th Chemical Battalion

"I've made a monetary contribution to help tsunami victims."

James Sloan
NASA

"I've made some donations to charitable organizations."



Albert Borsella
contractor

"I haven't made a donation yet, but I'm going to."



Photo by Skip Vaughn

Shot in arm

AMCOM public affairs officer Al Schwartz receives a flu shot from community health nurse Barbara Anderson at the preventive medicine clinic in Fox Army Health Center. Flu shots are available today and Jan. 26 from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. to members of the Redstone community, including Defense Department civilians.

Crimes, accidents and other occurrences

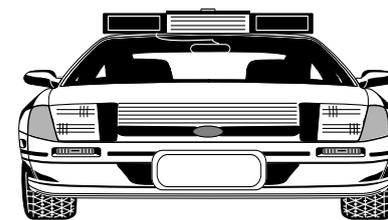
The Provost Marshal Office provided the following list of reported incidents:

Jan. 8: An individual approached Gate 9 and appeared disoriented. A check through NCIC revealed that he was a missing person. He was released to family members.

Jan. 11: An individual was observed in the Post Exchange selecting several items, concealing them, and then leaving without rendering the proper payment. Investigation continues by the Provost Marshal Office.

Jan. 11: An individual was found to be operating his motor vehicle with a canceled driver's license during a vehicle inspection at Gate 9. The individual was issued a violation notice and released.

Jan. 12: An individual was found to be operating his motor vehicle with a suspended driver's license when he was stopped for speeding. The individual was



issued two violation notices and released.

Jan. 12: An individual was found to be operating his motor vehicle with a suspended driver's license during a vehicle inspection at Gate 8. The individual was issued a violation notice and released.

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

Violation notices issued: 11 speeding, 2 failure to obey traffic control device, 1 shoplifting, 1 no proof of insurance, 1 expired tag and 3 driving with a suspended driver's license.

Getting to know you

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

Name: Faye Yates

Job: Logistics management specialist, Materiel Management Directorate, Integrated Materiel Management Center

Where do you call home?
Talladega, Ala.

What do you like about your job?
I'm a staff officer and so I like the diversity of it. I get to do a lot of different things.

What do you like to do in your spare time?
I enjoy traveling. I enjoy gardening. I'm also an avid bridge player and Bunco (dice game) Babe.



What are your goals?
To be a very efficient and effective staff officer. Just to be a person that people like to call friend. And to one day retire and go on the road in a motor home.

Quote of the week

'Nobody can change what happened. But we can all change what happens next.'
— Ex-presidents Bush and Clinton in a national plea for tsunami relief

Program executive office created for missiles and space

*Brig. Gen. Mike Cannon
leads combined organization*

By PAM ROGERS
For the Rocket

Two of Team Redstone's program executive offices were merged to form a new office during a ceremony Thursday at Bob Jones Auditorium.

Both the PEO for Air, Space and Missile Defense and the PEO for Tactical Missiles were deactivated and a new

office, the PEO for Missiles and Space, was activated. Brig. Gen. Mike Cannon was designated as the program executive officer. He formerly served as PEO for Tactical Missiles.

Lt. Gen. Joseph Yakovac, military deputy to the assistant secretary of the Army for acquisition, logistics and technology, officiated at the ceremony.

Yakovac, while acknowledging the merging of the two PEOs was without a doubt an emotional event for those involved, pointed out it was the right thing to do.



Shawn Harris/Photo Lab

NEW FLAG— Lt. Gen. Joseph Yakovac, military deputy to the assistant secretary of the Army for acquisition, logistics and technology, unrolls the flag for the newly-created Program Executive Office for Missiles and Space. He is assisted by Lt. Col. Steve Reed, operations officer for the PEO MS, while Brig. Gen. Mike Cannon, the PEO for MS, observes.

"I know this is hard, but the leadership determined that we're better off to accomplish the future mission," he said, adding that the PEO for Tactical Missiles came from two PEOs, the PEOs for Fire Support and Combat Missiles.

"The technology and C2 piece brings closer together a lot of similarity and synergy," he said.

Maj. Gen. John Urias, who served as the PEO for air, space and missile defense since 1999, has been named commander of the Joint Contracting Command-Iraq and head of the Contracting Authority. He will leave for his tour of duty in Iraq later in the month.

Urias praised the efforts of the workers in PEO ASMD, saying he relished even the bad days, because of "all the people who stepped up to the plate. I had superb project managers who rose above bureaucracy and inefficiency and pushed the old Cold War envelope, getting weapons to Soldiers faster," he said.

Both PEOs had been in existence here in one form or another since 1992. The PEO for ASMD began as the PEO for Global Protection Against Limited Strikes. It was renamed the PEO for Missile Defense in 1993, and the name was changed to PEO for Air and Missile Defense in 1996. The latest change came in 2003 with the addition of the Army's space programs and the name was changed to PEO for Air, Space and Missile Defense.

The PEO ASMD managed the Lower Tier Air and Missile Defense Project Office, responsible for the Patriot system (including Patriot PAC-3) and the Medium Extended Air Defense System; the newly-created Cruise Missile Defense Systems Project Office, the result of a name change of the Short Range Air Defense Project Office and a realignment of the Joint Land Attack Cruise Missile Defense Elevated Netted Sensor Project Office; the Joint Tactical Ground Station Project Office; the Army Space Program Office and the Army Core Space Control System Office.

In addition to managing these project offices, the PEO ASMD established two initiatives: the Single Integrated Air Picture and System of Systems. When combined, they will provide a more effective defense than is possible with traditional stove-piped systems.

The PEO for Tactical Missiles was formed from the PEOs for Fire Support and Close Combat Missiles and is comprised of four project offices: Aviation Rockets and Missiles, Close Combat Weapon Systems, Precision Fires Rocket and Missile Systems and Joint Common Missile; and the Non-Line of Sight Launch System Task Force.

Weapons managed by the PEO for Tactical Missiles have been carried into battle since the Korean War, and have most recently been employed during Operations Enduring Freedom and Iraqi Freedom.

The PEO's recent focus has been to improve its current system portfolio to maintain technological and combat superiority over potential adversaries. Tactical Missiles has also been developing significant warfighting capabilities for the Future Combat System.

Cannon, the PEO for missiles and space, informed his workers they now have a chance to prove the assertions that have been made recently that the PEOs are life cycle managers.

"We will soon be handed the keys to a new kingdom," to prove the life cycle mission, he said.



Photo by Skip Vaughn

IMMC open house

John Chapman, director of Integrated Materiel Management Center, greets his workers during IMMC's first open house Thursday at building 5302. The welcoming event was for the center's 1,600-member work force. "These people work so hard every day to support the war in Iraq and all the other stuff going on," Chapman said.

National prayer breakfast on upcoming menu

Annual event well attended

Members of the Redstone community will pray together in an annual national observance.

Redstone National Prayer Breakfast is Feb. 3 at 6 a.m. at the Officers and Civilians Club. Suggested donation is \$3.

"People all over our nation are praying at that time for God's guidance," Patty Wilson, religious education coordinator at Bicentennial Chapel, said. "Even though they're at different locations they're praying at the same time."

"Prayer is a part of the American fabric," Garrison Chaplain (Lt. Col.) John Penney said. "And this gives everybody an opportunity to come together and pray for our nation, pray for the leaders of our nation, pray for the defenders of our nation and pray for world peace."

The scheduled speaker is Chaplain (Col.) Steven Moon, the new head chaplain for Army Materiel Command. The Taylor County, Iowa, native entered active duty with a direct commission in 1982.

In 1953, members of Congress established with President Eisenhower the first Presidential Prayer Breakfast. The name was changed in 1970 to the National Prayer Breakfast.



Courtesy photo

Chaplain (Col.) Steven Moon

"It's always well attended by troops and civilians – retirees and civilians," Wilson said of Redstone's event. "It's a great breakfast."

For more information, call Chaplain (Maj.) Joey Byrd at 842-2965.



Courtesy photo

Tribute speaker

Dr. Clyde Walker, director of Missile and Space Intelligence Center, presents a plaque to State Sen. Sundra Escott for serving as guest speaker for MSIC's tribute to Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. on Jan. 12 at the Richard C. Shelby Center for Missile Intelligence Auditorium.

Roberts volunteers to retire after 46 years service

*Knoxville native
lauded by peers*

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

Mister Roberts has left the building.

Carl Roberts, director of the Redstone Technical Test Center, retired Jan. 11 after more than 46 years service. His retirement ceremony drew a crowd that afternoon at RTTC.

"He's a very courteous man, he's a very respectful man, a great man to

work for," Charles Crocker, the center's acting director, said.

"I'm very proud to call Carl one of my friends," Dr. Richard Amos, deputy to the commanding general of AMCOM, said.

Roberts, 71, is a Knoxville native. He received a bachelor's degree in mechanical engineering in 1955 at the University of Tennessee and a master's in systems engineering in 1969 from the University of Alabama-Huntsville. He worked in private industry for three years as a mechanical design engineer.

In September 1958, Roberts began his government career as a mechanical engineer in the then

Missile Command, Test and Evaluation Directorate. He became chief of the test management division in 1980. Roberts was selected for deputy director in 1992 and moved up to the director position in 1998. He has three children and six grandchildren.

Why does someone stay for 46 years? "Because you're interested, because you're challenged, because you love it," he said. "It's the work, it's the people."

"It's been great. It really has," Roberts said. "I'm sorry to leave. But after you've been someplace 46 years, one needs to get out and do something else."



Photo by Skip Vaughn

DEDICATED SERVICE— Carl Roberts, director of Redstone Technical Test Center, receives a Meritorious Civilian Service Award upon retiring after more than 46 years. Making the presentation is Brig. Gen. Michael Combust, commander of the Developmental Test Command, based at Aberdeen Proving Ground, Md.



Joe Ramirez/Photo Lab

FBI director tours

FBI director Robert Mueller, right, tours the Hazardous Devices School at Redstone on Thursday.

■ Cafeteria costs remain competitive

Cafeteria

continued from page 2

Small cup of soup? That will cost you \$2.25. No thanks, I'll drive somewhere reasonable for lunch. And finally, I would pay 50 cents for toast and \$2.90 for a cheese omelet. But when toast increased to 60 cents (20 percent increase) and the cheese omelet to \$3.20 (10 percent increase), I said enough is enough, I will not patronize this establishment. Many of my co-workers feel the same way.

Oh, and by the way, did you know that they value their ketchup at 10 cents a pack?

Thomas Fischer
Business Management Directorate

Editor's note: The Garrison provided the following response. "Thank you for your complimentary remarks toward our staff and cleanness of the cafeteria facili-

ty. Unquestionably the Redstone Post Restaurant Fund staff and cafeteria facilities are among the best of any Army installation.

"While one or two items may have increased as much as 20 percent, the overall price adjustment was 8 to 10 percent. It has been a full year since our last price adjustments and as we are all aware from visiting the grocery store, prices on milk, red meats, pork and produce have risen rather significantly this year. Our price adjustments must reflect not only these costs of goods, but also labor, utilities, paper supplies, accounting costs, equipment repairs and a host of other operating expenses. We do compare pricing with other restaurants off post and find we are competitive and reasonable.

"A lunch consisting of an entree, drink, two vegetables and bread for \$7.15 is competitive with most off post comparable cafeterias. Also, remember you save on those hidden costs such as sale tax, gratuities, cost of transportation and the convenience of having to travel

to another location. Your food dollars spent at Redstone Post Restaurants not only provide the funds to update and improve cafeteria services, but also provide the primary funding source for the Civilian Welfare Fund with all their varied programs that include Huntsville Stars buyout night, operation of the Rustic Lodge, discount tickets to local events and exceptional values on weekend trips to Atlanta Braves baseball or Atlanta Falcons football games.

"Our small salad bar is \$4.35 and our large salad bar is \$5.65. While these are good values, it has always been Post Restaurant Fund's position that salad bars are not the most economical or efficient means of providing salads to our customers. For salad bars to operate efficiently they must have a large customer base (at least two large meals per day to reduce setup and breakdown costs) and operate continuously seven days a week (otherwise waste of up to 75 percent occurs on Fridays). We do offer other salad options such as a small garden salad for \$1.85 and a small chef salad for \$3.45 that are more economical and

better values.

"Our soups do cost a little more per serving than most restaurants. Why? Larger serving sizes. Most restaurants serve a 6 ounce 'cup' of soup and 10 to 12 ounce bowls of soup. Post Restaurant serves a 8 ounce 'cup' of soup and a full 16 ounce bowl of soup.

"Just because the price increased on the omelet does not mean it is still not an exceptional value. We re-checked several local breakfast houses and found that our omelets are well below the local market. In fact we did not find any omelets less expensive than our current price.

"Bottle ketchup is available for customers for in-house use at no charge. Individual packets are provided free with take out food purchases. We do sell ketchup packs for 10 cents as a convenience to customers who may need ketchup for other purposes.

"Hopefully we have given some insight as to why Post Restaurant price adjustments were necessary. We do not like to make price adjustments and will make every effort to keep them to a minimum in the future."

■ Holiday celebration helps organization

Spouses

continued from page 2

and donated the proceeds to the Waiting Spouses, a local organization that supports a group of geographically separated spouses due to armed forces active duty, deployment, etc.

IMMC director John Chapman said, "I would like to express IMMC's gratitude to Mr. Frankz. Through difficult circumstances, he entertained us at no charge to our organization. It is uncommon to find such a selfless act; we would like to commend him for his generosity."

Mr. Chapman would like to thank the employees who donated their time to be on the committee. Without these individuals this event could not have been pulled together. The 2004 IMMC Holiday Celebration Committee members were Arlean Fontenot, Rene' Gregory, Shania Burrows, Leanna Fontenot, Diana Coleman, Pamela Holmes, Kay O'Brien, Pat Joy and Mary Ann Kelly.

The committee members would especially like to thank the following individuals and organizations that went the extra

mile to see that our event was special:

- "Award winning" volunteers — Chani Allen, Cynthia Rice, Laura Goetz, Carmen Suenio, Charles Smith, Amos Richardson, Patricia Miller, Shania Burrows, Jackie Thomas, Delores Collier, Renita Allen, Tom Fitzgerald, Lewis Johnson, Linda Douglas, Lloyd Cook, Gail Miles, Kathy White, Cloise Davis, Willie Sandifer, Alma Morgan, Virgil Wiley, Rickey Clay, Marsha Bailey, Becky Owen, Gil Calvo, Art Ather, Rick Gray, Jerry Kelly, Gordon Alexander, Edward Grimble, Gerrard Dorsett, Lisa Terrell, Nero Tucker, Leafus Thomas, Arlene McDonald, Yolanda Mathis, John Chambers, Mike Slocum, Elizabeth Schmitt, John Foster, Jim Wasson, Pat Joy, Pamela Holmes, Aundrea Robinson, Diana Coleman, Leanna Fontenot, Aileen Jacques, Robbin Riley, Chris Graves, Lottie Dozier, Barbara Calloway, Myrtis Harmon, Sandra Dargin, Linda Lanier, Kay O'Brien, George Overton, Jan Pickard, Cynthia Janes, Nakia Wells, Lisa Pipes, Romona Rice, Karen Voss, Bernadette Green, Roderic Johnson, John Chapman and Dr. Thomas Pieplow.

- Major supporting roles — Cynthia

Aldridge, InfoSurv Inc., thank you for the graphics support. Malcolm Lowery, Omni Government Services, thank you for the beautiful Philco TV backdrop and other art that you made. Officers and Civilians Club, thank you for the use of your facility and the food. Chris Porter, DJ, thank you — you always give us your best and get us on our feet. Floyd White, thank you for videotaping our special event. Lorraine Noland, thank you for the donation of the Mary Kay gift baskets. Pat Joy, thank you for the donation of the PartyLite candle basket.

Lynn Fratesi, thank you for the donation of the Rosie's gift certificates. Nathan Bowen, thank you for the donation of UAH Chargers hockey tickets. Shania Burrows, thank you for the donation for the Mary Kay basket. Sheryl Goins, thank you for the Mary Kay baskets and gift certificates.

We look forward to working with all of you in the future!

Arlean Fontenot
Integrated Materiel
Management Center

■ Air defenders renew friendships

Reception

continued from page 2

Defense Artillery review. More than 100 air defenders, local industry representatives, friends of ADA and guests attended.

The ties between For Bliss and Redstone Arsenal are strong. Retired Col. Michael Howell introduced Maj. Gen. Vane and presented him a \$3,000 check, the last installment of a \$10,000 grant for renovations to the Air Defense Museum at Fort Bliss. The museum displays include weapon systems developed by the Huntsville community and Redstone Arsenal over the last 50 years.

Retired Col. Steve Kuffner presented an original lithograph to Maj. Gen. Vane

for display in the Air Defense Artillery Museum. Local artist, retired Col. Kenneth H. Brown, created the artwork. It depicts the numerous weapon systems deployed by our community as well as the next generation of weapon systems under development here. Maj. Gen. Vane expressed his gratitude for the gifts to the ADA Museum and appreciation for the great work that Brig. Gen. Cannon, and his predecessor — Maj. Gen. John M. Urias — and their staffs had done for the Air Defense School. He closed his remarks with an outline assessment of the branch and great ADA Soldiers.

It was a Hoo-ah, First to Fire event. A great time was had by all attendees renewing old friendships and making new ones.

Richard F. Pendleton

Radar

continued from page 1

shipping parts back and forth between manufacturing facilities in separate states and the number of radar built for flight tests.

“This was great,” Merrill said, after they answered everything to their satisfaction. “These questions were terrific.”

Mockensturm agreed that the questions kept them on their toes. He later commented that the questions from the spouses were “insightful and clearly helpful.”

Although the Radar 101 attendees were rewarded for their time and attention with commemorative coins from the THAAD Radar roll out ceremony, they all agreed that a better understanding of the THAAD Radar — as well as the parts their spouses play in its production — was priceless.

“This was very informative,” Lynn

Montgomery, wife of chief engineer Brent Montgomery, said. “It’s hard to formulate a question because you have to process all that information and you don’t want to sound dumb, but they were great about it.”

Wil Good commented that the briefing was enlightening. “As a former military communications troop, I found the information contained in the briefing interesting and eye-opening,” he said. “Most of us outside of the program cannot fathom the commitment of time to develop such a defensive system or the time to just manufacture one complete radar system.”

“It went well,” Mockensturm said at the end of the briefing. “I hope to do this at least once a year and whenever changes to the system come up.”

Editor’s note: Beth Skarupa is the wife of Andrew Skarupa, hardware mechanical lead of the THAAD Radar Product Office.

■ Fitness centers benefit retirees, too

Retirees

continued from page 2

has been told by headquarters Department of Army to stop issuing the DA Form 1602 since it conflicts with some other policies. I was told by the MILPO representative that headquarters DA has prohibited them from issuing the newer badge until the conflicts have been resolved. Unfortunately, a number of months have gone by and no progress has been observed. The expressed local MILPO perception is that this is not a priority issue for headquarters DA and so they don’t expect to see any action on it for a long time.

So, any retired civil servant who still has the older badge (DA Form 5003) cannot use the fitness facilities unless they pay to purchase an annual Morale Welfare and Recreation membership. Some retirees have to pay; some retirees do not have to pay — this does not seem right.

This is one of those “loop” situations where each of my requests for assistance results in being passed to yet another organization for resolution — all unsuccessful so far. Each office I have contacted has been professionally pleasant but each states that another/different office must correct the problem.

I would like to see the badge issue officially elevated by the MILPO organization so that resolution on which badge to use can be reached. I would also like to see the MWR folks come up with a way to admit retirees using their older badges — perhaps by a manual method during the interim period while MILPO solves the badge dilemma.

Hopefully, your column will reach the person(s) with the real responsibility to address this problem and will produce some answers/results.

Karen Trevey

Editor’s note: The Garrison provided the following response. “We appreciate your concern that DoD civilian retirees should receive the MWR benefits to which they are entitled. In fact ‘MWR, For All Your Life,’ is the Armywide slogan for our organization that provides key services not only to active duty, Reserve Component, retired military and their family members, but also for DoD civilians, retired civilians and their family members as well. We are committed to making sure these well earned and deserved benefits can continue to be taken advantage of at Redstone Arsenal.

“Unfortunately, all Army MILPOs received an official Department of the Army instruction to stop issuing the DA 1602 a few months ago. As of this time, there has been no change on that issue. But we’re told the issue is being addressed at Army G1 and Human Resources Command, and viable solutions are being work at the installation level. The MILPO has issued DA Form 5302 in the past and the DA Form 1602. Either of those will still get you into our MWR facilities, to include our four premier fitness centers. While DoD retirees are entitled to ‘MWR, For All You Life’ benefits, there simply has to be a uniformed card or badge that properly identifies those entitled to this benefit. Either of the DA Forms 5302 and 1602 is recognized and can be used to access our facilities and the installation. There is no need for a DoD retiree to join a membership program to take advantage of this benefit.

“However, at this time there are many DoD employees who are retiring and having to turn in their post access badge, leaving no practical means for them to come back onto the installation. Our local MWR came up with a means to issue a recognized picture patrons card until a viable Army-wide solution is put back into place. This also is a great means of access for the DoD civilian and retired civilians’ immediate family members too, as they are also eligible MWR patrons. We do charge for these cards, as this function is not funded with appropriated dollars, but operates rather as a non-appropriated fund entity of the government. The charge covers the annual registration in the MWR management information system, and helps defray the cost of supplying, staffing and operating the registration office. These fees are in line with other service fees we charge customers for registration in other programs, and in fact the fee amount matches the annual Child and Youth Services registration fees which are mandated by DoD. While the DoD civilians and families do not have to be MWR members, as a benefit of membership those who are currently enrolled in good standing in one of our MWR membership program may receive two of the cards annually at no cost.

“If any DoD retiree has a problem accessing our facilities with your DA 1602 or 5302, please call our MWR Business and Membership Services office at 830-9175 or 313-3203.

“Again, we are committed to seeing our retired civil servants continue receiving the benefits they deserve.”

EOD robots performing tech wonders in Iraq



Systems keep Soldiers out of harm's way

By Spc. JONATHAN MONTGOMERY
Army News Service

BAGHDAD, Iraq — Whenever an Explosive Ordnance Disposal technician heads downrange, one thing is certain: the robot goes first.

“The cost of losing a robot is not nearly as close as losing a trained EOD person,” said Sgt. 1st Class Gregory Carroll, noncommissioned officer in charge of the 184th Ordnance Battalion, an EOD Robotics team from Fort Gillem, Ga., deployed to Baghdad. “Time on target is our biggest danger, and these robots eliminate us from having to go downrange if we don’t have to.”

Since their EOD inception, robotic systems have saved numerous lives by helping to wipe away the threat of improvised explosive devices and vehicle-borne IEDs encountered daily throughout the Iraqi theater of operations.

Not surprisingly, 95 percent of all EOD robots are used for reconnaissance missions and delivering explosives to the hazard for detonation, Carroll said.

“We wouldn’t have EOD guys if we didn’t have robots to take the hit,” he explained about the constant number of IED casualties along main supply routes and in close-quarter urban areas. “These robots are a human cost-saving mechanism.”

In addition to taking an IED blast, EOD robots also get shot at by small arms fire, added Carroll.

These “man-portable” robots, initially employed by infantry units for advance scouting purposes, dually serve as multi-versatile, lightweight machines supplementing EOD teams on the roads of Iraq.

“The IED threat is so critical,” said Capt. Jason Souza, officer in charge of the 184th EOD Robotics team. He added that the EOD missions in both Iraq and Afghanistan have exceeded the demand for robots.

The robots, able to be thrown in the back of a chopper or tactical vehicle with ease, each consist of thousands of interlocking parts. They are primarily designed as a track vehicle with a retractable arm claw and camera, and are also capable of being armed with a grenade launcher or other infantry arsenals.

“You put this (robot) on the ground, and people know who you are,” said Carroll about EOD. “(Iraqi) kids go ‘Boom! Boom!’ when they see us because they know an explosion is going to happen. People start to scatter.”

Common city obstacles such as getting over a curb or wading through a foot of sewer water are often overcome with the remote control expertise of a skilled EOD

technician, but sometimes a bomb blast can get the best of the robot’s size, strength and dexterity.

“One lady came back (to the robot repair depot) with only two tracks in her hands,” said Marine Master Sgt. Thomas Bogosh, senior noncommissioned officer of the Joint Robotic System Repair Station in Iraq. “They weren’t even whole tracks, only parts of them.”

His repair station workers, many of whom are former Army and Air Force, work to salvage destroyed robot parts, some still covered in white phosphorous and oil.

But whatever the hurdles, the EOD teams who are out making a safer Iraq are doing so by learning from each other.

“(EOD) is a joint service environment, but we’re definitely one team, one fight,” said Navy Petty Officer 2nd Class Jennifer Smith, EOD information technician. “We’re a tight community which shares a lot of information with each other. Whoever needs equipment, gets equipment in EOD.”

EOD technicians are schooled on many different types of robots in case the one they prefer is in the repair shop.

A well-working, repairable robot completes more than 1,000 missions during its theater tenure.

The missions wear and tear these battle droids more than in the United States, said Bogosh.

“A year’s worth of work back home is equal to one day in Iraq for these robots,” he said.

Editor’s note: Spc. Jonathan Montgomery serves with the Multinational Corps – Iraq Public Affairs Office.

Photo by Spc. Jonathan Montgomery
ON JOB— An Explosive Ordnance Disposal robotic “Talon” is gainfully employed Jan. 6 by the 184th EOD Robotics Team stationed in Baghdad, Iraq.

Two Letterkenny workers cited for achievements

LETTERKENNY RELEASE

LETTERKENNY ARMY DEPOT, Pa. — Todd Beam and Cheryl Preisler have received the David M. Goodman Achievement Award.

The presentations were made by Letterkenny commander Col. William Guinn as well as Goodman.

Beam received his award in the management/executive category. With 29 years of service, he is a machine supervisor.

Preisler, who has more than 20 years experience, received the award in the

professional/technical category. She is a contract administrator in Letterkenny’s Directorate of Contracting.

The award was established and named after Goodman, former director of maintenance, in recognition of his selfless service, steadfast support and outstanding contributions to the depot. It was established in 2004 to recognize employees whose exceptional performance of duties significantly advanced and supported the depot’s mission.

Thirteen other employees who were nominated received certificates of appreciation.

1,000th Stryker rolls out at Anniston depot

Combat vehicle system agile, hostile and mobile

By GRANT NULLE
Army News Service

WASHINGTON — Production of the 1,000th Stryker vehicle was commemorated during a ceremony Jan. 12 at Anniston Army Depot, Ala., 33 months to the day former Army Chief of Staff Eric K. Shinseki signed for the first Stryker there April 12, 2002.

The Stryker program is a good example of “public-private partnerships,” said Col. Alexander Raulerson, depot commander. He said the program matched the expertise of government and the private sector to improve the Army.

Anniston assembles two-thirds of the Strykers and the other third are built in London, Ontario, Canada.

Anniston hosts an assembly and test station operated by Stryker partner General Dynamics, said Bob Baker, Anniston plant manager with General Dynamics.

The depot assists the contractor by providing facilities and laboratories for test analyses of materials and paints all the vehicles.

Of the 1,000 Strykers built thus far, almost 800 have been fielded, said Col. Peter Fuller, Stryker project manager. Another 1,451 are on order.

The 311 Strykers that have been in Iraq for the last 14 months have logged more than four million miles, with an operational availability rate of 97 percent.

Soldiers have praised the Stryker’s ability to move to a conflict swiftly, and more importantly, quietly. Sgt. Benjamin Herman, a team leader from Company C, 1st Battalion, 23rd Infantry Regiment, of the current SBCT in Iraq said some Iraqis

call SBCT Soldiers “Ghost Riders” and “Ghost Soldiers” because they arrive with little noise or warning.

Wheeled and mobile, the Stryker takes Soldiers point to point as safe as a possible and much faster than any other conveyance, said Raulerson, who has observed the Stryker’s performance near Balad, Iraq. “It lends itself to missions in Iraq, where rapidly moving forces to points of conflict as quickly as possible is needed,” he said.

The Stryker is the first major combat system purchased by the Army since the Bradley Infantry Fighting Vehicle was acquired in 1988.

The second Stryker Brigade Combat Team rotated to Iraq in November. 1st Brigade, 25th Infantry Division from Fort Lewis, Wash., operates Strykers brought over by 3rd Brigade, 2nd Infantry Division, the Army’s first Stryker Brigade Combat Team, also from Fort Lewis.

The Stryker has 10 variants, eight of which have been built and fielded. The Infantry Carrier and Reconnaissance vehicles add up to more than half of those produced so far, totaling 565.

There have been 36 Anti-Tank Missile Guided Vehicles produced, 53 Fire Support Vehicles, 42 Engineer Squad Vehicles, 129 Mortar Carrier Vehicles, 55 Commander’s Vehicles, and 60 Medical Evacuation Vehicles.

Baker said the Mobile Gun System and the Nuclear, Biological and Chemical variant are slated to go into production this summer.

Lt. Gen. Joseph Yakovac Jr., military deputy to the assistant secretary of the Army for acquisition, logistics and technology, attended the activities at Anniston.

“The Stryker is an example of the Army’s effort to transform itself into a more agile, deployable and lethal force,” he said.



Army News Service

HOT WHEELS— The 1,000th Stryker vehicle is displayed at the ceremony site. This vehicle is going to the 2nd/1st Infantry, Fort Richardson, Alaska.

Team Redstone celebrates King's enduring dream

Annual luncheon
draws over 470

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

Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. would have liked the turnout for his birthday luncheon Thursday at the Officers and Civilians Club.

More than 470 people attended Team Redstone's annual celebration in honor of the late civil rights pioneer and his legacy of assuring equality for everyone.

"He broke the bonds of oppression of his own government," Maj. Gen. Jim Pillsbury, commander of the Aviation and Missile Command and Redstone Arsenal, said. "He broke the bonds of oppression of his own countrymen. And he did it with love and courage and common sense and nonviolence."

"Dr. King was a man of love," guest speaker Dr. J.H. Flakes, pastor of Fourth Street Missionary Baptist Church in Columbus, Ga., said. "He loved God. He obeyed God. He trusted God."

Flakes challenged Team Redstone members to meet together, start talking to

one another and spend time with people of diverse backgrounds. "When you get through, you'll discover you all have the same basic needs," he said.

He encouraged everyone to not just celebrate King's dream of equality but to act to make that dream a reality.

"Now is the time for a coalition of consciousness, to build bridges, to eradicate whatever vestiges of racism and injustice exist," he said.

The theme for Martin Luther King Day, a national holiday Jan. 17, is "Remember! Celebrate! Act! A Day On – Not a Day Off!"

"How good and pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity," Dr. Richard Showers, president of the Huntsville City Council, said.

Winners of the essay writing contest included: first place, Sgt. Mark Lewis of Headquarters & Alpha Company; second place, Shirley Lawrence of Information Technology Support Services, information system engineering division; and third place, Jasmine Kenner, 14, of Monrovia Middle School.

The static display contest winners included: first place, Missile Systems Training Department; second place, Headquarters & Alpha Company; and third place, NCO Academy.



Photo by Skip Vaughn

FOOD FOR THOUGHT— Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. delivers his "I Have a Dream" speech on film while attendees eat lunch during Redstone's annual celebration in his honor.

Lighten up, tighten up with weight loss program

MWR sponsoring fitness promotion

A new Armywide program can help you lose weight in 2005.

"Lighten Up! Tighten Up!" is sponsored by Morale Welfare and Recreation. Anyone dining at the Officers and Civilians Club can now select from a light menu which will be diet conscious.

Participants can get a card punched each occasion they choose from the light menu. When a 10-hole card is filled, the partici-

pant will receive a prize. Some of the prizes include talking jump ropes, body fat analyzers, fitness journals, pedometers to keep track of how much the recipient walks daily, and tape measures. Participants can get as many cards as they want.

On March 31, at the end of this promotion, all the cards will be entered into a national grand prize drawing for a spa resort vacation, BowFlex home fitness center from Nautilus or a gas grill from Gardenburger.

This is just part of the new program. "Remember Dump Your Plump?" asked

Gaylene Wilson, sports and fitness director for MWR. "This weight loss/healthy lifestyle team program is like that. The menu part is at the Officers and Civilians Club. But our (team) competition for the weight loss is going to kick off Jan. 31."

Offices and groups of military and civilian workers can compete against other teams to see who can lose the most weight. This contest is limited to 25 teams; and the deadline for signup is Jan. 24. To enter a team, call assistant sports director Phylissa Shannon at 313-1202.

"At the end of March, we'll end it with

a 'Buns on the Run' one-mile walk," Wilson said. "The specific date will be announced but it'll be toward the end of March at the end of this program."

For information about the healthy menu portion of the program, call Bob Howell, manager of the Officers and Civilians Club, at 842-0748.

Show heart by wearing red

Awareness campaign scheduled Feb. 4

FOX ARMY HEALTH CENTER RELEASE

Friday, Feb. 4 is National Wear Red Day. From a celebrity-studded Red Dress fashion show in New York City to local awareness activities, thousands of Americans across the country will wear red to unite in the national movement to give women a personal and urgent wakeup call about their risk for heart

disease. The day serves as a reminder to every woman to care for her heart, because heart disease is the No. 1 killer of women. One out of every three American women dies of heart disease.

The National Heart, Lung and Blood Institute is sponsoring a national awareness campaign called "The Heart Truth" in partnership with the Office on Women's Health, Department of Health and Human Services; American Heart Association; WomenHeart: the National Coalition for Women

with Heart Disease; and other organizations committed to the health and well-being of women. The campaign warns women about heart disease and provides tools to help them take action against its risk factors. Its message is paired with an arresting visual — the Red Dress — the national symbol for women and heart disease awareness.

Preventive Medicine at Fox Army Health Center is working to spread "The Heart Truth" awareness on Redstone Arsenal. Other direc-

torates have also volunteered to help increase women's awareness of this problem. On Feb. 4, you will find tools to increase your awareness at many different areas on post: SMDC, Sparkman Complex, RDECOM, all gyms and MSIC. We will also be distributing Red Dress pins and stickers so that you can join in National Wear Red Day.

For more information about National Wear Red Day, "The Heart Truth" and its Red Dress symbol, visit www.heart-truth.gov.



Photo by Dan O'Boyle

Ordnance honoree

Retired chief warrant officer Al Rose, a former AMCOM employee, holds a letter of notification from Brig. Gen. Vincent Boles, chief of Ordnance, Aberdeen Proving Ground, Md., that Rose has been selected for induction into the Ordnance Corps Hall of Fame. Rose also received a personal phone call from Boles congratulating him.

Medics pass NCO Academy test in opener



Photo by Skip Vaughn

BOARDS BATTLE— MEDDAC's D'Juan Steen (24) pulls down a defensive rebound in the second half against NCO Academy.

MEDDAC wins rematch against last year's champ

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

The troop basketball season didn't exactly have a rousing start Jan. 10 at Pagano Gym.

But the 326th Chemical Company, Headquarters & Alpha and MEDDAC weren't complaining after their openers.

First, the preseason champion 326th Chemical won by forfeit over HHC 59th. In game two, Headquarters & Alpha took advantage of an outnumbered Delta squad 40-17. And finally, MEDDAC beat an inexperienced NCO Academy team 39-27.

"We played kind of tired coming off the holidays and a lot of folks missing," MEDDAC small forward Torreon Scott said. "We did OK, though."

Michael Gola — who complained that he got out of shape from eating too much during the holidays — led MEDDAC with 16 points, including 12 after halftime. Aaron Busby scored eight of his 12 in the second half. Michael Jackson added nine for last season's post runners-up.

"We just outplayed them," Scott said. "They missed a lot of shots. We didn't miss as many shots."

The NCO Academy led 15-14 at intermission. Guyron Brock scored 10 for the defending post champions who didn't compete in the preseason tournament and have a new lineup this year.

"These are all students and this was the first time they had a chance to come together and play," NCO Academy coach Bernard Gaines said.

Headquarters & Alpha outnumbered Delta 11-5, putting the odds in the Gators' favor against the perennial troop sports power. Delta has won the last two Commander's Cup trophies.

"Because of Delta's reputation, I thought we had the odds stacked against us," Headquarters & Alpha coach/shoot-

ing guard Mark Lewis said. "But after we saw the number of men they had, I knew we were going to win. I just didn't know by how much."

The Gators scored the game's first 12 points and led 14-5 at halftime. Delta closed within 17-13 on Robert Harris' layup with 12:30 left. But the Gators responded with a 21-0 run, sparked by consecutive 3-pointers by Mark Thomas and Amado Mena.

Mena finished with 12 points for Headquarters & Alpha. Gabriel Sarimento scored 10. Thomas had nine points, 11 rebounds and five blocks. Ricarlo Perry had eight rebounds and three blocks before fouling out. Lewis added seven points.

"Just a new group of guys," said Mena, a guard who had two 3-pointers. "First game of the season. But it was a good game, it was a good run. Being with a new group of guys, we played good as a team."

Harris led the Devastating Dragons with eight points, all in the second half, while Donald James had seven rebounds.

"It builds character (to be outnumbered 11-5)," Delta's Robert Coppage said. "We didn't foul out. We hung in there."

"They made some good plays but they were exhausted and we kind of seized the moment," Lewis said. "They played iron man today."

Here are other results from last week:

- Jan. 11 – Charlie def. Bravo 39-28, NCO Academy def. Marines 22-15 and 326th Chemical def. Headquarters & Alpha 52-30.

- Jan. 12 – Marines def. 326th Chemical 47-33, Charlie def. MEDDAC 48-37 and Bravo def. Delta 39-29.

- Jan. 13 – NCO Academy def. Delta 33-25, Bravo def. Headquarters & Alpha 40-36 and Charlie def. HHC 59th 58-33.

The standings entering this week were:

- Eastern division – Charlie (3-0), 326th Chemical (2-1), MEDDAC (1-1) and Delta (0-3).

- Western division – Bravo (2-1), NCO Academy (2-1), Marines (1-1), Headquarters & Alpha (1-2) and HHC 59th (0-2).

DFAS overpays 53,000 Soldiers in January

Incorrect information entered in database

By ERIC W. CRAMER
Army News Service

WASHINGTON — Soldiers who see an extra few hundred

dollars in their mid-month January paychecks shouldn't spend it.

The Defense Finance and Accounting Service made an error that will cause about 53,000 Soldiers to be paid too much in January. The Army will collect the funds from end-of-month paychecks to restore

financial balance.

Most of the affected Soldiers will receive overpayments of between \$200 and \$300. There are 316 Soldiers who will receive overpayments of more than \$500, a DFAS official said.

When the Army "draws back" the overpayments, it will take

back the overpayments of \$500 and more in two installments, officials said, to reduce any potential hardship for Soldiers.

Those who received less than \$500 extra will see the drawback in the January end of the month paycheck. Col. Kenneth Crowder, director of Army Pay Operations for the Defense Finance and Accounting Service, said those affected are Soldiers who have Army meal cards, but who are authorized for reimbursement for some meals.

Crowder said an incorrect date entered into a computer database caused the error.

He said DFAS was changing to the new rate for meal reimbursements, when a data entry error backdated the change to 2004.

"It (the computer system) tried to apply the new rate to the entire previous year," Crowder said.

He said DFAS is notifying the affected Soldiers via their Army Knowledge Online accounts and through their chains of command.

"Every Soldier involved will receive a specific, personal e-mail explaining what occurred and what the corrective actions are," Crowder said.

Civilian salary table for 2005

Grade	Step 1	Step 2	Step 3	Step 4	Step 5	Step 6	Step 7	Step 8	Step 9	Step 10
1	18005	18606	19205	19801	20400	20752	21342	21939	21963	22524
2	20243	20725	21395	21963	22209	22862	23515	24168	24821	25474
3	22087	22824	23560	24296	25033	25769	26505	27242	27978	28714
4	24795	25622	26448	27274	28101	28927	29753	30579	31406	32232
5	27742	28667	29592	30518	31443	32368	33293	34218	35144	36069
6	30923	31954	32985	34016	35047	36078	37109	38140	39171	40201
7	34363	35509	36655	37800	38946	40091	41237	42382	43528	44673
8	38056	39325	40593	41861	43129	44397	45665	46933	48201	49469
9	42034	43435	44835	46236	47637	49038	50438	51839	53240	54641
10	46289	47832	49376	50920	52463	54007	55550	57094	58637	60181
11	50858	52553	54248	55944	57639	59334	61029	62725	64420	66115
12	60955	62987	65018	67050	69081	71112	73144	75175	77207	79238
13	72486	74902	77318	79734	82150	84566	86982	89398	91813	94229
14	85656	88512	91367	94223	97078	99934	102789	105644	108500	111355
15	100756	104116	107475	110834	114193	117552	120911	124270	127629	130988

Office of Personnel Management

ANNUAL TABLE— This salary table incorporates the 2.5 percent General Schedule increase and a locality payment of 12.4 for the locality pay area of Huntsville-Decatur. The total increase is 3.36 percent.

Sports & Recreation

Taekwondo classes

SKIESUnlimited's Taekwondo lessons continue through March. Prices are \$40 for first family member, \$33 second member and \$28 third family member per month. This program is open to patrons age 5 through adult. For information call Brandie DeRemer 313-3701.

Dance lessons

Child and Youth Services' SKIESUnlimited, along with SABA School of Dance and International Performing Arts Company, is offering dance lessons to children 5-18 Monday through Saturday until May 22 at the SABA Dance Studio. Students will attend class once per week. The entire session is five months long, however, families may pay monthly. Cost is \$35 per month. Any child participating must have a valid sports physical completed before registration or participation in any dance class. For more information, call Brandie DeRemer 313-3701.

Boating safety

Redstone Flotilla 2406 will offer the following boating safety classes this year from 6:30-9 p.m. at Stillwell Hall, building 3305, room 215: Class 05-1, Feb. 10 through March 24; Class 05-2, April 14 through May 26; Class 05-3, June 9 through July 21; Class 05-4, Aug. 11 through Sept. 22; and Class 05-5, Oct. 13 through Nov. 23. A \$25 fee covers the cost of the class text and binder which are provided to all students. For more information and class registration, call Tom Kunhart 885-7096 (work) or 830-6621 (home).

Conferences & Meetings

Men singers

The Rocket City Chorus, a chapter of the Barbershop Harmony Society, meets every Thursday at 7 p.m. in the Aldersgate Methodist Church Fellowship Hall, 12901 Bailey Cove Road. For more information, call John Gonzalez 842-2992 (work) or 852-2408 (home).

Work-related injuries

If you are a member of the FECA Working Group, the SOH Quarterly Group, or the Occupation Medicine Staff, you are urged to attend a joint meeting of the FECA Working Group and the SOH Group on Jan. 25 at 1:30 p.m. in building 5307, conference room 7142. Topic is "coordination of injury office, safety offices and occupational medicine facility in reporting, treating, managing, investigating the work-related injuries of Team Redstone Army civilians and the roles and responsibilities of each office." This meeting will also include a detailed discussion of the Electronic Data Interchange System used to report all work-related claims to the Department of Labor, Office of Workers Compensation Program.

Admin professionals

The Redstone Arsenal Chapter of International Association of Administrative Professionals will hold its 10th annual semi-

nar, "Pathways to Professional Excellence," Feb. 15 from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Huntsville Hilton. Keynote speaker is Linda Spalla, former president and general manager of WHNT-TV. Afternoon workshop topics include Effective Writing, Scrapbooking, Professional Manners, Edwards Jones Financial Tips, Pros & Cons of Fad Diets/Bariatric Surgery, and Identity Theft. A fashion show will also be included with the luncheon and continental breakfast and snacks will be provided to attendees. The course is in TIPS by the course number PPE, and vendor name is IAAP. Tuition fees are \$125 and student rates are \$50. You do not have to be in the administrative career field to attend this training event. To register call Susan Douglas 842-6795.

Sergeants major

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

Logistics engineers

The International Society of Logistics, Tennessee Valley Chapter, will hold a luncheon 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Jan. 25 at the Officers and Civilians Club. Scheduled speaker is Dr. Steven P. D. Smith, senior technical adviser to the director of Research Development and Engineering Center. Cost is \$11 for members, \$12 for non-members. Make reservations by Friday with Emma Louise Cooper 313-6763 or Randy Gibbs 313-2942.

Education update

The Garrison Education Meeting, sponsored by Child and Youth Services, is noon Jan. 24 in the Redstone Room of the Challenger Community Activity Center, building 1500. The meeting is designed to keep the Garrison commander and committee members informed of the educational opportunities available to the Redstone community and provide information on Huntsville City Schools. For information call Pam Berry 876-7801.

Officers association

The Huntsville Chapter of the Military Officers Association of America will hold its monthly luncheon meeting is at 11 a.m. Jan. 26, at the Officers and Civilians Club. Annual Reports will be presented and new officers will be installed. The chapter's informal monthly breakfast is Saturday, at 8 a.m. at Victoria's Cafe, 7540 Memorial Parkway southwest. All active, retired and former officers; their spouses and widows, are invited. For more information, call retired Chief Warrant Officer Aniceto Bagley 852-7973.

Education meeting

The Garrison Education Meeting, sponsored by Child and Youth Services, is noon Jan. 24 in the Redstone Room of the Challenger Community Activity Center, building 1500. The meeting is designed to keep Garrison commander Col. Bob Devlin and committee members informed of the educational opportunities available to the Redstone community and provide information on Huntsville schools, where children who live on post attend. For

information call Pam Berry 876-7801.

Defense seminar

The National Defense Industrial Association and the Defense Acquisition University will present the "Unique Identification/Radio Frequency Identification Seminar" on Jan. 25-26 at the Huntsville Hilton. For more information, visit www.ndia.org.

Theatre guild

The Madison Theatre Guild is soliciting new members for the beginning of its second year. Residents of Huntsville, Madison and nearby communities are invited to the annual meeting Jan. 27 at 7:30 p.m. at the Madison Chamber of Commerce, 204 Main St. in Madison. For more information, call artistic director Jeannie King 772-1963 or president Jim Collier 541-3648.

Miscellaneous

Reserve unit openings

A local Army Reserve detachment doing weekend drills on Redstone Arsenal has openings for computer specialists. The unit seeks prior active duty Soldiers or transfers from other Reserve/National Guard units with a specialty of 25B/74B information systems operators and 75B/H unit administration. For 25B/74B, the unit will consider reclassification action to 25B if you can document with resume your Civilian Acquired Skills to include your education/experience in the following computer skills: data base management, programming, networking and telecommunications. Minimum of a secret clearance is required. And you must possess the personal qualifications to pass a SBI background investigation process to obtain a top secret clearance soon. Specialties 74C and 74F are now authorized to convert to 74B as well. For specialty 74C or 74F, they have merged into the 25B career group and convert to 25B/74B as well. To schedule an interview, call Victor Marshall 313-0168.

Civilian deployment

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

Surplus sales

Marshall Space Flight Center's surplus property can be purchased through the General Services Administration sales web site. To bid on this property, go to www.gsaauctions.gov. For more information, call 544-4667.

Redstone motorcycle training

Experienced Riders Motorcycle Training is conducted at the Rocket Harley-Davidson Dealership off I-565 and Greenbrier Road. Soldiers, DoD civilians and military retirees are funded by the government. Contractors pay \$75 per person. For registration information, call Keith Coates 876-3383 or John Zuber 876-3114 of the Garrison Safety Office.

Leadership course

Applicants have until Feb. 9 to apply for the Sustaining Base Leadership and Management resident program, Class 05-2, which runs May 16 through Aug. 5 at the Army Management Staff College, Fort Belvoir, Va. For more information, call Michael Davis 876-6068.

Tax assistance center

The Redstone Tax Center, building 3489 off Ajax Road, provides free tax preparation and electronic filing services to active duty and retired military and their dependents. Appointments can be requested starting today, and the center will open Jan. 24. Hours of operation will be Monday through Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. by appointment only, and Tuesday and Thursday evenings from 5-7 for walk-in services. For an appointment, directions, or more information, call 842-1040.

Apprentice program

The Department of Defense initiated the Science and Engineering Apprentice Program in 1980, under the direction of the Executive Office of the President, to involve academically talented high school and college students in hands-on research activities and student-mentor relationships during the summer. This program is designed for students who have demonstrated aptitude and interest in science and engineering courses and careers. A major benefit of the program is pairing the students with university and professional engineering mentors. The high school and college programs are designed for students who are United States citizens and age 15 by the beginning of the program June 6, 2005. The apprentice program is divided into 8, 10 and 12 weeks. Both programs are fast-paced and require disciplined professional work habits. Junior and senior scientists and engineers gain additional experience by serving as mentors for first time students, and providing guidance through interactive research processes. The points of contact for applications are senior counselors at all public, private and parochial high school and college placement services. Possible career placement areas at the Garrison-Redstone Arsenal include physics, chemistry, computer science, engineering and mathematics. The deadline for postmarking applications is Jan. 31. If the student is unsuccessful in receiving an application from the high school senior counselor or college placement service call the Civilian Personnel Advisory Center, Julie Lumpkins in building 5308 at 313-4834.

Drill sergeant of year

The Ordnance Munitions and Electronics Maintenance School will hold a competition Jan. 24-28 to select its Drill Sergeant

of the Year to represent Redstone Arsenal and OMEMS at Fort Monroe, Va. This is the first stage to selecting a representative to attend the final competition June 20-24 at the Training and Doctrine Command at Fort Monroe. A luncheon will be held Jan. 28 from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Officers and Civilians Club to announce the OMEMS winner. For more information call Master Sgt. Barrett Parris, Command Sgt. Maj. Charles Bumpers or Staff Sgt. Donna Dubreuil 876-5303 or 842-2240.

Logistics course

The Tennessee Valley Chapter of SOLE is offering a 50-hour Logistics Management course beginning Jan. 24. The course provides a comprehensive review of logistics, preparing students for the next CPL exam scheduled for May 7. The course is also open to anyone who simply wishes to broaden their logistics knowledge. Course fee is \$100. Four textbooks are required. For more information, call Joyce Bilodeau 842-9968.

Value engineering training

The VE Office will host a MOD I/Principles and Applications of Value Engineering class Jan. 24-28 from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. in building 5304, room 4342/44. The class will detail the Value Engineering methodology and apply it to various sample projects. Participants will have the opportunity to go through the steps of a VE project from idea generation to completion. The class introduces participants to function analysis, the heart of Value Engineering. Students also use Function Analysis System Technique, a problem-solving tool based on function analysis. They then will apply the process to a particular project to which they will be assigned. Attendees will also learn the VE process while making progress toward value improvements in the project areas. The class, taught by Craig Ailles of SAIC, is free but please register by calling Pat Kelley 842-9421 by Jan. 19. This class qualifies for 40 Continuous Learning Points for members of the Army Acquisition work force.

Scholarship program

The American Society of Military Comp-trollers announces its annual scholarship program for ASMC members and their immediate families. This scholarship is open to high school seniors, undergraduates and those working on graduate programs. The application can be found on the Internet at <http://www.asmcnline.org/national/nationalawards.shtml> or you may call Judy Smith 876-6163 or Debbie O'Neal 876-2671. Application deadline is Feb. 28. Packages may be mailed to AMCOM, Attn: AMSAM-RM-FD, Redstone Arsenal, AL 35898 or taken to Smith at building 5300, third floor, work station 53B062.

Thrift shop

The Thrift Shop, building 3209 on Hercules Road, is open for shopping Tuesdays 9-5 and Wednesdays and Thursdays from 9-4. Walk-in consignment hours are Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays from 9-1. Military personnel and their families may call the manager for an appointment. The Thrift Shop is accepting Valentine items for consignment. "Join us Saturday, Feb. 5 for a 10 cent sale on specially selected items from 10-2," a pre-

pared release said. For more information, call 881-6992.

Military children's scholarships

The deadline to apply for the Scholarships for Military Children program is Feb. 6. Applications for the \$1,500 scholarships are due at a commissary by close of business on that date. Applications are available at all 272 commissaries worldwide, or online at <http://www.militaryscholar.org>. They are also available through a scholarship link at <http://www.commissaries.com>, the web site for Defense Commissary Agency. The scholarship program is open to unmarried children under 21 (23 if enrolled in school) of military retirees, active duty, and Guard and Reserve servicemembers. Eligibility and additional information is available at the program web site. At least one scholarship will be awarded at every commissary location with qualified applicants. Administered by Fisher House Foundation and funded by manufacturers and industry, the program has awarded more than \$3 million for nearly 2,000 scholarships.

Combined fund organization

The Local Federal Coordinating Committee for the Tennessee Valley Combined Federal Campaign is accepting applications for a Principal Combined Fund Organization to administer the 2005 CFC. The primary responsibility of the PCFO is to support the federal government in managing a comprehensive local workplace fund-raising campaign while ensuring the fiscal integrity, accountability and transparency of the process in accordance with 5CFR, Part 950.104.(c). The primary goal of the PCFO is to conduct an effective and efficient campaign in a fair and even-handed manner. Only federations, charitable organizations, or a combination thereof are eligible to apply for this position. The federation or charitable organization selected to serve as PCFO will be required to sign a memorandum of understanding with the LFCC. Further information may be downloaded from the official OPM web site: www.opm.gov/cfc. All applications must be mailed to CFC Chairperson, AMSAM-CFC, building 3708, Redstone Arsenal, AL 35898-5795 by Feb. 14.

Flu shots

Flu shots will be given at the Preventive Medicine Clinic, Fox Army Health Center today and Jan. 26 from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. For questions call Preventive Medicine 955-8888, ext. 1026 or 1027. Priority is as follows: 50 years old and older; children 13 and older with chronic lung or heart disorders (children 12 and under will be seen in the Immunization Clinic); adults and children with chronic metabolic diseases or weakened immune systems or any household contact of high risk persons; and to include DoD civilians.

Post guide publisher

Benchmark Publications Inc. is the only authorized publisher for the 2005 edition of the Redstone Arsenal Guide, Telephone Directory and installation map. These publications are distributed on Redstone Arsenal to about 21,000 military, civilian and contractor personnel, including military family members on and off post. The publications are used in welcome pack-

ages for newcomers assigned to Redstone Arsenal, people on temporary duty, job recruiting and for visitors. They are also available to the 25,000 retired military members and their families living in the area. All inquiries concerning advertising rates should be directed to Benchmark Publications Inc. 1-800-815-3007. Questions concerning this authorization should be directed to the Public Affairs Office of the Aviation and Missile Command and Redstone Arsenal, Lira Frye 955-9173.

AER scholarships

Army Emergency Relief is accepting applications for the Maj. Gen. James Ursano Scholarship. The scholarships are awarded annually for up to four academic years to unmarried dependent children of Soldiers (active, retired or deceased) to attend post secondary school full time for the entire academic year. Applications for the 2005-06 academic year are available at Army Community Service, building 3338 on Redeye Road, or by mail. You may mail your application request to AER Headquarters, Maj. Gen. James Ursano Scholarship Fund, 200 Stovall Street 5N13, Alexandria, VA 22332-0600. Applications and additional eligibility criteria are also available on the AER web site: www.aerhq.org. Completed scholarship application and supporting documentation must be postmarked by March 1. For more information call Army Community Service, Kristi Foster, 876-5397.

Warrant officer recruitment

The Army is looking for highly motivated Soldiers, Marines, Sailors and Airman to fill its warrant officer ranks. Positions are open in all 45 specialties if you qualify. Applicants with less than 12 years active federal service are encouraged to apply. For more information and all forms/documents required, visit www.usarec.army.mil/warrant. You can call Sgt. 1st Class Morales Marcelino, warrant officer recruiter with Army Recruiting command at Fort Knox, Ky., at (502) 626-1860.

Telephone directories

The BellSouth Telephone Directories have arrived and are available for pickup 8-11 a.m. and 1-3 p.m. through Feb. 20 from building 5302 (Sparkman Center loading docks). The distribution process is the same as last year. Each organization must provide necessary manpower and transportation when loading telephone directories for transport. This applies to all organizations located on and off Redstone Arsenal, with the exception of organizations in buildings 4545, 5400, 5681 and 6263. Delivery will be made directly to those buildings. For information call Geneva Murphy 876-6103, Ronald Hyatt 955-7953 or Tom Weigand 876-9111.

Tsunami relief efforts

The director of the Office of Personnel Management has authorized a special solicitation of federal employees at the workplace to assist in the relief efforts to aid the victims of the Asian earthquake and tsunami disasters. Based on the recommendations by the U.S. Agency for International Development, cash donations are the most effective way to provide relief assistance to humanitarian organiza-

tions, Kay Cole James, the director of the OPM, wrote in a memorandum distributed to the heads of all executive departments and agencies. A cash donation is preferred over items, as it allows volunteers to quickly purchase the items needed, without the task of dealing with transportation routes, staff time, and storage space. It will also allow people to purchase goods that aren't in conflict with the region's culture, diet and environment. The special solicitation will grant federal employees the opportunity to help in South Asia with a one-time cash or check donation, outside of the normal Combined Federal Campaign procedures. In some areas, the CFC campaign has been extended, thus allowing people to contribute directly to CFC. However, this special solicitation is separate from the actual CFC campaign. Personnel interested in donating monetary funds can obtain information on organizations providing disaster relief on the USAID web site at www.usaid.gov.

Astronomical society

Mian Abbas will present a talk on the Cassini-Huygens mission to the Saturn system of rings and moons in the Von Braun Astronomical Society series "Exploring the Universe through NASA Missions" Saturday night at 7:30 in the VBAS Planetarium in Monte Sano State Park. Admission is \$3 for adults, \$2 for children 6-11. Weather permitting, a free star party will follow the planetarium presentation. For more information, call Mitzi Adams 464-0945.

Black history committee

The Black History Committee is searching for participants for the live dramatic performance "Up From Slavery." It will present excerpts from the play Feb. 17. "We are hoping to feature some of our own members of the Redstone community," a prepared release said. "Please come out and display your talents. There will be only four rehearsals lasting only one hour after duty hours." For information call Loretta Ragland 876-7772.

Association scholarship

The Redstone Arsenal Warrant Officer Association offers annual scholarship program which will award a minimum of one \$1,000 scholarship. Application packets must be received before May 1 in order to be considered. Completed application packets should be mailed directly to: RAWOA Scholarship Program, c/o Chief Warrant Officer Richard Storie, 102 Trevor Circle, Toney, AL. 35773. Applications will be accepted from the children (natural and adopted), dependent stepchildren under age 21 (seniors in high school or currently enrolled college freshmen) of members of the active, National Guard, reserve, and retired military and DoD civilians in the Tennessee Valley area. Awards will be announced by June 15.

Newcomers' orientation

Learn about Redstone Arsenal by attending the Army Community Service Newcomers' Orientation from 8:30 a.m. until noon Feb. 1 at building 3338 on Redeye Road. The event features speakers, information

