

Redstone Rocket

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January 9, 2008

Hail and farewell



Club general manager ends 43 years service

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'Continue to provide world-class support'

AMCOM commander sees good year ahead

By SKIP VAUGHN

Rocket editor

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Maj. Gen. Jim Myles says he has enjoyed his time here since becoming commander of AMCOM and Redstone Arsenal in July 2007. He's optimistic about 2008 for Team Redstone and the Aviation and Missile Command.

"It's been great," Myles said of his tenure here. "It's been personally rewarding, professionally rewarding as well."

He's grateful that the Army is allowing him to continue to support the Soldier in a way that he desires. He's also appreciative of the local community and its support for the military.

"We're making a difference in our Soldiers' lives by doing what we're doing," Myles said in an interview Thursday in his office. "I'm just tickled to death to be here."

Myles attended his first AMCOM Life Cycle Management Command offsite meeting Nov. 18-20 in Muscle Shoals. Twenty-seven people attended, including members of the LCMC integrated process team. The meeting represented an extension of the command's board of directors.

"I thought it was a great experience," Myles said. "It helped us take what the prior leadership had done and evaluate it and reconfirm we were actually on the right path."

Symbolically, he and other senior leaders signed a document titled "We Agree" which was printed in a traditional constitution-style format. This reaffirmed their support for the life cycle management command concept. The first life cycle management command offsite was held in September 2004.

"We agree that we have an overall mission that's greater than each individual command. And collectively we agree that we have a mission to support our Army and it's a life cycle mission," Myles said. "We agree that if we can work together we can maintain readiness of every weapon system at the highest level by taking a womb-to-tomb life



Photo by Skip Vaughn

IN OFFICE— Maj. Gen. Jim Myles, commander of AMCOM and Redstone Arsenal, is back at work after spending Christmas with relatives in Chattanooga.

cycle perspective of these weapon systems. This includes the conceptual phase, research and development phase, acquisition and sustainment."

AMCOM enters the year with a significant change in its leadership team. Dr. Richard Amos has left his position as deputy to the commanding general to accept a job with contractor COLSA.

"We're going to miss Dr. Amos, he's just terrific," Myles said. "He's just about as close to irreplaceable as you can come."

Ronnie Chronister is serving as the acting deputy to the commander. Tom Ingram has delayed his own retirement plans to serve as interim director of the Integrated Materiel Management Center in Chronister's absence.

Myles spent most of the holiday season here at home, except for going to Chattanooga to spend Christmas with his wife Alice's mother, Terry Myers, and their son, Jim, and Jim's wife, Chrise, and grandchild-

dren Grace, 3, and James, 1. "And that was a thrill obviously," he said.

He has a message to the members of Team Redstone for 2008. "Continue to provide world-class support to our Soldiers, and I define this as Soldiers, (Department of Army) civilians, contractors and their families that are deployed," he said.

"And the challenge here is to try to stay ahead of any changes that occur and that impact this command here and that is politically, economically and militarily. Our Army is the most dynamic it's ever been. It's changed fabric, going from division to brigade; we're expanding our Army; we're conducting Global War on Terrorism around the world; and we're conducting base realignment and closure.

"Our challenge in 2008 is to be as predictive as we possibly can so we can take the right actions to minimize the turbulence on our work force," Myles said.

An open lane random survey

What's your favorite pastime and why?

By SKIP VAUGHN

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Teri Mayo
AMCOM G-1 (Human Resources)
"Spending time with my family – kids and grandkids. Most of them are here. I had lived away for a while and missed them terribly. And when I moved back, I realized how important family is. Family's very important."

Nina Adams
Phoenix Services (badge checker)
"I just like being like God wants me to be. That's not pastime but every time. Trying to live the life, and be ready when He comes."



Boyd Edmiston
Fixed Wing Product Office, PEO Aviation
"Curling up with a good book in front of the fireplace. Because once again, books are able to take you to many locations, different times, different places, alternative worlds. They allow you to inform yourself and to grow. The thing that strikes me the most is a quote that was made the first week the German scientists came to rural Huntsville, Ala., the library membership doubled from what it previously had been. They really had a love of literature and writing."



Edward Hill
Aviation Mission Equipment, PEO Aviation
"Favorite pastime would have to be studying the Bible, because I want to know the truth."



Resolve to save a life in '08

As we approach the New Year, I'd like to say thanks to the donors who took a life-saving step in 2007 and gave blood. In this past year more than 200,000 units were donated to LifeSouth Community Blood Centers and each single donation carries with it the potential to save up to three lives, so the impact made by those donors is far-reaching. Those efforts have literally touched hundreds of thousands of people in desperate need.

But as we come to the end of the year we are again facing a shortage. The reality is that even the most faithful blood donors get busy during the holidays or travel away from home, so every year we struggle to meet the demand, because that need never takes a holiday. And we also know that demand will jump in the coming weeks as those patients who've postponed surgeries to be home during the holidays

will begin making their way to our hospitals.

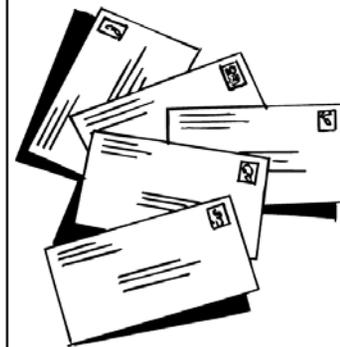
So, you can help us and your neighbors by coming to one of our centers, stopping by a blood drive at your office or by visiting one of our bloodmobiles. There is simply no substitute for human blood, and the only solution to the shortage is donors stepping up to meet the demand.

If you've never donated blood, make your 2008 New Year's resolution to try. If you are already a donor, please resolve to schedule one additional visit to donate in the coming year. If we could increase the number of donors by just 1 percent, it would go a long way to eliminating the shortage. It's a quiet way you can help your community, and in doing so, you'll be saving a life, which is quite a reward for one hour of your time.

Nancy Eckert
LifeSouth president/CEO

Letter policy

Letters to the editor must be signed by the writer. The *Rocket* will withhold names upon request. Letters can be sent via e-mail to skip.vaughn@htimes.com or faxed to 955-9138. The deadline for letters and all other submissions to the *Rocket* is noon Friday.



Redstone celebrates 50th anniversary of Explorer I

Jan. 31 will mark the 50th anniversary of the Army's successful launch of America's first satellite, Explorer I.

A ceremony to commemorate this milestone will be held at 9 that morning at Bob Jones Auditorium. The entire Redstone community is invited.

The following is from an article written by the late Dave Harris, who served as Redstone's public affairs officer until he retired in 1996. It appeared in the *Redstone Rocket* on Feb. 1, 1978 and was reprinted Jan. 28, 1998:

"The south part of Cape Canaver-

al, in common with much of the rest of Florida, is a place for tourists now.

"They come every day in air conditioned buses. Weekends when a drive through is permitted, they come in their own cars. More than 10 million have been there since regular tours of the once top secret missile flying base began in 1965.

"They drive slowly by Launch Pad 26 and they see it as the permanent roost of an odd flock of flightless missiles and rockets. The squat concrete blockhouse nearby has become an Air Force Museum. When visitors are permitted inside on Sunday, it is possible to learn that from this site in 1958, the Army first took the United States into space.

"Even most Soldiers are surprised when reminded of the Army's part in the start of the American space program. Many of the young men and women in uniform today had not yet been born on the night this nation's

hopes and pride rode with an Army rocket.

"Americans have walked on the moon since then. Just a few miles away from Pad 26 and its all but forgotten brief moments of glory, workmen are readying the Kennedy Space Center for flights of the rocket plane that will soon make trips into space routine.

"Yet it bears remembering that when the United States badly needed to succeed, the Army did, giving the first response to the Soviet challenge in space that stunned the world and shattered forever the American dream of scientific and technical superiority.

"That the Army pulled it off just 84 days after it got the go ahead to try, is still a bright memory to the Soldiers and civilians who had a part.

"The space age began for the United States at four seconds before 10:48 p.m. EST Jan. 31, 1958, when Jupiter C Missile number 29 left Pad 26."

Quote of the week

'Win graciously.'

— Arnold Palmer

Redstone Rocket

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Getting to know you

By SKIP VAUGHN
Rocket editor
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Name: Beth Clemons

Job: Public affairs specialist, Headquarters AMC Forward

Where do you call home?
Vilonia, Ark.

What do you like about your job?

In all honesty, I like everything about my job. I like getting to meet new people, I like getting to know people in our organization. I do the web site. I like all that stuff – I'm a computer geek. I like everything about my job.

What do you like to do in your spare time?

I have a 1-year-old son and 7-year-old stepdaughter and a husband. So that pretty much takes up all my time. We just moved, so we're doing all the remodeling and unpacking. We do a lot of things on the computer. And now that we're closer to home, we do a lot with family that



we didn't get to do when we lived in D.C.

What are your goals?

I would like to start back to graduate school. I'd like for my husband and I to be more involved in the community. To raise our kids as best we can and pretty much enjoy Huntsville.

What's your favorite type of music?

I would probably have to say R&B and hip hop.

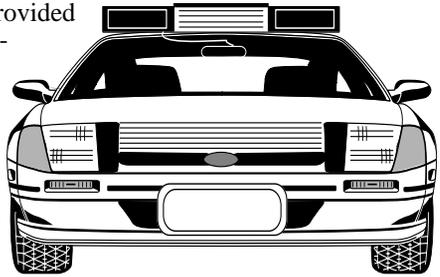
Crimes, accidents and other occurrences

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

Dec. 21: An individual was observed selecting items in the Post Exchange and then exiting without rendering proper payment. He was issued a violation notice and released. Investigation continues by the Investigation Section.

Dec. 24: An individual was found to be operating a vehicle with a suspended license when he stopped at Gate 8. He was issued a violation notice and released.

Dec. 31: An individual was observed selecting items in the Post Exchange and then exiting without rendering proper payment. He was issued a violation notice and released. Investigation continues by the Investigation Section.



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

Violation notices issued: 3 speeding, 1 driving with a suspended/revoked driver's license, 2 shoplifting, 1 expired tags, 1 failure to yield right of way, 1 illegal turn, 2 parked in a no parking zone, 2 failure to obey traffic control device.

Holiday cheer delivered to state veterans home

The Floyd E. "Tut" Fann State Veterans Home held a holiday party for its residents Dec. 15. During the party, each of the 150 residents received a present, a Christmas stocking and a room decoration.

All of the presents, stockings and decorations were prepared by the Post 4190 Veterans of Foreign Wars Ladies Auxiliary of Decatur.

Annual Christmas parties for veterans are part of the mission of the

National Veterans of Foreign Wars — veterans helping and caring for other veterans.

"The event was a complete success," Jesse Ewing of the Barco Firm said. "The Veterans of Foreign Wars Ladies Auxiliary gave presents to all residents and were able to spread plenty of holiday cheer. The residents accepted their presents and had positive interactions with the visitors there."

New logistics program links depot support

By DAN O'BOYLE
For the Rocket

When it comes to New Year's resolutions, AMCOM is not left out, but is actually poised to implement a New Year's "revolution."

Specifically, the command will be working throughout the 2008 leap year, transforming its war fighter support by making preparations for the implementation of the Logistics Modernization Program solution at AMCOM, Corpus Christi Army Depot (Texas) and Letterkenny Army Depot (Pa.) in March 2009.

As with any "revolution," questions should be expected such as: "Why are we doing this?" and "Is it going to be worth the effort?" In terms of answers Cathy Dickens, LMP Integration Task Force, emphatically responds "Yes!"

Further explaining, she knows the importance of this effort.

"LMP is an Enterprise Resource Planning solution, representing the potential to propel the Army forward in transforming our logistics business processes," Dickens said. "It will greatly enhance our capabilities in being able to forecast and plan at IMMC and execute at our two depots. It will provide better and more precise schedules and will enable us to better use precious depot capacity, providing an accurate and integrated logistics and financial picture."

LMP is the cornerstone of the Army's Single Army Logistics Enterprise and, as

such, is a key to the Army's success in transforming its logistics business.

"As LMP goes, so goes AMC, and so goes the Army," AMC's Lt. Gen. William Mortensen said. "I would add, and so goes AMCOM as your mission success is critical to AMC and the Army's mission success."

Key to helping Dickens as 2008 continues are supporting efforts from the PM LMP, Team Redstone and especially the IMMC LMP Cell, Computer Sciences Corporation and involvement with various levels of management in the command.

"We are all working together as one team to support the war fighter," Dickens said. "As a result, we all have a greater understanding of the efforts and dedication needed to provide modern, first-class, logistical support to the nation's defense. And this transition that will eventually make our work easier."

LMP's Enterprise Resource Planning will link the command's depot business practices so that users can share information with the click of a mouse. The ERP is a framework for organizing, defining and standardizing business processes. It's a one-stop-shop concept that replaces hours of research and information verification with accurate, real-time data.

"We are finalizing the metrics for our 'Go-Live' Readiness Plan, and will have a 'Data Summit' with LOGSA this month," Dickens said. "It's hard to believe, but we're already focused on next year — March 9, 2009 — when we do 'Go-Live.'"

Von Braun Complex phase 3 contract awarded

Army Corps of Engineers has awarded a \$221.2 million contract to Archer Western Contractors Ltd., headquartered in Atlanta, for design and construction of the third and largest phase of the Von Braun Complex for the Missile Defense Agency.

This building will accommodate 2,649 positions and will be the largest single building on Redstone Arsenal.

The 839,873-square foot facility will house 2,248 Missile Defense Agency positions that were realigned from the Washington, D.C. area as a result of the Base Realignment and Closure Commission recommendations in 2005, as well as 240 positions from Huntsville and 161 Space and Missile Defense Command positions from the Washington, D.C. area.

The building will include approximately 750,000 square feet of administrative space, an 800-seat auditorium, a cafeteria,

a fitness center and a central mechanical plant. The facility will be constructed in two phases. Phase I will be completed in the spring of 2010, allowing the move-in of the first 800 to 1,000 workers that summer. Phase II will be completed in early 2011 with move-in of remaining workers in the summer. When the building is completed, the entire Von Braun Complex, including buildings that were completed in 2004 and 2007, will house approximately 4,500 personnel.

The project, which will be constructed via a design-build contract, will be incrementally funded over three years with initial funding in fiscal 2008 of \$67 million. The funding plan calls for an additional \$127 million in FY '09 and \$27.8 million in FY '10. Groundbreaking and construction are expected as early as spring 2008. (Missile Defense Agency release)

Hail

and farewell

Howell's hospitality is what right looks like



Photo by Skip Vaughn

WORKING THE ROOM— The Officers and Civilians Club's Big Spring Lounge has been renamed the Bob Howell Room in honor of the club's retiring general manager.

Redstone community members honor retiring general manager of Officers and Civilians Club

By SKIP VAUGHN

Rocket editor

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Bob Howell never looked at the Officers and Civilians Club as an Army club. He ran it as his own business.

He loved providing food service and hospitality as the club's general manager from April 13, 2000 through Dec. 31, 2007.

"It's taking care of the people, ensuring that they get good service when they come into our facility," Howell said.

About 130 people celebrated his 43 years of government service during his retirement luncheon Thursday at the club. This included 21 years as a Soldier,

two years of civil service and 20 years as a club manager and non-appropriated fund employee. During his military career he went from Army cook to warrant officer, retiring in 1983.

"I just stayed in the food service field," said Howell, 62. "I just love food and I love to take care of people, hospitality."

He has moved to Clarksville, Tenn., and gone to work as a culinary arts instructor at Austin Peay State University. He and his wife, Susanne, have two daughters (Carrie Howell and Mandy Taylor), six grandchildren and one great-granddaughter.

Garrison commander Col. John Olshefski announced during the luncheon that the club's Big Spring Lounge has been renamed the Bob Howell Room.

"Bob Howell is what right looks like," Olshefski said.

Devout fan of Auburn has left the building



Photo by Skip Vaughn

FAREWELL HUG— Dr. Richard Amos, AMCOM deputy to the commanding general, is hugged by Kathey Gosnell as he leaves government service for a position with contractor COLSA. Gosnell is chief of the business office for Engineering Directorate at the Aviation and Missile Research Development and Engineering Center.

Dr. Richard Amos joins local industry

By SKIP VAUGHN
Rocket editor
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Leave it to Dr. Richard Amos to have the Auburn fight song played during his farewell ceremony.

That's what happened near the conclusion of the event Dec. 18 as the Bob Jones Auditorium audience stood for the anticipated Army Song. The Auburn University music was followed by the Army Materiel Command ballad and then the Army Song.

Amos, an Auburn alum and deputy to the AMCOM commanding general, has ended his 25-year government career to accept a position with contractor COLSA.

"I've been allowed to be successful by everybody that's here," the 46-year-old Huntsville native said.

He received the Department of Army Meritorious Service Award, and a certificate of recognition for 25 years service.

"What we have gotten from this guy is superb leadership," Maj. Gen. Jim Myles, commander of the Aviation and Missile Command, said.

"I love Soldiers," Myles said. "This guy loves Soldiers as much as I do."

Amos and his wife, Joyce, have two daughters, Christina and Katherine, both students at Auburn University.

Units add 20 Soldiers in December

The Garrison provided the following in-processing list for December. In some cases, Soldiers were already here but transferred to other units at Redstone:

- Capt. Charles Milliner, Missile and Space Intelligence Center; Capt. James McNeely, Headquarters & Alpha Company; Chief Warrant Officer 3 Frederick Bundy, Program Executive Office for Aviation; Chief Warrant Officer 5 Anthony Caudle, Aviation and Missile Command; Lt. Col. Scott Allen Reed, AMCOM; Lt. Col. Norbert Vergez, PEO Aviation; Master Sgt. John Butler, NCO Academy; Pvt. Peter Banks, 0142 SCHHC; Sgt. 1st Class Daniel Bowman, Aviation Support AC; Sgt. 1st Class Patrick Moore, Garrison;

- Sgt. 1st Class Chelsie Stokes, HHC 59th; Sgt. Craig Ellis, Headquarters & Alpha Company; Sgt. Alexander Cox, Headquarters & Alpha Company; Spc. Jerry Jones, HHC 59th; Spc. Jerrika Thomas, HHC 59th; Staff Sgt. Curtis Carson, WT Co. A Cadre Redstone; Staff Sgt. Billy Aaron, Ordnance Munitions and Electronics Maintenance School; Staff Sgt. Robert Petrie, HHC 59th; Staff Sgt. Winston McElrea, HHC 59th; and Warrant Officer Joseph Nelson, 0142 SCHHC.

Soldier cartoonist draws from real life

Hazard character has local roots

By KELLEY LANE-SIVLEY
Staff writer
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Military life can be stressful, inspiring and sometimes just plain funny. Chief Warrant Officer 4 Jim Boroch brings the humor of a Soldier's world to life in the form of a Pvt. Hazard cartoon each week in the *Redstone Rocket*.

His cartoons are tongue-in-cheek snapshots of common events in military life: physical training, sick call, weekend passes, deployments and a myriad of other topics. In fact, the subjects themselves are Boroch's inspiration.

"The military does offer quite humorous aspects of itself once in a while. I try to take a mental snapshot of it weekly," he said. "Normally, I will hear or think of something humorous or appropriate. I try to think of what that would look like as a cartoon. That's usually the basis for the cartoon."

Once he has an idea of what the cartoon should be about, he tries to visualize how it should look. When he has an idea in place, he searches the Internet

for ideas for the background and details. For example, if he plans to draw a house, he will look for photos of a real house in the same style and scale as his vision. Since he is not a professional artist, it helps him to have a model of sorts to refer to.

"I look for images that match the snapshot in my head. I use that to do a rough layout of what the cartoon should look like. It helps me with proportion and how big the characters should

be," he said.

Boroch uses a computer to color the cartoons and clean up his drawing. He said the entire process takes six to eight hours from idea to finished product.

Pvt. Hazard is a purely fictional character. While some of his characteristics were inspired by people Boroch has known, including himself, he isn't modeled too closely after any one person. The exasperated sergeant who is forced to deal with Haz-

ard's antics, however, is closely modeled after a Soldier Boroch knew at Fort Bliss, Texas.

"The character is based on an NCO I had named Sgt. Mann. He was a sergeant major, but I made him an E-5," he said. "He was a very impressive NCO. He had a good sense of humor. He's there to point out the way to Hazard."

Boroch is not an artist by trade. In fact, Hazard was born in 2003 from an ad in the installation newspaper, *The Monitor*, at Fort Bliss. They published an open call for cartoons, which he entered. Boroch beat his competitors to win a spot in the paper. Since then Pvt. Hazard has become a regular feature in the paper, as well as Fort Carson's *The Mountaineer* and also appears quarterly in *The NCO Journal*. The *Redstone Rocket* picked him up as well when Boroch was transferred here to the Cruise Missile Defense Logistics Directorate in early 2007.

"My job there is to interface with military units down range using our equipment, he said. "Expedite and assist as much as possible to keep systems fully mission capable."

Readers of this newspaper may be surprised to learn that a Soldier provides the weekly Pvt. Hazard feature.

"There's one or two people in my office who realize I do the comics, but I've never really gotten any feedback on it," Boroch said. "But I would not slam the door if anyone's interested. What does a cartoonist get these days?"

He intends to keep drawing as long as people want to keep reading. As long as the military keeps offering the opportunity for a chuckle here and there, Pvt. Hazard will have plenty of fodder for his adventures.

"I try to use all aspects of military life as I encounter it, be it contractor, civilian or military," Boroch said. "I find the humor in it and then put it into the weekly cartoon."



Photo by Kelley Lane-Sivley

PICTURE THIS— Chief Warrant Officer 4 Jim Boroch shares the funny side of Army life through his drawings.

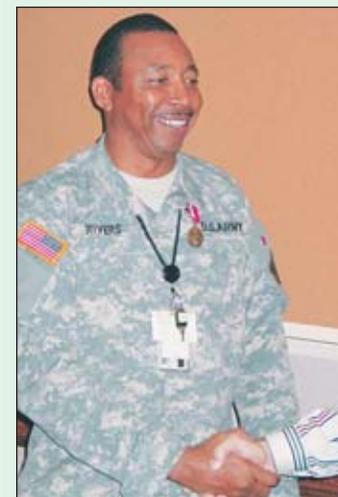
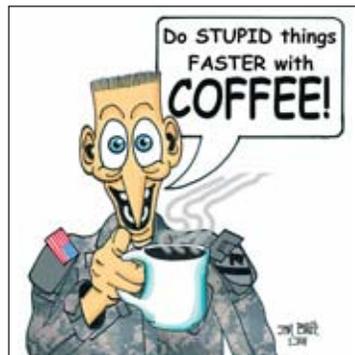


Photo by Skip Vaughn

Service medal

Maj. Jimmy Rivers is congratulated after receiving the Meritorious Service Medal for his two years at the AMCOM Operations Center. Rivers, with 27 years of combined military service, is returning home to Hephzibah, Ga. The medal was presented by Col. William Marero, director of AMCOM Operations Center, G-3 (Current Operations). "I cannot tell you how grateful I am for the two years you have served the AOC," said Marero. Rivers said, "I appreciate the opportunity to come here and do something that I love. I love this uniform."



Japan/U.S. missile defense flight test on target

Rear Adm. Katsutoshi Kawano of the Japan Maritime Self-Defense Force and Lt. Gen. Trey Obering, director of the U.S. Missile Defense Agency, announced Dec. 17 the successful completion of the cooperative Aegis Ballistic Missile Defense intercept flight test, off the coast of Kauai in Hawaii.

The event, designated Japan Flight Test Mission 1, marked the first time that an allied Navy ship has successfully intercepted a ballistic missile target with the sea-based midcourse engagement capability provided by Aegis BMD.

The JFTM-1 test event verified the new engagement capability of the Aegis BMD configuration of the recently upgraded Japanese destroyer, JS KONGO

(DDG-173). A ballistic missile target was launched from the Pacific Missile Range Facility, Barking Sands, Kauai, Hawaii. JS KONGO crew members detected and tracked the target. The Aegis Weapon System then developed a fire control solution and a Standard Missile-3 Block IA was launched. The SM-3 successfully intercepted the target approximately 100 miles above the Pacific Ocean.

FTM-1 was the first time that a Japanese ship was designated to launch the interceptor missile, a major milestone in the growing cooperation between Japan and the U.S. Previous participation had been limited to tracking and communications exercises. (*Missile Defense Agency release*)



Courtesy photo

INTERNATIONAL LAUNCH— A Standard Missile-3 is launched from the Japanese Aegis Destroyer JS KONGO en route to an intercept of a target missile launched from the Pacific Missile Range Facility, Kauai, Hawaii, on Dec. 17. The successful intercept occurred during Japan's first Aegis missile test.

Logistics worker earns master's from select program



Photo by Dr. Tom Pieplow

COMMENCEMENT— Marsha Bailey of the Aviation and Missile Command meets the commencement speaker, Rear Adm. Mike Lyden, director of supply, ordnance and logistics operations in the Office of Chief of Naval Operations. Bailey received a LOGTECH master's of business administration Nov. 15 in Washington, D.C.

Bailey becomes first AMCOM graduate

Marsha Bailey of the Aviation and Missile Command has earned a master's degree from the Center of Excellence in Logistics and Technology.

She was among 17 people – including military, civilian and contractor – who received 2007 LOGTECH master's of business administration degrees Nov. 15 at a ceremony in Washington, D.C.

"She is the first AMCOM person ever selected for this program, and it is prestigious," Dr. Tom Pieplow, director of Security Assistance Management Directorate, said.

Bailey is chief of the Avionics and Radar Division, Attack Directorate, Integrated Materiel Management Center.

"My MBA is from Indiana University, Kelley School of Business, which is partnered with University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill, Kenan Flagler Business Institute and the Institute of Defense and Business in the LOGTECH program," Bailey said. "As part of the program, I also was awarded a Logistics Certificate from UNC-Chapel Hill. LOGTECH coordinates and manages the program but the classes are through Indiana University with three residences at UNC-Chapel Hill and one residency outside the U.S. Our overseas residency was to Asia where we traveled to Thailand, China and Korea. We visited government officials as well as toured several international businesses.

"In Thailand we met with the deputy prime minister (two weeks before the coup that ousted him). In China we toured

Nike, Red Dragon Fly Shoe Company, and Boeing Shanghai. In Korea we visited with the South Korean government and toured Hyundai Heavy Industries along with POHANG Steel," Bailey said.

The Institute for Defense and Business is a nonprofit research and education institute formed in 1997 by the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and the state of North Carolina. The institute's flagship program is the Center of Excellence in Logistics and Technology at UNC established by the Defense Department in 2000 to serve the department's uniformed and civilian personnel.

LOGTECH programs include research, executive education, a master's of business administration offered in partnership with the Kelley School of Business at Indiana University, forums, and a subject matter expert board.



Local Soldier mentors fellow war fighters

30 National Guardsmen training others for Iraq

By KARI HAWKINS
Staff writer
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Staff Sgt. Christopher Black of the Alabama Army National Guard returned from a deployment in Iraq with the 128th Military Police Company in October. But he is still on deployment status.

And that deployment is about to change the status of his young family.

Black is among about 30 Soldiers from the 128th who have volunteered to extend their deployment to serve with the 1st Army Program "Operation Warrior Training" at Camp Shelby, Miss. Although he had a marketing and sales director position with Syncro Corp. in Arab waiting for him when he returned from Iraq, Black decided being an instructor for the Army would be a better fit for him and his family. He assumed his new job in November and plans call for his family to join him in Hattiesburg, Miss., in February.

"The people at Syncro were surprised," Black said during an interview at his Arab home during his holiday leave.

"But they understood, and wanted me to be happy and to do what I need to do. I could have asked for an extension because of the deployment. But since my heart wasn't there and my heart was in doing this job, I decided it would be best to leave Syncro and concentrate on serving in the Army. I was fortunate because some (National Guard) Soldiers come back to jobs where they aren't wanted or to jobs that have changed so much that they don't like them anymore."

There were other factors that affected his decision. The job at Syncro requires a lot of travel that would have taken him away from wife Kelly and their two young children - Lake, 6, and Alex, 4.

"After being gone so long, I just couldn't go back to the kind of career path that would have me traveling all the time," Black said. "The decision was a little selfish on my part. But I also saw



Photo by Kari Hawkins

THUMBS UP FOR DAD'S RETURN— Six-year-old Lake, left, and 4-year-old Alex hold their thumbs up with pride for their father, Staff Sgt. Christopher Black of the Alabama Army National Guard. Although Black has returned from his deployment in Iraq with the 128th Military Police Company, he is among 30 Alabama Army National Guard Soldiers who have extended their deployments to teach and mentor Soldiers in the 1st Army Program "Operation Warrior Training" at Camp Shelby, Miss. Black, who is also pictured with wife Kelly, will be moving his family from Arab to Hattiesburg, Miss., in February for the duration of his training deployment.

it as a way to continue to serve my country and to help other Soldiers. I want to share what I learned from my experiences with Soldiers who are getting ready to deploy to Iraq. I want to share tips and information with them that will keep them from getting hurt or falling into traps."

And Black wasn't ready to give up the military life.

"After wearing the uniform for 18 months - after working with these guys, living with these guys, and bleeding and sweating with these guys - it was hard to step back into civilian life again," Black said. "From my platoon alone, 10 out of 35 Soldiers who served in Samarra (Iraq) wanted to volunteer as trainers. The unit was really shocked about how many of us wanted to do this. Probably 50 percent of the trainers at Camp Shelby right now are from the 128th and from the 152nd (Military Police Company) out of Scottsboro. This gave me a

chance to keep working with many of the guys who were with me in Iraq."

His family was also interested in trying something new.

"I've lived here all my life," Kelly Black said. "Although this is home, moving to Hattiesburg is like a new chapter in our lives. I told Chris that I would follow him anywhere when he got home from Iraq."

That's good news for Black, who does not plan on missing anymore of his family's life.

"I missed a lot of things while I was gone," Black said. "I missed family weddings. I missed birthdays and anniversaries. I missed my nephew's funeral. Lake knocked out his four front teeth while I was gone. I missed his first day of kindergarten and I didn't get to celebrate my 40th birthday with my family. I even missed moving into this house. When I came home for leave in June, I sat down in our new home for the

first time."

Kelly Black was in a car accident, too, while Black was deployed.

"That's when I missed him the most," Kelly Black said. "You find out who you can count on in times like that. One thing I did while he was gone was I went out to eat once a month with spouses of the Soldiers in Chris' squad. That helped a lot. A couple of spouses I talked to every day. Those are friendships I will never forget. They are connections that will never be broken."

So, in February, Black plans to move his family to a new home in Hattiesburg. Lake will make new friends in a new kindergarten class while Alex will be in a new day care program. Kelly Black, who works for State Farm, has already talked to State Farm agents in Hattiesburg about possible employment. And Black has found a new church home for his family.

After they put the Christmas tree and holiday decoration away, the family will put a "For Sale" sign in their yard and start packing boxes.

Black's military job involves working with the Mississippi Reserve's 177th Armored Brigade as a member of the 2nd of the 346th Military Police Deployment Training Team. The 1st Army Program "Operation Warrior Training" instructs National Guard, and Army and Navy Reservists in military police duties in four areas - detention operations, convoy operations, police transition training, and armed and unarmed self-defense.

"There is so much about serving in Iraq that Soldiers need to know about," Black said. "Besides their basic responsibilities, they also need to know how to live in a dangerous place day in and day out. They have to know how to work with Iraqis and translators, and how to build relationships with their Iraqi counterparts while also being leery of getting too close to the Iraqis. If I can make a difference in the lives of other Soldiers it is all well worth it."

Black, who also continues to drill with the Alabama Army National Guard's 128th Military Police Company and who receives further training in advancement courses through the active Army, has a lot of experience with living among Iraqis 24/7. He and his platoon lived in a compound in the Iraqi city of Samarra and worked daily with Iraqi police.

"It was very dangerous. But at the time you don't really think about that," Black said. "We were just going day to day. We were very fortunate that we all came back."

"There were many nights when I would go to sleep with the radio on and propped right over my head. There were many nights when we weren't sure what was happening. We'd hear gunfire, and we'd get up and get dressed in seconds. We'd get our ballistic vest and get our weapons, and run 200 meters in full gear to the entry area of our

Afghan forces deliver supplies to orphans

BAGRAM AIR BASE, Afghanistan — Afghan national security forces and coalition forces delivered more than a ton of food, clothes and toys to the nearly 380 children of Shahid Ali Ahad Khan Karzi Orphanage and school in Afghanistan's Kandahar province Dec. 30.

The children, ranging in age from 6 to 13, received clothes and shoes to help them endure the harsh Afghan winter, as well as new toys, soccer balls and school supplies.

Afghan soldiers also provided rice, beans and cooking oil to the orphanage staff. The orphanage's principal said the supplies came at the right time, as the storage room was empty.

In addition to the toys, food and sup-

plies, the children also received free medical care from Afghan security forces and coalition doctors and medics. With winter weather settling in, some of the children were treated for minor ailments, such as ear infections and other flu-like symptoms. The children also learned good hygiene habits to keep them healthy.

"This was an excellent opportunity to show the children that we are concerned for their well-being," an Afghan soldier said.

"I am very pleased with the help that you brought for the children," the orphanage principal said. "God bless your kindness."

Editor's note: American Forces Press Service provided this Combined Joint Task Force 82 news release.

Extended deployment offers opportunities for Soldier and family

Mentor

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compound. There were times when I was in my T-shirt and boxing shorts with my ballistic vest and boots on running those 200 meters. Many times we didn't have time to lace up our boots or put our pants on."

Black's platoon was responsible for training, mentoring, teaching and evaluating Iraqi police forces. At the Dijlah Iraqi Police Station, which is in the Samarra district, Black's platoon was encouraged by the progress its police force was making toward independence in the first months of 2007. The platoon had worked to train a police force of about 800 when, in May 2007, police chief Col. Abd Al Jalel Nahi Hasso was assassinated with a vehicle borne explosive device.

"Col. Jalel was a very popular leader and the Iraqis were willing to follow his lead. So, his death really devastated the police force," Black said.

"We did monthly assessments on the station. Before the attack, the station was at assessment level 3, which is just one level away from us really stepping back and letting the local police force assume more responsibilities. Each level represents more and more responsibility until the station reaches level one and is in total control. After the attack, the station went back down to a level five in a matter of hours. They lost their leader, and there was a lot of equipment lost or damaged, and a lot of buildings destroyed. We lost 22 Iraqi police officers who died in the explosion. But we really lost 600 because they all ran off."

Before Black and his platoon returned to the U.S., they began rebuilding the Dijlah police force. But it was difficult to recruit Iraqis to rejoin the force and the numbers of Iraqis on the force when Black



Courtesy photo

BOOTS ON GROUND— Staff Sgt. Christopher Black and his platoon taught, mentored and lived with members of the Iraqi police force in the Samarra district of Iraq during his deployment with the Alabama Army National Guard's 128th Military Police Company.

left were not near the number before the explosion. But Black is hopeful that further assistance from U.S. troops will help the Dijlah Iraqi Police Station regain its strength and control in the area.

"The people there believed in us and knew we were there to help," Black said. "They knew we would protect them. The Iraqi police relied on us to help them."

Though it was difficult to leave Iraq knowing there was still much work to be done, Black hopes the Soldiers he now trains and mentors will be able to help in furthering rebuilding efforts in Iraq during their deployments.

Black, 40, looks back on this career with the National Guard and realizes his first reasons for joining the Guard 22 years ago are different from the reasons he continues to serve.

"I joined for college money, for the camaraderie, for the financial aspect," he said. "But it's more than that to me. It's a club, a hobby, a habit, and a way to serve your country, help other people and make lifelong friends."



Photo by Michael Misianowycz

NCOs help

Members of a basic noncommissioned officers class at the NCO Academy provided support Dec. 15 at the Rudolph Run 5K and one-mile walk in Huntsville to benefit the Blount Hospitality House. They performed setup, traffic control and teardown duties and were praised by executive director Marydae Sneed. Kneeling are Sgt. Joshua Doyle, left, and Sgt. Bryan Sheets. In middle row, from left, are Sgt. Christopher Eskew, Sgt. Steven Wilkerson, Staff Sgt. Francisco Del Valle and Staff Sgt. Aron Byerly. In back row are Sgt. Daniel Wilson, Sgt. Heriberto Sanabria and Sgt. Charles Gibbs.

Santa makes special trip to Redstone Arsenal

Sergeants Major Association hosts only Santa Run in Army

By KARI HAWKINS

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Sitting on Santa's lap in the back of a white pickup truck that pulled up right outside her home during the annual Santa Run on Redstone Arsenal, 11-year-old Haleigh Sweeden wasn't shy about asking Santa for an Ipod, a Hannah Montana wig and a scooter for Christmas.

All up and down Redstone Arsenal neighborhood streets Dec. 15, kids of all ages ran out of their homes to visit with Santa Claus, wave to the firefighters, police officers and members of the Sergeants Major Association who escorted Santa, and get a bit of Christmas candy.



Photo by Kari Hawkins

SITTING A SPELL— Lily Mitchell, 2, is happy to sit on Santa's lap with a handful of candy. She didn't talk much. But, that was OK because Santa already knew what to bring her for Christmas.

During his visit with Santa, Nathan Wells, 6, asked for Thomas the Tank Engine trains. But, Randy Owens, 4, wasn't sure what to ask for until he pointed to the Redstone Arsenal fire truck escorting Santa and said he'd like firemen toys under his Christmas tree. Kiara Skipper, 10, knew exactly what to ask for, telling Santa in her sweet voice that she would really love a Nintendo DS.

When it was 7-year-old Joshua Brown's turn, he quietly asked for an Xbox – and for his mommy to come home soon.

"We're going to look real hard in my bag, all right," Santa Claus promised Joshua, as he held the boy on his lap. "Merry Christmas!"

Santa hoped to make Joshua's wish – along with the simpler ones for baby dolls and toy trucks – come true. Even as he was talking with Santa, Joshua's mom, Jung Hee Sung, was getting ready to come home from basic training to spend the holiday with her son and husband, retired Air Force servicemember and current DoD employee Joe Brown.

"It's five more days before mommy comes home," said Joshua's dad. "We've been missing mommy. She's a 43-year-old woman who wants to be a Soldier. So, she joined the Army and is now finishing basic training."

Children as young as 6 months and as grown up as 14-year-olds visited with Santa Claus during the Santa Run, a long-standing tradition unique to Redstone Arsenal and hosted by members of the Sergeants Major Association.

From the onset of this year's visit, small crowds of children and their parents gathered along neighborhood streets to greet Santa Claus as he traveled through Columbia Centre, Voyager Village, Apollo Landing, Freedom Landing, Pathfinder Pointe, Endeavor Village, New Endeavor Village, Saturn Pointe and Challenger Heights.



Photo by Kari Hawkins

ESCORTING SANTA— Members of the Sergeants Major Association, including retired Sgt. Maj. Gregory Knight, left front, and elf Doug Patrick, right front, escort Santa Claus through Redstone Arsenal neighborhoods on an early Saturday morning in December during the annual Santa Run.

One of Santa's first visitors was Bianca Waddell, 9.

"Have you been a good girl?" Santa asked her.

Then, seeing Bianca's siblings, Santa

exclaimed "I remember you guys from last year! Remember what your daddy told you the other night? Be good!"

See **Santa** on page 15

Iraq veteran and new wife spend holidays at home

Newlyweds enjoy time with family, friends

By KARI HAWKINS

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Christmas 2007 will always have a special meaning for 1st Lt. Michael Park and his wife, Capt. Aimee Park.

It's the first Christmas the couple has spent together as newlyweds. It's also the first family Christmas celebration for the couple after Park's return from a 15-month deployment to Iraq with the 4th Brigade Combat Team (Airborne) of the 25th Infantry Division.

"It's really great to be home," Park, 26, said during an interview at his parents' home in Gurley.

The 3,500 paratroopers of the 4th of the 25th — also known as the Spartan Brigade — returned from Iraq on Dec. 4. After a few weeks at their home base at Fort Richardson in Anchorage, Alaska, the Soldiers were given a 30-day leave. Park and his wife first traveled to the Chicago area to visit her family and then to Gurley to visit his family.

It's a long way from where Park spent Christmas 2006.

A year ago, Park was in a Baghdad morgue, waiting to see the body of a friend and fellow Soldier who had been killed by an improvised explosive device.

In all, the 4th of the 25th lost 53 Soldiers in Iraq. Some 345 Soldiers were wounded.

"We all got really tired of hearing about Soldiers being killed and going to memorial services (in Iraq)," Park said. "It was really hard for all of us. We were in an area known as the Triangle of Death. We were on the Sunni/Shiite fault line. They literally were across the road from each other.

"There were truck bombs and explo-

sions in the area. There was one incident where I had stood at the very spot where a VBED (vehicle borne explosive device) went off a few hours later."

Serving his country as a Soldier has been a dream of Park's since he was a small boy playing with G.I. Joes. But, when he accepted his ROTC scholarship in August 2001 to the University of North Alabama, Park had no idea that an event just a few weeks later would shape his entire military career.

Park took his oath as a Soldier on Sept. 12, 2001, a day after the terrorist attack on the World Trade Center and the Pentagon, and in a commercial airplane over Pennsylvania.

"I always felt this (Soldiering) was something I could do," Park said. "But, 9/11 made me much more determined to do something to help my country."

Park knew he would be preparing to deploy to Iraq after graduating from UNA in 2004. His assignment to Fort Richardson, though, came with a few surprises all caused by his October 2006 deployment. The deployment to Iraq introduced Park to a career as an engineer and an improvised explosive device bomb expert, led him to propose and marry his girlfriend just days before his deployment, and caused him to experience the disheartening loss of fellow Soldiers in the sands of Iraq.

During Park's deployment, his brigade assumed operational control of southern Iraq and took control of the Babil, Karbala and Najah provinces, covering about 25,000 square miles and stretching from Baghdad to the Saudia Arabian border, with more than 3.5 million people living in the area.

The brigade's mission was to work with Iraqi Security Forces to deter sectarian violence, defeat terrorists and insurgents, allow for transition of security of Babil and Karbala provinces, and assist the Najaf province with security as requested. The brigade conducted combat

patrols and route clearing missions, helped to rebuild infrastructure for the Iraqi population and worked with local government leaders to eventually turn over control and security to the Iraqi government.

While in Iraq, Park served as the assistant brigade engineer and engineer planner for the 4th of the 25th at Forward Operating Base Kalsu, located about 35 miles south of Baghdad.

"We were an airborne unit," Park said. "But, we were in charge of schedules for route clearance, hunting for IEDs, force protection upgrades and fortifying patrol bases. I coordinated engineer work for the brigade, provided information to other units who were passing through the area, coordinated brigade command meetings and became the smart guy for IEDs."

The brigade's first deaths occurred Dec. 7, 2006, when two paratroopers were killed by roadside bombs. Three days later, three more paratroopers died in a roadside explosion. But, the brigade's deadliest day was Jan. 27, 2007, when eight paratroopers died in two unrelated incidents — four in an ambush in Karbala when a militia group posing as U.S. and Iraqi Soldiers in a convoy of SUVs went through several checkpoints and attacked Soldiers with grenades and small arms, and four others near Karmah in the Anbar province when their armored vehicle was struck by a roadside bomb. Other deaths during the year brought the total Soldier lives lost from the brigade to 53.

But, Park knows the work he and others did saved lives of Iraqi civilians.

"In the area where we were, we could see how things calmed down a lot," Park said. "In Kaderli, when we first got there you didn't see any people out and about, and you didn't see kids playing. When we left, you would see people walking around and kids playing outside.

"The surge helped with that a lot. The surge let us really go after the enemy. And, the concerned citizens program also



Photo by Kari Hawkins

JOYFUL SEASON— Christmas 2007 will always have a special meaning for 1st Lt. Michael Park and his wife, Capt. Aimee Park. It is the first Christmas the couple has spent together as newlyweds and it is the first Christmas Park has spent with his family since returning from his tour of duty in Iraq on Dec. 4. After a month-long leave, the Park couple will return to duty at Fort Richardson in Anchorage, Alaska.

helped. There were paid Iraqi police in our area that also worked with us."

Park's work often took him off FOB Kalsu to perform engineering reconnaissance

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Santa

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When Kienan Unsen, 6, sat on Santa's lap, he asked for one of Santa's favorite requests.

"Hot wheels!" Santa said, as he gave Kienan some candy. "We've got lots of Hot Wheels. We'll make that one happen, OK?"

His brother, Ryan, 9, wondered if Santa had read his Christmas letter. But, Santa still had a pile of letters to read from children all around the world.

"Just make sure you let mommy and daddy know what you want for Christmas," he told Ryan.

Seeing a yard sign that said "Santa Stopped Here!," Santa told the children lining up around the pickup truck that once again this year "I'll make sure I stop here and put presents under the tree."

One of those children was John Wells, who told Santa several times that he is "7."

"Well, I know you are 7!" Santa told John. "Are you good? Sometimes you need to try to be good real hard."

While most children were eager to sit on Santa's lap, whisper in his ear and get some candy,

there were a few who were not as compliant. Rebecca Scholtisek, 3, refused to wave at Santa, telling her parents "No!" while Jaydn Heard, 4, wouldn't sit on Santa's lap.

"He's sat on Santa's lap once and he thinks that's enough," said Jaydn's dad, Sgt. Adam Heard.

Older kids like Kiara Skipper, 10, had no trouble visiting up close with Santa while other youngsters foregoed Santa's lap and just got some candy from his elves.

After Kiara talked to Santa, her older brother, 13-year-old Tyrie Skipper, asked her the day's popular question: "Did you tell him I'd been good all year?"

"No," Kiara said.

"Oh, you just said that because you got in trouble last night for not taking out the trash!" Tyrie said.

But, Kiara, Tyrie and their friend, 14-year-old Cody Kaufman, all held out hopes Santa would bring them the best in electronic toys this year.

"We'll leave you cookies and milk," Cody promised Santa as he drove away with his Sergeants Major, fire truck and police escorts. "We know you like cookies and milk."



Expressing love of country through service

Reserve colonel gives his time to the families of fallen servicemembers

By **KARI HAWKINS**
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Reserve Col. Steven Froniabarger has a briefcase full of cards and letters that were written from the heart.

Most are from people in North Alabama who he has only known briefly during a time of sadness and loss. They talk of love, honor, duty, courage and service. They hold words of appreciation from the families of military servicemembers.

One recent letter reads: "I will forever be indebted to these (Soldiers) who were able to personally express their true love of duty inspired by honor and embodied in their respect for country."

Froniabarger's collection of cards and letters represented his year of volunteer service with one of two Redstone Arsenal military honor guards. As an honor guard Soldier, Froniabarger often donned his Reserve uniform to pay the Army's respects at the funerals of veterans, military retirees and active duty Soldiers whose funerals take place within the 11-county area of North Alabama.

"I'm a volunteer and I present the flag

to families," he said of his service which ended in December.

But, Froniabarger's description of his Honor Guard duties doesn't really tell the whole story. What started out as a well-defined, straight-forward volunteer job grew to be this colonel's all-consuming personal passion.

"I first started out presenting the flag to Army officers at high visibility funerals," he said. "But, as things progressed, this has become a ministry for me.

"Memory is very important and it's what counts when the deceased is gone and buried. When I present the flag, I want that deceased's family to know that their loved one has received recognition for his selfless service to this country, and I want them to know and understand that their deceased has left them a legacy of courage and sacrifice. My heart really goes out to them."

Froniabarger was recruited for the job by his predecessor, Reserve Sgt. 1st Class Zachary Wynn, who presented colors at nearly 500 funerals.

"I had no idea what this job would grow to mean to me or how busy it would make me," said the 58-year-old colonel.

In 2007, Froniabarger attended about 150 military servicemember funerals, serving as a member of a three-Soldier Funeral Honors Team that played taps,

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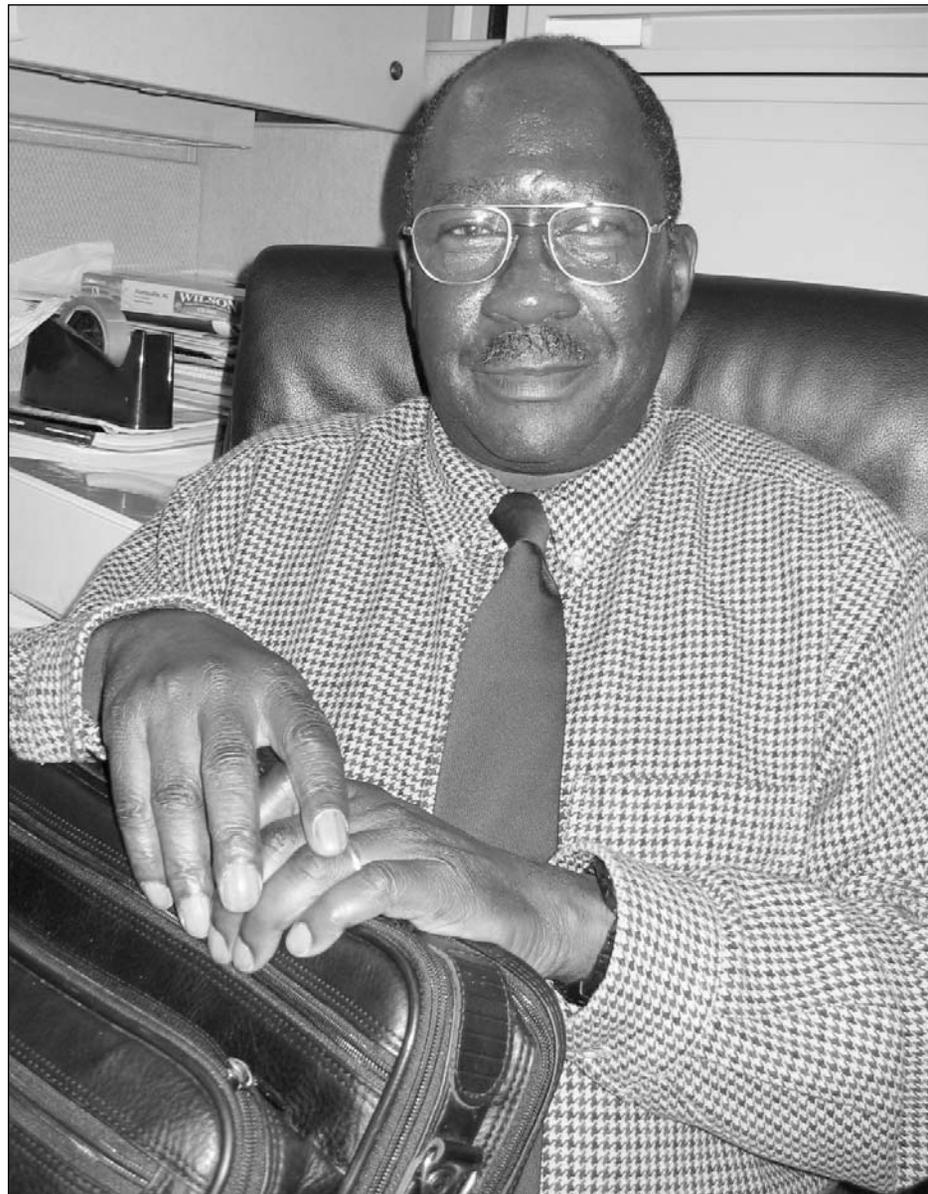
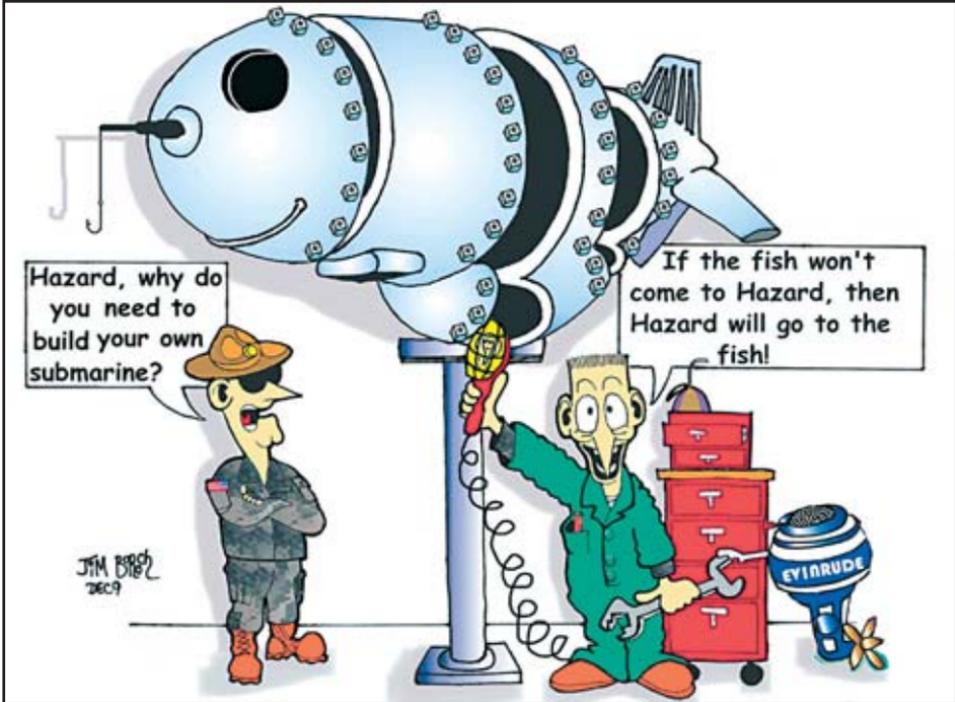


Photo by Kari Hawkins

BRIEFCASE FULL OF THANKS— Reserve Col. Steven Froniabarger holds a briefcase full of cards and letters he has received from families of deceased servicemembers. Last year as a member of one of two Redstone Arsenal Honor Guards, Froniabarger and his two team members – Sgt. 1st Class Walker Latham and Spc. Randal Rhodes – were often on the road traveling to funerals where they presented the colors to the deceased's family members. Last year Froniabarger was the only civilian on the Arsenal's Honor Guard, which attended more than 150 funerals.



■ Soldier has peaceful holiday respite from Iraq's dangers

Newlyweds

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at patrol bases in preparation for fortifications. He worked alongside Iraqi police.

"We trained Iraqis so they could eventually take over from us," Park said. "But, it was difficult because their culture is different from ours. They often left their job to take their holidays and for other reasons. We were there to do a job 24/7."

And, the danger of war was everywhere for Park and the Soldiers of the 4th of the 25th.

"It was 15 months of danger," he said. "There were a lot of mortar attacks. I had Soldiers killed 50 yards from me from rockets at night. Once I was on the phone with Aimee when a rocket landed right outside the building I was in. I said 'I love you, gotta go' and hung up and ran to the bunker. I was able to call her back a half hour later."

Aimee Park was one reason Park was determined to come home from Iraq. The couple married just seven days before Park's deployment.

"We wanted to get married in case Aimee got deployed, too," Park said. "If we were married, then we could be together if she was deployed."

But, instead of deploying, Capt. Aimee Park was put in charge of caring for the 300 wives and families left behind at Fort Richardson during the deployment of the Special Troops Battalion of the 4th of the 25th.

"I stayed really busy while he was gone," Aimee Park said. "Any problems that the wives or the families had we would take care of. We wanted to take care of those problems so that their husbands in Iraq wouldn't have to worry about them. We wanted their husbands to stay focused on the mission."

"We also received new Soldiers and wounded Soldiers. We made sure our wounded Soldiers got the medical care

they needed. We had 51 wounded Soldiers and seven Soldiers who died in the Special Troops Battalion."

Park and his new wife have enjoyed their holiday together. Among the holiday activities, the couple took an overnight trip to the Opryland Hotel to see the light displays and enjoy a performance by the Radio City Music Hall Rockettes – with 60 of Park's relatives.

Park was raised in Gurley, and is the son of Bill and Kathy Park, and the big brother of Katie Harris, a sixth-grade school teacher, and Brian Park, a junior at Westminster Christian Academy, which is Park's alma mater. Park grew up attending West Huntsville Baptist Church with his family. The visit home gave Park a chance to thank his family – including his mother's 11 siblings and children and his dad's big family — and friends for all their support during the deployment.

"I felt all the prayers that were said for me," Park said.

Park also received frequent letters and packages from his family and friends in Huntsville.

"I got so much stuff that I ended up giving a lot of things to other Soldiers," Park said. "Both of us have big families, so I would get a lot more stuff than some of the other Soldiers. At Christmas, I got boxes of Christmas cards that were meant for any Soldier. I gave them to the chaplain so that he could give them out to Soldiers."

With the deployment behind them, Park and his wife are looking forward to their future together. The couple, who were married by a military chaplain in the chapel at Fort Richardson, are planning a large, traditional wedding in Chicago on May 31. Park will be promoted to captain in January, and Aimee Park is making plans to leave the Army after her duty ends in June so that she and Park can start a family.

And that's great news for the Park clan of family and friends.

■ Reserve colonel served with honor guard in 2007

Service

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folded and presented the U.S. flag to the servicemember's family, and delivered the Army's respects to the servicemember's family.

"We work in collaboration with other organizations, such as Redstone Arsenal's Casualty Assistance Office and funeral home directors," Froniabarger said. "We represent the U.S. military and the Redstone Arsenal Garrison when we attend a funeral."

Funeral Honors duty can be haphazard, with a phone call requesting an Honor Guard at a funeral instantly changing an Honor Guard Soldier's planned schedule. For Froniabarger, the challenge was maintaining his civilian job with AMCOM's Acquisition Center while responding to the calls of military families.

"I have a full-time job as a contracting person who is responsible for overseeing \$100 million of contracts," he said. "I do this while also being the commander of a small detachment (184th Reserve Detachment) and also performing funeral honors."

Froniabarger's Funeral Honors Team included Sgt. 1st Class Walter Latham and Spc. Randal Rhodes. The three worked together to comfort the deceased's grieving family, to provide services at the family's request and to represent the U.S. Army.

"Many family members will tell me they can't believe the Army cares enough to send a colonel to bury their loved one," Froniabarger said. "Because of my Honor Guard duties, I have ministered to maybe 40,000 to 50,000 folks in North Alabama.

"When I go to small places like Flat Rock, Ider, Hanceville,

Section or Rainville, the veterans who have passed away are pillars of the community, especially the World War II veterans. Everybody in town knows that person. The whole community will be at the service and also at the gravesite. I was in High Top for a funeral in November and there must have been 1,200 people at a church that seats 800."

The Honor Guard is notified of a servicemember's funeral either by Jean Manley of the Casualty Assistance Office or by a funeral director at one of the area's 60 funeral homes.

"When a military servicemember passes away the funeral director will ask if the person is former military," Froniabarger said. "If the answer to that question is 'yes,' then that raises the flag that the Honor Guard may need to be requested."

When last year's Honor Guard's Funeral Honors Team was called for duty, Froniabarger did some research on the deceased in preparation for the team's presentation. With 15 years of active duty and 15 years in the Reserve, Froniabarger relied on his knowledge of the military and military history to help him understand the deceased's service. He also searched the Internet for information. And, he talked to family members to find out as much as he could about the deceased prior to the funeral and at the funeral home.

"We'll arrive about 1 and a half hours before the service," he said. "We assure the funeral director that we are there and then we meet with the family to find out their wishes and desires for what takes place during the funeral and at the gravesite. I give the family my business card

and tell them they have a friend for life."

At the gravesite, the Funeral Honors Team will escort the family to their seats. They will stand at attention during the minister's committal of the veteran's body. Then, the Honor Guard will present the colors and play taps.

"I try to make sure the grandkids are up close to see what is going on. This ceremony is for the dead. But, it's also for the living. It's the veteran's legacy," Froniabarger said.

"People always get emotional when we present the colors. I place three spent cartridges inside the folded flag. I tell the family and friends that the significance of those cartridges is that they were taken from weapons fired by Soldiers on their way to Iraq and Afghanistan to fight in the Global War on Terrorism. And, they represent duty, honor

and country. They symbolize the deceased's passing the responsibility to fight and defend this country on to the younger generation while he or she rests in peace."

When presenting the flag, Froniabarger knelt in front of the family. He always took a few minutes to share personal words of condolence before releasing the flag into the family's hands.

"I kneel out of respect. I speak to the family for the Secretary of the Army and on behalf of a grateful nation," Froniabarger said. "I've had funeral directors tell me how much they appreciate what we do. I had one who said in his 47 years in the business he had never seen a flag presentation like the one we do.

"Even though speaking to the family is an important part of our ceremony, I don't prepare my words ahead of time. I pray to God that 'You know what You want me to say. Please use me as a conduit because You know what needs to be said to heal this family.'"

Froniabarger also advocated for a deceased veteran's family, providing them with information on how to obtain the veteran's military record or receive veteran benefits, and, if they were from Madison County, on how to get their veteran's name added to the Madison County Hall of Heroes.

"We average 500 to 600 miles a week representing Redstone Arsenal and the Army at funerals," Froniabarger said of his service last year. "We're a military organization and this is part of the responsibility we have toward our veterans and retirees. At first, it's difficult for families to understand that complete strangers want to show their respect for the deceased at their funeral. But, by the time we are done with our ceremony, they know we are genuine, sincere and serious about what we are doing for their veteran or retiree."



Photo by Kari Hawkins

PRESENTING THE COLORS— Reserve Col. Steven Froniabarger presents the flag to family members of World War II veteran Omar Strickland, whose funeral was held in September. Froniabarger last year personalized each service he participated in and often ministered to the deceased's family.

Test your security awareness

AMCOM G-2 (Intelligence and Security) provided the following security word-find puzzle:

SECURITY 2008

P	C	O	N	T	A	I	N	E	R	I	K	H	J	E
R	V	I	O	L	A	T	I	O	N	N	G	S	W	G
O	E	D	A	R	G	N	W	O	D	V	U	N	N	D
T	T	Q	L	N	Z	U	Y	V	R	E	N	O	R	A
E	A	B	O	A	P	T	C	A	C	S	I	G	L	B
C	L	A	S	S	I	F	I	C	A	T	I	O	N	E
T	S	E	C	R	E	T	R	A	A	I	M	L	A	R
I	N	D	U	B	O	S	N	N	B	G	C	I	C	U
O	A	C	K	U	T	A	I	E	E	A	M	B	C	T
N	E	F	O	R	N	B	U	O	D	T	W	L	E	C
S	L	F	O	T	M	M	A	R	K	I	N	G	S	I
P	C	P	Z	O	Q	A	U	V	B	O	F	B	S	P
T	E	R	C	E	S	P	O	T	U	N	M	N	J	R
R	A	E	Y	W	E	N	Y	P	P	A	H	T	O	Q
I	N	S	P	E	C	T	I	O	N	S	G	F	V	C

ACCESS
 CLASSIFICATION
 COMBINATION
 CONTAINER
 FOUO
 INSPECTIONS
 LOGONS
 PICTUREBADGE
 REPORTS
 SECURITY
 VIOLATION

CAC
 CLEANSLATE
 CONFIDENTIAL
 DOWNGRADE
 HAPPYNEWYEAR
 INVESTIGATIONS
 MARKINGS
 PROTECTION
 SECRET
 TOPSECRET

Win or lose

California Golden Bears rule Armed Forces Bowl

Military recruits take oath during halftime of game

By Lt. Col. WILLIAM THURMOND
Army News Service

FORT WORTH, Texas — While most of the country prepared to ring in the New Year, a record crowd of almost 41,000 filled Amon G. Carter Stadium Dec. 31 to watch the Air Force Falcons battle the California Golden Bears in the fifth edition of the Bell Helicopter Armed Forces Bowl.

Air Force dominated the first half with three unanswered touchdowns. But California rallied under the leadership of freshman quarterback Kevin Riley to defeat the Falcons 42-36 in a wild and entertaining game.

The action on the field, though, was merely the capstone to a multi-day event devoted to honoring the men and women who have and will serve their nation as Soldiers, Sailors, Airmen, Marines and Coast Guardsmen.

Attendees got an opportunity to fly simulated Navy fighter aircraft, steer a Coast Guard cutter, try on Army gear or challenge a Marine to a pull-up competition in the Armed Forces Adventure area. (FYI — The smart money was on the Marines.)

As game time approached, fans were treated to a parachute demonstration by the Air Force Academy's parachute team "Wings of Blue" and flyovers by Army and Marine combat helicopters and an Air Force B-2 bomber. Throughout the game, each branch was honored and recognized with military bands playing their respec-

tive official songs.

The highlight of the game's halftime festivities was the presentation of the Great American Patriot Award to Secretary of the Army Pete Geren.

"For the past three decades, Secretary Geren has been involved with Armed Forces-related activities as a U.S. congressman and Department of Defense employee," said Jim Breen, chairman of the bowl's military affairs committee. "In honoring him, we recognize his leadership and congratulate him on his service to our country."

Immediately after receiving his award, Geren administered the oath of enlistment to 100 recruits representing all branches of the military.

Among the 40 Soldiers sworn-in by the secretary was future Army biochemical operations specialist Analuisa Vrducco, 17, from Dallas. Vrducco, who leaves for basic training this summer, was somewhat overwhelmed by her opportunity to take the oath from Geren in person. "This meant everything to me," she said.

After shaking hands with the recruits, Geren noted that "it's always inspiring to see fine young men and women step up and join our military."

Looking ahead, Geren thanked the troops serving around the world and wished them and their families a happy New Year in 2008.

"Because of you, we are a nation that lives in freedom, cherishing the liberties you give to us through your efforts and sacrifice."

Editor's note: Lt. Col. William Thurmond is the public affairs officer for the Army & Air Force Exchange Service.

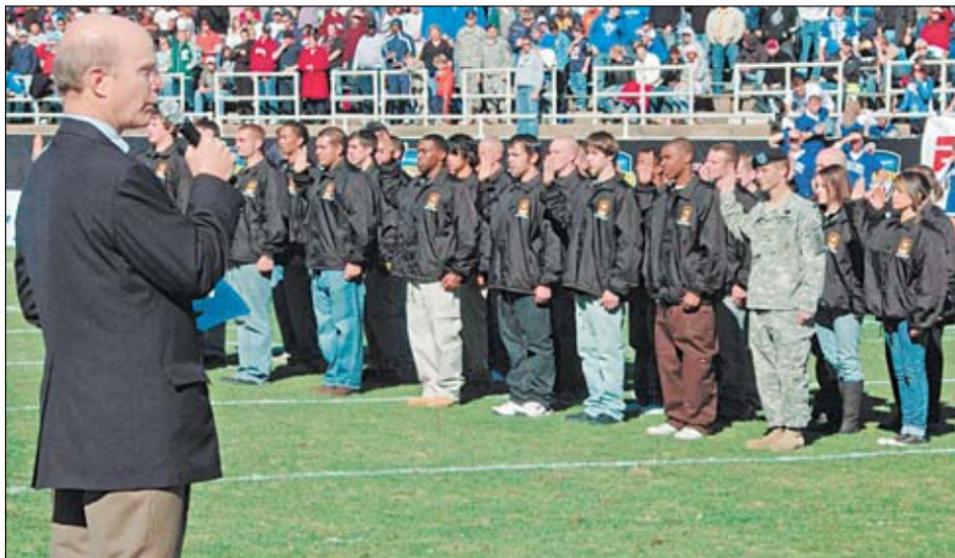


Photo by Lt. Col. William Thurmond

HALFTIME CEREMONY— Secretary of the Army Pete Geren administers the oath of enlistment to the Soldiers and 80 recruits from other services during halftime of the Bell Helicopter Armed Forces Bowl.

Top Soldiers kick off event honoring top high school football athletes



Photo by Daren Reehl

LET THE GAME BEGIN— The Army-sponsored “All-American” Bowl East team players celebrate after winning a skills competition which kicked off activities for the all-star high school football contest in San Antonio, Texas.

Army News Service

SAN ANTONIO — Some of the Army’s most decorated Soldiers introduced themselves to some of the top high school football athletes in the country during an ice-breaking social when they were matched up to a friendly competition of push-ups, sit-ups, with a little karaoke thrown in.

The event kicked off a series of events that led up to the Army-sponsored and nationally-televised “All-American” Bowl all-star contest in the Alamodome on Saturday.

This event was the first chance for the Soldiers and the All-American high school football players to interact with each other, and help break the ice. “This is a great atmosphere in which to get to know my Soldier Hero and see all of the other Soldiers that are here,” said Gerell Robinson, a member of the West team, from Hamilton High School in Chandler, Ariz. “They have done some very admirable things during their time in the military that I look up to — this event is helping us make a great connection with each other.”

“This is a great event. I am looking forward to all of the upcoming events this week, getting to know my player on a more individual basis, realizing what a

great opportunity it is for them to have been selected to play in this game in front of the whole country on national television,” said Army Staff Sgt. Douglas Gahm, assigned to the Arizona National Guard, in Glendale. “It will be more exciting to watch the game now that we will know the players, than to just watch the game on television at home.”

The “All-American” Bowl is one of the Army’s highest-profile events, and gives fans the chance to see tomorrow’s college and NFL stars perform as the nation’s top 91 high school stars go head-to-head in a classic East versus West battle.

“The All-American Bowl is a great tribute to players and Soldiers. You can see the camaraderie building between everyone involved here this evening,” said the 2007 Army Soldier of the Year, Sgt. Heyz T. Seeker of C Company, 1st Battalion, 75th Ranger Regiment, Hunter Army Airfield, Savannah, Ga.

Hoping to retain their title from last year, the East held a strong lead through the first three events, which quickly dissolved after a strong comeback by the West, during the last event, the eating relay.

Editor’s note: Dona Fair writes for the Army and Air Force Hometown News.

East team wins annual clash

SAN ANTONIO — East quarterback Terrelle Pryor of Jeannette, Pa., led his team to a 33-23 victory over the West squad in Saturday’s eighth annual U.S. Army All-American Bowl at the Alamodome in San Antonio. Pryor was named the game’s MVP

after finishing with 155 all-purpose yards, including scoring on a run and throwing for a touchdown. The event matched top senior players from around the nation of which several announced their college choice during the game on national television.

Rocket Announcements



Sports & Recreation

Bicycle benefit

Break out the bicycle and helmet and start training now for the American Diabetes Association's first Tour de Cure event in Huntsville. Bikers of all skill levels and from all over the country are invited to sign up now for the May 17 ride that will tour southeast Huntsville. Individual riders and independent and corporate teams are invited to join the fight against diabetes by logging onto www.tour.diabetes.org and signing up for the



Tour de Cure event. The registration fee is \$20. For more information about Huntsville's inaugural Tour de Cure ride for the American Diabetes Association, call Doris Lewis 539-4404 or log onto www.tour.diabetes.org.

Weight loss program

MWR Sports and Fitness has opened registration for its "Movin' and Losin'" eight-week weight loss competition. Teams of five will compete to see "who can get movin' and lose the most." So, get your team together and sign up by calling

Phylissa Shannon 313-1202, by Jan. 17. The competition begins Jan. 22.



Conferences & Meetings

Bible studies

The Protestant Women of the Chapel invites you to study God's word each Thursday at 9:30 a.m., 11:30 a.m. or 6:30 p.m. at Bicentennial Chapel. Free child watch is available. For more information, call Erica Hobbs 325-3152 or Sharon Olshefski 489-0404.

Toastmasters

Anyone interested in improving their speaking ability is invited to attend the Lunar Nooners Toastmasters Club, which meets Tuesdays from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at the building 4610 cafeteria. For more information, call Ellen Jones 544-6616.

Nature preserve

The Friends of the Hays Nature Preserve and the Goldsmith Schiffman Wildlife Sanctuary, a newly formed 501 C non-profit, will hold an organizational meeting Jan. 29 at 7 p.m. at the Monte Sano State Park Lodge. Learn about membership and volunteer opportunities in this organization. "The organization is focused on the preservation of these beautiful natural

spaces within the Flint River Watershed for our enjoyment, for our children and for future generations," a prepared release said. "Dr. Doug Phillips of Alabama Public Television's 'Discovering Alabama' will lecture on the importance of these two south-central Madison County treasures."

Test/evaluation papers

Test Week 2008 — "Test & Evaluation for the Future: What Lies 10-15 Years Ahead?," scheduled June 2-5 at the Von Braun Center — announces its call for technical papers from the acquisition, S&T and T&E communities (industry, government and academia). Deadline for submission is March 1. Guidance and instructions may be found on www.test-week.org or by e-mailing Sherry Hilley at sherry.hilley@us.army.mil.

Executive women

The Huntsville Chapter of Executive Women International invites young women in grades 8-12 to attend the Executive Women of Tomorrow Conference on Feb. 23 at the University Center, University of Alabama-Huntsville. The theme is "Executive Women of Today – Mentoring the Executive Women of Tomorrow." Proceeds will benefit the EWI Huntsville Chapter Scholarship fund. Early bird registration is \$40 until Dec. 31. For more information, call 533-4661.

Women in defense

The Tennessee Valley Chapter of Women in Defense, an affiliate of NDIA, will hold its winter luncheon Jan. 15 at 11:30 a.m.

at the Marriott, Tranquility Base. Kathryn Condon, the Army Materiel Command executive deputy to the commanding general, is the guest speaker. Cost is \$25; and reservations are required. Register by Friday online at <http://conferencesbysigma.com/wid/> or call 533-6365.

Computer users

Huntsville PC User Group's Special Interest Group will meet Saturday at 9:15 a.m. at the Huntsville-Madison County Senior Center, 2200 Drake Ave. At 10:45, the features and major changes in Microsoft's upgraded Office 2007 will be discussed by Ken Pickett, a retired engineer and longtime computer user. Visitors are welcome. For more information, call 534-4324.

Genealogical society

Huntsville Genealogical Computing Society meets Jan. 14 at 7 p.m. at Huntsville Madison County Public Library, main branch auditorium. The subject is "Copyright Laws and Genealogists." For information call 883-5650.

Kansas club

"The History of Madison" will be presented by S.A. Hale at the next Kansas Club dinner meeting Jan. 26 at the Market Street Cafe. Hale will speak while dressed in a period costume of the 1800s. "The Kansas Club is a friendly, social group consisting of people with Kansas connections and those who like to socialize with

people with a Kansas connection. Newcomers are welcome," a prepared release said. Call 883-0080, 895-6363 or 722-4798 to be included in the head count.

Civil War discussion

Tennessee Valley Civil War Round Table will meet Thursday at 6:30 p.m. at the Elks Lodge, 725 Franklin St. Scheduled speaker is Mark Hubbs, senior historian for the Space and Missile Defense Command and a member of the Company of Military Historians. Chicken dinner buffet is available at 5:30 for \$6.95. Call 858-6191 for more information.

Simulation workshop

The Alabama Modeling & Simulation Council is holding a OneSAF workshop Jan. 17 from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. at SAIC, 6723 Odyssey Drive. For more information, call Gene Shreve 842-0409.

Federal employees

The National Active and Retired Federal Employees Association will meet Saturday at the Senior Center on Drake Avenue. Chapter service officer Ernest Williams will address federal income tax highlights and changes for tax year 2007. Refreshments begin at 9:30 a.m. and the program at 10. For more information, call 519-3327 or 539-1333.

Engineer society

The January SOLE luncheon is tentatively scheduled 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Jan. 29 at the Officers and Civilians Club. Cost is \$14 for non-members, \$13 for members.

For reservations call Jane Reeves 544-7991 or Dave Welch 837-5282, ext. 1706.

Management institute

The Project Management Institute North Alabama Chapter will hold its monthly luncheon meeting from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Jan. 17 at the Marriott, 5 Tranquility Base. Jim Halsell, vice president for space exploration systems at ATK Launch Systems, will discuss "The Importance of Focused Program Management in America's Human Space Flight Projects." The cost is \$20 for PMI members, \$25 for non-members. Register by 5 p.m. Jan. 14 at www.northalabamapmi.org/ChapterMeetings.htm.

Emerging technology

The Tennessee Valley Emerging Technology Conference will be held March 26-28 at the Richard C. Shelby Center for Missile Intelligence Auditorium. For more information, visit the conference web site <http://smapcenter.uah.edu/ETC08/>.



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 information

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Rocket Announcements



Courtesy photo

Cheer brigade

The City of Madison expressed its thanks to the individuals, companies and organizations that helped make the 2007 Holiday Cheer Brigade a success. Twelve local Soldiers and their families who have been down on their luck were given the chance to have a happier holiday season through community contributions. Almost \$11,000 was raised, in addition to more than \$1,000 in gift cards and a roomful of presents that were distributed to the Soldiers and their families Dec. 15. "The City of Madison would especially like to thank Adtran, the Semper Fi Community Task Force, the Optimist Club, the Hair Company, and Wal-Mart for their generous monetary and gift card donations," a prepared release said. Helpers include, from left, retired Sgt. 1st Class David Carney, Madison mayor Sandy Kirkindall, his wife Melissa Kirkindall, Madison councilman (District 5) Tommy Overcash, and Jessica Bradley, aide to the mayor.

systems operators and 42A human resources specialists. For 25B, 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 have merged into the 25B career group and convert to 25B as well. To schedule an interview, call Master Sgt. Harold Cook 319-8456 or Warrant Officer David Ricketts 955-4026.

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. Go to www.gsaauctions.gov, search by State of Alabama; and there you will find items located at MSFC and other federal agencies in Alabama to bid on. For more information, call 544-4667.

Thrift shop

The Thrift Shop, building 3209 on Hercules Road, is open for shopping 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Tuesdays and Wednesdays and 9-5 Thursdays. Walk-in consignment hours are Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays

from 9-12:30. Volunteers are needed for Tuesday and Wednesday afternoons. Donations are accepted and tax slips are available. For more information, call 881-6992.

Computer classes

Self-paced computer classes are offered at Army Community Service to assist military spouses in learning or enhancing their computer skills. Classes are available in Microsoft Word, Excel, PowerPoint, Outlook, Access, Publisher and Windows XP. All classes are free and are offered Monday through Friday anytime between 8 a.m. and 3:30 p.m. Certificates will be given after successful completion. Call 876-5397 to pre-register.

Motorcycle safety

To permanently register a motorcycle on any DoD installation, the Defense Department requires all motorcyclists to complete a Motorcycle Safety Foundation training course. The one-day course is offered free to anyone authorized access to Redstone. For information call Keith Coates of Garrison Safety Office 876-3383. The instructor is Ralph Harris at 93hdstc@bellsouth.net.

Green to gold

The Alabama A&M Army ROTC program, which includes University of Alabama-Huntsville and Athens State University, is seeking proficient enlisted Soldiers interested in completing an undergraduate or graduate degree and commissioning as Army officers upon receiving the appropriate degree. If you are an enlisted Soldier who has served at least two years on active duty, this is an opportunity for you to advance. Enroll in Army ROTC on campus by using opportunities provided through the Green to Gold Program. For more information or to schedule an interview, call Maj. Annette Woods 372-4023 or e-mail annette.woods@aamu.edu. You may also visit online at <http://www.aamu.edu/rotc>.

Lateral entry

Opportunities to excel under a competitive learning environment are available to qualified prior service individuals who wish to train and commission as second

lieutenants in the Army. These opportunities are also available to you if you are an enlisted member of the National Guard or Reserve and wish to become an officer. The Lateral Entry Program will allow you to enroll — as a junior, senior or graduate student with four semesters of coursework remaining before graduation — as a cadet in the ROTC Program at Alabama A&M University. For more information or to schedule an interview, call Maj. Annette Woods 372-4023.

Officer candidates

The Huntsville Recruiting Company is seeking proficient individuals interested in commissioning as Army officers upon completion of Officer Candidate School. If you are a college graduate with a four-year college degree or higher from an accredited institution of postsecondary education (college seniors may apply), this is an opportunity for you to become an officer. Graduates of OCS are commissioned as second lieutenants. Commissions are available in the Active Army and the Army Reserve. For more information, or to schedule an interview, call Capt. Cyrus Russ 539-6511.

Pilots wanted

The Huntsville Recruiting Company is seeking qualified applicants to apply for Warrant Officer Flight Training School. Applicants must have a high school diploma and be from age 18-33. Age waivers will be considered. Experience in flight training or related disciplines are encouraged, but not a requirement. Applicants will be required to take the Alternate Flight Aptitude Selection Test and score 90 or higher. For more information, or to schedule an interview, call Capt. Cyrus Russ 539-6511.

Reserve cadets

Join the Army Reserve and enroll in your college ROTC program simultaneously through the Simultaneous Membership Program. Earn anywhere from \$470 to \$1,400 a month as a SMP cadet. As a member of the Army Reserve SMP Cadet Program, you are non-deployable, you have an opportunity to pursue the degree of your choice and you can assure yourself of a future as a commissioned officer in the Active Army or the Army Reserve. For more information, call your local Army Reserve recruiter 922-1422.

Tax center

The 2007-08 Redstone Arsenal Tax Assistance Center will be open from Jan. 28 to April 15, Monday through Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. The center is in building 3489 at the corner of Ajax Road and Zeus Road. All active duty servicemembers, retirees, their dependents, as well as Reserve and National Guard servicemembers on military orders for 30 or more days and their dependents, are eligible for e-filing of federal and state tax returns. There is no charge for this service. Beginning Jan. 21, you can make an appointment by calling 842-1040.

AER scholarships

Army Emergency Relief offers "free" money for education. The 2008-09 Army Emergency Relief Scholarship Program instructions and timelines for applying for the scholarships are now available on the AER web site, www.aerhq.org. Assistance is available for spouses and children of active duty and retired Soldiers. All applications and supporting documents must be sent to AER headquarters and post-marked by March 1. For more information, call AER officer Kristi Foster 876-5397.

Dance classes

The Diane Campbell Recreation Center is taking signups for Fox Trot and Rumba classes to be held Thursday evenings beginning Jan. 10. Cost is \$66 per couple. The class is taught by professional instructors Mary Jo Blount and Vince Guarin. For more information, call 876-4531.

Science/engineering apprentices

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

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college programs designed for students who are U.S. citizens and age 15 by the beginning of the program June 2, 2008. The apprentice program is divided into periods of eight, 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 contacts 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, contact the Civilian Personnel Advisory Center, Julie Lumpkins in building 5308, at 313-4834.

Community assistance

The Officer and Civilian Women's Club distributes money to nonprofit groups each year, and is now accepting applications for grants. To receive a copy of the application, write to RSAOCWC, Attention: Demy Robley, Community Assistance Chair, P.O. Box 8113, Redstone Arsenal, AL 35808. Forms are also available in the OCWC Southern Exposure Newsletter and at Army Community Service, building 3338 on Redeye Road. All requests must conform to the OCWC Community Assistance Request Form. Deadline for the request is Feb. 28. Requests postmarked or received after the deadline will not be considered. For more information, call Demy Robley 882-6064.

Scholarship program

The American Society of Military Comptrollers offers a scholarship program for ASMC members and their families. Applicants must be current ASMC members or high school seniors, undergraduates, or those working on graduate programs (immediately related to an ASMC member). They must have maintained a 3.0 gpa. Applications are due by Feb. 28. For more information all Judy Smith, chairperson of the Scholarship Commit-

tee, 313-2379.

Warrant officer scholarship

The Redstone Arsenal Chapter of the Warrant Officer Association will present its annual \$1,000 scholarship award for 2008. Applications will be accepted from the children (natural and adopted), dependent stepchildren under age 21 (seniors in high school or currently enrolled college freshmen), and spouses of members of the active, National Guard, Reserve, and retired military and DoD civilians/contractors in the Tennessee Valley area. Deadline to submit packet is March 1. To download a packet and application form, go to www.redstonewarants.com.

Merit awards

The Officer and Civilian Women's Club is again offering its Merit Award Program to the Redstone community. "The club has traditionally offered a scholarship program to its members and their families that assist them in pursuing their educational goals and aspirations," a prepared release said. "This year, Government Service ID card holders and their families may also apply for a scholarship. The focus is to provide financial assistance to spouses and high school students who are not eligible for OCWC membership." Merit Awards are based on the applicant's scholastic achievements, activities and an essay. Applications are available at the monthly luncheons and by contacting the Merit Program co-chairs. The deadline for applications is Feb. 4. For more information, contact Kathleen Riester riesterc@knology.net or Audrey Osterndorf osterndorf1@aol.com.

Training seminar

The Redstone Arsenal Chapter of International Association of Administrative Professionals will hold its 13th annual seminar, "Pathways to Professional Excellence," Feb. 11 from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Officers and Civilians Club. Laurel Long, director of human resource services at University of Alabama-Huntsville, is keynote speaker. Afternoon workshop topics include Home Computer Maintenance, Leading in Teamwork, Leading Through Education, How Leaders Should Apply Robert's Rules, and Leading in

Continuous Improvement. A luncheon, continental breakfast and snacks along with Office Expo booths will be provided to attendees. The course is in TIPS by the course number PPE; and the 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 the training event. For more information or to register, call Susan Douglas 955-9530.

Dr. King luncheon

The Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Commemoration Luncheon is Jan. 22 at 11 a.m. in the ballroom of the Officers and Civilians Club. The keynote speaker is Dr. Victoria Dixon, director of equal employment opportunity programs for Army Test and Evaluation. RSVP by Jan. 16 with Julia Story, Garrison protocol assistant, 842-7954.

Unity breakfast

The Delta Theta Lambda Education Foundation of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity Inc. announces the 23rd annual Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Unity Breakfast slated Jan. 21 at the Von Braun Center North Hall. The speaker is Dr. Bertice Berry, a sociologist, author, lecturer and educator. "Proceeds from the Unity Breakfast are used solely by the Delta Theta Lambda Education Foundation to aid students in their pursuit of academic excellence through the awarding of scholarships, mentoring, tutoring and the administration of leadership training," a prepared release said. Individual tickets are \$25, or a reserved table (seats eight) can be purchased for \$250. For more information, call Timothy Richmond 859-3964 or Herman Thornton 852-8428.

Red Cross blood drives

Red Cross blood drives this month include the following: Jan. 10, from 7 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at building 4488 and 7 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at SMDC, building 5220. ... Jan. 17, from 7 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at the Sparkman Center and 7 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at building 5400. ... Jan. 18, from 8 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. at NASA building 4316, 7 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at building 5400, and 7

Rocket Announcements

a.m. to noon at Corps of Engineers. ... Jan. 25, from 7:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at Missile Defense Agency, 106 Wynn Drive.

Space symposium

The "America in Space" 50th anniversary symposium, a public seminar, is Jan. 31 at the Von Braun Center's Concert Hall. Scheduled panel sessions include "America in Space, Jan. 31, 1958: Remembering Explorer 1," from 9-10:45 a.m.; "The Saturn V, Chariot to the Moon," from 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.; and "The Next 50 Years in Space, Visions of the Future," 1:30-3:15 p.m.

Art auction benefit

The Officer and Civilian Women's Club will hold its annual Art Exhibition/Crafts Services Auction on Jan. 26 at the Officers and Civilians Club. A preview and Crafts and Services Silent Auction will begin at 5:30 p.m. and will include door prizes, hors d'oeuvres, refreshments and a cash bar. The Art Auction begins at 7 p.m., followed by dessert at 9. This year's auction is titled "Mardi Gras" and will again feature artwork from the Perry Berns Gallery of Dallas, Texas. Perry, back by popular demand, promises to entertain our audience while offering new and beautiful art - from prints to original oils in a wide range of affordable prices. The auction will benefit the OCWC Welfare Fund in support of community activities benefiting military and civilian families. A donation of \$10 per person will be collected at the door. For gate entrance information and advance tickets, call Lynn Carden 533-6368 or Teresa Lee 830-0562.

Space society

HAL5 (National Space Society) presents a free public lecture tonight at 7:30 at the Huntsville-Madison County Main Public Library, 915 Monroe St. A social will follow. Craig Russell, president of Americans in Orbit-50 Years Inc., will speak on "Back to the Past, Recreating Friendship 7." For more information, call Ronnie Lajoie 509-3833. This lecture was rescheduled from Jan. 3.

ARMY POSITION VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENTS REDSTONE ARSENAL AND HUNTSVILLE, ALABAMA AREA

January 9, 2008 The Redstone Rocket

ANNOUNCEMENTS	POSITION TITLE	CLOSING	ORGANIZATION	PAY PLAN	GRADE	POT	PAY RANGE	WHO CAN APPLY?											
		DATE	LOCATION	& SERIES	LEVEL	GRD	(FROM - TO)	A	B	C	D	E	F	H	I	R	T	V	U
THE FOLLOWING ARMY ANNOUNCEMENTS CAN BE FOUND ON THE WEB AT WWW.CPOL.ARMY.MIL																			
SCBK07461124	Mgmt Supp Asst	9-Jan-08	AMCOM, G1 (HR)	GS-0303	6	7	32,446 - 46,874	X											
SCBK07425379	Referral Mgmt Asst	9-Jan-08	MEDDAC	GS-0303	5	5	29,108 - 37,839	X	X	X						X	X	X	
SCBK07412778	Prgm Spec	9-Jan-08	USAOMEMS	GS-0301	12	12	63,958 - 83,148	X	X							X	X	X	
SCBK07453246	Senior Sys Analyst	9-Jan-08	IMMC	GS-0301	15	15	105,720 - 137,434				X					X			X
SCBK07453246D	Senior Sys Analyst	9-Jan-08	IMMC	GS-0301	15	15	105,720 - 137,434	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
SCBK07344574	Budget Anlyst	9-Jan-08	USAOMEMS	GS-0560	11	11	53,362 - 69,373	X	X							X	X	X	
SCBK07413621	General Engr	10-Jan-08	AMRDEC	DB-0801	4	4	89,875 - 137,434	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
SCBK07413621D	General Engr	10-Jan-08	AMRDEC	DB-0801	4	4	89,875 - 137,434	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
SCBK07435890	Allergy & Immunology Tech	10-Jan-08	MEDDAC	GS-0640	6	6	32,446 - 42,180	X	X										
SCBK07452630	Police Ofcr	10-Jan-08	GARRISON	GS-0083	7	7	36,057 - 46,874	X	X							X	X		X
SCBK07413621	General Engr	10-Jan-08	AMRDEC	DB-0801	4	4	89,875 - 137,434	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
SCBK07413621D	General Engr	10-Jan-08	AMRDEC	DB-0801	4	4	89,875 - 137,434	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
SCBK07464718	Contract Spec	11-Jan-08	SMDC	GS-1102	12	12	63,958 - 83,148	X	X							X	X	X	X
SCBK07389504D	Supv General Engr	12-Jan-08	AMCOM, G3 (Opers)	YF-0801	3	3	89,875 - 137,434	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
SCBK07389504	Supv General Engr	12-Jan-08	AMCOM, G3 (Opers)	YD-0801	3	3	89,875 - 137,434	X											
SCBK07389504D	Supv General Engr	12-Jan-08	AMCOM, G3 (Opers)	YD-0801	3	3	89,875 - 137,434	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
SCBK07450623	Supv Prgm Mgr	14-Jan-08	PEO STRI, Target Mgmt Ofc	YA-0340	3	3	89,875 - 137,434				X					X			X
SCBK07454188	Prgm Anlyst	14-Jan-08	AMRDEC	DE-0343	2	3	29,108 - 83,148	X											
SCBK07458504	Logistics Mgmt Spec	14-Jan-08	IMMC	GS-0346	12	12	63,958 - 83,148	X								X	X		X
SCBK07424707	Electronic Publications Spec	14-Jan-08	IMMC	GS-0301	7	11	36,057 - 44,470	X											
SCBK07427641	General Engr	15-Jan-08	AMRDEC	DB-0801	4	4	89,875 - 137,434	X								X	X		X
SCBK07427641D	General Engr	15-Jan-08	AMRDEC	DB-0801	4	4	89,875 - 137,434	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
SCBK07423380	Supv Logistics Mgt Spec	15-Jan-08	IMMC	YC-0346	2	2	63,417 - 121,640	X	X							X	X		X
SCBK08484193	Organizational Resources Spec	15-Jan-08	GARRISON	GS-0301	12	12	63,958 - 83,148	X											
SCBK07413630	General Engr	16-Jan-08	AMRDEC	DB-0801	3	3	63,958 - 98,876	X								X	X		X
SCBK07413630D	General Engr	16-Jan-08	AMRDEC	DB-0801	3	3	63,958 - 98,876	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
SCBK07428617	General Engr	16-Jan-08	AMRDEC	DB-0801	3	3	63,958 - 98,876	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
SCBK07428617D	General Engr	16-Jan-08	AMRDEC	DB-0801	3	3	63,958 - 98,876	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
SCBK07481785	Opers and Plans Ofcr	16-Jan-08	SMDC	YC-0301	3	3	89,337 - 143,443				X					X	X		X
SCBK07481785D	Opers and Plans Ofcr	16-Jan-08	SMDC	YC-0301	3	3	89,337 - 143,443	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
SCBK08458928	Bldg Mgmt Asst	16-Jan-08	Acq Supp Ctr	GS-0303	6	6	33,351 - 43,358	X	X										
SCBK07466037	Nuclear Engrng Tech	16-Jan-08	AMCOM, TMDE ACTVTY	GS-0802	11	11	53,362 - 69,373	X			X								
SCBK08466037D	Nuclear Engrng Tech	17-Jan-08	AMCOM, TMDE ACTVTY	GS-0802	11	11	53,362 - 69,373	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
SCBK07438611	Trng Instructor (Hazardous Devices)	18-Jan-08	USAOMEMS	GS-1712	11	11	53,362 - 69,373	X	X							X	X		X
SCBK07477275	General Engr	18-Jan-08	AMRDEC	DB-0801	3	3	63,958 - 98,876	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
SCBK07477275D	General Engr	18-Jan-08	AMRDEC	DB-0801	3	3	63,958 - 98,876	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
SCBK08483698	Human Resources Asst (Military/OA)	18-Jan-08	GARRISON	GS-0203	6	6	33,351 - 43,358	X	X										
SCBK07442547	Logistics Mgmt Spec	18-Jan-08	IMMC	GS-0346	13	13	78,178 - 101,636	X											
SCBK08236740	Project Supp Asst (OA)	21-Jan-08	Corps of Engrs, Huntsville	YB-0303	1	2	29,920 - 64,904									X	X		X
SCBK08236740D	Project Supp Asst (OA)	21-Jan-08	Corps of Engrs, Huntsville	YB-0303	1	2	29,920 - 64,904	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
SCBK07454802	Logistics Mgmt Spec	22-Jan-08	IMMC	GS-0346	12	12	63,958 - 83,148	X											
SCBK074652421D	Aerospace Engr	22-Jan-08	AMRDEC	DB-0861	2	3	29,108 - 98,876	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
SCBK07455897	General Engr	22-Jan-08	AMRDEC	DB-0801	3	3	63,958 - 98,876	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
SCBK07455897D	General Engr	22-Jan-08	AMRDEC	DB-0801	3	3	63,958 - 98,876	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
SCBK07458160	Secretary (OA)	22-Jan-08	Acq Supp Ctr	GS-0318	8	8	41,045 - 53,359	X	X										
SCBK07318253	Military Construction Analyst	23-Jan-08	Corps of Engrs, Huntsville	YA-0301	2	2	44,104 - 98,876				X								
SCBK07436766	General Engr	25-Jan-08	PEO AVN	NH-0801	4	4	89,875 - 137,434									X	X		X
SCBK07436766D	General Engr	25-Jan-08	PEO AVN	NH-0801	4	4	89,875 - 137,434	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
SCBK070350623	Electrical Engr	30-Jan-08	Corps of Engrs, Huntsville	YD-0850	2	2	38,824 - 87,039	X	X							X	X		X
SCBK070350623D	Electrical Engr	1-Feb-08	Corps of Engrs, Huntsville	YD-0850	2	2	38,824 - 87,039	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
SCBK08474538	Lead Electronics Engr	4-Feb-08	AMRDEC	DB-0855	4	4	92,381 - 141,272	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
SCBK08474538D	Lead Electronics Engr	4-Feb-08	AMRDEC	DB-0855	4	4	92,381 - 141,272	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
THE FOLLOWING OPM/DEU ANNOUNCEMENTS CAN BE FOUND ON THE WEB AT WWW.USAJOB.S. OPM.GOV																			
SCBK07453246D	Senior Sys Analyst	9-Jan-08	IMMC	GS-0301	15	15	105,720 - 137,434	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
SCBK07413621D	General Engr	10-Jan-08	AMRDEC	DB-0801	4	4	89,875 - 137,434	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
SCBK07389504D	Supv General Engr	11-Jan-08	AMCOM, G3 (Opers)	YF-0801	3	3	89,875 - 137,434	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
SCBK07389504D	Supv General Engr	12-Jan-08	AMCOM, G3 (Opers)	YF-0801	3	3	89,875 - 137,434	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
SCBK07458504	Logistics Mgmt Spec	14-Jan-08	IMMC	GS-0346	12	12	63,958 - 83,148	X								X	X		X
SCBK07427641D	General Engr	15-Jan-08	AMRDEC	DB-0801	4	4	89,875 - 137,434	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
SCBK07413630D	General Engr	16-Jan-08	AMRDEC	DB-0801	3	3	63,958 - 98,876	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
SCBK07428617D	General Engr	16-Jan-08	AMRDEC	DB-0801	3	3	63,958 - 98,876	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
SCBK07481785D	Opers and Plans Ofcr	16-Jan-08	SMDC	YC-0301	3	3	89,337 - 143,443	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
SCBK07481785D	Opers and Plans Ofcr	16-Jan-08	SMDC	YC-0301	3	3	89,337 - 143,443	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
SCBK08466037D	Nuclear Engrng Tech	17-Jan-08	AMCOM, TMDE ACTVTY	GS-0802	11	11	53,362 - 69,373	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
SCBK07477275D	General Engr	18-Jan-08	AMRDEC	DB-0801	3	3	63,958 - 98,876	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
SCBK08236740D	Project Supp Asst (OA)	21-Jan-08	Corps of Engrs, Huntsville	YB-0303	1	2	29,920 - 64,904	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
SCBK07462954D	Aerospace Engr	22-Jan-08	AMRDEC	DB-0861	3	3	63,958 - 98,876	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
SCBK074652421D	Aerospace Engr	22-Jan-08	AMRDEC	DB-0861	2	3	29,108 - 98,876	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
SCBK07455897D	General Engr	22-Jan-08	AMRDEC	DB-0801	3	3	63,958 - 98,876	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
SCBK07436766D	General Engr	25-Jan-08	PEO AVN	NH-0801	4	4	89,875 - 137,434	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
SCBK070350623D	Electrical Engr	1-Feb-08	Corps of Engrs, Huntsville	YD-0850	2	2	38,824 - 87,039</												