

Redstone Rocket

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AMC moving toward better future

Deputy commanding general
shares headquarters view

By KARI HAWKINS
Staff writer
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As 2009 begins, the Army Materiel Command is coming closer to realizing a synergy through its move to Redstone Arsenal that will “re-energize and transform” its work force, said one of its leading generals.

Lt. Gen. Jim Pillsbury, who is the former commander of Redstone Arsenal and the Aviation and Missile Command, and who is now the Army Materiel Command’s deputy commander, has an insider’s perspective on the Army organizations that will be co-located at the Arsenal when the base realignment and closure recommendations are completed by 2011.

AMCOM along with Program Executive Office-Aviation and PEO-Missiles and Space are subordinate commands to AMC, now headquartered at Fort Belvoir, Va. AMC is the Army’s premier provider of materiel readiness, including technology, acquisition support, materiel development, logistics power projection and sustainment, ranging from weapon systems to maintenance and distribution of spare parts.

“While I was at AMCOM, I got to see firsthand and for a relatively long period the

“The ability to reshape AMC staff into a transformed command is enhanced by the BRAC move. The move to Redstone Arsenal will give AMC access to the highly skilled work force within the Tennessee Valley. It will be easier to re-energize and transform our work force.”

— Lt. Gen. Jim Pillsbury
AMC deputy commander

power of the life cycle management command concept,” Pillsbury said. “And I saw the goodness and the badness of AMC head-



Photo by Kari Hawkins

COMMUNITY LEADERS— Former Redstone commander Lt. Gen. Jim Pillsbury, currently the AMC deputy commander, talks with local and state leaders of the Association of the U.S. Army at the 2007 Department of the Army Civilian of the Year dinner at the Von Braun Center. With Pillsbury are, from left, AUSA state president and retired Brig Gen. Bob Drolet; Emily Vandiver, then president of the Redstone-Huntsville Chapter of AUSA; and retired Col. John Rogers, civilian aide to the secretary of the Army for North Alabama and AUSA Region 3 (Southeast) president.

quarters. As I make decisions up here in my current job, I think of the impact they have at AMCOM and PEO-Aviation, and PEO-Missiles and Space. Because of my experience, I hope to make better and smarter decisions.”

One recent Army decision that will have a lasting beneficial impact on AMC and its subordinate commands is the BRAC-recommended relocation of AMC headquarters.

“The location of a headquarters has its strengths and weaknesses,” Pillsbury said. “The ability to reshape AMC staff into a transformed command is enhanced by the BRAC move. The move to Redstone Arsenal will give AMC access to the highly skilled work force within the Tennessee Valley. It will be easier to re-energize and transform our work force.”

Pillsbury said AMC and its employees will benefit from the Tennessee Valley’s highly educated and motivated work force along with its quality of life, good educational systems, wonderful people, unique culture, and plenty of recreational, social and performing arts activities.

“There are some challenges in terms of

roads and schools,” he said. “But the state and local leadership are working on those. And (local volunteer) Joe Ritch and the Tennessee Valley BRAC Committee have done a great job providing information about the Tennessee Valley and continuing to push hard for improving roads and schools.”

In return, the profile of Redstone Arsenal and Huntsville as a leading military center will be heightened with the addition of the prestigious AMC to the Arsenal neighborhood.

“Redstone Arsenal will get a great new tenant with AMC,” Pillsbury said. “I don’t see any changes in the Arsenal footprint except in the physical addition of 1,200 folks. But I do see us being a good tenant as we partner with NASA, the Missile Defense Agency, AMCOM and the 40 to 50 other organizations at Redstone Arsenal.”

Currently, close to 200 AMC employees have been moved to Redstone Arsenal. Those moves will continue through the summer of 2011, when construction of the AMC headquarters is completed just off Martin Road.

See Future on page 9

An open lane random survey

What's your New Year's resolution?

By SKIP VAUGHN
Rocket editor
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Pvt. Daniel Goodwin
Bravo Company
"Probably cut back on smoking. Do better on PT (physical training)."

Pfc. Albert Latham
Bravo Company
"Do well in class. I start classes on (Jan.) 5th. So to do the best I can in my classes."



Tina Marbrey
Huntsville resident
"To get a new job."

Melinda Seigler
United Way of Madison County/CFC
"My New Year's resolution is to stay fit and spend more time with my family and friends."



Quote of the week

"Now there are more overweight people in America than average-weight people. So overweight people are now average. Which means you've met your New Year's resolution."

— Jay Leno

Advice for office workers

The Secretary of Energy designate, Steven Chu, who received a Nobel Prize for Physics in 1997, has some very useful words in his Nobel autobiography. Talking of his employment as a researcher at Bell Labs starting in 1978, Chu says, "The cramped labs and office cubicles forced us to interact with each other and follow each others' progress. The animated discussions were common during and after seminars and at lunch and continued on the tennis courts."

Milton Jones
AMRDEC

Questioning a complex statue

I learned while reading the Dec. 17 edition of the *Redstone Rocket* that the Missile Defense Agency has commissioned a statue of Werner von Braun for display in its building. While Dr. von Braun did tremendous work for the USA in development of rocketry for our space program, I cannot set aside the fact that he joined the German Nationalist Socialist Party (also known as the Nazis) in 1937 and he joined the Waffen-SS in 1940. Dr. von Braun wrote that he had to join the parties to continue work on his rockets. So, he made a conscious decision to join the Nazi party so he could continue to work on the very rockets which were launched against the British public causing countless fatalities and injuries. In contrast were many of the scientists in the atomic weapon program of Germany who silently did everything they could to sabotage the German atomic program while von Braun put his rocket program on full speed ahead.

Dr. von Braun has been recognized locally with the Von Braun Center downtown. This should be enough. The very idea of putting a statue up of a Nazi SS officer in a complex named after him on an Army base in the U.S. is appalling to me. Von Braun actively worked to defeat the USA and the allies and his work resulted directly in the loss of British, U.S., and other allied lives. Yet we honor him with a building complex and a statue.

I wonder what the Jewish population of the area thinks about this, plus people who had family living in London in the 1940s during the war, and those few WW II veterans who are still alive and fought against the Nazis.

There has to be a heroic American who has fought for our country we could have honored in the naming of this complex and the commissioning of a statue; instead, we get a Nazi SS officer.

Bob Mulkey

Thanks for Christmas Bear

I just wanted to say thank you to all persons involved with Operation Christmas Bear. I had the pleasure of taking my two children (ages 4 and 9) in December and I must say we all had a great time. The food was great, the wooden toy handout was awesome and the environment itself was great. For those whose spouses are overseas, this really helps make the holidays that much more real. From what I could see, the kids all had a great time from making T-shirts to free pictures with Santa, face painting and toy trains along with a host of holiday characters. I just wanted to say thanks to everyone who made this possible. It was appreciated and this is just one of those things that make the military and family support so wonderful. You really feel a part of something.

Spc. Tara Richards and family

Getting to know you

By SKIP VAUGHN
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Name: Josh Voight
Job: Term employee, Public Affairs Office, Space and Missile Defense Command

Where do you call home?
Huntsville

What do you like about your job?
I love being able to learn more about public affairs and the government. I love being able to report. I love taking pictures. I love to write. Writing is one of my passions. And I love the people I work with.

What do you like to do in your spare time?
I enjoy sports research. I love sports. Sports is my passion; it's my hobby. And hang out with friends. Go to football games – all the Bama games (as a junior at the University of Alabama).

What are your goals?
I hope to become a sports anchor, or a news anchor. Something in broadcasting. That's my goal because that's my major – broadcast news.

What's your favorite type of music?
I guess it would be alternative rock.

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.

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Photo by Sofia Bledsoe

Winning campaign

Redstone commander Maj. Jim Myles presents a certificate of appreciation Dec. 17 in recognition of the Army Emergency Relief campaign which raised \$292,000 to exceed its \$225,000 goal. From left are Derrick Gould, Capt. Rob Dewberry, Kristi Foster and Myles.

Soldiers, civilians get pay increase in new year

By C. TODD LOPEZ
Army News Service

WASHINGTON — There's something extra in everybody's paycheck in January. Active-duty personnel drew an across-the-board 3.9 percent pay raise beginning Jan. 1. A sergeant with five years of service, for instance, saw an increase in monthly base salary of about \$88. A captain with nine years of service saw nearly \$200 per month extra.

Pay raises aren't limited to military personnel, however. Civilian employees under both the General Schedule and

National Security Personnel System pay plans are also receiving pay raises.

Civilians under the GS system get an across-the-board pay raise of 2.9 percent in 2009. Civilians under the NSPS pay system see an increase of 1.74 percent and can earn additional performance-based salary increases through the NSPS "pay pool" process.

Additionally, all civilian employees rate a locality pay, which is based on the cost-of-living in their employment market. Locality pay rates for 2009 range from about 13.86 percent to 34.35 percent of an employee's base pay.

Crimes, accidents and other occurrences

The Directorate of Emergency Services provided the following list of reported incidents:

Dec. 29: Someone forcefully entered a contractor building on Hughes Road and removed a Dell computer, a Dell laptop, a monitor, and a docking station. Investigation continues by DES investigators.

Dec. 29: Someone entered a fenced area on Industrial Road and stole copper wire valued at \$638. Investigation con-



tinues by DES investigators.

Dec. 30: Someone applied a deep scratch to the entire driver's side of a man's Toyota Tundra while it was parked at the Fitness Center. Investigation continues by DES inves-

tigators.

Traffic accidents reported: Four without injury, one involving a deer strike.

Violation notices issued: 3 speeding, 1 no insurance, 1 expired registration, 1 expired driver's license.

Wounded warrior: 'I just feel lucky to be here'

Security assistance colonel earns Purple Heart honor

By **KELLEY LANE-SIVLEY**
Staff writer
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For Col. Frederick Heaggans, director of the U.S. Army Security Assistance Command Forward, supporting the war fighter is more than a phrase on a bumper sticker or a line in a speech. It is something he has bled for.

Heaggans has been awarded a Purple Heart for injuries he received while deployed to Iraq in 2008.

Heaggans was working with the Iraqi army so they could purchase the equipment and supplies they need to be self-sufficient. He was in his office on Forward Operating Base Phoenix on April 20, 2008 when an enemy rocket exploded within inches of the roof. The force of the airburst knocked him to the ground unconscious while shrapnel peppered the room. He awoke hurt, but feeling very fortunate.

"It's a very humbling experience. I feel lucky to have survived and I remember the people who didn't."

— Col. Frederick Heaggans,
Director of the U.S. Army
Security Assistance
Command Forward

"When I woke up I did a quick body-check for injuries," he said. "I was injured, but luckily I survived it. The shrapnel had shredded my trailer, but managed to miss me."

After being rushed to the 86th Combat Support Hospital in Baghdad, his immediate injuries were treated and he was released. Heaggans was given the option to return home for further treatment and recuperation. His replacement wasn't scheduled to arrive until August, however.

Rather than leave his post unmanned, Heaggans decided to stay and finish the remaining five months of his 13-month deployment.

"I was able to get up and move around and do my job," he said. "I wanted to finish my time. I didn't want to leave a void. If I had left (early) then there would have been a void there for months. I could get up, so I didn't consider my injuries severe enough not to go back."

During his regularly scheduled leave,

Heaggans underwent further examination and tests while he was home. Doctors found extensive damage to his shoulder and knee from the force of the blast and impact with the floor.

"My injuries were more internal than external. I had a partially torn rotator cuff, tore my bicep tendon and some other small things in my shoulder. In my knee, I tore my ACL," he said.

Nevertheless, he returned to Iraq and served the rest of his deployment. He was awarded a Purple Heart in May for his injuries.

Since returning stateside in September, Heaggans has had surgery on his shoulder. He is still undergoing rehabilitation for the procedure. His knee will require major surgery as well to replace the ligaments once he has recovered fully from the shoulder surgery. He still reports for duty at Redstone where he is helping USASAC with its everyday business of foreign military sales and guiding the command through its base realignment and closure move from Fort Belvoir, Va.

Ever humble, Heaggans is a little embarrassed by the fuss being made over his injuries and deployment.

"It's a very humbling experience," he said. "I feel lucky to have survived and remember the people who didn't."

After 24 years in the green suit, Heaggans has seen his name added to Army Materiel Command's Purple Heart and Defense of Freedom Medal display located at AMC headquarters at Fort Belvoir. A brass plaque with his name is being added to the granite pillars recognizing AMC personnel for their personal sacrifices and commitment. The display was unveiled in 2007 on the sixth anniversary of 9/11.

Heaggans is the 13th name added to the display, which will be moved with the organizational flag once the BRAC move is completed.

"I just feel lucky to be here and to be able to go on with the mission," he said.



Photo by Kelley Lane-Sivley

WORKPLACE— Col. Frederick Heaggans, director of the U.S. Army Security Assistance Command Forward, was injured in a rocket attack in Iraq.

AMRDEC physicists earn award

Precision attack missile on target

Drs. Jonathan Blakely and Ned Corron, both research physicists in the Weapons Sciences Directorate of the Aviation and Missile Research Development and Engi-

neering Center, received the “Best Paper Award in the Physical/Engineering Processes: Theory and Analytical Modeling Category” during the 26th Army Science Con-

ference, Dec. 1-4 in Orlando, Fla.

Corron and Blakely’s technical paper was titled “Time Shifting Chaotic Signals Using Synchronization.” (AMRDEC release)

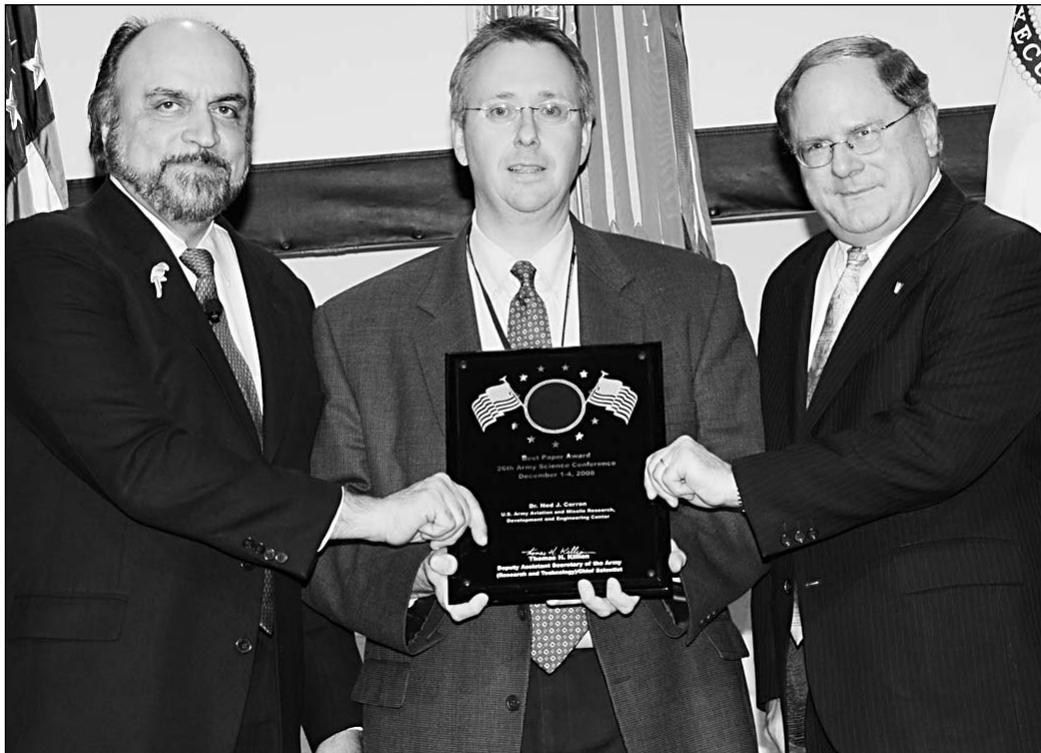
The Non-Line of Sight-Launch System Program Office, along with the NetFires Limited Liability Company, has successfully conducted its third Precision Attack Missile Guidance Test Vehicle missile flight test at White Sands Missile Range, N.M.

The missile was launched from the Container Launch Unit and flew 11.8 miles to autonomously engage a stationary T-72 target using the uncooled Infrared mode of the dual mode infrared/semi-active laser seeker.

This was the first Army flight test using an uncooled infrared sensor to engage a target autonomously. This flight demonstrated the capability of the Joint Tactical Radio System compatible PAM Single Channel Radio System to join a three node ground network after launch, transmit in-flight status reports and send seeker terminal video images to ground stations.

Initial review of the video and telemetry data shows that all primary system objectives were met.

This successful test provides data to support future flight qualification tests. (Program Executive Office for Missiles and Space release)



Courtesy photo

PRESENTATION— AMRDEC physicist Dr. Ned Corron, center, receives the “Best Paper Award in the Physical/Engineering Processes: Theory and Analytical Modeling Category” at the 26th Army Science Conference. Making the presentation are Dr. John A. Parmentola, left, Army director for research and laboratory management; and Dr. Thomas Killion, deputy assistant secretary for research and technology chief scientist. Dr. Jonathan Blakely, co-recipient of the award, was unable to attend the ceremony.

'Caveman' teaches robotics to troops in Iraq

Retired Marine returns from two-month tour

By **KARI HAWKINS**
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Soldiers in Iraq are now better trained to use the Army's latest robotic systems thanks to the work of Redstone Arsenal's "Caveman."

Although his moniker dates to prehistoric times, Norm Root is very much up to date with the high-tech use of robots like the Marcbot IV-N and Packbot 510 with Fastac Kit in explosive hazard identification, surveillance and reconnaissance, and route clearance. He recently returned from a two-month training mission in Iraq where he taught Soldiers and Marines the techniques and tricks of using the robots for bomb identification and other life threatening situations in theater.

"They asked me at first to train Soldiers and Marines on the new equipment, the Marcbot IV-N. But those are just now getting in the field and it turned out training was really needed with the Fastac. So they asked me if I would train them on how to use the Fastac, which is in very big demand," said Root, who is a Redstone contractor with Qualis Corp. working in support of PEO-Ground Combat Systems, Robotic Systems Joint Project Office.

"It's not up to us to tell the Soldiers what they need. It's up to them to tell us what they want and we'll support it. The Marcbot and the Fastac are designed for different missions. The Marcbot is an observation robot and the Fastac is more of a multi-purpose robot."

While the Marcbot IV-N (Multi-Function Agile Remote Control Robot) features a camera for use in the inspection of suspicious objects during improvised explosive devices sweeps, the Packbot 510 with Fastac (Fast Tactical) Kit not only provides two cameras for inspections but also a robotic arm for the manipulation of objects. Both are among the 1,800 Army robots in Iraq that are vital to the protection of war fighters in situations involving IEDs and other explosives.

Root's training mission took him to the Army's four Joint Robotic Repair Facilities, located at Camp Victory, Camp Taqaddum, Camp Speicher and in the Mosul area. At these facilities, Root conducted two-day training classes that involved

about 14 Soldiers and Marines each. About 150 Soldiers and Marines went through the training classes.

The training program used by Root was developed at Redstone Arsenal.

"We teach capabilities and

limitations," Root said. "One of the limitations of robots is they use cameras. If it's dusty and dirty you can't see too far. So a good camera is invaluable.

"Another limitation is the battery life. Robots use batteries and that is often the biggest draw-

back because battery life is only three or four hours. Once the battery starts going down you start having problems controlling the robot."

Root said it was relatively easy to teach Soldiers and Marines how to control the robots remotely. Many of his students grew up as video "gamers," so they understand how to use controllers to move robots. But they also had to know how to assemble their robots, how to control the robots remotely with the use of a camera lens and how to manipulate the robot to complete a mission.

"The first day of training they learn to build up their robot and drive it a little bit," Root said. "The second day we put them through different scenarios to test their ability to control the robot. They will do things like pick up trash or hunt for golf balls. Golf balls are good tools because they are easy to hide, and you can throw them or place them in all kinds of places. You can write numbers on them and then have the students read the numbers with their robot's camera."

Root was able to adapt the training to his students' capabilities. One Soldier was so adept at using the robot that Root gave him specific challenges to test his robot control skills. The Soldier used his robot to put golf balls in little paper cups and then stacked the cups into a pyramid. Even more challenging was when a cup was placed under the Soldier's chin and then the Soldier was challenged to manipulate the robot arm in such a way that he placed a golf ball in the cup without jabbing his Adam's apple.

Root's training mission in Iraq was not his first time in that country. The retired Marine lieutenant colonel served as a liaison officer for the 1st Marine Expeditionary Force in Fallujah in 2004, for which he received a combat action ribbon. He also served as a maintenance officer for the Cobra Aircraft Squadron during Desert Storm in 1991. Root's 35-year career in the Marines also took him to Nicaragua, Costa Rica, Guatemala and other locations in the Middle East.



Photo by Kari Hawkins

IN CONTROL- Retired Marine Lt. Col. Norm Root demonstrates how the Fastac robot stands in "Prairie Dog" position to see with its camera over a barrier. He is a contractor working for the Robotic Systems Joint Project Office, which is moving from Redstone Arsenal to Detroit Arsenal in Warren, Mich.

Robots

continued from page 6

It was a career that became his choice at age 14.

“I attended Devil Pups, a two-week camp at Camp Pendleton, Calif., that was run by the Reserves. It was a boot camp for kids. And I loved it,” he said.

“The Marine Corps is part mental and a lot physical. It’s about responsibility and leadership. It was a perfect match for me.”

Root also enjoyed the opportunities the Marine Corps gave him to mentor and teach fellow Marines. Those opportunities were also part of his civilian training mission in Iraq.

“For every class, I would have the normal mix of Soldiers or Marines. Some would come in cocky and thinking they knew everything. Others would be quiet. And some would even be more interested in playing with their cell phones,” he said.

“But most of them understood that robots and the training they received on robots could save their lives. I would tell them they had two jobs in Iraq and their robot was going to help them do

both. Their first job is to accomplish the mission. Their second job is to get their butt home in one piece.”

For every robot blown up or damaged during a mission, there is at least one less Soldier or Marine going home wounded or dead.

“Our robots are still getting blown up. But that’s better than someone getting hurt,” Root said.

Though Iraq is still dangerous, he said the danger is diminished since his earlier days in Iraq. Now, military helicopters fly most missions during the day and ground missions are conducted primarily by the Iraqi army with U.S. troops providing support.

Still, there is the randomness of attack – particularly from suicide bombers and IEDs — that is most life threatening to Soldiers and Marines as well as the Iraqi army and civilians.

“We’re not really in the fight now,” Root said. “It’s more ‘What would you like us to do to support you?’ In 2004, the Marines had to report in for permission if they went on a mission and wanted to involve Iraqi troops on that mission. Now, they have to report for permission if Iraqi troops are going out on mission



Courtesy photo

MILITARY VEHICLE— Norm Root stands beside an MRAP (Mine Resistant Ambush Protected) vehicle used by Marines in Iraq. The MRAP is designed to survive improvised explosive device attacks and ambushes. In June 2008, it was reported that roadside bomb attacks and fatalities are down almost 90 percent partially due to MRAPs. Root’s training mission in Iraq also gave him opportunities to see how military technology and the country of Iraq has changed since 2004, when he was a Marine deployed to Fallujah.

and they are going along in support. Iraqis now run the patrols with the Marines only helping with support.”

Root appreciates the changes he saw in the Iraq of 2004 and

the Iraq of today.

“It’s a much safer place, a much better place. But will it last? History will tell us,” he said.

Now that he’s returned home,

Root and other employees at the Arsenal’s joint robotics program are working on the final details of a move that will relocate the program’s development and acquisition activities to Detroit Arsenal in Warren, Mich. Their work will be consolidated with the PEO-Ground Combat Systems, Program Executive Office Combat Support and Combat Service Support and Tank Automotive Research Development Engineering Center as part of the 2005 BRAC recommendations.

But Root hopes to not leave Redstone Arsenal and Huntsville. He and his wife, Kathy, relocated about two years ago when Root retired from the Marines. Root’s last position with the Marine Corps was as director of Reserve Affairs for the Marine Corps Service Command in Quantico, Va. In that position, Root traveled the nation for briefings at Reserve units. Those travels brought him to Huntsville to visit the Marine’s Kilo Battery, and the city became his choice as a good place to live after his retirement.

“This is one of the best cities I’ve ever been to,” Root said of Huntsville. “You can get anything you want here while at the same time it still has that small city feeling.”

Center awards 16 contracts for energy conservation

The Corps of Engineers has awarded 16 contracts for energy conservation measures under the Energy Savings Performance Contracts program.

These contracts are third-party financing tools to help installations achieve mandated energy reduction goals in accordance with the National Energy Conservation Policy Act and may be used to provide services for government installations or facilities throughout the continental U.S., Alaska, Hawaii, District of Columbia, and U.S. territories and possessions.

The contracts have a five-year base ordering period and

one optional five-year ordering period with a possible pay-back period of up to 25 years from the time of award. The total capacity of these contracts is \$900 million which is split between the following 14 large businesses: Ameresco Inc., The Benham Companies, LLC, Burns and McDonnell, Chevron Energy Solutions Company, Consolidated Edison Solutions Inc., Constellation Energy Projects and Services Group Inc., DMJM-Harris-AECOM, FPL Energy Services Inc., Honeywell Inc., Johnson Controls Government Systems LLC, Noresco LLC,

Pepco Energy Services Inc., Siemens Government Services Inc. and Trane U.S. Inc.; and two small businesses, CLT Efficient Technologies Group and SEI Group Inc.

The Huntsville Center solicited this acquisition on a competitive basis.

The center's Energy Branch includes programs that provide expertise to eliminate energy waste, increase energy efficiency, reduce dependence on fossil fuels, conserve water resources and improve energy security in support of the Department of Defense and other federal agencies. *(Huntsville Center release)*

Huntsville Center awards \$50 million contract

The Army Engineering and Support Center, Huntsville, on Dec 5 awarded a contract of \$50 million to Calibre Systems Inc. of Alexandria, Va.

The contract will implement a secure, centralized Army meter data management system to include but not limited to: furnishing the software and technical support services, including system administrator support, for the successful implementation, enhancement and

maintenance of the Army meter data management system for the contract term.

The contract is an indefinite Delivery/Indefinite Quantity, base year with four option years.

The firm will perform work throughout the continental U.S., District of Columbia, Alaska, Hawaii, and U.S. territories and possessions. *(Huntsville Center release)*



Joe Ramirez/Photo Lab

Security assistance honor

Gary Taylor, right, accepts the inaugural Gerald E. Williams Security Assistance Person of the Year Award from SAMD director Dr. Tom Pieplow on behalf of his wife, Maria, who is serving her second tour in Iraq. Named for Williams, center, the award recognizes Maria Taylor for demonstrated excellence and professionalism in support of foreign military sales as well as notable community contributions.

Spies travel the information highway

Tools of modern sleuths include faxes, forums

By JOHN W. DAVIS
For the Rocket

An old poster from World War II reads: "Loose Lips Sink Ships." The vision of our sailors at war drowning at sea was a powerful reminder that security begins with each one of us. Today we tend to think such concerns are outdated and ripe for the museum. We hear about economic espionage, and our eyes glaze over. Do we really believe that the world we live in is still concerned with such a threat to our national survival?

Consider the following. Deployments of our Soldiers all over the world require that they not be taken by surprise: that the equipment they use is capable of dominating any battlefield. Abstract ideas like this mean little to the average listener. Just try to personalize the idea. What if your son or daughter depended on you to keep them

alive? You would do everything in your power. But first you would have to be fully informed about the threat out there facing them.

Espionage today is hardly like we once knew it. For the most part, researchers make up today's 'spies.' Yesterday's spy was equipped with poison pens and secret cameras. Today's collector is equipped with a laptop computer and modem, not to mention a current library card. He reviews data banks, technical journals and open publications for profit. He looks for indications of new ideas, trends or new conditions that may affect his own country in some way. He does not need to steal what he can read free of charge.

Seeking specifics

Armed with this basic knowledge, today's spies set about to gather specifics. They look for the specific people who have the specific information. Aware that most Americans protect classified information, the modern spies look for things 'on the drawing board,' which can be

acquired before the classification stamp is put on.

Being a patient person, the modern collector then listens. He listens to our open phones, open faxes, open computers and after-hour discussions. We love to talk. We are active, while the collector can be passive. He knows that our national trait of impatience with methodological security measures will ultimately betray us. He simply has to wait for us to talk around classified information in open restaurants, on planes and especially on the telephone.

Take precautions

You'll notice that I haven't mentioned which country the new collector represents. He could even represent another company. Economic advisers openly advertise in our newspapers on ways to get a jump on the competition. The ideas

Know what you must protect! Prior to any joint meetings, have your team discuss what will and what will not be discussed, and then stick to it. Check before you publish.

range from soliciting information for payment from enterprising or disgruntled employees to eliciting information at conferences and symposia open to the general public.

What is the best defense against this new method of economic voyeurism? Know what you must protect! Prior to any joint meetings, have your team discuss what will and what will not be dis-

cussed, and then stick to it. Check before you publish. Assume that if you say it out in the open, it is compromised.

There is enough proof in the field today to show that there is no safe, open means of communication. Today's collector won't break the law if he doesn't have to. He'll just listen. Questions? Contact your counterintelligence office.

Editor's note: John W. Davis is a counterintelligence staff officer at the Space and Missile Defense Command.

AMC deputy views Redstone as place of military synergy

Future

continued from page 1

Although AMCOM and its employees work in support of AMC, Pillsbury said AMCOM as well as the program executive offices will remain separate entities from AMC.

"These are subordinate commands that are of benefit to AMC because of their expertise in aviation, missiles and space," Pillsbury said. "Generals (Jim) Myles, (Genaro) Dellarocco and (Tim) Crosby and their staffs are essential elements to our nation's missile defense. They provide excellent management of commodities needed by the war fighter."

Those organizations work

together to fulfill the Armywide mission to support the Soldier and civilians who are on the front lines in the Global War on Terror.

"We are in an era of persistent conflict," Pillsbury said. "In everything we do, we will continue to do what needs to be done to support Soldiers and civilians in harm's way."

AMC is also focused on realizing its transformation within the Army as it continues to implement the materiel life cycle management initiative. This initiative provides cradle-to-grave management of critical weapon systems and conventional ammunition. It integrates strategic and operational processes between AMC subordinate commands and program executive offices through product and process

teams that enhance the input of logisticians into acquisition processes, improve sustainment and readiness, reduce costs, improve quality, get products to the Soldier faster and implement a more holistic approach to product development and system support.

"Through the life cycle management enterprise we are bringing together all the commands that have a stake in life cycle management to create one community of excellence," Pillsbury said.

Supporting Soldiers with the best weapon systems will always be the focus of AMC and its subordinate commands, said Pillsbury, who was promoted to lieutenant general and assumed the duties as AMC deputy com-

mander in early December. The promotion was yet another highlight in a 35-year military career.

"This has been a great career. Thirty five years have flown by," he said, adding that his wife, Becky, and his two grown children successfully endured multiple moves during those years. The Pillsburys do plan to retire someday to Huntsville, where both their children now live.

As one of the Army's generals, Pillsbury knows he represents an organization that can have a lasting positive impact on the lives of its Soldiers and their families

"The lifestyle of the Army is unique in that it's an ethics-based organization," he said. "Our values, ethics and morals are world class. We demand that our Soldiers live by our values and because of that we are a very close-knit family.

"Soldiers are individuals who understand what selfless service means. They are disciplined, physically fit and they know there is a greater service than to themselves."

The Army's target population is adults age 18 to 24, and yet of those adults in that age range 7 out of 10 don't qualify either physically or morally to meet the Army's high standards, he said.

"The strength of the Army is in its ability to grab the interest of 30 percent of the youngsters in that age group," Pillsbury said. "And not only grab their interest but to also keep that interest so that they re-enlist in record numbers at a time of war.

"Even for myself, every time I re-enlist it is a time of discovery. Every time I get a promotion, it humbles me. It's a great life. My wife Becky and I have been pinching ourselves ever since I made lieutenant colonel."

Team Redstone honors retiring congressman

Leaders salute Bud Cramer

By **SOPIA BLEDSOE**
For the Rocket

Redstone senior leaders, city officials, employees and friends gathered Dec. 18 in Bob Jones Auditorium to express their appreciation and farewell to retiring Rep. Bud Cramer during a salute ceremony.

After 17 years of serving the 5th District in the House of Representatives, Cramer bids farewell. "I'm retiring so I can do something else," said Cramer, who officially retired Jan. 2.

"Greatness is walking out the door," said Redstone commander Maj. Gen. Jim Myles, who equated him to sports greats such as Michael Jordan and Tiger Woods. "You represent everything in our Warrior Ethos."

Before the presentations, an eight-minute video was shown of Cramer's career and contributions to the defense and space programs. Photos and videos of numerous ribbon cuttings and ground breakings on Redstone and the surrounding community typified the growth in Huntsville and were attributable to Cramer's proactive support.

Retired Lt. Gen. Larry Dodgen, former commander of Space and Missile Defense Command, said Cramer was the reason for the steady growth of missile defense programs. "Bud was our go-to guy to make things happen," he said.

Retired Maj. Gen. Al Sullivan, former Redstone command-

er, credited Cramer for always being there for the Soldiers.

Reflecting on his experiences and growing up around Redstone Arsenal, Cramer said he was always fascinated about the military presence in the Huntsville community.

"I was excited to go into the gates of Redstone Arsenal," he said. "We were proud of Redstone. We were proud of the missiles."

After the video presentation, Redstone leaders presented Cramer with a parting gift and said a few words about him. SMDC commander Lt. Gen. Kevin Campbell said Cramer will always be remembered for his honesty and integrity. What separates Cramer from the rest, Campbell said, is that his honesty showed through his actions.

"You are truly interested. You really do care," Campbell said. He presented Cramer with a crystal globe to remind him of the men and women in uniform around the world for whom he has served.

Marshall Space Flight Center director David King said Cramer has always been a tireless advocate for the 5th District and for NASA. "You were always willing to step up to the plate," he said. He added that Cramer led the charge to support the International Space Station by one vote. Cramer's support allowed NASA to rebuild their aging buildings while continuing to expand and build the infrastructure needed to support the space program. King presented Cramer with the NASA Exceptional Public Service medal.



Photo by Kristen Chapman

WELL DESERVED— Redstone commander Maj. Gen. Jim Myles presents an eagle bust to retiring Rep. Bud Cramer during the Team Redstone salute to the congressman Dec. 18.

Maj. Gen. Chris Anzalone, Missile Defense Agency deputy for test, called the salute a "bittersweet moment." He credited Cramer for not allowing his power or fame to overcome his core values. "Often you see members of Congress waver. You never did," he said.

Anzalone praised Cramer for

going beyond the call of duty in taking care of all the military on Redstone Arsenal. He presented Cramer with a star lapel pin that signified being a true member of the MDA family. Anzalone also recognized Cramer's efforts for leading the way in MDA's move to Huntsville.

Garrison commander Col. Bob Pastorelli said that although

this was the first time he had ever met the congressman, he felt the impact of Cramer's support long before they met. Two of Redstone's new buildings, including the new Child Development Center, are attributable to Cramer's support. Pastorelli presented Cramer with a trophy on behalf of the Garrison.



Courtesy photo

Crafty gift

Robert Simmons shows the toy chest he made his son for Christmas at the Arts & Crafts Center. If you would like to acquire a new skill, call the center at 876-7951.

Local teams compete for biggest loser title

Discarded pounds determine winner

By RICK STOCK
Health promotion educator

As television's Biggest Loser culminated Dec. 16, people who watched have seen tremendous transformations of the contestants physically, emotionally, mentally, spiritually and holistically in essence.

The Biggest Loser organizers announced during the telecast that they will donate to www.feedingamerica.org for every pound lost after registering on their site at www.biggestloser.com.

This gives Alabamians a chance to shed pounds for their own health while at the same time help to feed the hungry in America.

Locally, Redstone Arsenal and Fox Army Health Center teams will be competing against the Corps of Engineers in the third annual Alabama event, Scale Back Alabama.

It is a statewide contest that encourages Alabamians to get healthier by shedding pounds and becoming more active.

The Obesity Action Coalition states that there are more than 30 medical conditions that are associated with obesity.

According to the Surgeon General, obese individuals have a 50 to 100 percent increased risk of premature death from all causes as compared to those with healthy weights. Obesity is a greater trigger for health problems and increased health spending than smoking or drinking. Individuals who are obese have 30-50 percent more chronic medical problems than those who smoke or drink heavily. The effects of obesity are similar to 20 years of aging.

Recent studies have revealed Alabamians to be among the most obese in the nation. A report by the Trust for America's Health found that 30 percent of all Alabamians were obese from 2005-07, the third highest percentage in the nation. The total cost of obesity to U.S. companies is estimated at \$13 billion per year.

The 2009 contest will start Jan. 10. Roger Schultz, former Alabama lineman and finalist on last year's Biggest Loser, was named as Alabama's Scale Back coach.

Last year more than 40,000 people participated in the 10-week contest and lost a total of 207,000 pounds.

This is a four-person team event with each team having a designated captain. Once you have your four-person team, designate a captain and a name for your team. See information for team captain,

guidelines for participation and the team registration form at the Scale Back Alabama website www.scalebackalabama.com.

Every team that competes in the 10-week contest with each member losing a minimum of 10 pounds will be eligible for three grand prizes of \$1,000, \$500 or \$250 each.

All participants who lose at least 10 pounds will be put into a drawing for \$100 (50 lucky winners).

Fox Army Preventive Medicine, Wellness Center and Health Promotion branches will provide train-the-trainer programs for all team captains who will then work with their teams. Desiree Walker, a registered dietitian and Rick Stock, certified personal trainer, will co-lead these trainings along the way for all interested team captains.

There will be only two weigh-ins during the 10-week program (initial and final weigh-ins) and these will be at Preventive Medicine at Fox Army Health Center. Team captains can call Desiree Walker at 955-8888 ext. 1446 or Rick



Stock at ext. 1443. If you are motivated but your work site does not have enough people who wish to participate, we will match you with three others in the same situation. Please e-mail Stock at richard.stock@us.army.mil if this is your situation.

Depending upon response, the first train-the-trainer session will be scheduled the week of Jan. 12-16, followed by the team weigh-ins later in the week.

We will direct and motivate from a goal direction not a resolution direction. The Corps of Engineers has drawn a line in the sand. How will we respond?

Aviation test buildings land at Redstone

Ceremony marks start of construction

By **SOFIA BLEDSOE**
For the Rocket

It started with a vision three years ago at Fort Rucker.

Today that vision has turned to reality. And no amount of rain could dampen the enthusiasm of both developmental flight testers and program/product managers alike as they stood underneath the tent during a ground breaking ceremony for the Aviation Technical Test Center's two new Combined Test Team buildings near the airfield Dec. 17.

"This is a big day," Brig. Gen. Tim Crosby, program executive officer for aviation, said. Crosby, an "alumnus" of the testing community who flew with the old Aviation Test Board at Fort Rucker in the 1990s, said he was thrilled when Huntsville became the place of choice for the Base Realignment and Closure move of ATTC.

"These buildings will enable PEO personnel and aircraft manufacturer's flight test personnel to work alongside ATTC to enhance flight test coordination and execution," he said. It will also house the facilitation of government and contractor test team personnel moves from their various locations around the country to a centralized flight test site on Redstone Arsenal.

ATTC commander Col. Chris Sullivan, currently stationed at Fort Rucker, envisioned this project about three years ago – a vision of progress within the aviation testing community. Because the two new buildings are non-BRAC funded, Sullivan collaborated with PEO Aviation and the Redstone Garrison to fund the new Combined Test Team buildings that will accommodate 30 personnel in each 7,100 square foot building and will be ready for occupancy by summer or fall.

"This is an integration, not just a co-location of ATTC and PEO Aviation," Sullivan said. The joint venture between the two organizations will allow both to improve communications with the product and project managers regarding airworthiness and system safety and enable them to accelerate materiel funding.

"Working together side-by-side will considerably minimize or eliminate mistakes or miscommunication between the two organizations," Sullivan said. He



Photo by Sofia Bledsoe

ONLY THE BEGINNING— From left, Brig. Gen. Tim Crosby, Col. Christopher Sullivan, Adam Joiner and Chris Pegues break ground Dec. 17 for the Aviation Technical Test Center's two new Combined Test Team buildings near the airfield.

added that this day marked the beginning of the establishment of single site testing.

Sullivan said the integration will streamline the process of ATTC developmental testing, improve communications and most importantly gain a better and clearer understanding of one another's needs and missions to accomplish one goal: to get the best equipment to the Soldier.

"In bringing the developmental test team of the Army and PEO Aviation together will result in a better product for the Soldier," Crosby said. "This groundbreaking signifies the continued marriage between PEO Aviation and the test shop."

ATTC deputy commander Keith Darrow, stationed on Redstone, said ATTC's test team personnel are located around the country at aircraft manufacturer test sites in Florida, Texas, and Arizona and even occasionally, Connecticut and Pennsylvania.

An average of two ATTC testers are deployed with combat units serving overseas in Iraq and Afghanistan.

The groundbreaking ceremony included a special presentation to Garrison mechanical engineer Scott Chapman. He received the Commander's Award for Civilian Service at the ceremony and was lauded for his efforts toward assisting ATTC with upgrades to existing test support facilities and with new test infrastructure projects not funded by BRAC.

ATTC, a subordinate unit of the Army Developmental Test Command and the Army Test and Evaluation Command, is currently headquartered at Fort Rucker. Because of BRAC, ATTC is slated to move its headquarters to Redstone Arsenal within the next two years and bring 323 jobs to the community. More than 100 positions and personnel have already transferred.

ATTC's mission is to plan and conduct developmental flight testing and airworthiness qualification of manned and unmanned aircraft and aviation systems. ATTC analyzes data, reports test finding, and develops recommendations for airworthiness, system safety, and materiel release decision authorities. The center assists flight test customers, which are primarily the project and product managers within PEO Aviation, to accomplish their materiel acquisition and fielding initiatives.

"In under two years, we will also merge with Redstone Technical Test Center to form the new Redstone Test Center," Darrow said. In late spring, ATTC will conduct a larger ground breaking to celebrate the initiation of its BRAC-funded flight support center.

"This is the place where we'll gain the best benefit for the organizations," Crosby said.

"These buildings will enable PEO personnel and aircraft manufacturer's flight test personnel to work alongside ATTC to enhance flight test coordination and execution."

— Brig. Gen. Tim Crosby,
Program executive officer
for aviation

Flock of exotic meat eaters expected at O' Club

Wild Game Cookout returns for 21st year

By **KELLEY LANE-SIVLEY**
Staff writer
kelleylanesivley@att.net

While they can't help anyone quit smoking or work out more, the Officers and Civilians Club and Outdoor Recreation can give those resolving to try new things a leg up for the new year. The Wild Game Cookout promises to offer exotic tastes to the community Jan. 23.

"It's a family event," Outdoor Recreation manager Bill Moreland said. "Bring the children and come try something new."

The 21st annual event returns to the club for the third time. Event goers will be treated to a tasting-style menu served in different stations. The new format should help with the only problem the event has ever really faced — lines of people trying to make sure they sample everything.

"We don't want people to have to wait," club chef Ben Howard said. "Our intention is not to have a buffet line. You will go to each station to taste wild game in whatever order you want."

The list of side items offered is also slimming down so that chefs and patrons can concentrate on what everyone is really coming for.

"We're going to focus on the meat," Howard said. "I'm trying to stay away from the side items that back things up."

Howard is reviewing what's available to select the best and



Photo by Kelley Lane-Sivley

HOT TIME— Sous chef Andy Kolankiewicz and chef Ben Howard are fired up about the Wild Game Cookout at the Officers and Civilians Club.

freshest items. Some of the final selections will be made just before the event.

"We're going to have bison. We're going to have rabbit, venison, boar and wild turkey as our staple items, subject to availability," Howard said. "There will be other surprises."

Besides specialty game being ordered, patrons can also get a taste of Redstone itself.

"Some of the venison, waterfowl and small game will be provided by Outdoor Recreation," Moreland said. "It will be from local hunters here on post."

For sous chef Andy Kolankiewicz,

the event is a new experience. He is excited to expand his culinary skills by working with ingredients outside of the usual beef, chicken, seafood and pork.

"I've done a little bit of wild game before," he said. "But I'm excited to see the chef's expertise."

Alongside the chef-prepared

items, the chili cookoff will return. This year judging will be left to the professionals. Howard and Kolankiewicz will taste all entries before the doors are opened. Entries will still be available for attendees to sample and trophies will be presented during the evening. Outdoor Recreation will provide venison for anyone wishing to enter who does not have their own game, although using venison is not a requirement for the competition. Last year's winner used alligator.

The displays and decorations provided by Gander Mountain will return so sportsmen of all levels and interests can see what's new in the field. Door prizes are provided by Gander Mountain and by Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation. Donnie McElvoy, host of the syndicated "Hunt, Fish, Cook" television show, is the emcee.

Tickets usually go fast and the event has sold out since moving to the club. Attendees should ensure they have installation access. Admission is \$20 for teens and adults. Children 10 and under are admitted free. Beer is included with the price of a ticket for those of legal age. The club also plans to have a cash bar during the event. Doors will open at 5 p.m.

Tickets are available at the club during normal office hours, Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. For more information, visit the club or call 830-2582. To enter the chili competition, call Outdoor Recreation at 876-4868 for entry information or to pick up venison.

Logistics training facility to open off-post

Redstone-identified Logistics Modernization Program end users will soon begin using a new training facility at 100 Orange Drive, near the North Memorial Parkway and Winchester Road intersection.

The AMCOM LMP Team is

overseeing the build-out and installation of all desktop systems, audiovisual equipment and servers.

With about 2,500 end users requiring training, on-site training facility space at Redstone was not immediately available. The newly remodeled training

facility will provide space for about 14 new training rooms with a capacity of about 20 students per classroom.

Hundreds of Redstone workers will be trained in LMP each day in the facility. This hands-on training is tailored to the requirements of

each individual's role in the program. The facility will feature individual student desktop computers networked to the online system. The instructor-led training, including experts from the transformation team, will help users understand the changes required

after LMP is implemented.

Training is expected to begin within the next month. Students and their supervisors will be notified of their class schedules.

A limited window of 90 days is available to train the entire work force. *(LMP release)*

Australians get training in aviation tracking system

The Blue Force Tracking-Aviation Product Directorate initiated training Nov. 3 for four members of the Australian Defense Force supporting CH-47 Chinook helicopters. This was the third group of Australians which traveled to Huntsville to receive training on the BFT system.

BFT is a near real-time, satellite based, Global Positioning System tracking and digital communications suite. It is used on both ground and air vehicles in Operation Enduring Freedom and Operation Iraqi Freedom to provide commanders with beyond line of sight two-way communication and a digital picture of the battlefield (i.e., situational awareness). This digital command and control system is installed on nearly every deploying Army aircraft.

To aid the efforts of our coalition partners, BFT has also been installed on ADF aircraft executing joint operations with U.S. forces.

Given that BFT-Aviation retains ownership and supportability of the fielded system, all training for aviation elements funnels through the product directorate office in Huntsville. Product director technicians and trainers provided instruction regarding the operation and maintenance of Force XXI Battle Command Brigade and Below and associated peripherals over a 30-day period. Each trainee received briefings on the system and its operation, and received hands-on experience with actual aircraft. The last week of training consisted of a course review to ensure each student had a firm grasp on

the operation of the system.

The Australians visit concluded with a graduation ceremony where each trainee received certificates from product director

Al Abejon. The students were Thomas Dunsmuir, Ashley Latham, Benjamin Cuttler and James Chapman. *(Blue Force Tracking-Aviation release)*



Courtesy photo

GRADUATION— Thomas Dunsmuir of the Australian Defense Force receives his training certificate from Al Abejon, director of Blue Force Tracking-Aviation.

Robotic Systems worker honored for cutting costs



Joe Ramirez/Photo Lab

AWARD PRESENTATION— From left are AMCOM deputy commander Ronnie Chronister; Carol Tarquine, wife of the late Robert Tarquine; and Beverly Humphrey, recipient of the 12th annual Robert B. Tarquine Value Engineering Achievement Award.

Value engineering generates savings

Beverly Humphrey of the Robotic Systems Joint Project Office received the 12th annual Robert B. Tarquine Value Engineering Achievement Award on Dec. 15 at Bob Jones Auditorium.

Humphrey has served as the primary leader for the Robotic Systems Joint Project Office's value engineering program since 1999. During her 10-year tenure as the VE coordinator, she was responsible for the successful completion of 17 VE proposals generating more than \$6.8 million in total savings.

The other nominee for this award was Will Lovell, chief of the production and configuration management division at Lower Tier Project Office. For the past seven years, Lovell has been an active member of the Lower Tier value engineering community. He has generated more than \$15.1 million in VE savings for the project office.

The award, named after the late Robert

Tarquine, is presented annually by the Command VE Office for outstanding achievements in value engineering. Tarquine was a key participant and contributor to the early success of the command VE programs; and his leadership and expertise had a major, positive impact on Team Redstone.

Past recipients include Carol Tarquine, wife of the late Robert Tarquine; Jean Grotophorst, Army TACMS-Bat Project Office; Robert Yanulavich, Army TACMS-BAT Project Office; Sylvia Budd, Integrated Materiel Management Center, Corpus Christi Army Depot Maintenance, Texas; Joel Ellis, THAAD Project Office; Jamie Martin, Lower Tier Project Office; Richard Spence, Short Range Air Defense; Clayton Vance, Aviation Engineering Directorate; Larry Easterwood, director/supervisor of the Manufacturing and Product Assurance Directorate in the THAAD Project Office; Roland "Jack" Stewart, the Resource Management Directorate at Letterkenny Army Depot, Pa.; and Julie Smith, THAAD Project Office. (VE Office release)

Army destroys last VX nerve-agent munitions

CMA PUBLIC AFFAIRS

ABERDEEN PROVING GROUND, Md. — The U.S. Army Chemical Materials Agency marked the elimination of the last VX nerve-agent munitions from its stockpiles Dec. 24 with destruction of the last land mine containing VX at the Anniston Chemical Agent Disposal Facility in Anniston, Ala.

"I commend Anniston and all CMA destruction sites on this extraordinary achievement. By destroying the VX agent at each of CMA's destruction sites, you have made the world a much safer place," said Conrad Whyne, director of CMA.

The ANCDF Site Project Manager Timothy K. Garrett, declared, "We have reached a truly remarkable milestone following more than five years of deliberate, but careful operations. All nerve-agent munitions — those containing GB and those containing VX — have been safely processed."

CMA personnel and contractors have destroyed the VX nerve-agent munitions at six disposal sites: Anniston, Ala.; Umatilla, Ore.; Newport, Ind.; Pine Bluff, Ark.; Tooele, Utah; and Johnston Island approximately 800 miles southwest of Hawaii.

CMA continues to safely and securely store the remaining VX in the U.S. chemical weapons stockpile at the Blue Grass Chemical Activity near Richmond, Ky., officials said. A separate Department of Defense organization, the U.S. Army Element Assembled Chemical Weapons Alternatives, is charged with its destruction, with construction currently under way on a neutralization facility there.

Destruction of chemical weapons is complete at Newport, Ind., Aberdeen, Md., and Johnston Island in the Pacific. Operations continue at Tooele, Umatilla, Anniston, and Pine Bluff, CMA's remaining destruction sites. These sites are destroying or preparing to destroy blister agent and the only remaining nerve agent for CMA's destruction mission — GA (Tabun) at Tooele. In addition

to Kentucky, CMA continues to safely store chemical agent munitions at Pueblo, Colo., officials said.

VX is the least volatile, but most potent of all chemical warfare agents, officials said. They said it attacks the nervous system, causing the muscles to convulse uncontrollably. Exposure can result in loss of consciousness, convulsions, paralysis, and respiratory failure resulting in death. The nerve agent works similarly to pesticide and was originally developed in the early 1950s. The nation's entire original stockpile of approximately 4,400 tons of VX was produced at Newport Chemical Depot between 1961 and 1969. Newport's production facility was destroyed in 2006.

VX nerve agent was never used in combat by the United States.

"The elimination of this deadly chemical agent from each site's stockpile is a relief to the stockpile communities, and a sign of our commitment to other nations as we move one step closer to a safer world," said Whyne. (Army News Service release)

President Bush signs Army Commemorative Coin Act

By NICK RHINEHART

WASHINGTON — President George W. Bush signed into law the "United States Army Commemorative Coin Act of 2008" on Dec. 1, authorizing the creation of a series of commemorative coins to recognize and celebrate the establishment of the United States Army in 1775, and to honor the service and sacrifice of American Soldiers of both past and present, in wartime and in peace.

These will be the first U.S. coins ever issued to celebrate and honor the Army and its 234 year heritage. The U.S. Mint will work on six coin designs, front and back with the Army Historical Foundation. Coins will be minted and sold during 2011 and come in a \$5 gold piece, a silver dollar and a copper-clad half dollar. An estimated \$10-\$12 million of the sales revenues will help fund the National Museum of the United States Army slated for construction at Fort Belvoir, Va.

"The Commemorative Coin Act will help raise the revenue needed to build a museum dedicated to the men and women who have for so

long protected the sovereignty and freedom of our country," said Senator James M. Inhofe of Oklahoma. "The museum will serve to commemorate the enormous sacrifice of our Soldiers and will be a symbol of the Army's dedication to the fight for freedom."

Designated in 2000 as the Army's primary partner in building the museum, the Army Historical Foundation led the drive to establish the Army Commemorative Coins.

"Passage of the commemorative coin legislation has been the only legislative priority of the Army Historical Foundation over the past twelve months, and we are very pleased to announce the success of this initiative," said retired Brig. Gen. Creighton W. Abrams AHF executive director. "These coins will be beautiful mementos of past service for veterans, and will make appropriate gifts for retired veterans and currently serving Soldiers alike," (Army News Service)

Editor's note: Nick Rhinehart writes for the Army Historical Foundation.



Photo by Skip Vaughn

Deck the halls

Gayle Booker, Traci Mitchell and their co-workers in building 4722 decorated their doors for the holidays. They work in AMCOM G-6 (Corporate Information Officer), Engineering Data Management Systems Program Office.

U.S. deaths in Iraq decrease in 2008

By JOHN J. KRUZEL
American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON — The number of U.S. military fatalities in Iraq in 2008 fell two-thirds compared to the previous year, underscoring an improvement in security amid upcoming provincial elections.

Last year's casualty figure — 314 — marks a sharp reduction from 2007 when 904 troops died. The 2008 tally comes on the heels of a week in which the number of daily attacks in Iraq dropped nearly 95 percent compared to the same time last year.

"This is a dramatic improvement of safety throughout the country," Brig. Gen. David G. Perkins, a Multinational Force Iraq spokesman, told reporters in Baghdad during 2008's final week, when the average number of daily attacks in Iraq was 10, compared to 180 a year earlier.

He added that the country's murder rates have dropped below levels that existed before the start of American operations in Iraq. In November, the ratio was .9 per 100,000 people.

Military and Defense Department officials have attributed security gains over the past year to a host of factors, including the now-completed surge of U.S. forces, Sunni fighters aligning themselves with Iraqi and coalition forces to help purge al-Qaida and maintain security, and a cease-fire pledge by prominent Shiite cleric Moqtada al-Sadr, who controlled several militias.

Overall violence in Iraq has fallen some 80 percent since the surge of 33,000 U.S. forces began in January 2007.

Speaking in October about the reduced bloodshed in Iraq, Navy Adm. Mike Mullen, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, emphasized the role of reinvigorated counterinsurgency tactics.

Put simply, counterinsurgency is a form of warfare in which a civilian population is in the center of a tug-of-war between an insurgency and the forces attempting to stop it. The Army and Marine Corps in late 2006 published a counterinsurgency strategy written by a host of contributors, including Gen. David Petraeus, who implemented its tenets while serving for 20 months as the top U.S. commander in Iraq.

"In my view, what really turned it around was the counterinsurgency tactics our troops embraced and perfected," Mullen said Oct. 8 at the annual Association of the U.S. Army conference.

While the security gains are significant, Gen. Raymond Odierno, Multinational Force Iraq commander, warned in an interview with reporters in Baghdad last month against becoming complacent amid Iraq's improved security, a transfer of authority to Iraqi forces and an upcoming election.

"In military terms, transitions are the most dangerous times," the general said Dec. 23. "What we're trying to do is make sure we don't have any seams in our transition."

A piece of legislation hammered out by Washington and Baghdad — known as the Status of Forces Agreement — went into effect Jan. 1. The agreement supersedes the United Nations mandate for the coalition presence in Iraq, and transfers military operational authority to Iraqi forces with U.S. forces assuming a support, or "overwatch," role.

The deal becomes effective ahead of the scheduled Jan. 31 provincial elections in Iraq, which Odierno characterized as the next security test for combined forces.

"Al-Qaida will try to exploit the elections because they don't want them to happen. So I think they will attempt to create some violence and uncertainty in the population," he said. "The next 60 days are a critical period."

New logo tags equipment, clothing as 'Army certified'

By KATHI GHANNAM
Army News Service

FORT BELVOIR, Va. — Program Executive Office Soldier has developed a "certification process" to help Soldiers identify off-the-shelf clothing and equipment that meet the Army's highest standards for safety, performance and durability.

PEO-Soldier, the agency responsible for developing, acquiring and fielding Army equipment, recognizes there is no one-solution fit that is universal to all Soldiers, so many look to the commercial market to augment Army-issued gear.

However, not all off-the-shelf equipment and clothing labeled "mil-spec" has been actually certified for military use. Under the PEO-Soldier Certification Program, Approved Product Lists, or APLs, have been developed and are being adapted to incorporate various types of equipment as requirements are identified.

Items presently on the APLs include eyewear, combat gloves and the family of flashlights.

"The Army will always prioritize the internal design, creation, testing and fielding of the best Army issue equipment available," said Lt. Col. Michael Sloane, PEO-Soldier product manager for clothing and individual equipment. However, Sloane acknowledged there are suitable and reasonable alternatives outside the Army.

Through responses to solicitations, manufacturers who are interested in receiving PEO-Soldier certification are asked to submit their products to the Army for testing to determine suitability and possible inclusion in the APLs.

APL authorizations and enhancements are driven by rigid standardized testing and user input, officials said. Once certification is obtained, approved products are branded with the Army Team Soldier Certification logo. The logo also appears on issue items to help ensure Soldiers aren't misled into purchasing knock-off items. The logo will either be incorporated into a tag or branded directly on equipment.

"I think this is an excellent tool for Soldiers and leaders," said Sgt. 1st Class William Corp, equipment modernization NCO for the product manager office. "It helps Soldiers make the best decisions possible when purchasing personal equipment."

Although the PEO-Soldier Certification Program is primarily aimed at providing assurance to Soldiers who buy gear from authorized vendors, some vendors may also be licensed to sell some of the same gear in general commercial markets. In these cases, the licenses will be royalty-bearing, with net royalty proceeds benefiting the Army's morale, welfare and recreation programs.

Editor's note: Kathi Ghannam serves as public affairs adviser for PEO-Soldier Project Manager Soldier Equipment.



Photo by Staff Sgt. Michael J. Carden

OFFICIALLY APPROVED — The Army Team Soldier Certification logo will help Soldiers identify off-the-shelf items that have been Army-tested and approved by Program Executive Office Soldier. The logo will either be incorporated into a tag or branded directly on equipment.

326th Chemical has right stuff for championship

Dragons beat HHC 59th in holiday hoops final

By SKIP VAUGHN
Rocket editor
skip.vaughn@hetimes.com

After a four-point loss to the National Guard in the first round, the 326th Chemical Company found a way to pull out close games in the holiday basketball tournament.

The Dragons advanced to the final by beating the Marines in overtime and ending the National Guard by two points to avenge their earlier loss.

Overcoming fatigue, they captured the tournament trophy by beating HHC 59th 63-62 and 60-54 in the final Dec. 16 at Pagano Gym.

"It was teamwork and heavy intensity," 326th player/coach Frank Stafford said. "We just kept playing. Even though we were tired, we just stuck together, maintained our composure and played as a team."

They won the championship the night after beating the Marines 58-55 in overtime and the National Guard 62-60. As the losers bracket representative, the 326th needed two wins in the final against HHC 59th. And that's what it got.

Darrin Johnson had 23 points and 10 rebounds in the first game of the final. Stafford and Darrell Thomas added 13 points apiece and Kenster Shannon had 12. The Dragons

trailed 30-26 at halftime. Tied 62-all in the final 18 seconds, Thomas' free throw with three seconds left earned the win.

In the nightcap, Stafford scored a game-high 29 points. Johnson had 15 points, eight rebounds, two steals and two assists. Shannon made three steals.

"I just tried to play my role," small forward Johnson said. "I know I can rebound the basketball so I just try to fit in where I can help the team the most."

The 326th led 40-29 at halftime but clung to a 57-54 advantage in the game's final minute before scoring the last three points. Kevin Sanders scored 11 points for HHC 59th and David Harden added 10, including two 3-pointers. Harden had 12 points on four 3s in the first game.

"We had too many individuals on the floor," said 59th player/coach Amos Jackson, who scored 12 in the first game. "Guys trying to make stuff happen that's normally not in their area. No communication. We had a breakdown in communication and you see what happened — two games in a row."

"We didn't play together," 59th guard Kevin Thomas said. "We were put in a position we haven't been in — being down in a game — and we just panicked. We got frustrated."

The season is expected to begin in mid-January, according to sports director Gaylene Wilson.



Photo by Skip Vaughn

ALL FOUR ONE— Members of the 326th Chemical team, which won the holiday tournament, include from left, in the front row, Jonathan Wilder, player/coach Frank Stafford (4) and Darrell Thomas; and in the back row, Darrin Johnson, Larry Tharps, Kenster Shannon and Warren Craig.

LOOKING UP— HHC 59th forward Andrew Hildreth scores over 326th Chemical's Darrin Johnson in the holiday tournament final Dec. 16, but the 326th won both games for the championship.

Photo by Skip Vaughn

Health center helps with no-smoking resolution

FOX ARMY HEALTH CENTER RELEASE

Tobacco use harms nearly every organ of the body and increases the risk of developing various serious illnesses such as heart and lung diseases, and cancers. According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, tobacco use continues to be the leading cause of preventable disease and death in the United States.

Smoking accounts for 87 percent of lung cancer deaths and non-smokers have a 20-30 percent greater chance of developing lung cancer if they are exposed to secondhand smoke at home or at work. Children whose parents smoke and are exposed to second-hand smoke develop more ear infections and other acute minor or serious illnesses.

Fox Army Health Center is committed to assisting its beneficiaries who want to stop using tobacco products. Fox offers a five-week class that incorporates motivation, behavior modification, peer support, and medication into each session. Each class is facilitated by a certified counselor

or registered nurse. The program includes weekly topics that target various stages toward

prevention, and staying quit/coping strategies. Participants will also receive a pre-program physical examination performed by a certified registered nurse practitioner, blood pressure evaluations at each session, free tobacco cessation medication, and interval telephone followup.

Research shows that tobacco cessation success rate is enhanced when an individual is participating in both a support group and a class led by a trained facilitator, and taking a nicotine replacement product or medication. Fox incorporates this philosophy into its program which results in higher than national average quit rates at the time of class completion, and at three and six months after the class.

For more information regarding the FAHC Tobacco Cessation Program, call program manager Valerie Francis at 955-8888, ext. 1431, or health promotion coordinator Rick Stock at 955-8888, ext. 1443. This program is available to active duty, active duty family members, Tricare Prime/Non-Prime recipients, and Redstone Arsenal Department of Defense/Army civilians.

TARGET
SMOKING



the goal of quitting tobacco use that include determining where you are in the change process, commitment to quitting tobacco use, symptoms of recovery, managing stress, relapse



Courtesy photo

Christmas warmth

Redstone-Huntsville Chapter of the Association of the U.S. Army provides Christmas gifts each year to residents of the Tut Fann Veterans Home. Presenting a blanket to World War II veteran James Glisson are AUSA volunteers, from left, Kathy Hale, Steve Taylor, Linda Roebuck and Zig Roebuck.

Rocket Announcements



Sports & Recreation

Cycling benefit

Registration is now open for the second annual Tour de Cure in Huntsville. On Saturday, May 16, riders will depart from downtown Huntsville at the Convention and Visitors Center, and travel through the scenic countryside of the area. There will be four ride lengths to choose from — 25, 50, 75 or 100 miles. The 100-mile century ride will travel through Huntsville and all the way to Grant before returning to downtown Huntsville for the postaride celebration. All proceeds from this ride benefit the American Diabetes Association. Riders in the Tour de Cure must raise a minimum of \$150 to participate. Those who register before Feb. 16 will receive an early-bird registration fee of \$15; after this date, the registration is \$25. For more information, contact Doris Lewis at dlewis@diabetes.org or call 539-4404.

Square dancing

The Athens Square Dance Club is seeking students for a new class starting Thursday at 6:30 p.m. at Athens Recreation Center, Highway 251. The first two classes are free. For information call Neal Redwanz 355-1038, Carrie Kennedy 682-5686 or Yvetta Myers 232-7800.

Boating class

The U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary Flotilla 24-06, Redstone will offer a Boating Skills and Seamanship course. The course, taught in six two-hour sessions, will be Thursday nights from 6:30-9 at the Garrison Safety Office, building 3687. The first course of the year is Feb. 12 through March 26. Cost is \$25 to defray the expense of the textbook. For more information, call Tom Kunhart 830-6621 (home) or 527-4475 (cell).



Conferences & Meetings

Sergeants major

The Sergeant's Major Association conducts a monthly meeting every third Thursday of the month at 6:30 a.m. at the

Officers and Civilians Club. Members are offered breakfast for \$6 plus tip. The Sergeants Major Association meetings are open to all E-9 ranks, from all services — Army, Navy, Air Force, Marines and the Coast Guard. Membership into the association is a one-time lifetime fee of \$30. "We encourage all active, retired, reserve and National Guard senior Soldiers to come out and join us," a prepared release said. "Let's try and make a difference in the lives of the Soldiers, families and retirees in the Tennessee Valley area." For more information, call retired Command Sgt. Maj. Mike McSwain 842-7910.

Young professionals

AIAA Young Professionals' Luncheon is Jan. 22 from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. in the Jacobs Conference Center, Galileo Conference Room (first floor). The scheduled speaker is Tim Pickens, CEO of Orion Propulsion Inc. The Jacobs Conference Center is located at 1500 Perimeter Parkway. From Redstone Arsenal, drive north on Research Park Boulevard (Rideout Road), exit at U.S. 72 West toward Athens, turn right at the light onto Perimeter Parkway, and turn right after McAlisters. To RSVP for this chili lunch, e-mail emmett.j.mcdonald@nasa.gov.

Bible studies

Protestant Women of the Chapel holds Bible study classes every Thursday at 9:30 a.m., 11:30 a.m. and 6:30 p.m. at Bicentennial Chapel. Childwatch is available at the Child Development Center on a first-come, first-served basis for the 9:30 study. PWOC also provides adult supervision for home-schooled children at the chapel for the 9:30 study. "The lunchtime Bible study meets from 11:30-12:30 so take an hour off from your busy workday to release, refresh and regroup while learning of the healing power of God's word," a prepared release said. For more information, call Laura Keegan 489-7686 or Sharon Olshefski 489-0404. The contact for the lunchtime group is Mattie L. Jones 828-9890 or 508-7744.

City residents

Huntsville City Councilman Bill Kling will hold a Town Meeting on the third

Monday of each month at 7 p.m. in Meeting Room A at the Huntsville Public Library on Monroe Street. Kling wants to hear your ideas on how to improve city government.

Resource managers

The American Society of Military Comptrollers, Redstone/Huntsville Chapter's monthly luncheon meeting is Thursday at 11:30 a.m. at Trinity United Methodist Church, Personal Growth Center. ASMC executive director Robert Hale is to speak on "Trends That Matter to Defense Financial Managers." For ticket information, call Kim Wright 876-6163 or Lisa Lowery 876-7086. Cost is \$11 for members, \$12 non-members. There will be door prizes and other giveaways.

Veterans group

VFW Post 5162 meets the third Tuesday of each month at 7 p.m. at the American Legion building on Triana between Bob Wallace Avenue and Governors Drive. For more information, call Robert Davenport 679-3180.

Admin professionals

The International Association of Administrative Professionals invites all civilians and contractors in any type of admin field to attend its meeting held every third Tuesday of the month from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at the Officers and Civilians Club. For more information, call Hillary Marshall 313-1349.

Computer users

The Huntsville Personal Computer User Group will meet Saturday at the Huntsville-Madison County Senior Center, 2200 Drake Ave. starting at 9:15 a.m. with the Windows/Internet Special Interest Group on a topic of general interest. At 10:15, Mona Slaven Offenbecher will demonstrate the Ribbon Interface features of Microsoft Word 2007. She has taught Microsoft and COMPTIA classes at the college and corporate level. Visitors are welcome. For more information, call 714-5898.

Air/space/missile defense

The Air, Space and Missile Defense Association will hold its annual membership and awards luncheon Jan. 16 at the Von Braun Center, North Hall. Social begins at 11 a.m. and lunch at 11:30. Scheduled

speaker is Lt. Gen. Kevin Campbell, commander of the Space and Missile Defense Command. Individual seating is \$30; and a table of eight costs \$240. For more information, call Sigma Services 533-6986. Reservations can be made online at <http://www.conferencesbysigma.com/asmda/>.

Toastmasters

Anyone interested in improving their public speaking ability is invited to attend the Lunar Nooners Toastmasters Club 9783, which meets Tuesdays from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at the building 4610 cafeteria. For more information, call Paul Pickett 544-6078.

Federal employees

The National Active and Retired Federal Employees Association will meet Saturday at the Senior Center on Drake Avenue. Refreshments and social begin at 9:30 a.m., and the business meeting at 10. Chapter service officer Ernest Williams will address federal income tax highlights and changes for tax year 2008. Virginia Hawsey of the Alabama federation will announce regional winners of the 2008-09 scholarship awards, provided through NARFE's Federal Employee Education and Assistance Fund. For more information, call 519-3327 or 539-1333.

Civil War discussion

The Tennessee Valley Civil War Round Table will meet Thursday at 6:30 p.m. at the Elks Lodge, 725 Franklin St. "The Stealing of the General" will be presented by Russell Bonds, an author from Atlanta. Visitors are welcome. Chicken dinner buffet is available at 5:30 p.m. for \$7.95. Call 890-0890 for more information.

Fleet reserve

Fleet Reserve Association Branch 278 will hold its monthly meeting Jan. 24 at noon at Greenbrier Barbecue on I-565, Exit 3. For more information, call Bill Marriott 974-3763 or Jim Sutton 650-5748.

University women

American Association of University Women will hold its monthly meeting Saturday at the Knight Center on the Alabama A&M University campus. Michele McDaniel, president/CEO of Better Business

reau-Huntsville, will meet today at 11:30 a.m. at the Von Braun Research Hall on the University of Alabama-Huntsville campus. The guest speaker is Morton Archibald, president of the Alabama Solar Association. The luncheon cost is \$10. For reservations call James Denson 883-2531 or e-mail jjdenson@reiszeng.com.

Military engineers

The Huntsville Post of the Society of American Military Engineers meets for lunch Jan. 15 at 11:30 a.m. at the Officers and Civilians Club. Dennis Bacon, of Shearer and Associates, is to speak on "Engineer Regimental Transformation." The cost of the buffet lunch is \$10. For reservations call Dan Foran 830-1031 or e-mail dforan@shearerassociates.us.

Engineer society

North Alabama ASME will meet today at 11:30 a.m. at the Von Braun Research Hall on the University of Alabama-Huntsville campus. The guest speaker is Morton Archibald, president of the Alabama Solar Association. The luncheon cost is \$10. For reservations call James Denson 883-2531 or e-mail jjdenson@reiszeng.com.

Aviation products

The Army Aviation Association of America and the Tennessee Valley Chapter will hold the 35th annual Joseph P. Cribbins Aviation Product Symposium Feb 11-12 at the Von Braun Center. The symposium stimulates dialogue among industry executives, senior government officials and military leaders concerning support to the aviation war fighter. For more information, visit www.cribbinsaps.com.



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 systems operators. The unit will consider reclassification action to 25B if you can document your Civilian Acquired Skills to include your education/experience in the areas of database management, programming, networking and/or telecommunications. A minimum of a secret clearance is required, and you must possess the personal qualifications to pass a SSBI background investigation for upgrade to top secret soon after unit entry. Specialties 74C and 74F have merged into the 25B career group and convert to 25B as well. To schedule an interview, call Sgt 1st Class Scott Ambrose 655-9435 or Chief 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 Redstone Arsenal. Contractors are 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.

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 Redstone Arsenal, the DoD requires all motorcyclists to complete a Motorcycle Safety Foundation training course. There are two programs offered free of charge to Army personnel and on a space available basis to others authorized access to Redstone Arsenal. For information call Keith Coates at the Garrison Safety Office 876-3383, e-mail keith.coates@us.army.mil or e-mail MSF instructor Ralph Harris at 93hdstc@bellsouth.net.

Reserve unit

If you have several years invested in your military career, you do not want conflicts between Reserve duty and civilian life to keep you from earning 20 qualifying years. The 184th Individual Mobilization Augmentee Detachment affords you the opportunity to drill for retirement points on Tuesday evenings. You still earn pay for and retirement points for IMA or IRR annual training and other tours, as well as your 15 automatic retirement points for being in the active Reserve. The unit meets at 5:30 p.m. most Tuesdays on Redstone Arsenal. For more information, e-mail Staff Sgt. King jwk108@yahoo.com or visit the web site <http://imad.redstone.army.mil/>.

VA benefits

Veterans Administration representative Andrew Carver will visit Redstone Arsenal on Wednesday of every week from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. to provide anyone with assistance and information about veterans benefits and VA processes. Please give him a call and schedule an appointment at (334) 430-8860; or you can reach him at 842-2718 Wednesday only. Office location is building 3493, Retirement Services Division, Military Personnel Office. Family members, retirees and active duty are welcome to solicit information regarding VA benefits.



Courtesy photo

Gift resource

The ASMC Community Projects Committee collected new and unwrapped toys for the Marines Corps Reserves' Toy for Tots Program. From left are Sandy Ansell, Brenda Morrow, Andrea Mason, Deborah Chambers, Terrence Clay, Lisa Rushing and Carl Noyes. The American Society of Military Comptrollers members and non-members purchased toys and brought them to the December ASMC luncheon.

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 degree or higher from an accredited institution of postsecondary education (college seniors may apply), this is an opportunity for you to become an Army officer. Graduates of OCS are commissioned as second lieutenants. Commissions are available in the active Army and the Reserve. For more information, or to schedule an interview, call Maj. Cyrus Russ 539-6511 or 539-6512.

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 age 18-33. Age waivers will be considered. For more information, or to schedule an interview, call Maj. Cyrus Russ 539-6511 or 539-6512.

Cadet program

Join the Army Reserves 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 Reserves. For more information, call your local Army Reserve recruiter 518-3972.

Veterans office

The local office for Alabama Department of Veterans Affairs provides assistance to veterans and their families in applying for benefits from the VA. These benefits include, but are not limited to, Service Connected Compensation Claims, Non-Serviced Connected Pensions, Appeals, Death Benefits for Widows, Education Applications, VA Insurance, and applications for VA Headstone/Markers. The office can also assist you in filing for state veteran benefits, for example the Alabama Dependent Scholarship Program and admittance to the Floyd E. "Tut" Fann State Veterans Home in Huntsville. "We are a full service office with accredited veteran service officers available Monday through Friday 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. and are located at 115-B Washington St. off the Courthouse Square in downtown Huntsville," a prepared release said. "Service is based on a first come, first serve system. No appointment necessary." For more information, call 532-1662.

Army training

Do you want to be on the cutting edge of Army training? The 1st Battle Command Training Group offers the opportunity for promotion while simultaneously enhancing your professional management, training and leadership skills. It has immediate openings for sergeant first class through lieutenant colonel – specialty and branch are immaterial — who want to transfer and make a significant contribution to the readiness of the Army. The 1st BCTG conducts continental U.S. pre- and post-mobilization computer simulation based Battle Command Staff Training exercises. It trains and validates Army Reserve and National Guard units throughout the Southeast in wartime readiness. It offers CONUS mobilization opportunities training and preparing USAR and ARNG units for deployment. Unit benefits include Fragmented Annual Training, and opportunity to travel throughout the Southeast. It encourages and supports attendance at Army professional development schools. For information call 1st Sgt. Larry King (205) 987-8443 ext. 4410, Capt. John Walker (205) 444-5208 or Lt. Col. Anthony Escott (205) 444-5163.

Customer services

Do you have a comment or opinion about the services provided at Redstone Arsenal? Team Redstone and all DoD installations want your feedback about the services you are receiving at your home station. This is a new approach to customer service with the resources, enthusiasm and manpower to ensure your voice is heard and understood. Each installation is now assigned a full-time customer service officer, whose sole responsibility is to ensure customers have multiple avenues to offer feedback on all services that are provided by the Installation Management Command. The process for your individual feedback is through the Interactive Customer Evaluation System which is automated through the Internet or filled out with an ICE comment card at the service provider's location. You can access the Interactive Customer Evaluation site at <http://ice.disa.mil> or www.redstone.army.mil and leave a comment. You can reach customer service officer Steve McFadden at 876-3294, e-mail steven.ray.mcfadden@us.army.mil or the ICE administrator Wendy Norris at wendy.norris1@us.army.mil.

Interactive feedback

Have you ever gotten "hot" over a situation and you wanted to tell someone? Take it to the source so you can "cool" down with ICE, the Interactive Customer Evaluation web site. You have direct access to all Redstone Arsenal service providers to let them know how they are doing, tell them of shortcomings or offer a pat on the back for a job well done. Log onto the Internet at <http://www.garrison.redstone.army.mil>; click on the ICE icon on right; and scroll down and find the service category you wish to rate or scroll to bottom and click "show all" to see the entire list for Redstone Arsenal. For more information, call 876-3294.

Tax assistance center

The Redstone Tax Assistance Center needs volunteers to both prepare active duty and retiree returns and to schedule such appointments. Volunteer preparers must attend a 32-hour computer assisted training program to earn their IRS Tax Preparers Certificate. The training and certification is Jan. 5-9. The Tax Center will open for business from Jan. 19 through April 15. Volunteers are asked to work at least one four-hour shift each week. "This is a highly rewarding volunteer opportunity that not only provides a tremendous service to the Redstone community, but will give you an in-depth understanding of the tax system and the ability to prepare your own tax return," a prepared release said. To volunteer or for more information, call Capt. Alyson Mortier 313-1289 or e-mail alyson.mortier@us.army.mil.

Thrift Shop grants

The Redstone Thrift Shop Welfare Committee announces its annual grant program. The deadline for applications is Feb. 28. Requests will be reviewed and awarded in April. For an application, organizations wishing to solicit funds should call Jennifer Kennedy 682-6981 or e-mail jkhunter_1999@hotmail.com.

Warrant officer scholarships

The Redstone Arsenal Warrant Officer Association offers the RSAWOA Annual Scholarship Program. RSAWOA will award a minimum of one \$1,000 scholar-

ship. 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 duty, National Guard, Reserve, and retired military and DoD civilians/contractors in the Tennessee Valley. Completed application packets should be mailed to: RSAWOA Scholarship Program, c/o Richard Storie, 102 Trevor Circle, Toney, AL 35773-9651.

Library story time

There's a special book place just for children at the FMWR Post Library, and every Wednesday at 10 a.m. interactive stories are read to young children. After story time the children may stay to play in the children's room where Ling Ling the panda sits at the little red table. Children of any age may come – the story time is especially designed for babies and then on up through kindergarten. This is a casual drop-in small group experience, and the books are chosen to match the children present. The aim is to help children fall in love with books and libraries at a very young age. The library is building 3323 on Redeye Road. For more information, call the library 876-4741.

Community grants

The Officer and Civilian Women's Club, which distributes money to non-profit groups each year, is now accepting applications for grants. To receive a copy of the application form, e-mail Demy Robley, OCWC community assistance chair, at puaaloha@bellsouth.net. Forms are also available in the OCWC Southern Expo-



Courtesy photo

Holiday feast

Santa stopped by the dining facility Dec. 17 to see the troops off before their holiday exodus. They dined on steamship round, roast turkey, chicken cordon bleu, ham, dressing, carrot cake and more.

sure Newsletter. All requests must conform to the OCWC Community Assistance Request Form. Deadline for submission is Feb. 28. Requests postmarked or received after the deadline will not be considered. For more information, call Robley 882-6064. OCWC is a private organization not affiliated with Redstone Arsenal or the Army.

AER scholarships

Army Emergency Relief offers "free" money for education. The 2009-10 Army Emergency Relief Scholarship Program instructions and applications are available on the AER website, 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 postmarked no later than March 1. For more information, call Army Community Service 876-5397.

IAAP scholarships

The Redstone Arsenal Chapter, International Association of Administrative Professionals will present two \$1,000 annual scholarship awards to a local high school and college student majoring in a business field. Merit awards may apply toward tuition, books and fees for undergraduate or graduate level studies. Deadline for applications is March 31. For more information and/or a scholarship application, call Jackie Kenner 876-8131. An application can be found at <http://www.geocities.com/iaaprsa/home.htm>.

Student 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 college programs are designed for



Courtesy photo

Holiday doors

Darrin Johnson, back row, the Requirements Branch chief in the AMCOM Integrated Materiel Management Center's Materiel Management Directorate, celebrates with his co-workers after winning the "Decorate the Door" contest sponsored by IMMC. Second place went to the Depot Maintenance Army Branch in the Maintenance Directorate. Prizes were \$100 for first place and \$50 for second.

students who are United States citizens, with a Social Security card, and at least 15 years old by the beginning of the program June 1. The apprentice program is divided into periods of 8, 10 and 12 weeks. Both programs are fast-paced and require disciplined professional work habits. Junior and senior scientists and engineers gain additional experience by serving as mentors for first time students, and providing guidance through interactive research processes. The points of contact for application information are senior counselors at all public, private and parochial high schools and college placement services. Possible career placement areas at Redstone Arsenal include physics, chemistry, computer science, engineering and mathematics. The deadline for submission of applications is Jan. 30. If students are unsuccessful in receiving application information from high school senior counselors or college placement service, contact the Civilian Personnel Advisory Center, Tina BoClair, located in building 5308, phone 313-4834. Review application information at <http://www.gwseap.net> or <http://www.usaeop.com>.

Unity breakfast

The Delta Theta Lambda Education Foundation of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity Inc. announces the 24th annual Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Unity Breakfast on Jan. 19 at 8 a.m. at the Von Braun Center North Hall. The speaker is Dr. Randal Pinkett, an entrepreneur, speaker, author, scholar and community servant. Pinkett is a former Rhodes Scholar and college athlete who holds five academic degrees from Rutgers, Oxford and MIT, and was the season four winner of the hit series "The Apprentice." 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. Individual tickets are \$25, or a reserved table (seats eight) can be purchased for \$250. For ticket information, call Timothy Richmond 859-3964 or Herman Thornton 852-8428.

Training seminar

The Redstone Arsenal Chapter of International Association of Administrative Professionals will hold its 14th annual seminar, "Pathways to Professional Excellence," on Feb. 9 from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Officers and Civilians Club. A luncheon, continental breakfast and snacks along with Office Expo booths will be pro-

vided 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 313-2079.

ASMC scholarships

The American Society of Military Comptrollers is accepting applications for its 2009 scholarship program. Scholarship applications are due by Feb. 28. The ASMC Scholarship Program is to provide financial assistance to aid ASMC members or their immediate family in continuing their educational endeavors. Applicants must be a current ASMC member or a high school senior, undergraduate or those working on graduate programs (immediately related to an ASMC member). Applicants must have maintained a 3.0 gpa. Applications may be submitted to the following: Judy Smith, chairperson of the Scholarship Committee, building 5300 (third floor), 313-2379; Michelle Cobb, building 5300, 876-8361; Jackie Shaw, building 5300, 876-8932; Debbie O'Neal, building 5400, 876-2671; Dee Kowallik, building 5681, 313-4020; Jessica Dunaway, building 5308, 313-0533; Connie Atchley, 101 Wynn Drive, 313-8254; Cody Swinford, building 5309, 876-3363; Susan Zimmerly, building 5300, 876-5133; Lisa Lowry, building 5400, 876-7086; Dana Wilbanks, building 5400, 876-4283; April East, building 5300, 876-8857; and Cheryl Richmond, G3, 955-0066.

Family focus group

Installation Management Command has established a Customer Management Services office at each Army installation. Customer Management Services utilizes a three-tiered feedback system established to determine the satisfaction of the Soldiers, family members, teens, retirees, veterans and civilians who work, play and live on Redstone Arsenal. The input mechanisms for feedback come from multiple sources such as online submission of comments, annual leadership and constituent assessments and community forums /town halls. These community forums or focus groups obtain issues or recommendations by the attendees or delegates that are worked and presented to the post leadership much like the annual AFAP conference. This program is called Community First. This is a call or invitation to all family members who would like to participate in the first family mem-

ber (spouses/guardians) focus group held on Redstone Arsenal. This is a chance to voice issues that can be fixed on the installation or put on the Army Family Action Plan agenda for next year. The meeting will be held Jan. 29 from 6-8 p.m. in the new Redstone Communities Clubhouse in building 302. Light refreshments will be served. This will be the time to share concerns, hear and possibly solve issues and communicate with each other. Anyone wishing to participate may call customer service officer Steve McFadden 876-3294 or email at rsacms@conus.army.mil.

Aviation challenge

The Tennessee Valley Army Aviation Association of America has an offer for children or grandchildren of its chapter members. These youngsters, age 9-18, can win an Aviation Challenge scholarship at the U.S. Space & Rocket Center. Applications are due by Feb. 3. Three scholarships will be awarded, valued up to \$1,000 each. For more information, call Russ Dunford or Tonya Maurice at 457-5355 or 655-5122 or e-mail aviation.challenge.scholarship@gmail.com.

Small business training

University of Alabama-Huntsville's Small Business Development Cen-

ter offers the following small business training opportunities: David Stacey shares his more than 26 years of international banking experience at 1 p.m. Thursday; Business Start-Up Class at 3 p.m. Jan. 12; and Government Contracting 101 at 3 p.m. Jan. 26. These free classes will be held in the UAH Small Business Development Center conference room, Business Administration Building, Suite 126. To register call 824-6422 or e-mail sbdc@uah.edu.

Housing allowance

Redstone Arsenal Soldiers will see an increase in their Basic Allowance for Housing in January. A Soldier with dependents will see an increase of between 5.38 percent and 16.03 percent depending on their rank. E1-E5 with dependents will see the biggest increases of more than 15 percent. Soldiers without dependents will see an increase of between 5.38 percent and 20.17 percent depending on their rank. You can see what your BAH increase is by visiting the Department of Defense Per Diem webpage <http://perdiem.hqda.pentagon.mil/perdiem/bah.html>. Select

your rank and input your the zip code, and ensure the year is 2009. If you have any questions concerning your BAH or housing entitlements, call the Housing Service Office 876-6666.

Book signings

Author Stewart Wakefield, an Army Materiel Command employee, will participate in two local book-signing events that will feature his book "The Grace of an Angel." The book is based on his experiences as a parent as he searched for meaning in the death of his young daughter, Janna Grace, who died of a brain tumor when she was 13 months old. The book signings are scheduled Jan. 17 from 2-4 p.m. at The Book Store, 2246 Winchester Road and Jan. 24 from 2-4 p.m. at Books-A-Million on the Bellline in Decatur. For more information, call Stewart 221-7504 or visit the online bookstore at www.tatepublishing.com/bookstore.

Fraud hotline

The Huntsville Fraud Resident Agency, CIDC, has implemented a fraud hotline. It is designed to

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Rocket Announcements

help you, the taxpayer, to report incidents of suspected fraud involving government contract companies, government employees or government agencies. If you suspect or know someone who either is committing, or has committed any type of fraud against the U.S. government on Redstone Arsenal, or surrounding area, report it by calling 876-9457. You do not have to leave your name — all information will remain confidential and anonymous. Please leave enough information so any followup investigation can be completed. Thanks for watching out for our taxpayer dollars.

Young Marines

Young Marines of North Alabama will begin boot camp Saturday from 8 a.m. to noon at the Marine Corps Reserve Training Center, 2506 South Memorial Parkway. Registration begins Thursday from 5:30-7:30 p.m. Recruits will complete an inten-

sive course of training in citizenship, drug abuse prevention, close order drills and physical fitness. The program is open for boys and girls ages 8-17. For more information, call James Newell 682-4835 or e-mail bwmarine820@aol.com.

Weight loss class

On Jan. 15 from noon-1 p.m., the staff from the Wellness Center at Fox Army Health Center will host a guest speaker from the Center for Surgical Weight Loss in Huntsville who will discuss obesity, its causes, surgical weight loss options and different surgical procedures. You are invited to bring your lunch to the Wellness Center classroom and learn the newest information available. Call 955-8888, ext. 1430, to reserve your space in this class.

Benefit concert

The Strength of the Hammer Fest, a benefit concert for Habitat

for Humanity of Athens/Limestone County, is Jan. 17 at 5 p.m. at Friendship Church in Athens. Seven bands will be playing. "Fans of heavy music will surely not want to miss this event," a prepared release said. "All proceeds will go directly to Habitat to help build another home for a deserving family in our community." Admission is \$15 at the door (\$5 discount with military ID). For more information, e-mail earshotpromo@gmail.com.

Road advisory

The bridge deck for Neal Road Bridge over Toftoy Thruway is scheduled for replacement. The magnitude of construction will require the bridge and approach roadway be closed to traffic. When traveling east on Neal Road, the off ramp onto Toftoy southbound will remain open. Similarly, when traveling north on Toftoy Thruway, the off ramp eastbound onto Neal Road will remain open. The access ramps from Toftoy onto Neal Road Bridge will be closed. Protective barriers will be placed along

Toftoy Road as required. Toftoy Thruway will remain open to traffic the majority of weekdays during the project; however, an occasional detour may be necessary at times during construction. The complete closure and lane blockage of Toftoy Thruway will be kept to the minimum as most temporary detours will be scheduled on weekends and holidays, according to the Garrison Directorate of Public Works. Preliminary work and incidentals necessary for road closure and to establish detours are under way. The full closure of Neal Road, in the vicinity of the construction site, will be effective Saturday. Construction is expected to take from five to six months. For more information, call DPW at 842-0270.

Health center news

Fox Army Health Center will be closed Monday, Jan. 19 for Martin Luther King Day. On Jan. 16 the Primary Care Clinic, Pharmacy and the Tricare Service Center will be open from 7:30-11:30 a.m. The Central Appointments

telephone line will be answered until 4:30 p.m. All other clinics, services and the Dental Clinic will be closed the entire day for a training holiday. The health center is closed on Thursday afternoons, weekends and all federal holidays. Advice Nurses are available during non-duty hours at 955-8888 or 1-800-223-9531 to provide care advice. Fox does not have an emergency room or emergency medical services. In an emergency, dial 911.

Blood program

American Red Cross blood drives this month include the following: Jan. 15 from 7 a.m. to noon at Sparkman Center building 5308 lobby and at SMDC building 5220. Jan. 15-16 from 7-noon at AMRDEC building 5400. Jan. 16 from 8 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. at NASA building 4316. Jan. 16 from 7-noon at Corps of Engineers, 4820 University Square. Jan. 22 from 7-noon at Garrison building 4488. Jan. 23 from 7:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at Missile Defense Agency, 106 Wynn Drive.

ARMY POSITION VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENTS REDSTONE ARSENAL AND HUNTSVILLE, ALABAMA AREA

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	
AS OF 31 DEC 08																				
THE FOLLOWING ARMY ANNOUNCEMENTS CAN BE FOUND ON THE WEB AT WWW.CPOL.ARMY.MIL																				
SCBK08175912	Admin Supp Spec	7-Jan-09	ACQ SUPP CTR	GS-0301	12	12	65,921 - 85,701	X	X											
SCBK08072803R	Engr Tech	7-Jan-09	AMCOM, TMDE	GS-0802	11	11	54,999 - 71,500						X				X	X		X
SCBK08180201	Pay Entitlements Spec	8-Jan-09	AMCOM, G8 (Res Mgmt)	GS-0501	9	9	45,458 - 59,100						X							
SCBK08175787	Logistics Mgmt Spec	8-Jan-09	IMMC	GS-0346	12	12	65,921 - 85,701						X							
SCBK08195552	Inventory Mgmt Spec	8-Jan-09	SMDC	GS-2010	7	9	37,164 - 45,458						X	X				X	X	X
SCBK08158141	Comp Engr	9-Jan-09	AMRDEC	DB-0854	4	4	92,633 - 141,657						X							
SCBK08181567	Lead Acq Business Spec	9-Jan-09	AMRDEC	DE-0301	4	4	78,390 - 120,421						X							
SCBK08198375	Lead Prgm Analyst	9-Jan-09	AMRDEC	DE-0343	4	4	78,390 - 120,421						X							
SCBK08067924	Electronics Engr	9-Jan-09	AMRDEC	DB-0855	3	3	65,921 - 101,913						X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
SCBK08067924D	Electronics Engr	9-Jan-09	AMRDEC	DB-0855	3	3	65,921 - 101,913	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
SCBK08204661	Safety & Occup Health Mngr	9-Jan-09	SMDC	GS-0018	13	13	78,390 - 101,913						X							
SCBK08204637	Budget Analyst	9-Jan-09	SMDC	GS-0560	12	12	65,921 - 85,701						X		X			X	X	X
SCBK08181570	Lead IT Spec (PlcyPln)	12-Jan-09	AMRDEC	DE-2210	4	4	78,390 - 120,421						X							
SCBK08988916	Acq Spec	12-Jan-09	PEO STRI, TMO	NH-1101	3	3	65,921 - 101,913													X
SCBK08142091	Aerospace Engr	13-Jan-09	AMRDEC	DB-0861	3	3	65,921 - 101,913						X							X
SCBK08142091D	Aerospace Engr	13-Jan-09	AMRDEC	DB-0861	3	3	65,921 - 101,913	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
SCBK08157791	Secretary (OA)	14-Jan-09	PEO AVN	NK-0318	2	2	30,001 - 48,308								X		X	X		X
SCBK08171007	Logistics Mgmt Spec	14-Jan-09	IMMC	GS-0346	12	12	65,921 - 85,701						X							
SCBK08125371	Comp Engr	15-Jan-09	AMRDEC	DB-0854	4	4	92,633 - 141,657						X							
SCBK08224516	Paralegal Spec	15-Jan-09	SMDC	GS-0950	9	9	45,458 - 59,100						X	X				X	X	
SCBK08143354	General Engr	18-Jan-09	AMRDEC	DB-0801	4	4	92,633 - 141,657						X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
SCBK08123736	Equip Spec (General)	20-Jan-09	IMMC	GS-1670	12	12	57,709 - 85,701							X						X
SCBK08181574	Supv Business Mngr	22-Jan-09	AMRDEC	DE-0301	5	5	108,964 - 141,657						X							
SCBK08204598	General Engr	22-Jan-09	SMDC	GS-0801	13	13	78,390 - 101,913						X	X				X	X	X
SCBK08204598D	General Engr	22-Jan-09	SMDC	GS-0801	13	13	78,390 - 101,913	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
SCBK08130386	Equip Spec (Aircraft&Electronics)	30-Dec-08	IMMC	GS-1670	12	12	57,709 - 85,701							X						X
SCBK08093016	Equip Spec (Aircraft)	30-Dec-08	IMMC	GS-1670	12	12	57,709 - 85,468							X						X
SCBK08041001OC	Contract Spec	30-Sep-09	AMCOM, Acq Ctr	GS-1102	13	13	78,390 - 101,913						X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
SCBK08041011OC	Contract Spec	30-Sep-09	AMCOM, Acq Ctr	GS-1102	12	12	65,921 - 85,701						X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
SCBK08041018OC	Supv Contract Spec	30-Sep-09	AMCOM, Acq Ctr	YA-1102	3	3	87,998 - 148,740						X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X

THE FOLLOWING OPM/DEU ANNOUNCEMENTS CAN BE FOUND ON THE WEB AT WWW.USAJOB.S.O.P.M.G.O.V

SCBK08067924D	Electronics Engr	9-Jan-09	AMRDEC	DB-0855	3	3	65,921 - 101,913	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
SCBK08142091D	Aerospace Engr	13-Jan-09	AMRDEC	DB-0861	3	3	65,921 - 101,913	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
SCBK08224516	Paralegal Spec	15-Jan-09	SMDC	GS-0950	9	9	45,458 - 59,100						X					X	X	
SCBK08204598D	General Engr	22-Jan-09	SMDC	GS-0801	13	13	78,390 - 101,913	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X

WHO CAN APPLY CODE DEFINITIONS (Note: Only U.S. citizens are eligible to apply for Army positions)

A - Army permanent competitive service employees and certain Army excepted service employees serviced by Redstone CPAC.

B - All Army permanent competitive service employees and certain Army excepted service employees (SF-50 documenting service required).

C - Compensable Disabled Veterans receiving 30% or more compensation from a military service or the VA (SF-15 and other documentation required).

D - All Department of Defense competitive service employees and certain DOD excepted service employees (SF-50 documenting service required).

E - Executive Order 12721 eligibles. (Former overseas family member employees who meet eligibility requirements)

F - All Federal Employees serving on a career or career-conditional appointment (SF-50 documenting service required)

H - Severely handicapped persons (Documentation from State Vocational Rehabilitation Service required)

I - Interagency Career Transition Assist Plan (ICTAP). (Non-DOD Federal employees who have been displaced by RIF.)

R - Reinstatement eligibles (former competitive service Federal employees who meet eligibility requirement.)

T - Transfer eligibles (non-Army Federal competitive service employees) (SF-50 documenting service required)

V - Certain veterans and prior military members who meet the eligibility criteria under VRA or VEOA programs (DD-214s or proof of service required).

U - All U.S. citizens

NOTE: If you are interested, carefully read the announcement for the official area of consideration, qualification requirements, and application procedures.

NOTE: The Nonappropriated Fund (NAF) Personnel Office accepts applications for various types of positions, i.e. Cashier, Food Service, Custodial, Bartender, etc. A complete listing of all available positions can be viewed on the web at www.redstonemwr.com or you may telephone 876-7772.

Resumes are now being accepted for AMC Fellows and Business Enterprise Solutions Trainee. Visit www.amccareers.com or www.cpol.army.mil, search for Vacancy Announcement Numbers: NEAEJ04710482 &