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# Redstone Rocket

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December 22, 1993



**CHRISTMAS TREE** — Jessica Hilton, 5, and Style Reed, 5, stand in front of the post Christmas tree which they helped light Dec. 3 during the annual installation tree lighting ceremony at Bicentennial Chapel. Jessica is the daughter of SSgt. Jeff and Lisa Hilton. Style is the son of SSgt. Kim and Doris Reed.

**VISITING SANTA** — Chelsea Tobin, 3, daughter of Sgt. Richard and Terry Tobin, visits Santa at the installation Christmas tree lighting ceremony. The *Rocket* is taking two weeks off for the holidays; so, this is the final issue until Jan. 12. Have a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

## Christmas food baskets help more than 200 families

BY SKIP VAUGHN

The Post Chapel resembled a supermarket last week when the annual Christmas food baskets were collected by volunteers for distribution to people in the community.

"It's called grocery shopping for others," quipped Chaplain (Lt. Col.) Dennis Whitaker, pastoral coordinator for the chaplains office. He served as project officer for the 1993 Redstone Arsenal Christmas Food Basket Program. Sponsored by the chaplains office, this program provides baskets of food during the Christmas season to families in need of the help — active duty and retired military, and Army civilian families.

"We will have 210 baskets; probably about \$100 per basket worth of food," Whitaker said. On Monday morning, Dec. 13, volunteers used shopping carts to transport food items from the activity room in the chapel to the nearby sanctuary where they placed the items in boxes. Each box represented one family that would be helped by the program.

On Wednesday and Thursday, Dec. 15-16, units picked up the boxes for distribution. "Every major



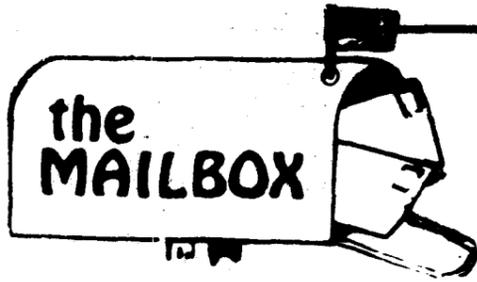
**FILLING FOOD BASKETS** — Volunteers place non-perishable food items into boxes for distribution to Christmas food basket recipients. They used shopping carts to transport the items from the activity room to the sanctuary at Post Chapel.

command on post including approximately 60 civilians and about 75 retirees" were among the recipients, Whitaker said. About half of the food items were donated and the rest were purchased with money that was contributed.

"We had probably as much given to us as in previous years, about the same. We're feeding a few less people, but then we have a few less troops on post so we're probably feeding about the same percentage of population," Whitaker said.

He expressed his thanks "to the many who have given, recognizing it's one of the reflections of the community on post and their concern for others."

Brandon Parker, a retired colonel who was among the volunteer helpers at the chapel, estimated there were about 30 volunteers gathering food items the morning of Dec. 13. The non-perishable items included coffee, rice, flour, green beans, peas, corn, soup, canned meat, jello, macaroni and cheese, and spaghetti. "Wednesday morning (Dec. 15), before we begin to distribute, we will have deliveries of fresh apples and oranges, bread," Whitaker said. "Then we will have a fresh ham or turkey to go in each basket as well."



## Customer service

### Editor:

MICOM is currently engaged in a wave of much needed customer service training and orientation. MICOM's primary external customers are the PMs and PEOs. This new concept of "customers" in the government is hard for some of us in MICOM to accept. We must understand they are not our weapon systems anymore. PMs pay the bills and PMs own the systems. On the other hand, PMs sometimes become contentious in their new role as the customer, and begin treating their suppliers as second-class employees or day laborers.

PMs need a high ratio of senior people and specialists, but PM shops are comparatively small and cannot support specialists in every discipline nor establish wide career paths. MICOM can afford to hire entry level people and provide them with a wide range of experience on different weapon systems, and support specialists in many disciplines. It comes with a price, of course.

How can we work together in a win/win situation? MICOM must become more reasonable in its rate structure to PMs, especially in support that PMs can buy anywhere. PMs must realize that they cannot expect to hire the senior specialists without paying the "overhead" that went into making them senior. We all need to accept our new roles and get on with the job.

Name withheld by request

## Al Reeder

### Editor:

I have been kidded through the years by Al Reeder, director of the Acquisition Center, about writing articles about my boss (Jim Flinn) that I should get paid for writing them.

I only know Al through the church we attend. Al was an elder and guidelines are specific for the qualifications to be such a church leader. I feel that Al has lived such an example of Christian fortitude and I have been told that this type of character is entrenched at his workplace.

I feel that the whole MICOM populace is losing a great individual with Al's retirement as for the procurement policy and procedures concerned; however, I feel that we who rely on his strength and knowledge on

Wednesday nights and Sunday will gain much more.

I feel that with the number of years in civil service Al deserves the leisure of staying home or taking trips, or fishing, or hunting, or whatever — he deserves it! Happy retirement, Al.

Jimmy Harbin  
IMMC

## Budget office

### Editor:

In response to Pam Rogers' article "Customer service spotlight: Resource Management" in the Dec. 1 *Rocket*. Apparently Mr. Lamb, who it appears provided the information for the article, has never had to get a decision from the budget personnel on which account to use for pencils or plane tickets. I work in the budget office of one of the larger MICOM organizations and getting a policy statement or funding decision from RMD is not nearly as simple as people are led to believe in the article.

The budget office has become a bottleneck rather than a service organization. If we have a question and the answer is not known, we feel like we are committing a mortal sin asking them to call AMC for guidance. After all, isn't AMC their service organization — why the hesitation to call them? In addition, there are several issues (e.g. reimbursable fund sources) that RMD does not understand and it seems like they have no interest in learning. Finally, they are notorious for holding taskers until close to the last minute before requesting information from organizations, then go on leave until the due date so if the organizations have questions it's not unusual for no one to be available to provide an answer.

I'm taking the chicken way-out and asking that my name not be published — that would just add fuel to an already uncontrollable fire and my organization will suffer for my opinions.

Name withheld by request

and availability of radar detectors. It is common now to be passed on Rideout Road or Jordan Lane by a vehicle doing at least 65-70 mph. I see on the dash and visors of these cars and trucks their radar detector with lights on ready to warn them of an upcoming "speed trap" as they pass me by.

The purpose of radar detectors, it seems to me, is to allow the owner to break the law and not get caught. When used, the owner is in essence saying, "It's alright to break the law as long as you don't get caught." That principle is then picked up by your children. Is that really what you want to teach them?

Children have a way of transferring what you teach them to other areas of their lives. "If I don't get caught, it's alright to do drugs. I need some money for drugs; if I don't get caught, it's alright to steal." Do you get the picture?

If it were my authority, I would ban the possession and sale of a device with the sole function of allowing its owner to break the law. It would most certainly be banned from this post. Why are you using one anyway? So you can break the law and not get caught?

Name withheld by request

## Seasons greetings

### Editor:

The employees of the Redstone Arsenal Support Activity (RASA) would like to take this time to wish everyone a joyous and safe holiday.

1993 has been an outstanding year for Redstone Arsenal. Thanks to a total team effort and commitment to excellence, Redstone has become known as one of the best posts in the Army.

We at RASA are proud to be part of that team. We value you as a customer and look forward to providing you with the best support possible in 1994.

May all of you have a wonderful holiday and a prosperous new year.

The RASA Family

### Sign your letter

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

## Radar detectors

### Editor:

I have noted an increase in the speed of vehicles on our city streets and highways since the introduction

### Holiday Greetings From the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff

Season's greetings to you and your loved ones. At this time of the year it is appropriate to thank those responsible for guaranteeing America's security. It is because of the Armed Forces that Americans are able to spend this and every holiday season free from worry over threats from potential adversaries.

This year as in years past, we saw numerous occasions where our brave men and women — civilian and military, active and reserve — made personal sacrifices in the name of freedom. From operations in Somalia, in the skies over Bosnia, off the shores of Haiti, along the DMZ in Korea, and in virtually every region in between, you stand ready and willing to serve. For that, our Nation is truly grateful.

During this holiday season, let us acknowledge and thank those people in our lives who are most important to us — our families. Throughout the year they often bear the heavy burden of celebrating special occasions without us. So take the time to recognize their selfless contributions, dedication, and sacrifice. Make the most of this season of faith and family.

The approach of the New Year is also a time of reflection. It gives us an opportunity to examine our successes and failures. Look beyond the holiday festivities with a spirit of renewed optimism, and seek the fulfillment of your every dream. Mrs. Shalikashvili and I wish you a blessed holiday season, one filled with joy, happiness and tranquility. On behalf of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, have a safe, healthy and prosperous 1994.

  
John M. Shalikashvili

### Holiday Message From the Secretary of Defense

On behalf of Americans everywhere, I extend the greetings of the season to you, the dedicated members of the U.S. Armed Forces, and your families.

As we look back over this year, the list of your contributions to the world is long. You have brought food and humanitarian relief to millions at home and abroad. You have helped achieve and maintain peace throughout the world. You have carried the American ideals of compassion to the four corners of the earth. And you have done all this even as you sustained the security of your own homeland.

New challenges await you and our nation in the new year. But, just as your professionalism and capability has prevailed in your past endeavors, I know you will rise to meet the demands of any mission you may be given.

The nation owes a special debt to your families. This is a season at which families customarily draw together. But many of you are far from family and home as you carry out the missions your country asks of you. I know that I join with Americans everywhere in expressing my heartfelt thanks to your families. Their support and sacrifices are also invaluable to our country.

Your patriotism is a continuing source of pride and strength. Know that you are in the thoughts and prayers of all of us during this holiday season wherever in the world you may be stationed. May God grant you and your families every blessing in the new year. Happy holidays to all of you.

  
Les Aspin

## THE REDSTONE ROCKET

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# Season's Greetings

May every happiness  
be yours  
at this Holiday Season  
and throughout  
the new year.

# Acquisition director ready to head for the mountains

BY SKIP VAUGHN

The Missile Command's director of acquisition is ready to pursue a life of hunting and traveling.

Al Reeder will retire Dec. 31 with 35 years and nine months of government service, including three years in the military. "It's just time to retire and enjoy life," he said. "I'm looking forward to it. I have plenty of things I'd like to do — that doesn't include a second career — and I've got three grandchildren I want to enjoy."

Reeder has 400 acres of land — "mountains covered with trees and deer and turkey" — in Paint Rock Valley in Jackson County. An enlarged photo on his office wall shows his cabin.

"I plan to spend a good bit of my time up there hunting and getting ready to hunt, and just being lazy," he said. "I plan to take my wife and travel a good bit of this country and maybe other countries. I've never been to the Northwest; I plan to see a good bit of that country and I think we would enjoy that."

Reeder, who will be 58 on Jan. 8, is originally from Livingston, Tenn., which is next to the Kentucky line. He attended grammar school, all eight years, at a one-room schoolhouse; and then went to high school at Livingston Academy. After three years in the Army, he went to college at Tennessee Tech in Cookeville. He graduated in three years in 1961, with a bachelor's degree in business management, and became an intern in the contracting program at Robins Air Force Base, Ga. In 1962 Reeder transferred to Redstone and spent about a year and a half in the Procurement Directorate at MICOM working on the Lacrosse missile system. He arrived as a GS-7 contract specialist, and became a GS-9 within a year. Reeder transferred to the Lance Project Office in 1963. During his 11 years at Lance, he was a contract specialist, an industrial specialist and rose to GS-14. He transferred in 1974 to SAM-D Project Office, later renamed Patriot. There he was chief of contracts division, then chief of program manage-



REEDER

ment division, and in 1985 became Patriot's deputy project manager.

He was selected to become director of MICOM's Acquisition Center, a Senior Executive Service position, in 1986. Major awards he has received include the Secretary of Defense Superior Management Award in 1991; and the Presidential Rank of Distinguished Executive, with its accompanying \$20,000 cash, in October 1992.

Reeder has a master's degree in public administra-

tion from the University of Alabama in Tuscaloosa. He received this degree in 1973 after the Army sent him there under the long-term training program.

He and his wife, Alean, have two sons and three grandchildren. Rick, 34, of Huntsville, is a chemist and computer specialist for MidSouth Testing in Decatur. The younger son, Tim, 30, is an animal control officer in Huntsville. Rick and his wife, Peggy, have three children: Hannah, 10, Rebekah, 8, and Jonathan, 6.

"I've enjoyed working with all the good people and all of my assignments," Reeder said. "I owe a special thanks to the people in Patriot Project Office that worked for me; they did an outstanding job. Because of their efforts, I feel I was prepared for the SES job."

"And here in the Acquisition Center, the people have been completely supportive. They're professional, they have a great attitude and I just couldn't have asked for a better group to work with. And together we have grown a lot, we've accomplished a lot; and I'm very proud of them and what we've accomplished the last eight years," he continued.

"And for the rest of MICOM community, General Rigby, Mr. Young, all of my fellow directors. I'm going to miss them. They're the most professional group as far as I'm concerned in AMC (Army Materiel Command) and the Army. Even though we're going through some very trying times, they have the professional expertise and character to carry through successfully."

"And I have to say regarding General Rigby and Mr. Young, they have trusted me to manage the Acquisition Center. They have not interfered, they have helped whenever I've asked for it, and I appreciate the confidence they've shown in me and this organization," Reeder said.

Escorting a visitor from his office for the final time, Reeder passed by the desk of his secretary, June Jacobs. "I got the best secretary in the world," he said. "And that's the truth."

## Consolidation of missile depot work impacts MICOM

Editor's note: Gebert is IMMC-BRAC officer in the Maintenance Engineering Directorate, Integrated Materiel Management Center.

BY STEVE GEBERT

On July 1 the DoD Base Realignment and Closure Commission forwarded its findings and conclusions to President Clinton for signature. The president signed the BRAC Commission recommendations on July 3 and sent them to Congress for approval. Congress had 45 legislative days to pass on or reject the Commission's recommendations. The 1993 BRAC Commission made four recommendations applicable to tactical missile maintenance consolidation and depot realignment. They all became law on Oct. 14. The law directed:

- Keep Letterkenny Army Depot (LEAD) open.
- Consolidate DoD tactical missile maintenance at LEAD as originally planned in BRAC '91.
- Move tactical missile workload from the U.S. Marine Corps Logistics Base, Barstow, Calif., to LEAD.
- Retain artillery workload at LEAD.

Letterkenny will become the DoD repair facility for missiles for all of the services. Hundreds of technicians who do repair of missile systems at other depots will see their work being transferred to LEAD. These technicians will be offered positions at Letterkenny. In

*Letterkenny will become the DoD repair facility for missiles for all of the services. Hundreds of technicians who do repair of missile systems at other depots will see their work being transferred to Letterkenny Army Depot. These technicians will be offered positions at Letterkenny.*

addition, test equipment, support equipment, drawings, and other items needed to support depot maintenance is being transferred.

The IMMC BRAC Office, headed by Steve Gebert, is responsible for the MICOM coordination of this major consolidation of missile depot work. Each of the weapon systems that are moving require major planning documents. The transition preparation for each weapon system in most cases is spearheaded by a maintenance engineer from the Logistics Engineering and Maintenance Directorate. The project offices, Weapon Systems Management Directorate and the item managers from the IMMC are also key players. The planning and implementation of these changes is

being assisted by many MICOM offices and the changes will virtually effect all of MICOM. Transition has already started and will continue for the next three or four years.

As of Nov. 30, 12 Army systems including the Air-to-Air Stinger, Avenger, Army Tactical Missile System, Multiple Launch Rocket System, Hellfire, Dragon, TOW 2, Stinger, TOW Cobra, TOW Bradley, Patriot and the AN/TSQ-73 have been identified to transition to LEAD.

Interservice systems to transition include the Air Force's Maverick, Standard, Sidewinder and Harm Advanced Medium Air-to-Air Missile; the Navy's Sparrow, Phoenix and Sidewinder. The Marine Corps' only system to transition is the Hawk, from the Marine Base at Barstow, Calif. Workload associated with these tactical missile systems includes 347,000 hours of organic Army workload, 398,000 hours of interservice workload, and 74,000 hours of contracted workload designated to transition to LEAD.

Soon after the bill became law, MICOM recognized a conflict between HQ AMC mandated public-private competition goals and the new BRAC '93 public law. New BRAC law stated that all DoD tactical missile maintenance would be done at LEAD. Yet competition laws state that a minimum of 60 percent (See Depot, cont'd on page 17)



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# Weekday hours extended for some Arsenal gates

New hours of operation for Redstone Arsenal gates went into effect Dec. 20.

"This action is in response to suggestions made during recent Town Hall Meetings and 'New Eyes' recommendations," states a release from Provost Marshal Office.

As a result gates 1, 7 and 10 are now open from 6 a.m. to 8 p.m. Monday through Friday. This is a two-hour extension from the former 6 p.m. closing time for those gates. Gate 1 is also open from 6 a.m. to 6 p.m. Saturday and Sunday.

Here is the complete schedule of operation:

- **Gate 1**, Martin Road east, open from 6 a.m. to 8 p.m. Monday through Friday including: 6-8 a.m. one way inbound only (westbound) Monday through Friday except holidays; and 3:15-6 p.m. outbound only (eastbound) Monday through Friday except holidays. Also open from 6 a.m. to 6 p.m. Saturday and Sunday.

- **Gate 2**, Buxton Road, open from 6-8:30 a.m. Monday through Friday except holidays, and from 3:30-6 p.m. Monday through Friday except holidays. Closed on weekends and holidays.

- **Gate 3**, Redstone Road, open 24 hours daily, seven days a week.

- **Gate 7**, Martin Road west, open 6 a.m. to 8 p.m. Monday through Friday. Closed on weekends and holidays.

- **Gate 8**, Goss Road, open 24 hours daily, seven days a week.

- **Gate 9**, Rideout Road, open 6 a.m. to midnight seven days a week.

- **Gate 10**, Patton Road, open 6 a.m. to 8 p.m. Monday through Friday. Closed on weekends and holidays.

# Customer service spotlight: ACAP program

BY PAM ROGERS

If any program embodies the Army's changing attitude toward customer service, it is the Army Career and Alumni Program.

Established to assist soldiers and civilians who are leaving the Army as a result of downsizing, the organization serves not only these groups, but family members and veterans.

Although ACAP has a mandated priority for assisting customers, the people who work there make every effort to see and help anyone who is eligible, according to Ramona Roy, transition services manager.

ACAP services include resume preparation, job search services, classes in networking and interviewing, just to name a few.

One of the most popular services the office provides is a periodic employer day, during which prospective employers can meet with job seekers in a job fair-like atmosphere.

In order to better serve women veterans, Roy recently attended a conference in Washington, D.C., designed to highlight the quality of women veterans.

Titled, "Hire a Vet — She's a Good Investment," the conference was sponsored by the Women's Research and Education Institute with support from the Veterans' Employment and Training Service and the Women's Bureau of the U.S. Department of Labor. Two of Roy's former customers at the ACAP office here, Terri Russell and Laura Hicks, both participated in the conference. Other attendees included

corporate representatives, members of Congress, and Douglas Ross, and Preston Taylor, both assistant secretaries of labor.

"We will network with anyone on or off the installation to provide the service needed for our transitioners. We may need to do research, but we're glad to do that, because it helps our customers and it increases our knowledge base," Roy said.

"We're just here to help and we're going to make the transition as smooth as we possibly can. We have a caring and competent staff dedicated to going the extra mile for our customers.

"Our great satisfaction is having our customers come back with smiles on their faces, and that happens every day."

# Contract operations chief receives annual AMC award

The director of contract operations directorate has been named one of the top 10 acquisition people in Army Materiel Command.

James Brannon received the annual award which recognizes the 10 outstanding personnel for their contributions to AMC's missile acquisition program. Each AMC subordinate command submits a nominee to higher headquarters. A plaque is then presented to each honoree by his or her commanding officer.

Brannon received the plaque Nov. 22 from Maj. Gen. Joe Rigby, commander of the Missile Command, during a ceremony at the Acquisition Center.

The citation reads as follows: "This Top Ten Outstanding AMC Personnel of the Year Award is presented to Mr. James E. Brannon for outstanding achievements which have significantly contributed to the Army Materiel Command's missile acquisition program. Mr. Brannon has served in many capacities in the MICOM Acquisition Center and is currently assigned as director of the Contract Operations Direc-



TOP 10 HONOREE — Brannon receives the plaque from Maj. Gen. Rigby in recognition of being named one of the 10 outstanding AMC personnel of the year.

torate. His distinguished career is marked with accomplishment and his hard work and diligence have gained him the respect of all. His personal dedication and perseverance in the face of often overwhelming tasks associated with the MICOM procurement program and the management of the Acquisition Center are exemplary and serve as an inspiration to all employees and associates. He is directly responsible, in large part, for the outstanding support afforded to the DA Program Executive Offices, MICOM's many foreign customers, and all MICOM program managers. His innovative efforts to enhance the missile procurement process will have a most positive impact for many years to come. Mr. Brannon is held in high esteem and he is an excellent role model."



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# Army curtails enlisted early-separation programs

ALEXANDRIA, Va. — Some soldiers expecting an early separation may have to make other plans, since the Army has achieved most of its early-release targets for fiscal 1994.

Some of the Army's early-separation programs have been curtailed, based on the success of the program, and to keep the force from going below its congressionally mandated fiscal 1994 end-strength of 540,000. The enlisted portion of that end strength is about 452,300, according to officials at the Office of the Deputy Chief of Staff for Personnel.

The following programs have been affected.

- Voluntary Separation Incentive and Special Separation Benefit:

- Still open to corporals, specialists and privates in any specialty, with basic active service dates of Dec. 31, 1986, or earlier, provided they have not already passed their retention control point.

- Open to sergeants with BASD of Dec. 31, 1981, and earlier.

- Closed to promotable sergeants, including those who remove their names from the promotion list under paragraph 3-28C(3) of Army Regulation 600-8-19.

- Fiscal 1995 separation dates will be granted to sergeants with BASD from Jan. 1 to Sept. 30, 1982,

who were previously eligible for VSI/SSB, and who applied for the program before Dec. 10, 1993.

- Sergeants with BASD of Oct. 1, 1982 and later, who were previously eligible and who applied for VSI/SSB before Dec. 10, will be put on "reservation" status. These soldiers will be considered for approval against fiscal 1995, if the Army still offers the programs.

- Sergeants through sergeants first class, with nine or more years of service, in the following military occupational specialties are eligible for VSI/SSB — 23R, 24H, 24K, 24R, 27R, 27G, 27H, 27J, 27K and 55G.

- Soldiers qualified for retention, but denied reenlistment under retention management provisions of AR 601-280, are eligible if they have more than six years of service upon separation date. This modifies the previous requirement of six-plus years by Dec. 5, 1991, as a result of a change in law.

- Early Retirement is now closed, except for two categories:

- Promotable sergeants with BASD between Oct. 1, 1978 and Dec. 31, 1979, are eligible for early retirement.

— Soldiers in the following military occupational specialties and grades, who will have at least 15 years of service at retirement, are eligible —

MOS	GRADE
23R	E-7
24H	E-6 & E-7
24K	E-6 & E-7
24R	E-7
27F	E-6
27G	E-6 & E-7
27H	E-6 & E-7
27J	E-6 & E-7
27K	E-6 & E-7
55G	E-6 & E-7

DCSPER officials said there is no change in the current Voluntary Early Transition program. Soldiers eligible for VET may continue submitting applications.

Officials also stressed that there are no changes planned for either commissioned or warrant officer early-separation programs for fiscal 1994.

For more information on separation programs, contact your local personnel actions center. (Arnews)

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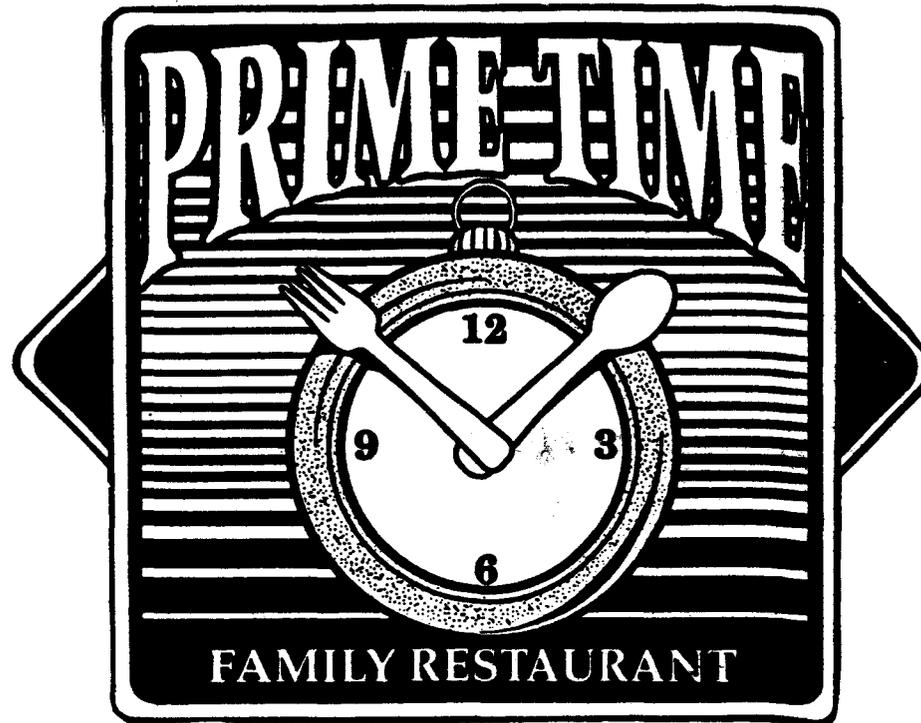
B.B.Q. Buffalo Wings (8) - served with a cup of B.B.Q. Sauce	\$3.95
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Potato Skins (3) - served with sour cream	\$3.95
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All above served with french fries and vegetable

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Lasagna	\$3.95
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8 oz. Sirloin Steak	\$4.29
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6 oz. Hamburger Steak	\$2.49
French Dip	\$3.29
5 oz. Marinated Broiled Chicken Breast - with ham & swiss cheese	\$3.29

All of the above served with your choice of baked potato, french fries, onion rings or rice pilaf and texas toast

### SANDWICHES

B.B.Q. Beef Sandwich - thin sliced Prime Rib and homemade B.B.Q. sauce	\$3.29
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Hamburger Deluxe	\$2.19
Cheeseburger Deluxe	\$2.29
Steak Sandwich Deluxe	\$3.19
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All of the above served with lettuce, tomatoes, onions, pickles and french fries.

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French Fries	\$1.00		

### CHILD'S MENU (under 12 years old)

Salad Bar (One Trip) Extra with Dinners	\$1.49
Child's Shrimp - with french fries and cocktail sauce	\$2.99
Child's Chicken Breast - with french fries	\$2.69
Child's Fish - with french fries and tartar sauce	\$2.39
Child's Hamburger Steak - with french fries	\$2.19
Child's Spaghetti - with parmesan cheese and garlic bread	\$2.39

### SANDWICHES

Gyros Sandwich - with tomatoes, onions, pita bread, cucumber sauce	\$3.50
Grilled Chicken Breast Sandwich - with ham and swiss cheese on hamburger bun	\$3.29
French Dip Sandwich - thin sliced Prime Rib on garlic bread	\$3.29
Steak Sandwich - with tomato, onions, pickle, lettuce	\$2.29
Fish Sandwich - with tartar sauce, tomato, onions, pickle, lettuce	\$1.69
Cheeseburger - with tomato, onions, pickle, lettuce	\$1.69
Hamburger - with tomato, onions, pickle, lettuce	\$1.59
Salad Bar - with any sandwich	\$2.89 extra

### BEVERAGES

Soft Drinks	.65	Milk	.75
Coffee	.65	Hot Chocolate	.65
Ice Tea	.65	Chocolate Milk	.85
Hot Tea	.65		

### DESSERT

Cheesecake	\$1.95
Ice Cream	\$1.50
Pie	\$1.50

# Knowledge of topic essential, says top OMMCS teacher

BY KEN McCOOEY

The Ordnance Missile and Munitions Center and School has selected Billy Blount as its instructor of the year for 1993 in the civilian category.

Blount has been an instructor at OMMCS in the Multiple Launch Rocket System division for 10 years. He enjoys the challenge of relating his knowledge to new students so they can learn the skills they will need to be technically proficient in today's Army.

"I feel that the knowledge of the subject is first and foremost when presenting instruction," Blount said. "The ability to stand before a large group and speak without hesitation or nervousness is essential, but the most comfortable public speaker has no chance if he is not capable of discussing the subject. I have strived, over the years, to absorb everything I can about my system, and practice recanting this information at every opportunity."

This is not the first time Blount has been recognized for his excellence as an instructor. His previous achievements include being cited as an outstanding instructor by more than a dozen classes. He has also achieved the level of Master Instructor in the Instructor Development and Recognition Program.

Blount's teaching expertise is also recognized by numerous outside agencies in the surrounding community. He has been lauded for providing information, assistance, tours and instruction to their personnel.



BLOUNT

Of all the contributions Blount has made as an instructor to the MLRS division, he believes his greatest is teaching and helping other instructors to be better at their jobs.

"My greatest contribution has been to teach other instructors, answer their questions on a day-by-day basis and maintain continuity within the team, even as instructors, both military and civilian rotate in and out of the team," Blount said.

## Don't drive drunk, emphasizes AAFES

DALLAS — The holiday season is here again, as are plenty of opportunities for holiday cheer. In an effort to keep the roads safe, the Army and Air Force Exchange Service will once more promote "The Designated Driver is the Life of the Party" campaign.

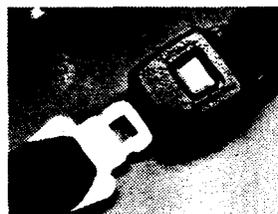
A designated driver is a friend who volunteers to pass up alcohol at a party, so he can safely drive home those who do drink.

AAFES liquor stores and shoppettes will feature the campaign with signs, buttons for employees and pamphlets at the register. The pamphlets promote safe drinking, with tips for party givers, non-alcoholic drink recipes and statistics on drunken driving.

In the past decade, four times as many Americans died in drunken driving crashes as were killed in the Vietnam War. Last Christmas, almost half of the 391 traffic fatalities involved alcohol. And for New Year's Day, the figure was almost 80 percent.

Though the number of alcohol-related traffic fatalities declined by 11 percent from 1991 to 1992, even one such death is too many. Be part of the solution; volunteer as a designated driver. (From an AAFES release.)

## Ring in the New Year with a belt.



This kind. So you can ring in many new years to come.

Take it from some people who know the difference a seat belt can make.

The American Association of Critical-Care Nurses strongly encourages you to wear your seat belt anytime you're driving—and especially during the holiday season.

That way you'll have a safer yule. And a more secure New Year.

*Telos Field Engineering*

*wishes to express appreciation to all Redstone Region employees and their efforts for the past year. We extend best*

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## Expansion for Test Area 5 seen environmentally safe

An Environmental Assessment has been written which evaluates the continuing operation of the existing facilities of Test Area 5 and the addition of a test facility for static testing of air breathing ram jets and tests of the ablative materials for atmospheric reentry vehicles.

TA-5 is the Army's largest static test facility for rocket and missile propulsion systems. It is located at the center of the southern edge of Redstone Arsenal, on a hill within a bend of the Tennessee River.

The basic operation of TA-5 is static firing of solid or liquid propellant rocket motors in which the motors are securely fastened to the test stands by the instrumented couplings which measure the force generated by the rocket motors that are restrained and prevented from flying. The Test Area achieves year-round utilization of the personnel, instrumentation, computerized controls, disassembly, dissection, inspection, temperature conditioning, and fabrication of test adapters required for the static motor testing for a range of other tests. These other operations include static firings of initiators, igniters, and gas generators plus hydro proof and burst testing of the rocket motors and other pressure vessels (using hydraulic pumps and/or rocket propellants) plus static loading of structures, cab overpressure and explosive atmosphere and altitude testing of the rockets/missiles and their components. Various other non-flight testing functions are performed at TA-5 to take advantage of the central computer controls, remote actuation of test devices and cameras, data recording, safety trained work force, and physical isolation. As an example, one of the test stands is used to perform the 12 meter drop tests required to ensure that missile systems are safe for shipboard loading and unloading.

In addition to the continuing operations, Test Stand E is scheduled to be added which will permit static testing of air breathing ram jets, ablative materials for reentry vehicles and extend the range of rocket propellants to include cryogenic fuels. This new Test Stand will supply a testing capability that the Army

needed but also will provide a cost avoidance for NASA. Without this multipurpose facility readily available, NASA would have been required to build a new limited use test stand to their existing large capacity cryogenic fueled static test stands that they have operated at Redstone for up to 40 years. The exhaust path of the new stand is directed from its hilltop location over an open gulley, which runs beside one of the existing test stands to ensure that no additional personnel dangers or environmental damage will result from operation of the new Test Stand.

The test operations at TA-5 have been conducted on a steady, but not continuous basis for the last 30 years. Tests and analyses of the combustion products of the rocket motors indicate that the operation of the facility will not disperse dangerous or hazardous pollution. The operation of this test facility has not had adverse noise effect. The air and water quality will be in compliance with the Alabama Department of Environmental Management requirements. Hazardous wastes if generated in any portion of the testing or storage cycle will be handled, collected, controlled, neutralized, stored, transported, and reported in accordance with the Missile Command (MICOM) Hazardous Waste Part B Permit No. AL7210 020 742. Established procedures exist for emergencies and test failures.

Alternate test facilities and options were considered for their capabilities to achieve the anticipated testing and the environmental, economic and national interest consequences of changing the location of the test or alternatives to testing. None offered significant advantage over the TA-5 operation. All would introduce additional scheduling, interservice prioritization problems, higher costs, or would force the government to relax its role in safeguarding our service personnel.

There are no viable alternatives to the testing required and no current test sites of the alternatives chosen that would not impact the MICOM mission. This EA concludes that the continuation of the static testing operations and the expansion of the facility to include the Test Stand E operations should be the deci-

sion path chosen, that these actions will not have a significant impact on the environment and that an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) is not required.

The EA will be on file at the MICOM Environmental Office, building 7613 of Redstone Arsenal. Questions or comments about this action may be directed to Dave Harris, chief of Public Affairs Office, MICOM, office symbol AMSMI-IN, phone 876-4161; or William Liles, chief of Static Test Branch, Redstone Technical Test Center, Test and Evaluation Command, office symbol STERT-TE-F-ST, phone 876-5324.



**FOR SUPERB SERVICE** — Linda Riddle, who retired in April from the Military Personnel Office, receives the Commander's Award for Civilian Service from Lt. Col. Victor Samanka, MICOM adjutant general. Riddle served with the Department of Defense for more than 21 years. She served as lead military personnel clerk in the personnel information branch, Military Personnel Office from February 1982 until retiring. She and her husband, Cliff, have a daughter and a grandson.

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and trucks from dealers in Alabama, Tennessee, Georgia and Mississippi to fill customer's wants on a regular basis. We've even picked up units from west Texas, Wyoming, Illinois, and Montana to fill special needs. If you want it and it's out there, we'll get it for you.

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# Unmanned aerial vehicle successfully tested at sea

*Editor's note: The following release is from the Department of the Navy, Program Executive Officer, Cruise Missiles and Unmanned Aerial Vehicles Joint Project.*

Rear Adm. George F.A. Wagner, program executive officer for the Department of Defense's Unmanned Aerial Vehicles Project, has announced the first flights of the Hunter Short Range Unmanned Aerial Vehicle on a Navy ship at sea.

The operations took place on board the amphibious assault ship USS Essex (LHD 2) during a series of demonstrations Dec. 6-9 off the coast of California.

During the four-day test, the aircraft took off from and landed on the Essex, as well as being "handed off" between USS Essex at sea and Point Mugu Naval Air Station.

The Hunter made 33 landings on the Essex including 27 touch-and-go and six arrested landings. In the arrested landings, the aircraft landed and was brought to a stop by cables stretched across the ship's flight deck, and a tailhook attached to the aircraft.

The Hunter also was launched using Rocket Assisted Take Off (RATO). Other takeoffs were by normal deckruns down the Essex flight deck. The Essex is about two-thirds the size of Navy aircraft carriers which gives it a flight deck about 800 feet long.

According to Army Col. Ray Lowman, program manager for the Short Range, the tests supported the concept that the Short Range UAV is adaptable to shipboard operations.

The Hunter also demonstrated its ability to record and transmit live television imagery collected as it performed reconnaissance and surveillance missions. Imagery was received by the Essex and re-transmitted to other points using existing shipboard intelligence channels.

The Hunter until now had requirements for land-based operations by the Army and Marine Corps. However, the Navy in early 1993 selected the Hunter for shipboard applications and indicated a Navy requirement for 18 Short Range systems.

The tests aboard the Essex were the first steps toward qualifying the Hunter for Navy operations requiring the ability to take off from and land aboard ships at sea.

According to Navy Cmdr. Tom Linthicum, the JPO's project officer for the shipboard tests, the first landing took place Dec. 6. A Hunter was launched from the Naval Air Warfare Center, Point Mugu, flew to a rendezvous with the Essex, and control was handed over to a flight test team aboard the ship.

After shipboard control was acquired, the flight



**FIRST FLIGHT** — The Hunter Short Range Unmanned Aerial Vehicle made 33 landings on the USS Essex at sea during a four-day test off the coast of California Dec. 6-9.

team made a series of passes in the vicinity of the Essex followed by a number of touch-and-go landings.

Once the flight team became comfortable with the handling of the Hunter, it was directed to a successful arrested landing on the Essex flight deck.

"These demonstrations proved that the Short Range UAV system can be used by the various services to bring us closer to the total integrated battlefield," Linthicum said.

Lane Arbuthnot, TRW's manager of UAV programs, praised the Essex crewmen and the government-contractor team for their success.

"Their total commitment and professionalism in

helping attain this record truly contributed to our success," Arbuthnot said. "The TRW team received first rate support."

The air vehicles and supporting equipment will be returned to Fort Huachuca, Ariz., to support continued Short Range training.

The Short Range UAV is one of a family of unmanned aircraft being developed for the armed forces. It is built by the team of TRW and Israel Aircraft Industries under contract to the UAV Joint Project.

Designed to provide reconnaissance and surveillance of potential enemy territory, the Hunter will fly for eight to 12 hours and has an operating radius in excess of 200 kilometers.

## New project chartered for development of aerial vehicle

BY SANDA MARTEL

"An opportunity to start anew in the UAV world," is how Rear Adm. George Wagner described the disestablishment of two UAV offices in Huntsville and the establishment of a new one to carry on with production and fielding efforts.

Even though faced with a change in priorities and reduced dollars, Wagner said he looked forward to "getting on with the fielding of a UAV system."

Col. Paul Tanguay, in accepting the charter from Wagner, promised fielding of the first air vehicle by September 1994 (eight vehicles plus associated ground support equipment). The second system will go to the Navy in April 1995, Tanguay said.

The Unmanned Aerial Vehicle program has been under a study by Department of Defense the past two

years and it was finally concluded that combining the Close Range and Short Range vehicle-initiatives was appropriate to reduce redundancy.

Fiscal and other resources, as well as personnel structure, will be merged to continue the mission of the new Joint Tactical Unmanned Aerial Vehicle Project Office.

The Short Range UAV has been managed by Col. Raymond Lowman II the past two years and Tanguay has headed the Close Range project.

Employee awards and recognition were the order of the day Friday when the new project was chartered and the group celebrated its holiday luncheon.

The office is located at 4901 University Square and employs approximately 39 civilians, six officers, plus matrix personnel.



**CHARTER SIGNING** — Rear Adm. George Wagner, program executive officer for Cruise missiles and Unmanned Aerial Vehicles, signs a charter establishing the Joint Tactical Unmanned Aerial Vehicle Project Office. At left is Col. Paul Tanguay, who will lead the new project. Wagner signed a document to disestablish the Close Range Unmanned Vehicle and Short Range Unmanned Vehicle project offices. Production and fielding efforts now underway for the TRW/IAI Hunter unmanned aerial vehicle system will continue.

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# Commentary: Christmas in America, southern style

*Editor's note: Mason is the sister of Lula Howard of OMMCS who wanted to share this article with the Redstone community.*

**BY KATHY MASON**

Christmas, I believe, has long since been America's most celebrated holiday, observed by Christians and pagans alike. Officially the holiday begins Dec. 24 (Christmas Eve) and climaxes on Jan. 1 (New Year's Day) but most Americans start their festivities and shopping the first of December and for those early birds, there is a shopping day in July known as "Christmas in July" — though a bit too early for me. Generally, the day after our Thanksgiving holiday (last Thursday in November) is the day for the "sale of sales" at all the department stores where you'll find innumerable people carrying packages, children scurrying down toy aisles and long lines with parents trying to capture on film that unforgettable moment of the little one upon Santa's knee with a wish list longer than themselves. In the churches, on their special nights, are choirs with angelic voices singing carols and hymns to inspire you; along with skits portraying the birth of Christ that causes one to ponder.

Usually in early December you'll find houses being decorated with Christmas trees adorned with colorful lights and ornaments (some passed down through generations) with treasurable gifts beneath. Windows are bedecked with twinkling lights and candles; doors embellished with festive wreaths or door coverings with some infamous holiday character; and on fireplaces, stockings filled with goodies for everyone. For the young at heart, mistletoe hangs from doorways to indicate that a kiss is due the one standing underneath. In almost every kitchen various dishes are being prepared — as we southerners say, "from scratch." No instant foods, but time-prepared meals with lots of love. In the deep south, and I imagine in most of America, there's the traditional turkey with stuffing or glazed ham, hearty salads, candied yams (potatoes), fruit salads, egg nog, plum pudding and all sorts of candies and pastries.

For those who are fortunate enough to have snow, there will be sled rides in the glistening mounds of white flakes; while in the good ole south, we have but dreams of a white Christmas. Yet, one of the most memorable scenes I can think of is watching children riding their brilliantly colored bicycles or go-carts and even roller skates, seeing the joy these gifts bring — another American tradition.

Although this is a joyous season for most, it's a sad time for many. The many who struggle because of the economical climate of austerity. So it is at this time of

year that more people reach out to others in need to supplement their hopes and dreams.

Nowadays, Christmas is so commercialized that it clouds the true meaning — *giving*. In honor of the greatest gift ever given, Jesus Christ, we pour out of our hearts: love, laughter, joy, peace and goodwill.

On Dec. 31, as we ring out the old (year) and bring in the new, remember the lives that we touch at Christmas need to be touched all year through. Christmas is not just a seasonal celebration but an everyday way of life.



**CREDIT UNION CAROLERS** — A group of employees of Redstone Federal Credit Union sang Christmas carols at various branches of RFCU last week. Here they perform at the Post Exchange branch Wednesday afternoon.

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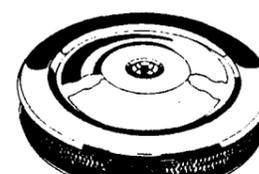
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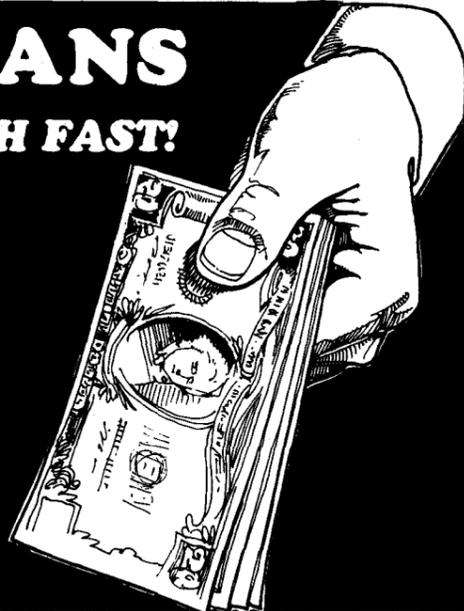
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# SSDC, PEO Missile Defense have annual open house

BY ANN HAM

SSDC and PEO Missile Defense hosted an open house for employees' families and friends again this year on Friday, Dec. 17, at the 106 Wynn Drive facility.

Offices put out refreshments during lunchtime and guests visited around, with most adjourning to the cafeteria for a Christmas program at around 1 p.m.

Children sat on Santa's lap and received souvenir Christmas visors. Brig. Gen. J.A. Van Prooyen, SSDC deputy commander, presented a Foster Children's Alliance of Madison County representative a Christmas bear symbolizing the small mountain of toys and gifts donated by employees.

A Christmas story reading by SSDC Public Affairs

Officer Ed Vaughn, songs by the SSDC Christmas choir, and a children/audience/choir sing-along rounded out the program.

The annual open house is a rare opportunity for many to see where family members spend their working hours and to meet associates of family and friends.



A JOYFUL NOISE — A Christmas choir, made up of SSDC and PEO Missile Defense employees, practices for Open House entertaining.



MAIL ROOM ENTRY — Delores Johnson of SSDC's Information Management Office is happy her office door was a prize-winner in the Christmas door decorating contest.

## Space and Rocket Center invites Redstone workers

The U.S. Space and Rocket Center has extended an invitation to Redstone workers and soldiers to make a visit, free of charge, to the facility during January and February.

The offer is good for everyone who works for the Army at Redstone and their immediate family members who accompany them, according to a letter from Richard E. Allen Jr., general manager of the U.S. Space and Rocket Center and U.S. Space Camp. This offer does not include contractors.

To make your free visit, take your badge and

register at the ticket counter. You will be entitled to take advantage of all of the regular features of the center to include seating at the new Journey to Jupiter, self-guided tour through the museum and the narrated bus tour through Marshall Space Flight Center.

The Space and Rocket Center, "the Earth's largest space museum," is open every day except Christmas and Thanksgiving. Hours are 8 a.m. to 7 p.m. from Memorial Day through Labor Day, and 9-6 after Labor Day until Memorial Day. The center is located off exit 15 on Interstate 565.



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# Officers wives share Christmas brunch with seniors

*Editor's note: Carr is publicity chairman for the Officers Wives Club.*

**BY SUSAN CARR**

"The Joy of Giving" was truly experienced by members of the Officers Wives Club on Tuesday, Dec. 14 as 100 guests from the Huntsville Senior Center and the local community were treated to the annual Senior Citizens' Christmas Brunch. This tradition of hosting area seniors is passed along "unofficial" channels from one military wife to another as they make their home from one military post to another.

Upon arriving at the Officers Club via military buses escorted by military personnel from HHC MICOM and headquarters OMMCS, these special guests were

ushered into a festively decorated ballroom in the seasonal mode; and they were invited to enjoy coffee and juice along with biscuits, pastries and fruit.

Musical entertainment was provided by Dr. Horace Carney, chairman of the music department at Alabama A&M University, as well as the OWC Choral

Group led by Lois Long. Special appearances were made by George Stewart and the Cahaba Buffoons, and of course, Santa Claus!

The morning's festivities were concluded by presenting each senior with a special bag of Christmas gifts and a fond farewell until next year.



**SANTA VISITS** — Joann Andrew, left, president of the Officers Wives Club, and Colleen Rigby, honorary president, greet "Saint" Nick Kallo who played the role of Santa at the brunch. Kallo is general manager of the Officers Club.



**FOND FAREWELL** — OWC members bid seniors farewell while soldiers escort the guests to their awaiting buses.

## Thrift Shop has a very good year

**BY REX MAXWELL**

The Thrift Shop held its holiday luncheon Dec. 13 at the Marriott Hotel. Following the feast Nancy Lopez, president of the board, recognized all the volunteers by presenting them with a certificate of appreciation for a job well done.

Each month the Thrift Shop selects one of its volunteers as the volunteer of the month. For December, the honoree is retired CWO Chuck Salvo. He has provided valuable experience and know-how at the Thrift Shop for the past four years.

This year has truly been blessed for the Thrift Shop. Its paid staff and volunteers have worked more than 6,250 hours. And more than \$18,000 was put back into the community as a result of its services.



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# Job referral service open to civilian workers, spouses

*Editor's note: McMahan is a staffing specialist in the Civilian Personnel Office.*

**BY SUE McMAHAN**

A federally-sponsored employment referral program is open to all eligible government employees and their spouses.

The Defense Outplacement Referral System (DORS) was established through a cooperative effort between the Department of Defense and the Office of Personnel Management in order to speed attrition, thereby reducing numbers of civilian workers.

DORS registrants will be referred to DoD agencies, non-DoD federal agencies and to the private sector, including state and local governments. Employees may designate any area of referral within the 50 United States and Puerto Rico, but should be aware that the DORS program does not provide for moving expenses.

In some cases, recruiting agencies may be agreeable to paying some or all of the expense involved in relocation. Also, to encourage the placement of DoD employees at other federal agencies, DoD will pay up to \$20,000 in permanent change of station costs for an employee who is in a surplus skill category but has not yet received a reduction in force (RIF) notice.

Spouses may register only if the government employee registers, and must register for the same area of referral. Temporary employees and employees' spouses with no direct appointment eligibility will be considered only for excepted service and private sector positions.

Registration and placement through DORS is strictly voluntary for both the registrant and the employing office. This program should not be confused with the

Priority Placement Program (PPP) which is a mandatory placement program within DoD.

DORS registrants who are permanent employees and who become adversely affected by actions such as base closure or RIF will be removed from the DORS program and registered in the PPP. At that time, the area of referral and the skills for these registrants will be reviewed/revise to comply with the PPP requirements under DoD 1400.20-1-M, and moving expenses will be authorized as specified under this PPP regulation.

Interested employees whose positions are managed by the MICOM Civilian Personnel Office may call Debra Westenhofer at 876-4835 or Sue McMahan at 876-4977 for application instructions. Applications must be submitted before the registration appointment. Couples who wish to register should both attend the counseling session.

# Professional associations have joint Christmas luncheon

The North Alabama Chapter of the Association of Government Accountants (AGA) and the Redstone/Huntsville Chapter of the American Society of Military Comptrollers (ASMC) held their joint

Christmas luncheon Dec. 9 at the Holiday Inn-Research Park.

The dining facility was filled to a crowd capacity as the audience received a warm welcome from Carolyn

Thompson, ASMC president. The club officers were introduced by Hurley Hughes, AGA president, and Thompson. The holiday spirit filled the air when Edith Coleman, guest soloist, THAAD Project Office, began to sing "Joy to the World." Guests settled in to enjoy lunch.

A jazz tune started to play; and Cora Mayfield entered and started to narrate, thus setting the stage for an imaginary New York runway. An air of merriment filled the audience as they welcomed a mini-fashion review. Regina Free, Vanessa Holman, Cheryl Hughley, Thompson, Stephana Williams, Laura Wolfson, Col. Melson Kahue, Thomas Bair and Gary Yacura aligned the hallway in chic attire awaiting their time to show the audience that the vogue of Paris can also be found in Huntsville. The fashions were warmly received, especially the show-stopping finale worn by Hughley.

A medley of Christmas songs was played by Elige Jones, guest pianist from the staff of Drake Technical College.

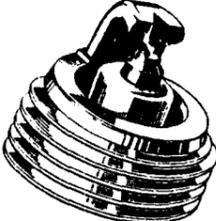
Gary Dobbs of WAAY-TV Channel 31 rose from the guest table wearing a Santa Claus cap, red blazer, green slacks and rendered a reading of "Twas the Night Before Christmas." Dobbs also shot candid film footage of the luncheon which he showed on "Way Too Early" the following morning.

Aaron Walker gave out the door prizes which included one-night's accommodation at the Holiday Inn. Barney Powell presented certificates of recognition from the governor of Alabama to both organizations for their professional development, sponsorship of scholarships and community service. Kay Cutts and Edith Coleman led sing-alongs of Christmas carols.



**TOP INSTRUCTORS** — Retired Col. William Stirling, center, the former commandant of Ordnance Missile and Munitions Center and School, presented OMMCS Instructor of the Year awards Nov. 23. From left are recipients Billy Blount, SFC Deborah Asberry, Maj. Harry Kaempfe and Capt. George E. Davis; Stirling also presented Master Instructor certificates to SSgt. Nick Westenhofer, SSgt. Tyrone Henderson and SSgt. Richard Gale.

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# Housing office outlines recipe for service orders

*Editor's note: This is the second in a series of articles, from Housing Management Division, to outline to family housing residents procedures for requesting and receiving repair service to their quarters. The first article in the Dec. 8 issue discussed Preventive Maintenance (PM). This article will discuss Service Orders (SOs).*

Service Orders cover work beyond the scope of self-help that cannot wait until the semiannual PM visit. Service Orders are normally generated by the housing resident by calling the Service Order Reception Desk at 876-2801/9881. The Service Order clerk, an employee of the base support contractor (BAMSI Inc.) will ask your quarters number, telephone number and for a clear description of the work that needs to be accomplished.

Your description of exactly what is wrong with your quarters is important because it will determine what

type of repairman responds and the tools, supplies and equipment he will bring. An unclear description of the problem could well result in the wrong materials, causing further delay and inconvenience to the occupant, something we all want to avoid. The Service Order Clerk should provide the caller with your service order number. You may need this number in case the problem needs to be addressed at a later date or there is not a response to the order in a timely manner. If the clerk forgets, please ask for the number.

To determine when a repairman will arrive, the SO will be prioritized as follows: emergency, urgent or routine. Based on the description of the problem you identify to the Service Order desk clerk, the contractor will prioritize the work based on very strict criteria. An emergency SO is one that takes priority over all other work. It is a repair that constitutes an immediate danger to life, health, security or the property. The

contractor is required to respond within one hour during normal duty hours and within two hours during off duty hours. An urgent SO is for a problem that if not taken care of can become an emergency. The contractor is required to respond to the request within two work days. A routine SO is for repair work that if not accomplished would become an inconvenience to the occupant. The contractor is required to respond and if possible, complete the work within three days of the request.

It is important that the quarter's occupant be available at the quarters for repairmen to respond to the SO. You may request at the time you place your SO to be notified at your workplace or home before work is accomplished.

If you have questions concerning maintenance repairs to your quarters, call the Housing Management Division 955-6526 or 876-7143.

## Troop bowling

Here are the Troop Intramural Bowling standings after last week's games:

Tuesday's Conference	W	L
Readiness Group-2	208	92
Readiness Group-1	172	128
Readiness Group-4	169.5	130.5
HHC MICOM	167.5	132.5
F Company Equate	164.5	135.5
F Company MSTD	157	143
HHC 832nd MD	152.5	147.5
Anchors E Company 832nd	147.5	152.5
MEDDAC-2	147	153
MEDDAC-1	144	156
Flintstones	135.5	164.5
Bye	10	36

(Editor's note: Tuesday's Conference results from last week were unavailable at presstime.)

Thursday's Conference	W	L
DOT Last Year's Champs	200	100
Hooters	182	118
HHD USATA	177	123
MLRS F Company	173	127
Master Blasters	159.5	140.5
Navy	158.5	141.5
49 ORs	146	154
MEDDAC	141.5	158.5
NNTK	130.5	169.5

200 games bowled Dec. 16:

John Cappiello (DOT LYCs)	235
Carl Giddens (NNTK)	212
Reggie Crosby (MEDDAC)	207
Jeff Hilton (MLRS F Co.)	206
Steve Mitchell (Hooters)	204

(Editor's note: Next week of bowling is Jan. 6; Merry Christmas from the Thursday Intramural League.)

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<p><b>'92 Maxima SE</b> Auto., Loaded w/Leather. Only 17K miles! <b>\$17,990</b> ASK FOR MARGIE</p>	<p><b>'93 Escort Wagon</b> 5-Speed, A/C, Cass., More! Local Trade! <b>60 mo. @</b> <b>\$179</b> ASK FOR STAN</p>	<p><b>'93 Maxima GXE</b> Loaded. Low Miles! <b>\$17,990</b> ASK FOR MARGIE</p>	<p><b>'89 Tempo GLS</b> 5-Speed Sport w/ Ground Effects. Black, A/C. <b>48 mo. @</b> <b>\$109</b> ASK FOR JOHNNY</p>	<p><b>'86 Astro Van</b> Great for Work or Play! SPECIAL... <b>\$4850</b> ASK FOR RICK</p>	<p><b>'93 4x2 Hardbody</b> 14K Miles, Local Trade. 5-Speed <b>60 mo. @</b> <b>\$169</b> ASK FOR HARRY</p>
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# Most childhood injuries can be predicted, prevented

*Editor's note: Goodman is a nurse educator at Fox Army Community Hospital.*

**BY SUSAN GOODMAN**

Christmas is an exciting time for children. As you consider what to give your children for Christmas, take the time to also assess their environment. Assess for not only what they need for Christmas, but also for ways to make your home a safe place for children. Why? Well, the leading cause of death for persons between the ages of 1 and 24 is accidents. And more than 90 percent of the accidents are preventable.

## Age factor

When looking at injury prevention, your injury prevention assessment changes as a child develops.

For infants, choking, motor vehicle accidents, drowning, falls and burns are the major environmental hazards. Think safety from the first, starting on the trip home from the hospital. Use an approved car seat. Infant safety seats can increase the chance of survival in a car accident by 90 percent. In the home, start your assessment with the crib. The slats on their crib should be less than 2 and three-eighths inches apart; the mattress should be 26 inches below the top rail and snug-fitting; the locking mechanism should be secure; the paint should be lead-free. Asphyxiation is responsible for nearly 40 percent of all injury related death during the first year. Therefore, do not use plastic materials such as dry cleaning bags; inspect toys frequently for loose parts; do not allow toys with small or sharp parts; do not let infants play with toys for older children; do not feed small items, such as nuts, popcorn, grapes, and hot dogs. As infants may drown in less than 2 inches of water, never leave them alone in a bath and drain the water immediately. For safe bathing, set the water heater's thermostat to low, warm, or 120 degrees. Always first test the water. Prevent falls; do not leave infants alone on beds, changing tables, couches. As children begin to pull themselves up to standing position, keep the crib rails up and the mattress in the lowest position.

## Avoid poisonings

With mobility comes delights and new concerns. Seventy-five percent of all poisonings occur in children ages 1 to 3. The three most common ingestants are aspirins, soap products, and plants. Keep medicines in a safe place, preferably locked-up. Store cleaning material out of sight and reach, never under the sink. Destroy poisonous plants — the Christmas season plants of mistletoe, poinsettia and holly are poisonous. Install child-safety devices such as latches for drawers and electrical outlet protectors.

Injuries are the leading cause of death in the preschool group. Most injuries in this group involve falls from stairways, beds, tables and chairs. Install gates at the top and bottom of stairs. Toddlers are curious and love to climb. Make climbing to dangerous heights impractical. Position items fre-

quently given to children, such as snacks, within easy reach. A high incidence of burn injuries for preschoolers is of concern. Be sure fireplaces, heaters, and stoves are properly protected. Drowning is third most common injury-related death in this age group. Fence pools, and install locks on gates. Also at home, do not leave the child alone.

## Traffic safety

As soon as they are ready to walk outside, teach them street and traffic safety. Supervise your children until they show you they understand the rules of street and traffic safety.

Elementary-age children are at the highest risk of being hit by a car, as they dart out into traffic. Stress street safety and also auto safety. All who ride must

use seat belts. Bicycle safety should also be emphasized. Have your children always wear a bike helmet when cycling.

In teen-agers, motor vehicle accidents are responsible for nearly 80 percent of all injury deaths. Insist on drivers' training classes and seat belt usage. Teach teen-agers alcohol, tobacco, drug avoidance. Also teach them informed decision making skills. Encourage your teen-agers' concern for the safety of others and enroll them in a first aid course.

Most injuries can be predicted and prevented. Basic safety precautions can save thousands of children from death and many more from injuries. And they do not take much time. Please make these tips part of your lifestyle during the holidays and throughout the year.



**FOR SUPPORT OF GUARD/RESERVE** — From left Sgt. Melinda Tripp, Vasso Toon and SSgt. John Alexander, workers at the OMMCS Directorate of Reserve Components, received Department of Defense Certificates of Appreciation for their support of the National Guard and Reserve at Redstone Arsenal. Presented on behalf of the National Committee for Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve, the award is part of a national effort to recognize supportive employers of Guardsmen and Reservists. They were nominated for the award by John Jacobi, a first lieutenant in the Alabama Army National Guard.

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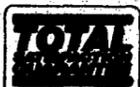
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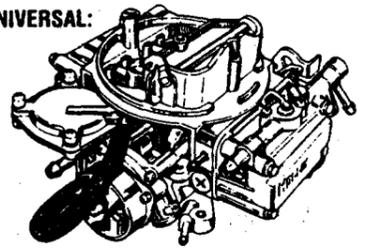
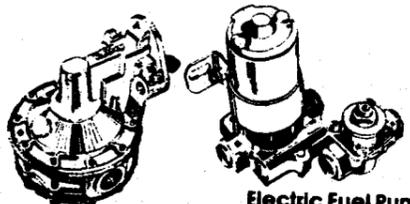
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# Some children need Christmas gift of foster care

*Editor's note: McDuffie, a social work intern at Army Community Service, wrote the following article. The first part is a fictional account of a child's viewpoint.*

**BY VALERIE McDUFFIE**

"My name is Adam and I am 8 years old. I live with my mom and little sister Anna in rural Alabama in a house that does not have any running water or utilities. During the winter my sister and I sleep on a pad on the floor in front of a gas heater to keep warm. When my mother forgets to buy kerosene me and my sister snuggle up together to keep each other warm.

"I don't go to school because my mom don't want people to know how we are living. I know that

Christmas is coming soon but for me and my little sister it will pass us by again as it always has.

"I wonder if there is a Santa. If he is real then why don't he remember my sister and me during Christmas. My mom has this problem with drinking. She drinks a lot and afterwards she either pass out or beats me and my sister. She doesn't have to have a reason for beating us just need to be drunk. If I had one wish for Christmas it would be to have a family who would love and care for me and my sister. I love my mother but she needs help. Please Santa can I have a family!"

For many of us, Christmastime reminds us of the wonderful times we spend with our families exchanging gifts and sharing the warmth and love that comes

with being a part of a healthy family. But for many children, that love and warmth does not exist when their life has been disrupted by abuse, neglect or events that have led them to be without a family. For children in crisis, their wish for Christmas becomes that of a family.

The Foster Care Program at the Madison County Department of Human Resources urges you to open up your homes to these very special children who are in need of a loving and caring home. There are far too many Adams and so few homes to care for them.

If you are interested in becoming a foster parent, please call the ACS family advocacy program manager 876-5397 for more information. Being a foster parent to a child who needs love and caring is a gift that gives all year through.

# Stay at the plush YMCA while visiting El Paso

**BY PAM ROGERS**

Fresh from the suggestions garnered from the readership survey, and in an effort to provide the best in customer service to all *Rocket* readers, here is the first (and maybe only) installment by your office-bound travel editor.

Several respondents to our survey thought it would be a good idea to report on good places to stay and eat on TDY trips. With that in mind, today's travel column will feature beautiful El Paso, Texas, one of the most traveled-to places by MICOM soldiers and civilians.

And it gets even better. We're going to let you in on a great secret...the "Y."

Yep, that's right. The best place to stay in El Paso is the Armed Services YMCA.

You don't believe it?

Well, it says so, right in their promotional literature: "When traveling to or through El Paso and Fort Bliss, Texas, one of the best kept secrets for a place to stay is the Armed Services YMCA Residence Inn at Fort Bliss, located near William Beaumont Army Medical Center."

For a mere \$26 (\$29 for civilians) you can get a room with a refrigerator (some have kitchenettes), either a

king- or two queen-sized beds, television, phone and a private bath. There's also a cafeteria that serves breakfast and lunch.

The inn caters primarily to young enlisted soldiers and their families, but other active and retired military members, their families, and DoD civilians are welcome.

There are several points of interest nearby, including Juarez, Mexico and specialty shops at Old Mesilla, N.M.

If you would like reservations or more information on the Armed Services YMCA of El Paso, call (915) 562-8461, extension 0.

# Soldiers of 832nd Ordnance Battalion go home for holidays during exodus

Many soldiers of 832nd Ordnance Battalion made final preparations last week for leaving Redstone to enjoy the Christmas season at home with their families.

"We're the Exodus holding company for everybody staying back as well as we're the departure point for everybody leaving," said Capt. Steve Behel, commander of C Company, 832nd. This year was his company's turn to coordinate the Christmas exodus, the two-week period when the missile school takes a break and the students go home.

Some 523 initial entry training (IET) soldiers are taking leave during the exodus period of Dec. 18 through Jan. 2, Behel said Friday. "Depending on what day it is, the strength staying will range anywhere from 115 to a low of 50," he said.

"They're leaving by three routes: by POV (privately owned vehicle), or by the Greyhound Buslines, or we're busing them from here to the airport. And this was all coordinated through Sato (Travel) and Greyhound. As a matter of fact, Sato was able to coordinate special rates for the initial entry training soldiers," Behel said.

The 832nd Ordnance Battalion has about 2,250 members including international students, Marines,

permanent party and cadre, officer students, and advanced individual training students. The battalion has an additional 250 members at outlying sites such as Kirtland Air Force Base, Albuquerque, N.M.



**DEPARTURE INSPECTION** — From left Pvt. Guillermo Rodriguez and Pvt. Timothy Puckett have their wall lockers inspected by Drill Sgt. Alex Lee at C Company prior to their departure for Christmas exodus. Exodus is the annual vacation time when initial entry training soldiers can go home for the holidays.

# New theater missile defense target demonstrated

**BY GERDA SHERRILL**

On Friday, the Space and Strategic Defense Command conducted a successful demonstration flight of a new target for testing the effectiveness of experimental theater missile defense interceptors.

The new Maneuvering Target Test Vehicle (MTTV) was launched at White Sands Missile Range, N.M., and is designed to simulate the maneuvers that short- and medium-range ballistic missiles are expected to be capable of in the future. It was launched by the two-stage Storm booster system to an altitude of about 104 miles and simulated a realistic maneuvering reentry vehicle. It was tracked by multiple range and project sensors.

The MTTV also carried simulated submunitions similar to those an enemy's advanced tactical missile might carry in the future.

The Storm booster consists of two solid propellant

rocket motors, a first stage Sergeant and a second stage M57A-1 (Minuteman I, third stage). It was developed for SSDC by Orbital Sciences, Launch Systems Group, Chandler, Ariz. Aerotherm Corporation, Mountain View, Calif., provided the new target, a modified Pershing II reentry vehicle.

This was the first Storm test using a maneuvering target. It also was the fifth consecutive successful flight of the Storm target system in support of the Theater Missile Defense program. A ballistic reentry vehicle target will be used in an intercept test of the Extended Range Interceptor early next year.

The Storm target system program is managed by SSDC's Targets, Test and Evaluation Directorate which executes a consolidated targets program for the entire Ballistic Missile Defense Organization, including range coordination and launch support services.

## Retiree auxiliary serves community

The Regularettes, an auxiliary of the Association of Military Retirees, met Saturday at O'Charley's Restaurant for lunch to complete last minute plans prior to going to the Westside Nursing Home to sponsor a Christmas party for about 100 patients.

Armed with gifts, refreshments and entertainment, the Regularettes arrived and a fun-filled afternoon was under way. The patients opened their gifts and enjoyed the visit of the club members.

Thanksgiving baskets were delivered to needy families by Jessie Singleterry and Annie Wilson. The club also awarded two scholarships in the Huntsville community during 1993.

Marquiete Lyles, Ethel Henderson and Pearl Hunter, recently retired members, channel numerous hours toward the improvement of livelihood for the Huntsville community. Cora Mayfield, ROC/COMM Project Office, and Olene McGowen of Civilian Personnel Office juggle busy schedules and continue to find time to work actively on the program planning committee.

Sara King and Edna Collins, educators in the Huntsville school system, spend hours culturally developing the arts enhancing the academic and social development of the youth. Wilson, Bonnie Watson, Bernice Hester, Irish Langham and Mattie Underwood, also members, spent their year collecting items for use in the community-sponsored garage sale, visited the nursing home providing services as needed while Mary Moore had the task of keeping the auxiliary's finances in balance.

The Regularettes are planning a spring fund-raiser to sponsor two scholarships to be awarded in May.

## People

The following people have received awards or been promoted within the past month:

<b>Integrated Materiel Management Center:</b>	
Jan Pickard	Exceptional Performance
Jessie Wright	On-the-Spot Cash Award
Randy Davis	On-the-Spot Cash Award
Billy King	Performance Award
Joe Brown	Performance Award
Jean Montgomery	Exceptional Performance
Teresa Harrison	Exceptional Performance
Michael Boecking	Exceptional Performance
Allissa Leach	Exceptional Performance
Frances Bray	Exceptional Performance



# Announcements

## Retiree fitness

Signup is in progress for 50-plus on-the-go line dancing on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 9-10 a.m., start date to be announced. For information call Ted Compoc 842-2574.

Retirees and their spouses are urged to participate in the Retiree Fitness Program at Pagano Gym. The current program of Aerobics to mellow tunes has several openings. Jean Begeman, aerobics instructor, welcomes your participation: Monday, Wednesday and Friday from 10-11 a.m. in Pagano Gym's aerobics room. "Be dressed in workout gear, wear safe and comfortable gym shoes, and inform your physician for proper consent. Your heart is your most critical muscle; give it a workout!" For more information, call Compoc 842-2574.

## Travelogue film

The Huntsville Kiwanis Club invites you to its 30th year of the "Travel and Adventure Series" — motion pictures narrated in person by world travelers. The next film, "Exploring Ancient America," will be presented Jan. 4 at 7:30 p.m. at the Huntsville High School auditorium. Admission is \$4. Discounted season tickets and senior tickets are available. For more information, call 539-2817.

## PX news

The Main Exchange, building 3220, will be open Christmas Eve from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m.; closed Christmas Day; open from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. New Year's Eve; and open from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. New Year's Day.

The Shoppette will be open from 7 a.m. to 6 p.m. Dec. 24.

Class Six Store, building 3230, is open New Year's Eve from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m.

Service Station Pump Island, building 3240, will be open from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Jan. 1. Retail Store will be closed.

Post Theater, building 3712, is closed Dec. 24-25, Dec. 31 and Jan. 1.

Effective Dec. 27, new hours for the Burger King are: Drive Thru — 6 a.m. to 9:30 p.m. Monday through Thursday, 6 a.m. to 10 p.m. Friday, 6 a.m. to 10 p.m. Saturday, and 7 a.m. to 9 p.m. Sunday. Dining Room: 6 a.m. to 9 p.m. Monday through Thursday, 6 a.m. to 9:30 p.m. Friday, 6 a.m. to 9:30 p.m. Saturday, and 7 a.m. to 8:30 p.m. Sunday.

## Post Theater

Thursday — *Snow White*, rated G, 84 minutes. Friday — Closed. Saturday — Closed. Sunday — *Nightmare Before Christmas*, PG, 76 minutes. Tuesday — *Nightmare Before Christmas*. All shows begin at 7 p.m. Admission for Thursday is adults \$1.50, children \$1. Admission for all other shows is \$2.50 for adults, \$1.25 for children.

## First aid kits

The American Red Cross says purchase a Red Cross first aid kit and be prepared for the upcoming holiday. "These kits make excellent gifts for family and friends." The kits may be purchased at the American Red Cross, 1101 Washington St., Huntsville. Cost per kit is \$25.

## Commissary hours

The Redstone Arsenal Commissary management and employees would like to wish everyone a merry Christmas and a happy New Year. The Commissary's hours of operation will be as follows: Dec. 24, open from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Dec. 31, open from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

## Logistics engineers

Tennessee Valley Chapter of the Society of Logistics Engineers (SOLE) will have its January luncheon meeting Jan. 18 at the Holiday Inn, Madison Square Mall. Social is scheduled 11:30 a.m. to noon. Luncheon cost is \$7 per plate. Joe Jackson of Alabama A&M University is to speak on "Logistics Education." For reservations call Jim Hussman 955-6365, Judy Campbell 955-7793 or Nikkey Fletcher 883-2183. Deadline for reservations is Jan. 14.

## OWC merit awards

Applications for Merit Awards offered by Officers Wives Club are now available in the following categories: high school senior, college undergraduate, or military spouse. The applicants must be family members of officers and hold a military ID card, with primary residence in the Huntsville area. Deadline to apply is March 15. Applications can be obtained at the Education Center or by written request to Dori Samanka, 416 Hughes Drive, Redstone Arsenal 35808.

## Bicycle tour

A bicycle tour across Alabama — from Huntsville to Montgomery (50 to 70 miles per day) — is planned for June 19-25. Purpose is "to benefit Multiple Sclerosis and have a great time!" For more information and a registration form, send a self-addressed stamped envelope to: BAMA, 3101 Norman Bridge Road, Montgomery 36105. Brochures are expected to be ready in early spring.

## Hazardous materials courses

Physitron Inc. offers, under the sponsorship of Central Alabama Community College, the 10 core Hazardous Materials Technology courses required in an accredited associates degree program. Two courses per quarter are offered at the Physitron facility, 3304 Westmill Drive, Huntsville. Courses in Basic Industrial Processes and Contingency Planning will be offered for the winter quarter; classes begin Jan. 11. For more information, call Jerry Rankin 534-4844.

## Officers wives

Officers Wives Club is sponsoring a College Mixer "Bowling Party" on Dec. 28. OWC members whose children are college students and high school seniors should call Debby Howell 837-6564 for reservations.

## Smoking cessation classes

Smoking is an expensive habit, costing you time, money and above all, your health. Make a New Year's resolution to quit smoking and join a smoking cessation program at Fox Army Community Hospital. The schedule is as follows: Program one — 9 to 10:30 a.m. Jan. 10; 9 to 10 a.m. Jan. 19, 24, 26 and 31, and Feb. 7; group support sessions will follow Feb. 22 and March 8 and 22 from 11 a.m. to noon. Program two: 9 to 10:30 a.m. Jan. 11; 9 to 10 a.m. Jan. 18, 25 and 27, and Feb. 1 and 8; group support sessions will follow from 10-11 a.m. Feb. 22 and 11-noon March 8 and 22. These classes are free and open to all military beneficiaries and Civil Service workers. As space is limited, call Preventive Medicine Service 876-8831 to register. For more information, call Susan Goodman 842-0147.

## Telephone book recycling

Recycle old telephone books for your school, says Bell South Advertising & Publishing Co. BAPCO is providing awards this year in the Solid Waste Disposal Authority's book recycling program. Prizes will be awarded on a per capita basis, allowing small and large schools the same opportunity to win: first prize, \$800; second prize, \$700; third, \$600; fourth, \$500; and fifth, \$400. For more information, call the Solid Waste Disposal Authority 880-6054.

## Hunt/fish shop

The Hunt and Fish Shop, building 3475, now offers rifles and shotguns on a special order basis. "We ask that payment be rendered when the order is placed and the merchandise be picked up the same day notification of arrival is made. The assortment includes certain models of Remington, Winchester and more. Stop by or call 883-8368 for more information," states a PX release.

## Community activities

**OFFICERS CLUB** — Members are invited to ring in the New Year and dance the night away with "Four on the Floor" at the annual New Year's Eve Ball. Dinner is from 7-9 p.m., dancing from 9 p.m. to 1 a.m., and breakfast is served from 12:30 until 1:30 a.m. Tickets are \$26.95 per person and are available at the Officers Club. Seating is limited, so reserve yours soon. For more information, call 830-CLUB.

**SPORTS HAVEN** — Party the year away on New Year's Eve at Sports Haven. For \$5 per person, you can dance to your favorite songs by the DJ from 9 p.m. to 1 a.m. Active duty and retired military, federal employees, and their family members/guests are invited. Party favors will be given to all revelers. For more information, call 876-6595. Free homemade pizza is available every Wednesday and Friday in December from 5-6 p.m. "Good through December only! We appreciate you!" For information call 876-6595.

**PAGANO GYM** — Holiday hours of operation for the gym are: Dec. 19 and 26 from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Dec. 20-23 and 27-30 from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m.; Dec. 24 and 31 from 8 a.m. to noon; and closed Dec. 25 and Jan. 1. Normal hours will resume Jan. 2. For more information, call 876-6701.

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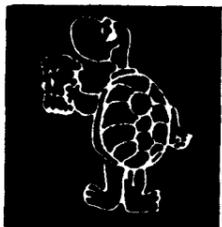
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# Holiday gift giving rules outlined for federal workers

*Editor's note: Buchanan works in the office of command counsel at headquarters Army Materiel Command.*

**BY ELIZABETH BUCHANAN**

The holiday season is here and in full swing. Jingle bells are ringing in the stores. Cookies will start to appear in every office. The pace of business will slow as people take time to wish each other good cheer. And there will also be an increase in gift giving.

Government personnel may accept gifts from their families and friends, but they may not accept gifts given to them because they review certain contracts or are high-ranking officials. They may also not accept gifts from prohibited sources, which include persons or companies doing business with their agency, and persons and companies regulated or seeking official action from their agency.

There are, however, a few exceptions to these rules. For example, government personnel may accept a holiday card, even from a Department of Defense contractor. They may accept modest items of food, such as holiday cookies, even when visiting a contractor site. They may generally accept gifts with a fair market value of \$20 or less, not to exceed \$50 in any year from any one source, even if the source does business with their agency. Finally, government personnel may generally attend receptions sponsored by foreign governments.

Even when a government official can accept a gift under the regulations, there are times when a wise official would decline a gift. For example, procurement officials, during the course of a procurement, are more limited to the gifts which they can accept. And wise procurement officials may choose not to accept anything from competing contractors because public confidence in the integrity of the procurement might be shaken.

Gift questions arise from within offices also. As a general rule, supervisors may not accept gifts from subordinates, and higher paid officials may not accept gifts from those paid less. There is an exception for gifts under \$10 and food shared in the office. This

means a supervisor can participate in an office gift exchange as long as gifts cost less than \$10. The supervisor can also share food brought to the office during the holiday season. Under no circumstances may a supervisor or higher paid official ask for or coerce a gift, even a small gift of food.

Gifts to supervisors with a fair market value of more than \$10 may only be given for certain listed special events such as the birth of a child, marriage or an event

which terminates the supervisory relationship, such as retirement. Even in these special cases, the fair market value of the gift cannot exceed \$300, and any individual contribution to a group gift must be voluntary and not to exceed \$10.

The gift rules were designed to be reasonable, but also to maintain public confidence in the integrity of its government officials.

## Depot

(Cont'd from page 3)

of all maintenance will be done organically and up to 40 percent competed. Which law to follow became an instant issue which left project managers and subordinate commands confused and free to choose whichever law fit their system specific requirement. It did not lend itself to a quick consolidation of workload at LEAD so overall DoD costs could be kept down and maximum efficiencies realized by several weapon systems.

The potential impact in delaying or not doing a missile consolidation was the erosion or loss of the predicted \$31.6 million annual steady state savings based on 1.2 million direct labor hours workload. This study did not include MICOM's freed up personnel or contractual workload or the intangible impressions it would leave with our sister services for future consideration.

MICOM did everything in its power to allow Depot Systems Command (DESCOM) to compete for the remaining 40 percent which could be competed by law. Information briefings alerted the PMs and PEOs to these requirements and conditions. Section M of the Request for Proposal solicitations was appropriately annotated to allow public and private sector bids, thus assuring DESCOM the opportunity to compete. Headquarters AMC personnel were requested to address this concern. If MICOM and the Army were to realize maximum savings, HQ AMC would have to eliminate

or modify its competitive goals and agreements starting in FY '94. On Nov. 5, HQ AMC directed that the Patriot launcher, Patriot radar and Hawk shops be withdrawn from the FY '94 public-private competition program, thus maximizing overall DoD efficiencies and cost saving. It also set the example by leading the depot tactical missile maintenance consolidation and encouraging our sister services to fully participate in the potential cost saving.

Through the efforts of HQ AMC and the leadership of General Ross, Missile Command should now receive a lower unit repair cost because overhead costs will be spread over a larger population.

The secondary advantage to MICOM is that it frees up personnel who would be spending time preparing competitive packages and coordinating and monitoring these programs and contractual documents. Because Ross and his staff believed in depot realignment and in consolidating tactical missile maintenance in-house, several government jobs were saved at MICOM, DESCOM and around the AMC community. The exact number of jobs saved is unknown, but by cutting back to basics and maintaining the proposed transfer of workload, it will have been several.



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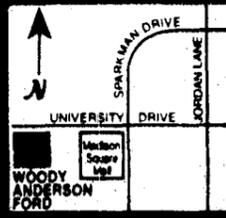
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