



Redstone Rocket

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December 21, 1994

Whistleblower saves over \$14 million for DoD

By Skip Vaughn

A MICOM worker has received a \$5,000 cash award from Department of Defense for blowing the whistle on a potential costly Navy contract.

Jim Beck, a logistics management specialist in the Integrated Materiel Management Center, received his award Dec. 13 under the Inspector General, Department of Defense, Cash Awards Program. He disclosed that the Navy purchased M-65 subsystems from the Hughes Aircraft Company without coordinating the purchase with the National Inventory Control Point of the Missile Command.

Last June 17, Beck called the DoD hotline to complain that the Navy was incurring unnecessary costs by contracting directly with Hughes for M-65 subsystems instead of purchasing them from MICOM. The M-65 subsystem provides the AH-1 Cobra helicopter with fire control for the TOW missile system. Handling Beck's allegation as an anonymous complaint, the DoD inspector general's office determined the complaint appeared to have merit so it opened an official review.

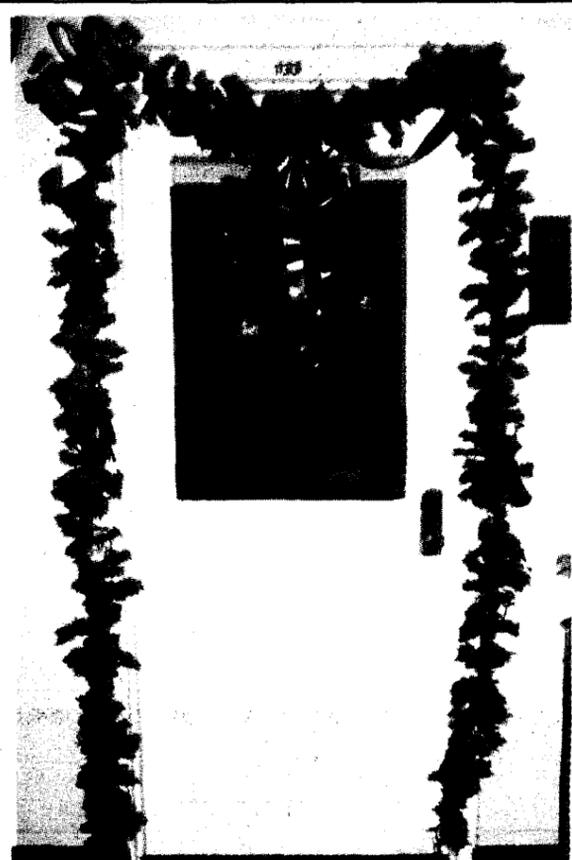
The total net savings to the Defense Department was \$14.3 million. After paying contract termination costs, the Navy will save \$8.8 million and the Army will receive \$5.5 million from the sale of unneeded assets.

"Mr. Mike Hill served as my acting project manager for the review," said Donald Reed, director of acquisition management (audit division) for the DoD inspector general. "During July and August he visited MICOM, NAVAIR, NASO, NAWC, Ind. He was able to bring Army and Navy representatives together and serve as somewhat of a mediator. In the end, MICOM reviewed its supply position on the M-65 and agreed to sell some components at a reduced price. The Navy then agreed to cancel its contract with Hughes and buy from MICOM.

"We validated Mr. Beck's allegation; however, we determined that the potential monetary benefits were actually greater than he had estimated," Reed continued. "The total net savings to the DoD was \$14.3 million. After paying contract termination costs, the Navy will save \$8.8 million and the Army will receive \$5.5 million from the sale of unneeded assets."

Beck shared in a portion of the savings through the IG Cash Award Program. Under this program, cash awards are made to individuals who make disclosures of fraud, waste or mismanagement to the IG that result in significant cost savings to the Department of Defense.

See **WHISTLEBLOWER** page 17



Fancy doors...

Members of the Product Assurance Directorate held an office door decorating contest for the holidays. Doors throughout the building were decorated with everything from the simple to the exotic, but all displayed the holiday spirit. This front-office door of the Product Assurance director, Truman Howard, is decorated with lights, a wreath and garland. Seventeen doors competed and the decorating winners were: first place, Quality Engineering HIMADS branch; second place, William Shade and Jennifer Rusak; and third place, Sherry Williams and Debby Saint.



The Redstone Rocket is taking a two-week holiday break so today's issue is the last one until Jan. 11. The Rocket staff wishes you and yours a very merry Christmas and a happy New Year!

Flying club pilot survives crash landing in river

By Sandra Cartee

A single-engine Cessna 150 was recovered from the Tennessee River after the pilot, 31-year-old James Peters, was forced to make a crash landing the night before. Remarkably, the pilot was only slightly injured and the plane was still in one piece.

Peters, a member of the Redstone Arsenal Flying Activity, departed Redstone Airfield at 4:55 p.m. Dec. 14. After performing touch and go practice techniques at the Decatur and Hartselle airports, Peters headed back to Redstone.

As he approached Huntsville International Airport, he was detoured to avoid

other planes. "I was flying south of the river because of traffic," Peters said. That's when he ran into trouble.

"The plane started running rough," recalled Peters. He contacted Huntsville's control tower to inform them of his condition and asked to be put into contact with Redstone's tower.

While he was talking of the turbulence, the engine went out. "I said: you better get someone out here, because I'm going down," Peters said. The whole time he attempted to restart the engine. "There wasn't enough time," he said.

While staying in control, Peters put the wing flaps down and slowed the speed

down considerably. He also decided that there would be less damage if he landed the plane in water instead of trees. "The best shot was putting it down in the river. I tried to get close to the bank, but I didn't want to land it in shallow water," he said.

During this time, he cracked his door open to prevent it from being jammed shut due to the crash which would prevent him from escaping the plane. "The impact closed the door and the plane flipped over," he said.

Then, he was upside down in the plane struggling to get out. "It was dark and cold and the water was coming into the plane. I made a mad scramble," Peters said.

Luckily, he was able to open the door and free himself.

Peters swam 100 yards to end up at the shore of the river at Flamingo Park in Triana. He was then found by Triana volunteer fireman, Lloyd Hewlett. Hewlett said, "When I got there, everything had already happened. I saw a gentleman laying on the ground and he was shaking real bad." Hewlett gave Peters a blanket and called for assistance.

Peters was taken to Huntsville Hospital but sustained minor injuries. According to Peters, he has a crack in a vertebrae and a broken collarbone, but won't need surgery.

See **PLANE CRASH** page 3

Holiday message from the general

To Team Redstone:

As I look back over the last six months, I am filled with pride at the things we have accomplished. Many of our Missile Command workers are settled into their new work spaces in the Sparkman Center and backfill moves are proceeding smoothly. Our people, both military and civilian, have done excellent work in support of operations in troubled areas around the globe. And we have just learned that we will be competing against Fort Leavenworth for Best Medium Installation during this round of Army Communities of Excellence competition. The DA team will visit here Jan. 17-20.

I couldn't be more proud of our Redstone Family at this, the most family-oriented of holidays. Please be safe if you're traveling to visit loved ones and take care of yourselves during this hectic season. Judy, Carey and I send our best and warmest wishes to you and your families this holiday. Please remember our soldiers who will be spending the holidays far away from their families, and thank you for your hard work this year.

Maj. Gen. James Link
Commander,
MICOM and Redstone Arsenal

Letters to the editor

Reward amounts

Recently the CID offered rewards for crimes committed on Redstone Arsenal: a \$5,000 reward for information on some computer equipment stolen from a Sparkman building and a \$1,000 reward for an assault on a soldier at the Redstone Federal Credit Union.

How is the amount of the reward determined? I personally feel that a robbery/assault is much more serious than stolen property.

Name withheld by request

(Editor's note: CID Special Agent John Brasel explained that the \$5,000 reward represents 10 percent of the roughly \$50,000 in computer equipment stolen at the Sparkman Center. Not only does CID want to recover the equipment, but they also of course want to learn who took it. In the case of the robbery/assault, only \$100 was stolen from the victim so the \$1,000 reward represents 10 times the amount taken. This was based on the seriousness of the incident in which the victim's life was endangered, Brasel said.)

Retirement thanks

I am retiring Jan. 3 and would like to take this opportunity to thank the MICOM and Redstone Arsenal community for helping me do my job when help was needed the most.

Whether we like to admit it or not, we all care about the environmental conditions around us. Environmental conditions at Redstone Arsenal have improved over the past 18 years because of your support in programs and projects that I have been a part of.

So thanks again and keep up the good work.

Bill Schroder
MICOM Environmental Office

Redstone in homestretch for Army excellence award

Redstone's ACOE "Team of Excellence" is working vigorously after learning last week that the Department of Army evaluation team will be arriving Jan. 17.

"We have very little time to prepare for the team's arrival," said Carolyn Collier, ACOE program manager, "but with the team spirit manifested so far, we will be ready."

Redstone will be evaluated for an Army Communities of Excellence award. Possible awards include \$110,000 for runnerup Best Medium Installation in continental U.S., \$500,000 Best Medium Installation CONUS, and \$1 million Best Army Installation.

"The opportunity is in our hands," stated a prepared release from the ACOE Office. "Winning the money will be great, but in making the effort as a team we reach a plateau that



ACOE PLANNERS—Attending a meeting Friday of the ACOE Team of Excellence are: from left, seated, Maj. Alan Shero, Spec. Cody Swinford, Landa Pennington, and Collier; standing, Kay New, Debbie Bear den, Cynthia McCollum and Yvonne Coleman-McGuire.

very few installations ever realize."

A pep rally has been scheduled for Jan. 9 from 9:30-10:30 a.m. at the Sparkman Center auditorium. Among the scheduled speakers are Maj. Gen.

James Link, the post commander; Col. Stephen Moeller, deputy post commander; and Col. Christopher Stratton, director of personnel and training. "There will be other activities to be announced later.

Make your plans to attend now and support your team—Team Redstone," the release stated.

Redstone's theme for its upcoming evaluation is, "Team Redstone: World Class Customer Service."

Don't let someone else's drinking spoil holidays

If you are one of the 76 million people affected by someone else's drinking, the holidays can be a particularly difficult time. Instead of celebrating the joys and miracles of the season, relatives and friends of alcoholics often face the holidays with anxiety, despair and fear.

If you're affected by someone else's drinking, this holiday give yourself a special gift—the gift of Al-Anon. It's free, confidential, and can be used throughout the year, but it's especially helpful during the holiday season when you are feeling most vulnerable.

Al-Anon is a worldwide fellowship of more than 600,000 people whose lives have been affected by someone else's drinking. This non-professional mutual support system offers you the opportunity to share your experiences, strengths and hopes in order to solve common problems with other friends and relatives of alcoholics.

If you are not sure if Al-Anon is the gift for you, ask yourself these questions:

- Do you have a parent, spouse, close friend, or relative whose drinking upsets you?
- Do you tell lies to cover up for someone else's drinking?
- Do you feel that if the drinker loved you, he or she would stop drinking to please you?
- Do you make threats such as, "If you don't stop drinking I'll run away"?
- Are you afraid to upset someone for fear it will set off a drinking bout?
- Do you think your problems would be solved if the drinking stopped?
- Have you refused social invitations out of fear or anxiety? or are you embarrassed to bring your friends home?
- Does it seem as if every holiday or family gathering is spoiled because of drinking?

Al-Anon's program, based on the 12-Step program developed by Alcoholics Anonymous, helps you recognize that while you are powerless over the disease of alcoholism, you can make positive changes in your own life

that will help relieve the constant emotional strains and pressures of living with an alcoholic, and get on with your life. Through Al-Anon and Alateen (a program for young people whose lives have been affected by someone else's drinking) you can learn that it is possible to find contentment, even happiness, whether the alcoholic is drinking or not—what a special gift, indeed!

If you are concerned about someone else's drinking and need help getting through this holiday season, give yourself the gift of Al-Anon. Contact Al-Anon or Alateen through your local telephone directory or write to: Al-Anon Family Group Headquarters Inc., P.O. Box 862 Midtown Station, New York, N.Y., 10018-0862 or call 534-8542. (Press release from Al-Anon Family Group Headquarters.)

NCO Wives volunteer dies

Ora "Billie" Gilliam, a longtime volunteer with the NCO spouses club, died Thursday at her residence in Huntsville. She was 73.

Gilliam's funeral was Sunday at 2 p.m. at Laughlin Chapel with the Rev. Allan Howard officiating. Burial was in Memory Gardens Cemetery.

She was an active volunteer with the Redstone Arsenal NCO Wives Club for 30 years. Gilliam served as president, vice president, bingo chairman, scholarship chairman, ways and means chairman, and special activities chairman. She was well known as being bingo chairman since 1966.

Survivors include her daughters, Elizabeth Diane Campbell of Huntsville and Roma Perry of Decatur; sisters Mable Templeton of Huntsville and Vera Roan of Priceville; two grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

Redstone Rocket

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PLANE CRASH

Continued from page 1

When asked if he feels lucky, Peters said "if I was lucky, I would've made it back to the arsenal."

Peters was pleased with the way he landed the plane. "A good landing is one that you could walk away from," he said. He felt that this landing was one of them and he gave it a "thumbs up."

The reason for the accident hasn't been determined yet, but Peters believed that it might have been ice in the carburetor. He hopes that this incident will not reflect any negativity on RAFA. "They're a good operation.

This was just one of those mishaps," he said.

Peters, who lives in Huntsville, is also a member of the Civil Air Patrol and has flown for recreation for the past 10 years. He works as a design engineer on the Space Station for Boeing and is currently attending the University of Alabama in Huntsville, working on his doctoral degree.

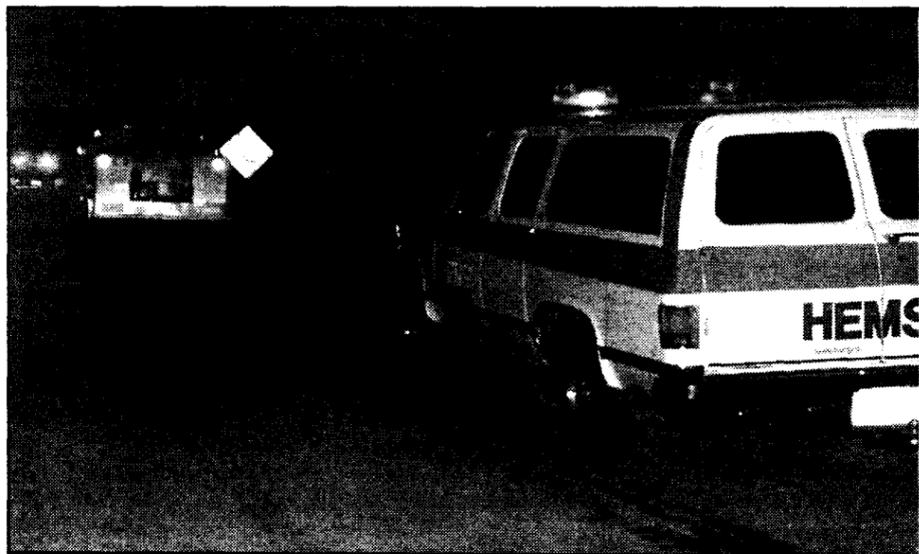
Peters is also a disabled veteran and has a medical discharge from the Navy, due to a knee injury. He was aboard submarines while serving with the Navy.

The accident hasn't hampered Peters feelings for flying, at all. "This won't

keep me from flying again. I like it too much," he said. In light spirits he jokingly said, "I don't know if someone else will fly with me, though."

As far as RAFA is concerned, they are glad that the pilot wasn't injured badly. "It's not like a dose of vitamins. It will have its repercussions, but the good news is that he (Peters) wasn't hurt," said Bill Porter, manager of the club.

The next day, the task of getting the plane out of the river occurred. It was inverted in 8 feet of water, 300 feet off shore. "It was too shallow for a barge to get to," Porter said. It would have also been diffi-



PLANE GOES DOWN— Wednesday, Dec. 14, Peters was forced to make an emergency landing in the Tennessee River after the engine on the plane he was flying cut out.

cult to get a crane into the muddy area where the plane

was located.

"Flotation devices were the best way to get it out," Porter said. The diving team attached these flotation devices to the plane and brought it close to the surface. After hours of guiding the plane to the boat ramp located nearby, the plane was removed.

The wings were detached and the plane was taken back to Redstone's airfield for the insurance company to examine it. "Once the plane went into the river, it belonged to the insurance company," said Porter.

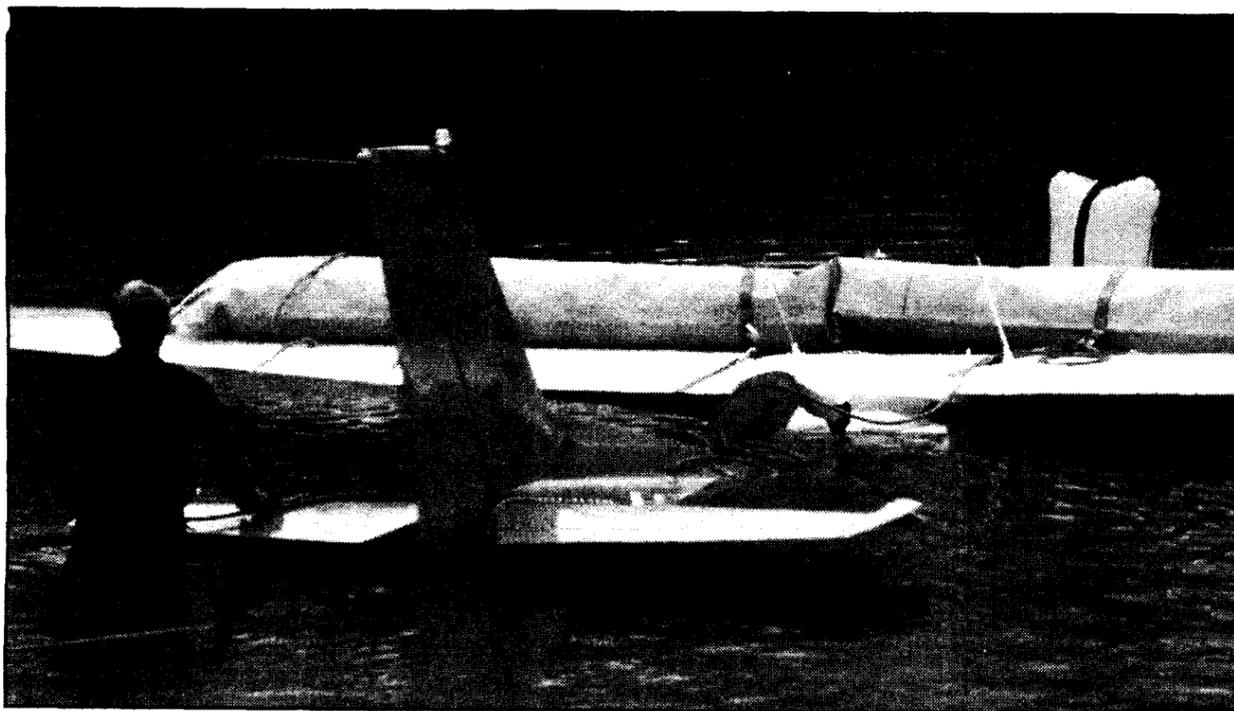
Porter said that all their planes are maintained and are inspected at every 100 hours of flying time. He also said that each plane is given a complete maintenance checkout every 12 months. "We also ground any plane if we see any

squawks," he said.

This particular two-seater plane had only accumulated 50 hours since its last hundred hour inspection. Peters himself noted that the RAFA "takes precautions to make sure you're safe."

When the Cessna was pulled out of the water, the pilot controls were where they were supposed be. It appeared that the pilot was trying to restart the engines just as he had said.

The cause for the accident appears to be engine failure but that won't be completely evident without a thorough investigation. The level head and good fortune of this pilot is clearly evident. To not only survive a crash, but to walk away almost uninjured has made both RAFA and Peters thankful.



PLANE IS RECOVERED— Thursday, Dec. 15, the small aircraft was lifted up by flotation devices and removed from the water. The plane will be inspected and the cause of the crash will be investigated.



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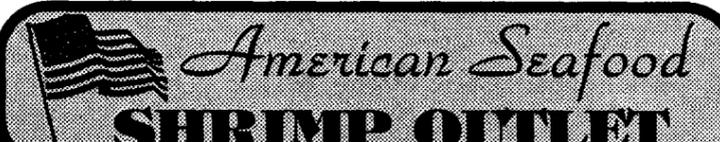
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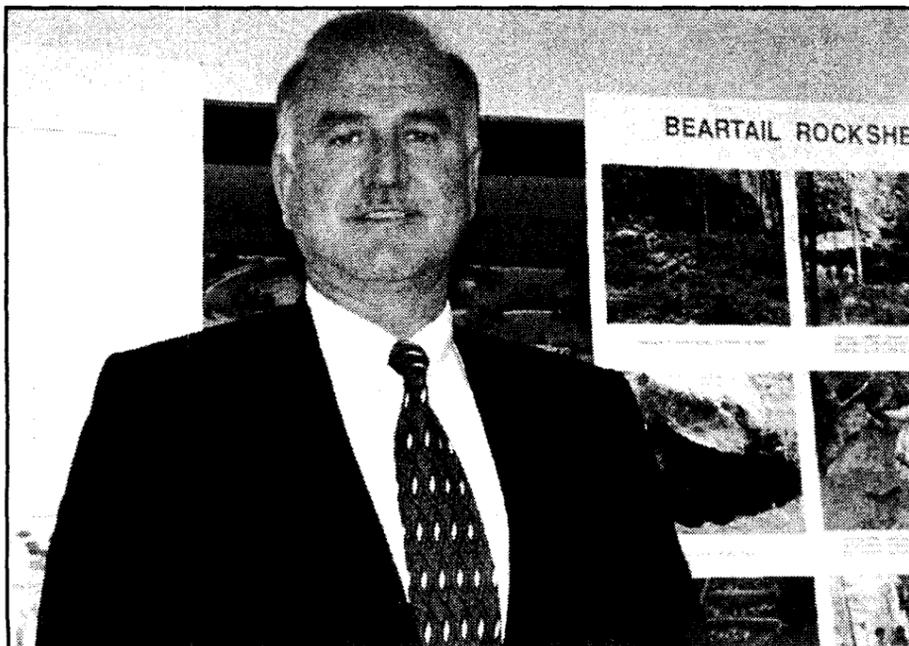
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Organization formed to address environmental mission



NEW DIRECTORATE—The installation restoration and natural resources division, the compliance and pollution prevention division, and the master planning divisions of the Directorate of

Public Works have branched off and now form their own directorate. The new directorate is called Environmental Management and Planning, and Sam Fields is its director.

By Sandra Cartee

Three divisions that were a part of the Directorate of Public Works (DPW) have branched off and now form their own directorate. They are under the new Directorate of Environmental Management and Planning (EMP). With a new director in charge and much reorganization, the directorate has big plans for environmental stewardship.

"Nov. 1 the command moved the environmental function from DPW and established a separate directorate under RASA (the Redstone Arsenal Support Activity)," said Sam Fields, the new director for EMP. The command felt that the environmental goals for the arsenal would be better achieved with a whole new directorate.

The goal of the new directorate is to help Redstone accomplish its mission with min-

imal impact on the environment at the least cost. "The mission deserves its own directorate," Fields said. Maj. Gen. James Link was instrumental in the new directorate's formation and said, "when I leave RSA I want it to be an environmentally better place."

The directorate is reorganizing and making many changes to try and improve environmental stewardship.

One of the divisions that is in this directorate is the installation restoration and natural resources division. Herbert Plyer heads up this division which deals a great deal with contaminated areas on base. "There are 296 potential solid waste management sites. Of these 82 belong to the Marshall Space Flight Center, and of the 214 that are remaining, some are active sites," Fields said.

"Because of our past disposal practices on Redstone Arsenal, we have several areas that are now contaminated," he explained. This office has its hands full with testing sites and cleanup. The new plan will follow all hazardous waste from the cradle to the grave, making sure everything is disposed of properly.

The next division is the compliance and pollution prevention division. Dan Seaver is the chief of this group that follows things like pollution on the arsenal. They just completed an environmental assessment that took two years and cost a half-million dollars.

The third division is the master planning and major construction division which is headed up by Joe Davis. Fields plans to cross-train everyone in all the different divisions and this particular division will

benefit from that.

When major construction is planned, the master planning division will be familiar with all the hazardous waste sites and not have to keep searching for sites. "When something is sited on Redstone Arsenal, it will be sited with an environmental clearance attached to it," Davis said. This will save time and money in the long run.

Two projects that EMP controls are Fields' favorites. One is the Beartail Rockshelter where artifacts were found to be 10,000 years old. The other project is a watchable wildlife project which provides the Huntsville City Schools with an outdoor environmental awareness outdoor classroom. "It's great, we've got a lot of good stuff going on," Fields said.

Fields is excited about the new directorate and the support they have received. "As a newly appointed director, I am looking to all the challenges that are ahead. I enjoy working hard and I expect my employees to do the same," he said.

Fields has confidence in the 33 employees that work in this directorate. "I have great expectations that we will all rise to the occasion to make this a good directorate and meet mission requirements," he said.

"We're very fortunate to have the visibility and the support from the commanding general and Col. Moeller. They're giving us their maximum support," Fields said.

This directorate is off to a running start with lots of new ideas and innovation. With the new director in charge, and with all the command support, the EMP office plans to accomplish their mission and achieve environmental stewardship.

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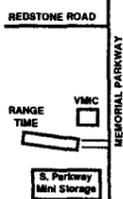
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TACOM announces layoffs

WARREN, Mich.— The Army Tank-automotive and Armaments Command (TACOM) announced a reduction in force of 524 civilian workers Dec. 8.

The command's announcement said the reduction, at its

Warren site, is "because of decreases in funding and funded workload." TACOM estimated about 336 government civilian workers would be laid off on April 9, 1995.

The command said it was trying to reduce the impact

of the RIF through a program to find jobs for its people in other agencies, losses through attrition, reassignments within the command, hiring controls and use of early retirement incentives.



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Logistics center worker makes top 10 AMC-wide



RECOGNITION— Embrey receives his award from Turmenne during the Logistics Support Activity Christmas party on Dec. 9. Embrey was selected as one of the top 10 employees of the Army Materiel Command.

By Sandra Cartee

The acting chief of the customer support center for the Logistics Support Activity has received a prestigious award. Geoffrey Embrey was chosen as one of the Army Materiel Command's top 10 employees of the year.

The difference between Embrey's award and others is that he wasn't nominated by supervisors. He was nominated by other employees. "I was astounded that my employees would take the time to do that," he said. His former secretary, a branch chief and another employee nominated him for this award.

"I didn't know that I had a chance," Embrey said. With LOGSA employing 800 people, it only makes up 1

percent of the AMC. Embrey was the only LOGSA employee at Redstone to receive this award.

Embrey feels that LOGSA has come a long way in the past year and feels that this award reflects on that. "This is representation of what all LOGSA is about. This is giving LOGSA more visibility," he said.

Billie Turmenne, executive director for LOGSA, is also proud of Embrey's accomplishment. "She was pleased, not only with the nomination but the fact that I was selected," said Embrey. Turmenne acknowledged Embrey's award during LOGSA's recent Christmas party.

Embrey was presented the plaque from Maj. Gen.

Frank Henderson, deputy chief of staff for logistics at headquarters AMC, Wednesday, Dec. 7. "The system works," said Embrey. He thinks that it's amazing that he could be nominated by employees and also win.

"It feels great to work your butt off for all these years and be recognized for it," he said. Embrey has worked for AMC for 12 years and for LOGSA for the last year.

"This is the most rewarding thing that I've ever received," Embrey said. The reason this award means so much to him is because the nomination came from his employees. "I hope that this means they like working for me," he said.



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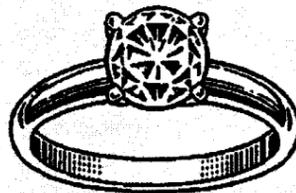
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UAH, Fox Hospital both benefit from joint effort

School providing additional physicians to Army hospital

By Kathy Harkleroad

Fox Army Community Hospital will receive a helping hand in the form of added physicians and residents from the University of Alabama in Huntsville School of Primary Medicine.

With the addition of the new physicians, more services will be added in the outpatient clinic which serves retirees and their dependents. "We currently have one new physician, Dr. Susan Zlotnick-Hale, and the other physician is scheduled to come on board the middle of January. We also have a nurse practitioner who will begin work this week," said Capt. Christopher Pate, chief of the Coordinated Care Department.

Zlotnick-Hale will not only provide routine medical care to the retirees and their dependents, but will also provide prenatal care to active duty and their dependents who have new pregnancies. "We are very excited and I am looking

forward to implementing the care," Zlotnick-Hale said. The prenatal care program began Dec. 2 and hospital officials are estimating approximately 250 pregnancy cases will be seen each year.

"Women who are currently pregnant should stay with their current health providers. This program is only for newly diagnosed cases," Zlotnick-Hale said. Women being treated at FACH for a pregnancy will receive their prenatal care in the outpatient clinic and will deliver their babies at Huntsville Hospital. "Once they reach the ninth month they will be turned over to the doctors at Huntsville Hospital. They will deliver their babies under the care of the UAH Family Medicine and OB/GYN departments," Zlotnick-Hale said.

"We are very excited about re-implementing the program. It has been a number of years since we had an OB clinic here. This program will save the Army a considerable amount of money and will provide

care for OB patients in a more convenient location," Pate said.

According to Pate, in the past once a patient was diagnosed as being pregnant she was given a statement of non-availability. "The patient would then be given a list of doctors who accepted the amount Champus would pay for the care. Those doctors are getting harder and harder to find. The program here at FACH would eliminate the need for those practices and will provide the expectant mother with prenatal care at no charge and in a hospital they are familiar with," Pate said.

Other services that will be provided in the outpatient clinic include everything from a sore throat to acute care, according to Zlotnick-Hale. "We have treated patients with complaints of sore throats, back pain, heart problems... you name it we have probably seen it. The prenatal care is only a small portion of the services we are offering in the outpatient clinic," Zlotnick-Hale said.

Warren Everett, M.D. associate professor and chief, Family Medicine Programs and Medical Care, UAH, is also looking forward to the new joint effort implemented at FACH. "I am retired military and have a personal insight to the needs of the retirees. This program will not only benefit them, but it will be a very useful learning tool for our residents that will rotate through the clinic," Everett said.

"This is our attempt to shore up the staff at FACH. With the downsizing and consolidations going on, doctors are harder to find. Another good point about the program is our doctors do not have to worry about being deployed anywhere and will be here on a regular basis. Military doctors always have to face the possibility of deploying to other locations at a given moment which causes a shortage when they leave. This program will help eliminate the shortage problem all around," Everett said.

UAH residents are a



NEW PHYSICIAN AT FOX— Dr. Susan Zlotnick-Hale joined the staff at Fox Army Community Hospital recently and will operate out of the Outpatient Clinic. She will also be administering prenatal care to active duty and their dependents as part of a joint venture with the University of Alabama in Huntsville.

familiar sight to patients at FACH and have been rotating through several departments for a number of years. "All of the residents come back to the school after serving their residency here with a better understanding of the military way of life. They comment on how much they have learned from their patients about different parts of the country and the world, as well an insight as to how medicine is practiced else-

where," Everett said. Zlotnick-Hale is a 1992 graduate of UAH and previously worked as the medical director at the Madison County Health Department, Family Planning and Maternity Services. She also spends one day a week at the Davis Clinic in Huntsville and instructs residents and medical students. She is married to former FACH Chief of Staff, Dr. Carter Hale, and has two sons, David, 6 and Nicholas, 2.

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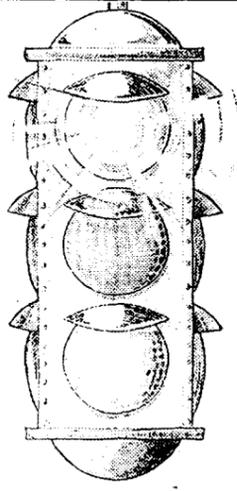
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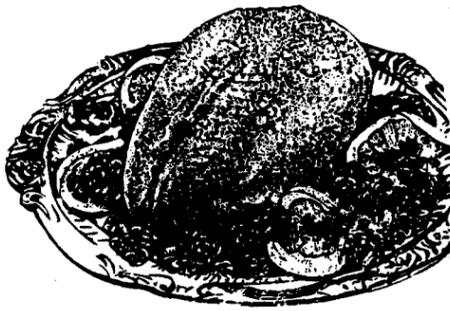
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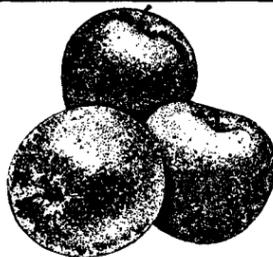
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MLRS launcher fleet receiving enhanced software

By Glen Long

The MLRS Project Office, in conjunction with the Army TACMS/BAT Project Office, has begun the delivery of a new version of software to the worldwide fleet of MLRS launchers.

The new software, Version 6.06, has 55 enhancements and the most significant changes are the elimination of a safety-of-use message for the launcher and an extended aimpoint capability for the Army TACMS missile. The fielding also includes delivery of a new program load unit and four megabyte cassette.

"Software fielding commenced in late October and will continue through May. We have over 600 launchers in the field considering the Active Army, National Guard and War Reserve stocks," said Lt. Col. Glen Long of the MLRS Project Office Technical Management Division.

"We are using a new approach with this fielding. In the past, fielding was conducted using engineers exclusively from Redstone Arsenal. Soldiers always

ask procedural questions. We don't mind answering those questions," said Long, "but feedback doesn't get back to the Army schools. Consequently, we expanded our fielding team to include members from the TRADOC schools that represent our high density military occupation specialties (MOS) in MLRS units. Our TRADOC representatives conduct classes on the new software and perform an assistance visit with soldiers on their equipment."

"I think this is a great opportunity to see how well our soldiers are doing in the field," said Allen Crisp of the MLRS Repairman's Course which is taught at Redstone Arsenal.

"The team consists of 10 members— five from Redstone Arsenal and five from TRADOC," said Jimmy Cox of the MLRS Project Office System Engineering Branch. The Redstone Arsenal contingent includes a team chief, partnership member and representatives from the MLRS Project Office, Army TACMS/BAT Project Office, and MICOM Software Engineering Directorate.

"Partnership was originally the idea of Col William Taylor, project manager for MLRS," Cox said. "Our partnership representatives are enthusiastic government employees that do not have the opportunity, because of their job positions, to visit soldiers in the field and see the fruits of their labor at Redstone Arsenal."

"I was really a part of the fielding," said Barbara Hebert of the MLRS Program Management Division. "I attended MLRS classes prior to fielding and was responsible for the software loading in one platoon for each battery."

The TRADOC contingent is composed of soldiers or civilians from the Field Artillery School, Ordnance Missile and Munitions Center and School, Signal School, and the Armor School. The TRADOC representatives are instructors for the following MOS's: 13M-MLRS Crewman, 13P-MLRS Fire Direction Specialist, 27M-MLRS Repairman, 31U-Communications Specialist and 63T-Track Mechanic.

"An entire day is

required to field one MLRS Battery with new software," said Gayle Falling of the Army TACMS/BAT Project Office. "The morning is reserved for classes on the new software, updates on maintenance and a briefing on future launcher improvements. We are also fielding a new Special Application

for MLRS Fire Direction System. In the afternoon, software is loaded on the launchers and the crews perform two practical exercises that reinforce the morning classes. Sometime during the week an Officer/NCO Professional Development Class is offered on the future of MLRS and

Army TACMS/BAT. It is a big effort. We give a lot of information and take back many ideas to Redstone."

(Editor's note: Lt. Col. Long is deputy chief of the MFOM (M270 Family of Munitions) and Launcher Division in the MLRS Project Office.)



Promotion ceremony...

Maj. Jacob "Jake" Hansen, center, of the Missile and Space Intelligence Center, is congratulated by Joan Dempsey, director of the Defense Intelligence

Agency's (DIA) National Military Intelligence Production Center, on his recent promotion. Looking on is Lt. Gen. James Clapper, director of DIA.

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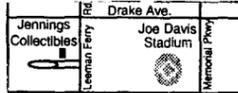
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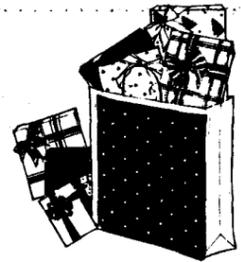
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Officers wives share holiday cheer with senior citizens



A VISIT FROM SANTA—All of the elderly received gifts from the Officers Wives Club; and Santa Claus even stopped in for the occasion. Here, Clara Hill (seated) receives a box of cookies from Diana Hooper of the OWC.

By Sandra Cartee

The Officers Wives Club held its annual Senior Citizens Brunch on Tuesday, Dec. 13, at the Officers Club. Members of the Drake Senior Center in Huntsville were treated to a luncheon filled with great food, holiday cheer, presents, and OWC hospitality.

One hundred seniors were bused in from the new Huntsville Senior Center located on Drake Avenue in

Huntsville. This annual event from the OWC brought smiles to many elderly people's faces as holiday cheer was spread around.

It took the 247-member club about three months to prepare for the festivities. "It's one of our events to give back to the community," said Carla Newberry, co-publicity person for the club.

According to member Jackie McPheeters, the club has been doing this function

and giving back to the community for some time now. She was one of the originators of the brunch back in 1977. She recalled why this was started. "The reason for this is because military people don't have their parents with them during this time of the year, and most of these seniors don't have their children around either, to celebrate," McPheeters said.

The seniors were treated to a brunch and entertained by several different groups. The preschool kids from the Child Development Center sang Christmas carols and clowns from the Cahaba Buffoons made balloons for the seniors. Janie Wilson from the Redstone Arsenal Support Activity dressed as Rudolph the red nose reindeer, and Nick Kallo, Officers Club manager, dressed as Santa Claus.

Willie Lacy, a senior, enjoyed how the OWC decorated the O' Club for the festivities. "Everything looks so pretty with all the decorations. I love Christmas," she said. She, her husband of 50 years, and her sister-in-law, all came to the gala. She was real happy that the buses came to pick them up, because none



SPREADING SEASONAL CHEER— The children from the Child Development Center sing Christmas carols to the seniors at the annual Senior Citizens' Brunch sponsored by the Officers Wives Club.

of them are able to drive and don't get out much anymore.

Another senior who enjoyed himself a lot was Bill Bolden. He planned to write home to his friends in Michigan to tell them of this party that he attended. "These folks sure look after senior citizens," he said. He was touched by the OWC's generosity and also said,

"I'll never forget this."

OWC president Debbie Behel thanked everyone who helped out with the event. Some of the guests that attended were soldiers who socialized with the seniors and provided the busing for them. Ladies from the Test, Measurement, and Diagnostic Equipment, and the Readiness groups helped with the table decora-

tions. Marge Feist and Lynne Higgins provided musical accompaniment for the caroling.

After all the seniors received their gifts, they sang Christmas carols with the OWC. "Joy to the World" and "We Wish You a Merry Christmas" seemed to light up the seniors' faces and show that they really enjoyed the festivities.



GIVING BACK TO THE COMMUNITY— The Officers Wives Club also had guests to entertain the seniors. The people dressed as clowns were from the Cahaba Buffoons, and Rudolph the red nose reindeer was from the Redstone Arsenal Support Activity.

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Fund-raising raffle a success at AMCMEA

A raffle sponsored by AMC Management Engineering Activity has helped brighten the holidays for a military family.

The \$353 in proceeds was given to the family Friday and "they were very appreciative," said Stephana Williams, one of the raffle organizers. "The personnel from AMCMEA want to thank all who donated and assisted with this project.

"Special thanks go to Skip Vaughn and Kathy Harkleroad of the Redstone Rocket staff; Bob Brown, the Sparkman Cafeteria manager; the Army Community Service; and Ken Kline, Post Exchange manager. You have helped to make this Christmas better for a military family. Merry Christmas and many blessings through the New Year," she said.

Raffle winners included the following:

- **First place**, and the Angel Centerpiece, went to Sam Wright, a contractor for Systems Engineering Solutions Inc. He works in the Command Analysis Directorate.
- **Second place**, and one of the two Christmas basket arrangements, went to Brenda Brown, a member of St. Joseph's Catholic Church.
- **Third place**, and the other basket arrangement, went to Shari Harrison, chief of the Business Management Office at AMCMEA.



Gift-wrapping booth...

Members of the Active and Retired NCO Spouses Club are conducting their annual gift-wrapping booth at the Post Exchange. This is a major fund-raiser of the club; and all proceeds from the event are donated to several charities. The booth is open 9

a.m. to 9 p.m. Monday through Saturday, and 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Sunday. It opened Dec. 11 and will continue through Christmas Eve at 6 p.m. Pictured is Gerry King as she finishes wrapping a gift for Emerson Porman.

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Redstone families keep Christmas close at heart

By Kathy Harkleroad

Redstone's military families have their own special ways of celebrating the traditional Christmas holiday.

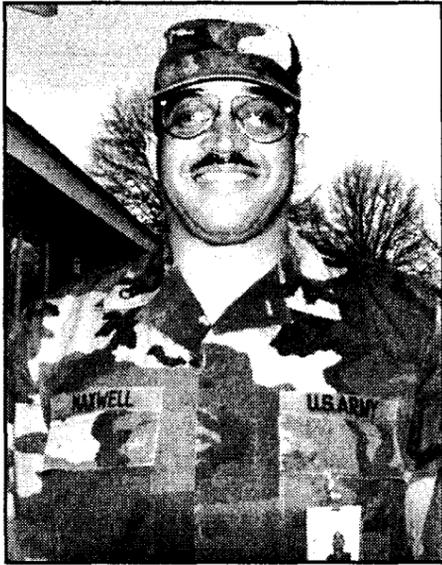
Christmas is a time for family and children but sometimes the adults get caught up in the spirit and enjoy the anticipation and excitement as much as the youngsters do. "The kids open their presents Christmas morning and my wife, Pat, and I spend at least a couple of hours playing with the toys and the kids," said SSgt. Rex Maxwell. "After playtime is over we go to church and head back home to cook dinner, and I mean cook. We don't mess around when it comes to holidays."

Maxwell and his family usually invite someone from the barracks to spend the day with them and enjoy the family. "We also usually have family members come down, but this year everyone is staying home. Tradition has it that we usually call everyone between 2 and 3 p.m. and then sit down to dinner. This year it will be the same," Maxwell said.

The Merz family is deep in traditions and this Christmas will be a bit more special than previous years. "Bill was in Korea last year for Christmas and this year the girls and I are really looking forward to spending the day with him," Linda Merz said. She said the Merz family has several traditions that have been carried down through the years. "Everyone opens one present on Christmas Eve and that present is a pair of Christmas pajamas. Bill and I used to do that when we were kids and have passed the tradition on to our family. We also have an advent calendar that is home to a little mouse and the girls move him from day to day," Linda said. She also begins decorating the house and putting up the Christmas tree on her birthday, Dec. 8. "I have always tried to get the decorating done on my birthday and have done it for years."

The Merz family is traveling to Illinois for Christmas this year where they will celebrate Christmas with both of their parents. "This will be the first Christmas in quite a few years Bill will be with the whole family for the holiday," Linda said.

Holidays in the military can be very,



SSgt. REX MAXWELL

diverse and while this will be a happy and special Christmas for the Merz family, down the street, the Hall family's Christmas will be a little sadder.

"Wayne is leaving the day after Christmas for Germany where he will be stationed for two years. We chose to stay behind because the kids are in high school and getting ready to graduate," Shari Hall said.

"The day will be a little sadder, but the traditions will be carried on nonetheless. The kids always insist on having stockings and there has to be an apple and orange tucked inside. Even though they are teenagers, they seem to like the stockings the best," Shari said.

"I always make chippy dippy squares for Christmas and they are another item that is on the must have list," she added.

Sgt. Luis and Theresa Billingslea are also spending the Christmas holiday on Redstone Arsenal and have big plans for the holiday and are just beginning their traditions. "Our daughter Francine is really getting into Christmas this year so we are taking advantage of her age," Theresa said. "I love parades and this year we were in Puerto Rico during Thanksgiving visiting relatives. Even though it was 85 degrees outside, Francine and I watched the Macy's parade on television. That is something I do every year and Francine is starting to love it as well."



Ilona Coslet

Luis and Theresa also have another tradition that started several years ago and has seemed to have stuck. "Each of us pick one item we really want and we make sure the other person knows what it is. That way we are guaranteed to really get something we need or want. Luis and I open all of our presents to each other Christmas Eve after Francine has gone to bed, and save the one present we know what it is for Christmas morning," Theresa said.

Luis and Theresa have invited single soldiers who are staying behind for the holidays for dinner. "We'll make a ham and watch a few movies the rest of the day. We've done this before and have always had a lot of fun," Theresa said.

SSgt. Curtis and Ilona Coslett are also staying at Redstone for the holidays and since Ilona is German there will be traditions from Germany in their home as well. "In Germany Christmas is pretty low-key compared to America. Germans are very conservative about the electricity so there aren't a lot of lights on the outside," Ilona said.

"My dad used to put the tree up on Christmas Eve and would take it down the day after Christmas. Here I put the tree up three weeks ahead and enjoy it," she said. "We also have stockings for the kids and even though they are older they really like them."

Ilona said she has pretty much adapted



Linda Merz



Theresa Billingslea

to the American way of celebrating Christmas but will continue the tradition of making a Black Forest cake for Christmas dessert. "I try to make something special for Christmas dessert and we have always had a Black Forest cake," Ilona said.

No matter where you look on the Arsenal, families will either be together in person or by phone on Christmas. Miles may separate them, but at Christmas time family members and traditions are close at heart.

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Logistics colonel proud of teamwork in Kuwait mission

By Skip Vaughn

A few cardboard boxes awaited unpacking, but the colonel was generally back to his routine at LOGSA last week after spending nearly two months in the Kuwaiti desert.

Col. Norman Myers, chief of the Readiness and Sustainment Center at the Logistics Support Activity, returned home Dec. 3 after serving as commander of the Logistics Support Element in Kuwait. He had departed Redstone Oct. 8 to support a buildup of U.S. forces in Southwest Asia in the wake of new threats against Kuwait by Iraq.

The contingency mission became an exercise in mid-October after Iraq backed

down. This didn't alleviate the pressure on Myers and the logistics support element, however. They still had to repair and upload onto a ship all the combat equipment that had been dispatched in support of the 24th Infantry Division. And they had to work quickly because their departure date was moved up to Dec. 1 instead of Dec. 15. "So, we worked some long hours—probably 18 to 20 hours a day," Myers said. The equipment was exercised in the desert—the guns fired, etc.—cleaned and repaired, and loaded onto one of the prepositioned ships, the Cape Horn.

"The bottom line is that equipment is now loaded on



Myers

that ship in a new configuration, it's combat loaded," he said. This was a change from the boxed and crated hardware that had arrived fresh off the ships in Saudi Arabia at the start of the mission. Myers proudly points out that "every piece of equipment was fully mis-

sion capable" when loaded back onto the Cape Horn. "All equipment that was put back on the ship was 100 percent fully mission capable despite the early withdrawal," he said. "All that stuff was 100 percent; it can go to war."

This mission was a success because of the soldiers, the civilian and contractor support, and the support from stateside, Myers said. His support team in Kuwait included at least two others from Redstone: Marty Martin, of the Integrated Materiel Management Center, who served as his deputy; and Maj. Dave Veech of the Acquisition Center.

"It was really a nice mission for me because this was one of the few times in my Army career that I was involved from ground zero all the way through," Myers said. He acknowledged, however, that the job was very demanding and sometimes frustrating.

Myers had been notified of his assignment to Kuwait while at home on a Saturday preparing to go to a soccer game. "I was proud to be selected. It's a test of being a soldier; and in my situation, it's a test of being a logistician. But I was kind of

torn because I'm a family man, and I truly didn't know how long I'd be gone," he said.

Two months later he's back home in Madison and preparing to celebrate Christmas with his wife, Maryellen, and their three teen-agers: daughter Christine, 19, who attends the University of Alabama in Huntsville; son, Jay, 16, of Bob Jones High School; and youngest daughter, Jennifer, 13, of Liberty Middle School.

"First and foremost (from the Kuwait mission), I gained a greater appreciation for my family and how the small things don't really matter, the things you do take for granted that you shouldn't," Myers said. "As a soldier, what I gained from it: There's no question in my mind of the United States' resolve in regards to freedom and support for its allies. And as an American, I have a great deal of pride that I live in the greatest country in the world."

Myers, 47, is a Philadelphia native who originally wanted to become a music teacher. In 1970 he received a bachelor's degree in music education at Temple University and was a distinguished military graduate from ROTC. At first he didn't plan to stay in the service but "my wife and I just fell in love with the Army," he said. He began his career as a lieutenant in the infantry at Fort Sill, Okla., from 1970-72. He served in Thailand from 1972-73 during the draw-down of U.S. forces in Southeast Asia. Myers then

spent 1973-77 with the Computer Systems Command at Fort Belvoir, Va. He served in Germany 1977-81. His next assignment was at the Pentagon with the deputy chief of staff for research, development and acquisition from 1981-85. Myers was then nominated and selected to become an exchange officer with the British Army and he served in Oxford, England, from 1985-87. This was followed by an assignment at Fort Lee, Va., from 1987-90 where he spent the first year working for the Fort Lee commanding general on the quartermaster functional area assessment briefing to the vice chief of staff of the Army, and then served as commander of the 266th Quartermaster Battalion from 1988-90. Next came a tour in Seoul, Korea, from 1990-92. In 1993 Myers served as commander of the Catalogue Data Activity in Pennsylvania. That activity moved to Redstone as part of LOGSA in the summer of '93 and Myers has been here ever since.

Upon his return—besides catching up on his sleep at home—Myers has tried to thank the many Redstone people who provided support during his Kuwait assignment. "No man's an island. Any successes that U.S. forces enjoy overseas are largely due to the support base and the family support. It's a team effort," he said.

"I'm proud to have done it," he added, "and I'm glad we didn't have to fire a round."

Cost analysis community members share ideas



SSDC MEETING— Discussing mutual concerns at the SSDC-hosted meeting are, from left, Carolyn Thompson, SSDC chief of Cost Analysis; Dominiak of AMC; Young of Department of Army; and Dr. Polly Cason, MICOM director of Command Analysis.

The Space and Strategic Defense Command last month hosted a Redstone community meeting to give cost analysis personnel an opportunity to obtain guidance from their Department of Army and Missile Command counterparts.

More than 61 government employees from SSDC's Cost Analysis Office, MICOM's Command Analysis Directorate, Tactical Missile and Missile Defense Program Executive Offices and 15 contractors gathered to hear Bob Young,

director of the Army Cost Economic Analysis Center, and Maryann Dominiak, Army Materiel Command chief of Cost and Economic Analysis Division.

Young and Dominiak gave local cost analysis leaders an update on the status of cost analysis within the Army and a forecast for fiscal 1995 and beyond. They predict that due to a lack of new weapon systems coming on line, the cost analysis effort will shift from developing life-cycle cost estimates for acquisition cycles to developing more detailed operating and sustainment cost estimates.

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Company Commander recognized...

Col. Frederick Driesbach, left, director of the Missile and Space Intelligence Center (MSIC), presents the Defense Meritorious Service Medal to MSIC. Looking on is Slade's wife, Teka.

Heflin promotes SSDC as 'center of excellence'



SENATOR VISITS— Lt. Gen. Garner discusses missile defense with Senator Heflin in the lobby of the SSDC building on Wynn Drive.

U.S. Sen. Howell Heflin, during a visit to the Huntsville area Dec. 13, stopped by the Space and Strategic Defense Com-

mand complex for update briefings on what the command is doing in the area of missile defense.

Met by SSDC Comman-

der, Lt. Gen. Jay Garner, Heflin spent nearly three hours with SSDC's key players discussing subjects ranging from a proposed

Annual charity campaign drew 'heartwarming' response



AWARDED FOR CONTRIBUTIONS—Government activities received awards Dec. 12 for their contributions during this year's Combined Federal Campaign. From left are Maj. Gen. James Link, post commander; and Al Rose, representing the Weapon Systems Management Directorate. WSMD is one of many who received awards during this ceremony.

By Sandra Cartee

The Combined Federal Campaign for this year is over, and it has been deemed a success. Awards were presented to various government activities for their contributions at a ceremony held Dec. 12 at the Sparkman Center auditorium.

"It's very heartwarming to see the enthusiasm generated during the campaign," said Maj. Gen. James Link,

commander of the Missile Command and Redstone Arsenal. He presented the awards with the help of Bobby Park, CFC coordinator. "It's (the contributions) really going to touch the lives of people in north Alabama," Link said. He explained that 100,000 people will benefit from the generosity of these government employees.

MICOM workers donated over \$460,000 to the yearly campaign. The total

for all the Tennessee Valley was \$1,412,000.

Key workers, chairmen and representatives of the various activities accepted the awards as Link congratulated everyone for their efforts.

Park was pleased with the campaign and said, "I think we've had a successful year. It's been great on part of the employees who saw a need and contributed to that need."

missile defense battle lab in Huntsville to the ever-shrinking budget for missile technology programs. Following these private discussions, the senator talked with several local reporters and other command employees.

Heflin cited the Huntsville area—SSDC in particular—as being the focal point, past and present, for missile technology and development. "As such," he

said, "I would like to see SSDC/Huntsville become a national center of excellence for missile defense." He pointed out that such a center would significantly cut duplication among the armed services, one of the higher priority objectives with the Congress.

Heflin also talked briefly about the continuing proliferation of offensive missile capabilities around the world, particularly among

potential terrorist nations that could pose a nuclear, chemical or biological threat to the United States. "We have to develop defenses against those threats," he said.

After a few handshakes with SSDC employees, Heflin departed for a brief reception at the Officers Club.

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New computer system going on-line at Fox Hospital

By Kathy Harkleroad

There is a change about to happen at Fox Army Community Hospital and patients will be affected both directly and indirectly. The hospital is about to convert to a new computer system that will make access to patient's records easier and quicker.

"We are going to implement the new Composite Health Care System (CHCS) in stages and should be completed with the turnover by early February," said Capt. Bob Aarhus, chief of FACH Information Management Division.

Although the average patient won't see any immediate changes in the new software, health care providers will see a dramatic change in the future. The new CHCS software will encompass the patients entire data base and will include information such as lab results, radiology reports, and prescription history.

"The system is the same that other posts and bases are using and is compatible with them. The Pentagon initiated the program and it will be used by the Army, Air Force and Navy. There are three main reasons why the conversation is taking place and one reason is it enables the Army to determine how effective the health care program is. We will have the capability of reviewing, say for instance, how many specific lab tests are being performed and whether or not it would be more cost effective to have those certain tests performed on the economy with the aid of insurance,"

Aarhus said.

Another reason the conversation is taking place is it enables individual hospitals to review the way services are being performed. "It will give each hospital a chance to review how many different services are being performed and whether or not they (the services) are meeting the needs of the community," Aarhus said.

"The bottom line is CHCS will improve the health care providers access to patient care. Actions taken will be based on the data, which will improve the quality of health care. It doesn't solve all the problems, but it can offer the information to start solving the problems," Aarhus said.

The biggest challenge Aarhus sees with implementing the system is "getting the patients registered." "The biggest problem we foresee is getting everyone registered before the system is on-line in the pharmacy the first of February. If they (the patients) are not registered, they won't be able to get a prescription refilled or obtain any services at the hospital for that matter," Aarhus said.

Registering is easy and can be completed within a few minutes. "Basically there are several ways a patient can register. We will have forms available in every clinic so patients can fill them out while they are waiting for their appointments. We will also have boxes available for the completed forms. We are also sending out forms in the retirees newsletter and will have a registration fair the end of January. Hopefully though people won't wait until the end of January to

register," Aarhus said.

"We are encouraging everyone to fill out the registration forms and return them to us. Some of the active patients information will be converted over to the new system, but there could be changes involved or there might not be the correct amount of information to correctly register the patients. All forms have to be filled out legibly or they will be rejected," Aarhus said.

"It is extremely important the registration is completed before the first part of February because that is when the pharmacy module will be on line and every prescription will be entered into the system, whether it is refill or new prescription. We would like to see everyone, or at least a good majority of patients registered before then, because if you aren't registered, it will create a longer waiting time for services while the patient is registered," he said.

Aarhus also said patients will not be able to secure an appointment within the hospital or obtain medical records without being in the system. "As you can see it would be very advantageous to the patients to make sure they are registered before the system is converted," he said.

Aarhus would like to remind active duty personnel to take a few moments to fill out the paperwork to have themselves and family members registered as soon as possible. "The most important things about filling out the forms is make sure they are legible and family member prefixes are correct. Illegible forms will

Composite Health Care System (CHCS) Patient Registration Form

PRIVACY ACT STATEMENT

AUTHORITY: Sections 133,1071-87,3013,5031, of title 10, United States Code and Executive Order 9397.
PRINCIPLE PURPOSE: To facilitate and document CHCS enrollment at Redstone Arsenal. **ROUTINE USE:** To collect pertinent data required for pre-enrollment of a service member and family member into the CHCS System.
DISCLOSURE: The information requested is mandatory for all personnel requiring medical treatment. Pre-enrollment is not mandatory and care will not be denied if pre-enrollment data has not been collected. Disclosure will only be made to others within the Department of Defense on a need to know basis.

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 (DAY - MONTH - YEAR)

Home Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Home Phone Number: _____ Work Phone Number: _____
 (Area Code/Telephone Number) (Area Code/Telephone Number)

Military Unit: _____ Installation: RSA or other _____

FAMILY INFORMATION: (Note: If dependents' addresses are different than your sponsor, or if you have additional dependents, please list on a separate sheet of paper.)

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be rejected and could cause the family member or soldier a longer wait time when it comes to making appointments or filling a prescription," he said.

Another advantage to the new system, according to Aarhus, is sometime in the future the patient will only have to register once during an active duty member's time in the Army. "I can see somewhere in the future where these records will be accessible to health care providers at other military installations and the need for paper medical records

will disappear," he said.

The hospital also has plans for adding three more modules of the system sometime during fiscal 1996 that will enable the physician to order and access lab results and order prescriptions directly from his desk without the use of paper.

"All the physician will have to do is punch a few keys and the lab work is ordered or can be reviewed after the results are in. This system will also enable the physician to write a prescription by punching a few keys and sending the order

directly to the pharmacy. They can be working on the order and could be ready when the patient goes to pick it up."

A form has been provided for the readers of the Redstone Rocket who would like to preregister by mail. Once the form is completed it should be mailed to Commander, USA MED-DAC, Attn: CHCS, Redstone Arsenal, Ala., 35809-7000. The forms may also be brought to the hospital and deposited in the specially marked boxes throughout the facility.

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Fox Hospital invites customer feedback on clinic services



Customer Comments— Personnel at Fox Army Community Hospital are encouraging patients other visitors to the hospital to comment on the services received and other topics by filling out customer comment cards. The cards are located throughout the hospital in all areas. With the letter of commitment to customer satisfaction are, from left, Capt. Christopher Pate, director of coordinated care; Cathy Collins, patient representative; and Col. William Wong, hospital commander.

By Kathy Harkleroad

Strides are being made at Fox Army Community Hospital to improve the lines of communications with patients and other services and the patients will benefit from the implemented programs and additional benefits.

"We recently revitalized the customer comment forms and are encouraging

anyone who visits the hospital to comment on the services they received," said coordinated care director, Capt. Christopher Pate. "We also welcome any questions they might have on the way things are currently being done."

Pate said the comment cards have been available to customers for several years and interest has always been high when it comes to

having the cards filled out and returned. "We are making the cards more visible and have boxes they can be returned to. Each card is looked at and acted upon in one way or another," he continued.

Patient representative Cathy Collins is the person who ultimately receives the cards and makes sure they are given to the proper department. "I read each card and handle any problems they may have and try to resolve them. I also make sure the compliments are passed on to the proper departments," Collins said.

According to Pate and Collins, the majority of comments left on the cards are good ones and the patients served at the hospital are satisfied overall. "There are quite a few good comments and we make sure those are passed on to the department heads and personnel. We want to make sure they know they are doing a good job," Collins said.

Pate said the program is a direct result of a Family Action Symposium and has been in force for several years Armywide. He also said all visitors to the hospital, whether they received services or not, are invited to leave their comments or questions.

"The commander (Col. William Wong) wants everyone to know we are involved and trying to make things better," Pate said.

Soldiers take annual holiday break

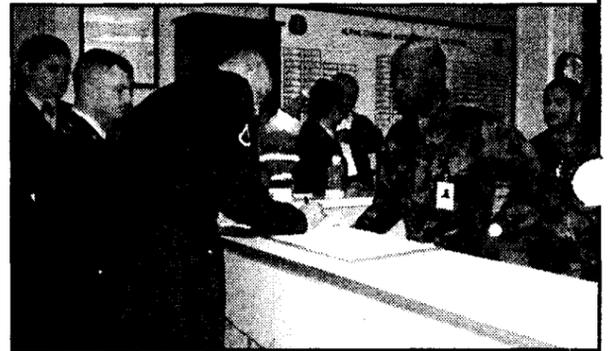
By Kathy Harkleroad

The streets of Redstone Arsenal may seem a little quieter and military students will be harder to find, now that the Holiday Exodus has begun. The exodus is the traditional time of year when the students leave the school environment and go home for the Christmas holiday.

"This is my first year being involved with the exodus and I'm very pleased with the results and the pre-planning that was involved. There were quite a few people involved with the planning and everyone really put some thought into it," said Capt. Sharon Wiesniewski.

According to Wiesniewski approximately 600 students will be involved with the exodus and will be leaving the Arsenal between Friday, Dec. 16, and Monday, Dec. 19. "The school lets out at noon Friday and students will be signing out immediately and catching buses to the airport. We also have students who won't be leaving until sometime during the following week due to scheduling conflicts," Wiesniewski said.

Members of the holiday exodus pre-planning team have been busy scheduling bus trips to the airport as well as the bus and train stations. "We have students leaving the area on almost every type of transportation available. Some are driving themselves, others are taking the bus or train. The majority are flying out though, and we are



READY TO TRAVEL—SSgt. Premas Liverpool helps a student sign out for the holiday as Sgt. Edward Cruz looks on.

providing the transportation to the airport. We will have a bus leaving the Arsenal every hour to accommodate the different flight schedules," Wiesniewski said.

"We started booking airline tickets the first of November and recently delivered the tickets to the soldiers," said Lee Tolgo of SatoTravel.

SatoTravel personnel sent request sheets to the individual companies who in turn had the students fill in destinations and dates. "Once we had the forms returned we got to work and booked the reservations. We returned the itinerary to the soldier who either accepted or declined it and collected the payment for the tickets," Tolgo said.

According to Wiesniewski approximately 600 soldiers will be involved in the exodus. "We will be consolidating all the soldiers who stay behind and will house them in one barracks. Basically Bravo and Charlie Companies will be closed down and everyone will be under Alpha compa-

ny during the exodus time," she said.

Soldiers who have opted to stay behind for one reason or another have lots to do during their off time and will be able to participate in several bus tours, activities and even have Christmas dinner with a fellow soldier.

Approximately 31 soldiers are staying behind and arrangements are being made with the Chaplains on post to make sure they have some place to go for the holiday meal. If there is someone interested in sharing their day with a soldier who has stayed behind, they can call 876-6908 and request a dinner guest.

Soldiers who are staying behind will be busy during the next two weeks thanks to some extensive pre-planning. "We have trips to Nashville, Boaz, Constitutional Hall and the Space and Rocket Center planned for those students who are still on the Arsenal during the holiday," Wiesniewski said.

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Whistleblower

Continued from page 1

Twice a year the IG requests nominations for this award; and generally six to eight such awards are made every six months. "This is a very select group that you are in," Reed told Beck in presenting the award check.

During the ceremony held at the IMMC director's suite in the Sparkman Center, Beck said credit should go to Hill, who conducted the review for the defense IG, and to Beck's co-workers in the Close Combat Team. He listed the team members Carolyn Spray, Marie Jennings, Liz Moon, Mary Meighen, Nelda Smith and Billy Reyer, who is now retired and served as division chief at the time of the review.

"Personally of course I'm thrilled to get the award, as it was unexpected," Beck said. "If you think you're correct or right in pursuing a subject such as this and have exhausted every avenue you have, I strongly suggest calling the IG. I received a good response from the DoD IG Office; they followed through very professionally. And the bottom line is let's don't waste tax dollars. We don't need to."

Among attendees at the award ceremony were Jim Flinn, the director of Integrated Materiel Management Center; and Beck's wife, Susan, and youngest son, Daniel, 19. Beck's other son, Jim Jr., is 29.



CASH AWARD— Reed, left, from the DoD Inspector General office, presents a \$5,000 award to Beck of the Integrated Materiel Management Center.

People

The following workers received awards or were promoted during the past month.

CCAWS Project Office

- Betty Bourque, Performance Award
- Warren Coontz, Performance Award
- John Harris, Performance Award
- Virginia Stevenson, Performance Award
- Mark Sweeney, Performance Award
- Carol Jones, Performance Award
- John Bier, Performance Award
- John Bier, 10-Year Service Certificate
- Myra Dupree, Promotion
- Sheila Thompson, Promotion
- Latana Erves, Promotion

Married couple graduates college together

By Sandra Cartee

Although it wasn't planned, Gala and Michael Horry graduated with bachelor's degrees on the same day. The married couple never meant to graduate at the same time, but admits spousal rivalry had a lot to do with their shared day of glory.

Gala is a secretary for the Targets Management Office and has been wanting to complete her degree for years. She started taking classes in 1975 and achieved three years worth of credits. "I wanted to finish it or the three years would be a waste," she said.

The reason it was hard for Gala to complete her education was because her husband was in the Army and the moving made it hard for her to change colleges all the time.

Michael, who was a master sergeant in the Army, now works for Systems Engineering and Solutions Inc. and does contracting work for MICOM's Corporate Information Center. He too had started attending college in the mid-'70s, but because of transfers, never got around to finishing.

With two children in college now, and one already through school, the couple wanted to set an example for their youngest child to finish college. "It's good incentive for our daughter to continue," Michael said.

It was one of Gala's goals to graduate with a



GRADUATING SPOUSES— Arsenal couple Gala and Michael Horry both graduated with bachelor degrees from the Columbia College arsenal extension program on Dec. 18. "I'm proud of him and he's proud of me," said Gala.

bachelor's degree. "It was a personal goal that I needed to achieve," she said. She also hopes that a degree will help her career and maybe lead her into personnel management or contracting more.

Michael would like to maybe go into business for himself someday as sort of a management consultant. "If you want to go anywhere these days, you need a degree," he said. He also hopes to set an example for others.

"Twenty years later you can still get a degree, if you still fight and don't give up. I'm proof of that," Michael said. He believes that one is never too old to get a degree and said, "there are a million excuses why you can't." But, the feeling of

accomplishment is well worth the effort.

The twosome said that there were advantages of attending school together and it brought forth rivalry. "After she found out that I was going to graduate, then she started trying to do it, too," Michael said. Gala agreed to this little race that started and said that college counselors would tell her "he's going to beat you."

The two did have some classes together and reacted funny when asked what that was like. "We don't quite do homework the same way," said Gala who likes to get her work done in one sitting. Michael said, "she'll bug me to death," when it comes to studying. Gala said that Michael would stop doing his home-

work and go fishing, so her aggravation was justified.

Both feel that there is respect when both partners are going to school at the same time. "I would tell more husband and wives to go back to school. It works better so the other would know what the other is going through," Michael said.

"I'm proud of him and he's proud of me," said Gala. They have a lot to be proud of with both achieving bachelor of science degrees in business administration. If that wasn't enough, both graduated with high grade-point averages.

The ceremony was held at the Post Chapel on Dec. 18. Michael summed it up for both when he said, "It's a good feeling to have it out of the way!"

A holiday safety reminder from the provost marshal

The Christmas and New Year holiday season brings family and friends together for numerous gatherings. Please use caution when driving in areas with ice and snow and always wear your safety belts. Also... **DON'T LET YOUR FRIENDS DRIVE DRUNK!**

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Announcements

Santa's visit— Santa's scheduled visit to the housing area by fire truck was postponed Friday due to bad weather, but he is due to arrive Thursday. The scheduled time, place and route is the same as published in last week's Rocket. Santa and his elves will arrive at the Vincent Road fire station at 12:30 p.m. Thursday and will be paraded through post, handing out gifts and candy until 5 p.m.

PX news— Redstone Arsenal Main Exchange/Main Store will operate with new hours effective Dec. 26 as follows: Monday through Saturday, 9 a.m.-9 p.m.; and Sunday 10 a.m.-6 p.m.

Officers Wives Club— Many hands certainly did help decorate the O' Club for the holiday season. A great big thank-you to all the ladies who so graciously gave their time and expertise. Remember the decorations need to come down. So ladies on Dec. 29 at 9 a.m. please come to the O Club to help... The OWC is inviting all newly-arrived ladies to a Newcomers Coffee on Jan. 10 from 10 a.m.-noon at the home of Judy Link, 1 Wadsworth Drive. Call Mary Jane Johnson (A-L) at

882-1856 or Maryellen Myers (P-Z) 464-0583.... The January luncheon has been rescheduled for Jan. 17. Please mark your calendars with the change. The program will be a Silver and Crystal Bingo Blast for all members. In case you didn't find enough silver and crystal under your tree, try your luck at the luncheon. OWC's activities chairperson, Allison Callahan, will have signup sheets available at for upcoming activities. Reservations are required by noon Jan. 13. Call Mary Jane Johnson (A-L) at 882-1856 or Maryellen Myers (P-Z) at 464-0583. For on-site child care, call Sylvia Kitchen 830-0403.

Challenger membership— Apply for your membership card at the Challenger; no fee, no dues. So if you're military or retired personnel, E1-E9, Redstone Arsenal civilian employees GS1-GS8, contractors handling DoD contracts with the equivalent grade GS1-GS8, you're eligible to join. Meet new friends and be a part of the Redstone community. For more information, call 837-0750.

New Year's Eve Ball— The Officers Club invites the entire Redstone community to ring in the New Year at the annual New Year's Eve Gala Ball. Tickets are on sale now at the Officers Club. The cost is \$26.95 per person and includes a prime rib dinner (7-9 p.m.), entertainment from "Four on the Floor" (9 p.m.- 1 a.m.), continental breakfast (12:30-1:30 a.m.) and a whole lot of fun. Seating is limited, so make your reservations early. "Don't miss this grand opportunity to welcome in the New Year with family and friends. Buy your tickets while they're hot! Sorry, no refunds."

International Wine Expo— The Officers Club invites members to be treated to wines from all around the world for only \$5. International cheeses, fresh breads, and a souvenir wine glass will be included. Have

a wonderful evening Jan. 13 at 7 p.m.; tickets go on sale Jan. 4. For more information, call 830-CLUB.

Just Our Club (JOC)— Bama fans and Buckeye fans will gather together at the JOC (Bldg. 114) as the Alabama Crimson Tide battle it out with the Ohio State Buckeyes in the Citrus Bowl. Don't miss this huge celebration Jan. 2 at 11 a.m. There will be FREE food and pay as you go bar.

Community classes— Dump your bad habits and make New Year's resolutions to be a better parent, control your temper, and improve your marriage. The Army Community Service is offering free classes for active duty, retirees, DoD civilians and family members. The following classes will be available to help you break your bad habits: Parenting classes will be held Jan. 10 through Feb. 28 from 5-7 p.m.; Anger Management, Jan. 10 through Feb. 7 from 7-9 p.m.; and Couples Communication, Feb. 14 through March 7 from 7-9 p.m. To register call Jennifer Clark 876-5397.

Flying Activity— The Redstone Arsenal Flying Activity will begin Ground School Classes for private pilots and instrument pilots the week of Jan. 9. Classes will be open to anyone interested and will be held at the Flying Activity building at the Airfield, building 4828, located on Hale Road. For more information, call William Porter 880-9495 or 881-3980.

Robbery reward— A \$1,000 reward is offered for information leading to the

arrest and conviction of the person(s) responsible for the aggravated assault and armed robbery which occurred adjacent to the Redstone Arsenal Credit Union, during the period of 7:25-7:30 p.m. Dec. 7. Anyone having information concerning this offense should call Special Agents John Brasel or Dennis Burdette, CID, at 876-2037. Your identity will be confidential. This offer expires Jan. 8.

Christmas trees— All offices, day rooms, military personnel on active duty, and other activities requiring Christmas trees, are authorized to cut trees on a self-help basis in the area north-east of the Ammunition Supply Point (ASP) area which is across the road from the Redstone Arsenal Saddle Activity. Trees should not be cut for commercial or unauthorized use. This area has been marked with orange flagging for easy recognition. Travel will be limited and controlled by daily check-in with ASP personnel at building 2592. Cutting operations will be limited to inside the Christmas tree cutting area only. Extreme caution should be exercised to prevent straying outside of the area or off the access route and removing any objects other than a Christmas tree. Trees should be cut Dec. 10-24 from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Tree trimmings should not be left on grassed rights-of-way, railroad tracks or access roads. For more information and a location map, call Outdoor Recreation 876-0901.

Sparkman Fitness Center— Just a reminder: If you have attended an orientation and never picked up your membership card, please go to the Fitness Center and get it. To check on your card, call 313-6091.

PX holiday hours— The Post Exchange facilities will be operating with the following holiday hours: Dec. 24 all facilities will close at 6 p.m.; Dec. 25 all facilities will be closed. On Dec. 26 the main store will operate 9 a.m. to 9 p.m.; the Shoppette from 9 a.m. to 10 p.m.; the Service Station from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. (pumps only); MCSS will be closed; Troop-n-Tackle closed; Burger King 8 a.m. to 8 p.m.; all concessions will be closed; and Class Six 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.... Here are the New Year's holiday hours: Dec. 31— Main Store, 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Shoppette, 7 a.m. to 10 p.m.; MCSS, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.; Troop-n-Tackle, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.; Service Station, 7:30 a.m. to 6 p.m.; and Class Six, 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. Jan. 1— Main Store, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Shoppette, 9 a.m. to 10 p.m.; Service Station, noon to 6 p.m. (pumps only); Burger King, 8 a.m. to 8 p.m.; all other facilities will be closed. Jan. 2— Main Store, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Shoppette, 9 a.m. to 10 p.m.; Service Station, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Class Six, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Burger King, 8 a.m. to 8 p.m.; all other fa-

cilities will be closed.

Travelogue film series— The Huntsville Kiwanis Club invites you to the 31st year of its "Travel and Advent Series," motion pictures narrated in person by world travelers. Pat McCarrier will present "Mexico" at 7:30 p.m. Jan. 3 at the Huntsville High School auditorium. Tickets for six admissions are \$16 (\$12 senior); call 539-0577. Single admission at the door is \$5.

Post Theater movies— Thursday, "Love Affair," rated PG-13, 103 minutes. Friday, "Love Affair." Saturday, closed. Sunday, closed. Tuesday, "The Shawshank Redemption," R, 142 minutes. All shows begin at 7 p.m. Admission for all shows is adult \$2.50, child \$1.25.

Thrift Shop— The Thrift Shop will have the following holiday hours: Closed on Dec. 23, 28 and 30. New hours for 1995: open Wednesdays from 9 a.m. - 6 p.m. with walk-in consignments from 9 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. and consignments by appointment from 1-5 p.m.; open Thursdays from 11 a.m. - 5 p.m. with consignment by appointment 11 a.m. - 4 p.m.; open Fridays from 9 a.m. - 2 p.m. with walk-in consignment 9 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.; and open the first Saturday of each month 9 a.m. - 1 p.m. (no consignments).

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'93 Nissan Pathfinder, auto, 2wd, excellent condition, 40k miles, xe-v6 ac, am/fm cassette. \$15,900. loaded. 464-9631 beeper 518-2527.

'93 Toyota Camry LE, cashmere beige, gold pkg. 32k miles immaculate condition. \$15,900 after 4:30 pm 883-6894.

'92 Acura Legend LS sedan, burgandy, gray leather. 31K miles, exc. con. \$24,995. 205-381-4498.

'88 Dodge Dakota, 4x4 \$5,400 after 5:00 pm or weekends 582-2341.

'85 Olds Cutlass Supreme, Broughm, V8, new tires, one owner, dark blue, good condition, \$1,900. 955-8248.

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Trains are a tradition around the holiday season and aren't just for children. Col. Michael Roddy, project manager of the Javelin office, brings in part of his train collection at Christmas and graces the office with the sounds of running trains and Christmas carols. Co-workers help set up the track and decorate the different train stations while getting in the holiday spirit. Roddy is pictured with this year's display.

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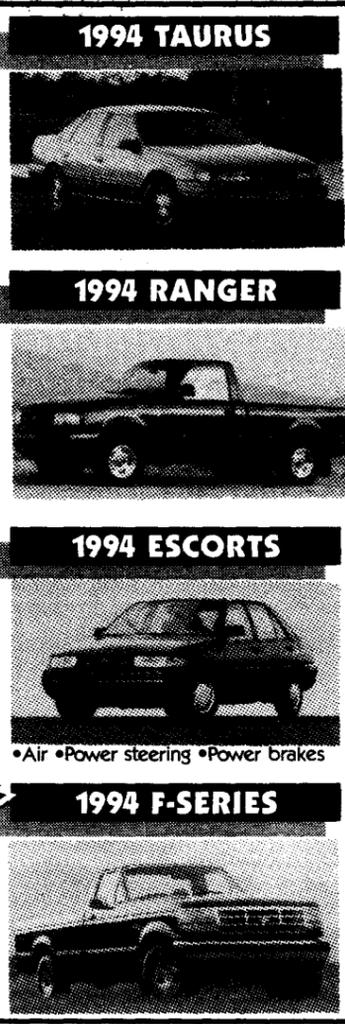
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*Ranger & F-Series: 24 month net lease. Down payment: Ranger: \$800; F-Series \$1100, plus 1st month payment, ref. security deposit and tax and tag. Option to purchase lease end Ranger: \$7424.45; F-Series: \$9570.32. 11¢/mile, 15,000 miles per year. With approved credit.

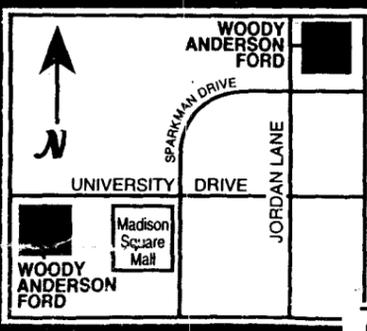
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<p>'93 FORD PROBE GT 5 sp. Black. Tan. Sunroof. A/C. P/W. P/L. Tilt. Cruise. Alloy Wheels & More</p> <p>SALE-\$13,488</p>	<p>'92 TOYOTA PASEO 2 DR. AT. Red. A/C. Sunroof. P/W. P/L</p> <p>SALE-\$9,988</p>	<p>'94 FORD MUSTANG 6cyl. 5sp. A/C. AM/FM Cass. P/W. P/L. Tilt. Cruise. Alloy Wheels</p> <p>SALE-\$15,650</p>	<p>'92 DODGE CARAVAN Auto. 6Cyl. A/C. AM/FM Cass. 26K Miles. One Owner.</p> <p>SALE-\$13,988</p>	<p>'92 F150 LT super cab. loaded. 351 V8</p> <p>SAVE \$\$\$\$\$\$</p>
<p>'92 DODGE HITOP CONVERSION VAN V8. Auto. Dual A/C. TV. VCR. P/W. P/L. Tilt. Cruise & More.</p> <p>SALE-\$15,999</p>	<p>'90 V.W. JETTA GL Wolfsburg Edition. 4 Dr. Auto. A/C & More!</p> <p>SALE-\$6,995</p>	<p>'94 GMC SIERRA P/U SLE. Sportside. 350 V*. Auto. Loaded. One Owner</p> <p>SALE-\$18,688</p>	<p>'91 JEEP WRANGLER 4X4 Red. 5 SP. AM/FM Cass. 30K miles. One Owner</p> <p>SALE-\$9,999</p>	<p>'82 DODGE D150 P/U LE. Auto. A/C. AM/FM. 82 K Miles Only</p> <p>SALE-\$3,995</p>
<p>'87 PLYM RELIANT K WGN Auto. A/C. 51K. 1 owner miles. Real Clean. Like New</p> <p>SALE-\$3,995</p>	<p>'92 FORD THUNDERBIRD 6 cyl. Auto. A/C. P/W. P/L. Tilt. Cruise. AM/FM Cass. Red Car. Real Sharp</p> <p>SALE-\$9,988</p>	<p>'94 FORD TEMPO 4 DR. GL. Auto. A/C. AM/FM Cass & More</p> <p>\$194 a mo 9250 to fin 60 mo 9.75%</p>	<p>'93 FORD ESCORT 5 sp. A/C. AM/FM Cass. Tilt. Cruise. Alloy Wheels. 17K Miles. One Owner</p> <p>\$189 a mo 8850 to fin 60 mo 10.5%</p>	<p>'92 FORD RANGER XLT Auto. A/C. AM/FM Cass. 9K Miles</p> <p>SALE-\$10,288</p>

*ALL PAYMENTS BASED ON \$1000 CASH OR TRADE EQUITY + TAX, TITLE & DOC. PREP. WITH APPROVED CREDIT

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