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Workers of new command get job offer letters March 3

By Skip Vaughn

Long hours have been the norm at a conference room in the Sparkman Center where workers are preparing job offer letters for all the employees of the new Aviation and Missile Command.

About 8,000 letters—including 2,200 for ATCOM workers in St. Louis—are to be distributed March 3. Most prospective employees of the Aviation and Missile Command will receive a job offer letter with a response due within 10 days. Some workers at remote locations will simply receive a notice of realignment which doesn't require a response.

This has been a joint effort between the Civilian Personnel Office and the Corporate Information Center which has provided the automated data base. The Aviation and Missile Command, formed by the merger of the Aviation and Troop Command and the Missile Command, will officially stand up Oct. 1.

"AMCOM is standing up in October. In order to do that, the MICOM employees and ATCOM employees who are affected by that have to be notified and given an opportunity to accept or decline a position in the new command," Lori Reynolds, chief of the transition group at Civilian Personnel Office, said.

Automation support was required to accomplish this massive task. Corporate Information Center workers set up a data base here which can be remotely accessed by ATCOM. Several printers were dedicated to printing the letters. "Once we generate the job offer letters out of the data base, managers are coming in and going over each letter to make sure the letter contains the correct job offer," B.J. Johnson, a personnel staffing and classification specialist in the transition group, said. "And we can make corrections right on the spot. There have been actually very few corrections, because of the managers and personnelists who



TEAM EFFORT— Some of the workers involved in preparing the job offer letters include, from left, Ozell Dunlap, B.J. Johnson and Janice Gulley, members of the transition group at Civilian Personnel Office.

put the information into the data base."

The process has been slow and tedious—with about 800 letters generated each day. Johnson and several others have worked as late as 10 at night and on weekends since early Feb-

ruary. "We've actually put in some 16-hour days," she said.

All permanent workers slotted for the new command will receive a letter which should be returned within 10 days to the civilian personnel office. "They

need to read it carefully to make sure they understand what job they're being offered and what their rights and entitlements are," Reynolds said.

The ATCOM letters were completed first in mid-February; and two civilian per-

sonnel representatives returned to St. Louis with those. All letters will go out March 3. "That's when everyone will know what job they'll be offered in the new command," Reynolds

See JOB on page 14

Army worker retires after nearly half a century of service



FOND FAREWELL— Butler is accompanied by his wife at his retirement luncheon at the Officers Club.

By Skip Vaughn

Forty-nine years of government service, nearly half a century. That's how long Fleming Butler has served as either a soldier or civilian.

Friends and co-workers wished him well during Butler's retirement luncheon Thursday at the Officers Club. Butler, 68, is retiring from his job as a logistics management specialist at Security Assistance Management Directorate.

"I have mixed emotions. These are people I've been working with a long time. I had a good job with SAMD," Butler, a native of Cleveland, Ohio, said. "I traveled all over the world— interesting places, interesting challenges."

His 49 years of service includes 27 years in the military, ending with retirement in 1974 as a chief warrant officer. His civilian career at the Missile Command began as a Hawk equipment specialist from 1975-81;

a logistics management specialist in the Integrated Logistics Management Directorate 1981-85; and with SAMD from 1985-present. His overseas assignments included Germany 1976-79 and Kuwait 1993-94.

"Some of the best people I've met in my life," Butler said, referring to his SAMD co-workers. "They help you out, do things for you, share information."

During his retirement luncheon Butler received a certificate of retirement and a certificate of achievement for 49 years of government service. The awards were presented by Ernie Young, deputy to the commanding general of MICOM.

Butler and his wife, Gracie, have a daughter, Bonita Elliot, son, Glenn A. Butler, and four grandchildren.

"I want to sell used cars," Butler said when asked about his plans. "I don't know what I'm going to do. Actually I'm going to try to learn something about the stock market. I'm going to piddle around."

Letters to the editor

Employee rights

Unless some miracle happens by March 6, there are two dedicated, experienced, and motivated employees within our organization whose job will be terminated. They have been employed at MICOM for over five years. They were initially hired as temporary employees but have since been converted to "term" employees. As temporary employees, they did not receive any step raises nor were allowed to get medical insurance. Is this right? I thought it was rather ironic that our president was pushing for a national health insurance program because so many Americans were not covered by health insurance and these employees had none. Our government needs to mend its own fences before it starts requiring private enterprises to provide health insurance for all their employees.

Another wrong with this situation is that we have two good employees who will have to leave, but we have unproductive employees that for some reason cannot be removed from our rolls. Most employees at MICOM are dedicated people who take pride in their work so America will have a strong national defense. But there are some who have the attitude that they are doing the American taxpayers a favor by showing up, not necessarily working, but showing up. Well, the taxpayers owe them nothing. We, in fact, owe the taxpayers. They entrust us to be stewards of their tax dollars and to defend them against any enemies. I feel honored that this duty has been bestowed

upon me. I believe everyone should be treated fair and honest, but it appears these employees are similar to our criminals of today's society; that is, they have more rights than anyone. I was a supervisor with another federal organization in the mid-'70s. It took me 2-3 years to remove two unproductive employees from the payroll, so apparently nothing has changed. Is this right? Why is it such a complicated and drawn-out process to remove an unproductive employee from federal service?

I keep reading where our government should/will be adopting commercial business practices. When is this to happen? Private enterprise does not tolerate unproductive employees. I know because I have worked in private enterprise and in fact, owned my own business.

What about MICOM's Reinvention License? Can this be an option to correct our personnel processes for employee removal? If so, I have several ideas. If not, then maybe it is time for "contracting" employees. Believe me, most of these unproductive employees will not survive in the "real" outside world.

Larry D. Johnson
Integrated Materiel Mgmt Ctr

Fire ants

Fire ants are a problem on Redstone Arsenal. Fire ant mounds may be found in almost all areas of the Arsenal. DO NOT destroy their mounds as fire ants readily attack persons who attempt to remove or destroy

the mounds. They inflict painful, burning stings thus the name FIRE ANT.

Fire ants (solenopsis species) are reddish to dark brown and range in size from 1/15 to 1/4 inch long. Each fire ant worker can sting repeatedly. Fire ants build large dirt mounds that can measure up to 2 feet high. Hundreds of thousands may inhabit one mound. Some areas of the Arsenal have as many as 100 mounds per acre.

Fire ants entered the U.S. from South America via the port of Mobile in the early 1900s. The damage they inflict includes:

- Painful stings (like fire); some people experience severe reactions and in rare cases fatal reactions to fire ant venom.
- Large mounds interfere with mowers and other machinery.
- Destruction of plants and flowers.
- Destruction of wild seeds.
- Destruction of ground nesting birds (15 to 20 percent of nesting quail chicks can be killed per year).
- Destruction of hatching birds and newborn animals.

You may get additional information concerning fire ants from the Madison County Alabama Cooperative Extension System or the World Wide Web at www.pestweb.com./pps/ant-fire.htm.

Controlling fire ants on Redstone Arsenal will be a major cost and problem for the next two to three years. They are almost impossible to destroy, but control is important for our natural environment.

William L. Lytle
Retired lieutenant colonel

Commentary: Children often see what adults can't explain

By Julie Vaughn

Margie and I often perched ourselves atop my grandfather's tractor, pretending to plow "Pa's" farm fields. That rusty, worn machine, which Margie's father, a sharecropper, didn't crank for us.

We had no tractor key. If we had, there'd probably still be splintered corn cobs crashing from the stratosphere. But just the make-believe helped us kill time in a rural world where life and culture stood as still as the tractor we climbed as children.

Pa, my mother's father, was as poor as the dirt he turned in Mississippi. Margie, her half-dozen brothers and sisters and parents were modern-day slaves on Pa's land.

Despite my grandfather's and Margie's family's undescrivable poverty, one major difference separated the two: Pa was white. Margie's family is black.

Margie's large family lived in a three-room house with wooden holes wide enough to see from the porch, through the house, into the thickets in back.

As a white, middle-class child,

I detected something wasn't right. The creaking door to Margie's home was always open to me. Yet as "negros," even the steps to my grandparents' small house, falling apart itself, were absolutely, unquestionably off-limits to Margie's whole family.

Now, years later, I realize it was a post-Civil War scene more than a century after slavery ended. Then, I didn't even know how to spell the word prejudice, but I sure knew what it was.

A dear friend once told me, "When a child can spot, can see, that something isn't what it should be, that child is more than likely right." Children, he said, "often see what adults can't explain."

No one, not even my own parents, could or would tell me why my friend was treated so differently than were white folks. Maybe they couldn't find the words to rationally explain racism to a little girl.

It wasn't because Pa wanted himself, my grandmother or Margie's family to live the way they did. But neither Pa nor Margie's family had very little

way of doing much better.

I remember the time Margie sat by their only heat source, a crumbling fireplace, ready to do her homework. She asked her mother for a pencil. Her mother explained that they had no pencils or writing paper in the house and no money to buy what she needed.

My heart sank and the lump in my throat felt like I had just swallowed a whole grapefruit.

"OK," Margie told her mother, as though she had heard those do without words many times in her young life.

I couldn't begin to comprehend that kind of poverty. A day or so later, Pa, myself and my brother went to the only little country store within miles for a Coke and some candy.

I sneaked and used my allowance to get Margie's pencil and paper. After knowing my grandparents' attitude toward those not fair-skinned like us, I feared they might raise their eyebrows at what I was determined to do.

I was doing what I thought was right— even though I was barely

old enough to know the difference between good and bad, right and wrong.

My parents didn't know at the time what I had spent my money on because I still had enough for a Coke and some peanuts. But when this issue of the *Rocket* hits the stands, Mom and Dad will know— more than 20 years after that journey to the store.

Now, not only do I believe they'll be pleased, but proud. My often annoying independence— evident even as a child — I owe to a very honorable, decent man and woman who raised me to help others and to relentlessly shoot for the stars.

Somehow, both my parents, amazingly fought their way out of extreme poverty— the only lifestyle either had ever known. They grabbed and hung on to the only opportunities they had to get out of that world.

Margie and her siblings, however, never really stood a chance and were not encouraged by anyone to better themselves. Margie's parents made no false promises to their children.

Although my grandfather and

grandmother barely had enough to feed my mother and my uncle, they did the best they could to meet the very basic needs for Margie's family.

Before my Pa died in the early, 1970s, he helped Margie's family build a brick home on Pa's land. That family, and a slew of grandchildren, still live there.

No more wooden holes that made even my eyes glaze with tears. And Pa helped Margie's father get a bank loan to buy a truck shortly before Pa died in the early 1970s.

I now know that the prejudice I saw was not hatred. It was not about people without compassion. It was about a culture I didn't understand. Even at thirty-something, I'm not sure I ever will.

Black History Month dug up those buried memories. Some fond, a part of who I am now, and some I'd just soon forget.

Let history and the Civil War mentality I witnessed never repeat itself.

Redstone Rocket

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Free tax assistance available for military community here

By Kathy Harkleroad

February is almost over and we are well into the tax season, and the volunteers at the Tax Assistance Center can attest to that. Within the first three weeks of the center opening, more than 350 federal forms have been filed.

"We are right on track with last year when it comes to the number of returns we have filed," Capt. David Estes, of the Staff Judge Advocates Office, said. "So far we have filed approximately 350 federal forms, 250 state forms and have had approximately 150 people walk in and request forms."

The center is in building 3475 on Honest John Road, adjacent to the Army Community Service building. Appointments are required to have the returns filed, but are still quite easy to get. "Right now we are scheduling approximately a week out," Estes said. "And all they have to do is call."

Soldiers are required to call the Unit Tax Assistants (UTAs) who in turn will coordinate with the center for appointments. The soldiers may call the following UTAs from their respective companies for appointments and more information:

- MICOM— Sgt. Deneen Diggs 876-7797 and Sgt. Gennifer Stokes 876-8850
- 95th Maintenance Company— SFC Douglas Wheeler 955-6146 and 2nd Lt. James Craig 955-6911
- MEDDAC— SSgt. Sheila Scruggs-Hoerard 876-8280 and SFC Kenneth Bernhardt 955-6631
- Readiness Group— Capt. Michelle Nassar 895-3776, MSgt. Robert Berger 895-4631 and SFC Jeffrey Martin 895-4631
- HHC 59th Ordnance Brigade— SFC Rupert Bond 842-0783 and SSgt. Carlyn Willis 876-7756
- HQ/Alpha Company, 832nd— SFC Neal Smith 842-2228 and Pvt. Unsil Lee 842-2228
- B Company, 832nd— Drill Sgt. Marie Woidt, and Drill Sgt. Liverpool 842-0608
- C Company, 832nd— SFC Hughes 842-0624 and SFC Smith 876-6594
- D Company, 832nd— SSgt Marshall Grice 876-5845 and SSgt. Kevin Ouellette 876-1978

Retirees may call the tax center at 876-1235 to schedule appointments.

The center is open Monday through Friday from 8:30 a.m. until 4 p.m. and from 7-9 p.m. Tuesday and Thursday evenings.

Filing those returns has become easy and quick thanks to the center, and the average wait for refunds is approximately 10 days. "We file the federal returns electronically, and when the returns are directly deposited into the person's bank, it only takes 10 days," Estes said. "The best part of all this is there is not charge for our services." State returns must be mailed in and will take longer for the return to be processed.

Estes encourages taxpayers who know they must pay taxes this year to schedule an appointment. "This office isn't just for those that are getting refunds," he said. "There really isn't any reason you can't come in and have your taxes prepared and filed. They still do not have to pay until April 15."

For those who haven't filed their returns and are gathering information, here are some helpful hints on what to bring with them when having their returns prepared.

- Copies of your 1995 federal tax return
- Social Security numbers of your spouse and all dependents
- A consolidated list of all charitable contributions
- If you are approved for disability and your retirement does not reflect this, bring your percentage of compensation for non-taxable purposes
- If you have rental property, bring in the rent amount, repairs, management fees and any other adjustments incurred.
- If you owned a home in 1996, bring in interest and property taxes that were paid.
- If you owned a home in 1996, bring in interest and property taxes that were paid.
- If you sold a home in 1996, have the date of the sale, selling price, sales commission, original purchase price, and any home improvements prior to the sale.
- If you had child care expenses, bring the total cost for each day care facility or babysitter and their EIN or SSN and addresses.
- If your spouse is not available for signature— i.e., overseas assignment or job transfer — bring the power of attorney.
- Any retirement and pension income and any interest income.
- Bonds, IRA distribution and any other items that are used for income or tax deductible purposes.

Estes said a commonly

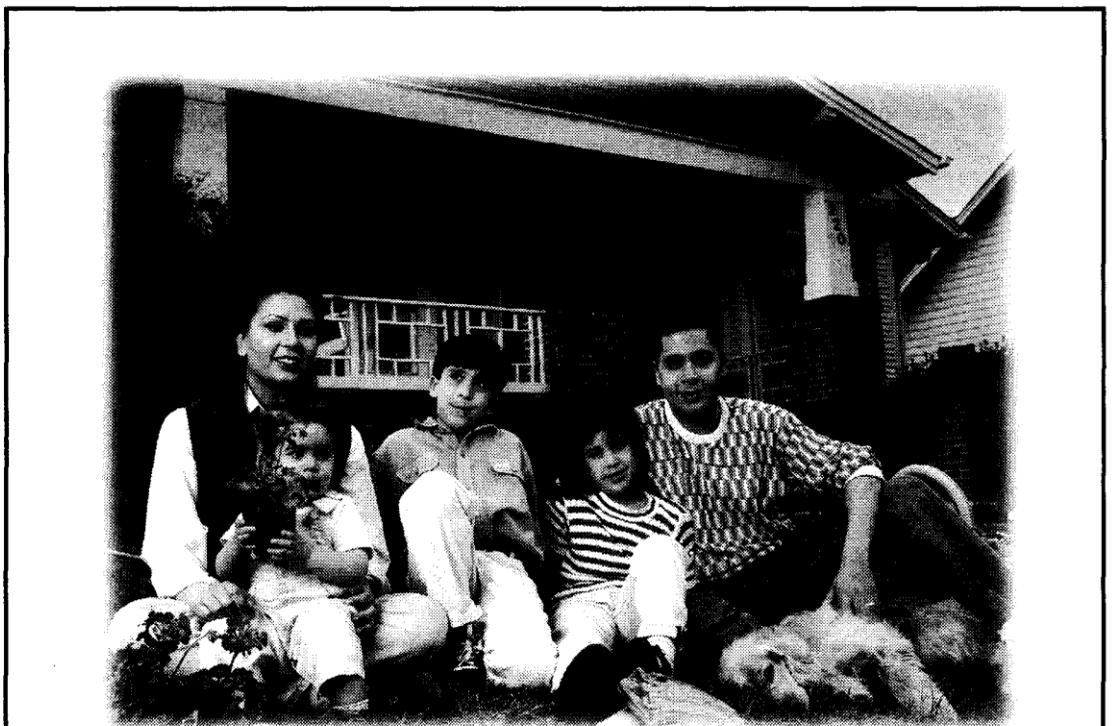
asked question at the center is how to calculate the filing status. "The most frequently asked question we have had is who qualifies for filing as head of household. The only way you can file that way is if you and your spouse have been separated or you are not married," he said. "This does not include spouses who are TDY or on an overseas assignment. For tax purposes, military TDY trips or deployments are considered temporary separations."

More information or forms can be obtained by either calling or visiting the tax center.



TAX HELP— Personnel from the tax assistance office have been busy this month filing returns for active duty and retired personnel. Seated are Sgt. Michael Astran and Sgt. John Frazier. In back row, from left, are Capt. David

Estes, Sgt. Jose Cordero, SFC Fred Fuqua and SFC Daniel Richie. Not pictured are Spec. John Miller and retired Sgt. Maj. Wayne Douglas who also assist in the preparation of the returns.



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Severe weather preparedness drill planned statewide today

Tornado sirens on Redstone Arsenal and throughout the state are to be tested today for Severe Weather Preparedness Week in Alabama, Feb. 24-28.

In the event of threatening weather today, the drill will be held Friday. Col. Duane Brandt, deputy post commander, signed the following open memo for the Missile Command community:

"The week of Feb. 24-28 has been declared by Gov. Fob James as Severe Weather Preparedness Week in Alabama. The National Weather Service has scheduled a statewide tornado drill for Feb. 26, during which we will be testing our tornado warning sirens here on post. In the event of threatening weather (today), the drill will be held Friday.

"Tornado sirens on Redstone Arsenal and throughout the state will be preceded

by an announcement over NOAA Weather Wire Service and NOAA Weather Radio. The drill may begin with a Tornado Watch and progress to a Tornado Warning or may start with a Tornado Warning without a watch. Sirens are normally sounded upon announcement of a Tornado Warning. All messages associated with this statewide drill will be clearly identified by the phrase "This is a drill."

"I encourage all persons in the Redstone Arsenal environment to participate in this preparedness exercise. When you hear the tornado warnings, think carefully about the proper course of action to take and how you might best protect yourself, your co-workers, and your family if those sirens were not signaling the beginning of a drill, but a genuine emergency situation," the memo concluded.

LOGSA team accomplishes automated manuals mission

By Cheryl Casey-Walker

Your mission, should you choose to accept it, is to manage the digitizing of thousands of Army technical manuals, on which maintenance personnel rely to keep the Army running, in order to create electronic TMs on compact disc. Good luck, LOGSA.

The Logistics Support Activity did indeed accept the mission. Presenting LOGSA's designated role as manager of the Army TM digitization initiative, with an illusion to the "Mission Impossible" television series, may seem far-fetched. Actually the comparison is reasonable considering: Getting the TMs into a usable digital form is made difficult by many documents being inconsistently formatted or poorly reproduced; and the task is a monumental one since the Army will have an estimated 3.5 million pages in digital form at the completion of the conversion and fielding of the electronic TMs. As if that's not enough, enter the ever-present economic constraints to compound the challenge.

Digitizing manuals involves paper manuals being optical character recognition scanned to be converted into digital Portable Document Format TM files. Converting paper manuals into digital format will reduce the paper burden on the soldiers by providing them with TMs on lightweight CD-

ROMs. The CD-ROMs will be operated on Contact Test Sets, desktop, notebook, and laptop computers using wired and wireless Local Area Networks.

The administrative process the mechanic currently performs manually, moving from a maintenance manual to parts manual for parts ordering, is also being automated. A link from the ETM to Unit Level Logistics Systems and Standard Army Maintenance System is well under way. Also, information in the manual is "tagged" to link the user with corresponding information and drawings within the document.

The seemingly impossible is proving to be possible through the innovative efforts of LOGSA representatives, who have to date tirelessly managed the two-phase digitization program. Phase I, which began in 1995, has involved digitization of TMs used by 3rd Infantry Division, 4th Infantry Division, 101st Airborne Division and procuring, testing and evaluating hardware to support ETM use in soldier environments. Phase II, which started in January, will entail ETMs being modified using lessons learned from Phase I and the remaining TMs being digitized and distributed Army-

wide. LOGSA representatives have been key players in instituting the review of converted PDF TM files by major subordinate command personnel, who have responded well. LOGSA personnel will then update the ETMs once the CD-ROMs are fielded.

As the TM digitization configuration manager, LOGSA is responsible for establishing a centralized electronic repository for ETMs to support the customizing of CD-ROMs by weapon system, commodity-family groups and developing a centralized distribution.

TM digitization expected benefits include lighter deployment loads, reduced maintenance downtime, enhanced troubleshooting and repair capabilities, reduced repair parts consumption, reduced training time and improved TM distribution.

LOGSA representatives' efforts, in coordination with the affected units, have elicited positive feedback regarding ETMs. Soldiers are asking for the rest of the books on CD-ROM. And that is turning Mission Impossible into Mission Accomplished.

(Editor's note: Casey-Walker is a technical editor at LOGSA.)

People... People... People...

The following members of Patriot Project Office received awards Feb. 3:

- Juan Mendoza, 10 years Service Certificate
- William Grimmitt, 10 years Service Certificate
- James Boswell, 10 years Service Certificate
- Rhonda Nichols, 10 years Service Certificate
- James Deaton, Patriot of the Month for October 1996
- Rodney Sams, Patriot of the Month for December 1996
- Eric Baker, Promotion Certificate
- Larry Hadwin, IPT Charter
- Lisa Moreland, On-the-Spot
- Orlando Gordon of RD&E Center, On-the-Spot
- Joseph Gentry, Performance Award
- Jerry Blaine, Performance Award
- Edward Thornton, Performance Award
- Dennis Wilkerson, Performance Award
- James Deaton, Performance Award
- James Garner, Performance Award
- Patricia Long, Performance Award
- Lisa Moreland, Performance Award

- Patrick Ray, Performance Award
- Winston Sconiers, Performance Award
- Molly Caudle, Performance Award
- Jean Chambers, Performance Award
- John Haskell, Performance Award
- Edward Fowler, Performance Award
- Paul Hamilton, Performance Award
- Peggy Bowman, Performance Award
- Brenda Dunn, Performance Award
- Willie Clark, Performance Award
- So Hui Smith, Performance Award
- Felicia Riggs Cook, Quality Increase
- Michael Nowakowski, Quality Increase
- Audrey J.C. Tucker, Quality Increase
- Coy Perry, Quality Increase
- Donna Cancel, Quality Increase
- Gary Freeman, Quality Increase
- A. David Fogg, Quality Increase
- Danny Mardis, Quality Increase
- Robert Owen, Quality Increase
- Jaime Zapata, Quality Increase
- Patricia Shackelford, Quality Increase
- Beverly Shoulders, Quality Increase
- Larry Easterwood, Special Act Award
- Edward Thornton, Special Act Award
- Joyce Marion, Special Act Award

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Support center serves military community in St. Louis

ST. LOUIS, Mo.— "U.S. Army Garrison On Your Side. . . Working Smarter," is the motto of the U.S. Army Garrison Charles Melvin Price Support Center.

Located in the heartland of America and the Gateway to the West, the center is in Granite City, Ill. Although small, its mission is to provide administrative, logistical and recreational support to all branches of the armed forces in the greater St. Louis metropolitan area. Also, the center supports about 75 military and governmental agencies.

The garrison's land size is approximately 686 acres. It maintains a total of 1.5 million square feet of enclosed warehouse storage space and 685,000 square feet of open storage space for its customers.

The garrison's name is in tribute to the late Charles Melvin Price, U.S. representative from Illinois' 21st district. To honor his outstanding support of the military, Congress dedicated the support center in his name.

The center has 164 family housing units of which 100 went up in 1990, including two general officers' quarters. Moreover, the garrison has a newly renovated 50-soldier-capacity barracks and is fully capable of providing all the necessities needed to make the single soldiers feel right at home. For believers, there is a conveniently located chapel offering various worship services to support the needs of servicemembers and their families.

There is an Army Community Service Center, the most important support agency for the Army family and provides programs to help should emergencies arise.

A modern Child Development Center is available on the garrison with the capacity to handle up to 56 children. A Youth Center with the capacity of 104 is also available. It has a complete after school computer and homework center to assist children in their educational studies.

Also, the center maintains a variety of leisure activities

for all ages, ranging from a Community Activities Center, Arts and Crafts Shop and an Auto Craft Shop. The garrison has a nine-hole golf course, an eight-lane bowling center, an outdoor swimming pool and a physical fitness center.

The center has two major shopping facilities, a Post Exchange and Commissary. They co-locate adjacently to one another near the post's center for their customers' convenience. In addition, the center has a library containing a wide selection of current reading material. Next to the library is the Education Center. There are numerous educational opportunities available in the bi-state area. The Education Center provides counseling to assist soldiers in pursuing their civilian education.

The staff's number one goal is to provide the best possible service to their customers. (ATCOM release)

U.S. Army's first JTAGS unit fielded in Germany Feb. 19

Fielding of the Joint Tactical Ground Station (JTAGS) first unit equipped (FUE) occurred Feb. 19 in Stuttgart, Germany with Brig. Gen. Daniel Montgomery, program executive officer for air and missile defense, presenting the JTAGS unit to Col. Ottis Ferguson, commander of U.S. Army Space Command (Forward).

JTAGS is a transportable information processing system which receives and processes in-theater, direct down-linked data from Defense Support Program (DSP)

and follow-on space based infrared sensors. JTAGS disseminates warning, alerting and cueing information on Tactical Ballistic Missiles (TBMs), and other tactical events of interest throughout the theater using existing communications networks.

JTAGS is one of the key factors in establishing and maintaining "information dominance." This advanced early warning system is one of five systems acquired by the U.S. Army's Program Executive Office, Air and Missile Defense, to quickly support

regional conflicts as they arise. Remaining systems will be deployed to U.S. forces by the end of fiscal year 1997.

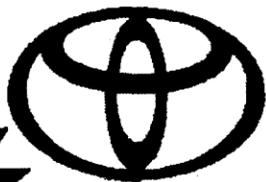
JTAGS deployment exemplifies acquisition reform at work. It is a quick reaction development program directed at resolution of critical deficiencies identified during Operation Desert Storm. The time required from identification of the need to deployment of the final system was just over four years. Preplanned Product Improvement efforts are under way to integrate JTIDS,

and to enhance launch detection and calibration techniques.

JTAGS will be upgraded to operate with the new Space Based Infrared System (SBIRS) satellites that will support the warfighter in the 21st century.

Chares Rayner Jr. is director of the JTAGS Product Office in Huntsville. He reports to Brig. Gen. Montgomery. Aerojet Electrical Systems Division of Azusa, Calif., is the prime contractor.

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Black History Month reminds soldier of past sacrifices

By Kevin Gainer

As a black American and an Army officer, I look at Black History Month as a time to reflect upon the significant sacrifices and achievements of my forefathers.

During this time of the year, names like Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., Frederick Douglass, Harriet Tubman, and Malcolm X appear in typical fashion. We characteristically pay homage to these great Americans with cultural dinners and awareness programs, but how often do we look upon their contributions in direct relation to our daily lives?

All Americans, regardless of color or ethnic background, can understand the inherent needs of the human spirit: Dignity, self-worth, honor and freedom are para-

mount.

When I think of these particular needs, I immediately apply them to my military career. Surely, service in any of the armed forces endows one with a sense of pride and accomplishment. The national criticality and life threatening aspects of most military operations carries with it a mystique unequaled by any other profession.

At one point in time, black Americans were denied the opportunity to serve alongside their white counterparts in peacetime or war. Blacks were not allowed to serve in elite combat units, but would distinguish themselves among their own kind.

Such was the case with the famed Buffalo Soldiers of the west, and the Tenth Cavalry from the Spanish-

American War. Separate and unequal was the rule of the day. However, the lethality and mass destruction weapons of 20th century combat quickly made death the first real equal opportunity employer.

Armed forces strategists soon realized that an integrated force was necessary for mission accomplishment. A socially divided fighting force was psychologically and sometimes logistically at a great disadvantage. They could easily see that a divided unit was infinitely less effective than a cohesive one. Such an obvious military lesson can easily be applied to society as a whole.

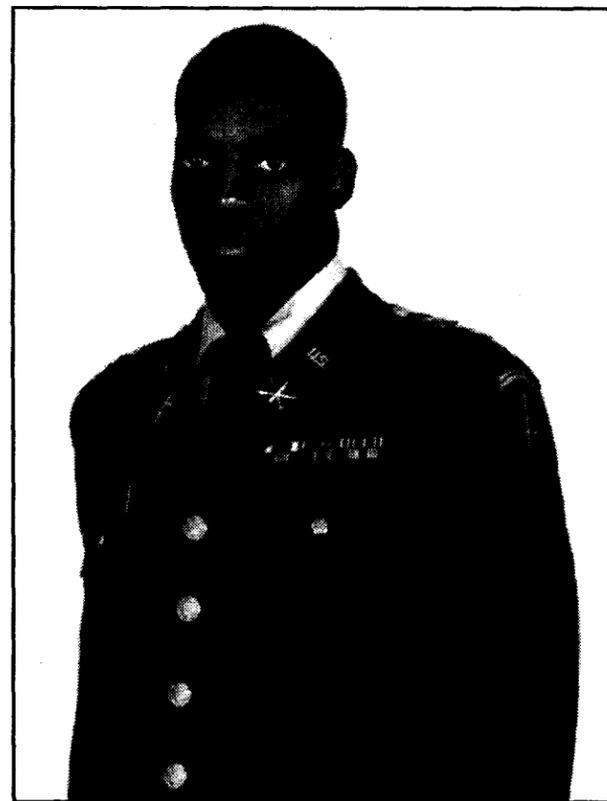
The importance of observing special periods of racial awareness is not meant to condemn our oppressor or to deify a

minority, but to facilitate an understanding between cultures. In the military we celebrate Native American, Asian Pacific and Latin American periods for the same reason.

Overall, Black History Month reminds me of my obligations to my family, my race, and my country. I serve in this great fighting force not solely because of my qualifications, but also because of the great men and women who paved the way for me.

To perform at less than my capability would greatly dishonor those who endured so much pain for the sake of equality. I am motivated by their triumphs.

(Editor's note: Maj. Gainer is chief of air defense artillery operations at the Readiness Group.)



GAINER

Military became first institution to practice integration

By Annie Troupe-Simmons

African-Americans have contributed greatly to America. One area of great importance has been the military which became the first institution to practice integration and equal employment. In 1948 President Truman issued Executive Order 9981 calling for the "equality of treatment and opportunity" in the armed forces.

African-Americans have fought in every American war. These are a few highlights of African-Americans in their military service to this country:

- Crispus Attucks, a seaman in Boston, was the first of five men to be shot and killed by the British during the Boston Massacre in March 1770.
- Peter Salem stopped a British charge at Bunker Hill by picking off an enemy major during the Revolutionary War.

- Black sailors fought in every sea engagement in the War of 1812. During the Indian Wars on the frontier, 12 blacks won Congressional Medals of Honor for bravery in combat.

- Nicholas Biddle became the first black man to lose his life in the Civil War when he was shot down in April 1861 as he and his Pennsylvania Company were on their way to defend the nation's capital.

- In 1863 at Fort Wagner, S.C., the black soldiers of the 54th Massachusetts Regiment distinguished themselves. A sergeant in that regiment, Sgt. William H. Carney, although wounded, picked up the American flag when its bearer was shot down and led the charge at Fort Wagner, planting the flag at the top.

- In 1877, Henry O. Flipper became the first black man to graduate from the U.S. Military Academy. John H. Alexander, the sec-

ond black West Point graduate, was so highly regarded that shortly after his death the Army named a camp in Virginia after him. Charles Young was the third black to graduate from West Point. Prior to his death in 1922, Col. Young was the highest-ranking black in the armed forces.

- Blacks in the 9th and 10th Cavalries saw action in Cuba with Theodore Roosevelt and his Rough Riders. An Associated Press eyewitness credited them with saving Lt. Col. Roosevelt and his men from extermination by the Span-

ish forces at San Juan Hill.

- During World War I the 369th Unit of the 93rd Infantry Division arrived in Brest, France in the spring of 1918, went into action in the Champagne Sector and remained on the front line for "191 consecutive days" without losing a trench, retreating an inch or surrendering a prisoner. The unit was awarded the Croix de Guerre by the appreciative French.

- Dorie Miller, a messman on ship at Pearl Harbor at the time of the Japanese attack, was credited with having destroyed four

enemy planes and was awarded the Navy Cross.

- The 99th Pursuit Squadron remains the most glamorous black unit associated with World War II. By the spring of 1945, it had completed 1,600 combat missions; neither the Navy or the Marines could boast of such an accomplished unit.

- During the Korean War the 24th Infantry Regiment, composed entirely of black combatants, was credited with the first victory for the United Nations forces in

- PFC Milton Olive and Marine Sgt. Rodney Davis were two young black men who lost their lives to save their comrades during the Vietnam War.

- Lt. Quinton McCorvey, a 1986 graduate of Alabama A&M University, became the first American to shoot down an enemy Scud missile during Operation Desert Storm.

(Editor's note: Troupe-Simmons, a secretary (office automation) in the Corporate Information Center, wrote this for Black History Month.)



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Harlem pastor addresses hundreds at Black History Month luncheon

By Skip Vaughn

A Harlem pastor painted a bleak picture of today's racial climate at the 11th annual Black History Month luncheon held Feb. 19 at the Von Braun Center north hall.

"Racism is cyclical. You get it on the run for a few minutes; the next thing you know, it's rearing its ugly head again," Dr. Wyatt Tee Walker, senior pastor of the Canaan Baptist Church of Christ, N.Y., said. He was the guest speaker at the event presented by Army Community of Excellence and attended by about 850 including local civic and military leaders.

As examples of today's racism, Walker mentioned segregation in school systems and high unemployment among African-Americans.

"There are more segregated school systems now in America than there were before the Supreme Court decision of 1954. That's going backwards," he said. "In urban communities, black unemployment is 10, 12, 15, 18, some even 20 percent.

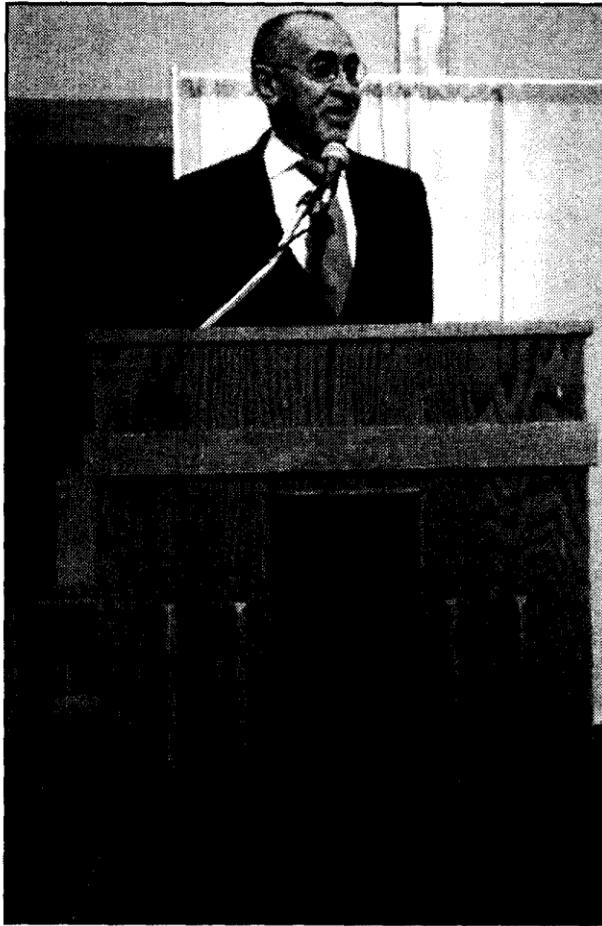
"The great mass of people of African-American

ancestry in this land are worse off now than they were 50 years ago," Walker said.

Both black and white communities share the blame for the continuing problem of racism, the pastor said. Many black people have gotten comfortable and complacent—"a bad case of amnesia," according to Walker. "You are there (in comfort) because you stand on somebody's shoulder."

White Americans, meanwhile, haven't done enough to help, he said. "I think most white people don't intend to be racists, but they are. And it's because of the culture of America. And the tragedy of racism in America is that the responsibility of making it ground level (for everyone) has always been on the backs of the victims."

Walker, 68, has traveled to 91 countries and is regarded internationally as a human rights activist. In October 1994, Nelson Mandela's first stop in the United States as president of the Republic of South Africa was the worship service of Walker's Harlem church. Walker is serving a six-year term as world com-



WALKER

missioner of the Programme to Combat Racism of the World Council of Churches; and he is secretary-general of the Religious Action Network of the American Committee on Africa (ACOA). He is now president of ACOA.

Maj. Gen. James Link, commander of the Missile Command and Redstone

Arsenal, welcomed the attendees and said equality for all has not yet been achieved. "We've made some good progress, but we've got a lot of work to do," he said. "Equality comes about through understanding; and we believe understanding comes about through effective communication."

Military District of Washington chief gets excused from DA sexual harassment panel

WASHINGTON— The Secretary of the Army has excused a member of the Senior Review Panel on Sexual Harassment because of potential conflict of interest in the wake of allegations against the Sergeant Major of the Army.

Togo D. West Jr. on Feb. 14 excused Maj. Gen. Robert F. Foley, officials said, because Foley may play a role in the disposition of allegations involving Sergeant Major of the Army Gene C. McKinney.

As Commander of the Military District of Washington, Foley is also general court martial convening authority for soldiers assigned to the Army staff in the Pentagon. In that capacity, he may decide the ultimate disposition of the allegations of sexual harassment against McKinney.

As a member of the Senior Review Panel, Foley participates in interviews and discussions with soldiers on the Army's current human relations environment. In those discussions, allegations against McKinney and the Army's response to those allegations are likely to be addressed. Foley was excused from the panel to avoid any possibility that those two roles might conflict.

West does not plan to name a replacement to the panel for either Foley or McKinney.

"There is sufficient expertise, seniority and diversity among the remaining panel members for them to accomplish their mission," West said. (Arnews)

(Editor's note: From a news release prepared by Office of the Chief of Public Affairs, Department of the Army.)

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Monday/Wednesday	Classes	Time	Credit Hours	Tuesday/Thursday	Classes	Time	Credit Hours						
CIS 130	INTRODUCTION TO CIS	8:30 AM	5	BIO 103	PRIN BIOLOGY	8:30 AM	5						
ENG 091	BASIC WRITING I	8:30 AM	5	BUS 241	PRIN ACCOUNTING I	8:30 AM	5						
ENG 101	ENGLISH COMP I	8:30 AM	5	ENG 102	ENGLISH COMP II	8:30 AM	5						
MTH 092	DEV ALGEBRA II	8:30 AM	5	MTH 090	BASIC MATH	8:30 AM	5						
SPH 107	FUND PUBLIC SPEAKING	8:30 AM	5	MTH 122	COLLEGE ALGEBRA	8:30 AM	5						
CIS 146	MICROCOMPUTER APPLICATIONS	11:00 AM	5	BUS 242	PRIN ACCOUNTING II	11:00 AM	5						
HIS 101	WESTERN CIV I	11:00 AM	5	ECO 232	ECONOMICS II	11:00 AM	5						
MTH 091	DEV ALGEBRA I	11:00 AM	5	ENG 101	ENGLISH COMP I	11:00 AM	5						
POL 220	STATE LOCAL GOVERNMENT	11:00 AM	5	PSY 200	GENERAL PSYCHOLOGY	11:00 AM	5						
SPH 107	FUND PUBLIC SPEAKING	11:00 AM	5	ECO 231	ECONOMICS I	1:30 PM	5						
CIS 146	MICROCOMPUTER APPLICATIONS	1:30 PM	5	ENG 251	AMERICAN LITERATURE I	1:30 PM	5						
HIS 201	U S HISTORY I	1:30 PM	5	PHS 120	ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE	1:30 PM	5						
MTH 101	MATH INSIGHTS	1:30 PM	5	BUS 242	PRIN ACCOUNTING II	4:30 PM	5						
MUS 101	MUSIC APPRECIATION	1:30 PM	5	CRJ 140	CRIMINAL LAW	4:30 PM	5						
SOC 200	INTRO TO SOCIOLOGY	1:30 PM	5	ENG 101	ENGLISH COMP I	4:30 PM	5						
BUS 261	BUSINESS LAW I	4:30 PM	5	ENG 102	ENGLISH COMP II	4:30 PM	5						
CIS 212	VISUAL BASIC PROGRAMMING	4:30 PM	5	HIS 202	U S HISTORY II	4:30 PM	5						
ECO 231	ECONOMICS I	4:30 PM	5	MTH 091	DEV ALGEBRA I	4:30 PM	5						
ENG 092	BASIC WRITING II	4:30 PM	5	PHS 120	ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE	4:30 PM	5						
ENG 101	ENGLISH COMP I	4:30 PM	5	PSY 200	GENERAL PSYCHOLOGY	4:30 PM	5						
MTH 092	DEV ALGEBRA II	4:30 PM	5	SOC 247	MARRIAGE & FAMILY	4:30 PM	5						
MTH 111	INT COLLEGE ALGEBRA	4:30 PM	5	SPH 107	FUND PUBLIC SPEAKING	4:30 PM	5						
MTH 122	COLLEGE ALGEBRA	4:30 PM	5	BUS 241	PRIN ACCOUNTING I	7:00 PM	5						
POL 220	STATE/LOCAL GOVERNMENT	4:30 PM	5	ENG 252	AMERICAN LITERATURE II	7:00 PM	5						
RDG 085	DEV READING	4:30 PM	5	ORI 100	ORIENTATION	7:00 PM	1						
ART 100	ART APPRECIATION	7:00 PM	5	PHS 120	ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE	7:00 PM	5						
BIO 103	PRIN BIOLOGY	7:00 PM	5	SOC 200	INTRO TO SOCIOLOGY	7:00 PM	5						
CIS 146	MICROCOMPUTER APPLICATIONS	7:00 PM	5	SPH 107	FUND PUBLIC SPEAKING	7:00 PM	5						
ECO 232	ECONOMICS II	7:00 PM	5										
ENG 262	ENGLISH LITERATURE II	7:00 PM	5										
MTH 090	BASIC MATH	7:00 PM	5										
MTH 093	DEV ALGEBRA III	7:00 PM	5										
MTH 102	BUSINESS MATH	7:00 PM	5										
ORI 100	ORIENTATION TO COLLEGE	7:00 PM	1										

Chief counsel eyes smooth transition for new aviation and missile command

By Julie Vaughn

Redstone's new chief counsel already has his work cut out for him.

And Robert Spazzarini's bright metallic congratulations balloons haven't even begun to sag yet.

Last week, he officially took on the task of supervising almost 60 military and civilian employees here. But soon, he'll be merging the St. Louis ATCOM legal office with his own.

"My No. 1 goal is to have a smooth transition between the two legal offices," Spazzarini said. "We have to merge. The biggest obstacle will be the number of members now at ATCOM that choose to relocate to Huntsville. The fewer that come, the

worse off we are going to be.

"First, though, I have to settle into this job," he said. "I want to keep the service we provide at as high a level as the previous chief counsels have. And I want to keep the level of morale in this office at the level I inherited it."

Spazzarini described his most important duty is in "providing full service legal support to Team Redstone at the highest professional caliber."

Although Maj. Gen. James Link, commander of the Missile Command and Redstone Arsenal, officially appointed Spazzarini last week, the job is not new to him, he said.

When former Chief Counsel Ver-

bon Black retired in January 1996, Spazzarini was named acting chief counsel for eight months. For eight years before that Spazzarini was chief of acquisition in the Legal Division responsible for "giving legal advice on matters of procurement, to contractors, project managers, among other things."

A native of Connecticut, Spazzarini, 60, has worked for MICOM since 1966. He is a graduate of Georgetown University's law school and holds a master's degree in public administration from Harvard University.

Spazzarini is married and has two adult daughters.



SPAZZARINI

Fort Bragg Printing Plant uses Internet Technology process

By Robert Timmons

FORT BRAGG, N.C.— In the information age everything is rapidly transitioning to a digital, speedy and user friendly mode.

Such is the case of the Defense Printing Service at Fort Bragg, which recently unveiled its new high-tech printing processes.

The director of the printing service here said the new technologies will help save money and make printing easier for customers.

"We used to have analogical, light lens technologies for reproducing materials," said Aubrey Johnson, director of the print-

ing service. "That process would copy what it sees as an exact reproduction. But, on the new digital side, you can sit at your desk put a document in, click and send it via the Internet."

The printing service would then download the information, send it to the equipment that would print out the document — all without the client ever traveling to the printing service, Johnson said.

Saving money was a big reason for the transition to newer equipment, he said.

"I'm excited because it is a big, big tax saver," he said. "The initial cost way big, but it pays for itself in a short time."

He added that money is saved by being

able to downsize the service and release excess personnel.

"It used to be that when you would bring in a 900-page booklet, we would have to shoot a negative, develop it, fix it, dry it, strip it and make a large metal sheet to print the paper out with, then after it was printed it would have to be cut, folded and bound," he said. "That process took five people to do. But, the new machines alone can do the entire process with only one person."

The new machines can store up to 20

jobs in order of preference, can collate 1,800 pages and scan in 200,000 pages, Johnson said. He added that if you paid \$200,000 for the machine it would pay for itself in three years because it cuts overhead.

Johnson said the new systems will in five years help to cut down 99 percent of the hazardous materials the older systems used. (Arnews)

(Editor's note: Spec. Timmons is on the staff of the Paraglide, Fort Bragg, N.C.)

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Upcoming art exhibition/auction a community fund-raiser

By Kathy Harkleroad

The sound of the auctioneer's gavel will be heard March 8 at the 25th annual Redstone Officer and Civilian Women's Club art exhibition and auction.

The event, which raises money for the various charities the club contributes to, is open to the public. "All of the money that we make from the auction goes into our welfare fund, and we help support organizations both on the Arsenal, and in the Huntsville and Madison communities," Judy Link, honorary president of the club, said.

Items to be auctioned off at the event in the Officers Club include original watercolors, oil paintings, and a diverse selection of signed and number graphics. There will be lithographs, serigraphs and etchings by many internationally famous artists such as Anotole Krasnyansky, Jane Woosten-Scott and Leroy Neiman, as well as works by many artists with great potential for the future.

"Each of the pieces will be custom framed and matted by the gallery and all the new owner has to do is take each piece

home and hang it," Link said. Each piece also has a certificate of authenticity issued with it.

"There will be something for everyone's taste and background," Link said. "The hardest part is always deciding on what to bid on." Before the 7 p.m. auction, the pictures may be viewed beginning at 6. Entertaining during the preview of the pieces will be the Metropolitan Orchestra. Hor d'oeuvres will also be served with a cash bar. The dining room will be open with its regular menu.

The bidding will get under way at 7 and door prizes will be awarded. "We always have wonderful door prizes and there will be several of them," Link said. "As in the past the prizes will consist of prints, and all are beautiful."

Dress for the evening is casual attire. "We would like to invite everyone— from the soldiers on post to the Huntsville community — to attend and view these wonderful pieces of art," Link said.

Admission to the auction will be a donation of \$5 and tickets can be purchased in advance at the cashier's cage at the Officers



ANNUAL EVENT— Wanda Harvill, left, president of the Redstone Officer and Civilian Women's Club, and Judy Link, honorary president, are busy reviewing the

events preceding the annual Art Exhibition and Auction. The picture in the background is one of the many prints that will be available during the auction.

Web surfing Air Force officer nets nine months confinement

SCOTT AIR FORCE BASE, Ill.— An Air Force officer using his government computer to download pornographic images has learned a lesson he'll never forget and wants others to avoid the same temptation.

On Aug. 24, Capt. William D. Hopkins Jr., 88th Communications Group, Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, Ohio, was sentenced to nine months confinement, a \$10,000 fine and a reprimand for conduct unbecoming an officer consisting of wrongfully and dishonorably using Air Force computer and telecommunications equipment to locate, download and store computer graphics, including pornographic images.

Hopkins plead guilty to the charge and was sentenced by a military judge sitting alone at his request.

In an open letter written while in confinement, the 23-year veteran admitted he violated the rules by using government equipment for personal purposes, and hopes his story will convince others tempted to misuse government computers to think twice.

Looking back, Hopkins wrote, he now realizes that he was falsely justifying his actions at the time of misuse.

"I told myself it (using the computer) was OK because I'm only using it after working hours: I'm not causing a loss to the government -- the computer won't be used up because the hard drive can be erased and used again, and again; I'm

not making any money by what I'm doing; and besides, I know other people in my work center who are doing it," Hopkins wrote.

Over time, while using the computer to access large archives of information for work, Hopkins stated that he became aware of the multitude of unofficial information that exists on the internet and began using his computer to download erotic pictures.

Hopkins' illegal web surfing began as a brief diversion from a hectic work load, but he eventually began downloading erotic pictures more frequently.

"In a sense, I was using my government computer as a screen for my electronic 'men's' magazine. It was like having the magazine hidden in my desk and, when no one else was around, taking it out to look at the pictures, and then putting it away," Hopkins wrote.

According to Hopkins, his "terrible mistake" has cost him much more than a simple monetary loss. The loss of trust and respect that now scars his lifetime achievements in the Air Force convinced him to try to sway others from making the same mistake.

"Essentially, I can't be trusted to continue my career in the Air Force. I doubt (anyone) can imagine the embarrassment I feel," wrote Hopkins.

In January, the Air Force distributed Air Force Instruction 33-129, Transmission of Information via

the Internet and will soon publish AFI 33-119, Electronic Mail Management and Use. The AFIs contain specific guidance regarding use of the Internet and e-

mail as a government resource and as such should be for official business or authorized use only.

Every member is responsible for complying with

these publications, according to Air Force Communications Agency officials.

(Editor's note: Originally released by the Air Force News Service, courtesy of

Air Force Materiel Command and Air Force Communications Agency and re-released by the Army News Service.)

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'Analog' and 'digitized' forces to 'fight it out' at Fort Irwin

By Gerry J. Gilmore

WASHINGTON— The 1st Brigade, 4th Infantry Division, the Army's digitized, prototype 21st century-force, is preparing to move out to match weaponry and wits with the lower-tech opposition force on the sands of southern California in March.

The six-week Advanced Warfighting Experiment is part of Force XXI, the Army's plan to transform itself to meet the nation's projected defense needs into the 21st century. The 1st Brigade is now loading up its high-tech-enhanced equipment at Fort Hood, Texas, and is expected to arrive at Fort Irwin March 1. After about two weeks of preparation, the two forces will seek each other out and attempt to achieve a "battlefield victory."

"This is an experiment. The hypotheses is, that if you have enhancements in technology, organization and tactics, you will see an improvement in lethality, survivability and operational tempo. We want to be able to capture that. The NTC is the best place short of actual combat ... to be able to measure [the question], 'Who shot who, [and] when,'" said Col. Albert F. Turner Jr., director of the Joint Venture Office within the Directorate for Combat Developments at Training and Doctrine Command, Fort Monroe, Va. Turner provided information on the upcoming AWE at a Feb. 19 Pentagon news conference.

Senior Army leaders want to discover how the latest warfighting technology can

be employed on a simulated battlefield against a lower-tech, but still formidable, foe.

The 1st Brigade's NTC opponent, the OPFOR, is "mean, wily ... and not as technologically advanced," Turner said. He calls the OPFOR "an analog unit" because during the exercise it will use non-technologically-enhanced equipment, including standard radios and paper maps.

"But, they [OPFOR] are well-trained, they fight the same battles on the same terrain every week. They know the land, they know each other, they know friendly doctrine, so they're a pretty effective organization," he added.

Turner said he was serving in the Pentagon more than two-and-a-half years ago when then Army Chief of Staff Gen. Gordon R. Sullivan and Gen. Frederick M. Franks Jr., the TRADOC commanding general at the time, co-wrote an eight-page message to the Army. The two senior four-star generals wanted the Army to reinvent itself for the future.

Much of Sullivan's and Frank's joint vision of the Army of the Future will be tested at Fort Irwin in March, Turner said. After Sullivan and Frank retired, Army Chief of Staff Dennis J. Reimer and Gen. William M. Hartzog, TRADOC's commanding general, were handed the leaders' baton to prepare the Army for the next century's challenges.

"The Army has achieved something truly remarkable," Turner said. "I have this quote

from my boss, Gen. Hartzog, hanging up in my office. It says: 'We are in the middle of a slam-dunk miracle.' [In about] two-and-a-half years, we [now] have a combat-ready force, ready to go out to the National Training Center and take on the OPFOR."

The 1st Brigade is bringing its own technologically-enhanced M-1A2 Abrams tanks, Bradley Fighting Vehicles, howitzers and more to Fort Irwin for the AWE, Turner said. Normally, units undergoing training at the NTC use pre-positioned equipment.

"It is a different brigade than any other in the Army," he said. "Every single vehicle, truck, tank, howitzer, has new equipment installed on it."

The 1st Brigade's soldiers have been training with their new equipment for the past six months at Fort Hood, Turner said. This Information Age equipment includes laptop computers, vehicle locator systems, dual-purpose, voice-digital radios, night-fighting equipment, and anti-fratricide devices. All of these enhancements are designed to improve command and control on the battlefield.

If commanders know where all of their troops and vehicles are during battle, Turner said, they can make more informed and timely life or death decisions.

"Every single one of those 1,500 vehicles in the brigade is transmitting its location all over the battlefield. And, when everybody on their laptop computers is now seeing displays where everybody else is, you have a much better vision of how it

[battlefield] looks," he said.

"We know how five 'analog brigades' have performed against the OPFOR [in the past]," Turner said. "Now, we want to know how EXFOR members handle the [digitized] information when they receive it."

The Army's leaders also want to know how "flesh and blood" soldiers will interact with all of that new technology, and the increased information it provides, in a stressful simulated-wartime environment.

"Victory on the battlefield is not just about technology, it's not about a 'silver bullet,'" Turner said. "It is about having technology, but [also] being able to employ it. You have to have good leadership, good organization, good unit cohesion and good training. All of which leads to you being able to employ that technology."

The AWE is truly a historic occasion, Turner said. In November, he added, the Army plans to test a simulated division-sized digitized force.

"We are fully confident in the 1st Brigade's ability to perform out there ... with dozens of new pieces of gear, new ways of command and control; new techniques, tactics and organization. We've broken the mold in the Army, how you design things, train and organize. All in about two years," Turner concluded. (Arnews)

More soldiers to be eligible for early promotion to specialist

By Gerry J. Gilmore

WASHINGTON— About 5,300 active-Army Pfc's will be eligible for early promotion to specialist rank when the waiver window widens from 10 to 15 percent March 1.

The increased enlisted promotion opportunity, which effects about 5,300 eligible Pfc's, extends through May, said Sgt. Maj. William T. Hursh, enlisted promotion proponent,

Office of the Deputy Chief of Staff for Personnel in the Pentagon.

"The reason we're able to increase it [promotion window] to 15 percent is because the promotion management policies that we've put into effect are being followed in the field," Hursh said. "We're also having extremely good promotions to sergeant. As long as those promotions continue, we should be able to continue the waivers at 15 percent,

possibly through the end of this fiscal year."

The promotion outlook to specialist didn't always look so rosy. Early or waiverable promotions to specialist were frozen from Dec. 1, 1995 through Sept. 30, 1996, Hursh said.

However, "on Oct. 1, 1996, we started the waiver at 5 percent for the first quarter of fiscal year '97," he said. Promotions to sergeant rank were also good at that time. Last

December, the promotion waiver window to specialist widened again, to 10 percent.

During the specialist promotion freeze, the Army was about 117 percent over strength at that rank, Hursh said. Now, the Army needs more specialists.

"We're trying to maintain specialist [strength] as close to 100 percent as we can," Hursh said. "The future NCOs of the Army come from the specialists

ranks. Commanders can recognize those outstanding soldiers they want to promote early to specialist so they can compete for promotion to sergeant."

Soldiers in the new waiver zone will have between 18-25 months time-in-service and six months time-in-grade, waiverable to

three months time-in-grade, Hursh said. Commanders will consider only the "best and brightest" for early promotion.

"The waivers are for recognizing the best PFCs in the Army," he concluded. (Arnews)

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Commentary: Personal view of evacuation from Saudi

By Christopher Chavez

RIYADH, Saudi Arabia — Imagine one day you are told along with everyone else in your neighborhood you can no longer live there... and your family will be separated for its own good. The men, however, cannot go; they must remain. Within several weeks all women and children must move to other parts of the world and, because it's summer, those that happen to be on vacation can never return.

The realization quickly sets in that the close-knit community that was your neighborhood will be lost forever. Replenishing yourself with friends and neighbors before they permanently disappear from your life becomes a pressing mission. Each day is crammed with visits, socializing at the pool, barbecues, and trying to do a year's worth of living in a couple of weeks. You frantically gather addresses and phone numbers but never quite get them all. Your children are amazed you allow them to play with as many friends as they like, for as long as they like. They have yet to realize this will be the last they see of their playmates for quite some time... or maybe

forever. Socializing takes on an urgent, frenzied pace. Since this is all thrust upon you at once— torn from family, friends, and home — and you have essentially lost complete control of your immediate future, your emotions are jerked on and off what feels like an unending rollercoaster while continuing to be stretched just short of their breaking point.

means of transportation is a bicycle. A neighborhood where your doors never need locking; safety for your children, your house, yourself is never a concern. Your children exist in a protective cocoon surrounded by compound walls. Everybody looks after everybody else's children even if they're not sure whose children they are. Imagine never having to worry about

ing down to unexpected meals, always making enough to go around or making do with what you have. It's almost never an imposition and no lack of understanding when it is.

Imagine this mythical Waltons-Leave-it-to-Beaver-Little-House-on-the-Prairie village is in the middle of a part of the world we Americans view as the most dangerous and most foreign. This utopia really did exist up until several months ago. It was then the Department of Defense (DoD) struck a blow against terrorism by withdrawing sponsorship of all but a few DoD dependents in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. The deal that would effectively expel most women and children from the country was struck in July 1996. The Secretary of Defense and the Saudi Minister of Defense and Aviation agreed on a course of action that they felt would further safeguard U.S. Forces in Saudi Arabia. Collectively, they conceded terrorist bombings last June and in November 1995 warranted these actions. Clearly, decisive action of some kind had

to be taken to protect U.S. deployed forces given that the Kingdom's security apparatus seemed incapable of providing an adequate shield against transplanted or even home-grown militants.

However, those of us employed by DoD organizations which had been in the Kingdom for decades, and were not part of the deployed forces, felt that withdrawing "Command Sponsorship" of virtually all dependents was an over reaction. An over reaction given that DoD was the only U.S. agency evacuating personnel; State Department families were being given the choice to remain or depart the Kingdom as were families of most U.S. contractors. An over reaction in the sense that we felt the perceived threat was no more than that faced by Americans in other parts of the world and in many cases far less (predictable crime fundamental to most American cities is practically non-existent in the Kingdom). We were not part of the roughly 4,000 deployed forces in Saudi Arabia. We were there neither to partic-

ipate in United Nations ordered patrols over Iraq nor to maintain the U.S. Patriot batteries defending Saudi critical assets. Our mission was security assistance; to advise our Saudi allies together with foreign military sales programs. We were different, or so we thought.

My wife and I had lived through the Bader Meinhof bombings in Germany during the early '70s; through the various bombings and shootings in and around the American military community in Germany during the early to mid-'80s; and finally, during the late '80s in Cairo we lived through a constant stream of terrorist threats. To our knowledge, evacuation of American dependents from Germany or Egypt had never been considered. Likewise, the World Trade Center and Oklahoma bombings did not result in the evacuation of New York and Oklahoma City. Neither will there be an outcry to shut down JFK if it is determined a bomb brought down TWA flight 800. Instead, rational,

See SAUDI on page 16

'Disruption of a community's well being, equivalent to that visited upon the American expatriate community in Saudi Arabia, would never be contemplated or permitted by the American public within the continental United States.'

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drugs or guns in your child's school. Imagine a neighborhood where it is normal to drop in on your friends anytime, or them on you. Often this means sit-

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Sports & Recreation

Fort Hood master sergeant hiking for cancer research

WASHINGTON— When Fort Hood's MSgt. Charles Belk takes a vacation, he hikes. And hikes. Some of his adventures have included significant mileage on the Pacific Crest Trail and daily 15 mile hikes near his home in Killeen, Texas.

So, when Belk retires from the Army early next year you won't find him trimming hedges or baking under a Caribbean sun. In April he will launch a solo hike of the famed Appalachian Trail.

Belk's April-to-October expedition is not merely a retirement fancy. It is a celebration of both physical and spiritual well-being. Unlike past treks, this one will honor the memory of Belk's mother and father, both of whom succumbed to lung cancer.

It is no wonder, then, that Belk supports advances in cancer research. For years he has made charitable contributions to one of a number of cancer research-related organizations affiliated with the Independent Charities of America's Combined Federal Campaign. For the past two years, he has provided gifts to Cancer Treatment Research Foundation.

It was in August 1994, while returning from his mother's funeral in Reno, that fate intervened. During his lay-

over at the airport, Charles Belk happened to browse through a hiking magazine he found at an airport kiosk. The magazine featured a cover story about the Appalachian Trail.

Thinking that there had to be a way to make a significant difference in the advancement of cancer research, and realizing that part of his enthusiasm for hiking came from his passion for life, he decided to organize a fund-raising hike based on the trail, which covers more than 2,000 miles.

When Belk got home from his trip that August evening in 1994, he found waiting for him among his stack of unopened mail a letter from the CTRF, thanking him for his gift.

"In all the years that I've been giving to national cancer organizations, no one ever thanked me before," said Belk. "Your letter hit at the right time. That's when I decided to hike for cancer research in the name of CTRF."

In addition to being the sole hiker on his journey, Belk also plans to fully underwrite the project himself. However, before he ever sets foot out of Killeen, his fund-raising efforts will be well under way. He plans to raise dollars per mile for each mile he hikes on the trail.

Grassroots efforts to involve his community in support of cancer research include erecting stands designed to attract interest — and pledges — in front of the department stores and shopping malls. He also plans to request support from the community's business leaders. Finally, noting that GI's are usually very philanthropic, he added, "I'm going to try to involve every GI stationed at Fort Hood. That alone should make this hike a success."

But, Belk won't measure success just in terms of dollars raised. He knows the trail from Georgia to Maine will be both breathtaking and grueling.

"I guess in a way I'm being selfish," he said. "I've been in the Army for 21 years and I know my limits. When I'm hiking 500 miles in the rain, I'm going to need a reason to keep going. I just can't give up."

And so most days, when he isn't at home or on post, you can find Belk hiking. Committed to making this dream come true, he will

carry both a journal and a camera to record his thoughts and experiences. (Arnews)

(Editor's note: To follow Belk's progress as the time draws nearer to his departure or to support him and his cause, contact CTRF at (847) 342-7450.)

Canned foods have improving reputation, council says

FORT LEE, Va.— Canned food has really gotten a bad rap. You get fired, you're canned. Fake laughter is canned. On the Internet, "spam" is junk mail. In real life of course, Spam is the original canned joke. World War II soldiers ate so much Spam that the word became slang for any kind of canned meat.

But once you get past the bad press, you'd be surprised at what you'll find in a can. Not only is canned food just as nutritious, tasty and convenient as fresh or frozen foods, says Bob Fatzinger of the Steel Packaging Council, "it's downright fashionable." Coincidentally, February is National Canned Food

Month and the council is out to change the image of canned foods. "Nearly one-half of the gourmet chefs we surveyed say they use canned food," Fatzinger says. The survey included 161 of the top chefs from Gourmet magazine.

In addition to using it in their restaurants, the majority of the chefs also said they keep their homes stocked with canned foods, from soups to vegetables to coffee. And most of it is the same food military "gourmets" can buy at the commissary. In fact, according to DeCA historian Dr. Pete Skirbunt, "the first stock listing for commissaries back in 1867 contained mostly canned foods,

ranging from canned jam to canned lobster."

Alan Flowers, canned soup and meat buyer for the Defense Commissary Agency (DeCA), says canned foods have taken somewhat of a back seat to frozen foods in recent years, but things might be changing. The wave of the future is "ready to eat," Flowers says. "But since people still like to cook, companies are coming up with ways to enhance their canned food lines." Convenience or "speed scratch" cooking is becoming a way of military culinary lifestyles. (Adapted from a DeCA release.)

Troop basketball

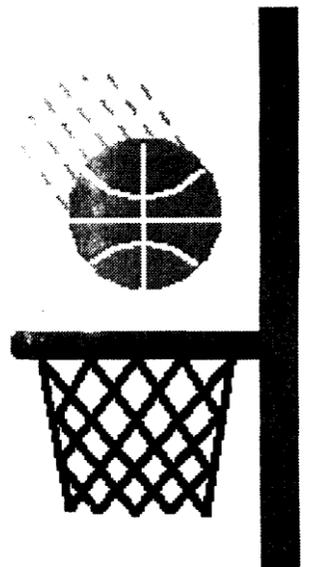
Here are the standings for unit-level basketball as of Feb. 21:

EASTERN CONFERENCE

	WON	LOST
Marines-1	10	3
B Company 832nd	6	7
Hqtrs & A Company	6	7
NCO Academy	5	9
Over 35	3	11

WESTERN CONFERENCE

	WON	LOST
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Readiness Group	12	1
MEDDAC	8	5
C Company 832nd	8	6
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Sports

Annual Brotherhood Run 5K slated for March 15

The eighth annual Brotherhood Run 5K will be held at 9 a.m. March 15 at building 3440 across from Pagano Gym.

Again this year the event is sponsored by the Sergeants Major Association. Proceeds from the run will benefit the units' Family Support Groups.

All runners who have trained for the 3.1-mile distance are invited. Registration is \$9 until March 10 or \$10 thereafter. T-shirts will be given to the first 300 entries; and blue ribbons will be given to the first 75 kids 12 and under who participate.

Send the accompanying entry form with a check payable to Brotherhood Run to the following address: Brotherhood Run; Attn: Maj. Maurice Dawson; Hqtrs & A Company, 832nd; Redstone Arsenal, 35808.

For more information, call MSgt. Aaron Jones 955-6555.

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Army fast-food focuses on Mobility Enhancing Rations

WASHINGTON— In today's fast moving, high-tech world, people don't seem to sit still for very long. This goes for soldiers, too. To eat on the run, civilians can simply go to their favorite fast food franchise, order and drive away. This will be now be an option for soldiers in the field.

Well, sort of. The Army has developed a mobile ration that could be called a meal-on-wheels".

Since the Army has become more and more mobile, a need exists for rations that can be eaten while on the go." Food technologists at Soldier System Command's Natick Research, Development and Engineering Center recently developed "Mobility Enhancing Ration Components." These components — "MERCs" — can be eaten out of hand and require no food preparation or eating utensils. The new items supplement existing field rations such as the Meal, Ready-to-Eat, or could stand alone as an assault ration. MERCs will support highly mobile and forward deployed troops and are suitable for Arctic, jungle, desert, mountain and urban areas.

NRDEC, under the Family of Operational Rations program, developed a family of shelf-stable sandwiches using major advances in food processing, preservation and packaging. The sandwiches consist of shelf-stable breads (bagel, biscuit and white) and a variety of fillings (beef, cheese, barbecue chicken, pepperoni, italian sausage, and peanut butter with jelly).

On Aug. 7-11, 1996, a technical demonstration was conducted at Fort Campbell, Ky., to see how soldiers accepted MERCs. Soldiers ate the MERC sandwich instead of the

MRE entree for the three days. The sandwiches were evaluated to see how much they enhanced the mobility of troops in the field. The meals were packaged with the name "Meal On The Move" in a bag similar to that used for MREs. The label was designed with a picture of a soldier eating a sandwich while "on the move."

Each day the soldiers were asked to evaluate the acceptability of the individual components and the overall concept by completing a questionnaire. A more comprehensive questionnaire was completed on the final day of the test to obtain direct feedback on the benefits of the mobility enhancing components. The feedback is still being evaluated and will be used to make any modifications to improve MERCs.

Menu for MERC Technical Demonstration: Food items for the test consisted of a family of intermediate moisture shelf-stable sandwiches (made at NRDEC), current MRE components and commercially available items. The sandwiches were assembled into nutritionally complete meals using eat-out-of-hand MRE and commercial items. The test menus, consisting of approximately 1300 calories, were designed to meet the nutritional requirements of the warfighter.

The Army and NRDEC actively solicits private industry to collaborate in research and development of mutually useful items. A Cooperative Research and Development Agreement shares the technology and expertise of developing a particular item that has dual

use for military and civilians.

In the case of the MERCs, GoodMark Foods Inc. is collaborating with NRDEC to further develop and commercialize shelf-stable sandwiches. The future, commercial version of the MERCs might be used by campers, hikers, mountain climbers, hunters and fishermen or anyone else who needs a lightweight, nutritious meal that requires no preparation or utensils.

Here is the MERC menu:

- Food item: 2 Nacho Cheese Pockets; Beef Steak Strip; Jalapeno Cheese Spread; MRE Sugar Free Beverage; Coffee, Instant; MRE Creamer, non-dairy; MRE Sugar; Mustard /ketchup/relish.

- Food item: 2 Sausage & Cheese Biscuits; Cereal Snack Mix; Nutrigrain Bar; MRE Cocoa Beverage; MRE Coffee, Instant; MRE Creamer, non-dairy; MRE Sugar.

- Benefits to soldiers: Enhances mobility of the individual soldier; provide components that are ready-to-eat, requiring no heating or eating utensils; increased acceptability which leads to consumption and higher energy levels; and high quality, familiar, nutritious foods such as sandwiches and ethnic foods like burritos.

- Dual-Use Application: Commercial version might be available in convenience stores and vending machines. Available to backpackers, campers, mountain climbers and other outdoorsmen. (Arnews)



Open wide...

Carlín Smith, 4, daughter of retiring 1st Sgt. Carl Smith, has her teeth checked by Dr. (Lt. Col.) Craig Williams, a dentist at the

Dental Clinic. Twenty-four youngsters from the Child Development Center visited the clinic Friday for Children's Dental Health Month.

JOB

Continued from page 1

said.

From past base realignment experiences, about 45 percent of the ATCOM aviation workers are expected to move here with their jobs.

"We set up an Oracle data base here at Redstone" for this job-offer effort, according to Denise Breshears, a programmer analyst with the Corporate Information Center. "We set up several postscript printers for our CPO— that's system printers — that are dedicated to printing the letters."

The data base includes input from the Defense Civilian Personnel Data System in San Antonio plus force development information for AMCOM. Personnel actions can be prepared

from the same data base after workers accept their job offers. "I have no doubt we'll be able to batch process the (personnel form) 50 actions to DCPDS" using this data base, according to Connie Schulte, a programmer analyst with Corporate Information Center.

Besides the main data base effort Marva Tibbs and Susan Davis, both of Civilian Personnel Office, have been generating job-offer letters for 600-700 MICOM Test Measurement and Diagnostic Equipment workers who are not serviced by the personnel office.

People involved in

preparing job offer letters and the related automation work have included Janice Gulley, a personnel staffing and classification specialist with the transition group; Bobby Winn, Gaile Callahan and Vicki Welch, also of CPO; Steve Costner, Harlon Doyle, Norman Robinson, Butch Greene, Vernon Williams and Karen Fuemmeler, all of Corporate Information Center. Maxine Doherty of CIC arranged for the conference room worksite.

"This is one of the best examples of partnership between organizations to get a project done that I've seen," Reynolds said.

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Calhoun College extends credit to OMMCS trainees

Soldiers can receive college credit from the training they have received through the Ordnance Missile and Munitions Center and School.

Calhoun Community College says the Missile Munitions Technology degree is available to persons who have completed electronics-missile training through OMMCS. For the soldier who qualifies, the Calhoun College residence requirement is reduced from 24 to 5 credit hours.

Meeting the residence requirement will allow the soldier to apply for graduation (if other required courses are transferred in) or for a SOCAD (Servicemembers Opportunity College Associate Division) agreement allowing the soldier to complete degree requirements at any other accredited college that participates in the SOCAD program. In addition to the break on residence, the soldier may receive non-traditional credit from the OMMCS training of up to

63 quarter hours (a minimum of 40 quarter hours of qualified missile training is required). Up to 45 quarter hours of ACE recommended non-traditional credit can be applied toward a Calhoun degree.

The Missile Munitions Technology degree requires the soldier to complete 33 quarter hours from an accredited college to receive an associate in applied science degree. Your military service may also provide valuable college credits toward other

degree programs. For example, most missile training schools provide credit toward electronics or even general education degrees.

If you think you may qualify for the MMT program or want to check on other possibilities, call the Redstone office of Calhoun Community College 876-7431. (Adapted from a Calhoun release.)

Systems to reduce fratricide to be tested in field exercise

FORT MONROE, Va.— Casualties caused by friendly fire have been tragedies in nearly every war the United States has fought. Such incidents marred the successful and brief Operation Desert Storm campaign six years ago.

The Army is now working to develop systems that will prevent similar incidents on future battlefields. The Battlefield Combat Identification System is one method that will be tested during the Task Force XXI Advanced Warfighting Experiment at Fort Irwin, Calif., in March.

BCIS is the ability to look through a sight, put your crosshairs on a target and make a determination of whether its a friend or unknown, said Col. Thomas Page, Training and Doctrine Commands program integration officer for combat identification.

It's a millimeter wave system where a tank gunner, about to engage a target, hits the target with a laser range finder. Concurrently the system will query the target with a coded millimeter wave signal. If it's a BCIS-equipped vehicle, it will reply with a coded millimeter wave.

The reply will activate a light in the sight and a tone signal to let the gunner and the vehicle commander know the vehicle is a friend.

The AWE involves the Army's Experimental Force, or EXFOR, which is the 1st Brigade, 4th Infantry Division, Fort Hood, Texas. The brigade's soldiers and equipment have been outfitted for new battlefield technologies. Those technologies will be tested in field conditions as the EXFOR engages the Opposition Force of the National Training Center.

Army leadership will use the results of the AWE to decide whether the new equipment will work for the Army of the 21st century.

BCIS is one of those technologies that will be tested. More than 60 vehicles used in the AWE — tanks, specialized engineer and chemical reconnaissance, scout, fire support and Bradley Fighting Vehicles — will be equipped with BCIS.

Two Air Force ground forward air con-

trollers (FACs) assigned to the Experimental Force will also have a type of BCIS equipment. With their BCIS gear, FACs can relay the friendly location information to close support aircraft.

An Air Force system called SADL, situational awareness data link, will be used in the experiment. SADL is an EPLARS (enhanced position location reporting system) radio in an airplane that can communicate with Army ground units.

If you put one of those radios in an airplane, it can receive that situational awareness picture and, with modification, can display in the pilots heads-up sight the friendly locations closest to the target he's about to engage, Page said.

For decades combat aircraft have used an air-to-air friend or foe identifier. The current system is called the Mark XII. While it is effective in the air, the Mark XII is not suitable for use in ground combat vehicles.

Page feels the ultimate solution to preventing fratricide will be a combination of a target identification capability like the BCIS, and situational awareness provided by digital communications. The current drawback to digital communications is data latency.

To transmit data to every platform on the battlefield in real time is a technical challenge, he said.

To illustrate data latency, Page uses the example of a scout platoon being chased by enemy armor. An Apache Longbow arrives to help out, but the icon on the Apaches situational awareness screen is now 30 seconds old. The ground force now in the location indicated by the icon might be the enemy. Without further information, the pilot might not press the attack.

Until we get that latency down to, quote, real time, it's going to be difficult to rely totally on situational awareness, Page said.

The Army has made great progress in finding solutions to fratricide, the colonel said. Immediately following Desert Storm, Gen. Gordon R. Sullivan, then Army vice chief of staff and later chief of staff, directed TRADOC and Army Materiel Command

to find solutions to the problem.

The TRADOC-AMC task force shortly identified 200 different potential solutions that spanned the areas of doctrine, training, leader development, organizations, materiel and soldier support (DTLOMS).

Field Manual 100-5, Operations, the Army's capstone doctrine on how to fight, and all other Army combat doctrine now include entries on fratricide prevention. Training videos and updated leaders risk assessment checklists were among the other actions taken to solve the problem.

A near-term materiel solution currently being used is a combination of Budd lights and battle boards.

A Budd light is a small infrared strobe visible to night vision goggles. Battle boards are rectangular patches attached to all sides of a vehicle. When viewed through thermal sights, the boards appear as cold spots on the vehicle.

One drawback to these pieces of equipment is that they are visible to an enemy

with night vision and thermal sight equipment. They can also be duplicated by an adversary, which could lead to confusion on a battlefield.

A well-known newspaper recently accused the Army of dragging its feet in fielding a combat identification system.

Page calls development of BCIS a success story. The hindrance has been lack of money.

Since the Gulf War we've developed a piece of hardware that can go into production within a year or two, he said. In the old, acquisition system it would have taken several more years.

The Army, as all the services, is living in a very resource-constrained environment today, Page said. BCIS is not a cheap solution.

Affordability of BCIS has been, and will continue to be a problem. We're doing everything we can to reduce the cost, to drive it into the affordable category. (TRADOC news service)

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SAUDI

Continued from page 11

appreciable actions were taken to further protect the public after each of these incidents.

Disruption of a community's well being, equivalent to that visited upon the American expatriate community in Saudi Arabia, would never be contemplated or permitted by the American public within the continental United States. The dominant but whispered thought among the Riyadh American community was the evacuation order had not come as a result of the yet to be solved June bombing in Dhahran or the unsolved TWA crash— although a role was certainly played by both — but was ordered primarily because it was an election year and the current administration wanted no further incidents occurring at a most inopportune time. After the Congressional dressing down received by the Secretary of Defense for the June bombing, it would seem the opportunity to act for action's sake was seized and seized quickly.

Was this action taken devoid of forethought to the impact it would have on implementing security assistance in a part of the world vital to our national interests? Was DoD's action taken consistent with a logical, well thought-out foreign policy? Most importantly, was this a conscious decision to return to— as some would suggest — a previously discredited fire base mentality, consolidating all U.S. Forces in neat, easily targeted clusters, segregated from local population centers, ultimately placing in greater jeopardy those soldiers, civilians, and dependents left in-Kingdom. Only Washington can answer these questions. Unquestionably, executing prudent, well thought-out measures — proportionate to the threat — is key to living with today's terrorist realities. However, the Saudi decision remains a radical response in the eyes of most of us affected. We can only hope the Administration's decision was based on sound information, with safety foremost in the minds of the decision makers, and not just a gut reaction in a political year.

The pronouncement that 750 spouses and children leave the Kingdom, breaking-up hundreds of families, and imposing undue emotional and financial stress on those this country relies on to implement foreign policy at its most basic level, warranted little if any coverage in the news media. The devastation of a few hundred families apparently does not qualify as front page news or even a footnote on CNN. What is deserved, however, is an acknowledgment that for every foreign policy decision our country makes — right or wrong — not only are there geopolitical ramifications, but there are also flesh and blood consequences that must be borne by real people. The general public is seldom made aware of these consequences, especially if they are unpleasant and particularly as they relate on a personal level.

Those of us that lived the gilded-cage existence in Saudi Arabia just happened to be the unfortunate recipients of the repercussions this time. There will certainly be other times, and it is also certain the personal, non-geopolitical side will again never be reported on the 6 o'clock news. Nevertheless, at the request of our government, my wife, daughter and I left our house in Riyadh at midnight on Aug. 10, 1996. Knowing it would be the last time they would see what was still our home, my wife and 8-year-old daughter had difficulty stepping out the door. They had taken this journey to the airport many times before, but this time, there would be no returning.

We were sneaking away in the middle of the night with only what could be packed in the three Samsonite suitcases thrown in the back of the Chevy Suburban. As we drove out the compound gate and the Filipino security guards gave their familiar wave, we realized an important part of our lives and most of our dearest friends were being left behind in the middle of the Saudi desert. As our daughter cried softly, the emptiness was overwhelming.

Editor's note: Chavez, of the Security Assistance Management Directorate, has been stationed in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia for more than six years. He serves as chief of the Patriot Field Office there.

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Army takes to the sea as part of Army Vision 2010 contingencies

By Gerry J. Gilmore

WASHINGTON— Soldiers aren't becoming sailors, but the Army is employing an improved series of U.S. Navy transport ships to speed up its power-projection capabilities to deal with post-Cold War and projected 21st-Century contingencies.

The newly-renovated United States Naval Ship Gordon was loaded with combat equipment and supplies in Charleston, S.C., Feb. 10-13. A component of the Army's Prepositioned Afloat Program, the Gordon is the first of a series of converted-reconditioned U.S. Navy Large Medium-Speed Roll-on Roll-off (LMSR) ships. The Prepositioned Afloat Program places military equipment aboard ships at sea. This system supports current and future strategy, Army Vision 2010, and enables Army forces to rapidly deploy for contingencies and humanitarian efforts worldwide.

Laden with Army equipment, ships like the Gordon will provide flexibility and help U.S. defense planners to meet post-Cold War and 21st-Century contingencies,

according to Lt. Col. Michael F. DeMayo III, a strategy, plans and policy officer within the War Plans Division under the Office of the Deputy Chief of Staff for Operations in the Pentagon.

"When the 24th [Mechanized] Infantry Division deployed to Operations Desert Shield/Desert Storm, the first ship with heavy equipment arrived in Saudi Arabia in 20 days," DeMayo said. "That was in the days before the Army Global Prepositioning Program, which includes the Army Prepositioned Afloat [program], and is maturing very rapidly, particularly in Southwest Asia [Middle East]."

"Today, the Army possesses the capability to reinforce Southwest Asia with eight ground-maneuver battalions; that is five tank battalions and three mechanized infantry battalions ... almost a heavy division of force on the ground, within 15 days. Right now, in four-to-six days, the Army can have a full heavy brigade, in the sandbox, ready to fight."

The Gordon boasts eight decks and stretches more than three football fields

from stem to stern. It can carry an entire Army armor task force; however, the Gordon will be fully loaded with combat support/combat service support unit equipment to provide the "sinews of war," sustaining the early deploying units, up to multiple divisions. The ship has a crew of 26. It can also carry up to 50 soldiers to maintain equipment.

Newer transport ships like the Gordon, which can reach 24-knot speeds, will help the Army to meet post-Cold War challenges "with dizzying speed," DeMayo said. With a force comprised of 37 percent-fewer soldiers since 1989, combined with the closure of many U.S. overseas bases, and a declining defense budget, the Army has reshaped itself with a strategic dominant maneuver capability; the rapid projection of forces from Army bases at home and abroad, to prepositioned sets of equipment in hours and days. This capability, according to Army Vision 2010, results in "...creating an image in the mind of an adversary of an unstoppable force of unequalled compe-

tence." The repositioning of equipment ashore and aboard ships like the Gordon, DeMayo said, provides the United States with a non-intrusive, forward presence in key areas around the world.

"As a result of the cooperative nature of this presence with our allies, the Army shapes the future, reassures America's friends, and serves a deterrence notice to would-be aggressors," he said.

Currently, the Army's Prepositioned Afloat program is transitioning from the 870,000 square feet of cargo space available on 7 older RO/RO vessels, to 2,000,000 square feet of cargo space available on 8 LMSRs, of which the Gordon was the first to upload. (Arnews)

(Editor's note: The USNS Gordon is named after Army MSgt. Gary I. Gordon, a Special Forces noncommissioned officer who was killed while serving with conspicuous gallantry in Somalia in October 1993. MSgt. Gordon was awarded the Congressional Medal of Honor posthumously.)

WORTH REPEATING!

"For every benefit you receive a tax is levied."
—Ralph Waldo Emerson
(1803-1882)
U.S. author

"Taxes are what we pay for civilized society."
—Oliver Wendell Holmes Jr.
(1841-1935)
U.S. jurist

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—Arthur Godfrey
(1903-1983)
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Announcements

Officer/civilian women — The Officer and Civilian Women's Club is accepting requests from organizations seeking financial assistance. Written requests should outline the group's programs, reasons for requesting help, how funds will be used, and whether other groups or organizations have been solicited for the same donations. Send requests to OCWC Welfare Chairman, P.O. Box 8110, Redstone Arsenal, 35808. Applications are due by March 1. Monies will be awarded in early May.

CFC planning — The Local Federal Coordinating Committee for the Tennessee Valley Combined Federal Campaign will accept applications through March 1 for a Principle Fund Organization to administer the 1997 CFC. Only federations, charitable organizations or a combina-

tion thereof are eligible to apply for this position. Applications are due by 4 p.m. March 1 to the Local Federal Coordinating Committee, AMSMI-CFC, building 3197, Redstone Arsenal 35898-5795.

Merit awards — The Redstone Arsenal Officer and Civilian Women's Club is accepting applications for merit awards to eligible graduating high school seniors and current college and technical school students who are spouses or other family members of active duty, retired, reserve or deceased commissioned or warrant officers. All applicants must hold a valid military identification card. The deadline to apply is March 8 and applications can be obtained by written request to Kitty Ware, merit awards chairman, 2607 Guenevere Ave., Huntsville 35803. Include your phone number

and type of merit award (high school, college or spouse).

Tax assistance — Redstone Arsenal Tax Assistance Office is accepting appointments for free tax assistance and electronic filing to all active duty military personnel, retirees, and qualified dependents. The Tax Assistance Office also has a limited quantity of free 1996 tax forms (federal and state). Call 876-1235 or stop by building 3475 (Honest John Road, next to ACS) to set up an appointment. "Please keep in mind that civilian personnel (those who are not retirees and/or qualified dependents) are not eligible to receive this service." Tax forms for years prior to 1996 may be obtained from the Office of the Staff Judge Advocate, building 111.

Red Cross blood program — Feb. 27 from 7-noon at 5250, Bertha Childress 842-0356. Feb. 28 from 7:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. at SSDC (Wynn Drive), Al Longhi 955-3693; and from 7:30-noon at Corps of Engineers, Linda Merschman 895-1790.

Leaving the military — A free two-hour professional lecture for officers and se-

nior NCOs who plan to leave the service in the next five years will be held Thursday from 9-11:30 a.m. in building 3301, Vincent Hall. Learn about everything from how to compete for a job to writing resumes and cover letters to handling rejection. The scheduled lecturer is retired Col. Dick Crampton. For more information, call Phillip Paschel 955-6490.

Abandoned vehicle — A 1965 gray Chevrolet C-10, VIN No. C1445S137973 was found in the bay of the Auto Craft Shop, building 3617-S and subsequently impounded by the Provost Marshal Office. To identify or claim the vehicle, call SFC Barbour in the PMO Operations Section 842-2442 or 876-2222.

Annual art auction — The Redstone Arsenal Officer and Civilian Women's Club will hold its 25th annual art exhibition and auction at 7 p.m. March 8 at the Officers Club. The auction benefits many local charities that the OCWC supports through its welfare fund during the year. Tickets are available from the Officers Club cashier, any OCWC board member, or at the door for \$5; reservations are suggested. For more in-

formation, call Raquel Spiegel 721-9064.

Retired officers — The Retired Officers Association will hold its monthly luncheon at 11 this morning at the Officers Club. Ed Uher is to present a program on "Land Trust." For more information, call retired CWO William L. Kelly 881-2323.

PX news — The Post Exchange says, "IMPAC credit card- Department of Army micro purchases (up to \$2,500) from the Army & Air Force Exchange Service are authorized. IMPAC credit cards will be accepted at your Redstone Arsenal PX." For more information, call 881-7313.

Lady golfers — The Redstone Arsenal Ladies Golf Association will hold its welcoming coffee at 9 a.m. March 5 at the golf course clubhouse. Membership dues of \$20 will be accepted at that time. Those unable to attend can mail their dues, payable to RSALGA, to the following address: Bev Van Oostrum, 204 Bellsire Road, Meridianville, Ala., 35759. The first playday of the 1997 golf season is slated March 12. Signups for tee times will begin the day of the coffee. "Let's make this a fun-filled year

of playing golf and making new friends."

Redstone dining-in — The Team Redstone Dining-In will be held at 6 p.m. June 6. All officers interested in joining in the planning committee should contact USA MEDDAC, PACU, Attn: 1st Lt. Sandra Lopez at 955-8616/7670. "Your participation is greatly needed."

AER book sale — The Command Analysis Directorate is accepting donations of used books (no magazines) for the AER fund-raiser Used Book Sale scheduled March 17-28. The book sale will be held from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. in building 5300, room 5241. "Your donations will be greatly appreciated and can be brought to building 5300, second floor." For more information call Corky Campbell 876-9001, Vickie Hill 313-0354 or Liz McWhorter 842-7770.

Contract managers — Huntsville Chapter of the National Contract Management Association will meet at 11:30 a.m. Thursday at the Huntsville Hilton. Dr. Robert Hawkins, of the Navy Acquisition Manage-

See ANNOUNCEMENTS on page 18



SKIP'S CLIPS

'KEEP ON RUNNING TO THE AIRPORT. YOU'VE BEEN TRADED.'

WORTH REPEATING?

"Examine what is said, not who speaks."
—Arab Proverb

"Integrity without knowledge is weak and useless; and knowledge without integrity is dangerous and fearful."
—Samuel Johnson (1709-1784)
English writer

"Progress is not an accident, but a necessity."
—Herbert Spencer (1820-1903)
English philosopher

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

Continued from page 17

ment Training Office in Norfolk, Va., is to speak on "Non-Verbal Communications." Cost is \$10 for members, \$12 for non-members. The public is invited. For more information, call Peggy Gunter 881-0544.... Huntsville Chapter of National Contract Management Association will hold a workshop from 5:30-8:30 p.m. Thursday at the Lockheed Martin Office, 4800 Bradford Drive. The scheduled speaker is Dr. Robert Hawkins of the Navy Acquisition Management Training Office in Norfolk, Va. Cost is \$25 for members, \$30 for non-members. The public is invited. For more information, call Peggy Gunter 881-0544.

Fox Army Community Hospital— If you want to see how fit you are, knowing what you weigh will not tell you. Body fat percentage numbers are more important than weight because you can weigh more than the health range on a height and weight chart but still be in good shape if most of that weight is lean mass rather than body fat. Fox's Public Health and Education Center staff will offer a body composition analysis utilizing a bioelectrical impedance machine that measures total water content and calculates your proportion of lean tissue to body fat. The screening will be offered March 7 from 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at the Redstone Arsenal Fitness Center, building 3705. Also, in conjunction with the Sparkman Fitness Center staff, a body composition analysis will be offered March 12. It will be held from 9 a.m. to noon at the Sparkman Fitness Center. For more information, call the Public Health and Education Cen-

ter 876-8831.

Army education— The Army Education Center provided the following release. "The Army Education Center has received implementation instructions for the transfer of eligible soldiers from VEAP to the MGIB. All eligible soldiers will receive a notification letter through command channels with instructions to report to their local Army Education Center for assistance. In addition, PERSOM will issue a 'Persgram' to each eligible soldier. No soldier will be transferred from VEAP to MGIB without a notification letter or a PERSGRAM. Starting the end of January, there will be a statement on each soldier's leave and earning statement (LES) indicating the status of his or her VEAP account. This statement will be on each LES for a six month period. However, this statement on the LES is not an authorization to make the conversion; each eligible soldier must have in their possession the command letter or Persgram when they come to the Army Education Center to initiate transfer action." For more information, call the Army Education Center 876-9761.

Found property— A woman's ring was found Feb. 13. Call 828-7281.

Town hall meeting— The next Redstone Arsenal Community Town Hall Meeting will be held at 6 p.m. March 4 in the Bicentennial Chapel. Town Hall Meetings are open to all residents, retirees, and employees authorized to use Redstone Arsenal Community

facilities. Tentative topics include spring cleanup, housing update, between-occupants maintenance, pets, Auto Craft Shop renovation, rollerblade hockey, medical care changes, Child Development Services, Month of the Military Child, and Space Camp scholarships. Team Redstone staff will be on hand to address questions or concerns from the community.

Rummage sale— First Christian Church, on Whitesburg Drive just south of Drake Avenue, is having its annual Youth Group Rummage Sale on March 7-8. The times are 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. that Friday and 8-noon Saturday. For more information, call 883-8059.

Islamic center— The Huntsville Islamic Center plans the following daily and weekly events: Jumuah Prayer at 12:15 p.m. Friday, Islamic Study Circle at 7 p.m. Friday, Islamic Adult/Children School at 10:30 a.m. Sunday; and Fajr at 6 a.m., Zuhr at 12:15 p.m., Asr at 3 p.m., Maghrib at 5:30 p.m., and Isha'a at 7:30 p.m. (all five prayers are offered daily at the masjid). For more information call the center, 1645 Sparkman Drive, at 721-1712.

Carpool wanted— Carpool members are wanted

from Athens; alternative work schedule with second Friday off. If interested call Judy 232-1583.

West Point founders day— The West Point Society of the Tennessee Valley will hold a Founders Day Dinner, honoring the 195th birthday of the U.S. Military Academy, at 6:30 p.m. March 14 at the Officers Club. Scheduled speaker is Phillip Marshall, sports writer for The Huntsville Times, who wrote several articles about West Point and the Army football team last fall. Cost for dinner is \$25 per person. For reservations or more information, call Dave Roesler 726-2929.

Civilian ID cards— Civilian identification cards for current and retired civilian employees will be issued at building 3447, beginning March 3. The identification cards— which are voluntary for those who want them for ID purposes — will be issued on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 1:30-3:30 p.m. only. Applicants will be required to submit a completed SMI form 2446 signed by the appropriate approving authority prior to being issued an identification card. For more information, call the Provost Marshal Training office 876-2835.

Classifieds

Federal law makes it illegal to advertise any preference, limitation or discrimination in housing based on race, color, religion or national origin. The Redstone Rocket will not knowingly accept advertising that is in violation of the law, and readers and advertisers are hereby informed that all dwellings advertised in this paper are available on an equal opportunity basis. According to the Inspector General, the use of office phone numbers in classified advertising is contrary to regulation. Please submit home phone numbers only.

• Auto •

- '96 Nissan pickup, x-cab, auto, bed liner, 14,500 mi., orig. warr. \$14,500, make offer. 461-7855.
- '95 BMW 525i, white, exc. cond. 16k mi. Asking \$34,000. Call 851-9353.
- '95 Camaro Z-28, 14.5k, t-tops, white, leather int., auto, loaded, pwr. seat, tilt, cruise, keyless entry. \$17,500. Sell/trade. 205-597-3595.
- '95 Dodge Dakota Sport, V6, 3k mi., new cond., AC, 5 sp, AM/FM cass. Must see and drive. 837-9677.
- '95 Jeep Wrangler, black, soft top 5-sp, stereo/cass, steel wheels, low mileage, exc. cond. \$12,350. 536-5421 lv. msg.
- '95 Mazda 626 LX, 5 sp, 25k

- mi., exc. cond. \$13,000 OBO. 776-9454.
- '95 S-10 Ext Cab, 6 cyl, auto, loaded, extra clean. 205-734-8250.
- '94 Chevy Camaro, auto, tilt, PS, PB, AC, CD player, new tires, 28K mi. Pretty car. 880-7254.
- '93 Corvette Coupe, 40th anniversary model, loaded, 6-sp, 1 owner, always garaged, low mi. \$21,500. 851-8562, eves.
- '93 Ford Escort, 4 dr., 5 sp, air, AM/FM stereo w/cass. 57k mi. \$4500. 233-4173 lv. msg.
- '93 Honda Civic Del Sol Si, 5 sp-manual, AM/FM cass, loaded, new tires, red, exc. cond., 43k \$10,000 OBO. 885-0753 Bill.
- '92 Saturn SC, 28K miles in exc. cond. \$9500. 539-7597.
- '92 Lebaron Convertible, exc. cond., low mi., many extras, beautiful car. Must see. \$8500. 881-3298.
- '91 Mazda RX-7, mint cond. Adult owned, low, low, miles, dealer serviced. Fully equip. w/sunroof. (205) 881-0645.
- '91 Pontiac Sunbird LE, blue, auto, CD, AC, 108K mi. \$2700. 971-9204. lv. msg.
- '90 Buick Riviera, 2 dr. coupe, ruby red, CD player, 79K mi. exc. cond. \$7900. 881-2601.
- '90 Grand Voyager, new motor, rebuilt trans, loaded, exc. cond. \$7300. 519-8073 lv. msg.
- '90 Jeep Cherokee Laredo, 4x4, towing pkg., extra clean.

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Century 21

\$12,900 - Very nice treed lot on Dogwood Valley, easy commute to Huntsville. BA178.
\$12,500 - This lot is ready for you to build that dream home on. Located in the Woodland Hills Estate, restricted, homes cab start at 1,600 sq. ft. Property has been perked. BO149.
Ideal Site For Affordable Homes - 1/2 acre +/- and up, immediate access to Kid Creek Natural Reserve, mins from Huntsville, prices begin at \$7,900 and up/ HO199-HO215.
\$23,000 - Very nice 3 +/- acres, open, some woods, would make a great lot to build that special home easy access to Decatur & Huntsville. BU242.
\$32,000 - Build your dream home on this lovely 6 +/- acres, restricted, well established subdivision, easy commute to Huntsville. PE179.
\$79,500 - Get away from it all! Enjoy the view from your own home, 8 +/- acres, absolutely gorgeous, situate your home anywhere on this acreage and enjoy. A must see! SP240.
\$17,000 - Nice 2.35 +/- acres, wooded, very close to Huntsville, property fronts 2 roads. ST220.
\$28,300 - 5 acres +/-, wooded with restrictions, very nice neighborhood, Call for more information. WI221.
\$135,000 - Proprietor needed for great business opportunity, store w/deli & variety of inventory, available w/3 acres +/-, call for more information. FI245.

Each Office is Independently Owned and Operated.

Classifieds

Only 75K mi. NADA \$11,075, asking \$10,500 OBO. 851-2929.

'90 Maxima SE, auto, sunroof, Bose stereo, 71k mi., exc. cond., 1 owner, synthetic oil. \$8900 OBO. 883-8285 eves/wknds.

'88 Cadillac Fleetwood Gold Elegance, 4 dr., exc. con., \$7,000 OBO. 895-9325 lv. msg.

'87 Honda Accord LX, auto, 4 dr., 94k mi., 1 owner, local miles, immac. \$4700. 883-6894.

'87 Honda Accord, tan cruise, power windows and locks. \$3500. 890-0905.

'85 Buick Regal Landau, 2 dr, 96K mi, lt. blue. Good cond. Book value \$2,450. Will sell for \$2,300. Call 859-2305.

'85 Nissan Sentra, 2 dr., red, 5 sp, fair cond. 120k mi. \$500. 883-4600.

'73 Chevrolet 1/2 ton pickup, runs good, \$550. 615-659-9522 after 6.

Miscellaneous

Accepting applications for current enrollment at Sherwood Baptist Mother's morning out/preschool. For more information, call Barbara Byrd at 837-0731.

Air conditioners, (2) 5000 BTU Sears, \$100 ea. Sears frostless upright freezer \$150. 430-1083.

Allegro Bay Motorhome, 1992, Chev 454, 34ft., 12,00 mi, loaded, exc. cond. \$39,000. Call for more details. 895-9999.

Antiques: English pub table, 4 chairs, buffet, \$750. Winsor chair, \$50. Murray self-propelled mulching mower w/attach., \$75. 876-8831.

Bed, Jaguar bunk, twin/double blue w/mattresses. Bed purchased 12/1/93, Big Sur Waterbeds, Inc. Like new. \$300. 536-0142.

Cub Cadet, 18 hp lawn & garden tractor, 46" mower deck

w/bagger attach., hydrostatic drive, hydraulic lift. \$4000. 420-8338.

Fireplace insert, many extras. \$175. 205-233-2924.

Fishing boat, 16 ft., 40 hp Evinrude, depth finder, trolling motor, live well, gas tanks. \$1800. 232-2048.

Fishing boat, 1976 Starcraft 14 ft. U-haul with 30 hp Johnson. Runs great. With trailer. Sacrifice, best offer. 721-9184.

Frigidaire twin 30 custom deluxe stove, self clean with 2 ovens \$150. 883-9702.

Glass top dining table with 4 chairs, \$75. 880-9704.

Hummel Bell-1979 second edition. In original box. \$30. 880-7772.

IBD gel nail light system, includes brushes, tips, mendas jars, etc. and Tammy Taylor acrylic products. \$55. Cantrell at 707-6508.

Kenmore trash compactor, bags sold at Sears exc. cond. Great for recycling things like aluminum cans. \$40. 852-4449.

New in box Klipsch LaScala home stereo speakers, black finish, \$800 pr. 830-9704.

'86 Glasstream Runabout, 17' w/140 hp I/O. Runs great. Good cond. \$3800. 880-8027, lv. msg.

Nordic Track WalkFit treadmill, top of the line model, workout computer, heart rate monitor, like new. \$399. 880-1455.

Oak highback chairs, 4 for \$40 each or 4 for \$150. Call Karen at 830-5097.

Oceanic fish aquarium, 42 gal. hex with wood stand, hood, and pumps. \$150. 876-0675.

Panasonic microwave oven, 925 watt, 9 months old, just like new, \$125. Fire safety ladder, chain for second-story BR, \$20. 722-8179.

Pine futon with mattress, \$60. Solid wood coffee table \$30. 464-7029.

Procraft 1650V fish & ski (1985) rebuilt Johnson, drive on

trailer, new upholstery, cover, trolling motor. \$4800. 882-0820.

Queen size sofa sleeper with 2 ottomans. Brown. Good cond. \$120. Delivery available. 876-5286.

Sega Genesis, with 4 games and 1 (6 in 1 game), 2 controllers (1 reg/1 turbo). \$90. 895-9336.

Simmons Beauty Rest king size mattress and box springs, 2 yrs. old. \$500. Call 650-1592 after 4pm.

Sofa sleeper, queen size, \$300. 430-1641.

Special store promotion, \$300 in groceries for only \$24.95! Famous brand name items. Limited promotion-call now. 851-6107. lv. msg.

Springtime Brides, Eve of Milady, sz. 12 (value \$2500) sacrifice \$850, sz. 16 \$500, child sz. 4, \$75. Lv. msg. 881-0341.

Stereo rack system, Sansui 100 watt amp, tuner, turn table, cass. deck, and EQ w/2 floor speakers \$150. 830-5097.

Tan long boy's coat w/liner. Size 14. Worn twice. Exc. cond. Exc buy. \$35. Call 882-0173.

Three piece wall unit, walnut hanging mirrored wall mantle, six oak/leather chairs, oak drop front secretary, antique wicker lounge. 851-8900.

Trailer hitches, truck bumper and Buick Riviera 1986-93 frame w/ball mounts. \$45 and \$65. 837-9677.

21' Bayliner w/230hp V8, 1987 model, stand-up cabin w/toilet, sleeps 4, galvanized, tandem wheel trailer w/brakes great cond. \$8900. 830-5907.

21' Starcraft pop-up camper, AC/gas stove, refrigerator. Sleeps 6. \$2000 OBO. 837-8759, lv. msg. please.

Unique coffee table, storage one end, magazine rack, 2 pull-out shelves. American wormy chestnut/knotty oak veneers, hardwood solids. \$350. 883-9702.

Wolff tanning beds. Best

price. 1-800-351-0048.

Homes sale/rent

Beautiful 2 BR/2 BA, 1050sq ft. condo in Madison Towne Centre. Perfect cond. Some upgrades, outside storage. 2 pools, clubhouse, pavilion, pond, beautifully landscaped. Private & quiet. \$56,000. Call 461-7950.

Buy, don't rent. 1 BR condo, very clean, near Arsenal, Drake entrance, assumable, low payments, \$24,900. 890-2454 or 881-5153.

\$5,000 reward after closing to the person who made the referral! Beautiful 2 story brick, 3,000sf, 4 BR, 3 BA, open kitchen-living room, den, twin cent. H/A, central vac, 300sf. rear deck, 2 car garage, 1500sf. det. gar, inground pool w/gazebo, 8 acres w/spring, hilltop view-privacy-security, 30 minutes to Huntsville. \$185,000. By owner, by appointment only (615) 433-2401.

14x69 mobile home on leased lot, 2BR, 1BA, all approx., new carpeting, furnace, exc. first home/bachelor's pad. \$8300. 837-1422.

FSBO: 3 acres in Lacey's Spring 2 miles south of Whitesburg bridge. \$18,000. Call 881-0756.

FSBO: Toney area, 4 BR, 2 BA rancher, 4 acre lot, central H.A, hardwood floors, den/FP, large eat-n kitchen w/modern appliances, 15x30. Deck 1550 sf.

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For Sale: Beautiful log home on Lake Guntersville, AL. 2400 sq. ft., 2 BR, 2 1/2 BA, full basement, open foyer over LR. Detached 2 car "Rock City" barn. One acre w/lake access. \$175K. (205) 505-0740.

Hud & V.A. Repossessed homes. Hud pays closing costs, \$500 down on VA homes. Joe Jensen Realty. 830-0821.

Two bedroom apt. for rent in Madison. Appliances, saher-dryer connections, mini-blinds, ceiling fan \$335 mo. 837-8331.

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for more information.

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Employment Services

AA: well organized prof. needed to work in New Parent Support Program at local army installation. 3 yrs. exp. in office admin. or related secretarial exp. required. Prof. in WordPerfect, spreadsheets, and type 50 wpm. Fax resume to J & E, Attn: ARMY/HV/VY (301) 495-8984. E.O.E., F/M, D/V.

Gov't Postal Jobs, \$16 hr. Application and info 704-531-8744.

Looking for smiling faces: Great Spirits, Huntsville's premiere wine shop. Part-time sales positions. Reference required. Apply 2-5 weekdays. 3022 So. Memorial Parkway.

Nursing: RN with AA or BS with 2 yrs exp in community organization and prevention of child/spouse abuse to work in New Parent Program at local army post. Fax resume to J & E, Attn: ARMY/HV/VY (301) 495-8984. E.O.E., F/M, D/V.

Social Work: Licensed MSW with 2 yrs exp in community org. and prevention of child/ spouse abuse to work in New Parent Support Program at local army post. Fax resume to J&E, Attn: ARMY/HV/VY (301)495-8984. E.O.E., F/M, D/V.

HOW TO PLACE REDSTONE ROCKET CLASSIFIED ADS

Free classifieds (limited to 20 words) are provided to all Redstone Arsenal personnel. PERSONAL ITEMS ONLY such as household items, automobiles, clothes, etc. REAL ESTATE, BUSINESS AND "FOR PROFIT" DO NOT QUALIFY FOR THIS FREE OFFER. Only one ad per week from an individual

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<p>7T1008A '94 MITSUBISHI GALANT GS Pkg., CD, Roof. \$11,995</p>	<p>6F668A '94 SATURN SL2 Auto, Moon Roof, All Power \$10,995</p>	<p>R3203 '95 FORD F-350 Super Cab, XLT, Power Stroke \$21,595</p>	<p>7T806A '96 FORD F-250 4x4, XLT, Loaded! \$19,995</p>
<p>RP1180 '95 LINCOLN MARK VIII Luxury at its finest. \$20,495</p>	<p>7F123F '96 FORD ESCORT LX 2 Door, Auto, Only 6520 Miles *\$199 per month</p>	<p>7T655A '96 CHEVROLET MONTE CARLO Full Power Equipment \$15,595</p>	<p>6T185A '95 DODGE NEON 4 Dr., Air, Nice Car Only \$189 per month</p>
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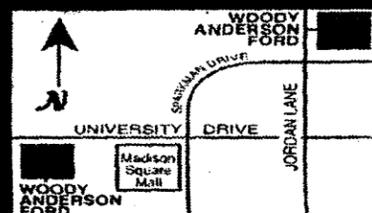
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