

# Redstone Rocket

VOL. 48 No. 28

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July 14, 1999



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## Letters To The Editor

### Flexible tour

Here at TMDE, we have long considered ourselves "cutting-edge," so to speak; not only do we not go by the book, we rewrite it as necessary.

This has resulted in a mish-mash of misinformation; people here come and go as they please. We have people who claim to arrive at work in the predawn darkness; of course, as no one else is here at those hours, their claims are questionable, if not downright fraudulent. Of course, having arrived that early, they wander off when their eight hours is up. If they are allowed to leave hours early, when customers in time zones west of here call us, their co-workers are forced to cover for them.

Please print the latest regulations in the Rocket concerning flex time, and AWS (Alternative Work Schedule).

What is the earliest one can start one's tour of duty, and work AWS? The latest?

Is the core time still 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.? What is the earliest one can begin one's tour of duty on flex time? The latest?

Inquiring minds want to know.

**Name withheld by request**

*Editor's note: The Civilian Personnel Advisory Center provided the following*

*information on flexible tour and alternative work schedule. "Flexible Tour: AMCOM employees currently not represented by the National Federation of Federal Employees (NFFE) Local 405 are allowed a flexible start time, 15-minute increments, of 7 a.m. to 8 a.m. Those employees who had start times outside of this range were allowed to keep them under a grandfather clause. However, if they ever change their tour or choose to participate in the Alternative Work Schedule (AWS), they are allowed to go back to the old flexible tour time outside the 7 a.m. to 8 a.m. range only once. Flexible tour core hours are 8 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. and if the employee is working under the grandfather clause, core hours are 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. AMCOM employees represented by NFFE Local 405 have a flexible tour and can begin work in 15-minute increments between 6:30 a.m. and 9 a.m. Core hours are 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.*

*"Alternative Work Schedule (AWS): If an AMCOM employee not represented by NFFE Local 405 is participating in the AWS, they must follow the 7 a.m. to 8 a.m. start time, and the core hours are 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. AMCOM employees represented by NFFE Local 405 may participate in AWS with a start time, in 15-minute increments, between 6:30 a.m. to 8 a.m. The AWS core time is 8 a.m. to 1 p.m."*

### Thankfulness

When I open my eyes and drive to work, along the way I say thank you Lord,

When I see co-workers who are team workers or distracters, I silently say thank you Lord,

To have friends that support and encourage or pretend to be so much, I say thank you Lord,

For those that praise us for accomplishments or down us just to be evil, I say thank you Lord,

As things are passed down instead of being done, I say thank you Lord,

For the many phone calls to tell some-

one they are thought of instead of why their fingers are broke except for need, I say thank you Lord,

Family good and bad with smiles and tears, I thank the Lord,

To see the gate in the morning, I say thank you Lord that it's not the other gate that someone is standing at to let me pass,

Here and again for each day, one must think or say thank you Lord for just another one and smile.

**SFC Veronica R. Edmiston**  
Provost Marshal Office

### Von Braun Celebration series officially kicks off this weekend

By Jim Bowne

The Von Braun Celebration of the Arts & Sciences, a yearlong series of events, performances, exhibits, historical and educational programs, officially kicks off this Friday.

Von Braun Celebration of the Arts & Sciences (VBCAS) is an Arts Council promotional initiative celebrating the German rocket team's 50-year cultural and technological legacy in Alabama, especially in Huntsville/Madison County.

The seven-day series of opening events includes special exhibits, concerts in the park, theatre, dance, fireworks, and much more.

On Friday, the Huntsville Museum of Art will hold an artists reception from 7-9 p.m. for "Alabama Printmakers: Envisioning Space Technology." Additionally, the "NASA Space Art Exhibit" opens to the public at the EarlyWorks Museum. Both exhibits continue through Aug. 1.

The Aviation and Missile Command's exhibit, "Von Braun and the U.S. Army—Laying the Foundation of America's Space

Program," continues its premiere at The Huntsville Times Gallery through July 31.

On Saturday, the SAIC/WAFF-TV/Arts Council Kickoff Gala with special guest, Willard Scott, takes place at the Von Braun Center. The Gala reception includes the premiere of the VBCAS film and Pointe Station's "German Scientists Meet the BeeBoppers.

Then, on July 18-20, the U.S. Space & Rocket Center will celebrate the 30th Anniversary of Apollo with reenactments of the Apollo 11 Moon Landing.

On July 19, the public is invited to a "1969 Concert in the Park with Chevy 6," plus fireworks, at Big Spring International Park.

The U.S. Armed Forces Celebration Luncheon is scheduled for July 20, at the Von Braun Center North Hall, followed on July 21 with the U.S. Army Soldier Show at the Von Braun Center Concert Hall.

Then, from July 22-24, Theatre "Round the Corner presents "Galileo." Performances are scheduled to begin promptly at 8 p.m.

Additional information regarding these events may be obtained by calling the Arts Council at 533-6565.

### Telephone books

We have the unofficial AMCOM Organization Chart and "unofficial" organization charts of every office on the Arsenal. Now we have the Unofficial Telephone Directory for Redstone Arsenal. What makes these unofficial? Are they FOR UNOFFICIAL USE ONLY?

Alan Miller

*Editor's note: The Redstone Arsenal telephone book is published at no cost to the government. And the right to sell and circulate advertising in this civilian-enterprise publication provides the printer revenue to cover costs and secure earnings. Therefore, the book is labeled as unofficial.*

## Redstone Rocket

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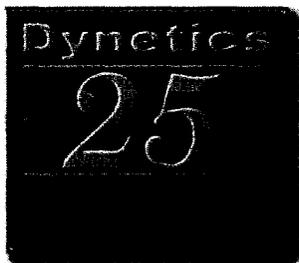
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# Alabama already a sweet home for commanding general

Maj. Gen. Al Sullivan takes reins of AMCOM and Redstone on rainy afternoon in Sparkman Center courtyard



By Skip Vaughn

AMCOM's new commanding general feels right at home already.

Maj. Gen. Al Sullivan says everything he's done in his career has pointed toward this job. And his wife, Kathy, is from Birmingham.

"This is coming home for us," Sullivan said after assuming command Friday. The change of command ceremony, complete with intermittent Alabama rain, was held in the Sparkman Center courtyard.

Sullivan succeeded Maj. Gen. Emmitt Gibson who leaves for a new assignment as vice director for force structure, resources and assessment at the Joint Staff in Washington, D.C. Gibson became commander of the newly-formed Aviation and Missile Command in July 1997.

"We must remember that the most important resources at AMCOM are its people," Sullivan said during the ceremony.

Later he discussed his priorities as the commander. "First of all, take care of our people. This is going to be a very turbulent time for the Army and Team Redstone," he said, referring to reducing the work force.

"Secondly, AMCOM has the responsibility for pulling together all the support and sustainment for the Army's aviation

and missile systems."

Sullivan wants the command to not only look at how well it executes the programs here, but also the impact on its customer—the soldier.

His previous assignment was in the Pentagon as director for supply and maintenance in the Office of the Deputy Chief of Staff for Logistics.

Sullivan was to meet yesterday with various city officials.

"I have never met a more supportive community than this community. It is legendary," he said. "It is my commitment to build on that tradition."

The Sullivans have a daughter, Linsay, and son, Ryan. Gen. John Coburn, commander of the Army Materiel Command, officiated at the change of command ceremony. "Al is extremely well qualified to command AMCOM," he said.

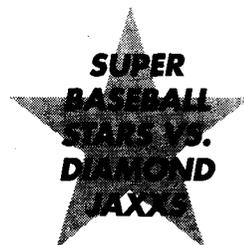
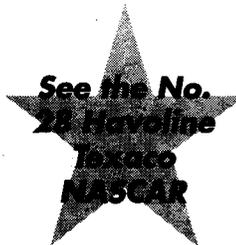
Gibson became commander when AMCOM was formed by merging the Aviation and Troop Command in St. Louis with the Missile Command here. He formerly served as the ATCOM commander. Gibson expressed his appreciation to Team Redstone and the local community. "I am indeed honored to have been the first commander here at AMCOM," he said.

Photo by Skip Vaughn  
OFFICIAL PARTY— From left Sullivan, Coburn and Gibson participate in the ceremony at the Sparkman courtyard.

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Photo by Patricia Miklik/Huntsville Times

**ARMY BAND** – Members of the 113th Army Band, from Fort Knox, KY, participate in the change of command ceremony.



Photo by Patricia Miklik/Huntsville Times

**GOOD CROWD** – The ceremony continued as planned in the courtyard despite some heavy rain which caused spectators to bring out their umbrellas.



Photo by Patricia Miklik/Huntsville Times

**RENDERING HONORS** – The soldiers salute during the playing of the "National Anthem."



Photo by Patricia Miklik/Huntsville Times

**EXCHANGING FLAG** – Sullivan, center, receives the AMCOM flag from Coburn while Gibson looks on.

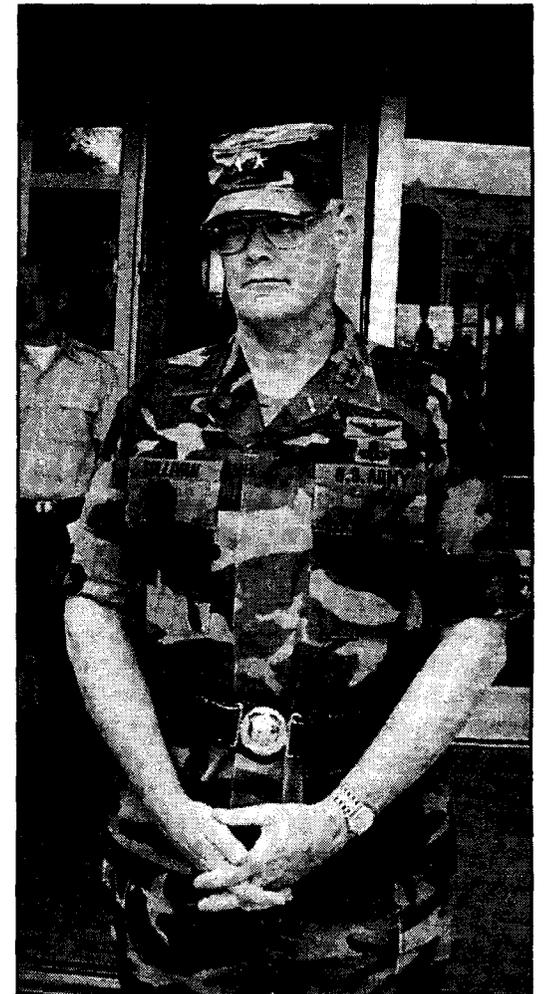
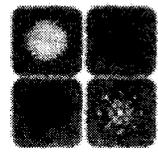


Photo by Skip Vaughn

**COMMANDER ARRIVES** – Sullivan awaits the start of the ceremony.



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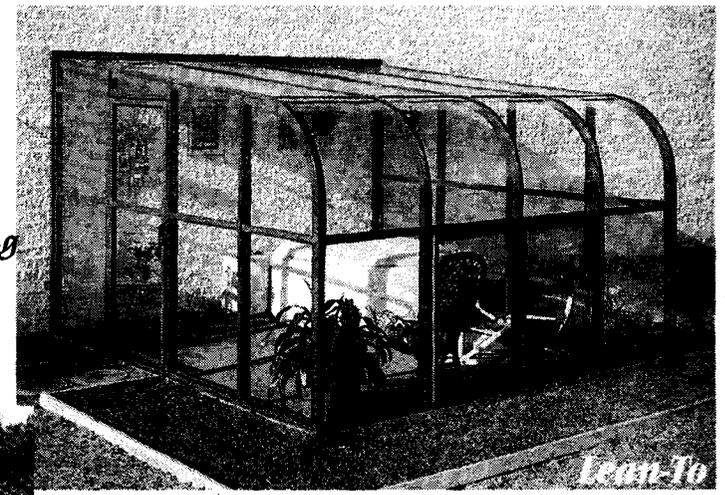
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# Technical library provides information worldwide

By June Johns

Let's say you're a rocket scientist, and you have a great idea for implementing or improving a weapon component. In order to save money, time and effort, you want to make sure that no one has previously developed a similar idea.

What do you do?!

Your fellow rocket scientists will probably send you heading for the Redstone Scientific Information Center (RSIC) which, by the way, isn't just for rocket scientists anymore.

This 179,100-square-foot facility, located in building 4484, houses a host of research data, conveniently available at your fingertips. So, as Ma Bell would say, let your fingers do the walking. Here you'll find books on chemistry and communications, periodicals on metallurgy and meteorology, and on-line data about polymers and propellant engineering. In fact, the information in this Redstone library runs the gamut from aerodynamics to the Zenit rocket. And in many cases, this storehouse of knowledge carries information that can't be found anywhere else in the world.

Its users read like a Who's Who of high tech governmental agencies — folks like those at AMCOM, NASA, FAA, EPA, the

Corps of Engineers, the National Security Agency, the Navy Research Center, and White Sands Missile Range, to name a few. In fact, this library aids over 130 state and federal agencies, more than 140 colleges and universities, and in excess of 3,000 government contractors. You could call that a large sphere of influence!

Martha Knott, acting director for RSIC, estimates that over 8,000 individual users take advantage of the center's information services each year. This total includes military personnel, civil service workers, contractors, local students and others, who make use of information compiled on paper, microfilm, CDs and electronic storage.

Opened in 1962, this facility was specifically designed from the ground up to provide aerospace and defense groups with scientific and technical information and services needed to conduct basic and applied research. Thirty-seven years ago, RSIC was established by consolidating seven existing scientific and technical collections at Redstone Arsenal into one centralized research library, with a mission of providing extensive scientific and technical information needed by researchers and engineers at Marshall Space Flight Center and (at the time) MICOM.

Over the years, the library's personnel

have expanded their services to support other Army and NASA installations, as well as additional Navy and Air Force departments, until it reached today's level of assisting more than 3,000 entities. Begun as a scientific information center serving primarily the North Alabama aerospace and defense communities, this library now serves, via electronic networks, technical users throughout the United States and the world.

This center is widely recognized as the largest and most complete supplier of scientific and technical information on space, missiles and rockets in the United States, assert library personnel and users. Consequently, it has become a necessary "first stop" for aerospace and defense research in this country, they emphasize.

The library is also supported by people such as Michael Baker, AMCOM command historian, who noted that his department makes frequent use of this library, which is able to store much greater quantities of historical information than his office.

From its inception, beginning with a collection of 382,500 books, journals, and technical reports, the library's information resources has mushroomed in size over 870

See RSIC on page 7

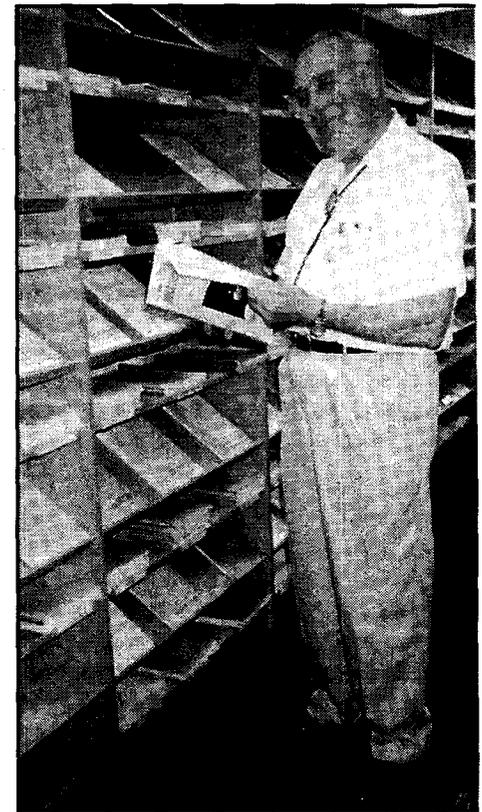


Photo by June Johns

**PATRONAGE**— Warner Dahm, current chief aerodynamasist for NASA and a former German rocket scientist who worked with Wernher von Braun, makes frequent use of the RSIC library.

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## RSIC

continued from page 6

percent. Today, it is home to over 6 million documents and on-line services.

Charles Cason, an employee at ThermoTrex who frequently makes use of the library and whose mother, Cleo, was one of its original founders, compares this library to other national treasures such as Yellow Stone and Yosemite national parks.

"Once destroyed, they can't be replaced," he said, taking the opportunity to point out a poster displayed near the library entrance, which reads "Hindsight is 20/20. Foresight takes greater vision."

When making his assertions, Cason refers to many of the rare publications this library houses, some of which would be extremely costly — and in some cases, impossible — to acquire elsewhere. In fact, Cason said, some of the library's materials are not possessed by anyone else in the country or world.

One of the unique reference materials contained within the walls of the RSIC is located on the third floor in the classified section. Here, long white shelves groan under the weight of a complete copied set of Peenemuende documents, named after the coastal area of Germany near Poland where Wernher von Braun and his team of German rocket scientists worked before coming to America. (The original, and only other set, was returned to the German archives.)

Not only do these German journals contain historic technical information on V1 and V2 rockets developed by von Braun and company, they also contain details about technology originally described and calculated by the Nazis that is just now being developed by NASA, Cason said.

Walking through the stacks of periodicals and books on the facility's first floor, you'll also find rare printed materials such as reproductions of the Royal Society of London's scientific journals, dating as far back as 1665. And you'll find copies of original source materials from the dawn of

modern science, written by such notable names as Isaac Newton.

Cason continued that while the Internet is growing as a source of information, it can't replace the wealth of knowledge on hand at libraries such as this one. In addition, he cautioned, unlike RSIC materials, you don't always know if Internet information is correct, or if it's been reviewed and edited by knowledgeable experts.

While rare text and well-researched, in-depth information is impressive and important, perhaps the library's greatest claim is its cost-saving ability. Knott pointed out that collecting information for missile and space scientists is an expensive business, and emphasized the savings realized by using one facility for housing and indexing information.

For example, "other Department of Defense libraries do not serve contractors," Knott noted. RSIC eliminates the need for contractors to house their own individual technical libraries, an expense cost "that is ultimately passed on to the taxpayer," Knott said. RSIC information is provided with the aid of a staff of 15 librarians. This number is down substantially from a peak staff of 40, which the library employed 12-15 years ago, Knott said. She noted that nine employees were lost this past year alone due to downsizing. Even with a reduced work force, they are striving to "provide the same level of services as in the past," Knott asserts.

This staff fields calls from all over the world, handling requests for information from available resources.

Hours of operation for the RSIC are 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday, 8 a.m. to 7 p.m. Tuesday through Friday, and 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday. If you are seeking information outside these times, you call fill out an on-line request for services at any time of day, provided you are registered with the library, according to Knott.

For more information, you can contact library personnel at 876-5181 or 876-5195.

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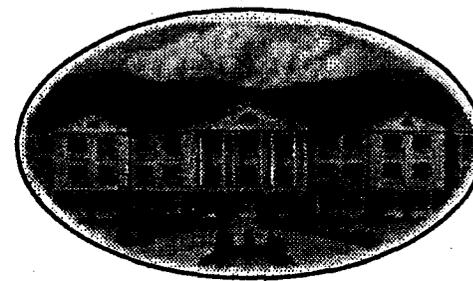
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Keeping it real...

## Replicated and live ammunition lend realism at training center

By Phillips LaBoy

Molding officers and NCOs for the 21st century at the National Training Center is not an easy task.

The NTC coaches and mentors tomorrow's leaders/soldiers on fundamental tasks that will allow them to fight, survive, and win on the battlefield of the future. Ammunition observers/controllers (O/Cs) from the NTC Operations Group, Goldminer's Team, are responsible for one of the factors which adds realism. These O/Cs monitor the flow of replicated, notional, and live ammo from the field Ammunition Supply Point, located in the rear near the Corps Storage Area, forward until it reaches the Brigade Support Area. All replicated and live ammo used during a NTC rotation is requested and picked up prior to "D" day.

The goal of all this specificity and hard work is to replicate the same ammunition (Class V) operations and re-supply missions that will be encountered on the battlefield of tomorrow. Also, this is done using replicated ammo, blanks, pyrotechnics, boxed inert ammunition, canisters and most of all live rounds used during the live-fire exercises.

Incoming rotational units receive about 30 percent of their ammo authorization as determined by the NTC as their Unit Basic Load. The remaining 70 percent is used to resupply the rotational unit using the Palletized Load System and sometimes sling-load operations.

During a single NTC rotation, the BLU-FOR units will move over 57 different Class V line items in excess of one thou-

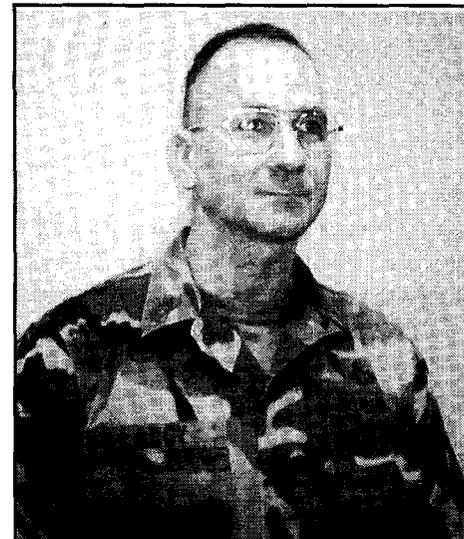


Photo by Skip Vaughn

LaBOY

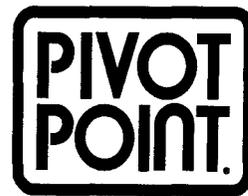
sand tons. In the field, every replicated round must be collocated with an Antitank Weapons Effect Simulators (ATWESS) M22. The ATWESS simulator, which is part on the Multiple Integrated Laser Engagement System (MILES), is used with the Dragon, TOW, and Stinger missiles to simulate the functioning of a "live" round. The ATWESS simulator gives a credible signal/simulation that can be seen for miles; this signal includes sound, flash and smoke. The National Training Center, like the Joint Readiness Training Center (JRTC) located at Fort Polk, La, is committed to providing the very best training the Army has to offer. The bottom line here at the NTC is: If the BLURFOR unit doesn't request it and move it from point "A" to point "B," they don't get it.

(Editor's note: SFC LaBoy is the training NCO in charge at the Ammunition Supply Point.)

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Reporting from Kosovo...

# AMCOM logistic representative sees remnants from fighting

*(Editor's note: William N. "Bill" Parker, a logistic assistance representative from AMCOM, provided the following report on current events in Kosovo.)*

By Bill Parker

My location is near (1 1/2 mile) from the village of Urosevac, Kosovo. Local incidents continue which involve land mines (primarily anti-personnel) and booby traps with native citizens reporting and escorting U.S. Army (local soldiers) to known sites and those containing mass graves. One local Army patrol located a large warehouse near Urosevac packed full of very nice family furniture. When traveling through small and large villages, I note excessive numbers of once-nice (stucco) homes, gutted from fire. One native citizen escorted an Army patrol to a house where a small car had been forced into it and set afire with the family inside the auto.

When I arrived at Camp Bondsteel, the first few nights were very quiet. Twelve days later, small arms fire can be heard indicating (as I lay in my cot) local Army patrols engaged in fire fights. Some of the

perpetrators have been caught, always wearing civilian clothing, no identification - only Chinese-made rifles or AK-47s. The assigned Apache aircraft are continuously searching and reporting events within our sector. To date, no American casualties. Everyone very cautious.

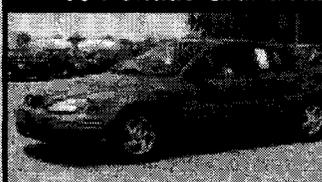
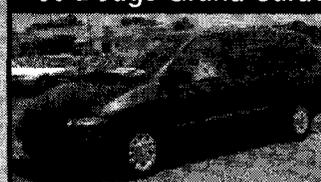
The Kosovo countryside is very scenic, much like central Bavaria. The paved roads and tunnels are surprisingly in good condition with short and long bridges (approach with caution) outdated and decayed. As I reflected back when we conveyed from Albania across the Macedonian border and into Kosovo, how landscape and terrain are almost identical in these three countries. It is mountainous with rolling hills and limited flat land per se.

The Albanians are very friendly people. When I wave my hand, they return a smile and wave both hands. Albania is a very poor country. During my two-month support for AMCOM Land Combat/Air Defense Missile Systems and MLRS, I traveled with each rotating MLRS Battery 30-70 kilometers from (airport) base camp, supporting (dry-fire missions) at six differ-

See Kosovo on page 22

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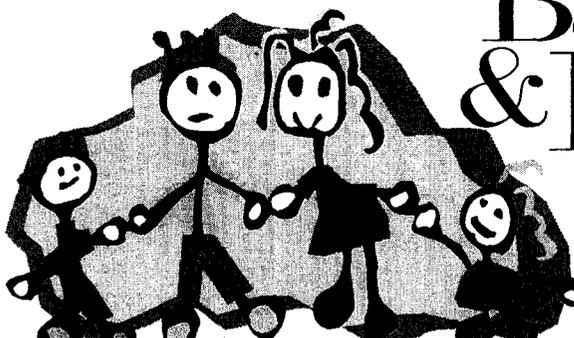
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Preparing for school days...

## Parent/Principal Night offers parents one-stop shopping for services

By Sandy Riebeling

"Back to school" is a bittersweet thought for most parents. Yes, they are ready to send the little darlings back to institutions of higher learning but dread all the shopping it takes to get them there—clothes, books, pens, pencils, crayons, markers, scissors, and the list goes on.

The staff at Army Community Service is making things easier for Redstone Arsenal parents with Parent/Principal Night July 19 at the Bicentennial Chapel, beginning at 6 p.m.

"This event will give parents the opportunity to meet their children's principal and find out what's happening at their school," Virginia Dempsey, ACS family services coordinator, said.

In one evening, parents will have the opportunity to meet and speak with a vari-

ety of education professionals while right down the hall they can register their children for bus transportation and soccer, pick up information packets on before and after school care programs and if necessary, address special education issues.

"The superintendent will be speaking about new programs and procedures expected to be in place this fall," Dempsey said. "Other issues include the dress code and security."

Col. Steven Hamilton, commander of Redstone Arsenal Support Activity, is to be the main speaker. Other scheduled speakers include Capt. Michael Newell, chairman, Education Committee; Dr. Eugene Thompson, superintendent, Huntsville City Schools; Kimberly Pugh, coordinator, school bus transportation; Missy Richards, Youth Sports coordinator, soccer registration; Ann Cooper, coordinator, Before and

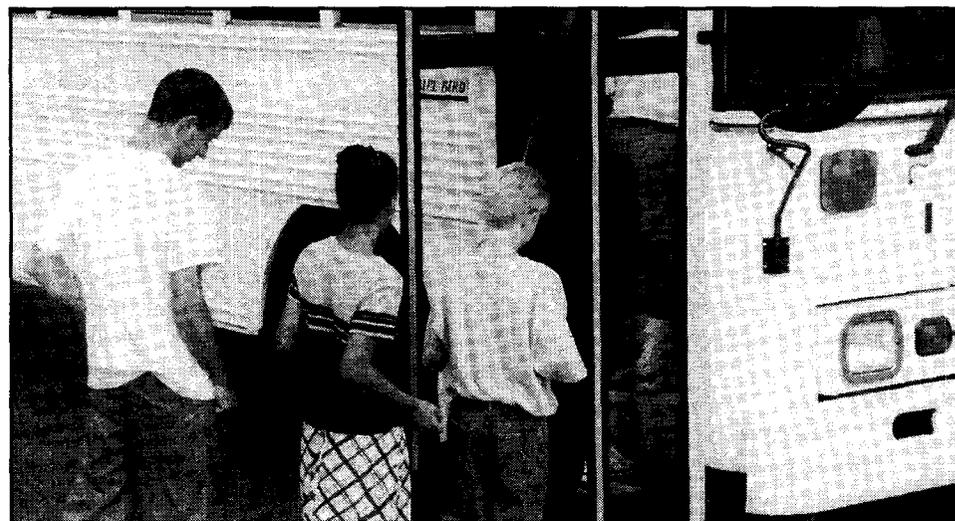


Photo by Sandy Riebeling

**BACK TO SCHOOL**— It takes 12 buses to transport the Arsenal's 550 school-age children to local public schools.

After School Age Child Care; Linda Lykin, manager, Special Education Department; Olye Conley, principal, Academy for Science and Foreign Language; Evalyn Humphrey, principal, New Century Technology High School; and James Embry, principal, Westlawn Middle School. Although not addressing the audience,

Lee McAlister, principal, Williams Elementary and Middle School and Van Barnes, principal, Butler High School, will be available to talk with students and parents.

Free childcare for the event will be pro-

See School on page 11

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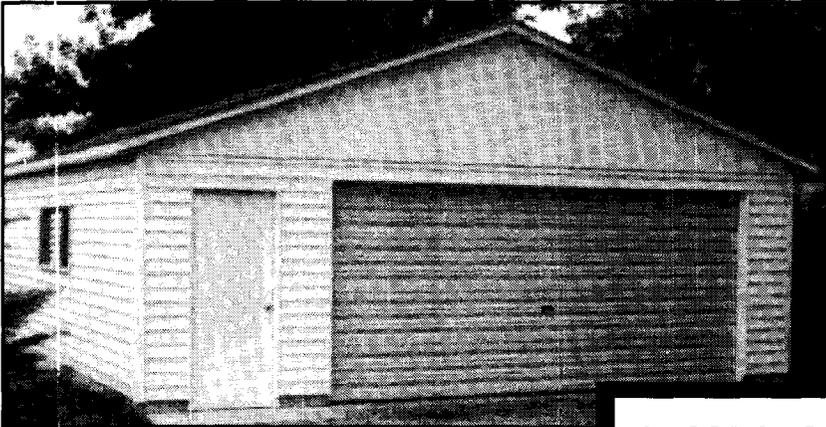
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## School

continued from page 10



Photo by Sandy Riebeling

**DETAILS**— It takes months of preparation to organize Parent/Principal Night. Coordinators, from left, Dempsey, Pugh and Scofield will bring in a host of speakers from the education community as well as Redstone Arsenal.

vided by ACS. To take advantage of the free childcare, parents must provide an immunization record for each child in care. ACS coordinators also ask that parents pre-register children so that they will have enough supplies and personnel on hand for a fun and entertaining evening. The phone number for pre-registration is 876-5397 or visit Evelyn Carnes at building 113 on the first floor.

To register for bus service, parents must bring an active duty military identification badge.

"We had about 200 children register at last year's meeting," Pugh said. "The earlier we get registration done, the better. We will be operating 12 buses that carry approximately 550 students to school

every day."

Bus registration will also be available at the Challenger Club July 16 and July 19-22 from 7 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Soccer registration for youths age 5-13 is ongoing through Aug. 7, at the Youth Center, building 3148, Monday through Saturday from 1-7 p.m. Cost is \$20 per child. Registration forms for youths age 14-18 will be available at the Youth Center for the Huntsville City Soccer League.

"We want to help the parents as much as possible by bringing everything together in one place at one time," Donna Scofield, Exceptional Family Member Program manager, said. "Parent/Principal Night is a great way to do that."

Party hearty...

## Redstone computer organization celebrates meeting Y2K deadline

By June Johns

Anyone passing by room 9128 in Sparkman Center building 5309 this past Monday morning might have been surprised to hear the sound of revelry. The cause of this effervescent atmosphere was the Corporate Information Center's party, held in celebration of meeting the deadline for Y2K compliance for infrastructure and business systems at Redstone Arsenal.

The first floor room was filled with Y2K balloons, napkins and cups. Two sheet cakes, decorated with brightly colored streamers, were cut and served during this party, which was sponsored by Mike Ivey, corporate information officer, and his directors, as a way of saying thank you for a job well done.

Approximately 163 CIC personnel worked long and tedious hours over the last two years to meet the Department of Defense's March 31 deadline for having all business systems compliant when the cal-

endar page is flipped to Jan. 1, 2000. In accomplishing this task, thousands of Arsenal software systems were checked in order to certify they are ready for the new millennium.

The CIC celebration recognized those who worked on computer software and hardware, as well as those who acted as support personnel.

In addition, during this celebration five people were recognized for going beyond the call of duty. Recipients of these special awards were the following CIC information management specialists: Ashley Bolton, Pam Keahey, Connie Schulte, and recently retired Genevieve Yantis. Mel Roberts, a private contractor who worked on the program, was also recognized for his efforts.

After the party, it was back to work, since even though this Army organization has met its assigned deadline, their efforts will continue well into the next year, as they strive to assure all computerized systems under their domain are running effectively and smoothly.

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The gift of life...

# Base Supply Shop wants your patronage and your blood

By Sandy Riebeling

It's a heck of a way to get a few hours off work but then again, you could be saving someone's life. That's the way Lori Thompson at the Base Supply Shop felt when the Red Cross called, asking for two of her employees to give blood.

"I was surprised that the Red Cross would call these guys at work and ask them to give blood, but they need it so badly..." Thompson, acting store manager for the Base Supply Shop, said. "We've wanted to host a blood drive for a while now but we were hoping to do it when we moved to our new location on Warehouse Road, which is closer to the Sparkman Center."

The move has been pushed back to the fall of 1999 and Thompson doesn't want to wait anymore.

"We have three guys that give blood regularly," she said. "We picked Aug. 12 because that is the next time they are able to give. The Red Cross asked that we have at least 25 donors for a successful drive and we are putting out the call to all our friends."

Currently the shop list has 15 names, five from its own staff.



Photo by Sandy Riebeling

**LIFESAVERS**— Nearly half the staff at the Base Supply Shop give blood on a regular basis, including Kendell Kwenski, front, with co-workers Jeff Mayo and Sarah Robinson. With blood in such great need, the store decided to host a blood drive and is inviting the community to come and share the gift of life Aug. 12.

According to Barry Porter, chapter manager for the Madison-Marshall County American Red Cross, 225 donors are needed every day to fill the needs in North Alabama.

"Our statistics show that one of every

eight donors is between the ages of 17 and 20," Porter said. "It's hard to reach that group during the summer months. They're out of school on vacations and working at summer jobs and we have a tough time reaching them. It's a real challenge to meet

the needs because you never know how much you're going to get each day."

Folks from the Arsenal provide 20 percent of the Huntsville community's blood supply. Last year the Arsenal had 4,692 donors, which was an increase over the preceding year with 4,108 donors.

Thompson hopes that the people here, customers that she and the staff refer to as friends, will come and support the drive as generously as they have supported the store in the past.

"We planned it on a Thursday so that federal employees that had that Friday off could start their weekend early," Thompson said. "Come by and give blood and then get the rest of the afternoon off."

Anyone willing to donate blood for the drive on Aug. 12 can call Thompson at 876-4011 to put their name on the list. The drive will be from 8 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. at the Base Supply Shop located on Cottonwood Road, off Buxton Road. The Shop is operated by Alabama Industries for the Blind.

"Having this blood drive is a way of sharing with the community that has been so very good to us," Thompson said.



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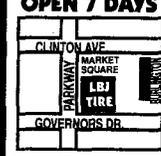
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# Soldatenstube offering German Night Buffet

The MWR Sales & Marketing office, phone 955-7399, listed the following events for Morale, Welfare and Recreation:

**Soldatenstube** – The Soldatenstube will present a German Night Buffet from 5:30-8:30 p.m. July 14. Tickets are \$11.95, and reservations are required. Come enjoy the German specialties: shnitzel, knockwurst, bratwurst, smoked pork chops, sauerbraten, sauerkraut, red cabbage, German fried potatoes, German breads and everyone's apple strudel. The new Germany Night Buffet will be featured every second Wednesday of each month. For reservations call 881-5180 or 830-2582. Need a place for a summer party? Why not check out the Soldatenstube's new Patio SunRoom! With seating available for up to 40 people, it is sure to be perfect for your summer get-together. Call 830-9227 for party bookings.

**Soccer registration** – Soccer registration for youths age 5-13 is taking place now until Aug. 7. Interested parties should sign up at the Youth Center, building 3148, Monday through Saturday from 1-7 p.m. The cost is \$20 per child. Registration

forms for youths age 14-18 will be available at the Youth Center for the City Soccer League. This age group will be placed on the under-19 teams within the city leagues of Huntsville. For more information, call 876-BALL.

**Redstone Arsenal Club** – On July 17 from 5:30-8 p.m., the Redstone Arsenal Club will hold a Pig-Out Barbecue Buffet. The barbecue specials will include barbecue pork, barbecue chicken, corn on the cob, roasted whole potatoes, Texas toast, salad and dessert. Make your reservations today. Tickets are \$12.95 for members, and \$15.95 for non-members. Entertainment will also be included. The band will play as you dine on the fine barbecue buffet. For more information, or to make reservations, call 830-CLUB.

**Just Our Club** – Redstone Arsenal's casual bar, the JOC (Just Our Club), offers a place to go after work to relax and socialize with friends. Open Tuesday through Friday from 4:30 p.m. until whenever, the JOC located in building 114 on Hankins Road. The JOC features a big screen TV, darts,

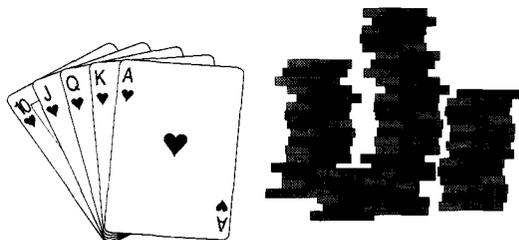
See MWR on page 25

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Weed, seed, water and wait...

# Yard of the Month award is harvest of hard work

By Sandy Riebeling

**M**uch like the Publisher's Clearing House Sweepstakes prize van, once a month, from May through September, five Yard of the Month judges pile into a van and scour the neighborhoods on Redstone Arsenal searching for the most beautiful yards on the post.

The summertime competition recognizes and rewards Arsenal families that go the extra mile when it comes to landscaping and dressing their yards with flowers, plants, rocks, timbers, mulch and ornaments.

"The purpose is to promote the beautification program for Redstone Arsenal family housing and unaccompanied personnel housing (troop units)," MSgt. Aaron Jones, NCO-in-charge of the Housing Management Office, said. "We're doing extremely well with the program. It seems like in every group there are those that really enjoy getting out in the yard and making it look good. Those are the kind that would have a beautiful yard even if they lived in the desert."

The five categories of competition include officers, senior enlisted, junior enlisted for single or duplex units, junior enlisted for multiplex units and troops barracks. Criteria for the competition begins with the basic regulations for military

installation housing— such as grass cutting, shrubbery trimming and keeping the yard tidy. Winners of the Yard of the Month competition are those that go beyond what is expected.

The competition kickoff in May coincides with the post's spring cleanup.

"People can go to the Self Help Center and get all the tools they need to clean up their yards and do some landscaping," Jones said. "That's also when the Center gives away thousands of plants and flowers for the residents to put in their yards. They also have grass seed, fertilizer, top soil and mulch for the beautification of the homes."

As the cold weather turns warm, many of the residents of Redstone are ready to get out in the yards and begin working. Jones said that although he is not a judge, the judging is usually the most difficult in the first two months.

"People are excited and really putting in the effort in May and June," he said. "After that, things start to taper off a little and you can see who's really out doing it because they love it."

Jones noted that the effort put forth in one yard has a rippling effect along the street. Neighboring residents begin to "do a little more to make their yards look better,

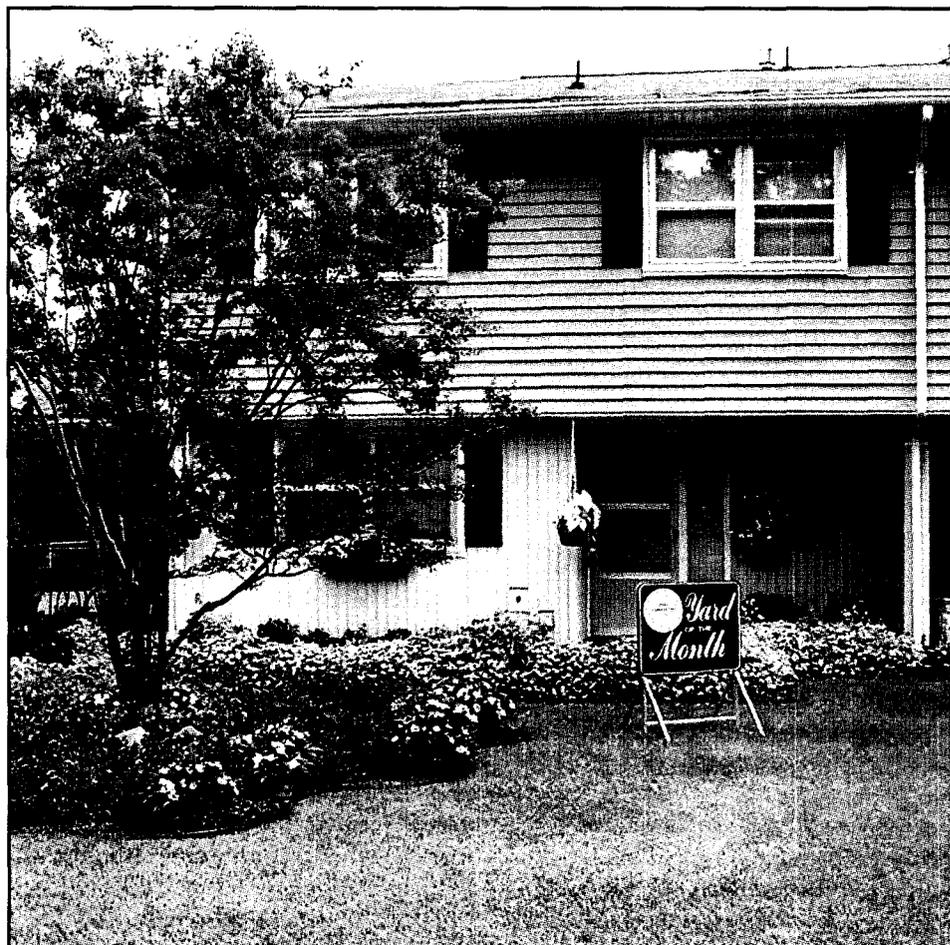


Photo by Sandy Riebeling

**PICTURE PERFECT**—This beautiful yard belongs to Senior Chief Petty Officer Jerome Ruffin, one of five Yard of the Month winners for June.

See Beautification on page 15

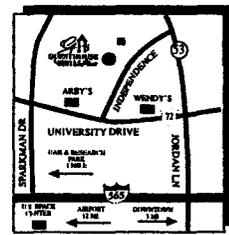
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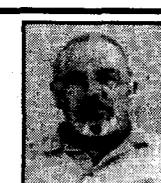
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## Beautification

continued from page 14

especially when they're next to someone who goes all out."

Each month, on a predetermined day, Jones drives the judges around the neighborhoods on the Arsenal.

"We go in every housing area on post," he said. "If you live on the installation in government housing, your yard gets looked at."

It takes from two to six hours for the judges to select the winners, depending on how tight the competition is. Jones said that he has had to take the judges back to certain houses two or three times before they make their final decision.

"Sometimes it comes down to the little details to determine the winner," Jones said. "Paying attention to detail is really what makes the difference— edging a yard properly, putting flowers in attractive arrangements — the way a person shows pride in his home."

Once the yards are selected, it takes Jones a couple of days to round up the signs from the previous month's winners' yards and redistribute them.

"It's sort of like Christmas and I get to be Santa Claus," Jones said. "We don't really notify the winners. They just come out of their house or home from work and spot the sign in their yard. When I put the signs out I don't knock on the door or anything, I just drop it off, like Santa, and leave again. Maybe I should get some reindeer and a sleigh."

The winners are presented with an official certificate of appreciation from the Redstone Arsenal Support Activity Commander, Col. Steven Hamilton. With the colonel is a photographer that snaps a picture of the presentation and the yard for display at the Post Exchange and in the Housing Management Office. Winners also receive a \$25 gift certificate from the PX and two free bowling passes from the Rocket Lanes. Troop units do not receive the bowling passes or gift certificate but instead are given \$200 to deposit in the unit fund from Morale, Welfare and Recreation.

"We would love to find more sponsors for the program," said Jones. "That is something I am currently working on. It's a great program."



Photo by Sandy Riebeling

**NEW MARSHAL IN TOWN—** Dubbed "the New Marshal" by his co-workers, Jones arrived in the office about three months ago as the NCO-in-charge at the Housing Management Office, the office that sponsors the Yard of the Month competition.

Judges for the program include one representative each from the Officer and Civilian Women's Club, Active and Retired NCO Spouses Club, Ordnance Missile and Munitions Center and School, Aviation and Missile Command and the 95th Maintenance Company at Test, Measurement and Diagnostic Equipment.

Winners for June were, Lt. Col. William Lake, Senior Chief Petty Officer Jerome Ruffin, SSgt. Sondra Johnson-Parker, SSgt. Gerry Tate and B Company.

Jones gave residents a slight edge by listing the judging dates for the next three months of competition, which are July 19, Aug. 23 and Sept. 20.

"People need to be sure and have everything as neat as possible," Jones said. "Sometimes it comes down to things like toys in the yard or a water hose stretched across the lawn."

If you've already won once this year, now is not the time to slack off. The rules state that a yard can win up to twice in one year, as long as it is not consecutively. And Jones reminded residents that during the judging, artificial plants don't count.

"Judges don't just look at the finished product, but all the effort and hard work that has gone into it."

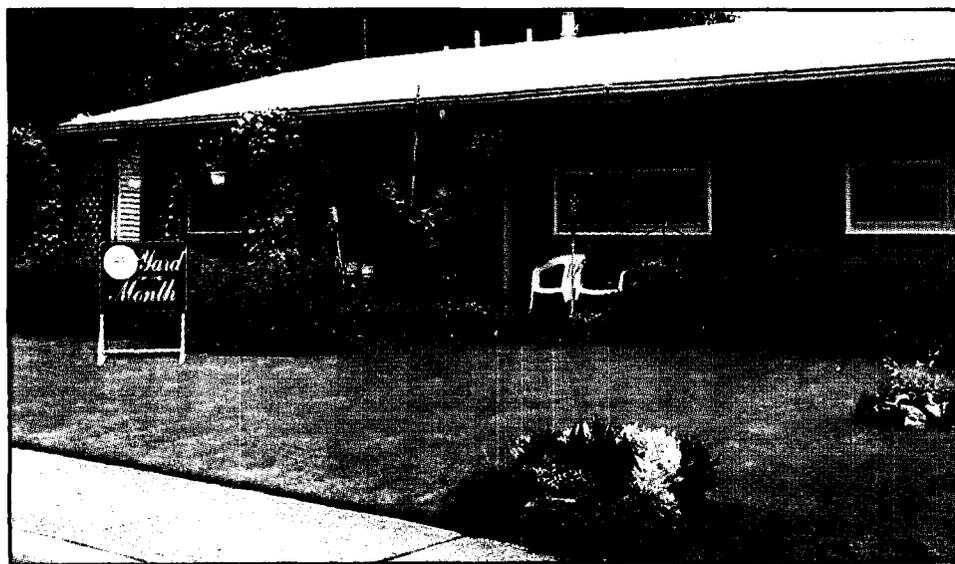


Photo by Sandy Riebeling

**MARI-GOLD MEDAL—** SSgt. Gerry Tate took the Yard of the Month award in the junior enlisted category with Marigold lined walkways and a variety of colorful flowers and plants.

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After overseas tour...

# New director of personnel and training talks Turkey

By June Johns

Col. Micheal Coleman literally came from half a world away to step into the position of director, personnel and training at Redstone Arsenal. Prior to starting his new job, Coleman served for 25 months in Izmir, Turkey as a lieutenant colonel and battalion commander of U.S. Army Element. Coleman started work as director July 1.

Izmir is a coastal city situated near the middle of Turkey and located directly east of Greece on the Aegean Sea. Not only is this city distant from Huntsville in terms of mileage, but in terms of culture as well.

For example, protecting his soldiers was a prominent concern for Coleman when he was stationed in Turkey. Coleman found himself constantly on the lookout for terrorist activity, which was targeted at tourists from any country, but which could still incidentally affect his troops.

Army children were transported 10 miles to an American park, where it was considered safe to play. Because of such safety concerns, these children were not allowed to play outside their homes.

Coal was the primary means of heating, and consequently left the city looking dirty, Coleman explained. Air-conditioning was a little found luxury in this city located at

roughly the same latitude as Huntsville. And plots of green grass were scarce in this area where land is at a premium, necessitating construction of numerous high-rise apartments. Even housing for U.S. Army generals were located in such buildings, Coleman noted, as only those considered wealthy could afford to live in modest homes in the suburbs of this foreign locale. Fortunately, there were some comforts of home for soldiers such as Coleman.

"Things are becoming more westernized (in Turkey)," Coleman said. While not on practically every corner as they are here in the United States, there were three McDonald's restaurants in Izmir, as well as Burger King, Pizza Hut, and Coca-Cola.

At the same time, noted Coleman, "I saw more Mercedes in Turkey than I ever saw in New York."

While continuing to copy western countries in many aspects, there are still elements to Turkey that remain distinctly different. Islam is the predominant religion, and while women in the city dress much like their western counterparts. Females in the country side can still be found dressed in hooded garb with faces covered. In addition, a rigid class/caste system, much like India's, is still in place in Turkey, Coleman said.

Laws are also more strictly — and harsh-

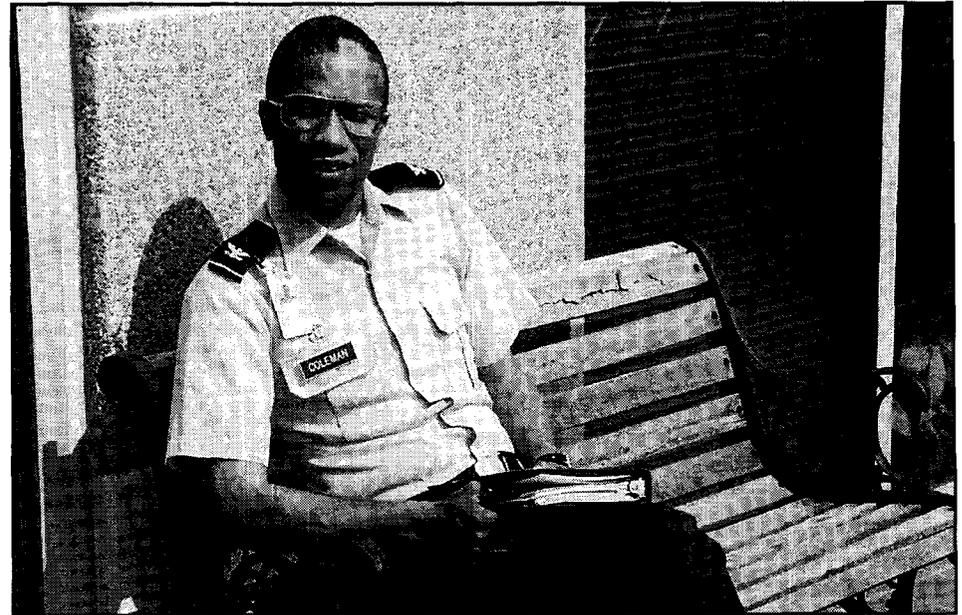


Photo by June Johns

**TIME OUT -** Coleman takes a momentary break from his schedule as Redstone's new director of personnel and training.

ly — enforced, he said. "If you deface (the country's) currency or flag, or if you verbally insult someone, that's a jailable offense."

Now that his feet are firmly planted in American terra firma, Coleman has concerns other than foreign relations. His current task at hand is heading the military and civilian personnel offices that come under his domain.

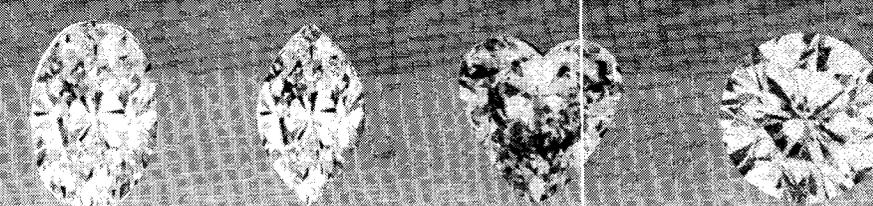
Coleman, who looks much younger than his 45 years, explained that while he is still in the observation stage, (having been at his new job only about two weeks), he still knows of areas where he wants to concentrate his efforts.

While quite familiar with military per-

See Coleman on page 17



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 Patriot Ashley, Promotion Certificate  
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 Thomas P. Kelley, Patriot of the Month for April  
 William Grimmitt, Performance Award  
 Robert Echols, Performance Award  
 Thomas P. Kelley, Performance Award  
 Margaret Tipton, Performance Award  
 So Hui Smith, Performance Award  
 Patricia Hopper, Quality Increase  
 Patricia Brewer, Quality Increase  
 Joyce Marion, Quality Increase  
 Timothy Richmond, Quality Increase  
 Ellen Richardson, Quality Increase  
 Pamela Owen, Quality Increase  
 Cynthia Gurley, Quality Increase  
 Geraldine Barber, Quality Increase  
 Jamie Pepper, Quality Increase  
 Steven Coley, Quality Increase  
 Thomas P. Kelley, Special Act Award  
 Dennis Day, Special Act Award  
 James Coombs (MRDEC), Special Act Award  
 Andrew Fogle, Special Act Award  
 Lawrence Hoffmeister, Special Act Award  
 William Gilchrist, Special Act Award  
 Barry Below, Special Act Award  
 Mike Eison, Special Act Award  
 Donald Pettigrew, Special Act Award  
 Gerald Skidmore, Special Act Award  
 Michael Matusa, Special Act Award  
 Kevin Nurre, Special Act Award  
 Rosita Strong, Special Act Award  
 John Yim, Special Act Award  
 Angie Zito, Special Act Award  
 Carolyn Cantrell, Special Act Award  
 Monica Southerland (MRDEC), Special Act Award  
 Juan Mendoza, Special Act Award  
 W. Daniel Featherston (MRDEC), Special Act Award  
 Steven Green (MRDEC), Special Act Award  
 Maj. Paul Lepine, MSM  
 Maj. Paul Lepine, ARCOM  
 Maj. John Oxford Jr., ARCOM

## Coleman

continued from page 16

sonnel procedures, Coleman concedes "I'm going to have to learn the civilian side of the house." He also noted his realization that dealing with senior civilian personnel, who average 8-25 years of service, will be far different from handling raw recruits in an Army battalion setting.

Keeping employees in the loop by concentrating on effective communication is an area Coleman plans to emphasize. Weekly and quarterly meetings, providing personnel with the big picture of where his department is heading, will be a key element in achieving this, he said.

Feedback from "clients" could take shape as customer service survey forms, which Coleman said he plans to personally review. "After all, the client wants to be heard by the man at the top," he said.

Avoiding micro-management, relying on people with years of experience, stressing change and flexibility where needed, and emphasizing Army core values will also be personnel areas addressed by Coleman.

Coleman is a native of Montgomery. He graduated from Alabama A&M University in 1975, with a bachelor's degree in business administration. Coleman also holds a master's degree from Webster University in Missouri.

He was commissioned as a second lieutenant in the Adjutant General Corps in December 1975, and entered active duty on January 1976. His military career has taken Coleman globe trotting, to places such as Germany and southeastern Europe. He served three tours of duty in Turkey. This is his second tour of duty in Huntsville.

Coleman's military awards include the Legion of Merit, Defense Meritorious Service Medal (second oak leaf cluster), Army Commendation Medal (third oak leaf cluster), the Joint Service Achievement Medal, and the National Defense Ribbon.

He is married to the former Carolyn Ann Howard. The couple has two sons, Paris Jerome "PJ" and Casey.

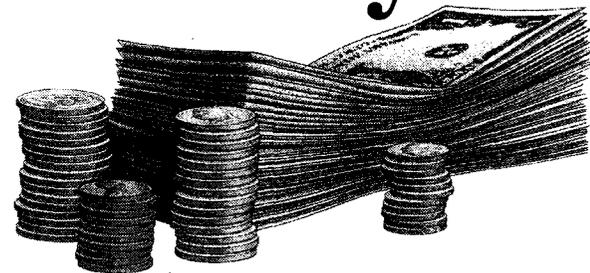


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# DNA tests spark efforts to ID Korean War remains

By Rudi Williams

WASHINGTON — The Korean War is often referred to as the "forgotten war," and many families of servicemen missing from that war felt their loved ones were also forgotten — until now.

Advances in forensic medicine have enabled DoD to redouble efforts to identify some of the 846 sets of Korean War remains buried as "unknowns" in the National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific in Honolulu, also known as "the Punch Bowl."

Investigators will use the same mitochondrial DNA technology that proved the remains of Air Force 1st Lt. Michael J. Blassie were those interred in the Vietnam crypt of the Tomb of the Unknowns in Arlington National Cemetery, Va.

A new DoD policy authorizes the Army's Honolulu-based Central Identification Laboratory to disinter remains of unknown servicemembers that "we believe, with the help of DNA, we can identify," said Allen Liotta, deputy director, Office of OW/Missing Personnel Affairs in Arlington, Va. "When the remains were returned to U.S. custody in 1953 and forensically reviewed, there was insufficient information to identify them. Now, however, with DNA technology we believe we can identify some of them."

"We're carefully reviewing the cases, looking to see which ones there was a lot of information on but just shy of being able to make an identification," Liotta said. He said the laboratory believes it has compelling evidence on about a dozen sets of remains. "We believe that by the end of this summer we will have begun to excavate the first of those dozen."

There are no plans at this time to open all 846 graves in the Punch Bowl.

Of the 8,200 servicemen missing from the Korean War, Liotta said, the remains of 1,000 are already in U.S. custody — the 846 at the Punch Bowl and more than 200 at the Central Identification Laboratory that were unilaterally repatriated by the North Koreans or found during joint recovery operations.

The first joint recovery operation inside North Korea came more than 43 years after the war. "Our work in Korea has been ongoing since the end of the war, but the problem was, we had no access to North Korea," he said.

After negotiations in early 1996, Liotta led the first DoD delegation to Pyongyang, the North Korean capital, to discuss joint recovery work to locate and repatriate remains of missing U.S. servicemen. The visit was the first official one by a U.S. delegation since the 1953 armistice.

The North Koreans agreed to two joint recovery operations, the first a 20-day investigation starting on July 10, 1996. Another 20-day mission was scheduled for that September.

The first mission resulted in the repatriation of the remains of a U.S. Army soldier who fell in battle near Unsan, North Korea. "We identified the remains fairly quickly because we had a fairly complete skeleton with dog tags and other identification," Liotta said.

But there was a major problem. "We didn't have a family to return the remains to," he said. "That was the first clear unambiguous signal to all the services that we needed an aggressive outreach program to locate families the department had lost touch with since 1953.

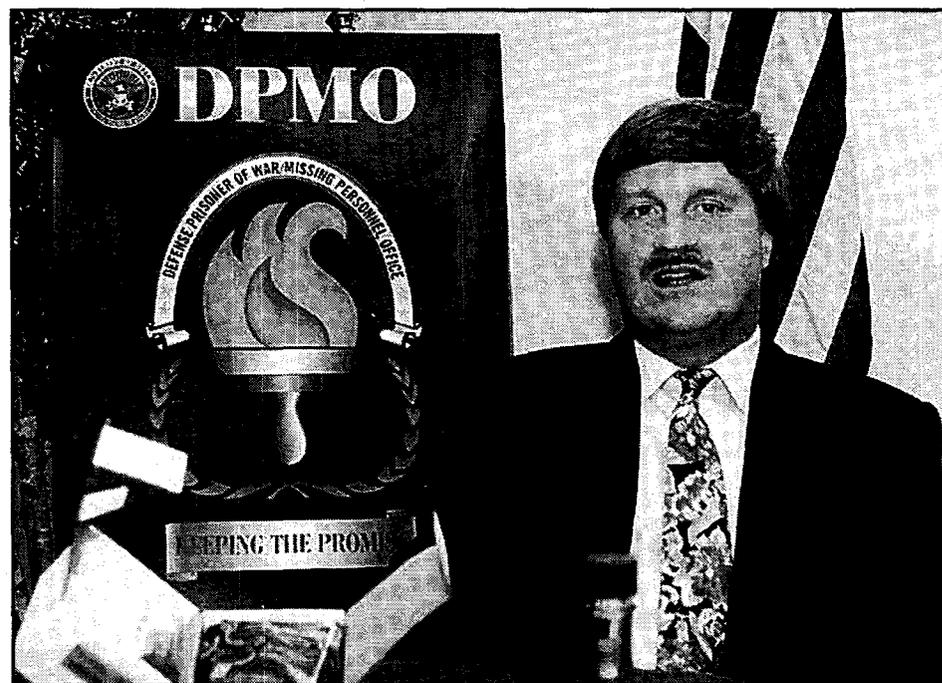


Photo by Rudi Williams

**OUTREACH—** Families of servicemen missing since the Korean War are "grateful and surprised" the government is still trying to account for their loved ones, said Allen Liotta, deputy director of the Defense POW/[Missing Personnel] Affairs.

"We realized we were going to have to rely heavily on DNA technology, so each of the services began an aggressive outreach program ... to locate as many of those families as possible to obtain reference samples for DNA technology. The technology and numbers of samples have grown geometrically over the last two years. A very successful program."

Liotta's office conducts monthly visits around the country to meet with families of missing Americans from all wars. "We update them on the department's activities," he said. "We've seen the number of Korean War families grow from a handful at each

meeting in 1996 and 1997 to more than 100 at each meeting today. I think that's because of the services' aggressive efforts to let families know we'll be in their areas."

The families are "grateful and surprised" by the visits, he said. "They didn't know the government was still trying to find the remains of their missing loved ones," Liotta said. "They're very happy and proud that the government would make such an effort."

He said mitochondrial DNA comes from the maternal side of the family, therefore, DNA samples are needed from the mother,

See Korea on page 19

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## Korea

continued from page 18

siblings or other relatives on the mother's side of the family.

He emphasized DNA isn't a sure-fire method of identifying all remains. There are scientific limitations. In some instances, he said, remains have been burned so badly that the DNA has been destroyed.

"In Korea, where it freezes in the winter and temperatures vary throughout the year, we've had 100 percent rate in getting DNA samples from Korean War-era remains," Liotta said. "DNA offers us a tool to close cases and get answers we wouldn't have been able to without it."

Thirty-five sets of remains have been repatriated from North Korea since 1996, but so far, only three have been identified and returned to families, he said.

POW/MIA spokesman Larry Greer said the identification laboratory uses DNA on about 45 percent of their cases from all wars. The other 55 percent are being identified through traditional forensic means, such as dental X-rays.

"Dental X-rays are the preferred method because it gives you scientifically highly credible identifications," Greer said. "Good dental records can be as accurate as fingerprints."

In addition to the outreach programs for Korean War families, Greer said, the department also seeks family members of the 78,000 servicemen missing from World War II and the 123 lost in Cold War inci-

dents. He said the POW/MIA office needs information and documents that could aid in identifying remains, such as photographs, military records and letters. Veterans who may have information about burial sites, POW camps and other details are also being sought.

For more information, contact the casualty office of the nearest military installation or the POW/Missing Personnel Office at: DPMO-WASH, D.C.

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The POW/Missing Personnel Office Web site lists the names of all Korean War and Vietnam War MIAs. It also has information related to accounting efforts worldwide, including World War II and the Cold War. The address is [www.dtic.mil/dpmo](http://www.dtic.mil/dpmo). The Web site includes an e-mail window where messages can be sent regarding Korean War MIA matters.

Toll free numbers for the services' and State Department casualty offices are:  
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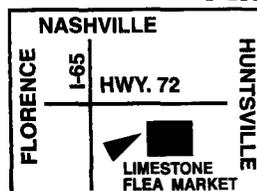
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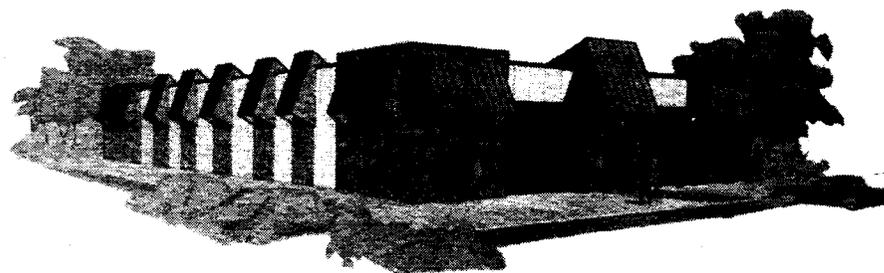
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# Joint Guardian on track; NATO watches Montenegro

B Jim Garamone

WASHINGTON — The NATO commander said Operation Joint Guardian in Kosovo is off to a good start, but he is concerned about Serb movements into the neighboring Yugoslav Republic of Montenegro.

U.S. Army Gen. Wesley Clark said more than 23,000 allied troops are in Kosovo, including 4,500 Americans, during a July 1 Pentagon news conference. He said NATO is looking to accelerate deployment of troops to the area.

Clark also commented on confusion over what NATO aircraft hit during the air campaign against Serb forces in Kosovo. "We stand by the figures we presented earlier," he said. "It's 110 tanks, 210 armored fighting vehicles, 449 pieces of artillery and mortar equipment." He said the figures are based on overhead imagery and cockpit video.

He said troops on the ground have found what mission planners had expected. He said Kosovar Albanians have "been through a real tragedy," and they are returning and beginning to sort out their lives. He

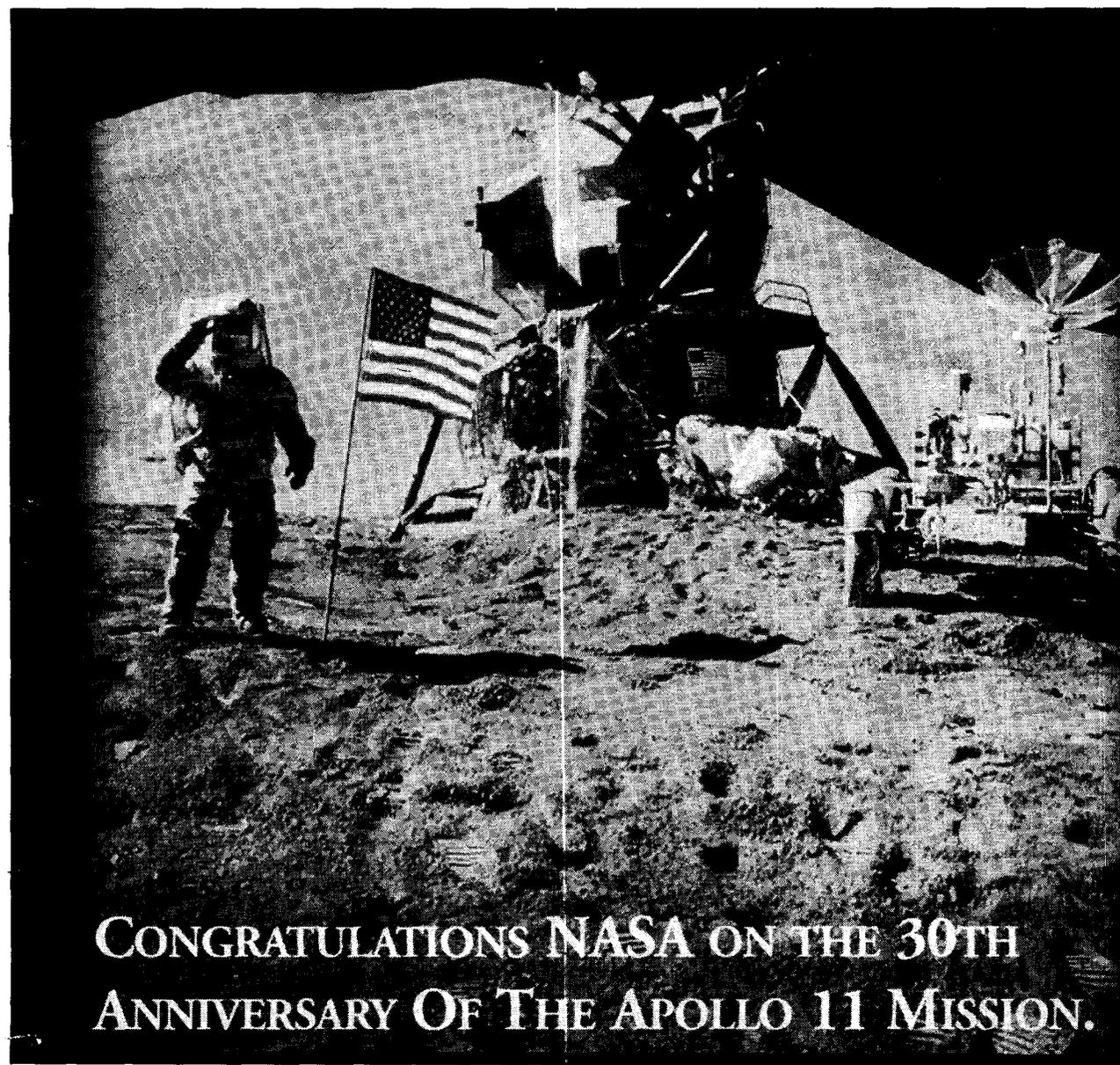
said NATO expected the Serbs to generally follow the military technical agreement that ended the air campaign against Yugoslavia, and they have.

"We know there are some [Serb] stay-behind elements," Clark said. "We're not sure what they're doing there, how many there are or how long they're going to be there, and we're in the process of asking them to leave when we identify them."

Clark said NATO is watching the Serb deployment into Montenegro, which, though part of Yugoslavia, stayed out of the fight in Kosovo. The leadership of the republic is pro-Western and has been under political pressure from Yugoslav President Slobodan Milosevic.

"We've seen the reinforcement of some of the [Serb] elements there," Clark said. "We've seen a pattern over several weeks of attempting to put more ethnic Serbians into positions of authority," Clark said. "I think Montenegro remains a very sensitive area. I think President Milosevic is calculating what is to his best advantage in terms of making moves in that area."

(American Forces Press Service)



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## 3-D scanner gives troops perfect-fitting uniforms

By Rudi Williams

WASHINGTON — With the help of 3-D body scanner technology, scientists and engineers are preparing to step into the future with their clothing and equipment designs.

The 3-D, or Whole Body Digitizer, technology was demonstrated here at the Ronald Reagan International Trade Center during DoD's June 9-11 Electronic Commerce Day activities. More than 600 attendees saw how the process determines uniform sizes of basic training recruits at the Marine Corps Recruit Depot in San Diego. The Marines have been testing the machine there for about a year.

Electronic Commerce Day attendees watched as a male model clad in form-fitting olive-drab bicycle shorts stood erect on a platform as a red eye-safe laser scanned him from head to toe. The machine has four scan heads mounted on a nine-foot frame. A laser beam projected around the model's body was reflected into cameras located in each of the scan heads.

Depot clothing officer Bob Padilla said all recruits have to do is wear exercise shorts and step onto a platform — after a 17-second scan, the Whole Body Digitizer has enough information to produce perfect-fitting, custom-made uniforms. In a matter of minutes, the laser data are translated into

a 3-D image that can be viewed on a computer screen. The data are printed out in 45 seconds and handed to the recruit to take to the uniform issue point.

"So far, we've scanned more than 1,000 recruits," Padilla noted. "The key is to limit the time it takes to manually tape measure the recruits and do tailored alternations so they can spend more time training." While manually measuring a recruit's sleeve length, waist and chest takes less than a minute, the measurements are not as accurate as the 3-D scanner, he said.

Before the advent of the 3-D scanner, time and manpower were wasted because the fitting process began early in boot camp to ensure recruits' dress uniforms would be ready for graduation. Because diet and exercise changed recruits' body shapes, they would often need at least two subsequent fittings and alteration checks.

"The 3-D scanning technology makes it feasible to delay dress uniform issues until after most of the body changes have taken place," Padilla said. Recruits are now scanned a few days before the end of boot camp and their dress uniforms are still ready for graduation day.

Scanning is not only faster, but more accurate, he said, and that eliminates the numerous fittings and saves tailoring costs. It's also a morale booster because recruits

don't have to spend a lot of time standing in line. For example, he said, "If I have only one person available to measure shirt sizes, the line gets pretty long when you have 350 recruits waiting for service."

Depot money managers estimate the scanning test project has saved more than \$5.3 million since it started in May 1998. With the scanner, researchers can collect thousands of human body measurements more quickly and comprehensively than with the manual method, Padilla noted. The data, integrated into the supply system, has allowed the depot to reduce its uniform inventory by more than 50 percent. That has freed thousands of feet of warehouse space for other uses and means fewer people are needed to measure recruits for uniform sizes, he added.

Padilla said depot employees displaced by the scanner are given other jobs or retrained — to operate the scanning equipment.

Using the scanning technology to fit uniforms is just scratching the surface of its capabilities, according to Kathleen Robinette, director of the Computerized Anthropometric Research and Design Lab at the Air Force Research Laboratory, Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, Ohio. She said the scanner technology has incredible, far-reaching potential for military and industry applications.



Photo by Rudi Williams

**FUTURISTIC SYSTEM**— Marine Corps Master Sgt. Charles E. Brown discusses the 3-D body scanner with male model Eric Strom during DoD's Electronic Commerce Day activities in Washington. Brown described the 3-D scanner as "a high-tech, futuristic system that will benefit all branches of the services."

In addition to the apparel industry, Robinette said, many uses for the technology will be found in the medical community, automobile industry and the military.

See Scanner on page 22

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## Kosovo

continued from page 9

ent locations which afforded me the opportunity to interface with resident citizens. The rural villages, homes and work of farm families is much the same with monthly income approximately \$50-75. Many family houses have no electricity, only well-water pumps with outside toilets. Albanian roads were terrible - nothing but large pot-holes, detrimental to wheeled vehicle operation.

Macedonia has very nice homes, great paved roads with new connecting four-lane freeways. As we traveled through the Macedonian villages it was obvious which sections were of different ethnic backgrounds. Rock throwing at my vehicle occurred twice, otherwise friendly people, especially with my 3-by-5 American flag waving from the gun port of my HMMWV. Then they knew the Americans had arrived.

After a few days delay in Macedonia we departed for Kosovo. As our convoy neared the border we passed the refugee camps. Everyone was at the barb-wire fences, waving hands, shouting, jumping up and down and falling to the ground crying. Very emotional events while crossing the border into Kosovo.

Once inside the small border village it was a strange feeling observing empty, burned-out buildings and every window broken. As I drove my HMMWV onward, a sense of excitement with depression -

passing once nice homes, burned and gutted, once nice restaurants and coffee houses totally destroyed, passing also, small encircled groups of the KLA.

Camp Bondsteel is developing rapidly considering force protection duties, manned check points and patrols ongoing daily which all units perform, not just the infantry. Everyone pitches in improving our camp. As an example, I was informed our post (APO) office had opened. In checking for myself, thinking I could mail packages to Germany, I entered the GP medium tent and observed soldiers sorting mail on the ground. The NCO-in-charge informed me no flooring or plywood was available. The tent was dark with only two 40 watt light bulbs. To shorten the story, I located 60 watt light bulbs and the following morning, returned with wood flooring strapped down all over my HMMWV (Brown & Root cargo truck had to make an emergency stop). The troops saw the HMMWV coming and began waving and jumping. Thank you.

As of June 26, the troops and civilians have laundry (three-day) service - just washing, no pressing. There is a shower facility consisting of two GP medium tents, wood flooring, with separate stalls. Stars & Stripes newspapers have begun to materialize 3-4 days late, but that will change.

The CH-47 Chinooks are busy sling-loading supplies as Blackhawks make deliveries of both personnel and cargo. I would be remiss not to acknowledge the AMC efforts in providing the assets mak-

ing my job supporting the customer less cumbersome. The M109 van was a place to sleep and work out of the weather, the 30kw generator that kept the power, the issuance of a 9mm weapon for self-protection and a satellite phone, enabling me to maintain communications in resolving logistical and technical issues, most importantly, keeping key elements at Redstone informed and updated as events occurred and changed. All of this equipment was a tremendous help and served a valuable purpose. I also make mention the incredible support received from IMMC, PM Offices and the Readiness Directorate, whose teamwork and efforts were over and beyond expectations.

I conclude the last 90 days' mission accomplishment as being extremely successful and professional, due largely to the efforts of LAR Linda Parker. She invested extended hours seven days a week, maintaining communications when it was not possible for me to do so, and most importantly, locating and shipping extra life support equipment or hard to find repair parts within 24 hours of notification.

At the forefront of our camp is the military leadership - strong and very mission oriented with vision. I know personally several of these field grade officers from previous assignments and deployments to various locations in the Middle East and Army bases in the U.S. It's a privilege to have a small role in this very important campaign.

## Scanner

continued from page 21

Medical applications include using scanner data to produce better artificial limbs, to create garments that promote healing in burn victims, to determine the progress of wound healing, and to study the relationship between body shapes and diseases.

The automobile industry can use scanner data to design better car seats and improve driver and passenger visibility and instrument panel layouts, she said.

Cyberware Inc. of Monterey, Calif., originally developed the scanner in the mid-1980s for the Air Force Research Laboratory for studies of body measurement variations in the general population worldwide. The results will be used to improve hundreds of goods and services - anything a person wears or uses, according to Robinette.

Scientists and engineers at the Army's Soldier Systems Center's laboratory in Natick, Mass., are using the technology to study ways to produce custom-made uniforms and to improve chemical protective equipment and body armor. (American Forces Press Service)

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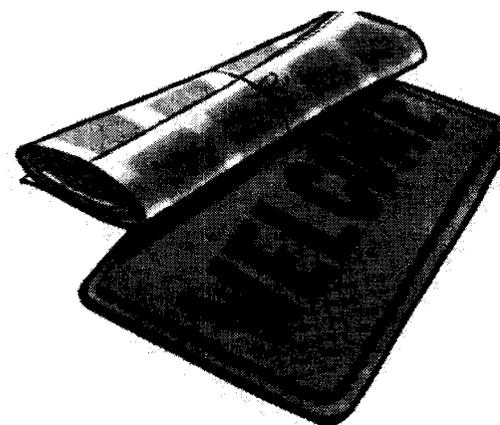
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# Global Positioning System goes through final Y2K testing

By Paul Stone

WASHINGTON — Final Y2K testing on the Global Positioning System indicate Jan. 1, 2000, will be a nonevent, according to Air Force officials involved in the project.

"We are very confident these tests will show that the Global Positioning System will function properly into the year 2000 and beyond," said Mike Filler, command lead of Y2K testing for GPS at the Air Force Space Command, Peterson Air Force Base, Colo. DoD fielded and maintains the GPS, which can tell users their location anywhere in the world within a matter of feet.

The Year 2000 problem, nicknamed "Y2K" and "millennium bug," refers to a past computer industry practice of programming years with just two digits — 1999 would be "99." The shorthand means some computer systems and equipment on Jan. 1, 2000, might read "00" as "1900." The error could generate more inaccurate data and even cause systems to shut down. Systems that won't handle the year change correctly must be fixed or replaced; those that will work correctly are called "Y2K-compliant." Continued functioning of the GPS into the next millennium is critical to DoD's warfighting mission, Filler said. For example, the Navy and Air Force employ the system for sea and air navigation, while the Army and Marines use it to pinpoint positions during ground operations.

"We could not have done what we did in Desert Storm without GPS," Filler pointed out. "When we initially went into Kuwait, and then Iraq, we were essentially moving

in featureless terrain. GPS was the feature that gave commanders the ability to maneuver effectively — to know where all forces were at any given moment in time."

Although a DoD system, the GPS is used heavily by many major businesses and industries worldwide. Almost all transportation sectors use it, including the airline, rail, sea and trucking industries, as well as individuals, said Capt. Zannis Pappas, Space Command's GPS operations section chief.

"It's become very affordable and very easy to use," he added. "Anyone can buy a handheld receiver nowadays, and it's often used by people hiking, fishing, boating, camping or cross-country skiing. It's even becoming standard in some automobiles."

The system consists of three major segments, Pappas said. The first, referred to as the "space segment," is a constellation of 24 operational satellites that circle the earth. He said the system currently includes an additional three satellites, which gives the command the flexibility to take satellites off-line temporarily for routine maintenance or testing, such as the current Y2K tests.

The second component consists of monitor stations at Hawaii and Kwajalein Atoll in the Pacific, Ascension Island in the Atlantic, Diego Garcia in the Indian Ocean, and Colorado Springs, Colo.; ground antennas at Ascension, Diego Garcia, Cape Canaveral, Fla., and Kwajalein; and a master control station at Schriever [formerly Falcon] Air Force Base, Colo.

The monitor stations track all satellites and accumulate data. The Schriever control station processes data to determine satellite

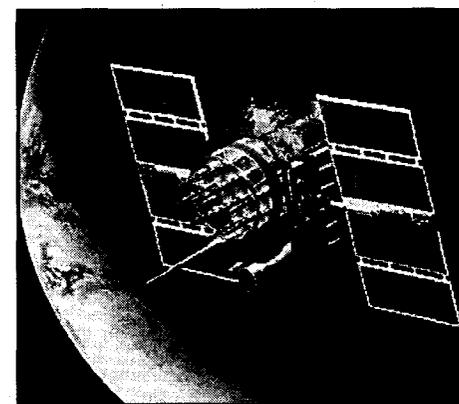
orbits and to update each satellite's navigation message. Updates are then transmitted to each satellite through the ground antennas.

The third segment is users, who receive the navigational and positioning information through a receiver. Filler said two classes of GPS satellites successfully passed tests conducted in late April and early May. Tests on a third class are being conducted throughout July. The classes vary slightly in their technological sophistication and functions.

Y2K testing this month focuses on three key dates, Filler said. First, the test satellite's clock will be advanced to Jan. 1, 2000, to make sure the system doesn't read the year as 1900. It will also be tested to successfully read what Filler called "rollover dates" that occur in February 2000 — because many computer systems weren't programmed to recognize 2000 as a leap year, the test ensures the satellites work properly between Feb. 28 and March 1.

Testing will also verify a non-Y2K-related phenomenon known as "end-of-week rollover." Filler said the GPS system counts in weeks. When fielded, the GPS satellites' clocks were set to count only up to 1,023 weeks — about 20 years — from January 1980. At midnight on Aug. 21 this year, the first 1,023 weeks end. "From our perspective and the testing we've done, we don't anticipate any problems," Filler said. "What we expect is that the clocks will revert back to zero and then begin counting the weeks all over again. That would place the next rollover at April 6, 2019."

Although the rollover and Y2K are not



USAF illustration

**IN ORBIT—This is an artist's rendition of a Global Positioning Satellite.**

expected to affect the satellites or ground control operations, Filler warned that GPS receivers may experience problems. The individual services are testing their receivers and upgrading and replacing them as needed. Personal GPS receivers also need to be checked. "Most receivers made in the past five years should be OK, but it wouldn't hurt to check," Filler said.

The Federal Communications Commission and Department of Transportation are advising users of personal GPS receivers to contact the manufacturer to determine compliance. For manufacturer contact information, use the federal government's toll-free Y2K consumer hot line, 1-800-USA-4-Y2K, or visit the Consumer Information gateway at the Federal Trade Commission Web site at [www.consumer.gov/y2k/index.html](http://www.consumer.gov/y2k/index.html). The site has direct links to most manufacturers of consumer electronics. (American Forces Press Service)

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Eye in the sky...

# Helicopters keep medics on top of desert dangers

By Douglas J. Gillert

FORT IRWIN, Calif. — Windswept rocks, sand and brush rim the narrow, two-lane asphalt strip that stretches 35 miles north from Interstate 15 to the main gate here. There are no buildings, no lights, no crossroads, and only the occasional winding curve, to slow you down.

Motorists traveling Fort Irwin Road too often forget they're no longer on the 70-mph highway, forget about oncoming traffic and the soft, sandy shoulders that can seize their tires like a hawk grabbing a prairie dog and often, tragically, with the same deadly result.

You can't miss the crosses. They mark the sites where drivers drove too fast and lost control or didn't know they weren't alone until it was too late to avoid a head-on collision. Some of the crosses are decked with children's toys that won't be played with anymore.

The luckier survivors of these and other accidents in the vast, untamed Southern California desert can thank the helicopters and crews that flew them to medical facilities. Part of the Tricare Southern California

provider network, a civilian air ambulance service whisks accident victims to the nearest emergency room.

When an accident involves more people than the civilian chopper can carry or when the weather turns foul, the Army takes charge, dispatching a big, all-weather UH-60 Black Hawk with an emergency medical technician on board. Aiding highway accident victims is part of the mission known as "Desert Dustoff" — 45 soldiers flying Black Hawks, often under extreme conditions.

"This unit performs more real-world medical evacuations under tougher conditions than any other unit in the Army," said Brig. Gen. William G. Webster Jr., National Training Center commander.

Primarily, the Army Air Ambulance Detachment evacuates soldiers injured while training in "the box," several hundred square miles of inhospitable desert mountain terrain that can toss a tank like a Tinkertoy. And when soldiers and family members need urgent critical care not available at the Weed Army Community Hospital, the detachment airlifts them day or night in any weather to hospitals in San Bernardino and Palm Springs, more than



Photo by Douglas J. Gillert

**ROCK ON**— A pile of rocks near the main gate of Fort Irwin, Calif., has become a memorial to Army units that have traveled from around the world to hone their warfighting skills at the National Training Center. While at the sprawling desert base, they face hazards ranging from heat exhaustion to tank accidents, but a team of emergency medical technicians, backed by UH-60 Black Hawk helicopters configured for aeromedical evacuation, helps them stay fighting fit.

100 miles away.

The Black Hawk crews and medics train to operate in and over the rugged terrain. They're certified to perform in pitch-black darkness wearing night-vision goggles. They average 17 missions a month. In July 1998 alone, they flew 47 missions and evacuated 55 patients. Over the past two years, they've flown more than 400 successful evacuation missions. They respond rapidly.

"We have one crew on duty — first-up — that can respond in 10 minutes," said

Maj. Alain Perrone, detachment commander. "Another crew — second-up — is on 15-minute recall during duty hours and one-hour recall after duty hours. During high-risk periods — a brigade-size jump, for example — we can stand up third-up and fourth-up flights."

It's good duty for Army medics — the unit doesn't deploy and the mission challenges them to think and act quickly and

See Ambulance on page 25

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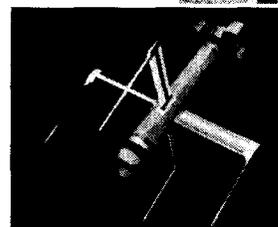
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continued from page 13

pool tables, patio court and tables. Cook your own complimentary hot dogs or hamburgers Tuesday through Friday. Join DJ Ed at the JOC on July 17 for Latin Night. The fun will begin at 8 p.m. until 2 a.m. The cover charge for this event is \$3. For more information, call 830-2582.

**Neon demo drive for Youth Sports** – Help support Army Youth Sports by test driving a 2000 Dodge/Plymouth Neon on July 23 or 24, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the parking lot of the PX. For every test drive taken, Dodge and Plymouth will make a donation to support Army Youth Sports at Redstone Arsenal. In addition, each person test driving will be given a \$5 gift certificate good at the PX or Food Court. (AAFES

Food Court is open to the entire Redstone community.) There is no cost for you to participate. For more information, call Missy Richards 876-2255.

**Redstone Golf Course** – The Mens and Womens Handicap Championship will be July 31 and Aug. 1. Free beverages will be offered after each day's play. A barbecue chicken dinner will be available Aug. 1. Registration ends July 23. The Handicap Championship is open to all authorized users, and the cost is \$40. For more information, call the Redstone Golf Course 883-7977.

**ACS Birthday open house** – Army Community Service is celebrating 34 years of service. Come join in the celebration July 23 from 2-4 p.m. at building 3491, Honest John Road. Refreshments will be served. For more information, call 876-5397.

**Ambulance**

continued from page 24

decisively. Because the mission is so demanding, in fact, newcomers don't get to fly right away.

"When medics arrive here, we evaluate them to decide what kind of training they need," said Sgt. Rob Walter, flight medic and instructor. Training can last one day or three months, depending on their past experience. "We don't start on medical training until they're flight qualified. Then, we qualify them to the ER-level of expertise — what we call 'Readiness Level 1.'"

On board the Black Hawks, the medics stow life support equipment, bandages, flu-

ids and medicine — enough for almost any contingency. A "life pack" contains an electrocardiograph and a defibrillator, which "jump-starts" stopped hearts. A collection of splints ranges from flexible metal ones coated with foam rubber to others that harden when air inside them is vacuumed out.

Mostly the flying medics see and treat environmental injuries — snake bites, dehydration and heat exhaustion, but they're prepared for much worse. And on or off the sprawling desert post, they deliver care wherever and whenever it's needed. (American Forces Press Service)

**Announcements****Retired officers**

The Retired Officers Association will meet at 11 a.m. July 28 at the Redstone Arsenal Club. Art Stephenson, director of Marshal Space Flight Center, is scheduled speaker. For more information, call retired Capt. Albert Castelli 859-1340.

**Veterans workshop**

The North Alabama Center for Educational Excellence, 1515 Sparkman Drive, will hold a free workshop for veterans from 8:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Thursday. Participants will learn how to search for a job, financial benefits available for veterans, and how to enroll in college. There will be free refreshments and door prizes. Register early to reserve your seat by calling 722-9632.

**Alcoholics anonymous**

An Alcoholics Anonymous group meets each Thursday at 11 a.m. at Sparkman Center building 5304, room 4309. For information call the AA Central Office 885-0323.

**School bus sign up**

All military residing on Redstone Arsenal desiring school bus transportation to the three core schools—Williams Elementary, Westlawn Middle and Butler High — for school year 1999-2000 must register each child for transportation. Registration will

be held from 7 a.m. to 4 p.m. July 16, 19, 20, 21 and 22 at the Challenger Club and from 6-8 p.m. July 19 at Bicentennial Chapel. Registration for City of Huntsville bus transportation to the magnet schools and special needs (handicapped) schools will also be conducted at the aforementioned location, dates and times. To qualify for school bus transportation, each registrant must show proof of active duty status. For more information, call Kimberly Pugh 842-9836.

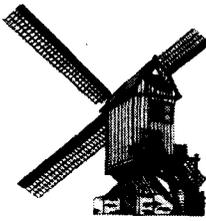
**Bible study**

The Redstone community, civilian and military are invited to attend Bible study each Wednesday from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at Bicentennial Chapel. Free hamburgers will be served. For more information, call 313-6874.

**LOGSA ceremony**

Brig. Gen. John Deyermond, Army Materiel Command deputy chief of staff for ammunition, will hold a change of command ceremony for the Logistics Support Activity from 8-8:30 a.m. Aug. 13 in the Sparkman Auditorium. The outgoing LOGSA commander is Col. Ronald Hyatte; and the incoming commander is Col. Jerry Warnement.

See Announcements on page 26



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# Announcements

## Announcements

continued from page 25

### Master's degree

Nova Southeastern University will hold a registration meeting for its master of business administration program at 6 p.m. Friday at Calhoun Community College, classroom 51 at 102 Wynn Drive. To RSVP or for information, call (800) 672-7223, ext. 5039.

### Babysitting class

Child and Youth Services will sponsor a babysitting class at the American Red Cross, 1101 Washington St. The training will include safety procedures, parent and public relations, first aid techniques, child abuse, child development guidance and techniques, and choosing toys for children. Those interested in taking this babysitting course must be at least 11 years old to attend (must be 13 years old to babysit on Redstone Arsenal). Registration is required; and the \$25 fee must be paid in advance. The fee includes babysitting manual, pins and tote bag. For more information, call Diane Garcia 536-0084, ext. 326.

### Polo club

The Huntsville Polo Club will play for the Cavalry Cup against the Atlanta Polo Club on July 25 at Harris Hill Farm, at the inter-

section of Highway 72 East and Moores Mill Road (the polo grounds and parking are on the south side of Highway 72). Gates open at 2 p.m.; and the game starts at 3:30. There is no admission charge. For more information, call Fred Lee 880-3364 or the Polo Hotline 851-0075.

### Johnson High alumni

To all graduates of J.O. Johnson High School: An Alumni Reunion/Homecoming Celebration is being planned for Oct. 15-17. The next committee meeting for planning this event will be held Thursday at 6:45 p.m. at the Dr. Richard Showers Recreational Center, Blue Spring Road. All graduates, spouses, friends, teachers, and staff are invited to attend. "We need your input! We are trying to locate all past homecoming kings and queens and class officers," a prepared release said. For more information, call George Alexander Jr. 859-3756 from 6-8 p.m. Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays; or write to P.O. Box 770, Huntsville 35804-0770.

### Northwest celebration

The Northwest Cluster— Johnson High, Davis Hills Middle, Ed White Middle, Rolling Hills Elementary, West Mastin Lake Elementary, Highlands Elementary, and Lakewood Elementary Schools — is celebrating its fifth annual "Celebrating

Education Day Parade and Festival," Aug. 7 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., on the grounds of Johnson High School, 6201 Pueblo Drive. There will be many games, face painting, basketball free throw and 3-point contests, candy, dinners, a talent show, and lots of fun. The parade will start from Davis Hills Middle School, 3221 West Mastin Lake Road, at 9 a.m. All persons interested in participating in the talent show, parade or volunteering in a booth should call Mrs. Laurie McCaulley 858-9595.

### Town hall

Sen. Richard Shelby, R-Ala., will hold a Team Redstone Town Hall Meeting on defense issues from 9-10 a.m. Monday in the Sparkman Auditorium. The Town Hall will be videotaped, but not broadcast on Channel 42. Ten seats for the hearing impaired will be reserved in Section 7 of the Auditorium.

### Recreation volunteers

Outdoor Recreation will accept applications for volunteers Aug. 1-15. Those eligible persons interested in applying should submit a written request to Bill Moreland, chief of Outdoor Recreation, stating their name, address, work and home phone numbers, military unit or place of employment, status— i.e., active duty, retired military,

civilian employee, or contractor — and a brief statement of reasons for wanting to be a volunteer and past experience which may complement volunteer efforts. For more information, call Potter or Gail 876-4868/6854.

### Excellence banquet

The Women of Excellence Fellowship International will sponsor a Salute to Excellence Banquet and Honors Program at 7:30 p.m. Aug. 6 at the Tom Beville Conference Center, 550 Sparkman Drive. Women and their families throughout the community are invited to join in this formal event. Scheduled speaker is Rev. Dr. Jannie Meares of Evangel Church in the Washington, D.C. area. "The Women of Excellence Fellowship is an interdenominational, interracial group of Christian women committed to exalting the name of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ," a prepared release said. "If you know of any woman or girl who has demonstrated excellent Christian service and character that you would like to see honored, you may submit a profile (biographical sketch) on them no later than July 19." To obtain a profile application, or for more information, call 859-5493 or 536-2502. The banquet fee of \$25 must be paid by Aug. 1.

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