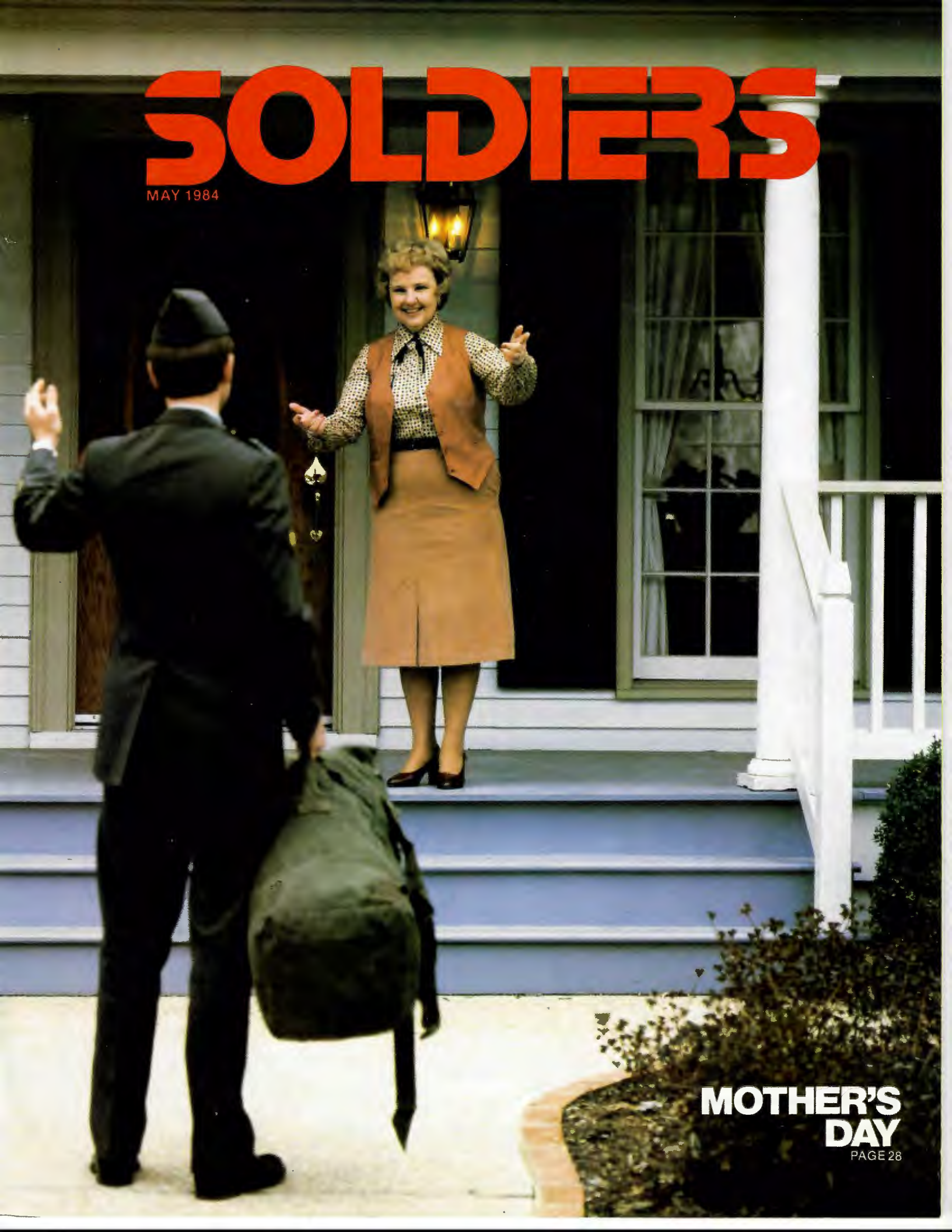
SOLDIERS

MAY 1984



MOTHER'S DAY

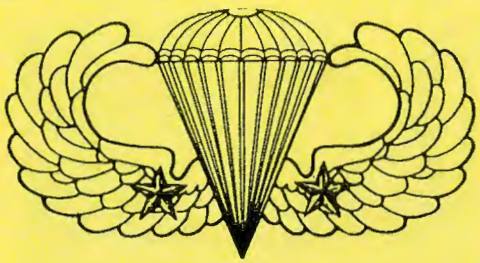
PAGE 28

"In a 90-minute soccer game, a player will run anywhere from 150 to 200 sprints. In that same 90 minutes, he will run four to six miles. He will also tackle opponents an average of 45 times and will have to make more than 200 decisions. During that 90 minutes of play, he'll be standing still only for about 50 seconds. All the time he'll be having fun. I challenge you to find another PT program that can do all that." — *Lt. Col. (Ret.) Billy Charlton, former Army soccer coach*

WHAT'S NEW

Compiled by SFC Michael Brown

(More What's New on pages 2, 54, 55)



Combat Jump Stars

THE wear of combat stars was approved in November 1983 by Gen. John A. Wickham Jr., chief of staff. He also OK'd the wear retroactively to the first jump, over Oran, Algeria, in November 1942. There have been 16 other eligible jumps since then.

Jumps eligible for the combat star are: Oran, Algeria, Nov. 8, 1942; Youks Les Bains, Tunisia, Nov. 15, 1942; Gela, Trapani and Palermo, Sicily, July 9-11, 1943; Anzio, Italy, Jan. 22-23, 1944; Normandy, France, June 6-7, 1944; Southern France, Aug. 15-16, 1944; Avellino, Italy, Sept. 9-10, 1944; Salerno, Italy, Sept. 14, 1944; Nijmegen-Arnhem, Holland, Sept. 17, 1944; and Wesel, Germany, March 24, 1945.

Eligible World War II jumps in the Pacific Theater are Luzon, the Philippines, Jan. 31, 1945, with follow-up operations at Tagaytay on Luzon on Feb. 3 and at Corregidor on Feb. 16. Korean War jumps were at Sukch'on-Such'on on Oct. 20, 1950, and at Munsan-Ni on March 23, 1951.

The only eligible combat jump from Vietnam was by the 173rd Airborne Brigade on Feb. 22, 1967, into "War Zone C." The most recent eligible jump was by members of the 1st and 2nd Ranger Battalions, 75th Infantry, and two 82nd Airborne Division combat engineers over Grenada on Oct. 25, 1983.

Active duty soldiers can obtain combat stars through normal supply channels. Veterans of Vietnam, Korea, and World War II need to apply with the Army Reserve Personnel Center in St. Louis, Mo., to get theirs.

Shown above are the placement of the stars for the first (left) and second awards of the stars. For the first award, center the star device on the center riser with the top point touching the canopy fringe. Veterans of two jumps put bronze stars on the wings with their centers ¼-inch from the center riser and 7/16-inch below the canopy edge.

Army Needs MI Agents

THE Army needs soldiers in grades E-4 to E-6 to become counterintelligence agents. These agents conduct inspections and surveys, and investigate individuals, organizations and installations concerning threats to national security.

MOS 97B is currently authorized a selective reenlistment bonus. Plus, certain soldiers may submit an application to attend the course under the Bonus Extension and Retraining program.

To apply, a soldier must have a special technical score of at least 110 or a general technical score of at least 110 for those never tested with the ST. The soldier must also have a Defense Language Aptitude Battery minimum score of 89, or have successfully completed a Defense Language Institute foreign language course.

Other qualifications must be met for a soldier to apply for the MOS. Several are not waivable. Contact your local military intelligence unit and your local military personnel office for detailed information.

Automatic Teller Test

A SELECT group of soldiers will use Army-operated automated teller machines to receive their pay during a six-month test starting in June. The test group consists of about 600 AIT students at the Soldier Support Center, Fort Benjamin Harrison, Ind.

The ATMs are targeted for trainees whose short stay at a post often discourages them from opening a bank account. They are not intended to replace existing services offered by banks and credit unions.

The Army ATM will use hand-characteristic data recorded on a plastic access card to grant soldiers access to the machine. Soldiers will place their hands on a hand geometry device. If the reading and card data match, soldiers will be able to use the machine.

The test follows a recommendation by the President's Private Sector Survey on Cost Control which concluded that significant savings are achievable through the delayed disbursement of pay (soldiers will not withdraw all their money on payday) and reductions in Treasury check preparation, handling and processing costs.

In addition, the commission said the use of ATMs would save basic trainees about $1.5 million per year in money order and travelers check costs. The ATMs also provide security and round-the-clock accessibility of funds for soldiers.

Airlines Cut Fares

PAN American and Trans-World Airways make flying to and from West Germany easier and cheaper. For $299 each, soldiers and their families may travel between either airline's servicing East Coast terminals and most cities they serve in West Germany. One-way fare between the East Coast and West Berlin or Munich is $319. Fares do not include tax.

All you need to qualify for the special fare is a valid military ID card or a valid dependent ID card. Family members may travel alone. No advance reservation or advance-purchase requirements exist.

AER Fund Campaign

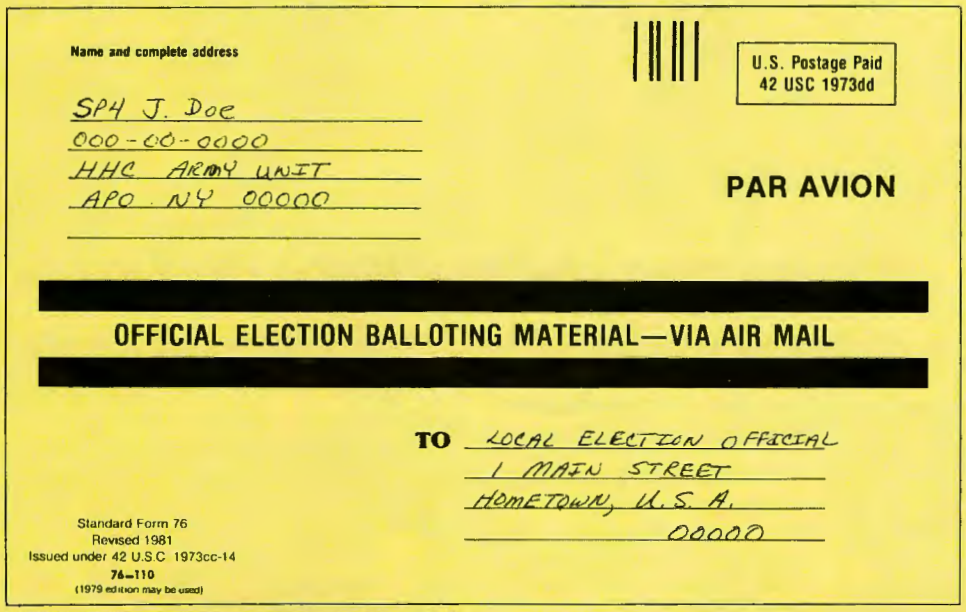
YOU can still make a donation to Army Emergency Relief if you haven't already done so. The 1984 fund campaign continues until the end of next month.

The funds raised during the campaign help AER provide soldiers, active and retired, and their families with financial aid during times of emergency need.

WHAT'S NEW

Compiled by SFC Michael Brown

(More What's New on pages 1, 54, 55)



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Voting Data

VOTERS will cast their ballots in November to decide who will be president of the United States. They will also decide who will be elected to several federal, state and local positions.

Many soldiers and their family members cast their votes by using the absentee ballot.

The Federal Voting Assistance Program offers a brochure entitled "Absentee Voting: How To Do It." Published as Department of Defense Fact Sheet 13, the guide provides general information about absentee voting procedures.

Detailed information on absentee voting can be found in the 1984-85 Voting Assistance Guide. This state-by-state absentee voting manual contains information such as registration requirements, where to send your Federal Post Card Application, and when it must be received by state election officials.

Unit or installation voting assistance officers should have copies of both the brochure and the voting guide. They are available through the normal military publications supply channels.

If there is any difficulty obtaining these or any other voting assistance materials at the local level, contact the Director, Federal Voting Assistance Program, Pentagon, Washington, D.C. 20301.

Telephone inquiries may be made by calling commercial (202) 694-4928/4960 or AUTOVON 224-4928/4960.

Patriot Technicians

THE Army is looking for soldiers to become technicians for the Patriot missile system. These technicians will serve as warrant officers in MOS 222C.

Applicants must be eligible for appointment as a warrant officer under the provisions of Army Regulation 135-100. Packets must include all of the documents required by the regulation.

The next quarterly warrant officer selection board meets in August. The board will consider applications received up to 30 days prior to the month the board convenes.

Contact your local personnel office for more information on how to apply for this program.

Commissary Sale

ARMY commissaries will host a "1984 Year of the Army Family Sale" July 2-14. The sale is in support of "The Army Family," the Army's theme for 1984.

During the sale, industry representatives will promote their products through voluntary price reductions and special coupon offers which will provide further savings for shoppers.

EER Pack Developed

THE Enlisted Evaluation System office at MILPERCEN has developed a packet of instructional material on the proper preparation of the Enlisted Evaluation Report. (See related story on page 32.) This packet is designed for use at unit level as part of officer and NCO development courses.

Copies have been provided to command sergeants major and local military personnel offices. Additional copies may be obtained by writing Commanding General, MILPERCEN, ATTN: DAPC-MSE, 200 Stovall St., Alexandria, Va. 22332.

OK to Say No

SOLDIERS may decline consideration for selection to the Sergeants Major Academy, starting with the FY 86 selection board.

This action will not be made a part of the soldier's file and will not preclude consideration by future boards. Soldiers who do not decline consideration and are selected to attend will still be required to attend.

Citizenship Proof

SOLDIERS and family members born outside the United States do not have to obtain a Certificate of Citizenship from the Immigration and Naturalization Service to document their status, according to INS officials.

Recent legislation permits the use of a valid U.S. passport, or a Report of Birth Abroad of a Citizen of the United States, as proof of citizenship.

The change affects most soldiers whose children were born in either U.S. military hospitals or civilian hospitals overseas.

The new rule makes citizenship easier to document. It also increases the importance of reporting the birth of a child overseas to the nearest U.S. consulate. Interested personnel should contact their local personnel office for detailed information.

SOLDIERS

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Arlington National Cemetery was once Gen. Robert E. Lee's beloved plantation. And epitaphs can be words for the wise.

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This modified M-113 personnel carrier is the artillery spotter's new legs — and more.

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Her job description said "mail clerk," but she was much more than that to those she served.

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This safety program helped lower Army aviation accidents — and now it's being used on the ground, too.

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THE OFFICIAL
U.S. ARMY MAGAZINE

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FEEDBACK

ENCORE, BY GEORGE

The article in the February issue, "Good Show, By George," failed to give credit where credit was due. Among the soldiers who played extras in the miniseries were 90 members of the 759th MP Battalion from Fort Dix, N.J.

The money our soldiers earned for their work was all donated to the Johnstone Training and Research Center, a center for handicapped persons in New Jersey.

I think everyone who participated deserves a round of applause.

Sp4 Mary-Jane Belko
Fort Dix, N.J.

We agree. Congratulations.

PROUD WAC

Thank you for printing the article "A Matter of Perspective" in the February issue. The photo used of black women in uniform marching in the streets of Rouen, France, in 1945 includes me. We were the first group of Negro WAC to serve in the European Theater. The 6888th Central Postal Directory Battalion was a support unit during the days of segregation in the armed forces. I am glad to look back after 20 years' service and 20 years' retirement and say I was a part of this fine unit, and to remember the change brought about by President Harry Truman's Executive Order 9981 for integration.

I would agree that friendships among people of different races have been fostered more through the military than any other institution or society.

SFC (Ret.) Bessie L. Robinson
Washington, D.C.

RIGHT STUFF

Thanks so much for the article published in your January 1984 issue entitled "The Army's Right Stuff." I had the privilege of serving with Col. Robert Stewart and Lt. Col. Woody Spring while assigned to the U.S. Army Aviation Engineering Flight Activity, Edwards Air Force Base, Calif., as the unit adjutant during the period 1975 through 1978.

At the time of my association with them, they were test pilots working on projects that required them to be TDY a lot of the time away from their families. They often flew on the weekends just to keep their minimum flight time up to acceptable standards in other aircraft. They worked long hours at all hours of the day and night to accomplish test projects on time. I guess what I am saying is that they are really the "right stuff" and that their selection to the astronaut program is the type of recognition they deserve for being the best at what they do. They are both exceptional officers and most deserving of the degree of success that they are now receiving in their careers.

I can also relate to the comment that Stewart made in the article that he did not feel particularly special about his entry into the space program. That is his way of acknowledging that a job has to be done and he is willing to do it, but he doesn't see it as any big deal. He was that same way while assigned to USAEFA. What is refreshing about his comments is that he has probably always set the right goals in life and continues to excel at what he enjoys doing the most. Perhaps we should all take a lesson from his example.

Maj. Fred J. Throgmorton
APO New York

KCOMZ PATCH

I am in Battery B, 1st Battalion, 43rd Field Artillery, California Army National Guard. I went to Korea in 1954 in the Regular Army and returned to CONUS in 1955. While in Korea, I was assigned to the Korean Communications Zone. I received the Korean Service and United Nations ribbons.

My question: Can I wear the KCOMZ shoulder patch on the right shoulder of my dress uniform?

Sgt. Savino Sanchez
West Sacramento, Calif.

The key here is when in 1954 you were assigned to Korea. According to Army Regulation 670-1, paragraph 26-17a(2), wear of former wartime organization shoulder sleeve insignia is authorized for service "in Korea between June 27, 1950, and July 27, 1954, both dates inclusive."

SCOUT BADGE?

This letter is about something

we hold very dear. We are 19Ds, cavalry scouts, and very proud of it. In a few weeks the infantry here will begin practicing for the Expert Infantryman Badge. Why in the world isn't there an expert scout badge? We're combat troops too. And, from the standards displayed in EIB testing, very proficient ones. We don't have a red and white rope to wear on our right shoulder with our dress greens. We don't have anything. Here in the infantry, we aren't even allowed to wear cavalry brass. Instead, we have to wear armor brass. But just like the infantry, we ain't no tankers.

Come on, Army. Recognize us and our potential. We pull recon missions for you, which means we meet the enemy before the infantry or armor does. We may have to engage the enemy and destroy him to protect a battalion's flank. We really do have an important mission and quite a bit depends on us and our abilities. So at least give us our cavalry brass. And how about some sort of ESB (Expert Scout Badge)?

Scout Platoon, 3rd Bn., 10th Inf.
Fort Polk, La.

TUSKEGEE

Heartiest congratulations on Gene Harper's fine article, "Tuskegee: Runway to Victory," in the February issue. It was another one of those little known stories of dedicated Americans fighting against the odds both on the home front and the war front — and winning both. I was vaguely aware that such a pilot training program had occurred; it was great to get the details.

My only complaint is that you should have provided a short bibliography so that interested soldiers could read more about the 99th and the 332nd. You mention Robert Rose's book, *Lonely Eagles*, and allude to an unnamed book by Charles Francis. I have heard about an excellent short story by Ralph Ellison based on the Tuskegee pilot program, but I can't recall the name or where it can be found. Also, are there any official or unofficial histories available?

Overall, a very exciting issue — especially the NTC stories.

Lt. Col. Julian M. Olejniczak
New York, N.Y.

Thanks for the words of praise. You can get more information on the Tuskegee Airmen by contacting the Tuskegee Airmen, Inc., a nonprofit organization that promotes research, conducts projects and offers scholarships to youth in aviation and aerospace. Contact Wentz S. Perkins, Historian, 2635 W. Philadelphia, Detroit, Mich. 48206.

Other accounts of these units are found in histories published by the Army and Air Force. These are available for sale through: Superintendent of Documents, U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C. 20402.

SEEING STRAIGHT?

In this photo in "Focus on People" from the January issue, why are these soldiers wearing unauthorized sunglasses? These look like flight glasses. Am I right or wrong?

SFC Cecil C. Ramirez Jr.
Fort Riley, Kan.

Enlisted personnel who perform sentinel duty with the 3rd U.S. Infantry (The Old Guard) are authorized to wear sunglasses by Common Table of Allowances 50-900, line J61447. The nomenclature is sunglasses: man's spectacles, oval glass lens, double aperture.

DEUCE-FOUR

I enjoyed your inside back cover of the February 1984 issue entitled "The Black Soldier: A Tradition of Excellence." In line with this tradition of excellence, maybe your magazine could do a feature article detailing the exploits of the 24th Infantry Regiment, the "Deuce-Four," in the Korean Conflict.

Philip H. Scaglione
Altoona, Pa.

We will consider a story on the unit. If any readers have a good story line on the 24th, let us know.

GOOD COPY

I am writing in regards to your photo supervisor, Sgt. Cecil M. Stack Jr. On his recent trip to Fort Bragg and prior to his deployment to Grenada, my unit had the unique pleasure of being photographed and interviewed by him for, as I understand, an upcoming article.

Since he initially came here to join our unit on an exercise to Spain, it was indeed a misfortune for us that he was subsequently rerouted to Grenada and missed our training. However, after reading his story and seeing the photographs of the mission in Grenada, I now realize that your magazine and its avid readers were the fortunate ones indeed!

Please congratulate him on a job well done and keep up the fine work with your magazine, as I am one of those avid readers I spoke of.

SFC Ronald D. Harrelson
Fort Bragg, N.C.

Thanks for the comments. The article on your unit awaiting deployment appeared in the March issue.

EDITOR'S NOTES: We've received some positive feedback from the Army suggestion people to whom we directed you readers in the January Feedback. *They say the suggestions have been pouring in. However, they want you to send them through your nearest Civilian Personnel Office, not directly to the Pentagon.*

The AUTOVON prefix in the supply hotline item in March What's New was incorrect. The number should have been 977-7431.

SOLDIERS is for soldiers and DA civilians. We invite readers' views. Stay under 150 words — a postcard will do — and include your name, rank and address. We'll withhold your name if you desire and may condense views because of space. We can't publish or answer every one but we'll use representative views. Send your letter to: Feedback, SOLDIERS, Cameron Station, Alexandria, Va. 22314.

THE ROAD TO V-E DAY

Sgt. Cecil Stack

With peace and freedom their crusade, America and its allies battled the German Nazi war machine across North Africa and Europe.

MAY 7, 1945, the German high command surrendered to the Allies. Adolf Hitler had committed suicide April 30. Berlin had fallen to the Russians May 2, and 1 million German soldiers had surrendered with the fall of the capital city. The Allies had achieved victory in Europe.

War still raged in the Pacific and it would be several months before the world would be at peace again, but the victors took a moment to celebrate. It was a well-deserved celebration. The road to victory had not been an easy one.

The road took form with the North African Campaign. There, the British and Americans eventually trapped German and Italian forces in Tunisia. The Allies, even before the fighting ended in North Africa, made plans to carry the battle to the continent of Europe.

British Prime Minister Winston Churchill proposed attacking Europe through Italy, which he called the

A chronology of the road to victory: Far left from the top, the light cruiser USS Boise shells the Sicilian coast as troops await the word to assault beaches near the town of Gela, in July 1943; • carrying wounded from the Rapido River area near Cassino, Italy, in January 1944; • and the 4th Division takes Utah Beach in Normandy, France, in June 1944. • Center page, the 29th Division enters St. Lo, France, in July 1944. • Above, the Allies continue their liberating march in France. • Left, Sgt. Joseph Holmes of the 35th Division stands watch outside Bastogne, Belgium, in January 1945.

"soft underbelly" of Europe. Although American military leaders disagreed with Churchill's strategies, President Franklin Roosevelt agreed with Churchill and overrode the objections. The battle plans were drawn, and Sicily was to be the stepping stone to Europe.

Code named "Operation Husky," the invasion of Sicily began July 10, 1943. Italian resistance was light, but the Germans put up a rear-guard fight. During the sweep of the island, a rivalry erupted between America's Lt. Gen. George S. Patton and Britain's Gen. Bernard Montgomery. Each wanted to be the first to capture the town of Messina and claim victory of Sicily. Patton won that honor. He arrived in Messina just hours ahead of Montgomery. The Allies had conquered Sicily within a month.

The next step was the invasion of Italy at Salerno. On Sept. 9, the Fifth U.S. Army, commanded by Lt. Gen. Mark W. Clark, landed in the Gulf of Salerno. Clark's forces encountered only light resistance. American commanders, however, felt that the Germans were readying for a counterattack. That attack came three days after the landing. The Germans ferociously attacked the 45th and 36th divisions. At one point artillerymen fired point blank into the attacking Germans. American casualties were so high that two battalions of the 82nd Airborne Division were sent in as reinforcements. Clark's forces held their ground, however, and repelled the attack.

The Germans retreated to the Cassino area and took up defensive positions along the Gustav Line. Bad weather and strong German defensive positions in rough terrain stalled America's push into Italy. Each gain along the Gustav Line cost American forces dearly in lives.

To keep the momentum going, another invasion 60 miles behind German lines was planned. The Jan. 22, 1944, landing at Anzio, located a few miles south of Rome, was carried out by Maj. Gen. John P. Lucas' VI Corps. His objective was to sever the Germans' supply lines to the Gustav Line. The landing went without difficulty, but the Allies didn't exploit this success. The Germans counterattacked and sealed off the beachhead for more than three months.

To the south, the American and

Clockwise from top left, Tech 4 George Lempianien celebrates in Germany. • Pvt. Leroy Johnson controls traffic at Remagen in March 1945. • Berlin was in ruins at the war's end.

Allied forces finally broke through the Gustav Line in May. That penetration allowed a breakout from Anzio and forced the Germans to retreat to Northern Italy and establish new positions north of Florence. The American Fifth Army would not dislodge the Germans from Northern Italy until April 1945, just one month before the fighting in Europe ended. The underbelly had proved to be not so soft.

While the fighting in Italy continued, American and British staffs planned the invasion of France. They chose the Normandy Coast as the site for the largest amphibious landing in World War II. D-Day involved more than 10,000 aircraft, from four-engine bombers to gliders, and more than 6,000 ships, from battleships to landing craft. America also contributed two airborne and three infantry divisions to the invasion.

The invasion began at 2 a.m. June 6, 1944, when the 82nd and 101st Airborne divisions and one British airborne division, parachuted behind enemy lines. Their objectives were to secure routes inland for advancing seaborne forces and to disrupt enemy defenses. But darkness and cloud cover created navigation problems for their pilots, and the units were scattered throughout the countryside. Despite the confusion they were able to secure most of their objectives.

At 6:30 a.m., Lt. Gen. Omar Bradley's First Army, consisting of the 1st, 4th and 29th Infantry divisions, assaulted Utah and Omaha beaches. The 4th Division was the first to land on Utah Beach. German defenses were thinner at this point, and the division suffered only 200 casualties during the assault.

The landing at Omaha Beach, however, was a different story. Preinvasion bombings had not softened German positions on the beach. The first assault wave was immediately pinned down by machine gun and artillery fire. Twenty-five minutes later the next wave landed, but they had no place to go. Assault waves continued landing and bunching up on the beach. The Germans' firepower reduced the size of many units by 25 to 50 percent. To break the Germans' resistance, Navy ships sailed within 1,000 yards to shell the enemy. As a result of the shelling, the 1st Division fought its way off the beach and moved up the bluffs behind them. The 29th Division then began coming ashore. By the end of the day, the divisions had lost more than 2,500 men and moved only two miles inland, but the liberation of France had begun.

The American advance into France began to stall in mid-July. But U.S. air strikes against the Germans enabled the U.S. forces to regain their momentum and press the advance. By September, France was liberated. Some sources place German losses at 500,000 dead and 210,000 captured.

Although Allied forces continued putting pressure on the Germans after the fall of France, the Germans slowed their retreat, which slowed or stalled Allied advances. During this time each side began planning new offensives. But the Germans launched theirs first.

On Dec. 16, 1944, under the cover of fog, 200,000 Germans and hundreds of tanks attacked unprepared American forces in Belgium and Luxembourg. American forces in the Ardennes offensive were either inexperienced or rotating to the rear. Three days after the offensive began, the 101st Division took up positions in the town of Bastogne and, surrounded, fought the Germans to a stalemate. The Germans asked for the division's surrender, but the division's acting commander, Brig. Gen. Anthony McAuliffe, sent back the reply, "Nuts!" Patton's Third Army broke the siege in late December and turned the Battle of the Bulge into an American victory.

Germany's collapse accelerated after the failure of the Ardennes offensive. In March 1945 three Allied army groups crossed the Rhine River and cut into the heart of Germany. Germany lost 250,000 men at the river line and another 300,000 surrendered in the last days of Hitler's empire. The end had come to the Third Reich. □

THEY REST WITH PRIDE

Story by Sp5 Philip Fick
Photos by Sp4 John Deniston

On fame's eternal camping ground
Their silent tents are spread
And glory guards with solemn round
The bivouac of the dead
—inscription in McClellan Gate,
Arlington National Cemetery

IT was not always considered an honor to be buried in Arlington National Cemetery.

One hundred and twenty years ago, when shovel first broke sod for a soldier's grave in the cemetery, people took a different view.

On May 13, 1864, Pvt. William Christman of the 67th Pennsylvania Infantry became the first service member interred in Arlington. He was buried in a gentle slope of Virginia soil about a half mile below the abandoned, hilltop mansion of Gen. and Mrs. Robert E. Lee. Farther down the hill lay the floodplain of the Potomac River, and across the river bustled the capital of a nation at war.

Christman, like most of the first military dead in Arlington, was a man of modest means who died in a Washington area hospital, leaving no one to see to his proper burial. The responsibility fell to the state.

Arlington National Cemetery was born of the needs of men like Christman, Lincoln's poor soldiers. This fact has led author Peter Andrews to describe the Arlington of 1864 as "a potter's field, . . . a kind of ultimate welfare project."

Normally, financially independent citizens of that era would not consider being buried in such a place. But that would change.

Long before it became a national cemetery, however, Arlington was associated with great names in American history. In 1778, John Parke Custis, the son of Martha Washington by her first marriage, purchased the 1,100 acres which now comprise the cemetery and Fort Myer, Va.

Custis never developed the property, however. In 1781, he died of illness while serving as an aide to General Washington during the siege of Yorktown.

SPECIALIST FIVE PHILIP FICK and SPECIALIST FOUR JOHN DENISTON are assigned to the Public Affairs Office, 3rd U.S. Infantry (The Old Guard), Fort Myer, Va.

His son, George Washington Parke Custis, began construction of a stately home on the heights of Arlington in 1802. He was 21 years old. The younger Custis and his wife had four children, but only one, Mary Ann Randolph Custis, lived to maturity. She was destined to be the link between two famous military figures, Washington and Lee.

In 1831, Mary Ann married Robert E. Lee, a young Army lieutenant, recently graduated from West Point. The wedding took place in her father's mansion, which he had named Arlington House after the family's original property on Virginia's Eastern Shore.

The Lees lived in that house until the spring of 1861, when the outbreak of civil war forever changed the complexion of Arlington.

On April 12 Fort Sumter was fired upon, and six days later Gen. Winfield Scott, the Union's highest ranking officer, offered Lee command of the army being amassed to quell the rebellion.

Lee declined, stating, "Save in defense of my native state, I never desire again to draw my sword." He

wrote a formal letter of resignation early in the morning of April 20, and two days later he left his beloved Arlington, never to return.

Federal troops first set foot in Arlington about a month later. Its strategic location overlooking the Union's capital made Arlington an ideal site to set up a defensive position. The property was soon crisscrossed with telegraph wires and freshly dug roads. Arlington House itself became headquarters for the Union officers stationed there, and 200 acres of virgin oak forest behind the mansion were cut down for fortifications and firewood.

During the summer of 1862 President Lincoln approved an omnibus bill, part of which provided for the purchase of grounds to be "used as a national cemetery for soldiers who shall die in the service of the country." Burial grounds were then established in nearby Alexandria, Va., and at the Soldier's Home in Washington, D.C.

As the war progressed, though, those two sites proved inadequate to accommodate the masses of dead. On some battlefields they were left to be reclaimed by nature, and in hospitals around Washington the details of burial procedures became a public scandal.

In the wake of these events President Lincoln tasked Secretary of War Edwin M. Stanton to come up with more burial space near the capital. Stanton turned the job over to his Army quartermaster general, Brig. Gen. Montgomery Meigs. Meigs recommended only one site: 200 acres surrounding Lee's former home.

Technically, the government already owned the land, having confiscated it on the charge of failure of its owner to directly pay taxes on it. Then, in January 1864, the government purchased the entire lot from the Alexandria County Court for $26,800, its assessed value at the time.

Meigs chose Arlington for a number of reasons, not the least of which being his animosity toward Lee, whom he considered a traitor. Meigs had in mind ringing Arlington House with graves so that the Confederate general would never return to live there.

The site was also chosen because it was available, close to Washington and adaptable for burials.

In June 1864, a full month after the first soldier had been buried in the cemetery, Stanton signed an order authorizing the 200 acres around the main house as a military burial site.

The government wasted little time in acting upon that order. In the early days of the cemetery, former slave and grave digger James Parks remembered seeing Union soldiers brought in for burial and stacked up "like cordwood" by the side of the Arlington mansion.

Eventually more than 17,000 Civil War dead from both the North and South would be buried in Arlington. During 1866, 2,111 unknown soldiers from Bull Run and other battlefields along the Rappahannock were brought to the cemetery and buried under a simple granite monument near Arlington House. These were the cemetery's first unknowns to be recognized with a monument.

Arlington was originally only meant to be used by those who died during the war. But after the war many of Washington's military residents began to regard Arlington as their own cemetery, and with more soldiers requesting burial there, the government decided to make all who served — in war or peace — eligible. Later, immediate family members would also be made eligible.

In 1868, Gen. John Logan, commander-in-chief of the Grand Army of the Republic, selected May 30 as a day for "strewing flowers or otherwise decorating the graves of comrades who died in the defense of their country." President Andrew Johnson gave all government employees the day off to attend the services at Arlington, establishing Memorial Day as a national holiday.

Each year the crowds poured into Arlington for the Memorial Day services, but found no adequate place to hold a public gathering. In 1874, a wooden amphitheater with a canvas top was built to the southwest of Arlington House for visitors.

Support gradually developed, however, especially among surviving Union soldiers, for the construction of a more permanent and imposing amphitheater. Congress finally approved funds for a giant memorial amphitheater, and in 1915 President Woodrow Wilson laid the cornerstone for its construction. The amphitheater, made of white Vermont marble and seating nearly 5,000, was formally dedicated in 1920.

By the turn of the century Arlington had been expanded from its original 200 acres to 408. The new space would accommodate veterans from the Civil War, Indian campaigns and Spanish-American War.

Between 1905 and 1911 the cemetery was to receive veterans from

America's two earliest conflicts, the Revolutionary War and the War of 1812, ensuring that representatives from every war would be interred in Arlington.

Following the example set by other Allied nations after World War I, Congress authorized a fitting memorial for the burial of an American unknown from that war. On Nov. 11, 1921, an unknown from World War I was laid to rest on the plaza of the memorial amphitheater in ceremonies presided over by President Warren G. Harding. With this action the cemetery was firmly established as a national shrine, and visitors began to flock to the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier.

A guard first stood watch over the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier in 1925. A civilian watchman was responsible for the tomb's security during the daylight hours of that first year. In 1926 a military guard was established. In 1937 the duty was extended to a 24-hour watch, and in 1948 it became the responsibility of the 3rd U.S. Infantry (The Old Guard), the Army's official ceremonial unit and escort to the president.

While the cemetery was growing in size and stature, little was done for the famous mansion which sat in its midst. From the end of the Civil War until 1925, Arlington House was used as office and living quarters by the cemetery superintendent. The mansion was then restored to its pre-Civil War appearance, and in 1933 the Department of Interior took over its management as a national historic site. Today it is one of the major attractions for cemetery visitors.

World War II, with its heavy combat losses, caused significant changes in Arlington National Cemetery. Between 1935 and 1949 the number of dead in Arlington rose from 44,000 to 70,000, including men and women from every state in the Union and several foreign countries. In the late 1940s the very large, ornate private monuments popular at the turn of the century were banned in the newer sections of Arlington to reflect the more austere tone adopted by the cemetery. Smaller, simpler monuments, however, are still allowed in the newer sections.

Following World War II and the Korean War, the veterans from these conflicts felt their unknowns should also be represented at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier, and accordingly, on May 30, 1958, an unknown from each of those two wars was interred near their World War I comrade. Permission has been granted for the interment of an unknown of the Vietnam War when one is so classified.

In 1960, with space at a premium, single-site family burials became the rule. The practice of side-by-side burials was discontinued for spaces not already allotted.

On Nov. 25, 1963, the nation watched as President John F. Kennedy was laid to rest a few hundred feet below the Lee mansion on a green terrace overlooking Washington.

Because of the president's popularity and the tragic manner of his death, thousands of Americans came to visit the gravesite in Arlington. Demand for burial space in the cemetery increased dramatically. In 1967 a permanent memorial site at the grave was completed to handle the large crowds. It became, and remains, a focal point in the cemetery, second only to the Tomb of the Unknowns. The site's popularity grew in June 1968 when Sen. Robert F. Kennedy was interred near his brother.

Final expansion of the cemetery onto the acres of south Fort Myer began in 1967. Arlington is now at its maximum size of 612 acres. Even with this large addition, eligibility requirements have had to be narrowed considerably because of the demand for space since Kennedy's interment.

Currently, those eligible for burial in Arlington include service members who die on active duty, retirees, holders of the nation's higher military awards, and the spouse and unmarried minor children of persons in the above categories.

In addition to ground burials, Arlington has recently established a columbarium, a complex for cremated remains. In the spring of 1980 the first 5,000-niche unit was opened. The facility eventually will contain 50,000 niches. Any honorably discharged veteran or his spouse or dependent children is eligible for inurnment there.

Arlington National Cemetery holds the remains of some 190,000 service members and their families. Cemetery officials anticipate there will be no new burial space by the year 2020. Although there will be burials after that date, they will only be in lots where a family member is already interred.

Sometime during the next century, the last soldier will be laid to rest in Arlington National Cemetery. But the gates of the cemetery will still be opened each morning to receive thankful Americans wishing to pay their respects to those who served. □

CARVED IN STONE

SINCE time immemorial the gravestone has served as a platform of expression. If the departed had something important to say about life, he would often say it on his gravestone. And Arlington's are no exception.

For each grave, for each life come to an end, there is a story about a life lived. Some are sad, some noble, some strange — but all are moving.

Most of Arlington's tombstones are the simple but handsome regulation, white marble government headstones which give the cemetery its distinctive look. Most have no epitaphs, and yet all tell a story.

Gen. John J. "Black Jack" Pershing has such a headstone. On it is the standard information — name, home state, rank, and dates of birth and death. In death, as in life, he wanted to be with his soldiers.

Other such headstones tell a more sorrowful tale. Many simply read INFANT, and give only one date. This indicates the child died on the day it was born. Even sadder are the headstones which read TWINS.

Fortunately, the majority of the standard white headstones are not so sobering. Often a service member's occupation is on the stone. Bugler, cook, radioman, medic. One soldier outlived two wives before being laid to rest. All three are buried under the same headstone. With space at a premium, that's how they do it now.

For those who desire more and can afford it, small monuments can be made. A monument is anything larger than the standard gravestone.

Monuments are the real storytellers in Arlington. There are two reasons for this. The greater the surface of the stone, the more space for words. Also, the larger monuments usually mark the graves of prominent owners, and prominent people tend to speak their minds.

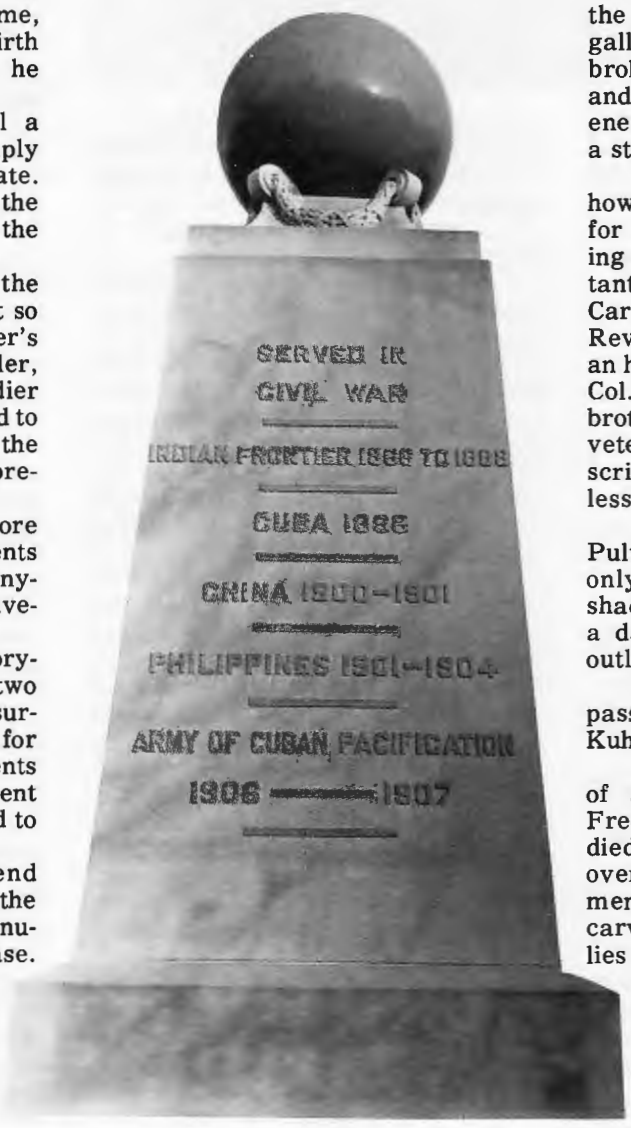
Officers in Arlington tend toward the monuments. Usually the higher the rank, the greater the monument. But this is not always the case. Remember Pershing.

Patriotism is perhaps the most popular theme in the cemetery. William Owen O'Neill, one of the original Rough Riders who lost his life during the Spanish-American War, speaks with clarity on his monument. "Who would not die for a new star in the flag," it proudly proclaims.

Richard A. Harden, also a casualty of that war, reflects similar sentiments on his own gravestone. It simply reads, "I would rather go and die than remain home and live."

Of course, most of those who died in service did not have their own words recorded. But many of their exploits were. Marine Corps Capt. John Williams and his men fought "as long as they had a cartridge left" following an Indian ambush in 1812.

The short simple inscriptions are the most telling. Donald McKintosh, a 36-year-old lieutenant with the 7th U.S. Cavalry, was "killed at the Battle of Little Big Horn." Robert Carmody was "lost at sea October 23, 1899." In another two weeks he would have celebrated his 26th birthday. Navy Cmdr. John Rogers was "killed in the fall of (an) aero plane at League Island." That was in 1926.



And then there are those monuments that tell of feats survived. George A. Forsyth, brevetted an Army brigadier, "had command of forty-eight scouts against nearly one thousand Indians on Beecher's Island, Colorado, September, 1868."

Edward M. Heyl was only 19 at the battle of Antietam, where "he galloped alone to the front, rallied a broken retreating infantry regiment and charged with it, driving back the enemy and recapturing two guns and a stand of Colors."

Not all of those in Arlington, however, wished to be remembered for their great deeds. To some, leaving a good name was the most important thing. The tombstone of Joseph Carlton, who fought in the American Revolution, reads "he lived and died an honest man." It is written of Army Col. John McKenna, "he was his brother's keeper." And Civil War veteran Lafayette Bingham is described as a "true friend to the friendless" who "did what he could."

The monument of Sp4 Charles Pulver Jr., who died in 1969, poses only questions: "What makes a shadow? Is it an image of an object, or a dark past with only the distorted outline of truth?"

Other gravestones address the passer-by directly. Army Col. George Kuhn's says, "Keep a stout heart."

But the most touching epitaph of all is that of Peter Laurence Freeman, a Navy captain's son who died in his 18th year. On a hillside overlooking the Washington Monument, his father had the words carved, "Walk softly stranger, here lies a dream."

And visitors do walk softly, out of respect and appreciation for the many dreams which have come to rest in Arlington National Cemetery. — *Sp5 Philip Fick*

Sp5 Patricia Owens

SCOUTS ON THE LAST FRONTIER

Story and Photos by Maj. Tom Williams

YOU start in Shishmaref, about 20 miles south of the Arctic Circle, and fly south to Wales, Brevig Mission and Teller. The Bering Strait is to your right, Seward Peninsula to your left. From Teller, it's just a short flight to the big city in these parts, Nome. There's probably a road or two down there, but you can't see any. Few buildings either, except around the towns.

From Nome you continue to Galena in the interior, along the Yukon River, then to Stebbins on the coast of the Bering Sea. Just a few more miles — about 250 — and you end up in Gambell, on the tip of St. Lawrence Island.

Along this flight, you could land at one of the most remote yet most important villages in the United States — Little Diomede Island. Its sister, Big Diomede, is only 2½ miles across some water and ice, across the

international date line, over to Russia and tomorrow. About the only time you can land there, Little Diomede, is during the winter, when the ocean finally freezes.

And in each of these coastal towns and villages are scouts — Alaskan Scouts. And with few exceptions, they are all Eskimos, part of the 1st Scout Battalion, 207th Infantry Group, Alaska National Guard.

"The biggest problem for us," said Sgt. Maj. Robert M. Sherman, battalion sergeant major, "is that we're scattered so darn far apart. It's pretty hard to keep track of all our people and all of their training. And the only real time we have everyone together is during the two-week annual training. But that isn't a real serious problem, though. We're Eskimo Scouts. We don't fight; we're not equipped for that. That's what non-scout battalions and the 172nd (Infantry Brigade) are for."

What these Eskimo Scouts are equipped for is performing their mission in a barren, harsh environment.

"We provide reconnaissance, surveillance and patrols in the sub-arctic," said Maj. Fred Haynes, battalion executive officer. "We can also provide limited security of critical sites in case of mobilization. But we're scouts, and that's what we do best. As the guys are out hunting, fishing, trapping, doing their normal subsistence activities, anything they or their families see that is not normal is reported back to us."

The 1st Battalion is one of three Alaska Guard scout battalions responsible for providing early warning. From Point Barrow, the northernmost town in the United States along the Arctic Ocean, to Bethel, south of Nome and also along the Bering Sea, the Alaskan Scouts are the eyes and ears of the commander.

But what sets the scout battalions apart from other National Guard units is that they do their job 24 hours a day every day. And during a crisis, they don't have to move to some other post or country — they're already deployed. They have a real, day-to-day mission. They train and live in the same area and environment that they would fight in.

"Of all the forces in Alaska we have the only capability to provide widespread intelligence gathering," Haynes continued. "Our strongest area, which no one else can match, is the ability to survive in arctic conditions. There's no way you can bring a battalion out of the Active Army, scatter soldiers across the state, and expect them to function as the scout battalions do."

The scouts are good at what they do. They're used to the weather and the environment. They know what it's like and what to expect, like days of total darkness, months of sub-zero temperatures, ice, and permanently frozen ground. After all, it's just a matter of perspective, according to Sgt. Eugene Dalilak.

"We've lived up here all our

The scout battalions, part of the Alaska National Guard, are unique to the Army. Their drills are from October until April. Their mission is quite simple, too: reconnoiter, patrol and survive in the sub-arctic. What sets them apart is that they perform this mission every day where they live. The Eskimo Scouts, living up where it's cold, enjoy a simple way of life.

lives," he said. "We survive just like anyone else. How do the people in Florida survive? I couldn't stand the temperature."

Although the temperature and harsh conditions don't pose a problem to the scouts of Alaska, the vast area the battalion is spread over does.

"The hardest part about being a scout, and the training, is where we live and train," said SFC Reuban P. Weyiouanna, Company C training NCO. "It's pretty hard to get to Diomede, for example, until the ocean freezes over. I spend a lot of my time going to different villages to ensure everyone is getting the right training — Wales, Brevig, Teller. Can't get to Diomede, though."

The scout battalions have administrative, medical and aviation sections, and then the meat of the units, four line companies. Each company has a headquarters and varying numbers of five-man scout teams. Each team has an E-7 team leader, E-6 assistant team leader, E-5 radio operator and two scout-observers.

Another unique facet of the scout battalions is that the teams operate independently.

"Actually, our surveillance is better during the summer months," he said. "As the guys leave their villages and move to the fish camps along the coast, they and their families are spread out over a larger area. So while they are gathering their winter supply of fish and meat, they are also patrolling. If something is observed, we know about it within a day."

"We normally get between 10 to 15 spot reports a month," said Maj. Milton Cross, 1st Battalion commander. "Most come from Diomede and St. Lawrence islands — things like Soviet aircraft overflights or helicopter activity, and ship movements between the Diomede islands. Occasionally we will find some flotsam that has washed ashore up on St. Lawrence, too."

Knowing what to report isn't usually a problem for the scouts. Knowing how to report it, or how to get to where an activity might be, is part of the formal training the scouts receive. Again, their training isn't the same as other units.

"Our drill year is basically from October through April," Cross said. "We have 48 scheduled drills each year, plus our two-week annual training during this time. The rest of the year we have construction in the villages, berry picking, hunting and fishing, so we're pushed into a relatively short training year. But we have MUTA 14 and that seems to help a lot."

MUTA stands for multiple unit training assembly. And 14 is the number of assemblies, or drills, that the companies have. Each training drill is four hours long. If you drill eight hours each day for one week, you get in 14 drills.

"The key to MUTA 14," Haynes continued, "is that the training has to

Alaska is the largest state with 586,412 square miles. One third of the state lies within the Arctic Circle. The sea off Point Barrow is frozen eight months of the year. The job of the scout battalions is to protect Alaska. After all, she's America's last frontier.

be not less than four hours. That's what the regs say. They don't say how long they can be. So we put together two training assemblies in one day, and if need be, run them 24 hours. We train them hard, because we only have a limited time together."

The men of the scout battalions don't seem to mind the long hours and the different ways to train. In fact, a lot of the job is second nature. Rifle marksmanship training is almost a waste of time. Most scouts learned how to shoot before they were 10.

They don't need classes on survival either. After all, their C rations come with scales and fur. And the ability to quietly sneak around terrain is old hat too — especially if that terrain has a moose standing on it.

"We don't train or worry about things other units would in such a cold area, like survival or frostbite," Sherman said. "Hell, if they get frostbitten, it's a stripe — at least. They're scouts — Eskimos. They know better. We all do. My brother and sister-in-law are in the Guard, just like my son and daughter. We know what we have to do. We just have to do it."

And do it, they do. So their training is in areas like communications, land navigation, intelligence gathering and their weakest area, according to Haynes, nuclear, biological and chemical training.

"If we can get them to do the basic things — move, spot and communicate, understand what they see and how to report it — then we've accomplished our mission," he said. "We're not designed to attack hills or defend ground. Our heaviest firepower is the M-203 grenade launcher and the M-60 machine gun. We don't have mortars. And our best indirect artillery is the ICBM. But it's hard to find FOs to adjust them!"

While scouting and learning how to report are routine, NBC training is taking on more importance. "Up until about a year ago, the only training we did was the yearly drill to get a mask on in nine seconds," Haynes explained. "But now we have a complete fill of clothing and equipment. As a result, we're spending a lot more time training in NBC.

"This is tough training for us," he pointed out. "Our people are going to be in the same area as their families. It's hard to tell them they might have to put on their MOPP gear while their families go without. They'll do it, but they question why. It's hard for them to understand."

What is easier for them to understand is that they are protecting their families, their land, their way of life. Another thing they understand is that Guard pay, for many, is the only money they receive.

"We're about 106 percent strength now, but that's not unusual," Cross said. "Eskimos are very patriotic. If the Russians ever try to come across, it's not like we are going to be defending foreign soil. We're going to be fighting to save our lives, the lives of our families and our land.

"Another reason they join is that there's very little opportunity in the villages to earn outside income. They are dependent on subsistence activities to a large degree. So the money they make by being in the Guard helps pay for the gasoline and fuel oil they normally wouldn't have without the money."

For some, the money is a reason. For others, like SFC Charlie Lee, a patrol leader in Teller, being a scout is enough. He got out of the service about 12 years ago and didn't want his military experience to go to waste. Besides, it was a chance to help his village and, at the same time, have a sense of cameraderie with other Eskimos.

"There's a sense of defending our country, sure," he said. "But we are really defending our land and our villages. We're protecting something very close and real to us — our family and friends.

"This is where I grew up, where my family is. When I was in the service, I did a lot of traveling — Chicago, other cities in the lower 48 — but I returned to Alaska. This is my home. This is the simple way of life. Here, we have a choice. And it's up to us to protect all this."

Alaska, America's Last Frontier, all 586,412 square miles. It gives up gold and liquid gold, and is the neighbor to two countries. If you took the entire state and placed it on the lower 48, it would reach from Maine to Washington state. It's a treasure. Like Charlie Lee said, it's up to us to protect it. □

82ND AIRBORNE DIVISION

"All American"

Fort Bragg, North Carolina

ORGANIZED in August 1917 at Camp Gordon, Ga., the 82nd Division took part in three campaigns in World War I. It was inactivated in May 1919 at Camp Mills, N.Y. The division was organized in the Army Reserve in January 1922 and assigned to the IV Corps area, with headquarters at Columbia, S.C.

The 82nd was ordered into active military service in March 1942 at Camp Claiborne, La., and in August 1942 received its "Airborne" designation.

The division left for North Africa in May 1943. It made the first division-size combat jump in Sicily, occupied Naples and sent some units to the Anzio beachhead. After moving to England, where it was reinforced, it spearheaded the Normandy invasion and liberated the French city of Ste.-Mere-Eglise. Later, it jumped into the Netherlands and seized bridges across the Maas and Waal rivers in Nijmegen after heavy fighting.

Committed next in the Battle of the Bulge, the division denied von Rundstedt's northern salient, breached the Siegfried Line in two places, crossed the Rhine and Elbe rivers, and occupied Berlin as "America's Guard of Honor." The division took part in six campaigns in World War II. The division was assigned to Fort Bragg, N.C., in January 1946.

In April 1965, the division was deployed to the Dominican Republic. In late 1965, the 82nd became a part of the inter-American peacekeeping force. In August 1966, the last element of the division stationed in the Dominican Republic, the 1st Brigade, returned to Fort Bragg.

The 3rd Brigade deployed to Vietnam in February 1968. It remained there until December 1969, when it returned to Fort Bragg. The brigade took part in seven campaigns while stationed in Vietnam.

The division is assigned to the XVIII Airborne Corps and is a rapid deployment force asset. The 82nd has taken part in most field training exercises conducted by Forces Command, U.S. Readiness Command (now Central Command) and NATO, including REFORGER and Bright Star. The division has furnished one infantry battalion as part of the Multinational Force and Observers (MFO), a United Nations unit responsible for keeping the peace in the Sinai Desert.

In October 1983, elements of the division participated in Operation Urgent Fury, the Grenadian rescue mission. □

This article on an Active Army division is the last in a series compiled from official Army sources by Danny M. Johnson, a Pentagon management analyst.

Men of the 82nd Airborne Division suit up on a British airfield on Sept. 16, 1944, for their jump into Holland the next day as part of Operation Market-Garden. They were to capture bridges in Nijmegen to speed an Allied advance into Arnhem, which straddles the Rhine River.

TURNING IDEAS INTO REALITY

Story and Photos by SFC Michael Brown

SOLDIERS must be ready to fight anywhere, any time. To do so, their food, clothes and equipment must enable them to live and fight in climates ranging from the freezing cold of the Arctic to the blistering heat of the desert.

The people at the Natick Research and Development Center in Natick, Mass., make sure the soldiers have the best possible equipment to survive these climates. They design and test items to meet the current needs of the Army as well as research and project future needs.

The majority of the work centers around four laboratories: individual protection, food engineering, aeromechanical, and science and advanced technology. Several other facilities support the work in the four labs. The largest of these facilities is the climatic chambers.

The climatic chambers simulate conditions ranging from Arctic temperatures of 70 degrees below zero to desert temperatures of up to 168 degrees. The humidity can be raised to 90 percent and machines can generate winds up to 40 mph.

Volunteers perform physical tasks in the chambers, while technicians watch to see how the test subjects and the items being tested hold up. The chambers, about twice the size of an average living room, have areas for exercising, performing other tasks and treadmills. The treadmill speed can be adjusted from a leisurely stroll to a rapid walk.

Many of the things tested in the chambers come from the Individual Protection Laboratory. This lab produces protective clothing and other life-support systems that help the soldier survive on the battlefield. One of the newest items being developed is the microclimate cooling system.

"The microclimate system became necessary because of the change in the chemical threat," said Vincent Iacono, head of Special Projects Branch in the IPL. "Twenty some years ago, the only threat was a respiratory one, so all you had to do was put on a mask. Now, you have to cover every square inch of your body to protect yourself.

"This means the body and the skin cannot cool themselves through

Clockwise from top center: Bill Douka chalks a pattern on camouflage material. • John Riley sews extraction line leaves on a parachute to be used for testing. • A pressure device measures the air flow through the Y joint of the microclimate cooling system.

Left, although the name was recently changed to the U.S. Army Natick Research and Development Center, the job remains the same. • Top, Janice Rosado vacuum-seals chocolate bars. • Above, workers at Natick voluntarily taste-test food before it is included in a menu.

evaporation because air is not getting to the perspiration. So we had to find a system to artificially evaporate the sweat.

"We primarily looked at something for the soldiers in the M-1 tank. This tank's turbine engine gives it a readily available air supply. So we designed an air cooling system."

A hose connected to the tank's air purifying system sends air to the soldiers' masks and the microclimate vests. This system provides enough air to cool the body but not enough to blow the mask and vest up like a balloon.

A hose inside the vest allows air to escape into surrounding spacer material. Air vents in the outer layer of the vest permit the air to reach the body and evaporate the sweat.

"We tested this system both in the climatic chambers and under field conditions," said Barry DeCristofano, an IPL engineer. "The testing in the chambers showed the system would keep soldiers cool. But the field testing at Yuma Proving Ground, Ariz., showed us some things that could only be discovered out there.

"For instance, some troops said the vest hose rubbed against their necks and became uncomfortable after a while. Also, the driver, who has to lean back all the time, said part of the vest would dig into his back. So we added some padding.

"The field testing is crucial. We can test all the mechanical aspects here, but the only way we can get the human aspect is to test in the field. This is especially important for us since we work on things for the individual soldier."

While the air cooling system is being tested, DeCristofano and his fellow workers are developing a liquid cooling system that would allow soldiers to dismount. The test model is a two-part backpack that provides coolant to a vest similar to the air system's. But this vest has flow channels to guide the liquid instead of hoses. There is no cooling for the mask.

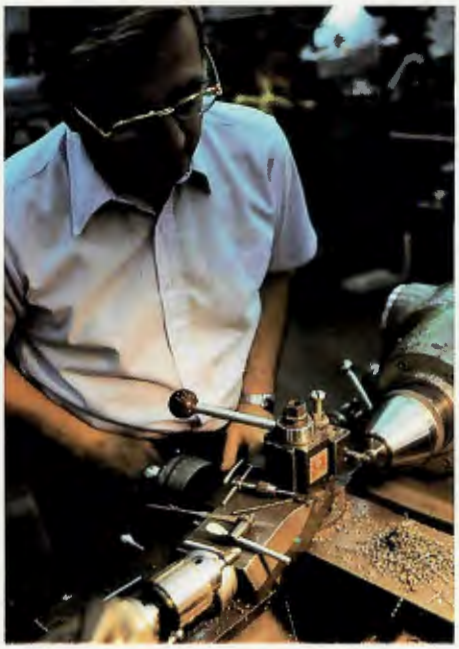
The top part of the pack has coils filled with a coolant similar to antifreeze. A different mixture of water and alcohol surround the coils inside the pack's metal frame and would be frozen when placed in a rack mounted inside the vehicle. The frozen mixture would chill the coolant inside the coils.

The bottom part of the pack has a reservoir and a pump. When the two parts are connected, the coolant flows into the reservoir, is pumped through the vest's flow channels and back into the top part of the backpack to be recirculated again. In effect, the fluid is chilled as it passes through a large block of ice.

This system would give the soldier a dismount capacity of about one hour, according to DeCristofano. The section is working on reducing the size of the pack and using a better motor before field testing the system.

While the IPL develops better ways to protect the soldiers, the Food Engineering Laboratory feeds them. The FEL develops the Army's rations and the service systems used to prepare them for use in both combat and garrison.

This activity created the Meal, Ready-to-Eat, which is gradually replacing canned C rations. It also de-



Left, Bill Hemstedt machines a parachute release to be used on a cargo parachute during an air-drop test. • Ted Ciavarini, foreground, and Jim Beyer watch for possible leaks in a Meal, Ready-to-Eat, package being tested in a device that creates a vacuum.

signed the Combat Field Feeding System, which will use tray packs to provide hot meals to soldiers faster and farther forward during combat.

This lab recently solved an unusual problem. Soldiers on an assault or on reconnaissance, cannot be resupplied every day. They have to carry everything with them, including a five- to 10-day food supply.

"Our solution was the Food Packet, Assault," said Gary Shults. He is chief of the product development and engineering branch of FEL. "These rations will replace the Food Packet, Long Range Patrol, which was a stopgap during Vietnam.

"The new rations take up less space than C rations or the MREs. Everything is freeze-dried and compressed into bars and can be eaten as is or with water added. Besides entree bars like beef stew, we have orange-, chocolate- and vanilla-flavored bars that can be eaten as a candy bar or can be dissolved in water to provide a flavored drink.

"Each packet provides 1,550 calories and meets nutritional standards of a restricted diet. We ran extensive tests and the Surgeon General measured the performance factors to see if soldiers could run three miles, or if their mental alertness or hand dexterity was affected. The assault rations will maintain an acceptable performance level and are undergoing final testing.

"When researching the technology to produce this ration, we discovered a way to save money. The old system would freeze-dry the food, moisten and compress it, and freeze-dry it again. New technology allows us to compress the food, then freeze-dry it. This has resulted in a 35 percent cost reduction in producing the rations."

The branch is also working on a food packet for rapid deployment forces. This ration will be similar to the assault ration but much more condensed. Three days' worth of lightweight rations will take up the same space as one MRE. One possible drawback to the ration, though, is that it will not look like conventional food because it is so condensed.

The Food Engineering Laboratory and the IPL concentrate on sustaining soldiers in the field. The Aero-Mechanical Engineering Laboratory takes care of getting them there and housing them. AMEL handles the air-drop systems to deliver soldiers, supplies and weapons, and develops hard and soft shelters.

Projects under way include producing a means of air dropping troops into precise locations from very low altitudes. Plans call for a staged parachute system that will allow drops from altitudes as low as 500 feet at speeds of 250 knots.

Another project will permit complete weapons systems, such as a howitzer, the vehicle to move it and the ammunition, to be dropped at once. The parts will be linked by cable to prevent them from landing far apart.

AMEL recently developed a standard rigid-wall tactical shelter. These shelters insulate many activities, such as computer operations and hospitals, from the elements.

"The basic problem was that the Army had a large number of special-purpose shelters, vans, and trailers," said David Mikelson, a mechanical engineer in the Tactical Shelter Branch of AMEL. "They were costly, difficult to support and could usually only be used for one purpose.

"The new shelter replaces most of the special purpose ones. There are three models, so size is not a problem. There is a nonexpandable, a one-side expandable that doubles the space and a two-side expandable that triples the space. The basic size before expansion is 8 feet by 8 feet by 10 feet. They conform to International Standardization Organization requirements, which makes them easy to ship by air, sea or land.

"Each unit contains an electrical system, inside and outside lights and exhaust fans. It can be hooked up to an environment-control unit. A built-in spring-balancing system allows one or two people to lower the floor on an expandable model. They can also raise the roof and position the walls. Four people can expand a two-side expandable in 30 minutes.

"These shelters are ideal for use as command posts, medical areas, storage points or even as housing." Production of these shelters is scheduled to begin this fiscal year. Initial plans call for a large number of the first ones to be used by medical personnel as field hospitals.

AMEL, FEL and IPL develop products that the soldier can see and use. The people who work in the Science and Advanced Technology Laboratory do not produce end items, but their work is just as important.

SATL supports the efforts of the other three labs. Its technicians provided the chemical testing to improve IPL's microclimate system. They also produced the materials to protect AMEL's shelters against chemical and biological agents.

This division provides the scientific basis for developing, extending and measuring almost all the items produced at the center. Such work is vital if the items in the field are to function at their best.

As the Army prepares for the year 2000 and beyond, there will be new requirements that the Natick laboratories must fill. With their efforts, soldiers will always be ready to fight anywhere, any time. □

A TOUCH OF HOLLYWOOD

Story and Photo by SFC Michael Brown

EVERY working day, thousands of women soldiers wear their Classic dress uniform. As they don the uniform, they are also putting on a touch of Hollywood, courtesy of Martha Browne. A former motion picture clothes designer, she designed the Classic uniform.

Browne, chief of the women's wear project office at the Natick (Mass.) Research and Development Center, worked in Hollywood for nine years. She designed clothes for some of the most famous female stars of the 1940s, including Betty Grable, Gene Tierney and Anne Baxter. Her creations appeared in films like *The Razor's Edge* and *Northside 777*.

"My job in the picture business was the first I had as a designer," Browne said. "I think that is one reason it has had such a tremendous influence on me. Before that, I had been going to the Fort Wayne (Ind.) School of Fine Art and the Lorrain School of Art in Sarasota, Fla.

"I designed clothes mainly for the actresses, which proved useful in designing the women's uniform. Another benefit of my Hollywood job was getting used to having my designs approved, because the Classic uniform went through numerous approvals before it was put into the field.

"In Hollywood, I worked from a wardrobe plot which told me where the actress would be and what she would be doing. My sketches had to be approved by the director, the producer and the actress. After the seamstress made the outfit, I checked it to make sure it matched my sketch. Once the final product was approved by the same three people, it was used in the scene.

"My work in Hollywood gave me a broad background, especially in styling and shape. In fact, it still influences my designs. I can't think of any better background for my current job."

Browne did not put her Hollywood experience to work for the Army immediately. She left the movies and worked for a custom clothes designer in Los Angeles. She moved to New York City in 1952 and entered the career-apparel field. For the next 23 years she designed clothes for airlines, banks, restaurants, and even some for the military. She also lectured to future designers at the Fashion Institute of Technology in New York City.

"It was just one step to go from career apparel to the military uniform. I started working on the women's uniform project almost immediately after I arrived at Natick.

"I was already familiar with the women's uniform because the company making the women's pantsuit had asked me to work on some designs for them. In fact, they were still working on it when I got to Natick, but I was diverted to the consolidated uniform project.

"I started working on the sketches for the consolidated uniform in 1976. Before that, the only ideas being used were the ones that ended up just adding to the amount of uniforms. The consolidated uniform was the first really big change in women's uniforms since 1950.

"When doing the sketches, I had to consider almost everything. I had to think about if it would work in the many sizes that would be needed, will it be too expensive to make, will it be comfortable to work in, and many, many other things.

"We have a saying in the industry that the fabric's the boss. The weight of the fabric determines if it will hold the shape of your design. And shape is terribly important, especially for that sharp military appearance."

Sketches of five different designs were made, according to Browne. After the sketches were approved by a uniform committee at the Pentagon, prototypes were made and modeled for the committee. Two designs, the Princess and Classic, were used in a road show that went to several Army posts to elicit comments before the final selection. The Classic uniform was chosen.

Browne's Hollywood experience proved valuable even after the final selection was made. She worked on the training film to show women how to wear the new uniform. She developed the wardrobe plot for the film and was on location making sure that the woman was in the proper uniform for each scene. After the shooting was completed, she helped edit the film and dub in the soundtrack.

"For five years I ate and slept the women's uniform project," Browne said. "I was totally immersed. Now that the uniforms are out and on the women, I am just beginning to come to life in the other parts of my life. I plan to do my apartment over. Also, I'd like to get back to painting with oils and water colors.

"But I will be able to take this pace for just so long. In about six months I'll start getting antsy to get involved in another major creative project like the Classic uniform. I just hope it's not another 30 years before another one like that comes along." □

POSTMARKS

Compiled by SSgt. Victoria Mouze

News Stories from Army Posts Around the World

MSgt. Bob Wickley

Winter Wonderland

VICENZA, Italy — Soldiers who normally spend a lot of time in the sky were snow-bound in the mountains during the annual cold weather training.

Replacing their jump boots for ski boots, soldiers from the 4th Battalion (Airborne), 325th Infantry Regiment, Battalion Combat Team, Vicenza, learned to maneuver on downhill and cross-country skis and snowshoes. They also learned patrolling and survival techniques. At the end of the week, they used their new skills during a field exercise.

"I came into the Army last July and really had no idea what I was getting myself into," said Pvt. 2 Patrick Daley, Company B. "I love skiing and I love the outdoors and look at me, I'm skiing in Europe. I'm eating this stuff up."

The unit's cold weather training was conducted at Malga Coe, Italy. — *Sp5 Mike Ward*

Jackson's Thriller

FORT JACKSON, S.C. — What started out as just a dream two years ago is now reality. Soldiers assigned to Troop Command remodeled the interior of their dining facility.

Two years ago, SFC Edwin Ruth Jr. tried covering the metal poles inside the facility with paneling. "Then I got the idea to make rooms out of the areas between the poles," Ruth said. A Bavarian room, an Oriental room, a colonial room and a trophy room were constructed by the unit's soldiers using the self-help program. Carpenters from Company D, 548th Engineer Battalion, also helped.

Until the dining facility gets a new stereo system, the 282nd Army Band voluntarily plays informal concerts during meals. When the stereo does arrive, ethnic music will be piped into the rooms to add atmosphere.

"It was just a dream," Ruth said. "I wasn't sure I could do it, but I knew I had to try." — *PFC Kim Jillson*

Army Helps Squelch Bird Flu

FORT INDIANTOWN GAP, Pa. — When chicken and turkey flocks in this area were struck with avian influenza last fall, Active Army and Reserve components joined forces with the Department of Agriculture. USDA called on the Army after eight counties in Pennsylvania were declared a disaster area. Several states and countries had already stopped accepting Pennsylvania poultry and eggs, resulting in the loss of millions of dollars to state farmers.

When the USDA asked for help, the Army put into effect its plan for animal disease emergencies. Fort Dix, N.J., provided manpower and equipment while Fort Indiantown Gap, a National Guard post, was chosen as a back-up.

Active Army and Reserve veterinarians joined the USDA task force. They visited poultry farms, examining dead birds for viral symptoms. If the virus was present, the entire flock was destroyed to keep the virus from spreading.

Dr. G. J. Richtner, task force director, remarked that the Army helped in several ways. He mentioned that the Army's support was invaluable. Radios had been sent from Fort Ritchie, Md., and Tobyhanna Army Depot, Pa. Soldiers from the 759th MP Battalion, Fort Dix, set up and manned the radios. Soldiers from the 363rd Transportation Company, also from Fort Dix, drove trucks carrying dead poultry to a landfill. Their trucks had been provided by the Reserve's 78th Training Division, Edison, N.J., and the 79th Reserve Command, Willow Grove, Pa.

Richtner remarked of Army veterinarians: "You could put them in any position and they would do a good job. They brought to the task force self-discipline, knowledge and the practice of team building."

As of January, the worst of the epidemic was over. More than 10 million chickens had to be destroyed. Population surveillance efforts will continue for up to a year. While Richtner didn't know whether the Army would be involved in that, he noted that soldiers would be the first ones to leave once the operation started winding down. — *Sp5 Daniel Miller*

Star Tackle Meets Troops

SCHOFIELD BARRACKS, Hawaii — Dave Butz, defensive tackle for the Washington Redskins, traded his football helmet for a steel pot when he visited soldiers assigned to the 25th Infantry Division. Butz, along with other National Football League players, were in Hawaii for the Pro Bowl in late January.

Butz, who had been invited by the 1st Forward Support Battalion, first visited its soldiers and signed autographs. He then flew by helicopter to visit Battery C, 1st Battalion, 8th Field Artillery. After watching a few rounds fly down range, he donned a steel pot and fired two rounds.

His next stop was the small-arms range occupied by Company B, 1st Battalion, 14th Infantry. During his half-hour visit, he fired an M-16 rifle and Soviet AK-47 assault rifle. Squeezing into a foxhole definitely not made for defensive tackles, he fired the weapons, knocking down targets on his first try. — *Sp4 Eric Derrenbacher*

THE EYES OF FIREPOWER

Story and Photos by SSgt. Victoria Mouze

THE pleasant temperature inside Sgt. Andre Turner's classroom at Snow Hall gave no indication that the outside temperature had climbed into the 90s. His students were no doubt thankful they were inside. They had spent six weeks getting a dose of Oklahoma's sticky, mid-September weather while learning to fire the M-16 rifle, march and exercise. Nearly two months ago, when they arrived at Fort Sill, they were bewildered recruits. They were confident they had mastered the basics of soldiering and now began learning the basics of being fire support specialists, MOS 13F.

The students huddled over military map-covered desktops, trying to get the hang of six-digit coordinates. Plastic protractors slid on maps as pairs of students moved them.

"We're trying to find coordinate 632487," Pvt. 1 Anthony Miller reminded teammate Pvt. 1 Arthur Sharp.

"I was on 61," Sharp said.

"Well, that does make a difference," Miller replied, adding an encouraging "try again."

Miller explained they were marking targets to be fired, one of the duties they would have when they graduated and went to their units.

Sharp and Miller were two of the 35 One Station Unit Training students who had started 13F classes that week. The Artillery Tactics Division of the Tactics, Combined Arms and Doctrine Department, Field Artillery School, Fort Sill, takes in a new class of 13Fs each week.

"The students are really motivated when they get here," said SFC Alan Eder, operations NCO, TCAD. "They're psyched up because they feel, 'Hey, we've got a break from basic. Now, we're really going to start learning our jobs.' So, they're really interested in the classes. There is a lot for them to learn, though."

Eder said graduates are assigned to fire support teams, or FISTs. "When a company of, say, infantry, goes out on maneuvers, it doesn't have any artillery with it," he said. "The fire support, whether artillery, mortars, naval gunfire or air support, is to the rear of the front-line troops. FISTs go with the maneuver units.

"The FIST acts as the link between the commander and the fire support," Eder continued. "They have the assets and know where the fire support and targets are. The team radios its headquarters and requests the fire support the commander wants. FIST headquarters coordinates firepower for him. Basically, 13Fs, also known as forward observers, are the 'eyes' of the firepower."

Top, to be good fire support specialists, soldiers must know how to plot coordinates. • Above, students learn basics before attending 13F training.

Depending on where a 13F is assigned, he'll be in either a 10- or a four-man FIST. Infantry, airborne and airmobile FISTs each have 10-man teams. Armor and cavalry FISTs have four.

During the students' first day at TCAD, they get an overview of what a FIST is and what everybody's job is. "This is the most important class," said Turner, who has been a 13F for five years. "Not only do these new 13Fs need to know what their forward observer duties are, they also must understand other team members' jobs as well. That means starting with a FIST chief, a lieutenant, all the way down to the platoon forward observer, an E-5, and his radio-telephone operator. Sometimes, that E-1 or -2 might have to fill a vacant slot, so he must know what to do." The new 13F might also find himself filling in for a staff sergeant, team sergeant or a specialist four driver, Turner explained.

"The first class is probably the hardest," Eder said. "They're getting all this unfamiliar information thrown out at them. The instructors do pack a lot into the classes."

The second day is spent learning what military terms, like maneuver, fire support and fire support assets, mean. Students also learn how divisions are organized. Eder remarked that when he was teaching, he explained organization in terms of high school. He would equate the brigade commander with the principal, the battalion commander with the guidance counselor, the company commander with the homeroom teacher, and the soldier with the student.

Turner commented that 13Fs must know how divisions are organized so they know where they fit in. "As 13Fs, they'll be assigned to division artillery. They have to know its

makeup to know how to get fire support for their maneuver commanders."

On the last day of the first week, students learn to prepare map overlays, fire support situation maps and status charts, and target lists. Maneuver commanders must know what fire support assets they have and where those assets are. Fire support specialists are responsible for plotting that information on maps and charts. Later that day, students work on a practical exercise.

"They get a map and scenario," Eder said. "They'll plot where FISTs are located, using the military symbols they've learned, plus other skills."

During the next eight weeks they learn to read maps, operate and maintain radios, and how to call for fire, among other subjects.

Most 13Fs start out as RTOs or assistant FOs. A few will work in FIST headquarters, keeping up situation maps and helping the FIST chief or fire support sergeant. As assistant FOs or RTOs, though, most will walk with light infantry or ride with mechanized infantry.

Pvt. 1 Thomas Ray, one of Turner's students, knew he would be going to an airborne division. He said he knew that in combat his job would be dangerous, exposing him to different types of fire. But, he realized 13F was an important job. "The infantry is relying on us to get fire support," he said.

Pvt. 1 Troy Butterbaugh, another student, remarked that he would rather have enlisted as a cannon fire direction specialist, but, like Ray, was coming to appreciate the importance of FISTs. "This MOS was about as close as I could get; 13F was about all the recruiter had left. But after finding out more about FIST, I think it's going to be OK."

SFC Donald Fend, a fire support sergeant, is a TCAD instructor. He has been at Fort Sill for about a year and a half. He remarked that he preferred the field to instructing.

He added that if a soldier didn't like going to the field, he shouldn't be a 13F. "We're always going out with the maneuver element, spending 30 days out there. We'll come back in for three or four days. Then, it's back out for another 30 with your artillery unit.

"Me, well, I like the field," Fend continued. "I don't have any problem spending all that time out there."

Fend observed that in order to be a good 13F, a soldier needs lots of patience. "We spend a lot of time sitting and waiting for something to happen," he said. "We've also got to understand what the infantry or armor is going to do. We also have to know how the artillery is going to support the maneuver companies. As NCOs, we've got to make all that work together."

Another instructor, SFC Vernon McKellar, knows the importance of understanding the whole picture. He had spent 11 years as an indirect fire infantryman, MOS 11C, before reclassifying into 13F in January 1980. "When I was an 11 charlie, I might be an FO one day and on the guns the next. But when I worked as a 13F in Berlin, I had time to learn FO duties and become proficient."

That proficiency paid off. McKellar, while stationed in Berlin, spent a year and a half working as a fire support officer, a job normally filled by a captain. He worked directly with a battalion commander, advising him about available fire support.

To help prepare for such increased responsibilities, Fort Sill has an NCO advanced course for fire support specialist. Department of the Army boards select staff sergeants and some sergeants first class to attend the 14-week course.

During the course, fire support sergeants review leadership, map reading, and maintenance and supply procedures. They also give a 10-minute military briefing. Eder's section teaches the NCOs fire support coordination measures and nuclear fire planning, among other subjects.

SFC Robert Preston was about halfway through the advanced course. On a break, he remarked that while some of the subjects were new to him, he felt others were repetitious.

"The course should relate more to what E-7s need to know," said Preston, who is assigned to 1st Battery, 319th Field Artillery, 82nd Airborne Division, Fort Bragg, N.C. "Of course, we haven't graduated yet. Maybe we'll get some advanced subjects."

Preston did, in fact, receive his wish. And several months after he went through the course, officials said that E-7 duties started receiving even more emphasis.

Among the useful information Preston had already picked up in the course was his introduction to TACFIRE, a computerized tactical fire direction system.

"A lot of what we've learned has been doctrine," he said. "That is something I'm not used to. Back at the 82nd, we don't always deal with doctrine."

While Preston returned to his class to review map reading, fire support specialists-to-be in Turner's class were still wrestling with the mysteries of six-digit grid coordinates. Someday, though, they too would be able to shrug off a map reading class as a boring review. But that will only come about long after AIT, long after they have learned to love the field and have spent countless hours putting fire support where it's needed, when it's needed. □

New soldiers are issued equipment. They'll spend 16 weeks in One Station Unit Training before graduating.

WHAT IS A FISTV?

Story and Photo by SSgt. Victoria Mouze

RIDING in an M-981 fire support team vehicle is much like riding in a closed-up box let loose on a roller coaster. The FISTV doesn't go as fast as a roller coaster, but moving up and down over hills gives the same effect.

Four second lieutenants riding a FISTV over hills at Fort Sill, Okla., didn't notice the sudden dips, though. They were attending to more pressing matters. The officers, field artillery basic course students, were on the second day of their seven-day field exercise. As they rode, they listened and talked on four radios. One was set on an artillery net, another on a mortar platoon net and a third on a fire control net. The students kept in contact with the team commander on the fourth.

The students were introduced to the FISTV while it was at Fort Sill for about six months' testing. In December, Fort Sill's four FISTVs were sent to the 1st Infantry Division, Fort Riley, Kan., for further testing.

The vehicle is designed to carry a fire support team, made up of forward observers, in an armor or mechanized infantry unit. The FISTV looks much like the Improved TOW vehicle. Built on an M-113 chassis, the FISTV has an armored ground/vehicle laser locator designator pod mounted on top, where the TOW vehicle's twin firing tubes are located.

Artillery units should start getting the FISTV in July 1985 although fielding won't be completed until 1990. The vehicle will have more protection than the jeeps and M-113s teams now use. The teams will also have the latest technology.

"The FISTV's digital message device does away with a lot of voice communications," said SFC Vernon McKellar, an Artillery School instructor. "The DMD gathers target data from the FISTV's laser designator. The FIST sends the data in correct format to the fire direction center." The message gets to the FDC in about one second. A digital plotter on a map then plots the target. The DMD can be used mounted or dismounted.

DMD is a part of the tactical fire direction system. "TACFIRE does the fire planning in about a fourth of the time it takes to do a fire plan by hand," McKellar said. "After giving the DMD information, you get back a computed fire plan. You then tell the computer to execute. The firing batteries get target data, including what time to shoot."

The FISTV's day and night sight and ground/vehicle laser locator designator work together. The crew can use the night sight to spot the target and then fire the laser, McKellar said. The laser can determine the range to the target or guide laser-guided munitions to it.

He added that the M-113's G/VLLD is mounted in the commander's hatch, exposing the crew member to enemy fire. The FISTV crew can use the G/VLLD while buttoned up. The FISTV can also operate in hull defilade — that is, with the hull hidden and only the G/VLLD exposed. The FISTV also has better armor protection than the M-113 and a built-in smoke generating ability. If the crew comes under fire, pressing a button releases smoke grenades, allowing the crews to pull the FISTV out of the area unseen.

The FISTV also has a north-seeking gyrocompass that gives the crew information needed for accurate artillery requests. Information from the G/VLLD and the compass is fed into a computer to give data such as the target's azimuth and elevation.

While McKellar thinks the FISTV is better than the M-113, he expressed concern whether it could keep up with the M-1 Abrams tank. Planned FISTV improvements, however, include a power pack which should give the vehicle mobility equal to the M-1's.

Top, artillery units will start receiving FISTVs in July 1985. • Above, the vehicle contains the latest communication equipment, such as the digital message device.

As McKellar spoke, the students' FISTV parked behind a small hill. Only the G/VLLD was exposed.

The FISTV's door dropped. The students gathered up maps and other gear and stepped out into the late afternoon sunshine. One student, 2nd Lt. Andre Davis, said working with the FISTV now would help him later. "We're also getting a better idea of what our 13Fs will need to know. And you remember things better when you get your hands on a piece of equipment like the FISTV."

Davis joined his classmates, who were discussing their next move. The FISTV would take them where they needed to go. □

FOCUS ON PEOPLE

Compiled by Faith Faircloth

Sp4 Richard Saunders

Sp4 Richard Saunders

Shockley: Clown

SFC Walter Shockley boasts that his company at Headquarters, Headquarters Command, 2nd Signal Brigade, Mannheim, West Germany, is probably one of the few places in the Army where troops can call the first sergeant a clown to his face and get away with it.

At least three or four times a month, Shockley (better known by his stage names, "Snags" or "Bongo") performs for handicapped children at hospitals in the Mannheim and Heidelberg areas.

Also a member of the Shrine Clowns, Shockley performs his act at bazaars, air shows and other events. At those functions, he also sculpts balloon animals, taking donations for the Shriners' crippled children's hospitals.

Shockley says the best part of being a clown is that he can make people smile. He admits it is also a challenge sometimes. "A lot of kids are afraid of clowns. It takes special attention and care to loosen them up and get them to relax and smile.

"Being a clown gives me the license to act like a nut," Shockley laughed. "I can do things in public, because I'm a clown, that I wouldn't dream of doing as Walter Shockley. If I did, the men in white coats would come take me away."

The joy he brings to others is what keeps Shockley in the clowning business. He confesses that "when I bend down to a crippled child and make him or her smile, I really feel like I've accomplished something." — *Sp4 Richard Saunders*

MSgt. Ervin T. Marine believes the best way to remember history is to preserve it. That's why he collects all kinds of military relics such as uniforms, pennants, weapons, helmets and flags.

Marine, an Army Communications Systems Agency project officer at Fort Monmouth, N.J., began his extensive collection in the early 1970s. His major interest is German military relics from World War II.

One of his prized possessions is a German storm trooper's dagger that is inscribed by former unit chief Ernst Rohm. His collection includes helmets dating back to World War I, a German SS panzer uniform and three German U-boat officers' uniforms.

His handgun collection began in 1950 when he bought his first German Luger. As his collection grew, Marine's involvement in gun shows sparked his interest in gathering military memorabilia. "As a soldier, I care about what other soldiers throughout history have worn and about the equipment they used," he said. "That's why I get so much enjoyment out of collecting." — *Henry Kearney*

Sgt. Roland Joyner, a 29-year-old unit supply specialist in the Engineer School Brigade at Fort Belvoir, Va., is a professional musician in his spare time.

The Newport News, Va., native has played and performed in gospel concerts alongside renowned gospel singers Andre Crouch and Walter Hawkins and the Hawkins Singers. He has soloed in two gospel albums and contributed to six more.

Besides the piano, which is Joyner's biggest love, he plays bass guitar, lead guitar, organ, drums and the synthesizer. "I attempted to take piano lessons when I was 7," he said. "But my music teacher suggested to my mother that I not take lessons because I could play music just by hearing it. I haven't taken a formal lesson since then."

Joyner sings every Sunday morning on "Living Daily With the Scriptures," a local telecast. And he has performed at Constitution Hall in Washington, D.C., and at the Hampton Roads Coliseum in Hampton, Va.

But he says his favorite performance was when he and his family sang with his favorite gospel singer, Dannybelle Hall, in Virginia Beach, Va. "I really enjoyed that performance because my mother was there," he said. "I could tell she was pleased to see her children sing

Sam Courlas

Marine: Collector

with a family favorite."

Joyner is from a family of nine children who all have musical talents. His seven brothers play instruments including the piano, drums, bass guitar and saxophone. And his sister is a gospel singer.

In the Army, Joyner plays piano for military chapel choirs and is often asked to play on special occasions. He is planning the production of his next album. "Music has been my way of life," he said. "I could never express it all in words." — *PFC Michelle Thompson*

PFC Bill Gardner says he probably has one of the best jobs in the Army. He's a ski patroller in Chiemsee, West Germany.

The 22-year-old data communications specialist was granted permissive TDY from his unit at the Army Communications Command in Augsburg to become a ski patroller for the Armed Forces Recreation centers.

"I'm really fascinated by computers," Gardner said. "But, given the choice, I'd rather be out skiing in the mountains."

Gardner said he grew up on skis and worked as a ski patroller for two years at a resort near his home in Central Lake, Mich., before joining the Army. But despite his background, he had to attend a four-week training course in Garmisch before he could patrol Uncle Sam's recreation centers. "In a lot of ways the course was more rigorous than basic training," he said.

Gardner works a rotating schedule on the slopes of six days on and two days off. "I usually try to head to Austria on my days off," he said, "so I can ski some more challenging mountains." — *Sp4 Richard Saunders*

Sp4 Richard Saunders

Gardner: Skiing

PFC Michelle Thompson

Joyner: Spreading the Gospel

...AND APPLE PIE

Story by Faith Faircloth
Photos by Sgt. Cecil Stack

MOTHER'S Day has been an American tradition since 1907 when Anna Jarvis of Philadelphia convinced her church to hold a service in memory of all mothers on the anniversary of her mother's death.

The observance became official in 1914 when President Woodrow Wilson signed Public Resolution No. 2, setting aside the second Sunday in May as Mother's Day. The proclamation called for government officials and private citizens to display a flag "as a public expression of love and reverence for the mothers of our country."

Things have changed since Anna Jarvis and Woodrow Wilson created

Three faces of motherhood: Above, Mary Lee McMichael, wife of 1st Sgt. Eric McMichael, Headquarters Company, 3rd U.S. Infantry (The Old Guard), Fort Myer, Va., and children, Josh and Monya. • Left, Dixie Reichel, mother of Sp4 Jerry South, Fort Myer. • Far left, Sp5 Candace M. Francis of Fort Belvoir, Va., the soldier as mother of Jordan and Noe.

Mother's Day, and so have mothers. Today's mothers are just as likely to wear soldiers' uniforms and business suits as aprons. And chances are the apple pie comes from the bakery.

Today's mothers are more likely to be honored with candy, flowers and dinner out than a hoisting of Old Glory. And if the children have left the nest, a long-distance call or telegram lets her know she's remembered.

But some things never change. And the reasons for observing Mother's Day are the same now as they were when it was created. It's a day set aside to say thank you to a special lady in our lives. □

CINDY'S A WINNER

Story and Photo by Faith Faircloth

SOLDIERS don't usually cry when the unit mail clerk leaves for another assignment. But last November there were a lot of wet eyes at Pinder Barracks, Nuernberg, West Germany, when Cynthia Cook said goodbye over the public address system.

"Cindy," as she was known to the soldiers of the 6th Battalion, 14th Field Artillery, had been the unit mail clerk for two years and a friend to everyone there. Some of the younger soldiers, away from home for the first time, called her Mom.

And there probably wasn't a happier battalion in the Army in January when Cindy received a 1983 Congressional Award for Exemplary Service to the Public. She was one of three federal employees selected from 73 nominations and the first Army employee ever to receive the award.

Cindy received her award in Washington, D.C., from Reps. Benjamin Gilman (R-N.Y.) and Elliott Levitas (D-Ga.), who established the award to recognize outstanding government employees.

To say Cindy did more than the job required would be an understatement. She took the 580 troops at Pinder Barracks under her wing almost from the day she accepted the GS-2 mail clerk job in September 1981. "It was my first civil service job, and I took it to get my foot in the door," she said. "But I got so involved with the troops, I couldn't leave."

Cindy got involved because she knew what it was like to be alone in a foreign country with little money and no family. "My husband was enlisted in 1976 when we went to Germany for the first time," she said. "I had been there only a month when he was sent to the field. I had never been out of North Carolina. I didn't have a driver's license or a job. I felt stranded and thought nobody cared."

But people did care. And officers' wives in the housing area where the Cooks lived helped her through four hospital stays during the first tour. They took care of her little girls, one an infant, and saw that hot meals were on her table when she came home. But Cindy said she's never forgotten that first lonely feeling.

Cindy's husband had become a warrant officer by the time they returned to Germany in 1980. "But I still relate to the enlisted people," she said, "because I've seen both sides." When Cindy decided to go to work the only job available was unit mail clerk. "It didn't sound very glamorous, but I decided to give it a try," she said.

She had been on the job only a few months when she realized that many soldiers were going through the same loneliness that she had experienced during that first tour. "They would come to the mailroom every day looking for mail, and I would have to tell them there wasn't any," she said. "It bothered me so much that I sat down and wrote them a letter."

In her letter Cindy told them that it sometimes takes writing a letter to receive one. If they let someone at home know they were OK and thinking about them, that person might write back. Each time soldiers looked for mail and didn't have any, Cindy would hand them her letter. "They passed it back and forth until there was nothing left of it," she said.

Cindy never turned anyone away from the mailroom, even though soldiers were not supposed to be there except for mail call. "Some of these guys had family problems and just wanted someone to listen," she said. "It was amazing how they would come to the post office just to have someone give them a little time."

Taking time to listen didn't keep Cindy from turning her mailroom into the top-rated of the 41 in the Nuernberg Military Community. She developed a system whereby she knew who was in the field, and who wanted their mail delivered or held for pickup by a family member.

Knowing what it was like to have small babies and no car, Cindy often delivered mail to wives who couldn't make it to the post office while their husbands were away. She thought nothing of working Saturdays to hand out paychecks to soldiers just back from the field. "Overseas you have nobody but each other," she said. "So you take care of each other."

Cindy said she didn't think she would make it through that first Christmas in the mailroom. "It just about broke my heart to see all those guys come to the mailroom and not get a card or package," she said. "It was like they were forgotten. And some of them were only 18 or 19 years old and had never been away from home before. I remember one guy who had 10 brothers and sisters and didn't receive one thing from home."

Cindy mentioned to a group of officers' wives that she intended to see that every soldier there got a Christmas card in 1982 if she had to buy the cards herself. The wives volunteered their support, and took money from their treasury to buy cards. With Cindy's help, they signed, addressed and delivered the cards.

But Cindy felt something special should be done for the single soldiers. "We do things for the kids and the families," she said. "But I believe a lot of people don't consider the single soldier. They figure if they're old enough to be in the Army, they can take care of themselves. Maybe they can, but they still have feelings. And nobody likes to be lonely.

"Can you imagine living in a room with two or three other guys, and they get letters and packages from home, and you get nothing? You know, that's hard to accept."

So Cindy got the ball rolling for Soldier Appreciation Day. Tables were set up in the post office and filled with cakes, cookies and other Christmas treats, whatever anyone wanted to bring. A banner proclaiming Soldier Appreciation Day was hung on the wall, and word went out to the troops that it was their day.

It was a huge success, according to Cindy. And the effort paid an unexpected bonus. "Every year during the holidays the police pick up guys downtown who are drunk or on drugs," Cindy said. "But the year we had Soldier Appreciation Day, there wasn't one single blotter report. And that tells you something."

A week before Cindy and her family left Germany, she asked her commander if she could go before the battalion and say goodbye. "It was really an experience," she said. "They set up the PA system and got all the guys in formation so I could say goodbye.

"I really missed them this Christmas," she said. "It was nice to be home again, but I wish I could have brought them all with me." □

THE NCO'S REPORT CARD

MSgt. Norman J. Oliver

THREE months after a soldier is promoted to sergeant or specialist five, he or she receives the first Enlisted Evaluation Report. This document, much like a report card, is the cornerstone of the Army's management of its NCOs.

The EER helps Army officials to decide whom to promote and to send to school, and which NCO best matches a particular job.

Members of the Army's enlisted selection and promotion boards say that the EER is the most important document they use. The president of a recent selection board said of the EER: "It says more about leadership, technical competence and potential than any award, letter, photo or certificate."

Therefore, rating officials must know how to write EERs properly. Poorly or vaguely written EERs hurt the Army as well as the soldier.

Part I: Administrative Data

THE administrative data section contains basic information about the rated soldier, including name, pay grade, Social Security number and date of rank. It also identifies the unit of assignment, the type of report, the period of time it covers, and rated and non-rated months. The local MILPO completes this part of the form. The rater and the soldier should double-check the entries.

See Privacy Act Statement in AR 623-205, APPENDIX E.	ENLISTED EVALUATION REPORT (AR 623-205)	Proponent agency for this form is the US Army Military Personnel Center.

PART I. ADMINISTRATIVE DATA

A. LAST NAME — FIRST NAME — MIDDLE INITIAL	B. SSN	C. RANK (ABBR)	D. DATE OF RANK

E. PRIMARY MOSC	F. SECONDARY MOSC	G. UNIT, ORGANIZATION, STATION, ZIP CODE/APO, MACOM

H. CODE/TYPE OF REPORT	I. PERIOD OF REPORT						J. RATED MONTHS	K. NONRATED MONTHS	L. NONRATED CODES
	FROM	YEAR	MONTH	THRU	YEAR	MONTH			

PART II. DUTY DESCRIPTION

Part II: Duty Description

THIS part of the EER tells what a soldier is responsible for doing. The duty description section begins with the principal duty title and MOS code. This part includes a written description of duties. The rater fills out Part II and verifies it with the soldier.

The description of duties should not be an MOS description. The rater should clearly, concisely describe all the soldier's duties, to include additional duties. The rater should explain the actual work performed and the scope of the duties, and note conditions peculiar to the assignment. (Example: Active duty soldiers assigned to full-time support duties with Guard or Reserve units often have unusual duties. This can also be true of Guard or Reserve soldiers assigned to active duty units.) If this part of the EER is not clear and complete, performance evaluations will not be very meaningful.

PART II. DUTY DESCRIPTION

A. PRINCIPAL DUTY TITLE:	B. DUTY MOSC:
C. DESCRIPTION OF DUTIES:	

PART III. EVALUATION OF PROFESSIONALISM AND PERFORMANCE

Part III: Professionalism and Performance

THE evaluation of professionalism and performance has areas for both numerical ratings and written comments.

PART III. EVALUATION OF PROFESSIONALISM AND PERFORMANCE

RATER	INDORSER	A. PROFESSIONAL COMPETENCE	SCORING SCALE	RATER	INDORSER	B. PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS
		1. Demonstrates initiative.	(High)			1. Integrity.
		2. Adapts to changes.	5			2. Loyalty.
		3. Seeks self-improvement.				3. Moral courage.
		4. Performs under pressure.	4			4. Self-discipline.
		5. Attains results.				5. Military appearance.
		6. Displays sound judgment.	3			6. Earns respect.
		7. Communicates effectively.	2			7. Supports EO/EEO.
		8. Develops subordinates.				
		9. Demonstrates technical skills.	1			SUBTOTALS
		10. Physical fitness.	0	[Add the Rater's SUBTOTALS (A&B) and enter sum in the appropriate box in PART VI SCORE SUMMARY. Do the same for Indorser.]		
		SUBTOTALS	(Low)			

Line C: Physical Fitness Data

THE rater puts physical readiness test results and height and weight data right after "Demonstrated Performance of Present Duty." The soldier's signature on the report verifies the accuracy of this information. The article on physical fitness on page 36 has a more complete description of these entries.

Blocks A and B: Numerical Scores

THE rater and the indorser enter a number that evaluates the soldier's demonstrated competence and adherence to professional standards. They can give up to a maximum of 50 points in Block A and 35 points in Block B. They add their scores and put the subtotal in the box at the bottom of each column.

C. DEMONSTRATED PERFORMANCE OF PRESENT DUTY

1. Rater's Evaluation:

Blocks C-1 and C-2: Written Evaluation

THE rater's evaluation in Block C-1 and the indorser's in Block C-2 are mandatory written comments on the soldier's performance. Just as Part II explains what a soldier does, the written evaluation explains how well the soldier performed those duties. Both officials should comment on specific aspects of performance. The numerical ratings above show generally how well a soldier has done. The evaluations should, considering the soldier's current grade, experience and military schooling, cover failures as well as achievements. Evaluations should explain results achieved, weighing the soldier's efforts against results that could reasonably be expected, given the time and resources available. Officials should also consider how the results were achieved. This entails weighing the soldier's leadership skills against the professional standards of good leadership and sound management. Officials may comment on items of professional competence from Block A or professional standards from Block B. In this section, they are barred from:

- Referring to events which happened outside the rating period.
- Commenting on the soldier's potential.
- Recommending future assignments or schools.

1. Rater's Evaluation:

2. Indorser's Evaluation:

Part IV: Potential

THE evaluation of potential section clearly separates recommendations from performance evaluations. This helps the rating officials provide specific information to career managers and promotion or selection boards. The maximum score is 40 points, and the box choices reflect how the promotion/selection system works.

A separate box for E-9s avoids the awkward implications of recommending them for promotion to a nonexistent higher grade.

The rater and indorser must write specific comments on the soldier's potential for promotion, schooling and increased responsibility in comparison with his or her peers. They must recommend whether an E-5 or E-6 should attend an advanced NCO course. They must recommend whether E-7s and E-8s should be picked as first sergeants. They must make a recommendation about the Sergeants Major Academy and command sergeant major appointment for any E-8 or E-9, if the soldier hasn't already been selected or appointed.

PART IV. EVALUATION OF POTENTIAL

1. Rater's Evaluation: (Place score in applicable box)

40-38	37-20	19-0	40-0
☐ Promote ahead of peers.	☐ Promote with peers.	☐ Do not promote.	☐ E9 Soldiers Only.

Comments. (potential for higher-level school, assignment, and supervisory responsibility)

2. Indorser's Evaluation: (Place score in applicable box)

40-38	37-20	19-0	40-0
☐ Promote ahead of peers	☐ Promote with peers	☐ Do not promote.	☐ E9 Soldiers Only.

Comments: (potential for higher-level school, assignment, and supervisory responsibility)

Part V: Authentication

THE rater, indorser, reviewer and the soldier must authenticate the report:

- The rater and the soldier verify the administrative data, Part I, and the duty description, Part II. The rater discusses his evaluations of performance, Part III, and potential, Part IV, with the soldier. Then the rater gives the EER to the indorser.
- The indorser completes his evaluation and counsels the soldier about any significant differences between the rater's and indorser's evaluations.

PART V. AUTHENTICATION

A. NAME OF RATER *(Last First MI)*	SSN	SIGNATURE
RANK, ORGANIZATION, AND DUTY ASSIGNMENT		DATE
Refer to AR 623-205 for requirements to discuss contents of report with the rated soldier.		
B. NAME OF INDORSER *(Last First MI)*	SSN	SIGNATURE
RANK, ORGANIZATION, AND DUTY ASSIGNMENT		DATE
NAME OF RATED SOLDIER *(Last First M...*		

C. NAME OF RATED SOLDIER *(Last, First, MI)*		I have verified Administrative Data, PART I, and Duty Description, PART II. I have seen this report as prepared by the Rater and Indorser. I understand that my signature does not constitute agreement nor disagreement with their evaluations.
SSN	DATE	Signature:
D. NAME OF REVIEWER *(Last, First, MI)*	SSN	I have reviewed this report in accordance with AR 623-205 on _____ *(date)*
RANK, ORGANIZATION, AND DUTY ASSIGNMENT		Signature:

Block D: The Reviewer

UNLIKE the rater and indorser who evaluate the soldier, the reviewer evaluates the report. The reviewer is senior to the indorser and ensures the report is accurate, clear and just. The Army assumes the reviewer, as the senior, most experienced official in the rating chain, is best able to examine the evaluations and clarify or resolve differences and inconsistencies. The reviewer judges whether the completed report is clear and consistent when read as a whole.

If the rater and indorser disagree about the soldier's performance or potential, the reviewer first confronts them to find out why. If the rater and indorser acknowledge the problem and revise the EER, then the reviewer has done his job.

If the rater and indorser either don't acknowledge the problem or won't change the EER, then the reviewer explains this is an enclosure which makes the report more understandable to a future reader. The reviewer is prohibited from making his own evaluation of the soldier's performance or potential.

If the reviewer finds that a report, however clear and consistent, is unjust or illegal, he must try to resolve the discrepancy. Should that fail, the reviewer then refers the report to his commander. The commander can investigate the allegation and attempt to resolve the error, violation or wrongdoing with the rating officials. The commander cannot order the rating officials to alter their evaluations. If the commander's efforts fail to produce a proper EER, he may ask for a resolution of the issue from the MILPERCEN commander.

This policy aims to improve the quality of EERs by having commanders ensure that the system works as designed. This can't be done if commanders preempt the system through personal comments and unauthorized enclosures to EERs.

When the reviewer is finished, he signs the EER in Block D of Part V. The reviewer then sends the report to the soldier's MILPO for certification.

Block C: Rated Soldier's Signature

THE soldier signs in Block C of the authentication section, Part V. The indorser also ensures the soldier understands that his signature verifies the correctness of administrative data, Part I; the duty description, Part II; and the APRT and height and weight entries on Line C of Part III. If the rated soldier refuses to sign the report or has left the post or duty station, the indorser puts an explanation in the space reserved for the soldier's signature.

Part VI: Score Summary

THE indorser completes Part VI of the report by adding together the subtotals from the performance and potential evaluations and dividing the total by two. In some cases there will be only one rating official. This can happen, for example, when the indorser hasn't been in the rating chain for a minimum of three months. Then the single score becomes the final report score. The maximum score is 125 points.

PART VI. SCORE SUMMARY			PART VII. MILPO CERTIFICATION			
PART	RATER SCORE	INDORSER SCORE	A. SOLDIER'S COPY: ☐ Given to Soldier _____ *(date)* ☐ Forwarded to Soldier _____ *(date)* ☐ Mailed to Soldier _____ *(date)*		B. FORWARDING ADDRESS:	
III.						
IV.						
Sum						
REPORT SCORE (R + I ÷ 2) =			C. NO. OF INCL.	D. DATE ENTERED ON DA FORM 2-1	E. MILPO SIGNATURE	F. MILPO CODE

Part VII: MILPO Certification

THE MILPO, in the final step, reviews the report. It forwards one copy to the soldier and sends the others to the Enlisted Records and Evaluation Center, Fort Benjamin Harrison, Ind. There, the report is put on microfiche and becomes part of the Official Military Personnel File. The original goes into the soldier's career management file at MILPERCEN.

MORE ABOUT PHYSICAL FITNESS DATA

THE results of the Army Physical Readiness Test and height and weight data come after the phrase "Demonstrated Performance of Present Duty" on Line C, Part III, of the Enlisted Evaluation Report.

APRT Data

THE rater and the soldier verify one of these three entries: PASS, FAIL or PROFILE, and the year and month of the most recent APRT taken within the 12-month period before the last rated day of supervision. This is the only time information from outside the rating period may appear in the performance section. Samples: PASS 8403, FAIL 8404 or PROFILE 8405. Numerical scores are not entered.

The rater must explain all FAIL or PROFILE entries in the performance evaluation. In the case of a failure, the rater should explain why the soldier failed and note any progress toward meeting physical fitness standards. The rater's comments on a profile should describe the soldier's ability to do assigned duties when the profile prevents taking one or more APRT events.

No entries are made for soldiers who haven't taken the APRT during the 12 months before the last day of the report. The rater must explain the lack of these entries in the performance narrative.

Pregnant soldiers are exempt from the APRT during pregnancy and convalescent leave following delivery. The attending physician determines the length of the convalescent leave. Pregnant soldiers will receive one of two APRT entries on their EER:

• If the APRT was taken before the pregnancy and within the last 12 months, the entry should be PASS or FAIL and the date the test was taken.

• If the pregnancy prevented taking the APRT within the last 12 months, the entry is left blank. However, the rater writes this explanation in the performance evaluation: "Exempt from APRT requirements IAW AR 40-501."

APRT entries aren't required for soldiers age 40 and older who don't have a medical OK to train. The rater must explain the missing entry. The most common explanations are: "Cardiovascular screen not completed"; "Cardiovascular screen completed but no final medical clearance to take the APRT"; or "Cardiovascular screen completed, medical clearance granted and soldier awaiting next APRT."

Height and Weight Data

RIGHT after the APRT data, the rater enters the soldier's height in inches and weight in pounds. This information is current as of the last day in the rating period and is followed by a YES or NO to show compliance or noncompliance with the provisions of AR 600-9. The data will be typed in Part III, Line C, immediately following the APRT entry. (Examples: PASS 8403 72/180 YES, or FAIL 8404 68/205 NO.)

The weight-for-height screening table, Appendix A, AR 600-9, only determines who takes a body-fat test. Body-fat content determines whether a soldier is overweight.

A height and weight entry exceeding screening table limit and a YES entry indicate that a soldier has passed a body-fat test given by medical authorities. (Example: 72/210 YES.) On the other hand, an entry of NO shows the soldier failed the body-fat test. (Example: 70/205 NO.) The rater must explain why the test was failed, note any medical waivers and show progress or lack of progress in a weight-control program.

The YES or NO entry is left blank for soldiers who require a body-fat test but haven't taken it. (Example: 71/210.) The rater must explain this absence. Normally, the explanation should be: "YES/NO omitted because body-fat measurement has not been completed."

A rater's explanation is not required for soldiers who exceed the screening table limit but pass the body-fat test. These soldiers receive a YES because they meet the Army standard. Raters may add clarification in the performance evaluation. Football players and body builders frequently fall in this category. Overweight can only be determined by medical personnel after measuring body fat. The screening table is just that — a screening table. It doesn't determine that a soldier is overweight.

Height and weight entries are left blank for pregnant soldiers during the period of pregnancy exception. However, the rater writes the following in the performance evaluation: "Exempt from weight control standards IAW AR 600-9."

Here are some key points about APRT and height and weight entries on EERs:

• First, the soldier's signature in Part V of the EER certifies and authenticates the accuracy of the APRT and height/weight data on the EER.

• Second, an APRT entry of PASS clearly means the PT test was taken and passed on the date certified by the soldier.

• Third, YES means the height and weight are within the screening table or the soldier passed a body-fat test given by medical authorities. — *MSgt. Norman J. Oliver*

E Z LIVIN'- OZARK STYLE

Story and Photos by Maj. Keith Schneider

IS the daily routine beginning to get you down? Do you find yourself wanting to inflict irreparable damage to that alarm each morning as it tells you to prepare for another day? Do you dread reporting for work and putting up with all the hassles, particularly that co-worker who never carries his share of the weight?

If all of this sounds familiar, you are probably ready for a break. Why not take some time off and get away from it all?

"Where?" you ask, and "Who is going to pay for it?" Don't despair. You may be able to handle it without hocking the TV or the risk of having your stereo repossessed. That remote hideaway might be nearby just waiting for you.

There are military travel camps and recreation areas located in virtually every state. Similar facilities can be found in most overseas areas. In many cases, the offerings range from the comforts of home to the very rustic. Many of them are nestled away, well off the beaten path. As such, they offer the basic ingredients for a good vacation: seclusion and privacy.

One such area can be found in the heart of the Ozarks. The Fort Leonard Wood lake recreation area is located on the Grand Glaize Arm of the Lake of the Ozarks. It is in the center of a Missouri state wildlife refuge, 50 miles northwest of the post. It offers visitors the chance to relax and really get away from it all. In the process, they can see the scenic beauty of the Ozark's sheer limestone bluffs. Miles of nature trails are surrounded by colorful flowers and abundant wildlife.

Top, after setting up his lakeside residence, this camper is ready to relax. • Above, the marina offers a wide variety of boats and equipment to satisfy vacationer's needs.

The 360-acre tract was leased from the state for 99 years for one dollar. The lease can be renewed for an additional dollar. While unlikely, it can also be turned back to the state. The only restriction imposed by the state is that any fishing requires a state license.

While the area is remote, visitors are not as isolated as one might think. The surrounding area offers a wealth of entertainment options. Within a 25-mile radius are superior golf courses, country music shows, commercial caves, a family theme park and day and night boat excursions. The area also includes some of Missouri's finest restaurants. Menus feature everything from authentic German food and Mandarin-style cooking to native Ozark delights. Seasonal events such as a dogwood festival and rodeos are also popular.

The lake recreation area is divided into two major sections. The northern area is a travel camp and vacation resort. This section spans 300

acres and offers ideal facilities for fishing, water sports, camping and hiking. The southern area is used for the command-sponsored Soldier in Training program, which offers outstanding trainees a day at the lake.

The recreation area is open from early April through September. This includes a pre- and post-season during which only limited facilities are offered on weekends. The full-service season runs from late May to early September. The area is open to all active duty military, retired military, DOD civilians and family members.

Overnight visitors can choose from a wide range of options. They can go for comfort with an air conditioned mobile home or elect to rough it with a remote campsite. The fee for a rustic campsite is $2 a day. The cost is doubled for campsites with electrical hook-ups. Campers can choose from waterfront sites near other facilities or remote sites that provide seclusion and privacy.

Three sizes of mobile homes that sleep from five to seven people are also available. The mobile homes are air conditioned and have free TV. They are completely furnished and include cooking and eating utensils, but guests must furnish pillows, sheets, blankets and toiletry items. Each trailer has a picnic table and grill. Daily rates range from $17 to $24.50. Discounts are allowed to groups booking 10 or more trailers and for stays of two or more nights, Monday through Thursday.

One of the main attractions at the lake is the full-service marina, which offers a full line of equipment for many water-related activities.

The 176-mile expanse of the lake offers some excellent fishing. The angler can find everything needed to go after those elusive lunkers. A variety of fully equipped fishing boats is available. Boats can be rented on an hourly or extended basis, thus enabling dedicated fishermen to stalk their prey any time they choose. For the novice or those without equipment, rods and reels are available for rent. The marina also sells live bait, state fishing permits and gasoline.

The marina also has everything needed for water skiing. Twelve ski/pleasure boats with 55- or 70-horsepower motors are available. The boats are equipped with skis, vests and line. During peak periods the rental of ski boats may be limited to two hours.

For the less active patron, party craft pontoon boats are offered. They are available in three sizes ranging from 24 to 32 feet. These boats enable guests to be their own tour guide and enjoy a leisure day of boating and sightseeing. For those who want to combine exercise with sightseeing, paddle boats are also available.

Another popular attraction is the swimming beach. It is open from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. daily during the full-service season. It includes bathhouses and has trained lifeguards on duty. It offers an expanse of sandy beach for sun bathing and a clearly marked swimming area away from boat traffic. It is the only place where swimming is allowed in the recreation area.

A PX shoppette near the marina carries items one might need on an outing. All those forgotten items ranging from fishing tackle and razor blades to charcoal and dish soap can be found there. The shoppette also sells food and beverages.

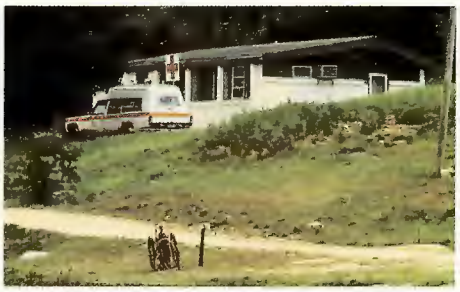
A lake-front pavilion is available and can be reserved for parties and group outings. The area also has two boat launching ramps. Other facilities include arcade games, a playground, and washers and dryers. An area is also provided for the parking and storage of boats and recreational vehicles.

A first aid station is available 24 hours a day with paramedics on duty. An ambulance remains at the lake throughout the season. There is also a helipad should air evacuation to Gen. Leonard Wood Army Hospital be required. Military police and fire protection services are also provided during the entire season.

A staff of 13 operates the recreation area, providing reservation, check-in and check-out, lifeguard and marina services. PX, medical, MP and fire protection are provided by an additional nine personnel.

Attendance figures in recent years attest to the popularity of the rec area. Some 77,000 visited the site in 1980. Last year the count reached 110,000. A 10 percent increase is expected this year.

Future plans call for the continued expansion and improvement of



The lake area provides visitors the chance to have fun and relax. Clockwise from left: A boater prepares to launch his craft. • Others are already on the lake and ready for water skiing. • Lake employee Bill Shields stands ready to assist an incoming boat. • The first aid station is open 24 hours daily and staffed by three paramedics. • Having pitched their tent among the trees, this family tries their luck at fishing.

the area. In addition to adding campsites, also planned are parking areas, an improved fire station and a pavilion enclosure.

Guests planning to use the area should make reservations. Military people assigned to Leonard Wood can reserve mobile homes or campsites at any time. Military people not assigned to the post can make reservations up to 45 days in advance. Other eligible users can make reservations up to 35 days in advance. Reservations can be made by telephoning (314) 346-5640 or by writing to the Fort Leonard Wood Lake Recreation Area, Route 1, Box 380, Linn Creek, Mo. 65052. During the off season, information about the recreation area is available by writing to the Coordinator, Physical Activities Branch, Building 385, Fort Leonard Wood, Mo. 65473.

The southern section of the recreation area is used for the Soldier in Training program. This program allows the training brigades at Fort Leonard Wood to reward outstanding soldiers with a one-day trip to the lake. The program runs Monday through Thursday from June 1 to Sept. 1. Selected soldiers depart the post by bus at 5 p.m. and return at 7 p.m. the following day. The site has air conditioned quarters, a dining facility and a general purpose athletic court. The barracks has male and female areas and can house up to 44 soldiers.

The soldiers are provided with lockers, athletic equipment and swimming suits. A shuttle boat service provides transportation to the main marina and swimming beach. During their stay they can rent boats and other equipment at reduced rates.

A staff of eight operates the southern area. Participating units also send an escort NCO along with the soldiers. The program is very popular as it provides the trainees with a break from the rigors of the training schedule. While they are not allowed to leave the limits of the recreation area, the selection of activities is totally up to them. Events such as basketball, volleyball and softball are common. The evening normally ends with the group clustered around a camp fire. The bus returning to post is usually filled with very exhausted trainees.

The Fort Leonard Wood lake recreation area is just one of many such facilities available to members of the armed forces. Information is usually available from the installation recreation services or morale support activities. Also, books are published on military travel camps and recreation areas. They give an overview of facilities and reservation information. Check the post library, PX book section or *The Stars and Stripes* bookstore for a copy.

So there you have it. That much needed getaway just may be easier than you thought. And you just might be able to pull it off without destroying your budget. And who knows, after a few days in a place like that, you may not think your co-worker seems like such a goldbrick after all. □

MIs AIM HIGH

Story and Photos by Sgt. Maj. Mike Mason

SOLDIERIZATION is a word that has been kicking around the Army for some time now. It means imparting basic soldier skills to people. For officer basic course students at the Military Intelligence School, Fort Huachuca, Ariz., it means a lot more. At the MI school, soldierization means esprit, pride and respect — respect for self and from others.

In January 1983, the school started a TAC officer program to improve the soldierization of new MI lieutenants. TAC stands for teach, advise and counsel, which covers the spectrum of the TAC officers' duties.

"The TACs are responsible for all the non-academic training that the lieutenants get," explained Maj. Howard Rhoden, company commander of the basic course students. "They give PT, and drill and ceremonies. And we rotate leadership positions within each OBC class weekly — platoon leader, assistant platoon leader, squad leader and what have you. As the positions rotate, the TAC officer rates the lieutenants on how they have performed in their leadership positions. He lets them know what they've done right and gives them some encouragement to improve.

"We're involved in grading the briefings that the students give, and we give the training leading up to the FTX which the tactics department puts on. We have concurrent training we run while the lieutenants are on the pistol range. The training has been designed in coordination with the academic department to support the objectives that the lieutenants have during the week they spend out on the FTX. There's a myriad of things that we're involved in across the board with the lieutenants."

Before the TAC program began, Rhoden explained, the company just didn't have the people to carry out such an ambitious training program. Until TACs came on board, Rhoden had only himself and an admin supervisor to manage the company.

"At one time last year I had 500 lieutenants and two folks to take care of them," Rhoden said. "Now we have an executive officer and three TAC officers to help with the basic course students. It cuts down the student-to-cadre ratio and gives us the chance to give more personal attention to the students."

Part of that more personal attention is a mandatory organized PT program. At oh-dark thirty every morning, chanting columns of young officers double-time onto the post's main athletic field to knock out their daily dozen and a run. That wasn't always the case, though.

"It used to be that basic course students took PT only if their class leader made them do it," explained 1st Lt. Jerry Brown, one of the school's three original TAC officers. Brown, formerly a sergeant first class intelligence analyst and airborne soldier, is used to doing PT. So when he became class leader of his MI officer basic course after OCS, doing PT seemed to be the natural thing to do. "I wasn't very popular with my class, though," Brown admitted.

Once he was selected to become a TAC, Brown's fondness for PT led him to start an advanced PT program. "I'm kind of a PT nut," Brown said, "so I designed and set it up and ran it." Advanced PT, open to students who have completed at least four weeks of the 19-week course, offers more rigorous exercises and longer runs than the standard PT.

One objective of the TAC program is to turn around the MI officers' image. "MIs had a reputation for being technically competent, but we sometimes had a reputation of not being able to soldier with some of our combat arms peers," Rhoden said.

"Lieutenants leaving here were good in what they'd been trained to do," Brown added, "but some weren't very good soldiers. I'm sure you've seen that. When they had the chance to get in front of a unit for the first time, they'd embarrass themselves because of things they hadn't been taught — drill and ceremonies, PT, relationships with senior NCOs. So that's what we try to teach.

"First of all, we try to set the example in everything — example in appearance, example in attitude, example in integrity, fitness and, of course, the basics — such as how to do drill and ceremonies by the book. Not the way you were taught, or the way you did it at your unit.

"The same thing with PT. We

teach it by FM 21-20. We also test by the same standards," Brown continued. "We have a lot of people come here and say, 'Oh yes, last time I took the PT test I maxed it.' We make them do the push-ups by FM 21-20, and they can only do 40 or 45. So we stress quality rather than quantity. Overall, our company will probably have a lower average on their PT scores, but we feel if everyone else was graded to the standard, we'd be exceptional.

"The big things that we push primarily are integrity and leading by example. And the thing I harp on constantly — my students will tell you — is I don't believe in saying, 'When I was in Vietnam . . . ,' or 'When I was your age . . .' or 'I used to. . . .' If you can't do it today, you can't do it. You can't live on yesterday's laurels.

"I tell them that this is not Lieutenant Brown's course in standards. Set the standard here that you're taking with you. Don't play games. If you won't have a white sidewall haircut and spit-shined boots after you leave, then don't do it here. We're trying to instill this: Set high

standards, adhere to them and make your troops adhere to them."

The soldierization training given the new MI officers is nothing new to them. They had all learned the basics at West Point, OCS or ROTC. But some have been away from the military environment for a while.

"We have some people in our class who have not been involved in ROTC for more than a year," explained student 2nd Lt. Margaret Hunt. "They're so far removed from the military way of doing things that I think the formations — though some people think they are senseless — and the guidance we receive from the TAC are necessary. Getting back into the swing of things is a big help.

"I just graduated from ROTC, so I haven't been that far away from things," she said. "But the last intense things I've had were at advanced camp last year. It was a real refresher to get out here and to get into this again. I know the people who were commissioned a year ago in the Reserve. All they've done since that time is spend a weekend a month, you know, and I think it's really a benefit for them too. So I think the TAC program is definitely very beneficial."

The TAC program and the training that has gone along with it has paid some added benefits beyond the soldierization of MI lieutenants. One benefit was a rise in academic grades.

"One of the things we were afraid of was that with all the extra requirements we were throwing on the students, academic grades would fall," Brown said. "But in fiscal 1982, 10 to 12 percent of each class exceeded class standards. So far this year I think the lowest we've had is 27 percent exceed course standards, and we've had as high as close to 40 percent exceeding standards.

"We've had a much lower recycle rate for academics. However, we're beginning to look at recycles for leadership, which in the past we'd never done. And, I think we're having fewer people fail the PT test, but we can't really substantiate that. Academically, we're finding out what I've preached all along: People give you exactly what you demand, nothing more, nothing less. If you demand excellence, they'll give you excellence."

According to Rhoden, excellence is exactly what the basic course students have been giving and will continue to give as they move into the mainstream of the Army. "It was interesting to see the transition, relatively speaking. Previous classes had a lot more free time, perhaps didn't have as much of a controlled environment as these folks do. It's really hard to describe unless you've been here before and afterward — the difference in the esprit, the professional attitude, the pride in being a commissioned officer, the pride in being a soldier, the pride in being in military intelligence. There are a lot of intangible things like that, along with empirical data, like grades. You see a different attitude among the lieutenants. We're very proud of our school and our lieutenants and it's reflected in them.

"Any lieutenant who comes out of here can stand toe-to-toe with his or her contemporaries in any branch and perform across the board in any kind of skill." □

THE RHYTHM OF THE CODE

Story and Photos by SFC Michael Brown

Students learn to copy good Morse code in an unusual classroom at Fort Devens, Mass. The 100-year-old code is still widely used, so there's a demand for people who can understand it.

THE silence engulfs you as you enter this unusual classroom. Each student sits in an individual booth, staring straight ahead at a blackboard with circles of red, blue and green. There aren't even the typical sounds of students squirming in or adjusting their seats for more comfort.

As the students listen intently to the sounds in their headsets, their fingers move quickly on keyboards built into each console. There is no noise as they strike numerals and letters.

Even in the silence, some students are in almost constant motion. Some bob their heads up and down, some gently rock their bodies back and forth, and others soundlessly tap their feet on the floor. They are all trying to get the rhythm — the rhythm of copying good code — Morse code.

"When you are sitting at the console with the headphones on, you don't think about anything," said PFC Wendy Dunn, one of the students. "You don't even think about the code you're hearing. If you think about it, you start to listen to it and lose your rhythm — your concentration.

"It has to be automatic. Sometimes when you think your mind has been wandering around in space, you bring it back to the room and discover that you've been copying good code."

Dunn and her classmates are students in the Morse Code Division of the Intelligence School at Fort Devens, Mass. After completing this part of the course, they receive further training as either Morse interceptors (05H) or emitter identifier/locator specialists (05D). About 1,200 soldiers were trained in Morse code in 1982. Class size averaged between 50 and 60 students.

"Copying code is a primary skill for these two MOSs," said SFC Albert Grayson, chief instructor in the Basic Morse Branch. "If they can't master this skill, then they can't go on in their training.

"We take them from not even knowing the letter and numerals of Morse code all the way up to being able to copy 20 groups per minute. A group consists of five characters of numerals or letters."

The students learn to copy good code at computer-run individual sta-

tions. The computer selects and transmits the characters, and records the students' responses. It also advances the students as they complete each step of the four-phase course.

During the first, or alpha, phase, the students familiarize themselves with the keyboard. A series of colored circles on the board corresponds to the keyboard. When the computer lights a circle, the student must strike the correct key before the light will be turned off and the next circle lit. No audio signal is sent. The circles are color-coded to teach students which finger to use for the various keys.

The students also learn the format for receiving Morse code during this phase. They receive five character lights, known as a group, followed by another light that signals to use the space bar. After the fifth group they receive two space bar signals and following the 10th group, the carriage return light comes on.

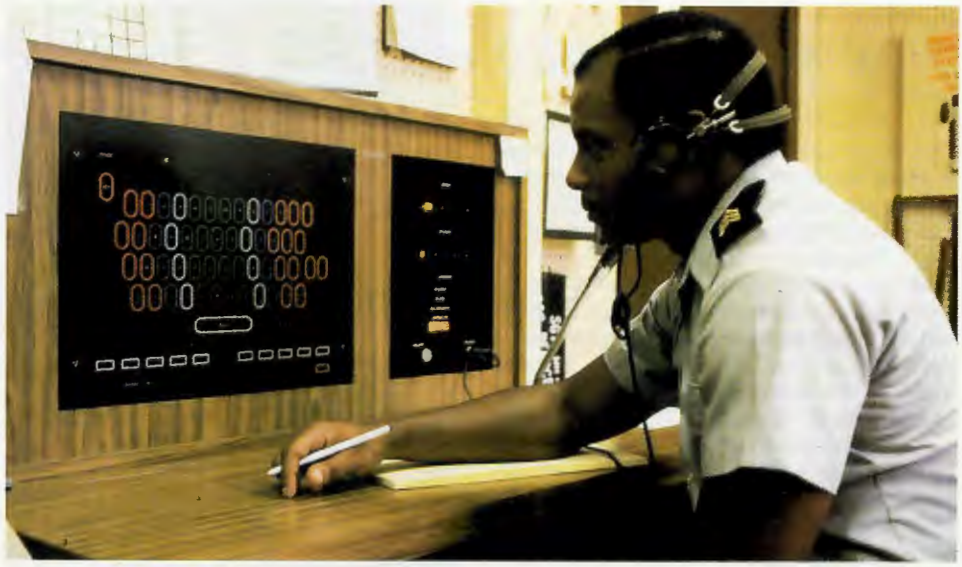
Once the pupils master the position of each letter and numeral and the reception format, they advance to the bravo phase. This phase teaches them the audio signal for each Morse code character.

The computer sends the sound for a character. Then the student has 1.5 seconds to strike the proper key. If the student hits the wrong key or fails to press any key, the light on the console board for the proper key comes on. It remains on until the proper key is pressed.

Students beat the light when they hit the correct key within the 1.5 seconds. Once they consistently beat the light for the first group of six characters, they start automatically receiving three more characters. As soon as they master those nine, three more are added. This system continues until they have learned all 26 letters of the alphabet plus the 10 numbers.

Then they move into charlie phase, which puts it all together. All the characters are sent and the lights still come on. But the time between the code end and the light gets shorter. The next signal is sent only when the student hits the proper key.

Delta phase changes everything. The lights on the console board do not come on any longer. The next audio signal sounds whether the student strikes the proper key or not. By then, copying code in the proper format should be second nature.



Preceding page, Pvt. 1 William Lounsbery listens intently to the signals coming from his headset, trying to get the rhythm of the code. • Above, instructor Sgt. Fred Stewart monitors what his students are hearing and how they are responding.

Students start copying five groups per minute. As they progress, there is no signal that they moved up to the next speed level. The code just keeps coming faster and faster until it sounds like a steady stream of inseparable sounds to the untrained ear. This phase and this part of the course end when they can successfully copy 20 groups per minute.

During delta phase, students are taught not to guess. If they do not know what the signal stands for, they are to strike the period key.

"The periods tell an instructor that a student is having trouble remembering a specific signal as opposed to simply confusing two signals that sound very much alike," Grayson explained. "The periods show up on the diagnostic, which is one of the most important teaching tools instructors have at their disposal.

"The diagnostic is a computer printout of a block of copy that a student has received. A block consists of 50 groups of characters divided into five lines, based on the proper format. Directly below each line of code sent to the student will be a line showing the student's response. From what they see on the diagnostics, instructors can tell a lot about how their students are doing.

"If a student consistently strikes a period for a particular character, especially over a couple of days, the instructor knows he's having a problem deciphering it at that speed. Some pairs of letters sound very similar in code. For instance, 'uniform' is 'di-di-dah' and 'victor' is 'di-di-di-dah.' If a student was consistently switching these two letters, the instructor would have the computer send an extra amount of these letters until the student straightened it out.

"But sometimes the problem isn't in the copying of the code," Grayson continued. "It may be the student is doing something wrong physically. The computer is an aid, not a teacher. That's why you have to have the instructor. Only he can see a soldier is too tense and needs to relax or that his hands are positioned too high or low.

"Interpreting the results and determining the problems are two of the instructor's major jobs. But probably one of the most important jobs is motivating the students. We normally use the positive motivation first."

The positive motivation comes in a variety of forms. It may be just a pep talk by the instructor, telling the

student to keep plugging away. Or it may be encouraging a student to come in during the evening or on Saturday for some extra practice to build his confidence. Other incentives are early release from class during the day or even a day off in the middle of the week. An additional reward might be the chance to earn a three-day pass.

But there is always the negative motivation if the positive doesn't work. Sp4 Robert Jefferis knows about the negative motivation. "At the start of the delta phase, I was making a lot of errors. Then one day my instructor had a meeting with four or five of us for about an hour. He said that he was going to recommend to our first sergeant that we be retrained in another MOS if we didn't shape up. No way did I want that, so from that hour on, I had a reason to concentrate and get it right."

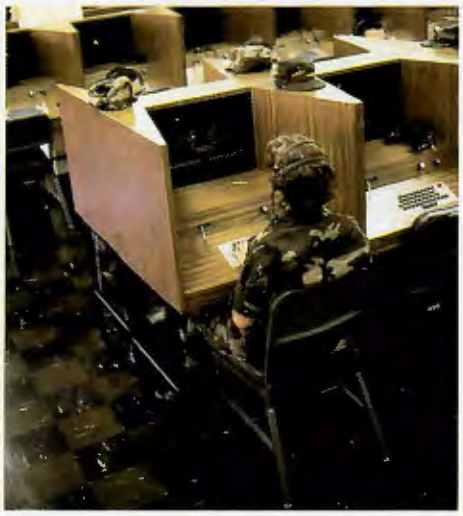
Other motivation includes mandatory remedial night and weekend training. This cuts into what little free time the students have. The final resort is probation. While the course is self-paced, charts show at what level a student should be at specific times. If a student falls below this level, he is given a set amount of time to reach the expectancy chart level.

"All the motivation efforts by the instructors are designed to get the students to concentrate harder and longer," Grayson explained. "Concentration is a lot like running. When you start running, you don't just start out at five miles. You start at one mile and build yourself up.

"Concentration is the same way. You start out for one hour then build yourself up until you can really concentrate for six hours at a time. We provide the encouragement to keep the students working at building up their concentration."

Concentration takes on added importance at the higher speeds, according to Grayson. When the students reach the level of 12 to 15 groups per minute, they must separate and type as many as 400 sounds in one minute. In fact, most students hit a wall at this level and it takes extra effort to break through. They normally breeze through the rest of the course.

The level of concentration needed to learn to copy code produces an unusual amount of stress. The monotony of listening to code six hours a day, five days a week for up to 14 weeks adds to it. Some of the students just can't cope.



Top, SSgt. Michael Yates, an instructor, and student PFC Celia Bauman examine the diagnostic of Bauman's latest block of Morse code. • Students learn to copy good code at individual stations.

"In 1982 we had an attrition rate of about 35 percent with 20 percent being academic and about 15 percent being administrative," said Maj. Montgomery Mathias, chief of the Morse Code Division. "The administrative rate has been two to three times more than that of the other courses here.

"We've determined that stress is one reason the rate is higher. Because of this, we started a class on stress reduction techniques. It's taught at the start of each cycle by behavioral science specialists on post."

They teach the students how to deal with stress when it happens. Their advice includes eating three good meals a day, getting involved with physical endeavors like sports and developing outside interests such as hobbies. They also teach the pupils not to relive their mistakes and how to breathe deeply and relax their muscles. The class seems to be helping some students.

"Now when things start getting rough," Jefferis said, "I'll stop and think to myself that I've done this before and can do it again. Then I'll take a deep breath, hold it for a few seconds, relax my muscles and continue."

Another way the school helps relieve the pressure is by breaking up the monotony of listening to the code. Classes on diverse subjects are spaced throughout the course. The subjects range from using a compass and map reading to security measures. One class that generates a lot of interest is on how Morse code fits into the big picture.

"During the class," Mathias said, "we tell the students that even though Morse code is more than 100 years old, it is still widely used throughout the world. While the United States has high-technology communications equipment, a lot of other countries don't. They do, however, have Morse equipment and systems, and use them quite frequently.

"Also, the countries that do possess more sophisticated communications gear might use Morse code to say what system they will be using to transmit.

"So you need someone there who can listen and understand Morse code, so we know what is being sent."

As long as this demand exists, this unusual classroom will be filled. And students will keep trying to get the rhythm — the rhythm of copying good code — Morse code. □

SPORTS STOP

Compiled by MSgt. Norman Oliver

PFC Michael Fine

Who You Callin' 'Sissy?'

FORT JACKSON, S.C. — Sgt. Ron Emmons once thought body building was for sissies. But then he tried it . . .

Emmons started body building in 1978 when he was stationed in Berlin. "I was playing basketball one evening when I saw some other MPs lifting weights," Emmons said. "I went back to dribbling the basketball and said to them, 'Only sissies lift weights.'

"They replied, 'Hey, you climb under here and try to lift this.' I slid under the barbell and lifted the weights." Impressed, the MPs invited Emmons to join them.

Emmons won his first body-building crown in 1979 when he competed in the Mr. Berlin contest. Since then he has taken top spot in the 1983 regional body building championship in Greenville, S.C., and a second place in the Mr. Augusta contest.

"I lift weights and exercise to tone my muscles and to build my body proportionally. It's like a sculptor working with clay," he said. "I am molding my body to perfection." — *Maj. Rich Kiernan*

Soldiers Finish JFK 50-Miler

BOONESBORO, Md. — If there's a 50-mile race around, soldiers will find a way to get to it and through it.

Among the 453 people competing in the 21st annual John F. Kennedy 50.2 Mile Hike-Run in November were four soldiers from North Carolina Army Reserve units and the 24th Infantry Division ultramarathon running team from Fort Stewart, Ga.

The North Carolina soldiers and their finishing times were: Lt. Col. Ross Leidy, 8 hours, 10 minutes; Lt. Col. Ron Fitzsimmons, 9 hours; Capt. Bill Bickel, 11 hours; and MSgt. Larry Weese, 14 hours.

The 24th Division soldiers and their times were: Maj. Fred Ledfors, 8:34:40; CSM William Garner, 9:30:26; 1st Lt. Gary McCollum, 10:32:54; and CWO Fidencio Perez, 11:01.

The runners and hikers trudged a trail that included parts of the Appalachian Trail and the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal towpath. "The scenery was inspiring as you make your way up the towpath through Harpers Ferry, W.Va., the village of Antietam and Snyder's Landing," Fitzsimmons said.

"I walked most of the course," said Weese, "and was very pleased to finish under the 14-hour time limit set by the race officials." — *Sp5 Jay Berube and Gene Sexton*

Marathoners Sweep Benning Run

FORT BENNING, Ga. — The Army Marathon Team swept to victory in the Infantry Center Marathon in January. The Army team captured first and second place in the men's and the team categories and first in the women's category. More than 1,000 runners took part in either the marathon or half-marathon race.

The 1984 Army team and individual places and times in the Infantry Center were:

Women: 1st Lt. Carey Hill, Fort Dix, N.J., 1, 3:13:00.

Men: 1st Lt. Donald Starck, Fort Ord, Calif., 1, 2:30:26; Capt. Terry Rauch (team coach), Fort Detrick, Md., 2, 2:31:04; SSgt. Richard Matta, Fort Bragg, N.C., 5, 2:36:48; Capt. Thomas Palguta, Redstone Army Arsenal, Ala., 6, 2:38:14; Sp4 Gerald Hutchinson, Europe, 7, 2:38:53; SFC Walter Mann, Fort Myer, Va., 8, 2:39:59; SSgt. Alberto Rivas, Europe, 11, 2:42:16; 2nd Lt. Sam Cox, Fort Sam Houston, Texas, 30, 2:56:53; 1st Lt. John Zizzi, Fort Bragg, N.C., 39, 3:00:16; and PFC Terry Emlet, Fort Ritchie, Md., 185, 4:01:00.

"My goal was to win this marathon," said top women's finisher Hill, "and second, to run an Olympic trials qualifying time of at least 2:51:16. I felt I could do both. I was on pace until the 16th mile. From there I fell off pace."

Hill said her running peaks during the spring and fall racing seasons and she will try to qualify for the Olympic Trials Marathon in the Boston Marathon.

"Boston is a do-or-die for me. If I run my qualifying time, I'll continue to train to get my best marathon performance ever in the Olympic trials."

Competition for the Olympics is tough. "I don't think I have much of a chance to make the team," she said. "But I do think by that time I'll be ready to make a personal record of my best marathon." — *Jim Allahand*

SOCCER EVANGELIST

Story and Photos by Sgt. Maj. Mike Mason

LT. COL. Billy Charlton is a soccer evangelist. He'd like to see every U.S. Army unit adopt soccer.

"You can't get me an NCO who can get 150 to 200 sprints out of a soldier and also get him to do four to six miles of running in the same 90 minutes. And then while he's doing all that, get that guy to make 200 decisions in 90 minutes," asserted Charlton. "That's what he's going to have to make on the soccer field. If you put all this together under pressure, you've got a well-honed unit."

Charlton, until he retired this past November, served as special assistant to the commander of the Recruiting Command. USAREC called him the Army's "Ambassador to Soccer." As such, he conducted soccer clinics in high schools and communities throughout the United States. He also coached the Army soccer team and led his teams to victory in the first two interservice soccer championships in 1981 and 1982. His 1983 team placed second to the Marines.

But to Charlton, winning isn't the most important thing about soccer. The importance of soccer is what comes from the playing of it, he explained. He sees a lot of benefits for individual soldiers and the Army as a whole. He sees soccer as a way to aid conditioning and teach battlefield skills.

"It's a big-muscle activity, it requires both aerobic and anaerobic training," Charlton said. "There's nothing wrong with jogging, but you don't jog on the battlefield — you sprint. If you don't, somebody's going to catch you with a round." Besides the sprints and extended running, a soccer player will tackle opponents an average of 45 times during a 90-minute game, Charlton added. Despite the physical contact, which Charlton feels promotes aggressiveness in soldiers, few injuries occur in soccer, he pointed out.

"The University of Washington did a survey of injuries in major sports. Soccer didn't even show up. First was football and second was wrestling.

"In 40 years, I've only seen three broken legs in soccer games, and that's the most serious injury I've seen. And I've been in or seen eight or nine or ten thousand games.

"I wish battalion commanders could get on to soccer and realize that men can play, women can play — all ages — and all that it takes is a pair of shorts, a T-shirt and shoes. The average battalion has about 720 people. With that many people, a battalion commander could have a league of 31 teams. He could split the league out into divisions, based on age and sex. If he doesn't have enough women in his battalion to form a division for them, he could form co-ed teams."

Charlton sees such leagues making physical fitness training more enjoyable. "If they started their own leagues, they could put a kid out there and see that he's running and enjoying it. When the coach says, 'All right. Come out, Private Smith,' Smith says, 'Why, coach? I haven't done my 150 to 200 sprints. I haven't run my four to six miles.' And they don't have to play 90-minute games. We do, but we're soccer athletes. They could play 30-minute games."

Charlton also sees leagues as a way to enhance esprit. "You'll find if you have 1st platoon against 2nd platoon, you'll find 1st platoon sneaking off to find a flat piece of ground someplace to practice, because they're not going to let 2nd platoon beat them. And 2nd platoon is going to do the same thing. It's a game that everybody can play. Everybody can have fun with it."

Charlton also sees soccer as a way to teach battlefield tactics. "I recently gave a briefing where I drew 157 parallels between AirLand Battle 2000 and soccer. We have a tendency in this nation to think of warfare like a football game. What we have is a line of scrimmage. On one side the good

guys, and the bad guys are on the other side. The line of scrimmage actually moves in an attrition-like fashion up and down the field. It's a ground-gaining or ground-defending kind of a sport with specialists for both offense and defense. There are periods of time in which there's great lethality. Everyone on the battlefield has a specific detailed job that takes up all his time and effort. There's probably no one on the field who has a complete picture of everything that is going on all the time.

"What we want to think of for warfare in the year 2000 is more like soccer. There's going to be a lot of movement all over the field all the time. There won't be periods of great lethality followed by lulls while you figure out what to do next.

"There will be deep strikes ranging far into the enemy rear. Everyone will play offense and defense based upon their assessment of the flow of the battle at the time. You know, when you watch a soccer game, there are some players who are standing around, looking like they're not doing anything.

"What they're actually doing is watching the ebb and flow of the battle so as to insert themselves at the proper time and place to carry forth that battle in the direction in which they want it to go. In AirLand Battle 2000 we need to orient on the ball — in this case the enemy — and not be structured in a restrictive way on the battlefield with a lot of time lines and phase lines which inhibit the fluidity of the battle."

Charlton sees parallels not only between soccer and overall strategy, but also between soccer and tactical maneuvers.

"On the battlefield you have a penetration. In soccer you have a penetration. On the battlefield you have an envelopment. In soccer we call it an overlap, but it's the same — part of your force moves around them. In soccer you hold your opponent in place while your backfield goes around.

"Coaching soccer tactics and battlefield tactics are much the same. In battle you have reserves and must commit those reserves when it is tactically right. In soccer you have reserves and must commit your reserves when it is tactically right. I stand on the sideline and watch what is happening and what the other coach in doing. I have to react appropriately. If the opposing coach throws in a speedster on me, I have to counter that."

Charlton admits that his ideas meet some resistance, as most Americans don't understand soccer very well. The sport is catching on, however.

"When I played the game, it was with Hungarians, Czechoslovakians, Ukrainians, Scotsmen and Englishmen. Now it's all over the country. There are more college varsity soccer teams in the country than football teams. We even now have 300,000 Special Olympians playing soccer. These kids, because of their handicaps, could never play sports before. Soccer has become the No. 1 sport in YMCA. It has displaced basketball. Professional soccer has not done very well in this country. But the soccer person is not looking to make it to the big leagues. He enjoys it because it's a fun game and it's a family activity."

Some of those who have listened to Charlton's soccer evangelism have learned something, though. During one of his clinics, a battalion commander heard what the coach had to say and brought his staff, commanders and senior NCOs to hear Charlton's pitch.

"I asked them if they all thought they were in pretty good shape," Charlton recalled. "They all said, 'Sure!' So I invited them to have a workout with my team." Charlton put his visitors through what he called a modest pre-practice workout. "In 15 minutes their tongues were on the ground.

"I challenge any commander to take 18 soldiers who have maxed the PT test and take two weeks to train them any way he wants. I'll take 18 soccer players and train them my way and then we'll go head-to-head in any physical contest and we'll bury them. My soldiers will be more agile, they'll be faster, have more endurance and they'll have a better concept of battle." □

Lt. Col. Billy Charlton, talking to members of his third Army soccer team (facing page), sees soccer as good military training.

SHAPING THE EARTH

Story and Photos by Maj. Keith Schneider

Students who want to pass this course at Fort Leonard Wood, Mo., have to "make the grade" in more ways than one. And piloting a 24-ton monster is a challenge when they've never driven anything larger than the family car.

THE official name is Training Area 244. Most call it "The Million Dollar Hole." For years the earth's surface there has been rearranged almost daily. It has been scraped, graded, bulldozed and scooped. It has been dug up and refilled continually. Some of the soil there has traveled thousands of miles without moving more than a few hundred feet away.

TA 244 is at Fort Leonard Wood, Mo. The site is operated by the 4th Battalion, 4th Training Brigade, which teaches five different MOS courses to soldiers in advanced individual training. They are: 62E, heavy construction equipment operator; 62F, lifting and loading equipment operator; 62G, quarrying specialist; 62H, concrete and asphalt equipment operator; and 62J, general construction equipment operator. The courses run from six to eight weeks.

Prior to starting the MOS courses, soldiers must complete two weeks of combat engineer training. These classes cover hands-on training ranging from wire obstacles and engineer hand tools to knots and riggings and demolitions. It also includes a tactical field exercise designed to introduce the soldier to a tactical environment and reinforce many of the subjects taught in CET.

The Million Dollar Hole nickname stems primarily from the value of the engineer equipment used in the 62E course. In this seven-week course soldiers learn the basic skills required to maintain and operate crawler tractors, scoop loaders, wheeled tractors with scrapers, and graders.

Airmen and Marines also attend the 62E course, receiving training on the crawler tractor, scoop loader and grader. Wheeled tractor training is given only to soldiers. The training staff is augmented with Air Force and Marine instructors.

This melting-pot approach often leads to rivalries and good-natured kidding. Still, a feeling of mutual respect is evident. "We tease each other, but it doesn't get anybody down," said Pvt. 2 Michael G. Scheibel. "They ask us about our training and we ask them about theirs. We are all in the military and we learn from each other."

"We all get along well," said Marine PFC Kenneth L. Sampsell. "Army students ask me what being a Marine is like and about the training we go through. They respect us."

"I haven't had any problems with the other services," said Air Force Airman 1st Class Steven W. Gilreath. "There is some good-natured teasing, but it isn't intended to upset anyone."

"We kid each other, but I haven't heard any name-calling or anything degrading," said Pvt. 1 Richard L. Molden. "We learn together. That's the way it would be on the battlefield, all of us in there together."

While rivalries sometimes develop, training is still the name of the game. It is not uncommon to see an Air Force or Marine instructor assisting an Army student. "It doesn't bother me if an Air Force instructor is up there teaching me," said Scheibel. "He's the instructor and he knows what I need to learn in order to operate the equipment."

"I really haven't witnessed any problems with training interservice students," said SFC Henry T. Edmon, phase chief for end-of-course testing. "They do tease each other and there is friendly competition among them to see which group does a better job or cleans their equipment the best." However, when the equipment starts to roll, everyone treats it as serious business.

During FY 84 about 1,475 soldiers, 600 Marines and 500 airmen will receive 62E training. Students spend six weeks learning to operate and pull

all phases of operator maintenance on the four pieces of construction equipment. They take an end-of-course test in the seventh week.

The crawler tractor portion of the course runs for two weeks. Students learn to operate D7E and D7F dozers. These 24-ton giants present quite a challenge to someone who has never driven anything larger than the family car. The phase begins with 9½ hours devoted to introduction, grade-working principles and before-operation servicing. The trainees then move into starting, stopping and basic maneuvers under the watchful eyes of instructors.

Once these techniques are mastered, trainees progress into bulldozing procedures. They learn operations such as cutting, stockpiling, filling, leveling and V-ditch construction. During these phases the student spends 34 hours at the dozer's controls alone as instructors move about the area watching and making corrections.

Learning to run the bulldozer was Molden's favorite part of the course. "It's what I have wanted to do most of my life," he said. His father's a heavy construction equipment operator. "I grew up around it. I'd see my father out on projects and wanted to do it myself someday."

Students train one week on the scoop loader, which weighs about 13 tons and has a 5-ton capacity. Training, which includes 20 hours actually operating the scoop, focuses mainly on loading, excavating and backfilling. The loader can also be used for simple dozing operations.

Top, after a week on the wheeled tractor, trainees can cut and spread within 3 inches of set grade levels with the 43-ton giant. • Above, the D7E dozer requires the total attention of Airman Brian D. Kidd.

The wheeled tractor phase runs for one week. The largest piece of construction equipment used in the course, the wheeled tractor with scraper is 55 feet long, weighs about 43 tons and can haul over 20 tons.

Trainees spend 20 hours operating this rumbling earth mover, working in pairs. While one drives the tractor, the other rides along as an observer. Instructors use arm and hand signals to convey instructions to the operator.

Students receive intensive training on cutting, hauling and filling operations. These massive machines can remove and spread thin layers of dirt and trainees are required to cut and spread within three inches of set grade levels.

The grader phase of the course runs for two weeks. They spend 45 hours learning scarifying, leveling and V-ditch operations. Scarifying is using heavy steel prongs, rather than a blade, to break up the surface.

The increased operator time in this phase is designed to fine-tune the trainee's skills. In the other phases, the training focuses on cutting and filling operations. While the grader can perform those operations, it is also used to apply finishing touches to a construction project. The intensive training in this phase teaches the student how to do the fine work with the grader.

"The hardest part of the course for me was learning to run the grader," said Sampsell. "There are a lot of controls on it."

"I enjoyed the road grader phase of the course the most," said Scheibel. "You have to be a good operator to properly use a grader. It takes a lot of experience. Also, it gives me a sense of power to shape the ground with a machine."

In the seventh week, students are allowed 24 hours to complete the end-of-course test. They must qualify on each of the four pieces of equipment to graduate. Instructors select a task and the trainee must meet the phase standard. Those receiving a no-go are given remedial training and allowed two retests. Students with three failures are referred to their units. The commander then decides whether the trainee should be recycled or trained in another MOS.

The goal of the 62E course is to train the soldier to Soldier's Manual standards. The course teaches the basic skills and provides the base for further development. Once assigned to a unit, the soldier is expected to improve those skills through experience and unit training.

However, soldiers graduating from the 62E course leave with more than just the skills needed to be a heavy construction equipment operator. They leave with an understanding of what their counterparts in the Air Force and Marine Corps are doing. They also leave knowing they have made their mark on a legend — the Million Dollar Hole. □

LOWERING THE ODDS

Faith Faircloth

ABOUT 575 soldiers die in accidents each year. That's more than a full-strength field artillery battalion. Accidents disable another 10,000 soldiers, or the equivalent of four mechanized brigades.

In addition to the loss of life and limb, equipment lost in accidents carries a big price tag. Army accidents alone cost more than $180 million in FY 83. That much money could put 79 M-1 tanks in the field or 17 AH-64 attack helicopters on the flight line.

Accidents are bound to happen when nearly a million soldiers fly helicopters, drive trucks and jeeps, and use machinery and weapons every day. But the Army Safety Center at Fort Rucker, Ala., is lowering the odds.

Using data from 400 aircraft and 1,700 ground accident reports received each month, the center's safety specialists determine the cause of most accidents. But determining the cause of accidents is only part of their job.

"We're here for the purpose of preventing accidents," said Col. Joseph P. Koehler, commander of the center. "A lot of people used to look on us as accountants, punching a computer button and coming up with how many airplanes crashed and how many jeeps rolled over, but that's only one side of it. More important, we tell them why accidents happened and what they can do to prevent the same kind of accidents."

Major commands can get this information whenever they need it by picking up the telephone. Every Army MACOM has telephone access to the center's computer and can get accident information almost instantly.

The center doesn't rely wholly on field reports for the information stored in its computer banks, though. When an accident involves loss of life or damage of more than $500,000, the center sends out a team of investigators. This program began about five years ago for aircraft accidents. It proved so successful that, in October 1982, the center began investigating stateside ground accidents that met the same criteria.

Although it's too soon to document the success of the ground accident investigation program, the aircraft investigation results have a proven track record. "It wasn't that many years ago that 54 Army aircraft crashed for every 100,000 hours of flying time," Koehler said. "This is now down to two or three per 100,000 hours.

"The thing that gets everyone's attention is that 80 percent of the accidents involved human error. And when you eliminate errors made by personnel other than the aircraft crew, you're talking nearly 70 percent pilot error. So it takes commanders saying, 'Fellas, you've just got to do it the way you were trained.' "

The program's success stems from objective, professional accident investigations, according to Lt. Col. Irvin L. Hutton, chief of the investigation division. "By being able to accurately identify the causes, we've been able to reduce recurrences."

Hutton explained that the center's investigating teams are ready to go anywhere in the world on a moment's notice. The teams are made up of a major, who heads the team, a civilian safety specialist and a warrant officer. "We must respond within two hours after we're notified of an accident. Team members carry radio telepagers with them everywhere. If they're having dinner with their wives when a call comes, they have to leave and be on the plane in two hours."

The center has two airplanes at their disposal. "Sometimes we arrive at an aircraft accident site as soon as local authorities," Hutton said.

He added that if the weather is bad or the mission is overseas, the teams take the quickest commercial transportation. "It's important that we get there fast," he said. "We want the wreckage as intact as possible. In some cases wreckage must be removed from highways, and we want to get there before that happens."

The officer heading the investigation has complete responsibility to Department of the Army for the investigation and accident report. The team's investigation takes precedence over other local investigations, but the safety center team cooperates and may share information with local investigators, according to Hutton.

The teams gather information from a variety of sources. "They will normally interview survivors, witnesses, the maintenance officer for that particular type equipment and, possibly, a weather officer from the local Air Force detachment," Hutton said.

Hutton explained that their investigations are for the purpose of accident prevention only. "We don't do the investigations to place blame on anyone, although that's sometimes necessary to come up with remedial measures. Our completed investiga-

tions are to be used for accident prevention purposes only."

He added that even though their investigations are exempt from judicial processes, they've been called into court a couple of times. "A time or two the next of kin of an accident victim wanted to sue the Army or the manufacturer of the aircraft," he said. "But, we've successfully defended our position."

When the teams are in the field, they have the internal resources of the center at their disposal. "If they need an aeronautical engineer, an airplane systems specialist, or a psychologist, we send them out to assist in the investigation," Hutton said.

The center also has direct contact with all the Army agencies responsible for developing, purchasing and maintaining the aircraft. "These agencies are ready to assist in our investigations," Hutton said. "We also have arrangements with almost every Army laboratory to conduct what we call a 'tear-down analysis' to determine if there was mechanical failure and, if so, why."

The center is in constant contact and requires a report within hours after the team arrives at the scene. "If the accident was caused by a material failure, they can probably determine that within a few hours," Hutton said. "And if that material failure could affect the rest of the Army fleet, we can have Army authorities ground any aircraft that might be involved."

Hutton explained that while the center's commander has limited authority to ground aircraft, he does have direct access to the highest Army levels. All it takes is a telephone call for the fleet to be grounded in a few hours.

When the field investigation is complete, normally in five to seven days, the team returns to the center to write its final report. The report is reviewed and analyzed by the center's staff. Detailed analysis and documentary proof of exactly what happened, along with the center's recommendations for avoiding a repeat, are sent to the responsible command.

"In the case of material failure, sometimes there's nothing the field can do," Hutton said. "We take care of that from here." He said the center's systems management directorate gets in touch with the people responsible for designing or maintaining the equipment. "We send them a report of our findings and have them tell us what corrections they're going to make."

Although still in its infancy, the ground accident investigation program will result in a similar decline in accidents, Koehler predicted. He noted that while more than half the soldiers killed each year die in private automobile accidents, these will not be included in the program. "We feel these are adequately investigated by civilian or military police," he said.

The ground program started with investigations limited to Forces Command and a six-month test for the Army National Guard. "Because of the things we were finding out about material and maintenance deficiencies and human error," Koehler said, "the decision was made to go Army-wide within the states.

"Obviously, this requires more people than the five teams I have," Koehler said. "We're in the process of getting 15 more investigators. These teams will not be aviation oriented."

The center's educational division graduates more than 1,000 qualified safety personnel each year. It has a new course to train the teams in ground accident investigations.

"The safety center has always been made up of aviators," Koehler said. "Aviation safety was our sole mission until 1978, when it was decided that we look at safety throughout the Army. But it was 1982 before we actually began investigating ground accidents."

He added that although they reviewed ground accident reports, most had too little detail for a good analysis. "The best way is to have your own people do a detailed investigation. "Until then, you don't really know what happened," he said.

He cited as an example the number of jeep rollovers on curved roads that were blamed on excessive speed. "Investigation showed that the wheel brake cylinders were reversed on many of the jeeps," Koehler said. "The front and rear wheel brake cylinders can be interchanged. The only difference between the two is one digit of the federal stock number."

He added one post checked its jeeps and found about a third had the front wheel cylinders on the back and the back on the front. "If you have the smaller brake cylinder on the front, you get front braking before rear braking," he said, "and this was contributing to the accidents."

As a result of their findings, the center suggested to the Tank and Automotive Command that brake cylinders be color-coded so mechanics could tell front from rear.

Recommendations in design and operation of equipment and training of personnel using the equipment are routinely prepared by the center and sent to commanders, agencies and manufacturers.

This information is also sent to the field by way of safety promotional material. The center produces two periodicals: *Flight Facts* for aviation and *Counter Measure* for general safety. It also produces radio and television spots, motion pictures, posters, pamphlets and technical reports.

"I am convinced that by investigating ground accidents, we're going to be able to reduce the loss of life and equipment," Koehler said. "We could have gone for years and never discovered that mechanics were putting brake cylinders on wrong."

In addition to aircraft and ground accidents, the center may soon be looking into family safety. "We've been asked," Koehler said. "We think it's important to do the same thing for family members that we do for everyone else."

He said accident reports on family members could reveal safety hazards in housing areas and even lead into examination of hazardous toys and toxic paints.

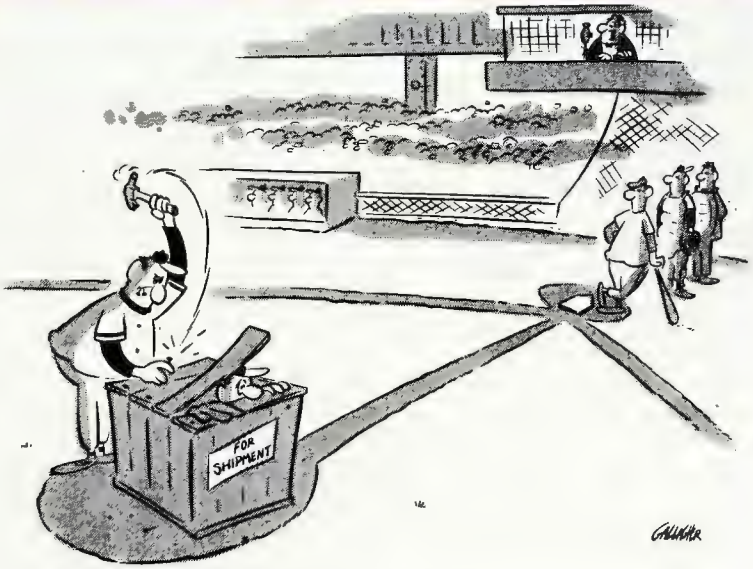
Whatever area the safety center is asked to work in, its mission remains the same: to save lives and equipment. And, although the safety center is not a large organization in terms of size, Koehler said, "We're enormous in terms of what we do." □

THE LIGHTER SIDE

Compiled by Steve Hara

"It must have been someone I drank!"

For answers, see page 55



"... And it looks like that's going to be all for Shelby ..."

"I don't care if they do blow off. From now on, put them under the wiper blades."

WHAT'S NEW

Compiled by SFC Michael Brown

Sales Record Set

THE reports are in: Army commissaries set a new record for sales during fiscal 1983. The commissaries had gross sales exceeding $1.55 billion, according to Troop Support Agency officials.

The FY 83 sales were more than $54 million or 3.6 percent higher than total sales in FY 82.

Uniform management practices and an aggressive consumer awareness program are two of the reasons cited by officials for the increase in sales in the Army's 179 commissaries and annexes.

The awareness program encourages customers to take advantage of voluntary price reductions and to use vendor coupons. Commissary patrons used more than 28 million coupons in FY 83 for a savings of more than $9 million.

These coupons also generated funds for the Troop Support Agency. Manufacturers pay a handling fee to stores that redeem coupons. More than $1.7 million in handling fees was paid to TSA in FY 83. Another way funds are raised for the Army commissary system is through the 5 percent surcharge added to a customer's total purchases. The surcharges collected in FY 83 totaled $64.6 million, according to officials.

The money from surcharges is used for construction and improvement of facilities, utility costs, and purchase and repair of equipment.

Mail-In Waste Tips

NOW you have two ways to report suspected cases of waste, fraud or abuse to the Department of Defense inspector general. You can call or write.

Calls can be made to the "Defense Hotline" each workday between 8 a.m. and 5:30 p.m. The toll-free number is (800) 424-9098; the AUTOVON number is 223-5080; and in the National Capital Region, the number is 693-5080. Written tips should be sent to: Defense Hotline, the Pentagon, Washington, D.C. 20301.

New Aviation Courses

TWO new courses for aviation branch officers will begin during June and July at Fort Rucker, Ala. A 16-week captains' course starts in June and an eight-week lieutenants' course begins in July.

The first two classes of each course will be smaller than those once they are in full swing. These classes are shakedown classes to fine-tune the program of instruction, according to aviation branch school officials.

The school will teach lieutenants the basics of leadership, how to fly and how to employ aviation in a combat environment. After serving in combat aviation units, the aviators will be brought back to Fort Rucker to learn how to employ larger aviation organizations in combat.

Armed Forces Day 84

ARMED Forces Day 1984 is May 19. This year's theme is "Meeting the Challenge." Local, regional and national observances are scheduled throughout the week preceding May 19. The Defense Department has nine regional observances scheduled: Washington, D.C.; Atlanta; Chicago; Denver; New York City; San Francisco; Seattle; San Antonio, Texas; and Torrance, Calif.

Repay Student Loans

SOLDIERS in some 40 MOSs can still have the military pay back their student loans, officials report.

Soldiers can apply for Departments of Defense and Army Loan Repayment Program after completing one year of service. For each year of service completed, up to three years, the Army will repay $1,500 or one-third of the principal — whichever is greater — on a soldier's student loan. Total Army repayments will not exceed 100 percent of the loan principal.

To qualify for the loan repayment, a soldier must:

- Be a high school graduate.
- Have enlisted (or entered the Delayed Enlistment Program) between Dec. 1, 1980, and Sept. 30, 1981; Oct. 1, 1982, and Sept. 30, 1983; or Oct. 1, 1983, and Sept. 30, 1984.
- Have scored 50 or higher on the Armed Forces Qualification Test.
- Have incurred a guaranteed student loan, national direct student loan, or federally insured student loan after Oct. 1, 1975, but before they enlisted.

Finally, soldiers must have entered and remained in an MOS that qualifies for loan repayments. The current list includes many combat arms skills. Local education centers have lists of eligible MOSs and other information, officials said.

(More What's New on pages 1 and 2)

CEV Simulator Test

A VIDEODISC simulator for combat engineer vehicles trains gunners on the use of the vehicle's weapons system without the need for large firing ranges. The simulator is being tested by the Engineer School at Fort Belvoir, Va.

The simulator consists of a videodisc player, a television and a gunner's firing controls for the vehicle's demolition gun.

The gunner sits at the control console and peers through a gun sight similar to some arcade video games. The firing controls permit vertical and lateral movement of the gunsight. The program videodisc voice describes the specific target.

The target's approximate range is given and the gunner uses a rangefinder to line up the sight on target. Sometimes incorrect target ranges are given, so the gunner must immediately compensate for this.

After the firing sequence, the machine displays the gunner's score. It also tells the gunner the errors he made, such as using too many rounds or taking too much time to fire.

If the tests prove successful, CEV-equipped units will conduct gunnery practice on the videodisc trainer and fire their qualifying test using a subcaliber device on the main gun. This will result in a large savings for the Army, according to a school official.

One round of the full caliber main gun ammunition costs about $630. A CEV crew needs about 92 rounds per year to qualify and maintain proficiency at an annual cost of $57,960.

The subcaliber device uses ammunition which only costs about $10 per round for a total of $9,200 per year. Plus, the simulator only costs about $25,000.

The Army is considering buying some 72 videodisc trainers, according to the school official.

Save More on Post

YOU can save 26 percent on the cost of your groceries by shopping in the commissary instead of the local food store.

That's the finding of a price comparison survey by private researchers last year.

The survey compared five stateside Army commissaries with nearby supermarkets. Eighty-one items from the grocery, meat and produce departments were used in the comparison of identical brands, grades, sizes and types of containers.

SF Training Opened

SOLDIERS with any MOS may now apply for Special Forces training due to a change in Army regulations. All other selection criteria still apply.

Before, only soldiers with one of six feeder MOSs could apply for the training.

CHAMPUS Changes

THERE have been some recent changes in the amount active duty families must pay under CHAMPUS and the issue of nonavailability statements.

The daily amount active duty families pay for inpatient care in civilian hospitals under CHAMPUS went up from $6.55 to $6.80. The new rate took effect on Jan. 1.

The changes in the rules on nonavailability statements affect how long the statements are valid.

As before, military families must get an NAS before using civilian hospitals for non-emergency care. But now, you must be admitted to the hospital within 30 days after the statement is issued. Otherwise, you have to get another one.

Also, after you're released from the hospital, your NAS is good for the same medical condition for 15 more days. If you have to be readmitted after 15 days, you need another statement.

In another rule change, nonavailability statements will no longer be issued automatically for maternity care when the mother lives on the border of the military hospital's health zone. Once the NAS is issued, it will be good from the time the mother starts prenatal care until six weeks after delivery. If the newborn stays in the hospital after the mother is released, a separate statement is not needed, unless the stay is longer than 15 days. A separate NAS is not needed if the newborn is in an intensive care unit.

For more information, call the health benefits advisor at the nearest military hospital.

7th Goes Light

THE Army plans to convert the 7th Infantry Division at Fort Ord, Calif., to a light division and to form a new light infantry division, Army Secretary John O. Marsh Jr. announced recently.

Light divisions will have a strength of about 10,000 soldiers, compared with the 14,000 to 17,000 found in other divisions. About half the soldiers in light divisions will be combat infantrymen, a much higher percentage than that in other divisions.

This smaller division, which can be deployed in fewer than 500 C-141 sorties, will permit rapid deployment of Army forces without sacrificing fighting strength. The improved deployability of light divisions, combined with their ability to operate across a broad range of tactical conditions, will increase the deterrent value of Army forces and increase their flexibility, officials said.

Answers to The Lighter Side (Page 53)

1. Feathers on bow; 2. Knife handle; 3. Hammer on Indian's rifle; 4. Second Indian's feather; 5. Number of tassels on second Indian's pants; 6. Trapper's hair; 7. Weeds in background; 8. Trading post sign; 9. Staff; 10. Fold in bedroll.

DATELINE: EXCELLENCE

Compiled by Steve Hara

Silver Star and DFC Are First Reported Grenadian Valor Awards

THE Silver Star has been presented to **Sgt. Stephen G. Trujillo,** a medic from Fort Lewis, Wash., who was cited for valor on Oct. 27, 1983, while on a helicopter assault mission with the 2nd Ranger Battalion, 75th Infantry, during combat operations in Grenada. While under enemy fire, Trujillo dashed across open ground several times to rescue and treat soldiers injured and wounded in a helicopter crash. President Reagan praised him in the January State of the Union speech. Trujillo said, "I am a soldier and I do what I'm told to do. I just did my job."

Capt. Keith J. Lucas has been awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross posthumously for valor during first-day combat operations in Grenada. He was a platoon leader in the 158th Aviation Battalion, 101st Airborne Division (Air Assault). Leading his helicopter platoon in an assault Oct. 25, Lucas was mortally wounded by ground fire. He maintained control of his damaged aircraft, landed and safely discharged those aboard before succumbing.

Army's Top Laboratories of 1983 Named

THE Electronics Technology and Devices Laboratory, Fort Monmouth, N.J., is the Army's Lab of the Year for 1983. **The Night Vision and Electro-Optics Lab** was named the best for the year in the Electronics Research and Development Command. **The Army Natick (Mass.) Research and Development Center** won the Most Improved Army Laboratory Award (more on Natick on page 18).

The Best at Getting You In and Keeping You There

SFC Patrick J. Yasenak of Walla Walla, Wash., is the Recruiting Command's Regular Army Recruiter of the Year. Other winners in the annual program are **SFC David L. Hayes** of Boulder, Colo., top Reserve recruiter; **Rodger N. Ingram** of Gulfport, Miss., top civilian recruiter; **MSgt. Steven T. Hodgkins** of Fort Meade, Md., top retention NCO; **Tansill Tamaddon** of Richmond, Va., USAREC civilian employee of the year; **SFC Phillip York** of Westminster, Colo., top new recruiter; **SFC Donald R. Berger** of Albuquerque, N.M., top nurse recruiter; and **SSgt. Patricia L. Connell** of St. Louis, soldier of the year. Retention NCO of the Year for 1983 in the Training and Doctrine Command is **SFC Eugene J. Ward** of Fort McClellan, Ala. . . . Top re-up NCO in Sixth U.S. Army is **SSgt. Ben Lucas** of Petaluma, Calif., who retained every eligible soldier in his unit.

Soldier, NCO of the Year Contest Winners Abound

SP5 Gloria Jeter is Soldier of the Year at the Ordnance Center and School, Aberdeen Proving Ground, Md. . . . **PFC Cathy P. Sprague** of the 309th Transportation Company is top soldier at Fort Story, Va., and nearby at Fort Eustis, Va., the honor was captured by **Sp4 Todd M. Lamphere**. . . . **Sp6 Herb Al Pryor** of Fort Sill, Okla., is the first Soldier of the Year to be named by the Corps of Engineers Facilities Engineering Support Agency. . . . **Sp4 Thaddeus Shore** of the 68th Medical Group is Soldier of the Year in the 3rd Support Command, based in Frankfurt, West Germany.

Sp5 Mark A. Hayward, a guitarist with the Continental Army Band, is top soldier at Fort Monroe, Va., for FY 83, while NCO honors at the post went to **SFC Ardella M. Atkinson** of TRADOC headquarters. . . . **SFC Craig Gower**, a platoon sergeant in the 325th Infantry, is NCO of the Year in the 5th Support Command and Southern European Task Force.

Mortuary Soldiers Honored for Work with Beirut Bombing Victims

ELEVEN soldiers in Germany were awarded medals recently and cited for outstanding support to identification efforts of victims of the October 1983 terrorist bombing of U.S. Marine headquarters in Beirut. The eleven ran their section around the clock for nearly three weeks.

Sgt. Robert Aldrich, NCOIC, received the Defense Meritorious Service Medal. The Army Commendation Medal went to **Capt. Robert B. Steward; Sgts. Glorious A. Bogan, Kevin W. Huffman, Samuel E. Hutchinson** and **Delvia V. Ibrahim; Sp4s Steve A. Kramer** and **Randall W. Martin;** and **PFC Humberto Barrowinness. Sp4 Robert C. McLaughlin** and **PFC Scott L. Whitehead** received Army Achievement medals.

☆ U.S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE: 1984—421-674/401

This shoe will walk hundreds of miles at the Natick Research and Development Center to see if it's good enough for the soldier. March on to page 18 for more.

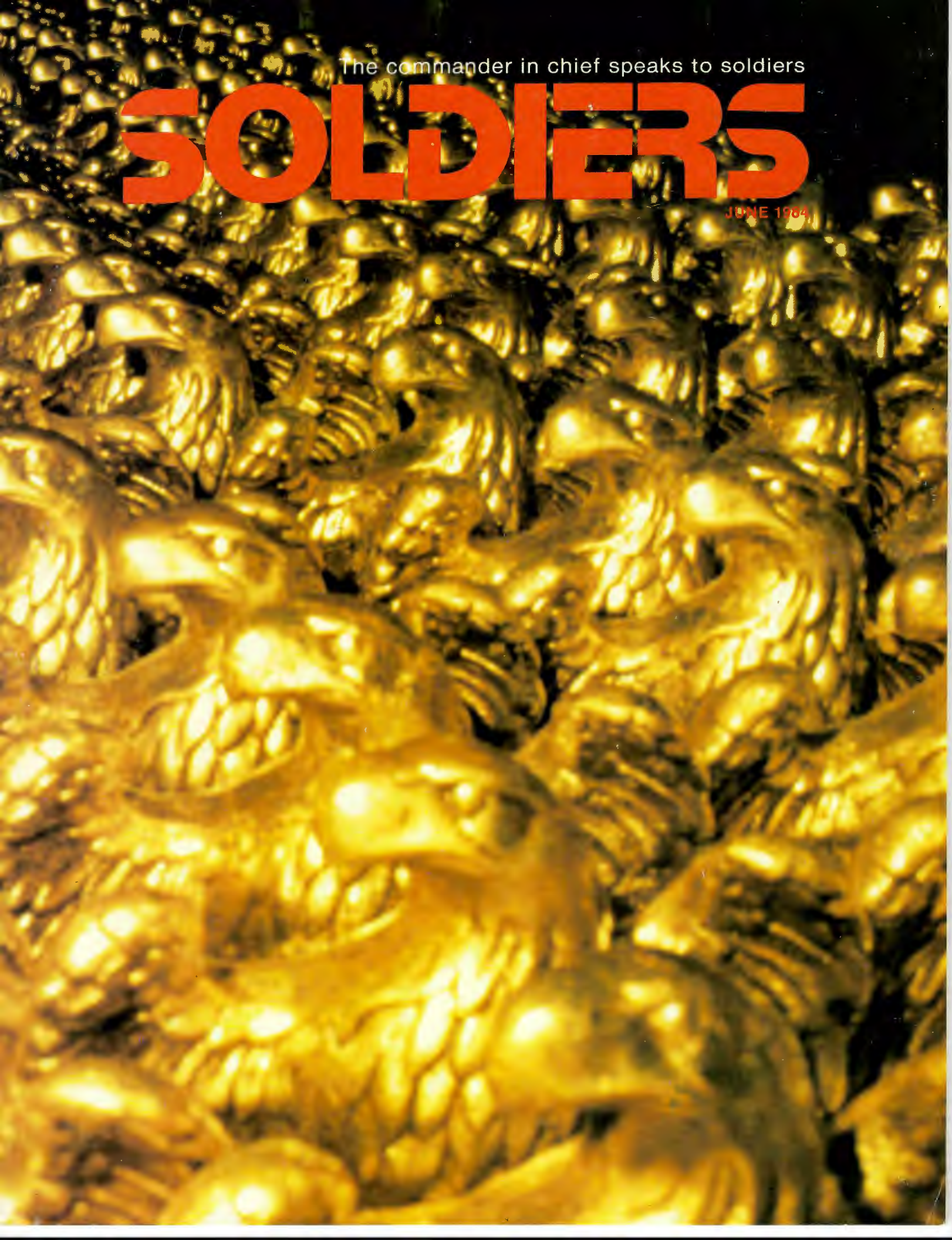
IN MEMORY OF FRIENDS DEPARTED

-MAY 28, 1984

The commander in chief speaks to soldiers

SOLDIERS

JUNE 1984



Marc, Sarah, Michelle, Erin, Alicia, Steve, Tom, Maria, Mike and Kevin are present and accounted for. Natalie is missing, but the trail leading to her starts at her fingertips. See page 28.

WHAT'S NEW

Compiled by SFC Michael Brown

(More What's New on pages 2, 54, 55)

Alternate Event APRT

ALTERNATE events can replace the two-mile run in the Army Physical Readiness Test if soldiers have valid physical profiles that prohibit running. These events include walking, bike riding and swimming.

Previously, the alternate event policy applied only to soldiers more than 40 years old.

The medical authority will evaluate the profiled soldiers to determine which alternate events the soldiers are qualified to do. Based on the medical recommendation, the soldiers will take the APRT, using the alternate event, when facilities are available.

The alternate event APRT cannot be used to qualify soldiers for schools with specific, physically demanding tasks such as airborne school. However, it may be used to qualify soldiers to attend and graduate from NCOES courses if they meet the other prerequisites.

CSM Statements

A POLICY change requires all NCOs eligible for selection as command sergeants major to submit a statement of acceptance or declination, according to MILPERCEN officials. If a statement is not submitted, the NCO will not be considered by the selection board.

Under the new policy, the statements will not be placed in official military personnel files. They will be used by board support personnel to assemble records of individuals desiring consideration. A new statement must be submitted each year by everyone in the zone of consideration.

Individuals who previously declined consideration are eligible for consideration if they are in the zone and submit a letter. However, NCOs who previously declined acceptance into the CSM program after being selected and NCOs removed from the CSM program are not eligible.

Contact your local military personnel office for further information.

AFEM for Lebanon

THE Joint Chiefs of Staff have approved award of the Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal for Lebanon with an opening date of June 1, 1983, and a closing date to be determined.

The area of operation is defined as the nation of Lebanon, its adjacent waters, and the airspace above and adjacent to the nation of Lebanon.

Individuals must be members of units engaged in the operation or meet one or more of the following criteria:

—have served not less than 30 consecutive or 60 non-consecutive days provided this support involves entering the area of operation.

—be engaged in actual combat with armed opposition, or duty which is equally as hazardous as combat, during the operation regardless of time in the area.

—participate as a regularly assigned crewmember of an aircraft flying into, out of, within, or over the area in support of the military operation.

—be recommended for award of the medal although the criteria may not have been fulfilled.

Soldiers who believe they are eligible for this award should contact their local military personnel office.

Don't Miss Your Vote

FEDERAL Post Card applications used to apply for registration or to request an absentee ballot are being submitted with incomplete or incorrect information, according to state election officials. Some of the problems cited by the officials occurred in items 2, 7 and 10.

Item 2 on the FPCA must show a complete residence address in the community in which application to vote is being made. This should not be confused with your current military address. A post office box is not acceptable.

Item 7 must show the election for which the voter is making application. Some states require separate applications for registration and ballots for each election. Failure to make the correct circles in Item 7 may result in the applicant not receiving a ballot.

In Item 10, applicants must check the box that describes their status. In most states, checking any box 10(a) through (f) will entitle the applicant to a full ballot.

Voters should ask their voting assistance officer to check their application for accuracy.

Information Source

MILITARY families now have another resource available for information due to an agreement between the Departments of Defense and Agriculture.

The Agriculture's Extension Services, located in each county, can advise military families on such matters as food and nutrition, financial management, child development, family counseling and consumer-interest subjects.

WHAT'S NEW

Compiled by SFC Michael Brown

(More What's New on pages 1, 54, 55)

New Aviation Simulator

A NEW aviation simulator being developed will provide a more realistic flying sensation without leaving the ground, according to an official at the Army's Ames Research Center in California. The Rotorcraft Systems Integration Simulator will be used for research and development in helicopter handling qualities and support of all phases of development of new Army aircraft.

The two major parts of the new system are the simulator motion generator and the advanced cab and visual system. The new parts will have greater capability than those found in simulators being used now.

The motion generator provides the simulator six degrees of freedom, which means it can duplicate the up and down and forward and backward motions of an aircraft. It can also duplicate the side to side motion as well as three rotational movements (pitch, roll and yaw).

Inside the cockpit, the front windshield is replaced by a monitor. The monitor reflects the earth and the sky and reacts precisely to what the pilot does with the controls. For example, if the pilot banks the aircraft, the horizon seen on the monitor tilts.

The advanced visual system will have a wide field of view of 140 degrees horizontally and 60 degrees vertically. This will provide the visual cues needed to fly close to the ground.

The first advanced cab resembles the Black Hawk helicopter and will be one of six interchangeable cabs developed for the system. There will also be a development station produced which can be reconfigured to simulate a variety of helicopters.

The new simulator will be used only in the research and development program and not in the Army flight training program.

Free Delivery O'seas

SOLDIERS stationed overseas can have free delivery of personal correspondence within the same geographic area. The items must originate from and be addressed to military post offices within the same geographic area.

There are three geographic areas — Atlantic, areas served by ZIP codes beginning with 09; Latin America, areas served by ZIP codes beginning 34; and Pacific, areas served by ZIP codes beginning 96 or 98.

Personal correspondence includes items such as postcards, letters and audio cassettes weighing less than 12 ounces. It does not include official items, or business, commercial and public service materials.

In order to get the free delivery, users simply write MPS in the upper right corner where postage would usually be placed.

There are some restrictions on using the system. Contact your servicing military post office for details.

Flight School

OFFICERS wanting to attend flight training this year or next must apply soon. The deadlines are July 1 for October 1984 through January 1985; Nov. 1, 1984, for training February through May 1985; and April 1, 1985, for training June through September 1985.

Before each cutoff date, MILPERCEN must receive verification from the U.S. Army Aeromedical Center at Fort Rucker, Ala. that the officer is physically qualified to attend.

Officers must apply through command channels to: USA MILPERCEN, ATTN: DAPC-OPE-V, 200 Stovall St., Alexandria, Va. 22332. For more information, call AUTOVON 221-7822 or 9366.

Medical Service Corps officers and others interested in flight training and the aeromedical evacuation officer specialty can apply to: U.S. Army Medical Department Personnel Support Agency, ATTN: SGPE-MS, 1900 Half St., S.W., Washington, D.C. 20324. For more information, call AUTOVON 223-5460.

Discount Car Rentals

SOLDIERS and their family members can receive discount auto rental rates from the Hertz Corp., National Car Rental System and Thrifty Rent-a-Car for cars to be used either on official business or while on leave. The rates also apply for Department of the Army civilians.

These rates represent a substantial savings compared to the normal rental rates. Persons wanting to rent a car must meet the rental company's qualifications and possess a valid ID card or other proof of government affiliation.

The new unlimited mileage flat daily rates offered by the companies are:

CAR SIZE	HERTZ	NATIONAL	THRIFTY
Economy	$27.50	$26	$24
Compact	$30.50	$29	$24
Mid-size	$32.50	$31	$26
Full-size (two-door)	$34	$32	$28
Full-size (four-door)	$34	$32	$29

An additional daily fee is charged by each of the companies for rentals in the New York City area.

The unlimited mileage rates for all three companies are available only if the car is returned to the original rental location. Different rates apply for one-way rentals.

For specific information about the discount rentals, contact the local offices of each company.

Fitness Menus

IF you're trying to watch your weight by counting calories, the dining facility is the place to go.

Most Army dining facilities offer fitness menus. These menus include breakfast, lunch and dinner plates containing about 500 calories each.

Each installation food advisor works from a nutrition training packet containing guidelines designed to help cooks and dining facility managers prepare reduced calorie meals. In addition, cooks are informed that portion control is of vital concern when counting calories.

USO Center Opens

SOLDIERS and their families travelling by air now have another home away from home. The USO center at Logan International Airport in Boston recently opened for business.

The center is on the ground floor of the airport's administration building near the chapel and medical facility. It offers information, refreshments and referrals to help solve problems while travelling.

SOLDIERS

JUNE 1984, VOLUME 39, No. 6

FEATURES

Victory on the Beach 5

The Allied liberation of France during World War II began June 6, 1944, with an all-out assault on Normandy. The story is one full of surprises, lies, courage — and luck.

Forty Years Later 11

The Normandy beachhead area is dotted with memorials to bravery and sacrifice, and is largely unchanged from 1944.

Our Commander in Chief 14

President Reagan answers questions on military pay and benefits, combat readiness and pride in service.

Learning to Lead 16

ROTC advanced camp teaches future Army officers that having the authority to lead isn't enough. You need self-confidence, intelligence and integrity, too.

Teachers, Trainers, Leaders 19

The work is tough, the hours long, and the questions keep coming. Making ends meet can be hard, too. The soldiers who train tomorrow's leaders wouldn't have it any other way.

The Tae Kwon Do Kids 24

Oriental martial arts have captured the imagination of youth throughout the United States. Two budding masters at Fort Hood, Texas, have changed their lives because of an ancient Korean skill.

A Record of Love 28

Army installations and civilian communities are fighting child abductions and disappearances by fingerprinting and photographing youngsters. Parents like the program because it works and yet doesn't invade the family's privacy.

The Alabama Panzer 32

Heinrich Mueller was drafted twice — first by the Luftwaffe, then by the German army. And then there was the time he showed up at school with a basket of fried chicken. . . .

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Credits: Outside cover photo by Maj. Larry Myers; inside front cover by Sgt. Cecil Stack; and inside back cover by Maj. Keith P. Schneider.

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Soldiers picked to serve with the Army's Marksmanship Training units teach others to shoot and have a chance to groom themselves into world-class competition marksmen.

WSMR: On the Edge of Tomorrow 36

Duty at White Sands Missile Range, N.M., can mean testing the most modern rockets in the world. Or riding the open range on horseback. . . .

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You know you can fight and survive if you must because you prove it every day by coping with a harsh Alaskan environment. That's the special pride of the 172nd Infantry Brigade.

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Soldiers at Fort Hood, Texas, are getting to know their Bradley fighting vehicles and, so far, they like what they see and drive.

TCATA: Where the Future Is Now 47

If you want to know how well a system like the Bradley fighting vehicles works, you engage the Combat Arms Test Activity to find out.

Overcoming the Invisible Handicap 49

Hearing losses are an occupational hazard of military service. A program at Walter Reed Army Medical Center helps service members learn to live with hearing aids — and the world of sounds they've been missing.

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THE OFFICIAL
U.S. ARMY MAGAZINE

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FEEDBACK

APPETIZING

Just finished reading "Fast Food in the Field" in the March issue, a really good article on future food.

Would you please run an article on various recipes that turn "Cs" into a field gourmet's delight? It seems to me it would be very timely considering the C is on its way out.

Such an article would also be very educational for those who have low opinions of the C ration and have never thought about the hundreds of possibilities.

SSgt. D. Jester
El Paso, Texas

That's food for thought.

ALAMO TIME

Yes, "Remember the Alamo," (March 1984) but also remember that Texas' declaration of independence was March 2, 1836, not November 1835.

It is doubtful if the defenders of the Alamo knew any more about Texas' declaration of independence than the patriots at Bunker (Breeds) Hill knew about our own declaration of independence.

Hubert L. Koker
Fort Bliss, Texas

Thankfully, they knew how to fight. The comment is appreciated.

WANTS OCS STORY

I'd like to take this time to say thanks for a job well done. Your magazine is always full of up-to-date information on what's new in the Army, and what's coming up in the future for us in the Army. I try not to miss an issue if it is at all possible.

I have a request. Could you do an article on the Officer Candidate School at Fort Benning, Ga. — an in-depth article about the training schedule for an average OCS day, the requirements for entering OCS and future assignment expectations? I've read some of the information contained in Army regulations, but it's somewhat basic. I think a story by your magazine would be very informative, not only for me, but for everyone else. As always, thanks, and keep up the good work.

Sp5 Nester W. Biles
Aurora, Colo.

We will review your suggestion and look toward scheduling a future story on OCS.

JOHN WAYNE RUCK

I am looking at your front page photograph on your January issue. I was shocked to note the array of items sticking out of the rucksack on the back of the PFC in the foreground. The photograph looked dramatic, and the soldier obviously felt like John Wayne. He might like to know that one or two well-placed small arms rounds into his ruck might be able to deliver his boot or dog tags to his next of kin. He is not providing any protection to the 90mm high explosive antitank cartridges and the light antitank weapon.

Pictures like this published in authorized journals and magazines encourage soldiers to violate safety procedures and cause them to be killed or maimed. Thank goodness you did not publish one of a soldier with 1,000 rounds of 7.62mm wrapped around his body.

CWO 4 M.L.S. Robley
Pusan, South Korea

ROCKET BIKER

This letter is in reference to the article "Pedal Perfect" in the March issue. It is stated that a BMX bicycle track must be a minimum of 1,200 meters, or about ¾ of a mile. It further quotes Roger McLeod saying that he and his fellow riders ride this distance in 39 or 40 seconds. Using ¾ of a mile as the distance, McLeod is saying he can ride his BMX 67.5 mph.

Several of us here at the 5th Special Forces Group (Airborne) would be thrilled to see McLeod ride his bike at this rate of speed.

2nd Lt. David M. Griffith
Fort Bragg, N.C.

Your math is accurate. Our biker is fast — but not that fast. The track length should have read 1,200 feet.

***SOLDIERS* is for soldiers and DA civilians. We invite readers' views. Stay under 150 words — a postcard will do — and include your name, rank and address. We'll withhold your name if you desire and may condense views because of space. We can't publish or answer every one but we'll use representative views. Send your letter to: Feedback, *SOLDIERS*, Cameron Station, Alexandria, Va. 22314.**

U.S. troops watch naval gunfire pound a Normandy beach as their boat nears the shore on D-Day, June 6, 1944. Part of the largest invasion force ever mounted — some 2 million Allied combat and support personnel — American units would suffer about 6,600 casualties on D-Day.

VICTORY ON THE BEACH

Steve Hara

—"BLOCK," said Pluskat, "it's the invasion! There must be 10,000 ships out here."

—"Get hold of yourself," snapped Block. "The Americans and the British together don't have that many ships. Nobody has that many."

— . . . "If you don't believe me, come up here and see for yourself. It's fantastic! It's unbelievable!"

—"What way are these ships heading?"

— . . . "Right for me. . . ."

—from The Longest Day, *by Cornelius Ryan*

MAJ. Werner Pluskat of the German 352nd Infantry Division was stunned when he peered from his beachfront bunker in Normandy, France, on June 6, 1944. He was wrong about the number of ships; there were closer to 5,300. He was right, however, about what was happening.

Pluskat was surprised, but he wouldn't be the only one that day. The Allied invasion of Normandy on that June 6, D-Day, is a story with many tales of surprise, lies, risks, icy nerves, courage, fate — and luck.

The British did most of the planning at first, but U.S. commanders had more say as the American presence grew in Europe during 1943. Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower was given command of the overall invasion, dubbed Operation Overlord, after the United States was committed to providing most of the invasion resources.

While planners worked on logistics and training, Allied intelligence hatched Bodyguard, a series of plots to send the Germans on wild goose chases, spreading their forces across Europe. Among other places, the Allies were supposed to invade the Balkans, Southern France and Norway. In early 1944, the story was that Lt. Gen. George Patton would lead an army against the enemy at the Pas de Calais, or Strait of Dover.

The Calais myth, or Operation Fortitude, is perhaps the best known of D-Day stories. Just 22 miles from England, the Pas de Calais area in France was the closest site the Allies could have attacked in a seaborne in-

U.S. troops wade ashore at Utah Beach in Normandy, France, on June 7, 1944. The 4th Infantry Division had easily captured the beach on June 6 — the first assault wave landed nearly two miles off course in a poorly defended area. Utah was the biggest U.S. success on D-Day.

vasion. The area had good beaches and a port, Boulogne, which would have been vital to sustaining invasion supply lines.

The Germans believed the Allies would attack Calais for three reasons: It was suitable, and it was close. And Adolf Hitler said Calais was the place, end of discussion.

The Allies set up dummy armies in southern England and tried everything else they could to convince the Germans they were right. The fiction held; the Normandy invasion would be well under way before Hitler finally realized he'd been snookered.

The Germans weren't totally unprepared, however. They'd always thought the Normandy coast to be a possible invasion site. The beaches were suitable, the seas were relatively safe and sheltered, the land behind the beaches was flat and would allow a fast breakout, and the area was in range of Allied air cover. But there was no major port immediately nearby and Normandy was about as far away as the Allies would or could dare to attack.

Just in case, though, the Germans flooded the lowlands behind the beaches near the town of Sainte-Mere-Eglise, and fortified the coast. The battle-hardened 352nd Division was pulled from Russia for a little rest and was given a sector east of Carentan between two green, undermanned and underequipped divisions, the 709th and 716th.

German intelligence thought the Allies might try a Channel crossing in early June, but the weather and forecasts were bad. The Allies had never attacked in bad weather, and the common German wisdom was Eisenhower was too cautious to change habits.

The Allied web of deceit and the June weather reports meshed so well that key German staff officers in Northern France left their posts early to attend scheduled June 6 war games in Rennes, 80 miles south of Normandy. Field Marshal Erwin Rommel, commanding the defenses, took leave on June 5 to visit his wife in Germany.

As Rommel headed home, Allied forces were marshalling. A June 3 assault had been canceled owing to bad weather. If the weather didn't clear by June 7, any invasion would have to be postponed two weeks because of the tides.

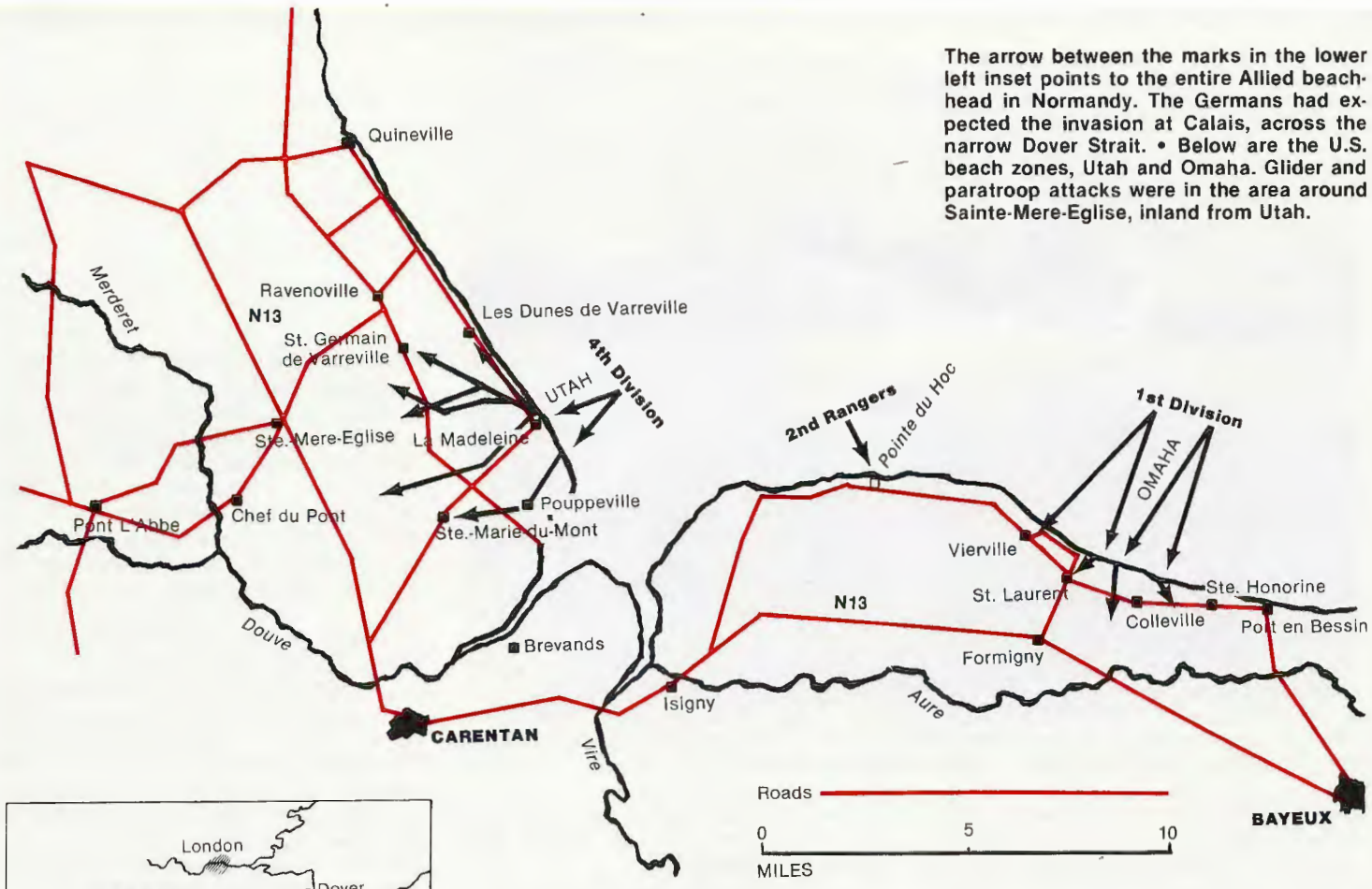
Late June 4, Eisenhower's weather officer reported there was a chance of marginal-to-good weather at Normandy on June 6.

Eisenhower had a choice: Wait two weeks with no promise of better weather, or try for June 6 with marginal conditions. Troops had boarded their ships for the earlier, aborted attack. If the invasion were postponed, the troops would have to disembark. That would create a massive security problem. They couldn't be held on the ships much longer. Any decision would have to be made quickly.

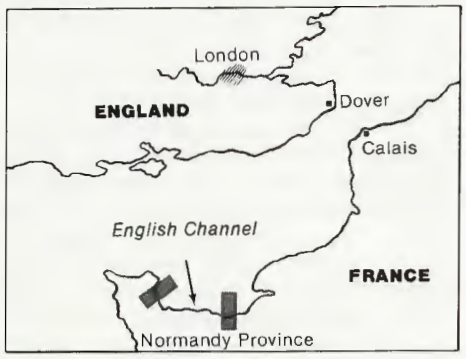
Eisenhower gave the order early on June 5: Go. June 6.

The Allied assault plan was to establish a 40-mile-long beachhead on the eastern shore of Normandy's Cotentin Peninsula. The coast would be divided into five general beach zones, called Utah, Omaha, Gold, Juno and Sword. The Americans took the first two, to the west. The British, Canadians and French had the others.

The June 6 goals were simple: Take the beaches, fight inland about five miles to the national highway paralleling the coast, and secure all the towns and land in between. Gold, Juno and Sword fell to relatively light resistance, and Allied forces there were able to capture most of the ground they'd been assigned.



The arrow between the marks in the lower left inset points to the entire Allied beachhead in Normandy. The Germans had expected the invasion at Calais, across the narrow Dover Strait. • Below are the U.S. beach zones, Utah and Omaha. Glider and paratroop attacks were in the area around Sainte-Mere-Eglise, inland from Utah.



U.S. forces had a rougher go. First Army, commanded by Gen. Omar Bradley, was divided into V and VII Corps. The 4th Infantry and 82nd and 101st Airborne divisions were controlled by Lt. Gen. Joseph Collins' VII Corps and assigned to take Utah, the westernmost zone.

The 13,000 paratroopers would drop behind the lines on either end of the zone during the predawn hours of June 6. The 101st was to capture causeways that crossed known flooded areas near Carentan.

The 82nd was to capture Ste.-Mere-Eglise, thus cutting the road to Cherbourg, on the tip of the peninsula. It also was to capture bridges over the Merderet River to prevent German reinforcement from the west and south. U.S. access to the bridges and the causeways would speed the invasion drive from Utah.

The Omaha operation was commanded by Lt. Gen. Leonard Gerow's V Corps. The 1st Infantry Division was the spearhead. For the initial assault, it would be reinforced by the 29th Infantry Division's 116th Infantry Regiment.

Also in the V Corps area was a mission by the 2nd Ranger Battalion, which was to attack the Pointe du Hoc, a steep, rocky cliff that jutted out between the two beaches. Intelligence said it bristled with heavy artillery. The Germans could rake both beaches unless the point was taken.

Those were the missions. . . .

At 1:30 a.m., more than 900 C-47 transports unleashed U.S. paratroopers and glider-borne forces over Normandy. Unfortunately, heavy cloud cover and anti-aircraft fire had broken up many of the formations. Planes were off-course and didn't know it.

The 82nd and 101st were accidentally scattered over an area 15 miles wide by 25 miles long. Some reports had soldiers landing as much as 35 miles off target. Instead of being able to fight as battalions and regiments, the two divisions were reduced to squads in some areas.

Making matters worse, the Germans' flooding of the area was far more extensive than Allied photo-recon indicated. Glider forces cracked up or sank when they hit the hidden swamps and pools. The airborne units lost 60 percent of their artillery weapons, supplies, equipment and communications in glider crashes and bad parachute drops.

"We were supposed to knock out a coastal gun, but we were 'way off course.' We landed near Ste.-Mere-Eglise, which was 82nd Airborne territory," said Schuyler Jackson, a demolition man of the 502nd Parachute Infantry Regiment, 101st Abn. Div. "The demo platoon had been divvied up among the planes in the first wave, so we were all scattered. . . . Took us three days to regroup."

D-Day was a hair-raiser for Jackson. Lugging 60 extra pounds of explosives and other gear, he estimates he jumped from about 500 feet.

"There was a gun emplacement off to the side of the field lighting up the sky. I used all my grenades — three of them — to disable the gun," Jackson said. "I sat there in the dark wishing I'd brought more." The 23-year-old corporal linked up with a group that included his regimental commander, who'd broken his leg in the drop.

"Just as I met the old man, we were fired at by a sniper," he said. "He ran away into a hedgerow, so I chased him and opened up with my carbine. I just kept on spraying until a white flag went up. And geezus, that's when I found out how stupid and lucky I'd been. I'd killed 10 Germans, wounded eight and captured another eight. If they'd been any good, I wouldn't be here." Jackson received the Bronze Star for valor.

At the time, the paratroopers

The Germans discounted the Normandy Coast as an attack site because it had no major harbor. The Allies turned Utah Beach into an instant port on D-Day.

might have been confused, but they weren't the only ones. The small, scattered groups started raising hell. To the Germans, Americans seemed to be everywhere. And that was true.

Pvt. Elvin "Andy" Anderson was a 19-year-old jeepless driver that day. The only mission he remembers having was to steal some wheels once he hit the ground. But he was wounded in the back as he jumped and was easy prey for the Germans.

"They slapped me around, wanting to know how many we were and where everyone was. Hell, I didn't know beans. And nobody tells privates nothin' anyway," Anderson said. "It was clear to me they didn't know what was going on. By morning, they'd caught four of us — the highest a corporal. The Germans couldn't figure out where all our officers were.

"I remember thinking, 'What a hell of a place to be,' " he said. "You talk about 'The Longest Day.' It sure as hell was, especially in a prison camp with nothing to eat." Anderson, of the 377th Parachute Field Artillery Battalion, 101st Airborne, would spend 11 months as a prisoner.

John H. Backer saw a different side of the enemy on D-Day. Fluent in French, German and Russian, he'd gone along with the 101st's glider troops to interrogate prisoners and gather intelligence. Then a 41-year-old master sergeant, he was among the oldest soldiers making the night assault.

"We lucked out," Backer said. "The glider broke up on landing, as so many others did, but only one man out of the 10 aboard was injured. Our jeep and trailer were all right. There was no one else in sight."

He went on a one-man patrol at daybreak and found a farm that Germans had been using. The farmer said the Germans ran away after "beaucoup, beaucoup" paratroopers landed in the night.

If Backer questioned the enemy's fighting spirit from this incident, he found a partial answer later when he met his first prisoner. The man didn't speak any of the four languages Backer did.

"He was Eastern European, or something, but definitely not German," Backer said. "That confirmed reports that the Germans were enlisting Eastern Front deserters and turncoats, and filling the ranks in the West with them."

In the big picture by dawn, the 101st commander knew the whereabouts of only 1,000 of his 6,000 men. The 82nd could muster only a third of its 7,000 or so, but most of these had luckily landed in one spot — outside Ste.-Mere-Eglise. The town was quickly captured, the first in France to be liberated.

"We set up mortars in an orchard outside town and milled around," said James Rodier, a radioman in the 505th Parachute Infantry that day. For a great adventure, and supposedly the biggest of his three combat jumps so far, D-Day was a bust, he thought. And then a glider dropped in on him.

"My lieutenant and I were in a foxhole watching that thing come in. It was beautiful, and we just kept watching. And then it came to me, 'Cripes, that sucker's coming this way!' " Rodier said. He shot out of the hole and ran for safety, but the lieutenant only had time to duck. The skidding wooden craft came up to the hole and broke up in a deafening crash. Bad as the sight and sound were, no one was hurt.

"And as close as I was to town, I never got to see it until I went back in 1969," Rodier remarked.

The 82nd was unable to capture its assigned bridges that day, but the Americans held their halves in pitched battles with dwindling ammo and supplies. The Germans were desperate, but flustered; their attention in the Utah zone was pulled from the beaches. Although just as scattered, the 101st captured its causeways.

The cost of the airborne actions was high, however. Hundreds of soldiers were injured or drowned when they landed in the swamps, or died when they jumped into the sea or too close to the ground. Some 82nd Airborne troopers were gunned down while they descended helplessly straight into German defenses in Ste.-Mere-Eglise.

Despite these errors and tricks of fate, the airborne soldiers would give a good account of themselves against fierce counterattacks. About 2,500 would be killed, captured or wounded — a third of all American losses on D-Day.

At 4 a.m., the Rangers hit the Pointe du Hoc. Naval gunfire plastered German defenses, but the Rangers were still met by continuous small-arms fire and grenades as they scaled the 100-foot cliff. The Germans fell back as the Rangers reached the crest and began clearing bunkers and gun positions.

The enemy had been tricky, too — "gun barrels" picked up in aerial photos were logs. Convinced they hadn't wasted their time and blood, however, the Rangers fanned out to find the battery that was supposed to be on the point. The search paid off. The guns were found a few hundred yards inland and were destroyed. They had been aimed at Utah Beach.

The Rangers began to settle in when the Germans counterattacked.

Guns or no, the Pointe du Hoc was strategically valuable high ground. The Rangers would suffer more than 50 percent casualties in the two days of fighting that followed, but they held their chunk of France.

At 6:30 a.m., the 4th Division dashed ashore at Utah Beach and met so little resistance that U.S. commanders thought the Germans might have set a trap. The initial wave was led by Brig. Gen. Theodore Roosevelt Jr., who sized up the situation quickly and correctly — that the Germans had been caught flat-footed — and snatched the lucky break.

Roosevelt rallied his soldiers, took control of the beach, and directed all possible corps traffic ashore before the Germans could react. By evening, VII Corps had 23,000 men and 1,700 vehicles ashore and was streaming inland to link up with the airborne. About 200 U.S. soldiers were killed or wounded in the attack. The Utah operation would be the biggest American success of the day.

While the 4th headed for Utah, the 1st Division sailed for Omaha. Things didn't go right from the start.

A massive air raid to clear the beach of mines and obstacles went awry in bad weather. The B-17 bombers dropped their bombs behind the German defense lines.

Because Omaha wasn't cleared, soldiers of The Big Red One were dropped off farther out than planned. They waded in amid mines and obstacles. Too, those "green troops" they'd been told to expect put up a curtain a murderously effective defensive fire. Those German "rookies" were actually the veteran 352nd Division.

The first assault wave was cut to ribbons. Succeeding waves foundered in unexpectedly rough water, an incoming tide, and enemy mortar and artillery fire. Landing craft created traffic jams as they tried to maneuver in the obstacle course offshore. But Americans fought their way in to protective bluffs along the sands.

For hours, the division had only a toehold on Omaha. The situation was such that Bradley considered retreat. The decision couldn't be taken lightly — a retreat would split the Allied forces in two, thereby crippling and perhaps dooming the entire invasion. Losses would no doubt be heavy if soldiers had to retreat into the sea.

But the situation never came to that. Bradley trusted in the fighting spirit of the division's men, and they didn't let him down.

"Two kinds of people are staying on this beach, the dead and those who are going to die. Now let's get the hell out of here!" said Col. George A. Taylor, commander of the 16th Infantry Regiment. Backed by this kind of personal, front-line leadership, and a touch of fear and plenty of anger, pockets of infantrymen, combat engineers and armor began punching holes in the German wall.

"I'd seen the photos and all. I knew what the Germans had," said Capt. Edward F. Wozenski, who commanded Company E, 2nd Battalion, 16th Infantry Regiment, on D-Day. "We didn't know about the German 352nd Division, and that wouldn't have mattered anyway. We'd fought the Germans before and knew they were tough. We had no illusions." They expected a bad time.

"I threatened to shoot the coxswain because he was obviously steering the landing craft off course," he said. "By the time he dropped the gate, we were about a half mile from where we were supposed to be." The Germans opened up with machine guns, mortars and artillery. To stay alive, Company E had to cross 200 yards of exposed surf and beach.

"When I reached cover, I took a nose count — there were 13 men and one officer with me," Wozenski said. "The rest were scattered. You bet we were scared. Anybody who tells you he wasn't is either a damned liar or too stupid to know what was going on." Small groups of soldiers began to probe the bluffs and draws along the beach. After about two hours, yellow smoke rose from a draw, signalling a path had been cleared of enemy defenses.

"We were off the beach by about 9, knocked out a pillbox and began making our way toward Colleville-sur-Mer. We leapfrogged through the hedgerows the rest of the day trading fire with the Germans," he re-

Left, paratroopers of the 101st Airborne Division liberate Ste.-Marie-du-Mont in the Utah Beach sector. • 1st Division soldiers guard German troops and workmen on Omaha Beach.

marked. "I started out with 188 men and officers. When I did the morning report the next day, I had 52 dead and 54 wounded."

The 3rd Battalion, 16th Infantry, was to Wozenski's left. It captured the easternmost sector of Omaha on D-Day and fought to the outskirts of Port en Bessin, a small harbor town that marked the boundary between the British and American zones. But the Germans and the elements exacted a heavy toll.

"It had been stormy and there were high seas. L, K and I companies lost a lot of boats — they used British craft that rode low in the water. They swamped," said Lt. Col. Charles T. Horner Jr., 3rd Battalion commander on D-Day. Those same waves sank 13 of the 15 floating Sherman tanks which were supposed to support Horner's men. Nine of the 12 artillery pieces being landed in amphibious crafts went under.

"My boat made it through the obstacles and dropped us off on shore. From that moment, I didn't look back. The Germans opened up with everything they had, and cover was 75 yards away," Horner said. "The doctor told me later he'd looked back and saw our boat blow up. It had hit a Teller mine while backing out."

Soldiers probed for safe passage under savage fire that had killed or wounded two of the three company commanders and several platoon leaders. The Navy knocked out several pillboxes on the battalion's left flank, making the assault a bit easier. It was late afternoon before the unit was clear of the beach.

"I didn't have control of the entire battalion that day. We didn't reorganize until that night," he continued. "I went in with 1,000 men — 2,000 if you count the attached tankers, engineers and artillery crews. All I remember is, we had heavy casualties.

"Some boats crossed paths coming in, others went off course, and some were swamped or went down from enemy fire. By the time we reached the beach, things were pretty confused. Guys from three companies might be fighting together in little groups.

"What saved us was individual leadership and fighting spirit," Horner asserted. "The officers and NCOs led these small groups in scattered fighting all day long — they saw what had to be done, and they took the initiative and did it. We wouldn't have gotten off the beach if it hadn't been for their experience."

Looking haggard after a fight, U.S. soldiers proudly display a captured German flag. Note the soldier third from the left, who appears to have a large bullet hole in his helmet.

The Omaha defenders, meanwhile, weren't having a good go of it either. The 352nd fought well on the beach, but its defense had no depth. Allied air and naval forces plastered bunkers and other emplacements, French resistance fighters had cut communication lines during the night and Allied air cover was harassing supply and reinforcement routes. Those Allied bombs dropped earlier created their share of chaos, too.

Even as 1st Division troops outflanked German bunkers and weapons crews in growing numbers, the Allies could still have lost.

The Germans had a trump, and wasted it. They still thought the main attack would be at Calais. At 4 a.m., when Allied paratroopers were raising cain, Field Marshal Gerd von Rundstedt, Rommel's boss, decided the Normandy invaders, diversionary or not, had to be thrown back.

He had two armored divisions within easy striking distance of the Cotentin Peninsula. He ordered them into position, but was then reminded that Hitler reserved the right to deploy those forces. And Hitler was asleep; his staff refused to wake him.

British intelligence knew the Germans' intent before Hitler did and had a counterstroke ready. When Hitler awoke and gave his permission to deploy, the British leaked a false message through a turned German spy: Forget Normandy; the Calais invasion is imminent. Hitler canceled his order, and with that doomed his regime.

By evening, the Allies held all five beaches, but were miles short of where they had hoped to be. The battle of Normandy had only just begun, and the end was by no means sure. The Americans suffered about 6,600 casualties while the British and Canadians had another 4,200.

No one knows exactly how many soldiers the Germans lost on D-Day, although some historians estimate about 9,000. What is certain is that the Allied drive was unstoppable by the end of the month. By mid-July the Germans would lose 28 generals, 354 senior unit commanders and a quarter of a million troops. The fall of Hitler and Nazi Germany was only a matter of time. □

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FORTY YEARS LATER

Story and Photos by Thomas M. Williams

FORTY years after the greatest amphibious assault in history, Normandy appears much as it did in the summer of 1944. The rural villages and farms are still bound by hedgerows and green pastures. And with the exception of the larger towns — Saint-Lo, Caen, Carentan — the war left few permanent marks. Most of the Normandy countryside is unchanged from the day of the invasion — June 6, 1944.

The smaller villages and farms, however, tell a different story. On nearly every farmhouse, in nearly every village, and along every road in the beachhead area, signs of the Normandy invasion remain. Stone walls reveal bullet and shrapnel marks. Many of the countryside houses still have bullet marks around upper-story windows. These are memories of the infantryman's war, where snipers constantly menaced the advance from the beaches.

The French government has devoted much attention to making Normandy a region of historical importance. Roads are well-marked and signs indicate directions to the invasion beaches, monuments, museums and cemeteries in the region.

The most vivid reminders of the D-Day landings exist in the Omaha Beach area, especially at the narrow jut of land called Pointe du Hoc. Here, early on the morning of D-Day, companies of the 2nd Ranger Battalion assaulted artillery gun batteries on top of the cliffs near Omaha Beach.

Today the Pointe is a graveyard of broken concrete bunkers and gun emplacements. The entire area is blanketed with huge bomb craters, making it necessary to stick to prepared pathways through the bunkers and holes. At the point of land giving the place its name, a simple stone monument commemorates the Rangers who captured the position.

When the dust stirs among the rubble of the bunkers and craters, one can imagine the Rangers scaling the cliffs and fighting from crater to crater in one of the most heroic actions of the war.

Eight miles east of the Ranger memorial is the Normandy American Cemetery, overlooking the Easy Red and Fox Green sectors of Omaha Beach. The 172-acre site contains the remains of 9,386 Americans, most of whom died during the landings and in the beachhead area. "Unknowns" mark 307 of the graves. Brothers rest side by side in 33 instances; in one case, a father and son are side by side.

At the time of the invasion the site of this cemetery was a heavily defended strongpoint overlooking Omaha Beach. At the overlook of the cemetery, an orientation table shows the various landing beaches of D-Day. From this point it is possible to descend to the beach and walk among the same dunes and rocks that confronted the invasion troops. This particular stretch of beach is exactly as it was at the time of the landings. Farther west, the beaches have changed quite a bit with the construction of summer homes on the dunes and along the slopes rising above the beach.

Several monuments stand in the area of the American cemetery. Just outside the cemetery, on the bluffs overlooking the beaches, are two special monuments dedicated to those who fought on Omaha. One is dedicated to the 5th Engineer Special Brigade, which cleared the beach of obstacles in the assault. Farther back from the bluffs is a monument to the men of the 1st Division who died on D-Day. The name of each man who died is chisel-

The French city of St. Lo barely survived the Normandy invasion. However, this monument to French soldiers who died in World War I withstood the siege of the city in the summer of 1944.

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Clockwise from the right: It's quiet today, but the sector called Dog Green Omaha was chaos on D-Day. • When 82nd Airborne Division paratroopers dropped into Ste.-Mere-Eglise, one soldier hung for hours when his chute snagged on the church steeple. • An Omaha Beach bunker is now a monument to the U.S. National Guard. • More than 21,000 soldiers are buried in the German cemetery at La Cambe. • The original Ste.-Mere-Eglise cemetery contained the remains of 5,000 Americans. • Ste.-Mere-Eglise's Airborne Museum was built in the shape of a parachute.

ed into the monument, including the inscription: "The officers and men of the 1st United States Infantry Division who were killed in this period while fighting for the liberty of the world."

More memorials to the invasion dot the beach area between the cemetery and the road linking Vierville sur Mer to the western end of Omaha. A special monument to the National Guard is built on top of a German gun emplacement. Farther down the beach, back toward the American cemetery, is a monument to the first American cemetery at Omaha (the remains were later moved). Still farther is a monument erected by the French, which says: "The allied forces landing on this shore which they call Omaha Beach liberate Europe, June 6th, 1944." To the east, past numerous new beach houses built in recent years, is a monument to the 2nd Infantry Division built atop a bunker. The bunker still contains a beach defense gun. This blockhouse is also a monument to the Provisional Engineers Special Brigade that used the site for a temporary headquarters during beach-clearing operations.

In Normandy there are two major American cemeteries, two Canadian, one Polish, sixteen British, and six German — in all, too many tombstones to see, too many names to remember, too much sorrow to imagine. The German cemetery at La Cambe, between Isigny sur Mer and Bayeux, contains the remains of 21,160 soldiers. In the center of the plot is a mass grave containing the remains of 296 men. Unlike the tombstones at the American cemetery, the German grave markers show the ages of the fallen. Many at La Cambe were 18 and 19 when they fell. But like the date on the markers over the American graves, June 6, 1944, was their final day of life.

Utah Beach is much different from Omaha Beach. The terrain as well as the atmosphere is different. There are no commanding hilltop perches as there are at Omaha. At Utah, the highest point is a sand dune overlooking the long flat beach. In this area is a monument to the 4th Infantry Division, which landed there, and the Utah Beach museum. Nearby is a monument dedicated to the special units of the D-Day landings. This monument lists the units in the 1st Engineer Special Brigade and is dedicated to their combat dead. Also in the Utah Beach sector are numerous roads dedicated to individual soldiers who died on D-Day or in the beachhead.

In the region behind Utah Beach, little has changed since the war. In Sainte-Mere-Eglise — perhaps the most famous of all towns liberated by Americans in the wee hours of the invasion — time has marched slowly. The biggest change in the town has been the addition of the airborne museum. Nearly everything else is just as it was on June 6, 1944.

Just after midnight, paratroopers of the 505th Parachute Infantry Regiment, 82nd Airborne, abruptly dropped into the town square. The regiment suffered heavy casualties as landing troopers were gunned down by a German garrison already awakened by a town fire alarm.

Today, former soldiers returning to the town recall how they witnessed the trooper who hung from the church steeple during the firefight. The church bears many scars of the D-Day combat. Even inside, there are bullet marks on walls and columns.

A striking feature of the town's 15th century church is two modern stained glass windows, both commemorating the airborne landings in and around the town. Each portrays parachutists and symbols of the invasion. Veterans of the airdrop donated the second window on the 25th anniversary of the invasion.

The airborne museum's honorary curator, Philippe Jutras, is an American who was at Utah Beach during the invasion. The museum contains a rare Waco glider, many artifacts from veterans who served in the airborne units at Normandy, and a C-47 troop carrier from the invasion. Jutras, a stickler for accuracy, is dedicated to making the museum the finest of its kind.

The museums, cemeteries and monuments today make Normandy a memorial to freedom and to the men who made the ultimate sacrifice. In the 40 years since D-Day, the spirit of remembrance has steadily increased among local inhabitants and historians. World War II did not really touch Normandy until the liberation began in the summer of 1944. The stones of the ancient Norman farmhouses, townhalls and churches will bear D-Day scars for countless generations. In time, even the scars will wash from the stone. But the memories will remain.

To returning veterans in 1984, much remains to remind them of the great achievement of which they were a part. For many, it will be a return to the very places where the boys they were became men. □

Pete Souza, The White House

OUR COMMANDER IN CHIEF

Sgt. Cecil Stack

EDITOR'S NOTE: This interview combines remarks of the president in a Feb. 27, 1984, meeting with representatives of military service journals.

MR. President, we understand that you served in the Army during World War II, and we were wondering if you see any fundamental difference between the military of today vs. the military of World War II.

I think it would be hard to make a direct comparison because World War II was a wartime situation, with draftees pouring in and all. Today is entirely different. But I think there is a great difference between now and the last few years, when there was justifiably low morale. Today, my pride in the all-volunteer military is — I think — shared by most other Americans.

But let me try to describe a very fundamental difference. As you know, we went from peacetime to war on a Sunday morning, without much time in between. There were those in Washington who didn't think it was necessary to do anything for the military. That's always stuck with me and has guided my thinking about the military ever since. Prior to World War II, they were having their way more than they are today, but some of that thinking is still around. During the Louisiana Maneuvers, just prior to Pearl Harbor, many of the soldiers had to carry wooden guns and use cardboard tanks to simulate armored warfare.

After the war, when some of our top officers met with the Japanese and talked about the war that they'd been fighting against each other, one of the questions was: Why Pearl Harbor? The Japanese answer was just what I've said about Louisiana. They said, "Why *not* Pearl Harbor? — We didn't think you'd fight."

"Americans are very proud of their military, and it's richly deserved."

That's a clear message. Weakness increases the danger of war. Today, we're making sure that our military can protect the peace.

Sir, what is your reading of the American people's attitude toward today's military?

Americans are very proud of their military, and it's richly deserved. When our administration began, just a little over three years ago, everyone said that we would have to reinstitute the draft, that the volunteer military would never work. But it has worked. The esprit de corps is there, and young men and women are proud to wear the uniform.

If we had gone to a draft back in 1981, we wouldn't have had enough non-commissioned officers to train the draftees. That's all changed. I tell you, I get letters like the one from a group of service members stationed overseas who wrote, "If giving us a pay cut will help our country, cut our pay." I wouldn't cut their pay if I bled to death. The response from our ser-

Michael Evans, The White House

Facing page, Sgt. Cecil Stack of *SOLDIERS* magazine meets President Reagan. • Above, the president has lunch with 2nd Infantry Division soldiers at Camp Liberty Bell, South Korea, during his 1983 visit to the Far East.

vice members, all of them, is just so remarkable. And the families — I've made a lot of telephone calls as president, tragic calls, to families of those who lost loved ones. I've never heard such pride, such willingness to accept the fact that sacrifice was necessary.

And I've learned the hardest thing that a president will ever have to do, as far as I'm concerned, is issue an order that requires some of our uniformed personnel to go into an area where there is a possibility of harm. That's the only problem that ever causes me to lose sleep.

I wish that you could have been on the South Lawn when about 500 of those students from Grenada and 40 of the military just back from Grenada came to the White House at our invitation. The medical students and the military were all roughly the same age. The students couldn't keep away from those young men in uniform. Every one of the students wanted to tell them personally that they had saved their lives.

"I'm proud of you, and so is your country."

Some of the students came up to me and told me that when they were escorted to the helicopters — and there had been gunfire all around — our men in uniform placed themselves in such a position that if there was firing on them, the military fellas would have been hit, not the students. They shielded the students.

It was a wonderful thing to see. I've got a great deal of hope and optimism about the future of this country, thanks to the quality of our young people and their dedication. I believe that's the way our entire country feels.

Sir, there is constant discussion that the country needs a stronger . . . or smarter Army, or a combination of these attributes. How do you perceive the requisites for a viable Army? . . . How do you spell strength?

For America to be strong, it has to invest in a strong and intelligent Army. I have faith in the leadership of today's Army to keep us on course, and I'm going to give my full support in that effort. You know, if you visit the 2nd Division at Camp Liberty Bell in Korea, as I did last November — and I'm sure it's the same elsewhere with other units — most Americans don't realize that our Army isn't just sitting around doing some kind of garrison duty. The fact is, we have a viable Army now. It's serving our country well, and we have to keep its strength up.

Mr. President, do you believe that military pay and allowances are now sufficient or will you recommend any additional improvements?

There have been significant improvements in military compensation over the past three years. Large, "catch-up" military pay raises in FY 81 and 82, and improvements in special and incentive pays and travel reimbursements have produced compensation levels that I believe are fair and equitable. I intend to maintain equitable and competitive rates of pay for our military personnel.

Sir, should military members expect changes in their retirement benefits?

I believe that military personnel are willing to share equally with other members of our society in bringing federal spending under control. They just don't want to share unequally — and they won't. A sure way to hurt morale and lose experienced people is to ask our military forces to make disproportionate financial sacrifices. Obviously, I don't want that, and the American people don't want that either. Our servicemen and women are defending our country and preserving our peace and freedom. And I'm so very proud of what they're doing. Each time our nation has called upon our citizens to serve, the best have come forward. Today, America's best are serving America, and we're going to keep it that way.

Sir, speaking as our commander in chief and, as such, our ultimate retention officer, why do you think a person should opt for a military career today? And what advice or guidance would you offer a potential careerist?

A military career offers one of the most promising ways for young Americans to serve their country. And they'll serve with pride. A military career offers the training, travel and opportunity that those recruiters tell you about. That's a hard combination to beat, and the pay is competitive.

"I wouldn't cut their pay if I bled to death."

As to my advice for a potential careerist — I'd say hurry.

Mr. President, what would you tell a soldier why his or her job is important?

Something tells me that today's soldier does not have to be told why his or her job is important. Our servicemen and women are defending our country and preserving peace and freedom. I'm very proud of what they are doing, and each of them should take time to be proud, too.

Sir, if you could meet, personally, every soldier in the Army, what is the one thing you would say to each?

Soldier, I'm proud of you, and so is your country. Keep up the good work, and we'll be able to sustain the peace. God bless you, and God bless America. □

LEARNING TO LEAD

Story and Photos by Maj. Keith Schneider

The instructors really worked with their students. Without encouragement, which often resembled a fatherly chat, many would not have mustered the nerve, for example, to take those first steps down the rappelling tower. The students were ROTC cadets going through advanced camp. Their instructors were soldiers tasked with the job of developing these future leaders.

LAST summer 2,987 students from 16 states and 107 colleges converged on Fort Riley, Kan. While there, they may have encountered some fun and a lot of adventure. The purpose of their trip, however, was not to vacation.

The students were ROTC cadets attending advanced camp. They spent six fast-paced weeks putting into practice the military skills they had been taught in school. Most of them were between their junior and senior years. A few had graduated and were commissioned as second lieutenants at the end of the camp.

ROTC advanced camp supplements campus instruction by providing practical experience and training in military subjects. Leadership training, problem solving and decision making are emphasized. The training is performance-oriented, and cadets are constantly evaluated while serving in leadership positions.

The challenges posed to cadets are rigorous and demanding. They are placed in mentally and physically tough situations daily to test their intelligence, ingenuity and stamina. The intent is to give them a better understanding of their abilities to perform exacting tasks and make difficult decisions.

"We want to enhance self-discipline. That has real relevance to the officer corps," said Brig. Gen. H. Glenn Watson, Third ROTC Region and advanced camp commander. "To enhance self-discipline, standards have to be set and cadets have to know what is required of them. This is the last threshold prior to them being commissioned. We hope we have created a professional and disciplined environment. We have tried to completely submerge cadets in this type of setting to make a positive impression on them."

The advanced camp is staffed by personnel from the Third ROTC Region headquarters, also at Fort Riley, and college and university ROTC detachments. Major training and logistical support is provided by 1st Infantry Division and Fort Riley units, and only through their time and effort can the advanced camp function smoothly. In addition to training, various units control barracks, run dining facilities, and provide supply

and administrative services.

The support personnel also play another important role during advanced camp. For many cadets, camp is their first exposure to soldiers assigned to an active unit. As such, these soldiers must display that professionalism Watson talked about. "The support elements from Fort Riley and the 1st Infantry Division have been outstanding," said Cadet John Simmons of Pittsburg State University. "They have shown us perfect demonstrations of every exercise."

"I found a great bunch of people here, both cadre and students alike," said Cadet Pascale Miller of the University of Tennessee at Martin. "I think it's that unique spirit in both of them that makes camp worthwhile. It's going to turn out a fine bunch of officers."

During the camp, cadets receive training in 23 subject areas. Most of the training is hands-on where cadets refine the skills taught by the military science departments of their schools. The subjects range from physical training, weapons and fire support to patrolling and combat assault. Cadets also observe a combined arms tactical exercise. This demonstration shows the wide range of fire support available to an infantry unit.

Much of the training promotes leadership skills and builds self-confidence. Mountaineering is one of those confidence builders. Cadets learn knot tying, how to construct a Swiss seat and the proper use of rappelling equipment. The first rappelling attempt is on 15-foot inclined and vertical walls. This helps to convince the fainthearted that they can control their descent.

Cadets then move to the 60-foot tower. Equipped with snaplink, Swiss seat and gloves, cadets can walk or bound down the vertical wall. Instructors located on the tower and belay or safety personnel on the ground ensure the descent is controlled. The 60-foot rappel is one of the requirements for a recondo badge.

Rappelling is one of the most adrenalin-producing types of training cadets receive. For many first-time rappellers, those first steps do not come easy. It is definitely a case of mind over matter. "Once you get those first steps down, it's smooth sailing," said Cadet Barbara Richardson of the University of Alabama. "I felt really good about this. I was determined to make it, and I did."

That first step looms even larger on the 60-foot helicopter rappel platform. Many cadets hesitate once they are positioned on the skids of the platform. However, by this time most are bubbling with confidence. That, combined with the encouragement from peers, usually dispels any second thoughts and makes that first step a reality.

Another area filled with excitement and adventure is water training. Cadets spend four hours learning to construct a poncho raft and rope bridges and how to cross a water obstacle. They can also pursue a recondo badge by completing the suspension traverse and a 40-foot rope drop.

The water-crossing phase familiarizes cadets with stream and river crossing techniques. This is done with simple equipment such as ropes, snaplinks and ponchos. Cadets observe the construction of a poncho raft and learn the basic knots used in water crossing. Cadets then construct a one-rope bridge and use it to cross the water. They also cross on previously constructed two- and three-rope bridges.

The excitement picks up as the cadets move on to the next two phases, the rope drop and suspension traverse. The rope drop is a confidence builder — dropping 40 feet into a lake requires a little daring. Cadets cross a catwalk 20 feet above the water and negotiate a 15-foot balance walk before climbing to the 40-foot level. Once there, they climb out on the rope, then hang and wait for the command to drop. Cadets wear a safety line so they can be pulled from the water quickly if necessary. Cadets must go through a simulated rope drop before trying the real thing. This is to ensure they have the strength to climb out on the rope and hang from it without falling.

The suspension traverse, more commonly known as the 'slide for life,' is the granddaddy of confidence building training. Cadets climb an 87-foot tower to begin this exciting ride. They grasp a T-bar trolley assembly, push off from the tower and descend the 590-foot cable over the water. The ride takes about 19 seconds and reaches a speed of about 20 miles per hour. Both voice and flag commands tell the cadets when to raise their feet and drop. Various acrobatic landings occur, but the cadets emerge from the water sporting a look of accomplishment. Lifeguards are positioned along the route and a boat stands by in case a cadet needs help or

Working as a team, cadets construct and then cross a one-rope bridge. This, along with other water training events, helps to instill self-confidence in the Army's future leaders.

releases the T-bar too soon.

"Overcoming my fears on the slide of life was the toughest part of the entire camp," said Cadet Patrick Melancon of McNeese State University. "I was terrified when I was up there. Now I am glad I did it. It was a case of being prepared to do something that your body says you can't but your mind says you can."

As in the rope drop, cadets must go through a simulated session before trying the slide for life. They must be able to hang from a T-bar for 30 seconds and then raise their feet. This is to ensure they can hold on long enough to make a safe entry into the water. Both events are optional, but very few cadets elect not to attempt them.

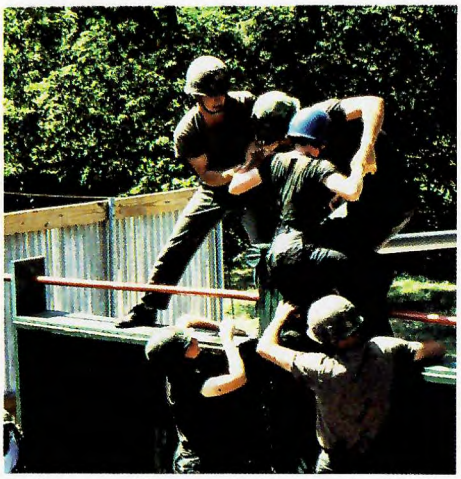
While water training might be scary at first, most cadets look back on it with a sense of pride. "I enjoyed the slide for life," said Cadet Tim Joseph of the University of Texas at El Paso. "Being a non-swimmer, it really gave me a lot of confidence. I learned something about myself and enjoyed it at the same time. I had a lot of second thoughts as I was sitting up there, but once I started it was all right."

"The main thing with the rappelling and water training was for you to gain confidence," said Cadet Kenneth McDowell of Rose Hulman Institute of Technology. "To gain confidence in your ability and overcome your fears."

Another popular training event with cadets is the leadership reaction course. In addition to building self-confidence, it tests the leadership skills of the cadets. The course consists of 16 stations, 10 of which include water obstacles. Each station presents a task that requires the cadets to display leadership and teamwork to achieve a solution.

Instructors present the task to the group leader along with physical restrictions and time constraints. The leader must develop a plan, brief the group and achieve an acceptable solution before time expires. The leader and group are then critiqued before moving on to the next station. Groups rotate through all stations and each cadet must serve as a leader.

The tasks are quite challenging and can be very frustrating. "The leadership reaction course was the most challenging part of camp," Joseph said. "You were put into a situation where you had to make a decision then watch it work or fail. Even if the decision was wrong, you learned from it. I felt it was really good."



Cadets negotiate an obstacle in the leadership reaction course. The course requires cadets to display leadership and teamwork.

"I really enjoyed the course," said Cadet Cheryl Conway of Indiana University. "I appreciated the chance to figure something out for myself and then see if it worked."

"I enjoyed the opportunity to look at a problem, think about it quickly and do it," Melancon said. "The excitement of knowing you accomplished something as a team was really rewarding."

Confidence and teamwork are not the only rewards. The ultimate reward is being prepared to lead. Developing leadership skills is the overall goal of advanced camp.

"The cadets are really enthusiastic and are willing to learn," said Sgt. Maurice Simmons of Company A, 1st Engineer Battalion. Simmons is the NCOIC of the water crossing phase of water training. "There are strong and weak cadets, but they all have the initiative to try. In the long run I think they will be good leaders."

"The cadets have a lot of enthusiasm," said PFC Joseph Alayra, also from Co. A. "Some may need a little more leadership training. But I think they all have the potential and will be qualified to be my platoon leader."

As the end of camp approached, most cadets expressed confidence in being prepared to assume the responsibility of leadership. "It has pointed me in the right direction," Conway said. "I now know what my strong and weak points are. It hasn't been the most fun I have ever had, but I am really glad I came. I feel a lot better about myself and have a lot more confidence in my abilities. I know where I have to go from here."

"I really feel prepared to be an officer now," Melancon said. "The camp has really helped me with time management and self-discipline. I believe that whatever you do in practice, you will do in combat. I also believe that your people will follow you and do exactly as you do. That is why discipline is so important. It should be stressed more in the future to aid the cadets."

"Start with a good attitude," Conway added. "Things can get you down at times but the proper attitude will get you through it."

"Prepare yourself mentally for the problems the cadre will present to you," McDowell added. "Realize that it is done to see how you react. Learn from it and don't forget that it is only a training situation."

On the final day a parade and commissioning ceremony was held. Gen. William R. Richardson, commander of the Training and Doctrine Command, administered the oath of office to 101 cadets receiving their commissions. Richardson reminded all cadets of the importance of that oath. "It is not an oath to be taken lightly. As those who have sworn to it before will tell you, it is an oath of office remarkable in its brevity but enormous in its consequences."

The training cadets had completed was also brief, but enormous in consequence. Watson congratulated the cadets and issued a final challenge: "Our soldiers deserve the best possible leadership and that is exactly what they will be looking to you for — to lead them. Continue to do your best and to set the example."

Six weeks after their arrival, those 2,600-plus students departed Fort Riley. Most left walking a little taller. It may not have been their most enjoyable summer, but it is certainly one they will remember proudly. □

TEACHERS, TRAINERS, LEADERS

Story by Lt. Col. Charles G. Cavanaugh Jr. and Faith Faircloth

Faith Faircloth

Lt. Col. Raymond R. Goodhart teaches ethics to ROTC cadets at his alma mater, The College of William and Mary, Williamsburg, Va. He says ROTC duty provides him an opportunity to impart a system of values cadets can carry with them throughout their military careers.

MORE than 70 percent of the Army's leadership is shaped in the Reserve Officer Training Corps programs conducted at numerous colleges and universities. Much of the Army's future is dependent on the skills, intelligence and leadership abilities of the men and women who tackle the difficult job of training these future leaders. ROTC duty is a challenge. It has rewards and frustrations. It is critically important.

"We send only high quality officers to ROTC assignments," said Capt. Bill Heilman, an assignment officer at MILPERCEN. "We nominate them and the ROTC region and the school have to approve their selection." Enlisted personnel are not subject to school approval. However, career branches select only the best personnel, who must meet strict assignment criteria.

ROTC instructors teach at 420 colleges and universities nationwide, conducting programs ranging from fewer than 50 students to others with cadets numbering in the hundreds. Their goals are the same in every instance: producing high quality leaders who possess soldierly skills and the maturity to accept responsibility. They are leaders training leaders.

Lt. Col. Raymond R. Goodhart is the Professor of Military Science at The College of William and Mary in Williamsburg, Va., and nearby Christopher Newport College. "It's the same challenge that any good commander in the Army should feel," he said. "It's taking our most precious resource, the human resource, and making it work to the optimum."

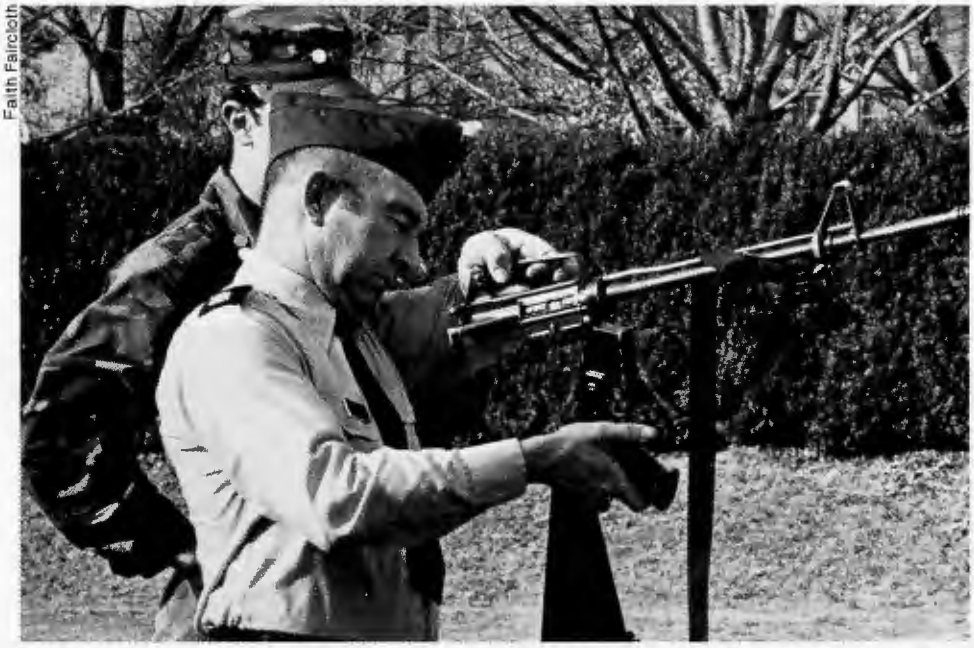
The PMS at the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor is a former cadet commander at the same school. Lt. Col. John P. Courte has come full circle in his career, and he's proud of the job his faculty is doing. "I never thought that when I graduated from Michigan more than 20 years ago that I would come back as the PMS. I am pleased that it worked out this way. I sought the job and was lucky enough to get it."

Courte is a field artillery officer with a background in line and staff assignments. He feels that experience is an absolute requirement for officers assigned to ROTC duty. "Without a doubt the most important qualities of an instructor are that he be well grounded in his branch and have had as wide a selection of duty assignments as possible. We are a sole source of information to some very bright, inquisitive young minds. There is no room for guesswork. They expect to be led by professionals."

Goodhart also graduated from the school where he is now assigned. "I fell in love with teaching about 12 years ago when I was assigned to ROTC at Penn State," he said. "I decided then that I wanted to be a PMS, specifically at William and Mary."

Goodhart went to graduate school, earned two master's degrees and gained teaching experience at the University of Maryland. "I developed the credentials, attained the rank and was in the right area when the position became available. So it all worked out, much to my surprise."

Sgt. Maj. Charlie T. Lowery is the senior enlisted instructor at Michigan. He sought ROTC duty for different reasons. "I like change," he said. "I like to see and experience everything the Army has to offer. I spent a lot of time as an infantry first sergeant at Knox, Hood and in Germany. I decided it was time to find out about


Faith Faircloth

Sgt. Maj. Robert Hale organizes William and Mary's leadership lab, where ROTC cadets learn military skills. Here he assists one of the cadets during a session on the M-16 rifle.

how our officers were educated. So here I am and I love it."

Lowery and a fellow NCO, MSgt. Phillip A. Sharpe, believe that many NCOs avoid ROTC duty because they don't understand it. "I was afraid at first because I didn't know exactly what I would be doing or how well I was trained for it," Sharpe said. "As it turns out I am doing all the things I love to do in a rather unique environment.

"I am teaching the hands-on soldier skills that I know and love. I coach the rifle team and spend a lot of time with the cadets. These are motivated young people who really want to learn about the Army. They look up to the NCOs because they know we have mastered our profession. I think that is important."

Lowery agrees. "These young people are the most challenging soldiers I have worked with. They are sharp and they ask sharp questions. I get a tremendous amount of satisfaction out of explaining the NCO corps and the relationship between the various ranks. The cadets ask for advice on how to work with NCOs and how to understand chain of command. Those are real questions, and I feel that I am doing a real service when I answer them."

The top stripe at William and Mary is Sgt. Maj. Robert Hale. He wanted the assignment and hasn't regretted a minute of the duty. "It has changed my thinking about 'schoolhouse lieutenants,' " he said. "They do a terrific job here."

While the officers are the primary instructors responsible for training and guiding young people through two- and four-year programs, NCOs offer valuable expertise and experiences to the cadets.

"The officers are the cadets' role models, Hale continued. "I represent the enlisted ranks. But it is hard to be like the sergeant major they will meet in the TO&E units. I'm dealing with them in a different setting, an academic environment. So I tell them not to expect every sergeant major in the field to be just like me."

Goodhart sees ROTC duty as an investment in the future — the Army's future. "I think that it is important that the people who are chosen for ROTC duty are professionals and have absolute integrity. We must take the time to teach these future leaders ethics and a system of values that they can apply throughout their military careers.

Capt. Jeffery Burton, freshman instructor and enrollment and retention officer at William and Mary, is one such professional. He's been at the college for three years now, is a military intelligence officer and has a master's degree. He received his commission through Officer Candidate School.

Burton is the first ROTC instructor freshmen meet. "More often than not the kids are a little apprehensive about someone dressed in green," he said. "I make a special effort to extend the first hello. And I think it is important to know my students. I enjoy talking with them and think they feel comfortable talking with me."

Students feel the same way. Cadet Lt. Col. Mary Pacholski is the battalion commander at Michigan. "The most important thing that the ROTC instructors can do is communicate with the students. We are all a little apprehensive and it really helps when they take the time to talk to us. ROTC has become one of the most important things in my life and a lot of it is because the officers and NCOs listened to my problems and helped me mature. I feel that I owe them a lot."

Cadet Terri Watson, a junior at William and Mary, feels the same. "Our instructors are phenomenal people. If all officers were like them, the whole country would be in the military.

"They are always willing to lend an ear, and they have such a practical approach to things. Other instructors might say, 'If you want, just drop a course or change a subject.' But the ROTC cadre will talk it over. They show you how to budget your time and manage yourself. You can go to them for anything, even if it's outside ROTC," she concluded.

Involvement outside ROTC duties is a challenge to the instructors as well. "We must always remember that we are not an entity unto ourselves," Courte said. "We are an academic department of the university and as such are very involved in faculty matters. We represent the Army and we represent the reputation of the institution. We must be careful to do both jobs well."

He added that Michigan has been good about it. "I won't pretend that there are not pockets of resistance to the military on campus. There are, but they are far diminished from what was happening 10 years ago. We tell the cadets that they will face people who don't agree with their values and life choices. We use it as a teaching point. Today's students are mature; they are confident in their own judgments."

Involvement in the community is another benefit of ROTC duty. Maj. James H. Dent is the enrollment and recruiting officer at Michigan. He spends a lot of his time in the community and the school systems.

"A big part of my job is to sell ROTC to the community," Dent said. "My responsibility is to present the benefits of ROTC to prospective candidates.

"I try to get out frequently to all

the high schools and talk with students," he continued. "I tell them how they can benefit from being in the ROTC program. And not every candidate will go on to be an officer. Some join for the first two years and drop the program. We want them too. We want a chance to show them how good the Army is and then let them make up their own minds."

Courte commented on the role model to the community that the ROTC instructors play. "In many instances we are the only military presence in the community. People are interested in us and come to us to understand the military. I give numerous speeches to civic groups each year. I love it because it gives me a chance to spike rumors and misunderstandings. The civilian population really respects the military, but often they don't know enough about the facts of our lives and careers to make decisions regarding their children, for instance."

Lowery has had similar experiences. "You would be amazed at what people don't know about our Army. There aren't many sergeants major here in Ann Arbor, and I answer some very interesting questions about my rank. It pleases me to do so because that is one of the reasons I wanted ROTC duty. The more the civilian community learns from me, the better I feel I have done my job. The other side is, I'm learning all the time from them. It is very stimulating."

But the main job of these professionals is teaching cadets to become Army officers. It is no longer a curriculum confined to drill and ceremonies, and weapons skills. ROTC instruction is more professional now, according to Goodhart. "When I was a student," he said, "there was a lot of emphasis on just military skills. Now we teach ethics, leadership, management, military history, military law, national defense and security policies."

"An ROTC instructor must be intelligent and educated," Courte continued. "We present serious intellectual material that brings about discussion and comment. When we discuss the ethics of our profession and try to instill the values of honor and loyalty, we have to be on our toes. The challenge of facing the inquisitive mind must be one of the most rewarding parts of this job."

Maj. Bob Herzog, commandant of cadets at Michigan, feels the same way. "I was a regular Army officer for eight years and then I resigned my commission to further my education. I was out for six years and accomplished the academic things I wanted to do. I stayed in the Reserves and when this opportunity for extended active service came up, I took it. I've seen education from both sides of the fence, and I am very confident that the program of instruction we give in ROTC can stack up with any."

Capt. Amelia Nutt is the operations officer and teaches ethics at Christopher Newport College. She is a military intelligence officer and received a direct commission. "I came here because I always wanted to have a direct impact on people coming into the military," she said. "I have found that they have beliefs and feelings that I didn't know this generation had. They feel good about family. They have religious convictions and beliefs. They feel they have something to offer society."

Sharpe feels challenged by the duty with cadets. "They expect you to know your business and know it well," he said. "I think that's great. I wouldn't have it any other way. They challenge me and that keeps me sharp. They want to talk about current events. They want to understand military philosophy. I've never felt this challenged. It's tough duty, but it sure is satisfying.'

Michigan senior cadet Scott Sovereign thinks the ROTC instructors he's met have lived up to his expectations. "Right from the start you knew you were with professionals. Their uniforms were sharp and they were right out there doing the PT with us." Sovereign, a little older than the average cadet, was a transfer to Michigan from a much smaller college. ROTC helped with the transition.

"Colonel Courte and the instructors always made me feel that my ambitions were important and that they would help me achieve them. I don't think I was immature when I got here, but I know that I've grown. A lot of that was because of the help received in ROTC. I think I will enter the Army with confidence. I think I am ready," he concluded.

But ROTC duty, like all duty, is not perfect. The hours are long. Rarely is there the chance to fully enjoy the benefits of a nearby PX and commissary. And sometimes community living can be expensive.

Capt. Theodore Lombard stands ready to advise and assist William and Mary ROTC cadets during leadership lab. Lombard is preparing juniors to attend advanced summer camp.

Faith Faircloth

MSgt. Phillip A. Sharpe

Maj. Bob Herzog, commandant of cadets at the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, meets with cadet officers. Satisfying school and Army demands means regular 12-hour workdays.

"You have to learn how to budget," Courte said. "Living in Ann Arbor is every bit as expensive as living in Washington, D.C. Things cost more when you're not getting the commissary discount or using the PX barber shop and dry cleaners. But it can be done. I am not aware of anyone suffering tremendous hardships because of an ROTC assignment."

And the hours are tough. Goodhart told an anecdote about his first ROTC duty at Penn State. "When I checked in, my PMS said I was welcome to get an advanced degree. 'But remember,' he said, 'I want you in the office from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. and available to the students for counseling. You will be the rifle team coach, the drill team coach and assist me with the cadet rangers. The rifle team meets two times a week, the drill team meets three times a week and the rangers meet on Fridays and Saturdays. You can expect to be on campus until about 10 at night. The rest of the time is yours.' I didn't get the advanced degree," he noted.

Herzog echoed Goodhart's comments. "There is no time for advanced study — not if you want to do the job right. My time is the cadets' time. I want them to have all the time they need.

"We work a long week around here. I am always in at seven and I rarely get home before eight in the evening. I'm not complaining, I'm just telling you the way it is. We are involved with extracurricular activities, counseling and just getting to know the cadets. You add that to lesson preparation, military duties and social responsibilities, and it adds up to a pretty full plate."

An important part of that time is spent at cadet summer camp. PMSs, instructors and enlisted cadre were unanimous in their evaluation of the importance of summer camp.

"That is where they really get a taste of soldiering," said Courte. "It gives us a chance to see them operate in a structured military environment, and it gives them a chance to see the reality of military life."

Lowery will attend his first camp this year. "I've been in the infantry all my life. I want to get to summer camp and share those skills with these cadets. We can talk about it on campus and give classes, but there is no substitute for doing it in the field. I think they will love it — I am sure I will. It's a chance to get back doing mainstream things, and that's important to me."

Being away from the mainstream worries some of the instructors. It's difficult to stay current with branch developments and Army changes while in ROTC. "It isn't easy to stay fully current," Courte commented. "We rely on periodicals and manuals and a careful scrutiny of major media. But because it isn't easy doesn't mean it isn't important.

"We're expected to know what's going on," he added. "One good way we accomplish this is through the PMS conferences. This year we had presentations by the top leadership of the Army. They told what the trends and philosophies were.

"Things like the conference are critical. We don't want to be left out, but we are realistic about it. I don't expect an assistant PMS who happens to be an artilleryman to be as current about his branch as a major serving in a howitzer battalion at Fort Sill. It just isn't going to happen."

Lowery feels that NCOs face the same problem. "We have to work to stay current. It's too easy to say 'I have my job and that is all I have to know.' That's the easy way out. Information is available if people seek it out. I don't want any cadet asking me a question that I can't answer. I'm proud to be an NCO and I want these future officers to see that pride. That means knowing what I'm supposed to know."

It's not only the military instructors who feel pride in the ROTC mission. Joseph W. Moore is the files record clerk for the Michigan detachment. He's a retired Air Force master sergeant and has been at the university for four years. "I like these young people," he said. "They have esprit and stick together. I missed that when I left the Air Force, and I guess that's why I looked for a job with the military.

"They know I'm retired and that they can talk to me to feel out a problem. Sometimes they just need a sounding board before they go to an officer or one of the NCOs. I'm glad to be able to do it for them. This is a tight unit and we all care about each other."

When all is said and done, the proof of the product is the new second lieutenant.

"The best part of the job is the day we commission the cadets," said William and Mary's Hale. "I shake hands and salute each one of them. It's a touching time — some of them really get choked up. I have all the confidence in the world in these cadets. I know they will do what they have to do."

Helping young people develop pleases Dent too. "I've had jobs that I liked as well as this, but I have never had a job that made me feel prouder. Having the chance to help a bright young mind develop has been tremendously rewarding for me."

Courte sums up his appreciation of duty in ROTC. "We have the privilege of assisting at a rite of passage. We are making young professionals out of young people. I can't think of any more satisfying thing to do."

Cadet Company Commander Kevin Corning of William and Mary offers a last thought. "I don't know what the consensus is in the Army about ROTC duty, but it is a tremendous opportunity to influence young lives. Maybe some of them would rather be back at their branch doing what they consider to be their primary job. But the kind of officers we will be is largely influenced by the officers we see in ROTC." □

POSTMARKS

Compiled by SSgt. Victoria Mouze

News Stories from Army Posts Around the World

Soldiers Aid Flood Relief

HERBORN, West Germany — Soldiers pitched in after heavy rains caused a river to flood Herborn and Bicken in central Germany.

Members of the 96th Ordnance Company and Headquarters and Headquarters Detachment, 557th U.S. Army Artillery Group, both part of the 59th Ordnance Brigade, helped stabilize a viaduct, bail out homes and serve hot food.

The U.S. Army moved in soon after water from the Dill River rose high enough to cause concern that a bridge might be swept away. Soldiers started stabilizing the viaduct with 13,000 sandbags. They also helped bail out homes in Bicken.

After the water receded, the unit moved back to Herborn and provided hot food and coffee to the public as clean-up operations began. Setting up in a local restaurant and city hall, the eight cooks from the 570th prepared food for more than 300 people.

"The Germans will bend over backward for the Americans here and we know it," said 1st Sgt. Daniel Jarmond, Headquarters and Headquarters Detachment. "This was our chance to repay some of the kindness we've been given."

Herborn officials said the rains caused the worst flooding in the region since 1909. The water, measuring up to six feet in some places, gushed into the town's business district, causing extensive damage. German soldiers, along with the Red Cross and the Herborn volunteer fire department, helped merchants and residents mop up.

Five-Minute Bridge Builders

EDINBURGH, Scotland — The giant-sized Erector set pieces were scattered on the ground in front of an international audience. Competition was keen for the 516th Engineer Company's team as they used their ingenuity to shave seconds off their time in assembling a girder bridge.

The 516th, part of the 130th Engineer Brigade, Hanau, West Germany, was invited by the Royal Engineers to compete during the 37th annual Edinburgh Tattoo.

The 516th competed against the 11th Field Squadron Royal Engineers, the British army from Ripon and the 104th Field Squadron Engineers from Scotland.

Each night during the three-week-long tattoo, teams constructed a four-bay single story bridge on asphalt in an arena. The 20-foot gap was simulated for the show. Teams formed up after trucks drove the bridge parts into the arena. On the command of "go," parts were dumped. Soldiers scurried to assemble the bridge. Eleven minutes were allotted for each demonstration. Each team put the bridge together in less than five minutes at least once. The 516th's best time was 4:47. They won five out of 17 competitions.

It takes about 30 minutes under normal conditions to construct a medium girder bridge. "This was more of a show," said 1st Lt. Margaret Williams, the team's OIC. "We made a lot of modifications. There's no way you could build a bridge under tactical conditions in five minutes." — *Sp5 M. Cholly Covert*

SFC Wayne Iha

Super Kids, Super Guard

HILO, Hawaii — When 300 children competed in the Superkids Plus fund-raiser sponsored by the American Lung Association of Hawaii, the state Army National Guard volunteered its services.

About 100 soldiers from the Guard's 2nd Battalion, 299th Infantry, prepared the field where entrants competed in a 50-yard dash, potato sack race and a softball throw. The soldiers also ran the events.

Amy Hamane, American Lung Association, praised the Guard's support. "Over and over again, parents said that the soldiers were so loving and kind to their children as they took them through each event. They were so organized. The one outstanding feature of our past events was parents expressing how impressed they were with the organization. We couldn't have done it without the support of the Hawaii Army National Guard."

Proceeds of the competition and a bazaar held on the same day will help the Hilo chapter in its fight against lung disease. — *2nd Lt. Angela Gibson*

Family Gym Dandy

FORT JACKSON, S.C. — Soldiers and their family members can soon work out in an on-post gym similar to off-post fitness centers.

The post's recreation division is spending $50,000 to purchase Nautilus equipment and upgrade a former basic training brigade's gym. The brigade gym was relocated to Lee Field House and will retain its equipment.

Included in the upgrade will be repairs to basketball courts, installation of a sauna in the women's locker room, and an open exercise room.

"We want to offer soldiers and families the opportunity to work out on first-class weight equipment," said Lt. Col. Donald Gibson, recreation officer. "We're spending 25 percent of our total sports budget this year on the new center because we know it's going toward something which will last a long time. It's our first step at looking at a total fitness plan for the entire post." — *Sp4 Michael Fine*

THE TAE KWON DO KIDS

Story and Photos by SSgt. Victoria Mouze

SITTING in the coach's office in one of the gyms at Fort Hood, Texas, Michalynn Kidd and Patrick McCaffrey looked out of place in their martial arts uniforms. The two 13-year-olds seemed shy as they sat with their hands clasped on their laps, talking quietly and politely to the instructor.

The pair began to take on a different appearance, however, as they walked out of the office to put on a brief tae kwon do demonstration. They exuded a quiet confidence as they walked, shoulders back, heads held high. Though barefoot, neither seemed to notice the prickly, stubby dry grass and stickers they walked across. Not once did they wince or step gingerly. When they turned to face each other, all illusions of shyness were shattered by banshee-like yells.

As the yells pierced the air, they assumed fighting positions. A moment later, they punched and kicked at one another and parried one another's blows with unblinking concentration.

That concentration is the heart of tae kwon do, explained instructor James McMurray. "I teach discipline, control and concentration," he said. "My students learn that all those things come from within themselves. They build self-confidence. They learn that they are good, they are somebody." McMurray remarked he has seen that confidence flower in Kidd and McCaffrey during the 18 months they have been taking lessons.

McCaffrey admitted he has changed. Before signing up for classes, he became frustrated when he couldn't do something right. He takes his time now. "I tell myself that I can do something, and I can."

McMurray added that McCaffrey has improved in another way. "When Patrick started class, he was skinny. He has since built up his body. He has all kinds of muscles now."

McCaffrey's attitude also has changed. "Mr. McMurray tells us to respect people and they'll respect us. It works." Kidd added that students also must respect their teacher.

"If your teacher tells you to do something, you must do it," she said. "That shows respect. He is teaching you. It's not the other way around. You learn more that way. You learn you can't always have your way."

"My students strive to do what I tell them to do," McMurray said. "They don't want me to get upset. When I'm mad at students, they do a hundred push-ups. When I'm really mad, they do a thousand. And when I can't stand them, they do a million. We all know that kids can't do a hundred push-ups, a thousand or a million, but that lets them know just how upset I am." He remarked that he has left students standing at parade rest while he went home and ate dinner. When he returned, they would still be in that position.

Though McMurray's methods may seem harsh, he sees them as a growing experience. "Life isn't a bed of roses," he said. "People are going to be hurt, disappointed and have fears. That is normal. They have to learn to deal with it."

He added that students who once cast their eyes downward start looking people straight in the eye. "They square their shoulders back and raise their chins," he said. Kidd doesn't think she has changed, but her teacher does. "She's more confident now. She changed from a shy, young lady to one who is more outgoing."

During one national meet that Kidd entered, boys and girls were pitted against one another. "A lot of girls refused to compete," McMurray said. "Not Michalynn. She went out there and fought. At one point, she was hit in the throat. The judges wanted to stop the fight. They thought she would get hurt. I said she would be OK. She won that fight and took third place."

She has entered nine meets and returned with eight trophies. McCaffrey has just started competing. In October of last year, he attended two meets, but didn't win any trophies. Both times he remarked that there was always next time. Last December's regional meet of entrants from Texas, Oklahoma and Louisiana

proved to be that next time. He took fourth place in his age group.

McMurray explained that judges grade entrants on balance, speed, power and concentration. "A lot of people think that martial artists knock peoples' heads off," he said. "That isn't how it is. It's controlled techniques and how fast and close you get to your opponent without really touching him."

While he feels that Kidd and McCaffrey need competition to help them grow, he plays down its importance. "I'm not teaching tae kwon do as a sport, but as self-defense and a way of life. My teaching centers around becoming a better person.

"Many people can't grasp just what tae kwon do is all about," McMurray continued. "Tae kwon do, or any martial art, focuses on the same result: self-defense. In karate, you destroy an opponent from the outside in. You abuse the skin and break bones. In kung fu, you destroy from the inside out, causing internal damage. Tae kwon do balances the two. We can go through skin and bones to really hurt an opponent. Or we can push an opponent and make him hurt himself. Even though I teach self-defense, damaging an opponent is the last resort."

He added that a tae kwon do artist may protect himself only after calling for help or pleading with an attacker. "That is, only when other methods fail," he cautioned. "I better never hear about my students starting a fight using the techniques they've learned. Like I said, the physical part is the last resort."

When his students enter meets, however, they go with confidence. "Their conduct tells the judges that 'I am here and I am good.' That pays off. They win. But when they do lose, they lose with grace. They shake the winners' hands and say, 'That was a good fight. We'll see you next time.' "

Competition is just a small part of tae kwon do. Twice a week McMurray puts his students through stretching exercises, sparring, self-defense, breaking boards and concrete blocks, and practicing forms.

"Forms are prearranged moves students go through," McMurray explained. "These moves are the same in all tae kwon do schools. Forms range from basic moves, like kicking and punching, to complex moves of jumping, spinning and flipping."

Before class, students stretch their muscles so they won't cramp. "Then, we'll work on regular stuff like punches and kicks," McCaffrey said.

"Also, our teacher puts us through certain self-defense moves," Kidd added. "Like, if someone comes at you with a knife, you can use certain moves to protect yourself. You can turn your arm or break the attacker's arm: simple stuff like that. You don't need to be strong. Moves depend on speed."

As students master techniques, they can test for a series of different colored belts. Tae kwon do students start with white belts. As they progress, they can earn yellow, orange, green, blue, brown and red belts. Right now, Kidd has a blue belt while McCaffrey holds a green belt. Once they earn their red belts, they could start working for their black belts.

"Students must be tested to earn their first through fifth degrees of black belts," McMurray said. "First degree means that students have learned the basics. They're not worried about how they're going to move or kick. They know they're moving their hands right and kicking with the right part of their foot. As they work toward the next four degrees, they focus on the inner strength of tae kwon do."

The remaining five degrees are honorary. "Martial artists so honored present themselves well in public and spread tae kwon do to as many people as possible," McMurray said.

Tae kwon do artists reaching ninth and tenth degree black belts are grand masters. "They can walk through buildings," McMurray said. "Their knowledge and skill aren't questioned. Their word is accepted."

McMurray holds a fourth degree black belt in tae kwon do and second degree black belts in hapkido and hwarangdo. "Hapkido is similar to judo and aikido," McMurray explained. "Hwarangdo once was taught only to Korean palace guards. That art, like Japanese ninjitsu, was a very secretive and spiritual martial art."

While he is proud of the belts he has earned, he would rather teach than work for higher degrees. Until last February, he was an Army photographer who devoted his off-duty time to his students. After ETS, he remained at Hood as a full-time civilian teacher with recreation services.

McMurray calls Kidd and McCaffrey "very dedicated." "They still have time for other activities," he pointed out. "There is nothing different about their lifestyle. I'm not taking their childhood away. I'm just helping them become better people. They devote two nights a week to martial arts. But I also try to teach them that even when not in class, tae kwon do is still a part of them. They must always take responsibility for their decisions and actions.

"Some students don't last a month," he continued. "The ones that really devote themselves are the ones that stay." Students like Kidd and McCaffrey. □

FOCUS ON PEOPLE

Compiled by Faith Faircloth

SSgt. Gary Winkler

SSgt. Gary Winkler

Lasher: Grenada Skydive

SSgt. Jeanne A. Lasher of the Golden Knights is the first woman to parachute over the tiny island of Grenada since the U.S. mission there in October 1983.

Her jumps, one practice and one demonstration jump, took place in February as part of the observance of Grenada's 10th anniversary of independence. The Knights are the Army's parachute demonstration team.

"It wasn't one of the easiest demonstrations we've performed," she said. "We had the ocean and high winds on one side of the landing site and two big mountains and thick jungle on the other. But the view from up there was just spectacular. I was surprised at how friendly the Grenadians were. They were very supportive of America and our soldiers down there." — *Sp4 Shawn Weed*

On March 12, **Leon O. Beck** of Honolulu, Hawaii, donated a World War II document to the Army which lists 598 American and Allied prisoners of war who were held by the Japanese.

The document, signed in 1942 by most of those listed, includes the name and signature of Lt. Gen. Jonathan Wainwright, commander of U.S. forces in the Philippines at the time of surrender to the Japanese.

Beck, an Army private during World War II, said he was taken prisoner in the Philippines but later escaped and fought as a guerrilla. He said the document was compiled by another enlisted prisoner.

The entries in most cases include names, signatures, home addresses and dates of capture and liberation. Some entries also contain dates of death in the prison camps. Beck presented the document to retired Brig. Gen. Douglas Kinnard, chief of military history, Department of the Army. The document is in Washington, D.C., for study and preservation. — *Tom Kiddoo*

Since the mid-1970s **SFC Michael Nagy,** Company A, 2nd Battalion, 66th Armor, Garlstedt, West Germany, has painstakingly fashioned body armor, elaborate helmets and weapons from old wall lockers, 55-gallon drums, brass locks and other assorted scrap.

A former arts and crafts specialist, Nagy, whose name means "blacksmith" in Hungarian, spent three years making a 35-pound, 50,000-link chain mail shirt from 80 door springs. He created a sword nearly four feet long from a broken truck load spring. A tank hatch spring and a piece of driftwood became a Scottish dagger.

During the U.S. Bicentennial, Nagy saw a display of uniform reproductions and said he could do a better job. A friend called him on his boast, so Nagy started making uniforms. In one of his early efforts, he fashioned a rifleman's costume of buckskins, complete with a powder horn and rifle. Civil War and Revolutionary War uniforms followed.

"A lot of people have the fantasy of seeing what it was like in the old days,"

Beck (left): POW List

SSgt. Linda Kozaryn

Nagy: Scrap Art

Nagy said. "I do it through crafts. I'm fascinated by how things were made and how they were worn and worked in." — *SSgt. Linda Kozaryn*

For 23 soldiers of the **101st Military Police Company** at Fort Campbell, Ky., six months of Multinational Force and Observer duty on the Sinai Peninsula might have been lonely.

But thanks to 40 3rd, 4th and 5th graders at Saint Peter and Paul Catholic School in Hopkinsville, Ky., lack of mail wasn't a problem.

"My first letter was a real surprise," said Sgt. Gregory Foresman. "It was full of jokes, poems and questions that really cheered me up. It was fun to have a pen pal to write to."

In February some of the soldiers who returned from the Sinai visited the school to show the students how much their letters were appreciated. First Lt. Michael Stricklin gave a brief talk on what the soldiers did while on MFO duty, showed pictures they had taken and answered questions.

"The letters we received definitely brightened our stay," Stricklin said. "These children did more good than I think they realize." — *PFC Alfred F. Muzer*

Bill Koenig

From the limelight to barracks life was quite a switch for **PFC Kimerli J. Pring**. But the graduate of Delta Company, 1st Battalion, 5th Brigade, Fort Dix, N.J., has no regrets.

Pring, a former Miss Wyoming, winner of the talent portion of the 1978 Miss America Pageant and the 1978 U.S. Baton Twirling Championship, was named Soldier of the Cycle on Feb. 24. Pring graduated from the University of Wyoming with a bachelor's degree in general business management and owned a baton twirling school in Wyoming before joining the Army.

"I wanted to do something that would be a career," she said. "My students were advancing and developing, but I wasn't."

After talking with recruiters from all the services, Pring decided on the Army. "The Army has made me high-spirited and given me inner peace," Pring said. "I'm no longer Miss This or That. I have a healthier attitude about myself." She's at Chaplains Assistant School at Fort Monmouth, N.J., now. — *Sp4 Cynthia Banner*

Sgt. Pat Franklin

101st MPs: Pen Pals

Sp4 Cynthia Banner

Pring: Beauty Queen

A RECORD OF LOVE

MSgt. Norman J. Oliver

"IN the military community all the houses look alike. If a child wanders just over three blocks, he's lost," said 1st Lt. Angela M. Squier, crime prevention officer for Fort Hood, Texas. "You ride him around for hours, and he's saying 'That's my house. That's my house. Oh, gosh!' "

Military and civilian police know the frustration of trying to reunite a lost child with his parents. Only parents know the desperation of searching for a lost child. When police look for a lost child, they often wish they had a better description than that given by a hysterical parent.

The Army has two major programs available worldwide that are aimed specifically at the missing children problem: First, MPs at posts throughout the world can give parents a fingerprint record of their children. Second, MPs can put information on a lost child into the FBI's computerized missing person file.

In general, crime prevention programs educate parents and children, make Army posts safer and help prevent the problem in the first place. Fingerprinting is where such a program can start.

MPs at the Fort Myer, Va., PX fingerprinted and photographed 7-

MSgt. Norman J. Oliver

year-old Kevin McEwen earlier this year. "If somebody takes me away, the police can look at my fingerprints. I've never been kidnapped," he said with a touch of bravado in his voice.

But Kevin's mother has no desire to see her son turn into the young hero of a Robert Louis Stevenson novel. "I feel a lot safer now having his fingerprints," said his mother, SSgt. Brenda McEwen. "We talk to him all the time about not talking to strangers and coming straight home."

McEwen read about the fingerprinting in the post newspaper. "I marked it on my calendar," she said. "It's hard for me to get out on the weekends, but I said I was going to get out and get it done."

When Kevin and his mother arrived at the MP display, they received a friendly greeting. McEwen filled out a permission slip and gave it to the MPs. They in turn gave her the fingerprint card with an instant ID photo on it. The card has space for McEwen to record vital data about Kevin, such as his age, height, weight and color of hair and eyes. The only thing the MPs kept was the permission slip. Only the McEwens have a copy of Kevin's fingerprints. Neither school nor police officials get a copy.

No matter how long a child is missing, a fingerprint card with an up-to-date photo and physical data gives police their best description. Additionally, prints can be entered into the FBI's missing person file.

A lost child is usually found wandering in the neighborhood or staying too late at a friend's or the video arcade. According to police, most missing children are found or return home within 48 hours. Police divide the more serious cases of missing children into three categories: kidnappings, those abducted by parents in custody fights and runaways.

The Fingerprint Program

THE fear of kidnapping motivated Maj. Claiborne W. Davis III and his wife, Judy, to take their children to the Fort Myer PX, where MPs fingerprinted them.

"I'd been home to Oklahoma last summer," Mrs. Davis recalled. "Two teen-aged girls vanished from a carnival there. They asked both sets of parents if they had fingerprints or anything on file. Nothing. And they have not heard from these girls for a year."

The Davises said that media coverage of missing children brought the subject to their attention. "This is a good thing to have," said Mrs. Davis of the fingerprinting. "Better safe than sorry, as they always say."

The Davises, like McEwen, had read about the program in the post newspaper. Often police will set up stations in shopping areas to fingerprint as many children as they can. Since the parents are there with the children, the police can have them sign a consent form on the spot. Police need parental consent before they fingerprint minors.

At other times the police will do the fingerprinting through a school or club. In that case, a letter explaining the program is sent home to the parents along with a consent form.

"We fingerprint in mass groups," Squier said. "We mail flyers to everybody's home and lay them out all over post. We try to do it around payday activities. We set up a tent between the PX and commissary. We get mass participation by doing that."

In addition, she said, Fort Hood will fingerprint by unit, in the civilian communities with the local police departments, and through the PTAs and school systems.

On a payday weekend when the Fort Hood MPs set up their tent, they fingerprint between 450 and 500 children, said Capt. Lawrence R. Piwko, who plays McGruff, the well-known crime prevention dog. "We have people in line from when we start to when we finish. It's just physically impossible to do more than 500." Fort Hood has two fingerprint kits and also provides a photo ID of each child.

"We tell the parents they should update the photograph at least once a year," Squier said. "If they are school-age children, we simply suggest they buy and use the school picture. The card has a place for the photo as well as the fingerprints. For the things that change, such as height, weight and age, we suggest they use pencil. We suggest they update that when they update the photograph. An easy way to remember that is to do it on their birthdays."

Fingerprints don't change, so they only have to be taken once. The program, MPs said, isn't just for young children. It's more important for older children who are more on the move. They may, however, protest.

"At first I thought it was really dumb," said 13-year-old Kelley Davis. "Then my parents convinced me if somebody takes me, they'll be able to


Capt. Larry Piwko

find me faster. I didn't want to come down here and get my fingers dirty with ink and everything. Now they're clean." The MPs have hand cleaner that removes the ink easily. "It was all right. I didn't mind it," she added.

Her 12-year-old brother, Clay, registered a "pretty strong" protest when his parents suggested the fingerprinting. It didn't take them long to convince him, however. "They said, 'You're going to go.' I didn't have a choice," he said. "I was the only big kid there. The rest were all little kids. I was hoping there would be someone else as old as I am." Apparently his sister doesn't count.

The FBI has traditionally helped in kidnappings. Now the Missing Children Act of 1982 unleashes the computerized power of the FBI's missing person file even when kidnapping isn't suspected. Parents can ask if their child's record is in the file or ask to have a description of the missing child put in the file. Beginning last year, the FBI started accepting fingerprint cards on missing children.

Military and civilian police are able to enter missing person records into the FBI's file and make queries against it with immediate answers.

Descriptions and fingerprints are removed from the file if any missing person is found. Juvenile records are kept until the persons are found, reported safe by parents or until they are no longer minors as defined by their states. Records on persons who are taken against their wills are kept until the persons are located.

Army families living on post in the United States can ask the MPs for help in looking for a lost child. Those who live off post should first seek help from the civilian police. Army members stationed overseas can give the information about the missing child to the local provost marshal office. The PMO will then send the information to Fort Benjamin Harrison, Ind., which has the equipment for making the entry into the FBI's file.

The MPs can make an entry into the FBI file or see if a record is already there, but they will need facts about the disappearance, a description of the child and a written request for help. If local police don't support a request from an Army famiily living off post, the MPs can make the FBI entry.

The FBI receives more than 10,000 reports of missing persons every month. Three-quarters of these concern juveniles. At any one time, there are about 30,000 records in the file. Two-thirds of the juvenile records are on girls. Missing boys outnumber girls through age 12, when the percentage of missing girls jumps. About 3 percent are 10 or younger. Those 11 to 13 are 10 percent of the records while more than 85 percent are 14 to 18. Those older than 19 are a little over 1 percent. Whites make up 82 percent of the records, followed by blacks with 16 percent.

So far about two dozen of those records have been identified as children of soldiers. In 1983 there were no reported kidnappings of children from Army families.

"Missing children cases, as all missing person cases, almost always fall within the jurisdiction of local and state authorities," said FBI Special Agent Demery R. Bishop.

The two major aids to local police, Bishop said, are the missing person file and the addition of prints


Sp4 Brad Mosher

on missing or abducted children to the repository of fingerprint cards in the FBI's Identification Division.

Unfortunately, according to Bishop, the Missing Children Act has caused several misconceptions. The act doesn't give the FBI any new investigative powers. The act doesn't allow the FBI to investigate every missing child case in America.

"The FBI can initiate a preliminary

Capt. Larry Piwko

Page 28, Sgt. Delores Hoeflich of Fort Myer, Va., fingerprints Kevin McEwen as McGruff and SSgt. Brenda McEwen watch. • Top left and above, military police at Fort Hood, Texas, fingerprint and photograph children. • Below, at Fort Riley, Kan., Kim Carter, fingerprints Shannon Dalton.

nary inquiry," he said, "only when there is an indication a crime has been committed which falls within its jurisdiction, such as kidnapping. Even so, the federal kidnapping statute specifically excludes the kidnapping of a minor by a parent. Cases of this nature are more appropriately handled by state and local authorities."

Cases of parental kidnapping are a jurisdictional nightmare, according to officials at the Military Police Operating Agency in Falls Church, Va. Most occur as a result of custody disputes in divorce cases. Most local police and prosecutors regard it as a family or social problem, not a criminal problem.

Eighty-five percent of abducted children are taken by one of their parents, according to Gloria Yerkovich. To help parents of missing children, she began Child Find, a nonprofit agency that helps locate missing children. It charges $60 for reproduction of a missing child's photograph and distribution of information about the child. Child Find, P.O. Box 277, New Paltz, N.Y. 12561, runs a free hotline at (800) 431-5005.

Crime Prevention

NEITHER the Army nor the FBI can guarantee a missing child can be found. While children can't be locked in a cage, some common sense steps will reduce the chance of a child being abducted and ease the job of police trying to return a lost child.

Some of these Army programs promoted on posts throughout the world include:

—Neighborhood watch.

—Awareness training for children on security.

—Block parent and helping hand.

—Law enforcement Explorers.

—Officer Friendly and McGruff.

—Activity books for youths.

"We teach the typical 'stranger danger,' " said Fort Hood's Squier. "We direct a lot to the 'latchkey' child. In the military there are many children who go home alone. Many parents tie the key around their children's necks, which is probably the worst thing they could do. What they should do is pin the key inside the pocket or inside the sock. Now, if I were in the schoolyard looking for a child and saw one with a key around his neck, I'd know he's going to be at home alone. We teach them little things like that, which are no big secrets. They're just so common you don't think about them.

"How many children have been taught their last name? Very few, I assure you. How many children know their address? How many children know their parents' names?" she asked. "We've picked up children walking around who have just wandered off. They can't tell you where they live. They can't tell you their parents' name, where they work, nothing. They don't know anything. I'm talking about first- and second-graders. Even younger children can learn this."

"What we do is give them Junior MP cards, and we'll fill out that information and tell them they should always carry it. If they get lost or a policeman asks their names and where they live, they've got it.

Little things like that add up, she said. "Do they know how to answer the telephone? Do they know they're not supposed to tell a caller that Mommy and Daddy aren't home? Do they know not to answer the door? Is the fire department's number by the phone? Do they know how to dial the phone? Some parents won't let their children touch the telephone. We've had incidents where things like that have come up, and the children didn't know what to do. They were just totally dumbfounded. One, we don't give children enough credit for the intelligence that they do have. And, two, we hurt them instead of help them by isolating them. You don't want to scare them, because it's been proven that scare tactics don't work. You need to have them know they can survive without you."

The military and civilian police, the FBI and parents of missing children have the same goal — the swift reunion of parents and children. But the first steps are always taken at home. □

THE ALABAMA PANZER

Story and Photos by John Reichley

THE Normandy invasion of 40 years ago, as historic as it was, was not the only important military event of 1944. Nor was it the first time American soldiers faced German soldiers on European soil.

One German soldier, a member of an elite tank unit, had already met Americans in Italy a few months earlier. He was aware of D-Day, however. He heard about it in a series of hospitals from fellow Germans who had been wounded at Normandy.

Heinrich Mueller's longest day had taken place at Salerno, Italy, earlier in 1944. Today he and his wife, Ingeborg, live in Alabama, and he enjoys reminiscing about events of 40 years ago.

Mueller was born in the mountains of Silesia in the eastern part of Germany. In 1941, at age 18, he was drafted into the Luftwaffe, the German air force. After training he was sent to Russia to take part in the air war against the Soviets.

In 1942 a strange thing happened to Mueller — he was drafted again. "We needed men in the German army," he said. "Hermann Goering, the Luftwaffe commander, agreed to supply the manpower for an armored division. He insisted it be called the 'Hermann Goering Division,' and it was. We wore air force insignia and distinctive uniforms. Army panzer insignia was bordered by pink; ours was bordered by white."

Asked if he volunteered for tank duty he quickly answered, "No. I was double-drafted — first into the Luftwaffe, then into the army. In Germany at that time, you went where you were told to go." He was told to go to Utrecht, Holland, for training.

"It wasn't so much fun," he recalled. "It was basic training all over again. I had learned all about an airplane. Now I had to learn all about a tank. I had some mechanical ability so they made me a driver."

The new panzer division traveled widely and quickly through Holland and Germany to Bordeaux, France, southern Italy, then Sicily. It was scheduled to join Rommel in North Africa, but was held in Sicily when the Afrika Korps surrendered in April 1943.

Above, Heinrich Mueller today with his pet dachshund, Snoopy. • Right, Ingeborg and Heinrich Mueller at home. • Mueller (right) in 1943, with a wartime buddy in Sicily.

Mueller first fought Americans at Gela, Sicily, and was impressed by their firepower and fighting savvy. "In our first engagement we lost 36 tanks. Most of our damage came from naval gunfire. It was the first time I had been exposed to it, and it was terrible. Our unit lost most of its equipment and materiel."

His first impression of Amer-

JOHN A. REICHLEY, a retired Army public affairs officer, works at the Command and General Staff College, Fort Leavenworth, Kan.

ican soldiers was that they were "very tough." "They just kept coming at us. We were fighting defensive battles and were forced to keep pulling back."

The Hermann Goering Division was chopped up pretty badly in Sicily and withdrawn to Naples to refit. It returned to the front at Salerno. There, in heavy street fighting, Mueller said he made "quite a mistake for a tanker."

"I got out of my tank. When I did that, I was as vulnerable as any infantryman. In fact, an infantryman threw a grenade that exploded and broke my leg. I hurt all over, and later they dug 60 pieces of shrapnel out of me. I was also weakened by malaria."

But the tough little tanker wasn't taken prisoner. He made it to the safety of the German lines and was evacuated to Innsbruck, Austria. The resort hotel Maria Teresa was made into a hospital.

"We were sure the Americans would not bomb the resort area because they would want to go skiing there after the war. We were wrong. They bombed us for sure, and we were evacuated again.

"I ended up months later on the outskirts of Berlin. They gave me a rifle and said that just beause I couldn't walk didn't mean I couldn't shoot. We patients were joined by Latvian and Estonian SS units. They told us what the Russians had been doing in towns they captured. There were also wounded soldiers there from Normandy, so I heard all about their 'longest day.' "

The patients fought back when the Russians attacked Berlin. "Only six men were left from my hospital unit," Mueller said. "We knew the end was near, and didn't want to be taken by the Russians. We hobbled over to the British lines and surrendered. The date was May 8, 1945, the same day my country surrendered, but I didn't know that at the time."

He spent several months in a British POW camp and was released in late 1945. The Russians occupied his former part of Germany, and he didn't want to return there. He knew his wife wasn't in Silesia, but he had no idea where she was. A few months later, quite by accident, they were reunited, and lived subsequently in France, Germany, Canada and the United States.

Mueller said it was pretty simple how he found his way to the southern end of the Appalachians. "My wife's cousin married a Russian who became a college professor. He was teaching in Alabama and advised me to go to Anniston, near Fort McClellan, and find work in a steel mill. I worked there for a while, then got a job at Jacksonville (Ala.) State University. I've been here 22 years now."

Although the "air force soldier" left the military many years ago, an interest in weapons and uniforms is still in his blood. Several years ago he heard an announcement offering ROTC cadets a ride in a National Guard tank at a Fort McClellan range. Mueller was the first person at the ROTC building that Saturday morning, accompanied by a huge basket of fried chicken.

"When you are on the tanks, you get hungry. I know," he said. He volunteered for the first ride, "to show the cadets how it's done."

At an ROTC graduation ceremony he had an unusual reunion. The father of one of the cadets was a veteran of the 3rd Infantry Division, a unit that had fought Mueller's in Italy.

"It was quite interesting for me to at last meet one of those tough GIs from 1944," Mueller said. The two old soldiers warmed up even more after they determined the former Marneman was not the one who had wounded Mueller with the hand grenade. "Now if I ever run across that fellow. . . " he trailed off.

Mueller recently had a more meaningful reunion. His brother, Helmut, who had been interned in a French POW camp, visited from West Germany. A third brother, Martin, was a POW of the Americans and lives in East Germany today. Heinrich hasn't seen him since 1947 but the two have kept in touch by mail.

The Muellers have grown to love Alabama. Mueller is the supervisor of heating and air conditioning at the university and his wife works at the Fort McClellan hospital.

The ex-Hermann Goering Division soldier has not forgotten the events he was part of 40 years ago, nor does he want to forget. "It's nice to think back, but it's more important to think ahead. Thinking ahead, I think we'll stay in our adopted homeland forever." □

courtesy Heinrich Mueller

SHOOT FOR THE BEST

Story and Photo by Capt. Peter Martin

IN its colonial days, the United States was a nation of riflemen because marksmanship was a vital part of everyday living. That fact paid military dividends in the fight for independence.

Since those times, the world has seen many changes — more complex and destructive weapons. Tanks. Planes. Missiles. And yet, what was true in 1776 still holds today: The infantryman is the ultimate weapon.

The ability to shoot well is a basic measure of a good soldier. And precisely because marksmanship is primarily a martial art today, it is one thing the average Army recruit knows nothing about. Marksmanship is a learned art.

With this in mind, the Army Marksmanship Unit was formed in 1956. AMU, at Fort Benning, Ga., is the headquarters for the Army team and for regional Marksmanship Training units at Fort George G. Meade, Md.; Fort Riley, Kan.; and Fort Ord, Calif. These units raise Army marksmanship proficiency and represent the Army in national and international competitions.

Each MTU has two officers and 21 enlisted and civilian personnel. From September to February each year MTUs train soldiers at installations for which they are responsible. From March through August the units' ranks swell to more than 100 as they prepare for the All-Army, interservice and national competitions.

MTUs select soldiers from posts in April for advanced marksmanship training leading up to the All-Army championships. Selections are based on soldiers' scores in post championships. After the All-Army championships, the top shooters form the National Trophy Group that represents the Army at interservice and national levels. Standards are high. Soldiers must have shooting potential and also must show that they are totally professional.

In August, after the Nationals, soldiers return to home posts to share their marksmanship training. As they share their skills, they discover other soldiers who show a high level of marksmanship and an ability to teach. These shooters are considered for an MTU assignment.

Sp4 Charles Buck, 27, a wire/switchboard operator from Albuquerque, N.M., is a typical selectee. A promising shooter, Buck was selected two years ago to his battalion's rifle team. He made the post team and shot well enough at the Forces Command regional matches to earn a place on the Eastern Region team. He trained with veteran shooters, went to the All-Army championships, and qualified for the National Trophy Group.

After his return from the Nationals, Buck was assigned to the post MTU and helped run the division and corps matches and trained new shooters. The following year he again represented the Army and his performance earned him an MTU assign-

CAPTAIN PETER MARTIN is commander of Marksmanship Training Unit 1, Fort George G. Meade, Md.

ment. His scores continue to climb, and he hopes to join the elite ranks of competitors who earn the Distinguished Riflemans Badge and become members of the President's One Hundred.

"I'm proud to wear the Army shooting team patch," Buck said, giving this advice to hopefuls: "Do everything you can to shoot in the post matches, because that's where it all starts."

Sgt. Jon E. Lone, a 28-year-old mortarman from Brighton, Mich., started shooting at the battalion level five years ago. He worked his way up that year to division, post and finally to the Eastern Region teams.

"I was able to hold my own that year, but was not selected to the National Trophy Group," Lone said. "I returned to my company, where I used my experience to teach unit marksmanship classes." The next year he worked his way up again and this time made it to the National Trophy Group.

"I did very well that year and was assigned to an MTU that fall," he said. "The following year I earned the Distinguished Rifleman designation and became a member of the President's One Hundred." Lone went on to shoot well enough to compete on the Army team which won the national championships. His advice: "New shooters must have a desire to be good, must have goals and must want to help improve Army marksmanship."

While the number of Army women involved in competitive shooting is small, those who have pursued advanced marksmanship have quickly risen to national standing. SSgt. Al Sylvia Procter, a 29-year-old MP from Newport News, Va., is NCOIC of the MTU 1 pistol section at Fort Meade.

"My unit at Fort Bragg (N.C.) was looking for pistol shooters," she said. "I signed up, was selected, and we took second place in the corps matches. I've been involved in shooting since that time. My goal is to make the 1988 U.S. Olympic team." Procter feels that more women are not involved because marksmanship isn't a priority with women.

"They haven't been conditioned to shooting and some are dissuaded because there are so many men involved," she said. "Women can compete with men in the shooting game because the emphasis is on concentration. Women can handle the mental discipline as well as men. The field is wide open for women. If they are really interested, they should go for it."

Being able to shoot well is important for the soldiers assigned to the MTUs. Being able to teach others is just as important. The MTU instructors spend a great deal of time on the road giving clinics. The largest part of their training mission is with rifle marksmanship, both on posts and at ROTC detachments.

A recent clinic at Fort Jackson, S.C., is typical of those MTUs offered at a post. MTU 1 evaluated marksmanship instruction provided to trainees and conducted a train-the-trainer clinic for drill instructors.

Train-the-trainer clinics are aimed at creating a cadre that can train soldiers at the unit level and can train others to be instructors. Marksmanship clinics have also proved very popular when conducted prior to post championships and have given many soldiers the basics needed to compete at this level.

Both small-bore rifle and pistol clinics are popular in ROTC units. These sessions introduce cadets to marksmanship and offer them the chance to meet some of the nation's best shooters. The techniques ROTC instructors and cadets learn can influence a school's shooting program for many years and give future Army leaders a sound background in marksmanship skills.

MTU 1 last year introduced a one-week small arms training course to teach basic pistol marksmanship to Army, Defense Department and civilian law enforcement personnel.

The first class was given to agents of the Defense Criminal Investigative Service, Office of the DOD Inspector General. A student in that first course was Joseph Sherick, the inspector general, who attended to ensure his agents received the best marksmanship instruction available.

"The course met my fondest expectations in every way," Sherick said. "I was especially impressed with the competence and professionalism of all the instructors. I couldn't ask for better." All new DCIS agents now attend the course.

Sniper and countersniper instruction using the M-21 sniper rifle is available from all marksmanship units. USAMU provides a two-week course in the fall of each year while MTU 1 provides a three-week course May through November.

Other assistance provided includes M-60 machine gun clinics, referee support for all post championships, junior programs and help in various adult safety and educational programs. MTU instructors teach both military and civilian groups. MTUs adapt training to a unit's requirements. If there is a special need, MTUs develop special training.

To obtain support from an MTU, call first to discuss requirements and training dates (see list). Next, send a formal request to the MTU on unit letterhead, signed by the unit commander. Once this is received, training will be confirmed and final arrangements made. Training is provided at no cost to the unit.

MTUs have a lot to offer, but units have to take advantage. Teddy Roosevelt once said, "The only bullets that count are those that hit. A soldier who cannot shoot is a soldier who counts for little in battle." Is your unit ready? □

Marksmanship Units

U.S. Army Marksmanship Unit
Fort Benning, Ga. 31905
AUTOVON 835-7174

Marksmanship Training Unit 1
Fort George G. Meade, Md. 20755
AUTOVON 923-2286

Marksmanship Training Unit 5
Fort Riley, Kan. 66442
AUTOVON 856-3211

Marksmanship Training Unit 6
Fort Ord, Calif. 93941
AUTOVON 929-2601

Reserve Marksmanship
HQDA, DAAR-TRU
Washington, D.C. 20310
AUTOVON 225-0877

National Guard MTU
P.O. Box 17267
Nashville, Tenn. 37217
AUTOVON 446-6300

WHITE SANDS: ON THE EDGE OF TOMORROW

Story and Photos by Sgt. Maj. Mike Mason

AT 5:29:45 a.m., Mountain War Time, July 16, 1945, the world was thrust into the Atomic Age with a blinding flash and a bang the likes of which had never been seen or heard before.

The event was the test of the world's first atomic bomb. The site was a remote area of a former bombing and gunnery range, which only seven days before had been designated White Sands Proving Ground.

A little more than two months later, on Sept. 26, a Tiny Tim sounding rocket was fired at White Sands. Compared to the first test, the rocket firing might seem insignificant. The firing, however, was the first in a series of Army rocket tests and experiments at White Sands. Those tests led to the development of the Jupiter-C rocket. That rocket blasted the first U.S. satellite, Explorer I, into orbit and launched the United States into space age.

The proving ground, located in southern New Mexico, was renamed White Sands Missile Range in 1958. WSMR is still involved in the space program. Space shuttle pilots train at White Sands' Northrup air strip, and the strip serves as a back-up landing site for shuttle missions. The Army also provides a communications link for space shuttle missions. WSMR's primary mission, however, remains testing. As the range's name implies, most test projects involve missiles. Short-range missiles are fired within the 100-by-40-mile confines of WSMR. Long-range missiles can be fired into WSMR from launch sites as far away as Utah.

In addition to firing missiles, WSMR people can subject equipment to a variety of tests. A 45-foot-high, 100-foot-long solar furnace, one of the world's largest, can expose an object to 5,000 degrees Fahrenheit. WSMR testers can take an item and freeze it, subject it to nuclear radiation, dip it in salt water and use it and abuse it in any way needed to see whether it will stand up as it should.

"Our whole operation is a quality assurance test," explained Capt. Helmut Hass. Hass, assigned to WSMR's Army Materiel Test and Evaluation Directorate, is the OIC of the Roland Air Defense System test team. His team was wrapping up the first phase of the Roland missile deployment readiness verification test last summer.

"Hughes Aircraft and Boeing Aerospace make the Roland for the United States," Hass continued. "We have already verified that the missile does what it is supposed to do. We are now trying to verify that the firing unit does what it is supposed to do. And we found a lot of things that it does not do that it should. Now it is Missile Command's decision, the project management, to decide whether or not to improve it or to modify it or leave it as it is."

In addition to their regularly scheduled tests, Hass' group ran an operations demonstration. The opdemo was a group of tracking and firing missions run in a field environment.

"We were asked to do an opdemo," Hass explained, "because we're the only people who are familiar with the Roland system. Normally, we do not do field-type exercises. That created big problems for us because White Sands doesn't have sleeping bags, tents and a lot of other things that TO&E Army units have.

"But with help from the New Mexico National Guard and Fort Bliss we were able to get our equipment. We went out and did it, and it was successful all the way. The maintenance guys and operators worked day and night.

"We ended it on the third day with a live-fire exercise. We had some problems. The crews reacted by disengaging part of the fire unit, clearing the problem and, in a degraded mode, engaging our three drones. We had three hits.

"We're used to firing off the launch pad here. We have safety people, 20 different communications nets. We have commo with the whole world. We have all these things. We're not used to going to the field."

By going to the field, though, the team found out some things they wouldn't have noticed on a launch pad.

"We found a lot of little things," said 1st Lt. Dale Doxtater. "We learned about the radios that were in it. We weren't real familiar with them because, back here, we don't work with them day in and day out. It was a good shakedown. We found out little things that, no matter how many times you fire from the pad, you won't find about."

The team recommended some changes to the Roland, based on their field experiences.

"The seats for the commander and gunner should have a little more padding in them," explained test team member SSgt. James Armstrong. "With the weight configuration in this particular vehicle, you get more bounce on the back end. At five miles an hour on a smooth road, it is like a car going 35 or 40 down a gravel road. It's that drastic. So you have to be real careful how you drive.

"We also recommended a knee restraint for the gunner's cage. When you're sitting in there, you're kind of scrunched up in about a 30-inch-square place. There's no place for your legs to go, so your circulation gets bad. You have a tendency to let your knee hang out — if the turret rotates, you could lose a knee."

Despite a few shortcomings, the team members agreed the Roland is a good system. The Roland will be going to the New Mexico National Guard and will be part of the rapid deployment force.

"It's going to be a very good weapon for the RDF," Doxtater said. "You can put it in place with a minimum of support. It's something the RDF can put down and, within three minutes of landing, be ready to fight the battle. That's assuming they haven't jiggled a wire loose somewhere."

"After what we put it through up there," added Armstrong, "I don't think that's going to be a problem."

During an air-mobility test, the team took the Roland to Fort Bliss, Texas, loaded it onto a C-130 and flew with it to a dirt strip. They put the firing unit into operation immediately.

"You might have a big variance between the time your prime mover and the firing unit arrive, because they come in separate aircraft," Armstrong continued. "We proved the fire unit could operate off the tac-loader

Above, the missile park on main post reflects some White Sands Missile Range history. • Below, clearing the 4,000-square-mile range and recovering missiles keeps aviation crews busy.

the Air Force uses to load the equipment. Once we off-loaded the fire unit we had to clear the strip for the next aircraft to come in, and we left it on the tac-loader and provided radar coverage and protection for the other aircraft coming in."

Test teams like Hass' need support. Meteorological specialists make ground observations and launch weather balloons night and day. Other people provide support ranging from communications, to documentation, to roadblocks.

"Roadblocks are a big thing here," said SFC Donald Thomas, MP operations sergeant. "Highway 70 runs through the range, and Highway 54 runs parallel with it. So, for example, when we tested the Pershing II we had somewhere in the vicinity of 25 roadblocks. We have some type of missile going off here at White Sands that requires us to block the roads almost daily."

"There are also people who get upset because you're stopping traffic," MP PFC Warren Caskey said. "All you can do is say, 'I'm sorry,' and try to be as polite as possible. You have to explain to them that they are being stopped for their own safety. These are test missiles and if something does go wrong when they are in the middle of a hot area it could be dangerous. So far there's never been any problem with that — anybody getting hurt — as far as I know.

"Nine out of 10 people you get on a highway block are very friendly. They kind of get excited about seeing a missile firing. They ask questions like where it's coming from and you try to point it out as best you can. And they ask if they can see it. Sometimes you can see it and sometimes you can't."

The MPs are also responsible for making sure that, when needed, civilians are evacuated from either or both of two extension areas outside the north and west limits of the range. Three civilian range riders notify those people when a firing dictates that they leave their home for the day. MPs also have to check danger areas within the range before a firing.

"My job," PFC Trent McRath said, "is what they call evac. I go to the sites in the hot areas, the areas that the missiles fly over, to make sure that no one is there. I'm all over

the southern part of the range. Range control gives us a list of sites where people may be."

WSMR's size requires aircraft to evacuate range areas before a firing. That air support comes from WSMR's Army Air Operation directorate, based at nearby Holloman Air Force Base.

"We fly all types of missions," said 1st Lt. Joseph T. Baker, flight platoon leader. "We fly search and recovery for all the different missile systems they fire out here and we support almost every project on the range. We fly people to remote sites and we fly VIP missions for the range. There are so many different kinds of missions, tracking missions, you name it."

"Our bread and butter could be demonstrated by the Pershing missile mission we flew yesterday," said Maj.

Left, an MP sergeant at range control checks with his people on roadblocks. Many White Sands missile firings require roadblocks on highways that run next to and through the range. • An Army Atmospheric Sciences Laboratory meteorologist checks weather data for a test.

Lee Carter, the directorate operations officer. "We were out well before daylight, clearing the range, making sure the range was safe to shoot on. We used mostly scout helicopters, OH-58s.

"Clearing the ranges is basically running a scout mission with an MP on board. If there are people on the range we let the MP out to go over and talk to them and make sure that they depart the range."

"Yesterday morning," Baker added, "we went down Highway 54. They had roadblocks up but needed somebody to fly up and down the road. We removed some people who had set up their own little shooting range about 50 meters off the road out there. If it hadn't been for the helicopter, they never would have been seen and would have been in a danger area for the missile firing."

"Then as it got close to the shooting time," Carter continued, "we moved people into position with the Hueys, including both VIP and worker flights. Once the missile was shot, we went with the scouts to locate the various components on the range. This morning they're out there with the Hueys to bring the various booster sections and things back to civilization, where project people can work on them."

"Search and recovery missions can be difficult," Baker explained. "It depends upon what they're firing. Some things are easier to find than others. Sometimes you'll be out there all day looking for it. Then again, it depends on what kind of plotting information we get from headquarters if we don't actually see an impact.

"I think it's a great assignment," Baker added. "I really enjoy it. There are plenty of opportunities for a lot of good flying — just different types of flying in an environment where you have a high-density altitude year-round. And you get some pretty rough winds and you've got the mountains. We've got a lot of sites we go to up in the mountains, so you get a lot of tricky mountain flying. It's a challenge. It's a good job, a good assignment."

"It's completely different from any other place I've worked," said SSgt. Nancy Palmer. Palmer is NCOIC of the communications section in range control. She and her unit make sure people involved in tests can talk to one another and get whatever data they need from radar and range instrumentation. "There's no other place like White Sands, no other tech control, no other circuit configuration like White Sands. It's all its own world, so it's been a challenge.

"If you pull the wrong plug, then the drones can land on Highway 70, things like that. Normally tech controllers work on data communications strictly or board communications strictly and now I've got radars and computers. It's a whole different ball of wax to get used to."

SSgt. Ted Gomes also finds his WSMR job unique. Gomes is a photographer and shoots documentation photos for a variety of test projects.

"This is a research and development post and a lot of the stuff that comes out here isn't up to snuff yet," Gomes said. "So we shoot pictures that they can send back to the home office and say, 'This is what's wrong, see what you guys can do about it.'

"We work with 70mm high-speed sequential cameras. They can be set for 10 frames per second, 25, 40, up to 75. We normally shoot about 45 frames (about 5½ feet) per second around 1,000th of a second shutter speed. A lot of people ask what the difference is between this and a motion picture camera. The difference is this gives us a straight negative, and it stops action.

Gomes explained that the average mission requires two high-speed cameras. Each gets through about 55 to 60 feet of film before the missile is too far away to see.

"I think this is the greatest opportunity for a photographer in the Army. You get to work with equipment you'll never see anywhere else. And we still shoot the regular military stuff too, like promotions and awards ceremonies, so we don't lose touch with that.

"The civilians are the project photographers. The military are transient, so we're never really assigned to a project per se. We just work on all of them, which I think is pretty good, because we get experience with all the projects. We get familiar with all the missile systems."

First Lt. Daryl Spiewak and the members of his explosive ordnance disposal team also get familiar with the various missile systems tested on WSMR. In addition to handling normal EOD duties, the team develops render-safe procedures for many of the items tested.

Working in EOD at White Sands has hazards beyond those found in the average EOD unit, Spiewak explained. When checking out unexploded ordnance, the specialists have to be wary of not only rattlesnakes, but ordnance markings.

"Just because something is painted blue doesn't mean it's a practice or dummy round," Spiewak pointed out. "Color codes are for project purposes rather than to indicate filler.

"EOD work here is really rewarding. It's constantly changing because of the new items. There is no other unit in the world like the one here at White Sands," said Spiewak, echoing the feelings of so many other WSMR people.

There may well be no other place in the world like White Sands. Since it played host to the dawning of the Atomic Age, White Sands has been on the edge of tomorrow, testing missiles and other systems that will carry the Army, Navy and Air Force through the 1990s. □

THE RANGE RIDER

Sgt. Maj. Mike Mason

BILL Bates is a range rider. And he looks the role. The broad brim of his Stetson-style straw hat shades a face slightly lined by the years and weathered by a lifetime of working outdoors.

A pack of unfiltered cigarettes bulges the pocket of his Western shirt and a wide belt with large rectangular buckle cinches his faded bluejeans. Scuff marks show through the polish on his brown pointed-toed, high-heeled cowboy boots.

He speaks in a soft Southwestern drawl that makes the word "help" sound like "hep." Bates is certainly not a drug store cowboy.

Nor is he like the range rider of the early TV series with that name. He doesn't ride the plains, shooting up desperadoes, making the Old West safe for decent folk.

Bates rides White Sands Missile Range, an expanse of mountainous desert in southern New Mexico, keeping it safe for missile firing. He has been riding the White Sands range for 21 years. Before that he rode a range of a different sort. Bates had been a rancher near Cloudcroft, N. M., just east of White Sands in the Sacramento Mountains. Ranching is a tough business, though. Too many dry years can empty a man's pockets. When Bates found himself in need of a salary, he went to work for the Army.

Now Bates lives with two other range riders at Hardin Ranch, in the rugged San Andres mountains which border the western edge and then angle across through the center of the northern part of the missile range.

Their main job is to keep two- and four-legged trespassers from wandering into areas where they could be hurt during missile firings.

"We patrol all of White Sands Missile Range," Bates said. "That is a very large area — 100 miles long, 40 miles wide, and extensions on the northern and western sides of White Sands that are inhabited by ranchers."

The extension areas, although off the range, are sometimes needed as a safety buffer during missile firings. When that happens, the range riders notify the people living in those areas.

"In this (north) extension area, probably 60 or 70 families have to be contacted and given notice, as per agreement with White Sands that they will evacuate the area for one of these firings," he explained. At other times the riders have to evacuate another extension area on the range's western boundary. Thirty to 40 families live there.

"That is one of our main duties," explained Bates. "That, along with patrolling the perimeter of White Sands and areas to see if there are trespassers. At times we have quite a problem with livestock, especially in a wet year when the rainfall causes so many surface plants to build and grow. The livestock sense it and follow the places where the rain falls, for the feed and so forth.

"There is very little fencing to distinguish White Sands proper from adjoining ranch property. There is some fencing, but not a great amount. At times when this (wet years) prevails we take our horses and trailers, go to a particular area, contact the owners and ask him to join us and move those livestock off White Sands."

The remainder of the range riders' time is spent patrolling the range, checking for fence breaks, searching for the occasional lost person and human trespassers.

"One thing that we don't have any more that we had up until 1975, 1976," Bates said, "was rumors of an immense treasure about mid-range area on the west side. Sometimes it took the whole military police company, all five of the range riders we had then and a little borrowed help to try to keep everybody out of there.

"It was quite a controversial deal. It (the treasure rumor) was a good selling job of an old fella. His name was Doc Noss. He supposedly had knowledge of $300 million worth of gold buried in Victorio Peak. It was Maximilian's treasure and some of Bonaparte's and I don't know who-all. It was a dandy," Bates said, chuckling. "It was a hoax to sell stock by this old doc. He wasn't a doc really, but everybody called him doc. He was killed because he didn't have what he said he had."

The federal government, New Mexico State government and several interested groups became embroiled in a court battle over ownership of the treasure, according to Bates.

"There was one group trying to sue another group, saying they'd been allowed to enter because of improper security and had removed $27 million worth of that gold, see. Well, here we go again. They finally put a little vacation-type trailer there and we made that home for about three years, guarding it, trying to keep people from making these claims."

Finally a team from the Stanford Research Institute, Calif., was brought in to map underground features with ground radar. No gold was found, but the researchers said that the possibility of an underground cavern did exist.

"We don't have the problems as much any more. But there are a few who insist that it's there. Every once in a while we find another one there. I guess they figure the 'other fella' didn't know where to dig."

Bates says he enjoys his job, but he doesn't want to spend the rest of his days rounding up stray fortune hunters and other people's cattle. He hopes soon to have enough put aside to be able to go back to Cloudcroft and ranching. □

EDITOR'S NOTE: Bill Bates' nest egg was apparently big enough—he retired recently.

THE SPECIAL PRIDE

Story and Photos by Maj. Tom Williams

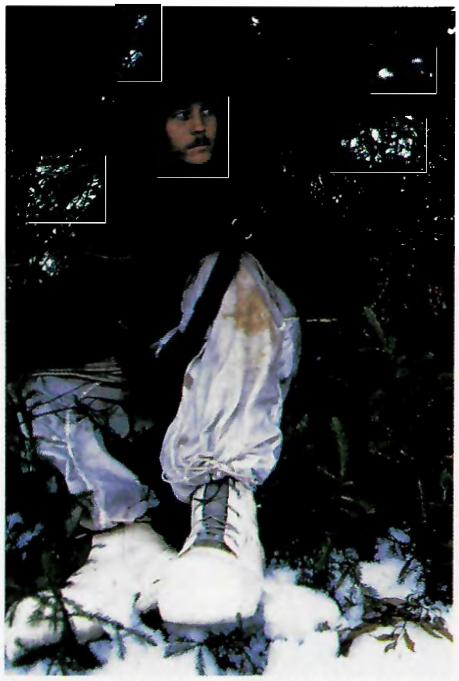
IN 1934, Anthony J. Dimond, Alaska's delegate to Congress, attempted to have military bases built in his territory, not only for Alaska's protection but for the country's. "Establish bases at Anchorage or Fairbanks, also the Aleutians. I say to you, defend the United States by defending Alaska." His plea for help fell on deaf ears.

Eight years later, when Japan occupied the Aleutian islands of Kiska and Attu, Congress finally acted. The military built posts and airfields, and for the first time, connected many Alaskan cities together with roads and rail lines.

From that point on, Alaska has not stopped growing — in population, wealth and importance. The task, the challenge, of protecting America's Last Frontier belongs to the arctic soldiers of the 172nd Infantry Brigade (Alaska).

"Our mission," said Brig. Gen. Gerald H. Bethke, brigade commander, "is to defend Alaska's territorial integrity. That means we have to have a combat effective brigade that can conduct sustained operations in an arctic environment." In order to be combat-effective, the 172nd focuses on training, maintenance, fitness, discipline, conduct and teamwork.

Probably the most important of the "Big 6" is fitness. "In a harsh environment such as Alaska's," Bethke said, "soldiers have to be both mentally and physically fit to sustain the stress. And they must possess the individual soldier skills. It's up to our leaders to ensure that their soldiers are trained and taken care of. This is the greatest test of leadership in any climate of the world."



Far left, left, Sp5 Jon M. Chelgren

Top, a soldier waits for the word to move out during a live-fire exercise. • Left, soldiers of the 172nd Infantry try ice climbing at Sheridan Glacier, Alaska.

"The critical element is that it is so damn demanding," echoed Lt. Col. David R. E. Hale. "You have much less left over as a leader here than you would in a normal environment." Hale commands the 6th Battalion, 327th Infantry, at Fort Wainwright, the northernmost infantry battalion in the Army. Hale explained that a leader has to survive in the environment first, and then lead with whatever is left over.

"Another thing is that some traditional leadership elements, where you set the example, and how hard you push yourself and your men, can be dangerous up here," Hale continued. "If you get on a macho kick — 'I'll stay out there longer than anyone else,' or 'I'll do this, and that better' — the next thing you know, you're a cold weather casualty.

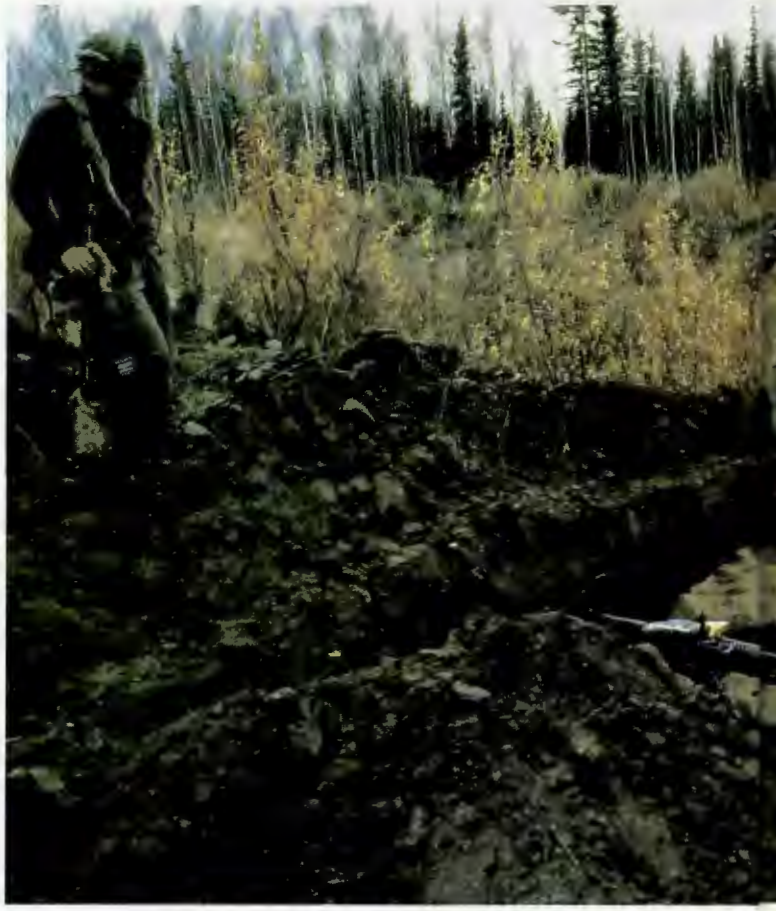
"It's very hard to tell aggressive young soldiers and officers that they don't prove how good a leader they are by being the guy who stays out in the stuff the longest. All they end up doing is denying their squad or platoon the leadership that they have to offer."

Luckily, the brigade has leaders like SFC Bruce Wendler. "The hardest thing is taking care of my men," he said. "This is a real situation in the winter and people can get hurt. But if you keep them motivated and take care of them, they won't mind the conditions much and will do their job. And it's sometimes the little things that count.

"I try to get their rucksacks, tents and equipment up to them fast — or even truck them in rather than have them carry them. If you treat them right, train them in the areas that they need, they'll do what you want and their job."

Wendler and the other leaders in the 172nd have an advantage. They have the same soldiers found in any other unit in the Army, with the same needs, wants and desires. But their soldiers have special pride.

"I guess what sets them apart," Wendler continued, "is their pride in being arctic soldiers, arctic infantrymen. We can run farther, dig deeper, walk farther, suffer more and fight harder. That's the motivating factor because no one up here really enjoys the winter. It's pretty miser-



Members of the 172nd Infantry are proud to be arctic soldiers because Alaska is perhaps the most challenging assignment in the Army. Foxholes still have to be dug, range cards prepared and supplies moved — but the harsh environment makes every job harder.

able this far north."

Alaskan winters are miserable and it usually takes one winter to get used to conditions. Besides that, the missions arctic soldiers' perform are really the same there as anywhere else.

"We still have the mission-essential ARTEP tasks," Bethke said, "like movement-to-contact, defense, airborne and air assault operations. The only difference in Alaska is how you do it. The basic fundamentals of soldiering — dig a foxhole, place out security, those types of things — are the same whether here or in Europe. The difference is the environment."

Because of the weather and environment, most units divide their training into two periods of the year. From April to September, the emphasis is on individual and small unit training such as SQTs, Expert Infantryman Badge, and glacier and mountain training. During the coldest months — September to April — units conduct the majority of their tactical training and participate in exercises like Brim Frost.

"We place the most emphasis on the defense, the night attack and airmobile operations," said Maj. Dan Nichols, battalion executive officer. "If we do those right, everything else falls in."

Knowing individual skills and being able to conduct an attack may sound easy, but that's not always the case in Alaska.

"We had one exercise," Nichols added, "where it took almost 18 hours to march three clicks (kilometers). Sometimes you have to stop, set up the tents and regroup. The mission may be to survive first, then attack."

"No matter what type of training we do," Hale continued, "an integral part is cold weather training. We talk about it and practice proper cold weather injury prevention. We're not afraid of extreme weather, but we do respect it."

Alaska offers the extremes. Temperatures are below zero in the

winter and the ground is frozen two and three feet down. During the summer, temperatures climb to 70 or 80 degrees and the ground turns to mush. Because of the weather, ground movements can be difficult — and different.

Besides the reliable LPCs — leather personnel carriers — soldiers in Alaska learn to use vapor-barrier boots and snow shoes, and skis as alternate means of transportation. These help the soldier move. Moving his equipment is different too.

Although soldiers carry their rucksacks — 50 to 60 pounds' worth — while marching, they drop them off before attacking an objective. Once the attack is completed soldiers need not only their rucksacks, but shelter against the 30, 40 or 50 degrees below zero.

Shelters and equipment are carried on *ahkios*, or sleds. Normally, each squad has an ahkio that is pulled by a snow machine. Inside are the squad's tent, food, stove and fuel. Getting soldiers and their equipment to the same place at the same time is difficult. According to Hale, in theory this works great. In reality, it doesn't always.

"It just takes training," he said, "to gain the confidence that you can survive, operate and do all the things an infantry unit is supposed to do — maybe a lot slower and with more difficulty, but you can do them.

"It's cold, you're moving four or five clicks and getting tired and sweaty. When you stop, your shirt and socks are wet. You don't have your rucksack and tent because they're following you. We go places that the ahkios can't get to — blown-down trees or it's too high. Then it takes time to get the soldiers' equipment to them.

"Knowing the conditions will not always be favorable, we train to prevent cold weather injuries. Things like marching with parkas open and closing them when we stop moving. Surviving and accomplishing the mission is hard, but it can be done."

Learning to cope with a harsh environment isn't all work. A lot of it is play. That's where off-duty recreation and facilities are important. In addition to indoor pools, gyms and rec centers, many units continue outdoor sports during the winter with hockey or broom ball — hockey played with a basketball and brooms.

"It becomes important," Hale continued, "to emphasize recreational activities. The human tendency is to say, 'Oh, God, it's 40 below. Let's just sit here and not do anything."

But not doing anything in Alaska is difficult. If gyms and organized sports won't do, there are sports like hunting moose or Dall's sheep and fishing for salmon. Each post has its own ski lodge, and for the prospector, there's gold panning along rivers and streams.

"The outdoors gets a hold of you," Bethke said. "When I walk through the barracks, I don't see expensive stereos, but commercial backpacks, fishing, ski and camping gear. Being assigned here is the first time many soldiers are offered an opportunity to do those kinds of things. And those types of outdoor activities encourage soldiers to live outdoors. It becomes easier for them. They gain the confidence that they can survive out there."

The challenge. Always the challenge.

"We do some unique and challenging things here," Hale said. "We climb glaciers and cross arctic tundra and streams. We train above the Arctic Circle, where everything is frozen. And that's a challenge — it's not the same as going out to the field and pushing over the same hills of say, Fort Benning, all the time."

From a soldier's point of view, Bethke added, Alaska is the most challenging assignment in the Army. "We have good facilities, a good training program and room to train in. When soldiers leave here they can say, 'I'm an arctic soldier. I can cross-country ski. I can walk on snow shoes and climb a glacier. I met the challenge of Alaska.' "

America's Last Frontier is a challenge not only because of its harsh conditions, but also because of the state's importance. The Alaskan Pipeline runs 800 miles through the state, supplying about 30 percent of this country's oil. Add to that Alaska's size and location. From Point Barrow, the northernmost town in the United States, south over the Wrangell Mountains to Juneau, Alaska is 586,412 square miles. At its nearest point, the Soviet Union's Big Diomede Island is only 1½ miles away.

Defend the United States by defending Alaska remains true today.

"Defending the United States by defending Alaska is the job of the arctic soldiers. It's not a problem," Bethke said, "just a challenge." □

With Alaska's fields and pipeline supplying 30 percent of the nation's oil, the 172nd Infantry Brigade's defense readiness is critical.

THE INFANTRY MOVES INTO THE 21ST CENTURY

Story and Photos by SSgt. Victoria Mouze

SOLDIERS have a lot to say when it comes to their combat vehicles. If a vehicle rates as combat-worthy, the crews will let you know. And if the vehicle rates as "OK, but . . . " well, the crews will let you know that too. After all, their lives depend on what that vehicle can or can't do.

They become even more vocal when the vehicle is a new system. Those who love it are instantly struck by Cupid's arrow. For them, there will never be another. For others, a period of adjustment has to pass before they come around, if they ever do.

When Company C, 1st Battalion (Mechanized), 41st Infantry, 2nd Armored Division, Fort Hood, Texas, took its M-2 Bradley infantry fighting vehicles out for an ARTEP last October, squads and crews were still going through the "getting-to-know-each-other" phase. The unit had received the M-2s, which replace the M-113 armored personnel carriers, in April 1983.

Soldiers had already had the chance to compare the M-2 with the M-113. There was the M-2's improved mobility and firepower, better armor protection, and better day- and night-fighting capabilities — all adding up to an increased squad survival rate.

Now Co. C's soldiers were preparing to move out with the 1st Bn., 67th Armor's M-1 tanks. They made last-minute checks in the assembly area. Those finished with their tasks stood by their tracks. Tension hung in the air as everyone waited for the word to move out.

PFCs David Baartmans and James Barrie stood in the shade cast by Baartmans' M-2. Both drivers, who became friends during 11M (fighting vehicle infantryman) training, discussed their vehicles in the same way sports car enthusiasts discuss performance. The two were psyched up about going out with the tanks. Barrie noted the M-1 has deluxe seats, but the M-2 had one feature over the tanks: "I hear they can't swim as good as we can."

But they weren't sure what they would encounter during the ARTEP with the M-1 unit. They knew that after their road march, they would move into another assembly area. Beyond that, they were taking a "wait and see" attitude. "We just have to wait," Baartmans said. Barrie replied, "I hear one-six-seven really likes long road marches."

Barrie's statement prompted memories. "We road-marched all

night long," Baartmans said.

Later that day, Baartmans and Barrie moved out to the field with their unit. M-2s cut across Fort Hood's training area. One, then two, then three, then a series zipped over well-traveled dirt roads. By the time dust clouds settled, the M-2s had disappeared. Soldiers would go through three days of movement-to-contact, attack, delay, defense, river crossings and simulated NBC attacks before the ARTEP was over.

During the final day, PFC Ronald Felix, an M-2 driver, helped his crew camouflage their track. PFC Bruce Neyens, a gunner, talked as Felix set up poles for the net. "We really haven't seen that many M-1s," Neyens said. "Our driver said he saw one today. I guess the tanks are moving around us."

"We're behind them," Felix replied. "I know that we can stay up with the M-1s cross-country," Neyens said. He felt that the M-2 drivers weren't allowed to go fast enough.

"We can keep up with the M-1s," said Capt. Thomas Bottom, Co. C commander. "We don't have the problem of the M-1s running away from us. When we used M-113s, there was just no way we could keep up with the M-1s. Those tanks move out fast." While the M-113 has a 212-horsepower diesel engine, the M-2 packs a 500-horsepower turbo-charged diesel.

Bottom remarked that the older soldiers used to the M-113 had problems adjusting to the newer vehicle. "They could open up the M-113 and get lots of air and sunshine. The M-2 usually rides buttoned up, so the guys sometimes get motion sickness. They're adjusting. It's a mind-set."

Neyens said that since the M-2 is buttoned up, it gets hot inside. "If I pop open the cargo hatch, we get too much dust. We would rather sit in there and sweat." He said that even though there are fans inside, they sometimes don't work. "Also, one of the fans is blocked by the water tank. It would be real nice if that fan could be moved."

While Neyens feels he won't be ready for combat until he gets more training on the M-2, he's been with the vehicle long enough to know it's better than the M-113. "It's more comfortable and definitely has more firepower."

Co. C got its first experience with the M-2's firepower last July. After completing new equipment training, the company went through gunnery. "The 25mm automatic cannon punches out up to 200 rounds a minute," Bottom said. "The infantry has lacked that awesome firepower until now. The M-2 has moved us into the 21st century."

Besides the 25mm cannon, the M-2 has a 7.62mm machine gun and a TOW missile launcher. Since the vehicle has a stabilized turret, the cannon and machine gun can be fired on the move and remain on target. An integrated day and night sight includes a thermal-imaging device. Crews can also fire during the day through dust, haze and smoke screens. Besides the turret weapons, six firing-post weapons — modified 5.56mm M-16 rifles — are positioned around the vehicle's sides and rear.

Bottom also feels safer in the M-2 than the M-113. Its armor prevents penetration of up to 14.5mm armor-piercing rounds, 155mm overhead artillery bursts and various mines. He said if a round did pierce the armor, a fire extinguisher system would discharge, putting out the fire within a 10th of a second.

"That system is very, very sensitive," he remarked. "We tell our soldiers not to 'flick their Bic' when they're inside. Some people have gotten some very nasty surprises." One soldier who was loading ammunition somehow set off the system. He got covered in the system's white powder.

Bottom is impressed, too, with the ease of maintaining the vehicles. "They're holding up well," he said, noting that his unit had put a lot of miles on its M-2s. "But if something does go out, say, the stabilization system, all the mechanics have to do is find the bad module and replace it." He added that a generator would burn out now and then, "but that is nothing new."

Neyens said that he had problems with the M-2's day and night sight. "Sometimes a pin falls out. When that happens, the mirrors inside the sight can't be moved."

"We used to have problems with those pins falling out," added PFC Christopher Bullock, a turret mechanic. "Before, the crews didn't know what to do when that happened. They do now."

He said that while the mechanics don't pull as much maintenance now compared to when the M-2s first arrived, they still had some problems. "Our PCUs keep blowing," he said.

PCUs, or power converter units, send power to the sights and TOW. "We had four go last week. Other than that, the problems are minimal."

He did note, however, that finding and correcting problems with the M-2 is easy. When he checks a turret part, he removes a metal floor plate and plugs in the simplified test equipment. He then does what the STE tells

When soldiers at Fort Hood, Texas, traded their M-113 personnel carriers for M-2 Bradleys last May, they increased their mobility, firepower and armor protection.

The M-2 offers equipment that includes a stabilized turret and an integrated day and night sight. Crews can shoot the turret weapons on the move and remain on target. At night, they can switch on the night sight and continue firing. They can also use the sight during the day to shoot through haze, dust or smoke screens.

him to do. "Say the cannon is riding too low. The STE tells me to loosen the screw, how much to raise the gun and when to tighten the screw."

When the M-2s go to the field, Bullock follows in an M-113. He carries the STE, parts and tools. "When the M-2s move out, we move out. If an M-2 breaks down, I can fix it right then if I have the right tools and parts." He takes only the parts and tools that are used the most. Those used less frequently are kept in company trains. "If I can't fix the M-2 out in the field, it's sent back to battalion trains and repaired."

He likes working on the M-2, finding the advanced electronics more interesting than just screwing a bolt onto the improved TOW vehicle. "I had a chance to go back to the ITV, but turned it down."

"How quickly a mechanic picks up on the M-2 depends on how long he's been around," said CWO 2 Franklin Villagomez, battalion maintenance technician. "Younger soldiers adapt quicker than the ones who've been around a while."

While Villagomez praised the M-2's speed and 500-horsepower engine, he remarked that M-2 parts were in short supply. "Getting enough replacement parts is the only bad thing about the M-2," he said. "Given the parts, our mechanics can keep the M-2s at a 90 percent operational rate during any combat operation."

"The crews spend more time in tactical situations with the M-2 than they did with the M-113," said 1st Lt. Steven McKnight, battalion maintenance officer. "The M-113 spent a lot of time back in the rear for repairs. With the M-2s' improved maintainability, we can repair them faster. There is just no comparison between the M-113 and the M-2. It's like comparing the Stone Age with the Space Age."

McKnight feels that soldiers who prefer the M-113 will change their minds after they spend more time with the M-2. "There are a lot of guys around here who worked and rode in the M-113s a long time. They like the older vehicles; they're more comfortable with them. They're slowly changing their minds, though. It's just a matter of time." □

TCATA: WHERE THE FUTURE IS NOW

SSgt. Victoria Mouze

PEOPLE at TCATA are getting a glimpse at the Army of the future. They test new equipment and concepts that some day will be introduced into the Army. TCATA is the Training and Doctrine Command's Combined Arms Test Activity at Fort Hood, Texas. What TCATA tests today will benefit soldiers of tomorrow.

TCATA works on a number of tests at a time. While one test is being planned, another is being completed. By August 1985, 32 field tests will have been completed since August 1983. Though TCATA conducts many tests at Fort Hood, it also conducts them at other posts and in Europe and Korea.

One recent Fort Hood test was the operational testing of the M-1E1 Abrams tank, an improved version of the current M-1. The M-1E1 has a 120mm main gun, bigger and more powerful than the M-1's current 105mm.

The platoon that took part in the test received the tanks last November and went through new equipment training developed by TCATA and the Armor Center, Fort Knox, Ky. After that training, the guns were fired to test the weapon's effectiveness. TCATA next put the crews and tanks into a tactical environment.

Putting the tank into the field gave TCATA a chance to test things like mileage and parts usage. "Results from this test will be compared with the results from the M-1 operational test," Col. Lynn Fleming said. "From the data we gathered the Operational Test and Evaluation Agency (Falls Church, Va.) can determine just what those differences are." Fleming is the test director, Combined Arms Test Directorate, TCATA.

While TCATA normally decides how a unit will test a new piece of equipment, team members were silent observers during the M-2 and M-3 vehicles' tactics, doctrine and organization test. When soldiers pulled maintenance on, or trained, ate and slept in their tracks, TCATA data collectors watched without interfering.

"We wanted to test the Bradley's reliability and maintenance in a field environment with minimal TCATA interference," said Maj. Michael Carouthers, operations officer, Combined Arms Test Directorate. "Being silent observers was hard for us. We're used to telling the units what we want them to do. But this time, we didn't dictate the unit's activities. We wanted to see how a normal unit reacted under normal conditions."

The test was held during the unit's regular training cycle. The data collectors watched how the vehicles performed in a tactical situation, how they were maintained, and talked to the crews and mechanics.

"You get the best information when you get out there with the soldiers," Carouthers said. "We got a good idea of what they really thought about the Bradleys. We asked if they were too hot inside or if they had enough room to store their gear." Carouthers added that once soldiers got used to the TCATA team being around, they spoke very freely. "They came up with some good ideas. After all, they're the ones who live with the Bradleys and know exactly what the vehicles can and can't do."

Not only does TCATA get ideas from soldiers during tests, TCATA sometimes tests soldier-designed equipment. Soldiers in the 1st Cavalry Division, Fort Hood, were using smoke generators that dated back to World War II. They knew there had to be a better way. So, they designed and built a smoke-generating system for their M-113s. Their idea worked and caught the interest of the Chemical Corps. An industrial contractor has since refined the design, and the soldiers will test it in November.

Starting in December, TCATA will look at the mission performance of the M-9 armored combat earthmover and its role in supporting the combined arms team. Test results will be used to refine ACE use and training concepts. Combat engineers in the 2nd Armored Division, Fort Hood, will test the vehicle in the field.

TCATA's mission includes testing equipment such as the M-1E1 Abrams tank, top, and • the Bradley fighting vehicles. Future tests are planned for the M-9 armored combat earthmover, a smoke generator and the AH-64 Apache helicopter. While these tests will take place at Fort Hood, Texas, others will be conducted at various posts.

In 1985, TCATA will conduct an operational development test evaluation of the AH-64 Apache at Fort Hood. Evaluators will look at attack helicopter doctrine, training, organization, and the Apache itself. Then, in 1986, TCATA will develop and evaluate offensive attack helicopter missions and alternative tactics in a realistic environment. Test results will be used to draw conclusions on offensive attack helicopter capability and to make recommendations on supplements or revisions of how to fight manuals in training programs.

Once TCATA members finish one test, they are assigned to another. After all, if they expect to stay on track with the future, they have to keep at least one step ahead. □

SPORTS STOP

Compiled by MSgt. Norman J. Oliver

McCLELLAN AIR FORCE BASE, Calif. — The Air Force foiled an Army bid for the 1984 Men's Interservice Basketball Championship, clipping the soldiers 69-64 in the if-necessary game of the double-elimination tournament.

Army overpowered the winless Marines 129-88 and held off Navy 98-90. However, the Air Force pummeled Army 97-79 in their first match-up. In the championship the soldiers forced the Air Force into its only defeat of the tournament, an 83-80 victory for Army. The upset bid failed when Air Force snagged the final game.

Soldiers selected to the interservice team were Sp4 Matthew C. Simpkins, Fort Meade, Md.; Sp4 James B. Smith, Fort Riley, Kan.; and PFC Julius M. Thomas, PFC David K. Williams and Sp4 Roderick Underwood, Fort Hood, Texas.

Other members of the Army team were Sp4 James J. Beachum, Schofield Barracks, Hawaii; Capt. Ronald Foster (head coach), Fort Hood; PFC Herman Harris, Fort Stewart, Ga.; Sp4 Tommy L. Houston, Fort Riley; Sp4 Donahue Kinsey and Sp4 Darryl A. Martin, Fort Hood; PFC Clovis McDowell, Fort Jackson, S.C.; and Capt. Gary Winton, Fort McClellan, Ala.

Army Wins Women's Basketball

CAMP LEJEUNE, N.C. — The Army women's team proved too hot to handle at the 1984 Interservice Women's Basketball Championship. Sparked by the "Twin Towers" of 6-foot-1 Sgt. Gail V. Sturrup, Europe, and 6-foot-1 Sgt. Cynthia A. Brown, Fort Gordon, Ga., the Army's entire starting squad was selected to the Armed Forces All-Star Team.

The soldiers mauled the Marines 84-49 in the double-elimination tournament opener. In its second game, Army easily defeated Air Force 89-61. The Army walked over the Marines 86-55 in the championship and walked away with the gold.

In addition to Brown and Sturrup, soldiers named to the interservice team were: Capt. Ronald C. Foster (assistant coach), Fort Hood, Texas; Sp4 Connie M. Hodge, Fort Ord, Calif.; SSgt. William Lewis (team trainer), Fort Bragg, N.C.; Sp4 Brenda G. Myers, Fort Bliss, Texas; and Sp4 Karen A. Powell and SFC Willie J. Stephens (head coach), Fort Bragg.

Selected as alternates to the interservice team were PFC Cassandra J. Bean, 1st Lt. Jacqueline E. Cumbo and PFC Darlene Johnson, all of Fort Hood.

Other members of the championship Army team were PFC Gwendolyn D. Diggs, Fort Benning, Ga.; Sp4 Reba E. Harris, Walter Reed Army Medical Center, Washington; Sgt. Joe Ann Jefferson, Europe; and PFC Tracy M. Taylor, White Sands Missile Range, N.M. — *Claudia Berwager*

Water Is Best

WASHINGTON — Plain water is the best fluid replacement for athletes and runners, according to Maj. Jim Emerson, nutrition staff officer on the Surgeon General's Task Force on Fitness. Sweat is the No. 1 way the body cools itself, Emerson remarked. When humidity is low, sweat evaporates and cools the body.

When summer humidity rises, however, sweat won't evaporate as rapidly. Without this cooling, the body sweats even more as it tries to cool down.

"During the summer," Emerson said, "runners and other athletes become concerned about replacing fluid and salt lost through sweating. A common misconception is that the athlete needs to concentrate on replacing salt."

Advertising for several glucose and electrolyte drinks that claim to provide energy and restore fluid and salt balance reinforces the misconception, according to Emerson.

There is less sodium in sweat than in blood. Thus, as an individual sweats, the concentration of sodium in the blood actually increases.

Blood samples from marathon runners show a higher concentration of sodium after a race. "This was true even for runners who drank plain water during the race. Consuming an electrolyte or salt solution during the race would cause the concentration of sodium in the blood to increase even more." That, he said, could impair performance.

To replace lost fluid, Emerson recommends drinking one pint of water for each pound of body weight lost during an exercise session.

WEST POINT, N.Y. — Soldiers qualifying for the 1984 Olympics trials in Greco-Roman wrestling are Capt. Gary Barber, Fort Rucker, Ala.; Sgt. Mike Gatling, Fort Knox, Ky.; and 1st Lt. Romey Pelletier and SSgt. Floyd Winter (assistant coach), West Point.

Soldiers qualifying for the freestyle wrestling trials are Pvt. Brad Anderson and 2nd Lt. Lou Banach, West Point; 1st Lt. Ray Broughman, Fort Lewis, Wash.; 1st Lt. Bill Francis, Fort Hood, Texas; Sp4 Pat Griel, Fort Bragg, N.C.; and Pelletier. — *Carol Wright*

OVERCOMING THE INVISIBLE HANDICAP

Story and Photos by Gene Harper

THE group of men was seated at desks arranged in a U-shape in a small classroom of Walter Reed Army Medical Center. No one appeared to be in pain. There were no bandages or casts visible. No telltale signs showed any hints of some incurable, exotic disease. Nothing about them seemed to warrant any need for medical attention.

The men all knew why they were in Washington, D.C., though. And now they were finding out how they would spend the next several days.

You could say the men were together to work out some pretty small details on the small devices behind and in their ears. For the next 1½ weeks, these men would learn about their new hearing aids in the Audiology and Speech Center's aural rehabilitation program.

SFC Foster Blakley of Fort Campbell, Ky., gets an eyeful of an earful. The Aural Rehabilitation Program at Walter Reed Army Medical Center prepares new hearing aid wearers to face a new world.

Each member of the group had an injury or condition that he would have to live with for the rest of his life. Each had a medical profile — an H-2 or H-3 — to note the severity of his hearing loss. A hearing aid would restore some of the sound he had been missing.

The 12 men — nine soldiers, two sailors and a Marine — tweaked and pulled on their new possessions. A few talked, even joked about their new devices.

"I don't know if I'm going to like this or not," Col. Eugene McDowell said. "Now I'll be able to hear my neighbors next door." McDowell is assigned to Training and Doctrine Command, Fort Monroe, Va. He also joked about growing his hair long enough to hide his hearing aids once he retired. "But by then, I won't have any to grow," he said.

Across the room, the atmosphere was more somber. Maj. Rod Spears, from Forces Command, Fort McPherson, Ga., was preoccupied with his workbook.

Meanwhile, McDowell realized another intrusion. "I'll tell you what — this rustling of papers is driving me crazy," he said, as others went about carefully arranging their paperwork. This time, everyone laughed in agreement. Later on, though, when a briefcase on the floor fell on its side, a minor "bang" sent shockwaves through the classroom.

Aside from the general activity, the only other noises were the random, shrill feedback beeps from several hearing aids as the new wearers adjusted the volume and fit. Adjust the volume setting on the hearing aids and turn them off before insertion or removal, advised program coordinator Charlene Scherr. The men had received their hearing aids earlier in the day and were in their first class.

"When we start these classes," Scherr said to them, "feelings range from great enthusiasm to the other extremes — hostility at being away from home, job and family, and at having to wear a hearing aid. I also see skepticism: 'Why do I have to come here for a week and a half just to stick a hearing aid in my ear? Just give it to me and let me go.'

"Well," she emphasized, "we want to make sure you have the best possible amplification system for you. You'll hear some things you don't want to hear while you're here. But you'll also hear everything you always wanted to know about hearing aids." With that, she had the patients introduce themselves to one another and began offering them insight to their hearing losses.

The road to the center started many years ago for most of the men. SSgt. Michael Young was an infantryman in Panama 10 years ago. He attributed the beginning of his hearing loss to firing an M-60 machine gun without wearing ear plugs.

"After that, I had a ringing in the ears and a severe headache for three or four days. I ended up with three temporary profiles before getting a permanent one." Young is now a unit supply specialist at Cameron Station, Alexandria, Va.

MSgt. Tom Holder's problem also started when he was around guns — the Army's big guns — as a field artillery surveyor. "My hearing loss was first diagnosed after five or six years of service," he said. "It was no major problem then, so I put it on the back burner." Finally, he was told, "You definitely need help." Holder, a 16-year veteran, is assigned to Army Mobilization and Readiness Region VI, Fort Knox, Ky.

Young's and Holder's hearing had been tested that morning, first without, then with their new hearing aids.

"Patients find out what hearing aid they will need before they get here," said Maj. Richard Dennis, assistant center director. "They come to us with the ear mold part of the hearing aid already fabricated." Once they receive their hearing aids, the rehabilitation process starts."

"We are probably the only center in the United States that offers this unusual residential program,"

Faith Faircloth

Fort Knox, Ky., has a specially outfitted trailer to test soldiers' hearing. Called the mobile audiometric test facility, the unit is moved to 20 locations on post.

said Lt. Col. Roy Sedge, center director. "You don't see this in civilian life. The fitting of the hearing aid is just the beginning. We have found that, in cases where a hearing aid is just hung on a person's ear and they're given an orientation on its use, only about 50 percent wind up being used. When they go through the program, the chances go up to about 80 to 90 percent," he said.

Although the aids are issued to soldiers at other Army medical facilities, Walter Reed has the most intensive and extensive program. Sedge estimated that the Army issues 10,000 hearing aids to active duty and retired soldiers a year — 3,000 a year through Walter Reed alone.

In order for active duty soldiers to get a hearing aid from Walter Reed, they must attend the aural rehab program. They are referred to the center only after audiologists and doctors at the post level recommend hearing aids. Most soldiers come from posts east of the Mississippi River, but medical facilities Armywide can refer to Walter Reed. (Retirees and the other services sometimes make up a small percentage of the classes.)

The most common hearing losses in the Army are the mild, high frequency sensorineural type, or nerve damage in the inner ear. In this type loss, the person has a hard time distinguishing consonant sounds; for example, whether the right word was "cat," "hat," "bat," or "sat." This type loss is commonly caused by exposure to loud noises over several years.

"Infantry, armor and the field artillery are the three main culprits," said Capt. Brian Hill, chief of hearing conservation and clinical audiology at Fort Knox. "They have the most amount of hearing loss after 10 years of service. The equipment and weapons are so loud, and it's difficult for soldiers to get ear protection on in time, all the time, because of the training environment."

Hill used the example of a fairly common vehicle in the field. "An armored personnel carrier going 30 miles per hour produces a steady 119 decibels. The safe cutoff level is 85," he said. Decibels are a measure of loudness. A normal conversation level is 55 decibels. Hill's worst noise hazards list includes the motor pool, 2½- and 5-ton trucks, tanks, tracked vehicles and artillery pieces.

In 1975, a study of soldiers in infantry, armor and field artillery units concluded that 20 to 30 percent of all soldiers in the combat arms have significant hearing losses. "Significant" means they have an H-2, -3 or -4 profile. For senior NCOs, the figure goes above 50 percent. In comparison, the study noted that 97 percent of recruits had normal hearing.

Occupational hearing loss is the No. 1 health-related problem in the military. "The Army is acutely aware of the problems and is trying every method to have the best program to prevent hearing loss," Hill said. "But sometimes the best still is not good enough."

"Some weapons are so loud that ear protection will help only up to a certain point," Sedge added. "Some sound will go right through the skull to the ear nerve."

The Fort Knox population includes 6,000 soldiers in the 194th Armored Brigade. "Some of them have been in the Army for a long time," Hill said, "when there wasn't such an effective conservation program. Some could become lazy. The troops have so many other pressures on them," he offered as reasons ear plugs or muffs aren't worn. "I would be lying if I said they wear ear protection 100 percent of the time.

"It's a constant education process to get soldiers to wear hearing protection. My job is to be visible and to get officers and NCOs to set the example."

Holder held a senior NCO position at Fort Knox when he was referred to Walter Reed. He was slated to go through the rehab program about a year ago, at about the same time he took over as first sergeant in the Knox reception station. "I wanted to come then, but didn't want to take time away from a demanding job," he said.

His hearing loss was obvious both on and off the job. "There were a few times when I was listening to someone that I had to say, 'Beg your pardon, sir. Would you say that again?' " If the repeat would be at the same volume, he still didn't understand. Then he would turn around to a peer and ask, "What was that?"

"I noticed my hearing loss most while I was watching TV," Holder said. "I would constantly ask my wife what was being said."

Holder, for a while, even chose not to admit his hearing loss. "I'm very active in sports. And here I was, 35 years old, about to wear a hearing aid. I thought the only way to have a physical disability was to get run over by a truck. My problem caused my family more problems than they should have to bear. They were putting up with something that only I could do something about," he added.

Holder's fellow patients shared similar experiences. SFC Foster Blakley, a platoon sergeant from Fort Campbell, Ky., commented that he came across to others as angry and disgruntled. Also, his children said that he didn't pay attention to them. "I was just ignoring my surroundings to concentrate on hearing," he said.

Lt. Col. C.H. Dunn, a student

and research associate at the Army War College, Carlisle Barracks, Pa., used his hearing loss to tune out those noises he barely heard anyway so that he could concentrate on his work. He explained that his main problem was one of perception. "I'm a pretty quiet guy. I'm known as a person who thinks all the time. But when I talked, it was so loud that people thought I was aggressive and an agitator."

While this was everyone's first time in the program, some of the men had worn hearing aids before. Chief Petty Officer Richard Mills, a Navy fireman, traveled from Pearl Harbor, Hawaii, to attend. He received his first hearing aids in 1967, but had rarely used them, and had even loaned them out on occasion.

While most of Spears' fellow patients had high frequency losses, Spears couldn't hear the lower frequencies where conversation takes place. He had unsuccessful surgery for an ear bone disorder to restore his hearing.

Afterward, he was twice issued an aid for his left ear, where his hearing was worse. Each time he refused to wear it after a few days.

"I'm not excited about being here at all," Spears announced on the program's first day. "I just can't picture myself wearing hearing aids. I'm apprehensive. Glasses are in vogue, but not hearing aids.

"There's a heavy premium in the Army on being physically fit. All my life I've been fit. I've played all the sports. I've always been a high achiever. And now, having to wear a hearing aid just makes me feel terrible," he said. Spears also revealed what finally had brought him to the program.

"My boss had been doing all the morning briefings for the three- and four-star generals. One morning, he called and said he wouldn't be able to make it in. He said, 'How about you, Rod, doing the morning briefing?'

"I knew the information, but I just couldn't hear questions from the audience in that conference room. I started working on the briefing, but I was petrified. The colonel came in about 15 minutes before the briefing. I took him aside and said I couldn't do it. I told him about my hearing loss. That was the first time I'd ever told him anything about it. I told him, 'It's not that I can't or don't want to do it. I just can't hear in that room.'

"He said he understood and went ahead and did the briefing. I told him I was scheduled to come here and from then on was locked in. I said, 'I can't do my job, boss, but I'm going to take care of my problem.' "

"There's not one person who comes here wanting to wear a hearing aid," Sedge said, "just as there's no one who really wants to wear glasses. They come because they know they need it."

Sedge's staff spends the week preparing the patients to meet the world head-on and heads-up with their new devices. "Your background hearing faded gradually," Scherr told the group. "These hearing aids are giving it back to you all at one time."

Maj. Richard Dennis, audiologist, tests MSgt. Tom Holder of Fort Knox, Ky., before and after he receives his hearing aid.

The aural rehab program is built around helping patients adjust to the sudden change. They are taught to observe hand gestures, facial expressions and other visual cues, as well as pick up as much lip movement and sound as possible.

Patients also receive a detailed orientation on the care and use of their hearing aid. Human ear anatomy and a review of their own hearing ability are covered to give patients more insight to their conditions.

A lot of time is also spent on assertive communication. "We look at situations in which the hearing impaired have been and point out what else was going around then," said staff audiologist Sue Erdman. "We teach them to identify less than ideal situations, such as background noises, sitting too far from a speaker, not admitting to having a hearing loss, pretending not to hear others and blaming others for mumbling."

One of her points was to tell the group to make others aware that they have a hearing problem. "Hearing loss is an invisible handicap. The average individual doesn't know another person has a hearing loss. People will make other assumptions. You come off as rude, standoffish or as a space cadet."

Erdman described an actual case. An officer who was receiving a demonstration from a computer salesman had trouble hearing the sales-

Most soldiers in the aural rehabilitation program come from posts east of the Mississippi River. They are referred to Walter Reed only after extensive testing.

At the Sound of the Tone . . .

MAJ. Richard Dennis, assistant director of the Audiology and Speech Center at Walter Reed Army Medical Center, offered to test my hearing. I eagerly agreed for several reasons: I've wondered if my own hearing is what it should be. I mean, I've asked my share of "huhs" and "whaddayasays." And I've done my share of playing Russian roulette with my ear drum as I thrust a pencil point deep down in my ear for the good feeling it gives.

Also, my 11-year-old has been wearing hearing aids for a year and a half now and has been taking it in stride. Maybe, just maybe, this test would help me to appreciate a portion of the testing she and these soldier-patients have experienced.

So into the sound booth I went — they call it a test suite at Walter Reed. It was a simple set-up — a room so soundtight that you could almost *hear* yourself think. Inside were a couple of nondescript chairs; a table that held, among other things, a plastic case with drawers full of color-keyed ear plugs; a wall-mounted mirror and speaker; and a window through which the tester and patient could see one another.

Once I was seated, Dennis handed me a cord with a button on the end and instructed me to respond to the tones I would hear by pushing the button.

The first tone came through loud and clear, and like the others I would — and wouldn't — hear that morning, it wavered. The last time I had heard a similar sound was whenever the martian on the TV series "My Favorite Martian" would levitate objects.

Piece of cake, I said to myself as I depressed the button. The volume became lower and lower until the sound was too faint for me to react. The next round began on a new tone that was higher-pitched than the first series. Even higher pitches followed. Dennis, as he told me later, was trying to find the lowest volume at which I could clearly hear each tone, or threshold. So far, so good.

Then he threw me a curve. He repeated the rounds of tones. Only this time, he put background noise behind them. It resembled what you get between FM radio stations with a rushing wind thrown in for added effect. The tones I was supposed to be hearing were barely audible, especially the higher pitches.

I thought I was hearing the right sound, but I wasn't sure. I found myself pushing the button erratically, just as I had seen some of the patients do on their tests. Finally, I gave up and listened to the monotonous, distracting "sssshhhh," wondering what I was missing. Dennis later pointed out that hearing-impaired persons have the same difficulty every day in trying to pick up what they should be hearing amid background noises.

My test results showed that my hearing was normal. But according to Dennis and other staff members at the center, I'd better give up my probing pencil ventures and find another pleasure.

More important, though, I had received a taste of the invisible handicap. My daughter and I had one of those heart-to-heart talks that night. — *Gene Harper*

man's pitch. When the colonel had asked too many questions, the salesman assumed he was being too technical and dropped the conversation to a fourth grade level. The colonel became infuriated. Erdman had made her teaching point.

She also discussed the mumbling wife syndrome. The average female voice is in the high frequency range. Men can't hear their wives because they miss many of the consonant sounds in that range. What's more, background noises can further mask the high frequencies. The resulting frustration and stress between husband and wife can lead to serious marital problems. For these reasons, wives are encouraged to attend the rehab sessions to better understand their husbands' hearing problems.

Scherr brought out another point on the husband's problem: "Hearing loss is fatiguing. He has to work twice as hard as his counterpart, and uses up his energy trying to listen. When he gets home, he has nothing left to give."

Time is given in the class schedule for attendees to seek individual counseling with a staff member to discuss other physical and emotional problems associated with their hearing aids.

Patients also work individually during the program, practicing listening and other skills. The days, likewise, are filled with pre- and post-exercise testing to show the soldiers how they can improve their hearing performance.

They also receive real-world practice outside classroom sessions. They are encouraged to sightsee around the Washington area during evenings and weekends. Holder and Blakley, for example, went to a pro basketball game during their stay. Blakley noticed a big difference.

"I heard a lot of announcers, and I understood what they were saying. Before, I couldn't hear them if there was a lot of noise," he said. "I spent so much time listening to what the speaker was saying that I missed the game. It's a good improvement."

But Blakley might not transfer that improvement to his duty. He said he didn't think he could wear his hearing aids in the field based on the recommendations of audiologists due to excessive noise levels.

"In the field, I really need a hearing aid. In my mission, I and those around me have to use a low-toned voice, a whisper. I can't hear that without a hearing aid," he said. Blakley has applied for an MOS reclassification.

As the week progressed, and class was approaching its end, the group became more and more eager to return to home and duty.

One of the last sessions dealth with the hearing conservation program and was an indirect appeal for the soldiers to help educate others back home. But Blakley wasn't sure how he would handle this role.

"I know one guy who has a hearing aid, and he never wears it," he said. "I don't think I'll say anything to him. I'm going to worry about me for right now. If others ask me about mine, I'll tell them the way I feel. But I won't go tell them they need to go get a hearing aid.

Holder, meanwhile, had worn his aids long enough to overcome any self-conscious feelings. Although he had earlier lamented the loss of his self-image as a jock, he beamed the sentiment shared by his fellow soldier-patients: "It's nice to hear again — really nice." □

THE LIGHTER SIDE

Compiled by Steve Hara

"Here it is on the map — the Unpainted Desert."

HIDDEN in the letter grid are 24 battlefields and arenas of conflict dating from the Revolutionary War. They may appear forward, backward, vertically, horizontally or diagonally, but always in a straight line.

Z	U	T	P	O	O	M	A	L	A	J	H	S
E	G	R	U	B	S	Y	T	T	E	G	S	D
N	N	D	S	I	A	J	T	H	S	A	R	O
I	U	N	A	Z	D	U	N	F	P	R	H	O
H	R	O	N	O	A	H	A	E	O	G	C	W
R	L	H	O	Q	N	P	N	U	S	O	A	U
E	L	C	H	A	E	I	Z	A	I	N	E	A
B	U	N	K	E	R	H	I	L	L	N	B	E
D	B	I	J	E	G	G	O	H	U	E	A	L
S	B	A	S	T	O	G	N	E	I	S	H	L
A	L	S	K	N	P	E	N	R	A	M	A	E
B	A	T	A	A	N	B	U	R	M	A	M	B
K	A	T	N	A	L	T	A	U	E	T	O	V

Alamo
Anzio
Argonne
Atlanta
Attu
Bastogne
Bataan
Beirut
Belleau Woods
Bull Run
Bunker Hill
Burma
ETO
Gettysburg
Grenada
Hue
Inchon
Kasserine Pass
Kiska
Marne
Omaha Beach
Pusan
Rhine
Saigon

Puzzle by John F. Clark

For answers see page 55

"Nothing is certain but death and taxes. First, I'm going to audit you."

WHAT'S NEW

Compiled by SFC Michael Brown

Medical Course Open

A NEW course at Fort Rucker, Ala., provides medical specialists improved training in skills and techniques for helicopter evacuation of wounded personnel. The 3½-week course is called the Army Air Ambulance Aidman Course.

During the training, the soldiers learn the special skills needed in aviation medicine, such as how to lower a hoist cable to the ground and raise a 200-pound weight, which simulates a patient; how to deal with acoustic hazards in aviation; and altitude physiology.

To qualify for the course, soldiers must hold the 91B MOS for at least a year, be in grades E-3 to E-6, have a minimum GT or ST score of 95, and pass a Class III flight physical within 12 months before applying for the school. Soldiers should make their school request for the course through their local military personnel office. Requests must be received at least 60 days prior to the start of the course. Courses already scheduled for 1985 will begin on Jan. 8, April 2, April 30, and July 9.

Graduates receive the additional skill identifier F and will be assigned to flight positions as soon as they become available, according to a MILPERCEN official.

EFMP Identifies Needs

MANY soldiers with handicapped or gifted family members have not enrolled in the Army's Exceptional Family Member program, according to MILPERCEN officials.

The program attempts to match a soldier's assignment with medical or educational facilities needed by the family member. The Army Medical Department will identify those needs, sending that data to MILPERCEN for use in the assignment process.

While enrollment in the program does not disqualify soldiers for overseas assignments, the Army tries to assign them to areas where the appropriate facilities are available.

Soldiers with assignment instructions who are suspected of having family members with special educational or health needs and who refuse to have the needs coded may be denied family travel.

New Rules on Letters

A RECENT policy change places some restrictions on which commendation letters can become part of a soldier's Official Military Personnel File. The change is designed to increase the importance of such letters and not to prevent the letters from being prepared.

From now on, for a letter to become part of the file, it must:

—bear the signature of a person outside the recipient's published rating scheme;

—be directly addressed to the soldier or contain references to the soldier;

—contain a statement authorizing the correspondence to be filed among the other OMPF papers.

A further restriction allows only the basic correspondence with no endorsements to be placed in the file.

(More What's New on pages 1, 2)

Authorized

PRESIDENT Reagan has signed an executive order authorizing the Purple Heart for troops wounded or killed during international terrorist attacks against either the United States or nations friendly to the United States.

The order is retroactive to March 29, 1973, the day after U.S. forces left South Vietnam. Defense civilian employees are covered by the change. This also applies to soldiers who participated in peacekeeping duty outside U.S. territory.

Cordless Phone Safety

CORDLESS telephones offer users the freedom to place and receive calls in and near their homes. Yet there are some things that you need to be aware of when using them.

The U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission has received complaints about the loud sound made when the telephone rings, or when someone presses the intercom button while the handset is close to the user's ear. Complaints claim hearing losses have resulted from the loud ring.

Since most cordless telephones are designed so the ring or page signal comes through the earphone, users should place the phone in the talk position before moving it to their ear. This will prevent exposure to a loud and possibly painful ring.

A fact some users may not know is that a cordless phone is actually a hand-held radio transceiver tuned to one of five frequencies that can be found just above the normal AM radio band. A person with an AM radio that can be tuned above 1600 on the dial may be able to pick up your phone calls and eavesdrop.

Finally, because of the currently limited number of frequencies, if your neighborhood has lots of cordless phones, you may find yourself answering your neighbor's phone call and vice versa. More, higher frequencies have been approved by the government; phones using them are expected later this year.

For additional information about cordless telephones call CPSC toll-free hotline at 800-638-CPSC.

WOSC Changes

PROMOTABLE chief warrant officers will be selected for the non-resident Warrant Officer Senior Course starting in FY 85.

Current procedures allow eligible warrant officers not selected for the resident course to enroll for the non-resident training. These warrant officers may still enroll in the non-resident course by applying directly to the Institute for Professional Development, but only until Oct. 1.

Under the new system, the centralized selection board will consider chief warrant officers for the resident course, just as in the past. It will also identify the top 25 percent of those not selected and declare them eligible to enroll in the non-resident course.

Enrollment in the non-resident program is not automatic. There is a time limit for starting the course. Selectees will be eligible for enrollment for a period of one year or until the results of the next board are announced, according to MILPERCEN officials.

Another change which will affect graduates of the WOSC will be the new assignment system expected to start during FY 85.

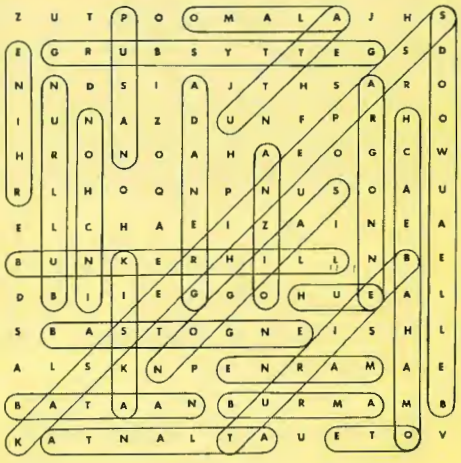
Approximately 1,400 warrant officer positions will be coded as requiring an individual with an additional skill identifier of 4A. Graduates of the resident course will receive an ASI 4A.

However, non-resident course graduates may be assigned to 4A positions if MILPERCEN approves. After one successful year in the position, these warrant officers may apply for permanent award of ASI 4A.

Viet Unknown

THE remains of an unknown serviceman from the Vietnam era were interred in the Tomb of the Unknowns at Arlington National Cemetery on Memorial Day, May 28. This Unknown American serves his country one final time as a symbol of the sacrifices made by all Vietnam veterans and their families. "We are now able to honor our Vietnam veterans, those returned and those still missing, by placing one of their fallen comrades alongside the national heroes of previous wars at the Tomb of the Unknowns," said Defense Secretary Caspar W. Weinberger.

Answer to the Lighter Side (page 53)



DATELINE: **EXCELLENCE**

Compiled by Steve Hara

Engineer's Wife Cited for Building Morale, Quality of Life

DEBBIE Dudley, wife of 1st Sgt. Dennis D. Dudley of Company D, 237th Engineer Battalion, 7th Engineer Brigade, Heilbronn, West Germany, has received the VII Corps Scroll of Appreciation and Helping Hand Award. She is credited with creating and actively leading several assistance and morale-building programs for Co. D families, single soldiers and waiting wives. . . . Speaking of engineers, **Richard P. Sellevold** of the Seattle District has been named the Corps of Engineers' best of the year. . . . **Sp4 John D. Governale** of Heilbronn and **SSgt. Randy Gilliard** of Karlsruhe are respectively the Soldier and NCO of the Year in the 7th Engr. Bde. in Germany.

Distinguished Platoons Named in 3rd Armored Division

THE Spearhead in Frankfurt, West Germany, has named three distinguished platoons for sustained excellence. Units are the **3rd Platoon, A Troop, 3rd Squadron, 12th Cavalry; 1st Platoon, Co. B, 3rd Bn., 33rd Armor;** and **3rd Platoon, Co. B, 3rd Bn., 61st Air Defense Artillery.** Each member of the winning units received a jacket and a Certificate of Achievement . . . **Co. D, 801st Maintenance Bn.,** Fort Campbell, Ky., has received the annual Holger N. Toftoy award for maintaining the highest missile readiness rate in the Army last year. . . . **The Optical Fabrication Laboratory** at Fitzsimons Army Medical Center, Colo., has received the Army Community Relations Award of Excellence for its public tour program.

McClellan MPs Take Gold in Interservice Security Contest

TEN MPs from Fort McClellan, Ala., captured first place in the third annual Peacekeeper Challenge at Kirtland Air Force Base, N.M. The interservice match tests teams in nine MP areas. Winning team was **1st Lt. Jeffrey H. Willis; CSM James W. Frye; SFC John Sampson; SSgts. Michael K. Aiken** and **Perry L. Allis; Sgts. Joseph E. Shelley, Timothy Stephens** and **Thomas M. Bartee;** and **Sp4s Christopher J. Krakowski** and **John E. Hild**. . . . Also at McClellan, **SFC Timothy J. Porter**, Co. E, 11th Bn., is post Drill Sergeant of the Year.

More Top Drill Instructors Selected

SFC Ronnie L. Banks, Co. D. 13th Bn., 4th Training Bde., is top drill sergeant for the year at Fort Knox, Ky. . . . **SFC Allen P. Foskey** was named the tops at the Army Correctional Activity, Fort Riley, Kan. . . . **SFC Jeffrey Singer**, Co. C, 1st Bn., 2nd Tng. Bde., is the top drill at Fort Leonard Wood, Mo. . . . The top honor at Fort Sill, Okla., went to **SFC Danny R. Hubbard**, Battery C, 4th Tng. Bn. . . . Reservist **SFC James Hammond** won the S. Scott Ferebee Jr. award for winning the top drill title in the 108th Training Division, based in Charlotte, N.C.

Best Troops of the Year Named Around the World

SFC Gregory Smith and **Sgt. Lydell Libre** are the NCO and Soldier of the Year, respectively, at Tripler Army Medical Center, Hawaii. . . . Reservists **Sp5 Kathy Stoops** and **Sp4 Matthew C. Brooks** were named the top NCO and soldier in the 63rd Army Reserve Command, based in Los Angeles. . . . **Sgt. Nathaniel Rouse** was named NCO of the Year at the 21st Replacement Battalion, Rhein-Main Air Base, West Germany, while a fellow battalion member, **PFC Diane Tine**, won the unit Soldier of the Year title and won at 1st Personnel Command level, too. . . . **SSgt. Larry J. Harris** has been named NCO of the Year for Forts Indiantown Gap, Pa., and Drum, N.Y. The two stations hold one combined contest. . . . **Sp5 Jeffrey L. Turner** is NCO of the Year in the U.S. Army, Japan, and IX Corps. Turner works for an Army Communications Command unit on Okinawa. . . . **Sp4 Melanie J. Dunaway** is Soldier of the Year at Fort Richardson, Alaska. She works for ACC's 57th Signal Co.

Cooks—Short and Sweet

COOK of the Year at the 25th Infantry Division in Hawaii is **Sp4 Steven Coppard**. . . . Same title went to **Sp5 Adolphus Edwards**, 4th Transportation Command, Oberursel, West Germany.

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The slide for life can be exciting — and scary — adventure training. This confidence builder is part of the water training cadets receive at ROTC advanced camp. On a hot summer day, the splash at the end of the ride can also bring a refreshing relief. The 590-foot, 19-second journey is one of the requirements for a recondo badge. For more on the cadets and their training, turn to page 16.

For 209 years, the United States Army has been, like the eagle, a source of pride and strength and a symbol of freedom. Happy Birthday, U.S. Army!