



**Ancient art**  
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# The Fort Huachuca Scout



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## Scout reports

e-mail: [thescout@hua.army.mil](mailto:thescout@hua.army.mil)  
website: [huachuca-www.army.mil/USAG/PAO](http://huachuca-www.army.mil/USAG/PAO)

### Clinic hours change

As of Friday, the Consolidated Soldier Care Clinic hours of operation were changed to 7 a.m.-4 p.m., Mondays through Fridays. The Consolidated Soldier Care Clinic serves permanent party, active duty soldiers.

### Commissary focus group

The Fort Huachuca Commissary is holding a Focus Group Meeting at 10 a.m. Tuesday in the commissary conference room. All are invited to attend.

The commissary is requesting that if grocery carts are taken to the parking lot, place them in their respective place after use. Carts left in the parking lot can cause damage to other customers vehicles, plus keeps the availability of the carts from the other customers. The commissary appreciates your cooperation.

### Signal SDO moves

The 11th Signal Brigade Staff Duty Office has moved from the Brigade Headquarters (Building 52111) to Murr Community Center (Building 53101). The office is open 4 p.m.-9 a.m. Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Fridays. The office is open 2 p.m.-9 a.m. Thursdays and 24 hours on weekends. The staff duty can be contacted at 533-1339 during these times. All soldiers reporting to the 11th Signal Brigade will report to the staff duty office after the normal duty day ends.

### Mandatory ethics training

The next mandatory ethics training session is scheduled from 10-11 a.m. Tuesday in the Greely Hall Auditorium, Room 1215. All new employees are required to receive this training within 30 days of entering duty. Department of Defense personnel required to file a Financial Disclosure Report are required to attend ethics training annually. Upcoming sessions are scheduled July 24, Aug. 21, Sept. 18 and Oct. 23.

### Range Closures

Today	AK, AL, AU, AV, AW, T1, T1A, T3
Friday	AM, AU, AW, AL
Saturday	AU, AW, T1, T1A, T2
Sunday	AW

### Blue Cross rep visits

A Blue Cross Blue Shield representative will be at Fort Huachuca 8-10 a.m. Wednesday at Murr Community Center to answer questions on benefits, claims or enrollment.

For more information call, Kathy Johnson or Eva Dixon, CPAC, at 533-5273 or 533-5735.

### Elks celebrate Flag Day

The Sierra Vista Elks Lodge will hold its 2001 Flag Day Observance at 2 p.m. Sunday, on the Lodge Grounds, on Wilcox Avenue across from the Sierra Vista Herald. The public is invited to attend this touching tribute to our national emblem. Sierra Vista Mayor Hessler will provide the feature address. The Lodge Officers and Boy Scout Troop 444 will present the History of Our Flag. Any active duty, retired, reserve and National Guard military personnel are encouraged to wear their uniforms to the ceremony.

### Warrant Officer Assn. meets

The Arizona Silver Chapter, U.S. Army Warrant Officer Association, will meet at 11:30 a.m. June 19 at the LaHacienda. New business includes installation of newly elected officers.

For more information, contact Paul Angelo at 459-4932.

## DoD, DA honor fort's hispanic initiatives

By Spc. Jessica Espinosa

Scout Staff

The Fort Huachuca Equal Employment Opportunity Office is steadily moving forward, trying to make the future a better place not only on post, but in the surrounding community as well.

The EEO Office was recently recognized for the strides made in promoting partnership agreements with the University of Arizona-South, and Cochise College, both nationally recognized minority colleges with a large Hispanic population.

The EEO office received recognition as Hispanic Employment Program Best Practices, at the Department of the Army Hispanic Employment Program Forum and the Department of Defense National Image Incorporated Training Conference in Atlantic City, N.J., in May.

"We're proud and honored to have received the recognition. We didn't start these programs to get the recognition, so we were surprised," said Joan Street, Special Emphasis Program manager.

Since the Installation Annual Affirmative Employment Program Accomplishment Report found a significant under-representation of Hispanics within the community, the EEO decided to take action.

The goal of the Affirmative Employment Program is to mirror the population of Fort Huachuca to that of the closest metropolitan city, Tucson. Hispanics make up only six percent of the labor force within the federal government and Fort Huachuca, as throughout the workforce, has an under-representation of Hispanics.

To remedy this, said Street and Beth Ford, Affirmative Employment Program manager in the EEO office took initiatives to begin partnerships with these institutions.

"We hoped to start opening the door to a whole new realm of work opportunities for the Hispanic population in the area," Ford said.

During the past five months, Ford and Street have attended job fairs at both the Sierra Vista and Douglas Cochise Colleges. Joining in their efforts were Debbie Degraff-Fullington, personnel staffing specialist, Civilian Personnel Advisory Center and Ruth Sanchez, EEO manager, Army Signal Command.

"Ruth, along with three subject matter experts from Army Signal Command, U.S. Army Networks, Engineering, and Telecommunications Activity, attended the first student forum in Douglas. Maj. Victoria Miralda, Debbie Hoehn and Terri Renwick spoke to the students about the work the government does in the ASC.

And in April, Ruth Sanchez presented a workshop on mentoring with the students, during the Douglas Campus Job Fair, and encouraged students to stay in school," Street said.

Ford added that the work they accomplished could not have been



EEO photo

Joan Street, Special Emphasis Program manager, discusses employment opportunities and advice with visitors at a recent technology expo in Sierra Vista.

done without the support of their supervisor, Efrén Medrano, the EEO officer.

"What we're doing is a little outside the box. This is more of a personnel focus. But with downsizing, we've taken on new missions," Ford explained. She also introduced the West Civilian Personnel Operations Homepage and Resumix system, the web-based resume

system the Army uses, to Liz Howard, Cochise College Career Services counselor.

Ford said this should enable Howard to help students when applying for government jobs.

Both EEO representatives said they hope this will lead to a formal partnership with the college and university.

"Though the program was initially aimed at the Hispanic populace, everyone is welcomed to better understand the role Fort Huachuca plays in the community and become a part of growing government employees," Street said.

"Our goal is to become a resource for all employees and students."

Ford said this program is still in the beginning phases and sees future endeavors to be much brighter.

"This is about sharing resources and being able to exercise cultural awareness," Ford said. "Any type of outreach program with the community as a whole is always going to benefit us."

*"We hoped to start opening the door to a whole new realm of work opportunities for the Hispanic population in the area."*

Beth Ford

## Fort warns residents of increased bear activity on post

By Stan Williamson

Scout Staff

On-post residents are being warned to watch for bears coming down from the mountains to forage for food.

According to Gerry Perry, Arizona Game and Fish management, they are receiving reports about bears in conflict with homeowners in the canyons south of Fort Huachuca.

Perry urges residents to be especially diligent in managing their food and garbage until summer rains push them (the bears) back to natural foods.

All bear sightings should be reported immediately to the Military Police at 533-2181 and the Environmental and Natural Resources Division at 533-7083.

### Things you can do to avoid a bear

Always make your yard less attractive to bears by keeping food and garbage unavail-

able to them. Make sure the lid on your trash can is on tight and secure.

NEVER leave food out for your pets.

Do not intentionally feed wildlife, bears or any others. Once wild animals look to man as a food source, they are on the road to future conflict. Wildlife and people can lose. The US Forest Service has a saying, "a fed bear is a dead bear."

If confronted by a bear, the first rule is stay calm and DO NOT RUN or make any sudden movements when you are out in the open away from a protective structure or if the bear is extremely close. Remember that all bears can run extremely fast.

Remain facing the bear and back away slowly. If you can safely get to a vehicle or any other secure structure, it is advisable to do so. Allow the bear plenty of room to escape. Bears that feel threatened, or those with cubs, can pose the greatest threat to your

safety. Make loud noises to scare the bear away.

Be aware that coming between a bear and her cubs is very dangerous. If you encounter a bear, always try to detect the presence of cubs and maintain a safe distance from both.

### If attacked by a bear

It is usually best to fight back with all means available. Attacking bears have been driven away when people have fought back.

Bears come in a variety of color phases, including black, brown and cinnamon (reddish). The majority of bears observed in Arizona are of the brown phase. Although it is difficult to determine the exact number of bears in the state, current estimates range from 2,000 to 2,500. Adult black bears vary greatly in size and weight, with adults ranging from 125 to 450 pounds. Males are usually larger than females.

## 112th Military Intelligence Brigade changes command Tuesday

By Tanja M. Linton

Media Relations Officer

The 112th Military Intelligence Brigade (Provisional) will host a change of command ceremony Tuesday, at 8 a.m. on Brown Parade Field.

Col. Gary L. Parrish will hand over command of the brigade to Col. William H. Phelps.

Phelps was commissioned as a second lieutenant in 1978 upon his graduation from Cen-

tre College of Kentucky. He has served in a variety of military intelligence positions during his career. Phelps has been assigned to Fort Huachuca since 1999, most recently as Deputy for Futures.

Parrish leaves Fort Huachuca to assume command of the 205th Military Intelligence Brigade in Wiesbaden, Germany.

The 112th Military Intelligence Brigade (Provisional) was activated at Fort Huachuca

last year.

The Secretary of the Army recently awarded the 112th the Army Superior Unit Award for its outstanding meritorious performance during peacetime, in a difficult and challenging mission. The 112th is specifically recognized for its initial developmental work on the organization and operational concepts for the Initial Brigade Combat Team from July 28 to Oct. 1, 2000.

Got news?

Call The Fort Huachuca Scout at 533-1987



Photo by Angela Moncur

## Final resting place

*In the next step in establishing a new veterans cemetery, Maj. Gen. John D. Thomas Jr., commanding general of the U.S. Army Intelligence Center and Fort Huachuca, hands over a copy of the executed deed Friday transferring 130 acres from the Department of the Army to Patrick Chorprenning, Director of the State of Arizona Department of Veterans Services. Thomas commented on the importance of an additional state veterans cemetery with the next closest being north of Phoenix. "It is our great desire for the nation to give something back to its comrades in arms," he said. "The cemetery reminds us that the torch is passed to the next generation and they have an obligation to follow through." The site of the proposed cemetery is located at the first left just before the Willcox gate parallel to Buffalo Soldier Trail. The land stretching from Buffalo Soldier Trail to the base of the Huachuca Mountains will provide a final resting place for veterans for the next 50 years. According to Chorprenning, construction is set to begin Sept. 15 with an opening date of Fall 2002.*

## Lifelong Learning

### Library puts world at your fingertips

By *Natalie Danforth*  
Administrative Librarian

Yes, Virginia, there is an electronic library Santa Claus, and it's called WorldCat. No matter what language, no matter what form, whether book, dissertation, electronic journal, film, photograph, manuscript, map, musical score, newspaper, sound recording, videotape or Internet resource... if it has been electronically cataloged through the Online Computer Library Center bibliographic utility, it's there. WorldCat has been growing at a rate of 1 million records about every five months. The database is updated daily.

Libraries have been using the parent OCLC database since the 70's to share cataloging records and provide interlibrary loans via member libraries throughout the world. There are now participating libraries in 45 countries. That long-standing, traditional partnering has led to a universe of electronic library information available to the public.

The Main Post Library began paying for and using OCLC Library of Congress machine-readable records in the early 1980's. Those records are standard for any library's automated operations, and in 1987, Fort Huachuca's Post Library was the first Army library to convert to an automated system.

Now, thanks to the Department of Army Community and Family Support Center, all installation post libraries have been provided access to OCLC FirstSearch, an octopus database of databases including WorldCat. Negotiating volume discounts, DA purchased 45 out of 75 available FirstSearch databases for your use. Following are some representative resources included in the FirstSearch package.

Because FirstSearch casts such a large net over the world's resources, you may want to consult the Reference Librarian before sitting down at the library FirstSearch terminal. Access from your desktop can be provided by the Reference Librarian. Based on your research requests, she can e-mail mission-related and education and training support citations from FirstSearch directly to your e-mail address.

**OCLC WorldCat.** Briefly described above, WorldCat is the world's most comprehensive bibliography, with more than 45 million bibliographic records in 400 languages. Covers citations back to 1000 B.C. It is an electronic catalog of materials held in the world's libraries, including military libraries.

**PAIS International (OCLC Public Affairs Information Service, Inc.).** Contains references to, and since 1985, abstracts of articles from journals, books, conference proceedings, government documents, electronic documents, Internet websites, and statistical directories. Includes the previous publications: PAIS Bulletin (1976-1990); PAIS Foreign Language Index (1972-1990) and PAIS International in Print (1991 - forward)

**OCLC Dissertation Abstracts (Product of Bell & Howell Information and Learning.)** Covers every doctoral dissertation completed in the United States at accredited institutions for the last 150 years. Includes some master's theses and foreign language dissertations.

**Applied Science & Technology Abstracts (H.W. Wilson Company).** Leads users to the latest findings in every area of science, engineering, and technology. Covers trade and industrial publications, journals issued by professional and technical societies, and specialized subject periodicals.

**Business & Management Practices (Responsive Database Services, Inc.).** Provides information on business and management issues such as decision making; implementing new technology; planning for the future; dealing with internal and external issues; and expanding businesses. Covers business methodology with emphasis on case studies and practical applications. About half of the records include full text.

**Contemporary Women's Issues (Responsive Database Services).** Covers sources published by more than 100 organizations around the world. Focuses on timely and relevant topics and meaningful issues for women, including health, human rights, the work place, legal status, and more. Full text is available from all sources except the New York Times.

**OCLC NetFirst Database (Links to web resources).** Provides access to high-quality websites on a variety of subjects suitable for use by K-12 educators as well as graduate students. Resources are selected according to a collection development policy that emphasizes quality, authority, and durability. Records contain hot links to connect users to resources of interest.

**Worldscope GLOBAL (Disclosure, Inc.).** Comprises financial information on over 31,000 public companies worldwide. Types of companies covered include industrials, utilities, transportation, banks, insurance, and others. Includes company name, phone number, address, ticker symbol and basic stock information, standard industrial classification codes, plus financial reports including information on shareholders, number of employees, officers, product and geographic segment data, and key annual financial information.

For more information, call 533-3041 or e-mail [natalie.danforth@hua.army.mil](mailto:natalie.danforth@hua.army.mil).

The Fort Huachuca Library is open Mondays through Saturdays. Mondays and Tuesdays 10:30 to 7:30; Tuesdays through Saturdays 10:30 to 6:30. It is at the corner of Smith Avenue and Arizona Street, next to the Main Post Chapel, down the street from Burger King.

## Letter to the Editor

### Reader concerned about soldier safety after traffic change

Dear Editor:

We were told that workers in the old post area were required to avoid the housing area and are channeled through the circle and down Christy Avenue to get to work, due to safety considerations.

Almost every morning there are units doing the run portion of their physical training, in both directions on Christy Avenue. This isn't in unit formation, but individuals running at their own pace. They seldom use the sidewalks, and sometimes run three abreast, blocking half of the road.

In the interest of safety, with the increased traffic on Christy Avenue, the units should do their run on less traveled roads.

**Mark Tiefel**  
AMC LAO

Dear Mark Tiefel:

The Fort Huachuca Physical Training policy clearly states that units may conduct unit runs on Christy, but must be in formation with appropriate guards, may not block more than one lane, and all stragglers must act like individual runners and yield

to traffic. That means individuals are supposed to stay off the road and use the sidewalk. Vehicles may approach the formations and pass when safe, at a speed no greater than 15 mph. Unit commanders have been repeatedly told to enforce the straggler policy.

I appreciate hearing about this problem and we will once again attempt to better enforce the policy so all, both runners and drivers, can use the roads in safety and convenience.

**Col. Michael W. Boardman**  
Garrison Commander, USAIC&FH

**Have we got news for you!**  
Read it online, click on [huachuca-www.army.mil/USAG/PAO](http://huachuca-www.army.mil/USAG/PAO)

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# Signal soldiers test shelter vehicle upgrades

By Staff Sgt. Tim Volkert  
NCOIC, 11th Sig. Bde. PAO

Soldiers checked out modifications made to the maintenance shelter vehicle at the 40th Signal Battalion motor pool.

More than 30 11th Signal Brigade personnel stopped by the motor pool, May 23-24, to look at the improvements made to the shelter and add input about additional changes to make it better.



Spc. Jason Duchette from Co. B, 40th Sig. Bn., checks out one of the compartments in the new shelter.

"We made several changes to make the unit more friendly to the soldiers who are using it," said Linda Jiron from Laguna Industries, the company that manufactured the shelter.

After the maintenance shelter was fielded in November 1999, the company received feedback about the vehicle and then re-engineered it, changing features to give soldiers what they requested, she said.

One of the main changes was altering storage compartment doors, said Christine Meislohn, a

project manager with the Warfighter Information Network - Terrestrial, which is the Army's plan to support the capabilities mandated in the Army Enterprise Strategy and Army Modernization Plan.

During the two-day event, a new shelter with all the changes was unveiled for the signal soldiers. The soldiers moved the equipment from the current shelter into the new vehicle to see how everything fit.

There are currently 32 of these maintenance shelter vehicles in the Army inventory, and Meislohn said nine of them are in the brigade.

After the equipment was transferred, signal soldiers from the different battalions came by to check out the vehicle and give their opinion about the changes.

"You lose some features you liked and you get new ones,"



Photos by Staff Sgt. Tim Volkert

Pvt. Brent Searle from Co. B, 40th Sig. Bn., puts equipment into one of the new maintenance shelter storage areas to see how it fits.

said Spc. Jason Duchette from Company B, 40th Sig. Bn. "It's kind of a trade-off."

Giving the soldiers a chance to look at the shelter and give their opinions is needed to ensure the equipment is perfect for the job, said Norma Jean Cabazos from the 11th Sig. Bde. Force Modernization Office.

"My motto is 'talk to the soldiers.' They're the ones who are going to tell you ... they're the ones working with it," she said.

"It's great having input as a soldier who is going to be

working with the equipment," said Pvt. Brent Searle from Co. B, 40th Sig. Bn.

That input helps ensure the equipment comes to the unit ready for the field, without the need for the unit to make modifications so it fits their mission requirement, he said. And so far, the modifications are good and the soldiers who came by to look at it had good suggestions to make it better.

After writing down the soldiers' comments, Meislohn said they will take the information back to the engineers and see what changes can best fit the soldiers' needs.



Photo by Angela Moncur

## Shore duty

In a relocation ceremony Friday, the Naval Air Maintenance Training Group Detachment turned over the keys to its buildings to the Army's 111th Military Intelligence Brigade. The Naval Air Maintenance Training Group Detachment is relocating to Naval Air Station Whiting Field, Fla., for consolidation and cost-saving measures. The detachment has been at Fort Huachuca since October 1997. Since 1997, the detachment has flown more than 3,000 flight hours and trained 320 students. The primary mission of the detachment is to conduct training for the Pioneer unmanned aerial vehicle. Maj. Sean C. Stewart, officer in charge of the Naval Air Maintenance Training Group Detachment, commented on the appropriateness of the Pioneer name and the significance this program has had in leading unmanned aerial vehicle training. Stewart (right) presents Maj. Daniel Drew, commander, Company E, 305th Military Intelligence Battalion with the "official" keys to the Navy's assets on a navyjobs.com lanyard. "This is a relationship forged from constantly picking each other's brain," said Drew. "The Pioneer UAV program is a true purple UAV program."

## Military spouses get flexible job options

By Rudi Williams  
American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON — Job-seeking military spouses in Europe received a special gift June 1 in the forms of more flexible and less restrictive DoD employment options.

Military spouses who participate in a two-year pilot program called MSP Choice are allowed to accept an interim job without losing their rehire preference under the

Military Spouse Preference Program, according to DoD Civilian Personnel Policy Office officials.

Spouses of active duty service members, including the Coast Guard, who relocate to a new permanent duty station are entitled to hiring preference as long as they're among the best qualified for the position, officials said.

In the past, military spouses who took temporary jobs and time-limited jobs lost their hiring preference. This meant they couldn't compete if more desirable jobs became available later.

Under MSP Choice — the first significant change in the military spousal employment provision since 1989 — the spouses lose their spousal preference only if they accept or de-

cline the offer of a permanent full-time or a permanent part-time position. The pilot program applies to all DoD appropriated fund and nonappropriated fund positions in Europe.

Spouses in Europe who lost their preference rights before the pilot started may be eligible for reinstatement under MSP Choice. Individuals who believe they may be eligible should contact their local human resources office.

"MSP is restricted to employment of military spouses in the European Theater," said civilian personnel policy spokesperson Diane Hart. "There are no plans to start the program in other areas before the test is over."

"We will monitor the European Command policy and continue to review spouse preference to determine if any further modifications are necessary," she said. "As with any pilot, we need to evaluate its effectiveness and ensure there are no unintended, negative consequences."

Officials pointed out that veterans retain preference for initial employment over military spouses. So do employees displaced from their positions through no personal cause and selected employees placed under the DoD Equal Opportunity Employment Program.



## Medical Activity Command

### Body's response to allergen similar to cold

By Amye H. Turner  
Winn Army Community Hospital

You sneeze; your eyes itch; your nose runs; sometimes your skin itches. You know spring is in the air, or the pollen is at least.

While you could have a cold, these symptoms are most likely your body's response to allergens, i.e., pollen, dust, mold, pet dander, etc.

Your body is telling you by releasing histamines, chemicals in the body that cause these symptoms, that you are allergic to something you have been exposed to.

The body's response to an allergen and a cold is similar. You can have postnasal drip, congestion, etc. But with allergies symptoms are intermittent: they come and go according to how often and how long you are exposed to an allergen. With a cold, which is usually an upper-respiratory infection, the symptoms should subside within 10 to 14 days. Also, with a cold, drainage is usually not clear; you have decreased appetite and activity levels; you possibly have fever; and you just don't feel very well.

Some people have a seasonal allergy, which is the case with allergic rhinitis, commonly known as hay fever, while others have allergies that are considered perennial, i.e., always present, like dust.

If you think you have an allergy, the first-line defense is to remove yourself from the al-

lergen. If possible, don't keep pets indoors; shut windows; vacuum daily; keep air vents in your home clean; eliminate stuffed animals and pillows; avoid foods that you are allergic to; etc. If symptoms persist, you may need medication.

Most allergy care is symptomatic, i.e., medications are given to help alleviate the patient's symptoms. Allergy relief is usually gained through the use of antihistamines and decongestants.

Antihistamines are designed to treat allergy symptoms: to stop the runny nose, itchy eyes and sneezing. If a patient is congested along with the other symptoms, he/she may choose to take an antihistamine with a decongestant.

Some patients feel allergy relief within hours after taking medications, while some must take a medication longer before gaining relief. Some patients may have to try several antihistamines before finding one that works for them.

There are numerous allergy-symptom-relief products on the market. However, the only true "cure" for allergies is immunotherapy or allergy shots. Depending on the frequency and severity of their allergic reactions, most patients choose to continue using symptomatic relief.

(Editor's note: Information for this article was provided by Dr. Joanne Murren-Boezem, chief of pediatric services; and Dr. Kevin Doyle, EENT [eye-ear-nose-throat], both of Winn Army Community Hospital.)

# Secretary White speaks to NCOs first

By Phil Tegtmeier  
Army News Service

FORT BLISS, Texas — He promised service to soldiers 16 hours a day, seven days a week.

Incoming 18th Secretary of the Army Thomas E. White addressed the graduates of the U.S. Army Sergeants Major Academy Class 51 in El Paso, Texas, May 30 and made two promises to soldiers.

"Every day, I will do my level best to do things that are good for soldiers and their families," he said during his 10-minute from-the-heart remarks. "Second, I will work hard to make the Army Vision become a reality."

White was sworn in as secretary of the Army in a private ceremony today in his office and an official Pentagon welcome ceremony is scheduled for June 7 at Fort Myer, Va.

In his first opportunity to address soldiers since being confirmed by the Senate May 24, White told Sergeant Major Academy graduates that he is committed to the Army's Transformation. He said the current Transformation will be just as sweeping as the changes that took place to raise the Army from an "abysmal" readiness state after Vietnam to the world-class machine that gave Saddam Hussein his hardest lesson in Desert Storm.

"You know, it was about that time when the Army, for the first time in its history, realized that some of its soldiers were actually married," Secretary White said jokingly. Then switching to a serious tone, he noted that he agreed strongly with the notion that, "We recruit soldiers; we retain families." The secretary then promised to take action on that premise during his tenure by improving schools, community infrastructure, and family housing.

A retired brigadier general and former "cavalry trooper," White reminded the audience that he was a kindred spirit to the concerns of soldiers and their families.

"I raised my children in DoDDs schools, I've been moved around and sent on deployments," he emphasized. "Being in the Army has got to be fun. You need to get a sense of fulfillment from what you do and enjoy it every day."

Then his, "Heaven knows, we're not in it for the pay," brought down the house.

During his remarks, the new secretary made many new friends, especially when he addressed the critical NCO/officer relationship.

"I have some pretty strong feelings about what leadership entails," he said. "I'm not going to bore you with the details here, but believe me — you'll like them." He did emphasize that he realizes, "leaders like you need to be proficient and you need to be willing to take risks. I think we need to retain the basics of leadership and have officers conducting of-



U.S. Army photo by Staff Sgt. Jack Siemieniec

**Incoming Secretary of the Army Thomas E. White gives a pat on the back to Master Sgt. Michael Gilliam during the Sergeants Major Academy graduation ceremony. To White's right is Col. Charles R. DeWitt, the Fort Bliss academy's commandant. White was the guest speaker for the event.**

ficer business and NCOs taking care of soldiers and their families and getting the mission accomplished."

Secretary White comes to his new role from private industry. The company he worked for specialized in providing outsourcing services, and some have said that type of background prepares him for an active role in the Transformation taking place within the Army.

"The CSA has laid out a very broad effort that will help us realize our Vision," White said, referring to the revolution begun by Army Chief of Staff Gen. Eric K. Shinseki, shortly after moving to the Army's top military job.

"The Transformation is not merely about the revolution taking place in military affairs. It's not just about the interim brigades we're building. We must also change how we run our institutions. We must get more involvement by private-sector sources in revitalizing our infrastructure.

"What everyone needs to realize about the Transformation is that we've done it before (post Vietnam), we have to do it, we're going to do it, and we're committed to doing it." he

said. "And I promise you one thing. You're going to enjoy it."

Other issues the newly appointed secretary promised action on were:

— Issuing black berets, and getting brass plaques in U.S. textile facilities that say, "We make the berets for the finest Army in the world!"

— Revisiting the national security goals that drive the currently high operations tempo deploying U.S. forces on missions around the world.

— Reducing the mandatory requirements higher headquarters place on subordinate units to return more training time to local commanders.

— Continuing to integrate the active and Reserve components to make the Army a true Army of One.

— Building an Army personnel system that helps, rather than harms, unit cohesion and readiness.

*(Editor's note: Phil Tegtmeier, a retired sergeant first class, is managing editor of the NCO Journal.)*



The Honorable Thomas E. White became the 18th Secretary of the Army on May 31, 2001, after nomination to that post by President Bush and confirmation by the United States Senate.

As Secretary of the Army, White has statutory responsibility for all matters relating to Army manpower, personnel, reserve affairs, installations, environmental issues, weapons systems and equipment acquisition, communications, and financial management.

White is responsible for the department's annual budget of nearly \$70 billion. The Secretary leads a work force of just over one million active duty, National Guard and Army Reserve soldiers and 270,000 civilian employees, and has stewardship over 25 million acres of land.

Prior to his appointment as Secretary of the Army, White served as Vice Chairman of Enron Energy Services, the Enron Corporation subsidiary responsible for providing energy outsource solutions to commercial and industrial customers throughout the United States. White was responsible for the delivery component of energy management services, which included commodity management; purchasing, maintaining and operating energy assets; developing and implementing energy information services; capital management; and facilities management.

Secretary White also served as a member of Enron's Executive Committee and was Chairman and Chief Executive Officer for Enron Operations Corporation. He was also responsible for the Enron Engineering and Construction Company, which managed an extensive construction portfolio with domestic and international projects.

White began his public service career as an Army officer. After graduating from the United States Military Academy at West Point, he was commissioned in the United States Army in 1967, rising to the rank of Brigadier General in 1990. His distinguished military career included two tours in Vietnam and service as Commander, 1st Squadron, 11th Armored Cavalry Regiment; Commander, 11th Armored Cavalry Regiment, V Corps; Director, Armor/Anti-Armor Special Task Force; and Executive Assistant to the Chairman, Joint Chiefs of Staff.

White attended the Naval Postgraduate School, Monterey, California, and graduated in 1974 with a degree in Operations Research. In 1984, he attended The United States Army War College, Carlisle, Pennsylvania. White retired from the Army in July, 1990.

White was born in Detroit, Michigan. He and his wife, Susan, will reside in Washington, D.C.

## Today's Guard, Reserve better integrated with active forces

By Gerry J. Gilmore  
American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON — Today's Guard and Reserve troops serve alongside their active-duty counterparts as partners, not auxiliaries, DoD's senior reserve affairs official said.

That kind of equality wasn't always the case, said Charles L. Cragin, acting assistant secretary of defense for reserve affairs and acting undersecretary for personnel and readiness since January. The retired Naval Reserve captain was principal deputy assistant secretary for reserve affairs from September 1997 to January 2001. He recounted his work with the reserve components in an interview as he prepared to return to private life June 1.

Cragin said his driving force has been Defense Secretary William S. Cohen's direction in September 1997 that the reserve forces be better integrated with the active components. "The fact is, we have more missions to do with fewer people. We have to use the expertise and commitment of every single person in this force, be they active, Guard or Reserve," he said.

He said "cultural and structural barriers" separating the active and reserve forces in 1997 needed to be eliminated. As part of his integration policy, Cohen replaced the reserve components' pink identification card with the green military IDs issued to active troops, Cragin said.

"The pink ID card was a symbol of discrimination," he said. Getting rid of it was a portent of other important reserve component initiatives to come. Over the next three years, DoD pursued military personnel and healthcare system overhauls to address both inequities and deployment issues.

Cragin said another initiative elevated reserve service chiefs from two- to three-star rank.

"Commanders of equivalent active military forces generally run at the three-star level," he said. "The upgrade means reserve component commanders come to the table with parity, the same status, as their active-component counterparts. That's important."

The increased rank reflects the increased responsibility borne by the 1.3 million reserve component members in the country's national security strategy, Cragin said. America's military downsized by about a million men and women in the last decade: 300,000 from the reserve components and 700,000 from the active force, he added.

The reserve components have been shouldering more of the mission load in recent years, Cragin said. For example, more than 20,000 Guard and Reserve troops — including civil affairs,

military police, public affairs and other military specialties — have served duty rotations in the Balkans since 1995.

In October, he added, the Virginia Army National Guard's 29th Infantry Division headquarters will deploy to Bosnia for six months at the head of 2,700 reserve component troops from 21 states.

"Anytime you look at one of these rotations, it is going to be an integrated rotation," Cragin said. A reserve component or an active-duty officer may be in command, he added.

Today, it is difficult to perform present missions without "reaching across the spectrum of the Total Force," Cragin said. Examples, he noted, are the 55 percent of the Air

Force's air-refueling capability and 97 percent of the Army's civil affairs assets that are embedded in the Guard and Reserve.

As deployments of reservists increased in recent years, DoD has sought better communications with their employers and family members, Cragin said. He noted that a recent survey showed that nearly all 1.3 million guardsmen and reservists work in civilian life for just 6 percent of the nation's employers.

"We need to focus our communication efforts on that 6 percent," he said, adding that DoD is developing a database featuring Guard and Reserve members' names, employers, mailing addresses and direct supervisors.

"We can communicate with employers on a regular basis and provide a point of contact with our Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve Committee," he said. "So, if employers have any issues, they can go to their state committees, or to the National Committee, or all the way up the chain to the assistant secretary of defense for reserve affairs."

Cragin said efforts are also under way to make the federal government, which employs 10 percent of all reserve component members, the model employer of Guards and Reserve members.

"[Defense] Secretary [Donald H.] Rumsfeld announced an initiative earlier this year under which the Department of Defense has indicated that it will continue to pay the civilian health care costs of any of its civilian federal employees who are called up for a contingency in their reserve capacity," he said.

Another initiative provides immediate TRICARE dental coverage to family members of Guard and Reserve members called to active duty by presidential order, or for sponsors on other tours to serve one year of active duty to qualify. The old contract, he said, required guardsmen and reservists to first serve two years of active service before qualifying for TRICARE-supplied dental work.

Cragin also cited an initiative that took effect last October that makes eligible those reserve component members who've accumulated a total of eight years of active service to have their children nominated by the president to attend a service academy.

DoD is concerned about the frequency and duration of Guard and Reserve deployments, which can significantly affect service members, families and employers, Cragin said.

"We've been able to develop a strategic vision for how we work family readiness issues," he said. "We've published a family benefits booklet so that family members know about available services and benefits."

"These are steps in a journey. But, as I liked to tell people as I visited reserve centers: 'If your spouse and kids don't have that family member ID card, they don't have the key to the kingdom, because they can't get in to access the system.'"

Data are still being analyzed from surveys of 75,000 reserve component members and 43,000 spouses last fall, Cragin said. The surveys, he said, will be used by DoD to obtain a comprehensive look at morale, civilian work, economic issues, military training, military benefits and programs, mobilizations and deployments, plans to leave or continue in the military, and member and family member characteristics.

The use of e-mail has greatly improved communications between deployed reserve component members and their families at home, Cragin said.

"We have to constantly think of ways to keep our families in contact with their loved ones during deployments," he said. One way to lessen the effects of family separation,

he said, could be to select reserve component personnel with high-demand specialties from all the services.

"If small-scale contingencies like Bosnia and Kosovo persist, we might have to talk about joint support," Cragin said. "For example, there is no reason why a Naval Reserve public affairs unit can't be called up for Bosnia."

"Or, if you're a thoracic surgeon, the thoracic cavity of a sailor is probably pretty identical to a soldier's."

How the reserve components are used in the future hinges on the outcome of DoD's ongoing "top-to-bottom" review, Cragin said.

"Once we know what our national military strategy is, then we can know what our capabilities have to be and how we array them within the force structure," he said. "Is the force of tomorrow going to be identical to the force of today? I doubt it. It is clearly going to be much more technology based."

## From Counsel

# Your government travel card: guidelines to keep you in clear

By 1st Lt. Christian Deichert  
Legal Assistance Office

The Legal Assistance Division of the Judge Advocate General Office too often assists individuals who have misused their government travel card. While intentional misuse certainly occurs, most violations happen as a result of simple ignorance — ignorance which can subject the offender to possible administrative actions or even courts-martial.

The key to preventing any misuse and avoiding disciplinary action is understanding a few basic rules of use. Following these rules and guidelines for proper use of the card, as well as understanding common examples of misuse, will help keep you in the clear.

### When to use your travel card

**You must use the travel card to pay authorized expenses while on official business.** Official business means you have orders to travel from point A to point B. When you receive orders or a DD Form 1610 authorizing your travel, it should tell you if any specific travel expenses are not authorized, such as a rental car.

Also, you don't have to use the travel card if you have a specific written exemption from its use, but unless you see it in writing, put those official expenses on the card. If you have any questions, ask finance or your chain of command before you leave.

**What are some common examples of authorized expenses for Temporary Duty?** You are authorized to use the travel card for transportation, hotels, car rentals, and similar expenses. If you are authorized to travel in a privately owned vehicle, you may use the card for gas and oil. Per diem expenses are also authorized, including meals, tax and tips.

Finally, you may use the card for expenses incurred while traveling, such as laundry/dry cleaning, parking, local mass transit, official phone calls, and meals. However, entertainment is not an official expense — don't charge your bar tab or those tickets to the ball game.

**What about Permanent Change of Station or Do-It-Yourself moves?** If you drive a POV between stations, you may charge your gas and oil changes. Moving truck fees can be charged if you are on a DITY move. If you're PCSing, you can charge transportation expenses to and from the air-

port or the train or bus station.

You can charge plane, bus, or railroad tickets only for a PCS move, and only if it's not a trans-oceanic move. Remember, the cost is only reimbursable up to what the Army would have paid for the ticket, so you may want to look into getting a ticket issued instead.

**What if it's an authorized expense, but they won't take a credit card?** Sometimes while on official travel you need to do business with companies that do not accept credit cards. Examples could include laundry, parking or local transportation fees. If expenses cannot be paid with a charge card, you may use your travel card to get cash from an ATM machine to pay for these expenses.

Alternatively, you may use your own funds, money from a centrally billed account, a travel advance, government issued travelers checks or a government transportation request. The Army will pay you back for all authorized expenses.

### When not to use your travel card

**You cannot use the card for anything other than official government travel.** This means personal, family, or household expenses.

While the temptation to misuse a government travel card may be strong, do not give in to the temptation. Like it says on the front of the card, the card is for official government travel only. Do not use it for entertainment, do not use it while on leave, and do not use it to pay for anything the Army is not going to reimburse.

Just because it has your name on the front does not mean it may be used similar to other credit cards. It's tempting to use the travel card for personal use, but when (not if) you get caught, you will face whatever UCMJ or administrative action your chain of command deems necessary in addition to repaying the expenses.

Be smart: put the card in the protective envelope and leave it alone until you travel on official business. Each time you use it, ask yourself whether the Army would reimburse this expense if you put it on your DD Form 1351-2 voucher. If the answer is no, leave that card in your wallet.

### Paying your bill

**You must pay your balance by the date specified on your travel card bill, even if you haven't been reim-**

**bursed yet.** Even though this is a government-issued card, you signed a contract with the credit card company to pay your bill. The Army is required to reimburse you within 30 days after receiving your travel voucher.

If the Army takes more than 30 days, they will pay you a late fee. However, you still have an independent obligation to pay the travel card bill regardless of government reimbursement.

**Submit a voucher as soon as possible to get reimbursed quickly.** Just as it is your responsibility to pay your travel card bill, it is also your responsibility to ensure you get reimbursed for expenses. Submit a completed DD Form 1351-2, Travel Voucher or Subvoucher to your S-1 as soon as you complete your travel.

Remember to attach copies of the following: your travel orders, lodging receipts, transportation receipts (for rental cars or tickets, if any), and receipts for other expenses over \$75. If you are on extended travel or TDY, ask your S-1 or transportation about submitting partial payment vouchers.

**Save your receipts.** Government auditors sometimes cannot tell whether an expense is authorized from the information they receive from the credit card company. You may be required to justify these expenses. You will be in a much better position to clear your expenses if you saved all of your receipts and documents.

**If you fail to pay your bill, the Army will deduct it from your pay.** The Army can take up to 15 percent of your disposable pay to recoup a debt on your travel card. Disposable pay is all the money you have left after legally required deductions are taken out of your pay check — this includes not just your base pay, but also allowances and special pay as well.

If the Army begins to recoup money in this manner, it can interfere with voluntary allotments you may have coming out of your paycheck for things such as car loans. While you are entitled to notice before the Army starts any deductions, and you do have the opportunity to object, the best advice is to avoid the problem by paying your bill in full each month.

### The bottom line

If you have any questions regarding the use of your travel card, ask your chain of command or the transportation office before you leave.

## Pets of the Week



**"Sandy" is a 1.5-year-old female tan and white shepherd mix. She is spayed, housebroken, good with kids, and very sweet. Her adoption fee is \$20, which includes microchipping, vaccinations, deworming and a heartworm test.**

**To see "Sandy" and "Tigger" and the many other dogs and cats available for adoption, come to the Fort Huachuca Veterinary Treatment Facility from 7:30 a.m. to 4 p.m., Monday through Friday. For information, call 533-2767. The clinic is now open during lunch.**



**"Tigger" is a young adult female black/orange/gray domestic shorthaired cat. She is very playful and would love a new home. Her adoption fee is \$50, which includes spaying, microchipping, vaccinations, deworming and a feline leukemia test.**

Veterinary Facility photos

## Fort's May water use at 19-year low

By Tanja M. Linton  
Media Relations Officer

The water pumped for May 2001 is 54,323,000 gallons or 167 acre feet and is equivalent to 1.8 million gallons per day.

The May 2001 pumpage is 27.3 percent less than that pumped in May 2000 (230 acre feet) and is 42.8 percent less than the 19-year (1982-2000) May average (292 acre feet).

May's pumpage is the lowest May pumpage for the 19-year period (1982-2000).

This is also the fifth straight month in 2001 of lowest pumpage for the 19-year period (1982-2000).

Total water pumped year to date (January-May 2001: 674 acre feet) is 15.1 percent less than that pumped in 2000 (794 acre feet).

May 2001 water use at the U.S. Forest Service tanker station at Libby Army Airfield was 34,352 gallons. The year-to-date water use at the tanker station is (January-May 2001) is 43,451 gallons.

## ARPERSCOM expands voice response line

### Army News Service

ST. LOUIS — The Army Reserve Personnel Command has just launched two new Interactive Voice Response applications to better answer soldier's questions via the telephone.

Information about the Active Guard Reserve program and promotion boards can be accessed by calling designated IVR lines.

Soldiers can learn about the AGR program, download an application, request an application by mail, or check the status of a submitted application by calling the AGR IVR. The IVR also offers assistance on completing the application. Soldiers can be transferred to the support department for additional assistance.

An AGR application packet can be downloaded through the 2xCitizen web site, [www.2xcitizen.usar.army.mil](http://www.2xcitizen.usar.army.mil).

Soldiers can call the Promotions IVR to find out if they are eligible for an upcoming mandatory board and find out the name, convene date and recess date of that board. Soldiers can check if any education documents are missing from the microfiches sent in with

their board packets and determine the status of board packet mailings and when they should be received.

Soldiers can also determine if they have been selected for promotion and officers can find out if the promotion consideration file determined if they were educationally qualified. Callers can also be transferred to a live standby board specialist.

To use the AGR IVR, call the Full Time Support Management Directorate, (800) 325-4118 or (314) 592-1234; USAR Board Support, (314) 592-0673; or Customer Contact Office, (314) 592-0575.

To use the Promotions IVR, call the new 800 number (877) 215-9834 or the existing call trees, (314) 592-1200 or (314) 592-1212.

Earlier this year, AR-PERSCOM introduced an IVR system for evaluations. This phone system enables soldiers and units to call in and check the status of the most recent evaluations. Start date, end date, received date, status and completion date of the most recent evaluations are all provided by calling the Evaluations IVR system, (800) 648-5484.

## Ed Center outlines steps for VEAP conversion

### DES release

Military personnel who have participated in the Veterans Educational Assistance Program have until Oct. 31, 2001 to convert to the more generous Montgomery GI Bill.

Marine Times reports that about 60,000 service members are eligible to take advantage of the conversion.

To convert from the VEAP to the Montgomery GI Bill, service members must meet the following criteria: (1) they must have served as VEAP participants on or before Oct. 9, 1996; (2) they must have served on continuous active duty from Oct. 9, 1996 until April 1, 2000; (3) they must make one nonrefundable payment of \$2,700, which is equal to

the maximum contribution under the old VEAP system.

Any veterans who ever participated in VEAP may convert, regardless of whether they currently have money in a VEAP account. For those still on active duty, the Defense Finance and Accounting Service will begin accepting VEAP conversion payments Feb. 1, 2001. The conversion cannot be reversed.

Those who cannot afford a lump sum of \$2,700 can have \$150 deducted from their pay each month for 18 months. However, if the participant does not complete the payments, he or she would qualify for neither program and would lose any money contributed for the GI Bill.

**Have we got news for you!**

**Read it online, click on [huachuca-www.army.mil/USAG/PAO](http://huachuca-www.army.mil/USAG/PAO)**

## Community Updates

### Federal jobs workshop

The next federal jobs workshop is from 8-10 a.m. June 15 at the Army Career and Alumni Program Center, Building 22420 here. These provide general information on how to find out where the jobs are, how to apply for a Federal job, Federal employment benefits, looking at and understanding a Federal pay scale, dissecting a Federal job announcement, looking at a Federal application, understanding veteran's preference, types of appointments, and how selections are made. The workshop also covers specifically how to understand the RESUMIX process of applying for a job at Fort Huachuca.

Future workshops are scheduled July 13, Aug. 17, Sept. 14, Oct. 19, and Nov. 16.

### Vanpool commuters

The federal government mass transportation subsidy program is now available to vanpool commuters. The vanpool that serves Fort Huachuca has five vans and is considering an additional van if enough federal workers apply for membership. For further information, contact Ken Van Karsen at 533-8200 or 615-1866.

### Warrant officer recruits

A recruiting team from Headquarters, U.S. Army Recruiting Command will visit Fort Huachuca to brief on opportunities and procedures to become a U.S. Army Warrant Officer. Briefings will be conducted Tuesday-June 14 at 9 a.m. and 1 p.m. at Murr Community Center.

Each briefing will discuss eligibility criteria, application procedures, training and education opportunities, as well as other career advancement opportunities associated with assignment to Warrant Officer Corp. Each briefing will provide soldiers with a candid view of what a warrant officer entails, and will provide soldiers and family members an opportunity to ask any questions or address any concerns they have about becoming a warrant officer.

The Warrant Officer Program is open to all soldiers who meet select criteria. The local points of contact for this briefing are Sgt. Newell at 533-1705, and Spc. Terrazas at 533-1705. Soldiers unable to attend one of these briefings can receive information on the Warrant Officer Program from their local Personnel Services Detachment/Military Personnel Division or on the Internet at: [www.usarec.army.mil](http://www.usarec.army.mil).

### FHAS seeks input

The Fort Huachuca Accommodation Schools have been informed by the Arizona Department of Education that funds will be available for Individuals with Disabilities Act and Extended School Year. These funds will be used during the 2001-2002 school year to supplement the district budget.

Public input for the expenditure of these funds is encouraged. Anyone interested in viewing the applications and providing input, can do so by contacting Sally Holcombe at 458-5082.

## Software affects some servicemembers' pay

### American Forces Press Service

Some 5,600 active duty soldiers, 9,000 sailors and 1,000 airmen will find less money in their paychecks for awhile because a software glitch that overpaid them since January.

Defense Finance and Accounting Service officials said the error under-withheld Social Security contributions. The error has been fixed, but the 8,100 troops who owed less than

\$120 should have seen a lump-sum deduction from their end-of-month pay for May. Those owing more than \$120 will see partial deductions in their mid-June, July and August paychecks.

The officials said about 150 service members overpaid Social Security because of the software error and should have received refunds in their end-of-month pay for May.

## DoD starts first phase of joint service ad campaign

By Gerry J. Gilmore

### American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON — Since January, "People," "Ebony," "Time," "Sports Illustrated" and other national magazines have been carrying colorful recruiting poster ads depicting members from different service branches with their families.

The print ads represent the first phase of the Department of Defense's new joint service advertising campaign, which seeks to reach American families who may influence their children to join one of the armed services, said Anita R. Lancaster, assistant director for programs at the Defense Manpower Data Center in Rosslyn, Va.

She said the new recruiting campaign is based on data from a 1999 survey that reviewed DoD's advertising and market research programs under former Defense Secretary William S. Cohen.

She said DoD has used joint service recruiting ad campaigns since the start of the all-volunteer military in 1973.

"We've used joint ad programs for efficiencies. If you want to buy a high school student mailing list, you only want to do that once," Lancaster said.

"We also have joint ad programs in the private sector and within the government to form a corporate umbrella over (individual) brand advertising."

Corporations like to have a general image, she said, adding that DoD's corporate message years ago was "Army, Navy, Air Force, Marines: It's A Great Place to Start."

The first phase of the ad campaign uses a separate color poster for each of the five military services — featuring models depicting service members and their families, Lancaster said.

In July or August, she added, new posters will feature real soldiers performing their jobs.

The posters display a website, [todaysmilitary.com](http://todaysmilitary.com), which parents can use to access more information about military jobs and careers for their children, to include opportunities in the reserve components.

### Foster families needed

Thinking about becoming a foster parent? Learn how by attending an information meeting at 6:30 p.m. June 21, 2001 in Suite 11 at the Landmark Plaza in Sierra Vista. To RSVP, call 458-2761 as soon as possible.

### Juneteenth Celebration

Listen to church choirs, bands, speeches and watch step shows during the Juneteenth Celebration and Gospel Fest from 10 a.m. — 4 p.m. June 23 at Veterans Memorial Park, Sierra Vista. For more information, contact Clea McCaa at 458-8555.

### Special Forces Recruiting Team

Interested in becoming Special Forces? The Special Forces Recruiting Team will give briefings at 10 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. June 18-22 in the Roadrunner Room at Murr Community Center, and at 6 p.m. June 19-20.

The team is targeting specialists through staff sergeants, but privates first class can still apply; however, PFCs cannot begin training until they're promoted to specialist.

For more information, contact Sgt. Jeanette Newell at 533-1705 or Sgt. 1<sup>st</sup> Class Osborn at DSN 833-1461/1462.

### Veterans' Benefits Briefing

A Veteran's Benefits Representative of the Department of Veterans Affairs, Phoenix Regional Office will give briefings from 8 a.m.-noon June 21 at the Army Career and Alumni Program Center, Building 22420.

The representative covers such veteran's benefits such as educational, home loan, disability entitlements, medical care, life insurance, burial, and vocational rehabilitation.

Additional briefings for 2001 are scheduled for July 19, Aug. 23, Sept. 20, Oct. 12, Nov. 2 and Dec. 20.

### Lions installation banquet

New officers and board members elected to the Sierra Vista La Salida Del Sol Lions Club in April will be installed at the 27th Annual Anniversary Installation and Awards banquet 6-9 p.m., June 23 at the LakeSide Activity Centre.

For more information or to RSVP, call Fern McReynolds at 459-3419, Anita Ostrander at 456-9033 or Dave Luna at 378-6246.

### Library test Jane's Online

You have until June 22 to help the Fort Huachuca Main Library evaluate "Jane's Online." Trainees with assignments to research platforms, systems and equipment in the defense and security arena will find the database a powerful, timely and authoritative library reference tool. Intelligence and communication analysts will also find some interesting possibilities. The library will consolidate your evaluations and provide them to the Department of Army CFSC for possible installation library year-end funding.

You may use the system in the library or log onto <http://www.janes.com/>. The username is: armyago. The password is: cfsc.

For more information, call Natalie Danforth at 533-3041. Send your comments to [natalie.danforth@hua.army.mil](mailto:natalie.danforth@hua.army.mil).

### Flea market at mall

The Sierra Vista La Salida del Sol Lions Club members and Jim Huff, general manager of The Mall in Sierra Vista will offer 60 spaces in front of the main entrance of the mall to conduct a one-day flea market on July 4. The size of the spaces will be nine feet by 20 feet and hours of operation will be 9 a.m.-6 p.m. The mall will mark off the spaces one day prior to the event. For information, call Lee at 378-1399.

### Vickie Winans in concert

Vickie Winans, award-winning gospel vocalist is scheduled to appear at 5 p.m., July 14 at the Buena High School Performing Arts Center, 5200 Buena School Blvd. Tickets are \$20 each or \$18.50 each if purchased in groups of 10 or more. Tickets are available at Sierra Vista churches, Sageway and Gospel Supplies in Tucson. The performance is sponsored by Sierra Vista's First Church of God in Christ.

### Combat engineer reunion

The 547th Engineer Battalion (Combat) Association and its attached units (552nd and 1328th) are holding its 15th annual reunion in Durham, N.C., Aug. 2-5. For hotel reservations, call the Radisson Governors Inn in Research Triangle Park, N.C. at (800) 333-3333. For reunion preregistration, contact John Joyner, 2114 Baltic Ave., Durham, N.C. 27707 or (919) 596-7940; or Ursula Allen, 9111 Forest Ave. SW, Lakewood, WA 98498 or (253) 582-4649.

### POW, MIA Walkathon

The 2001 POW/MIA Walkathon is scheduled for 6 a.m. Sept. 14 on Chaffee Parade Field here. Everyone is invited to attend.

Organized participants such as teams, groups, offices, activities, organizations and units must notify the Installation Operations G3 Office of their intent to participate by July 16. Individual participants are not required to notify the Installation Operations G3 Office.

Notification must include name of the group and number of individuals.

For more information, contact Robert Bass Jr. at 533-2293 or Sgt. 1<sup>st</sup> Class Zella English at 533-2294.

### Savings Bond campaign

The Directorate of Resource Management is preparing for another great Savings Bond Campaign for 2001. This year's theme is "Making Dreams A Reality - Pay Yourself First." Authorization for conducting the campaign is provided in Executive Order 11981, which is implemented by DoD Directive 5035.6. The campaign continues through June 30. A formal letter and more information will follow.

Visit the treasury web site at <http://www.savingsbonds.gov> or Army's site at <http://www.asafm.army.mil/fo/fod/fincom/sbp/sbp.asp>.

### Vehicle registration hours

The vehicle registration office hours are now from 8 a.m.-5:30 p.m. Mondays through Friday in Alchesay Barracks, Building 31122 on Christy Avenue.

### Upper Garden Canyon closed

Post environmental officials have announced that Upper Garden Canyon will be closed to vehicles and foot traffic during weekdays so that repairs may be made to the roadway.

The damage was caused by heavy rains and runoff during the fall season. Restoration is necessary primarily to allow access for firefighting.

The canyon will reopen for weekday visitors July 7. Until then, visits may still be made on weekends between 4 p.m. Fridays and Sunday evenings.

As always, Upper Garden Canyon is closed during hours of darkness.

### Recycle glass jars

The Sierra Vista Plant Sciences Center needs clean baby food, pint-size and quart-size glass jars without the labels and with lids for their seed collection.

If you would like to recycle your jars, please call 458-8278 ext. 2141 or drop them off at the center, 1140 N. Colombo, Sierra Vista (on the University of Arizona South campus behind Cochise College.)

### Going to Korea?

No ration card, no post exchange. Soldiers and Department of Defense civilians relocating to or visiting Korea for any reason need to be aware of the ration control card Status of Forces Agreement requirement.

Under the SOFA only full-time, active duty servicemembers may enter a main exchange facility or commissary without a ration control plate or temporary ration control card.\*

Smaller retail facilities may be entered without a RCP, but items cannot be purchased.

Personnel on assignment who are authorized an accompanied tour should ensure their sponsor has made arrangements for family members to receive a temporary ration card as soon as possible after arrival. Otherwise these family members will have to wait outside the facility while their sponsor makes a purchase.

Civilians and reservists should also ask about receiving a RCP as soon as possible after arrival.

This is a United States Forces Korea policy in accordance with the SOFA and a store manager cannot grant exemptions.

\*Some Air Force Personnel receive a stamp on their orders in lieu of a temporary ration card.



WWES photo

### Where's Wette?

Jim Wolfe's third graders at Johnston Elementary School celebrate the last Water Wise Energy Smart graduation of the school year with Wette the Waterdrop. Wolfe's class completed a series of six lessons which helped them to understand basic hydrology, watersheds, riparian ecosystems, and the importance of individual water conservation.

Have we got news for you!

Read it online, click on [huachuca-www.army.mil/USAG/PAO](http://huachuca-www.army.mil/USAG/PAO)

## TRICARE Topics

# TRICARE works hard to beef up customer service

By Sgt. 1st Class Kathleen T. Rhem  
American Forces Press Service

ARLINGTON, Va., — In December 1999, TRICARE was facing 30,535 claims still unpaid after 60 days. By March 2001, the grand total rode at four — a 99.99 percent drop.

“Our feedback from senior line and enlisted leadership is that the field is reporting far, far fewer problems with TRICARE,” said Air Force Col. Frank Cumberland. “Military community town hall meetings used to be all about TRICARE, but now people are more concerned with other quality of life issues.

TRICARE is seen as a program that people like — especially as they have more experience using it.”

Cumberland is director of communications and customer service for the TRICARE Management Activity here. He said improvements in claims processing is just one example of TRICARE’s commitment to customer service.

“We try to benchmark what we’re doing on the customer service side with what’s going on in industry,” Cumberland said. Compared with civilian health maintenance organization statistics, TRICARE fares well.

The American Medical Association News reported in the Nov. 6, 2000, issue that “38 percent of physician practices reported that it takes, on average, more than 45 days to receive payment” on a claim.

The same publication had reported in March 2000 that uncontested claims took insurers an average of 69 days to pay.

TRICARE’s average turnaround now is 12 days, Cumberland said.

The kick-off of the TRICARE Senior Pharmacy Program April 1 was “maybe the biggest test ever from a customer-service standpoint,” he said. The program added 1.5 million new beneficiaries to the TRICARE system overnight and, by all accounts, went off without a hitch.

The start of the new program was also a huge communications success,

Cumberland said. “The communications staff had to work hard ahead of time so people knew what to do on the day the program began,” he said.

Officials hope recent improvements to the TRICARE benefit, such as TRICARE for Life, the Senior Pharmacy Program, TRICARE Prime Remote for Family Members and elimination of co-payments for active-duty family members, will have a positive impact on retention as well.

“As individuals sit around the kitchen table and debate the pros and cons of going or staying in the military, we want them to factor TRICARE in,” Cumberland said.

“The changes that have happened in the past year are as significant a benefit enhancement as anything I have ever seen in the military.”

## Beneficiaries advised to save receipts for TRICARE coverage not yet implemented

### TRICARE release

Given the significant number of new TRICARE benefits and competing requirements in the 2001 National Defense Authorization Act, many programs that Congress authorized as being effective immediately when the NDAA was signed into law on Oct. 30, 2000, will be phased in over the next six to twelve months.

Among these new programs that will be implemented over time are TRICARE coverage for school required physicals, reimbursement for certain travel expenses for TRICARE Prime beneficiaries, and reduction of retiree catastrophic caps.

In the meantime, TRICARE Management Activity is advising beneficiaries to save receipts (as well as explanations of benefits and other claims-related information) for these covered services and benefits obtained from Oct. 1, 2000, for application to the fiscal year catastrophic cap, and from Oct. 30, 2000, for the other benefits until program implementation so they can later obtain reimbursement from the managed care support contractors in their regions.

TMA will widely publish the date upon which beneficiaries may submit claims with

the required receipts, and the managed care support contractors will adjudicate claims for dates of service retroactively to the effective date established by Congress.

The new benefit covering school physical examinations applies to all TRICARE-eligible beneficiaries ages five through 11. It does not cover physical examinations for sports activities.

TRICARE Prime beneficiaries referred to specialty care providers located more than

100 miles away from their primary care managers, will be reimbursed for their travel expenses, according to the provisions of the NDAA.

The existing catastrophic cap of \$7,500 will be reduced to \$3,000 for retirees, their family members and their survivors.

As soon as funding is secured for these initiatives, TMA officials will spread the word through all available communications channels.

The latest information about TRICARE benefits may be obtained through the Military Health System/TRICARE website at <http://www.tricare.osd.mil>.

Beneficiaries may also contact the managed care support contractor in their region.

Our feedback from senior line and enlisted leadership is that the field is reporting far, far fewer problems with TRICARE.

Air Force Col. Frank Cumberland

The latest information about TRICARE benefits may be obtained through the Military Health System/TRICARE website at [www.tricare.osd.mil](http://www.tricare.osd.mil).

## TRICARE assists debt collection claims

### TRICARE release

Debt Collection Assistance Officers are located at Lead Agent offices and military treatment facilities, worldwide, to help you understand and get assistance with debt collection problems.

If you receive a notice from a collection agency or a negative credit report because of a medical or dental bill, you should call or visit the nearest DCAO.

To find the DCAO nearest to you, check the DCAO directory that is available on the TRICARE web page at [http://www.tricare.osd.mil/dcao/DCAO\\_Dir.doc](http://www.tricare.osd.mil/dcao/DCAO_Dir.doc) (the directory is in MS Word format).

The Fort Huachuca DCAO is Clay Williams. He can be reached at 533-1204.

You must present or submit documentation associated with a collection action or adverse credit rating to the DCAO. This includes debt collection letters, TRICARE explanation of benefits, and medical/dental bills from providers.

The more information you can provide, the faster it will be to determine the cause of the problem. The DCAO will research your claim

with the appropriate claims processor or other agency points of contact and provide you with a written resolution to your collection problem. The collection agency will be notified by the DCAO that action is being taken to resolve the issue.

The DCAO cannot provide you with legal advice or fix your credit rating, but can help you through the debt collection process by providing you with documentation for your use with the collection or credit reporting agency in explaining the circumstances relating to the debt.

Other resources are in place at Lead Agent offices and military treatment facilities to help beneficiaries who are having problems with TRICARE claims, but have not been sent to collection agencies or who have questions about the TRICARE program. These resources include Beneficiary Counseling and Assistance Coordinators, formerly known as Health Benefits Advisors, who can assist you with your concerns. To find the BCAC nearest to you, check the BCAC directory at [http://www.tricare.osd.mil/tricare/beneficiary/bcac\\_dir.doc](http://www.tricare.osd.mil/tricare/beneficiary/bcac_dir.doc) (the directory is in MS Word format).

## TRICARE FAQs

### Q: What does “deductible” mean?

Deductible is the amount of medical bill your family members must pay annually before TRICARE will pay.

### Q: What does “co-payment/cost-share” mean?

Co-payment/cost share is the percentage of all medical charges for which you are responsible after you have paid your deductible amount for the year.

# High school students get a taste of college life

### Cochise College release

Cochise College, in partnership with Cochise County Tech Prep, welcomed 30 high school students who are spending the week at a Technology Sampler on the Douglas campus.

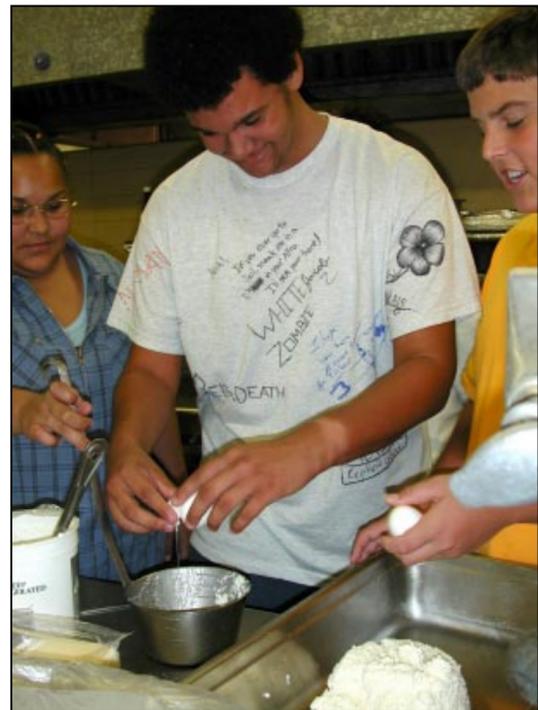
The sampler is a residential program for 10th- through 12th-graders who are interested in exploring careers in technical fields. Students spend their days in lectures and hands-on activities surrounding the topics of aviation, culinary arts, health care, law enforcement, fire science, math, professional ethics and career and college planning.

At night, they participate in organized activities and sleep in the dorms on the Douglas campus. The six-day camp began Memorial Day. A second Technology Sampler began Sunday.

Tech Prep builds pathways between Cochise County high



Alan Davis, an aviation instructor at Cochise College in Douglas, explains flight preparation to Tina Meyer, 16, a junior at Buena High School.



Kiehl Harmer, 15, of Sierra Summit Achievement School, cracks an egg in the Cochise College kitchen during the college's Technology Sampler. Students who participated in the culinary activity Tuesday prepared lasagna for dinner.

school programs and the college, military and direct employment.

“We want them to understand that they need to have a plan,” said Rhonda Douglas, Tech Prep coordinator for Cochise County. “They need strong occupational and academic skills.”

This week’s sampler kicked off the college’s youth camp season. Other youth camps scheduled this summer include:

- Basic Computer Day Camp, \* grades 7-9; 8:30 a.m. to noon, June 12-14, Sierra Vista campus;
- Beginning Computer Camp, \* grades 7-9; 9 a.m. to 3:30

p.m., June 18-21, Sierra Vista campus;

— Intermediate Computer Camp, \* grades 7-9; 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., June 25-28, Sierra Vista campus;

— Let’s Do Disney Choral Camp, ages 9-16; 12:30-5:30 p.m., June 25-29, Sierra Vista campus;

— Technology Day Camp, \* grades 7-9; 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., July 10-12, Sierra Vista campus;

— Adventure College for Kids, grades 3-6; 9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., July 9-13, Douglas campus.

\* Tech Prep program.

Cochise College photos

# FTC says, 'wake up' to anti-snoring claims

## FTC release

A heads up for the estimated 40 million Americans who snore: The Federal Trade Commission has settled charges against the manufacturer and promoter of an anti-snoring product that claimed to treat the symptoms of sleep apnea, a serious, potentially life-threatening condition that causes brief interruptions of breathing during sleep.

Sleep apnea affects at least 12 million Americans of all ages, though it is more common in men, according to the American Sleep Apnea Association.

The FTC charged the manufacturer and promoter of Snorenz, an anti-snoring mouth spray, with making unsubstantiated claims that the product could reduce loud snoring, daytime sleepiness and other symptoms of sleep apnea. Snorenz was advertised as a dietary supplement containing oils, water and vitamins B6, C and E that supposedly helped lubricate the back of the mouth to reduce the noise of snoring. But according to the FTC, the two companies had insufficient evidence to back up their claims.

As part of the settlement, the companies agreed to add two disclaimers to future promotions of the product. These disclaimers will:

- encourage buyers of the product to see a doctor or sleep specialist to determine whether they have sleep apnea; and
- list common symptoms of sleep apnea.

The FTC hopes promoters of other anti-snoring products will follow suit.

"If consumers are buying these products because they are snoring to beat the band, then they need to see a doctor or sleep specialist because they could have sleep apnea," says Lemuel Dowdy, an attorney in the FTC's division of enforcement. "But some of these marketers aren't telling consumers that. And they need to, because untreated sleep apnea can be a serious disorder."

## A slew of snoring solutions

Snoring is nothing new, and neither are products designed to curb it. The U.S. Patent and Trademark Office lists more than 300 anti-snoring devices, according to Dr. Derek Lipman, author of the 1996 book *Snoring from A to ZZZZ: Proven Cures for the Night's Worst Nuisance*. The devices try to do one or more of four things:

- keep the snorer off his back; for example, by attaching a tennis or golf ball to the snorer's back;
- keep the mouth closed and prevent the

tongue from falling backward;

- keep the neck lengthened; and
- startle the snorer awake with a shock or other stimulus.

More recently, anti-snoring products have been sold as dietary supplements.

With the growing recognition of sleep apnea as a serious medical condition, the FTC is taking a closer look at claims made about anti-snoring products.

## Sleep apnea

Sleep apnea was first recognized as a medical condition in 1965. Since then, sleep disorder specialists have learned just how harmful it can be when left untreated.

According to the National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute of the National Institutes of Health, people with untreated sleep apnea may experience sleepiness, memory and judgment problems, irritability, difficulty concentrating and personality changes. They are more likely to fall asleep at inappropriate times and have a higher rate of car crashes and work-related accidents. Sleep apnea also may affect the cardiovascular system, causing high blood pressure, irregular heartbeats, heart attacks and stroke.

The most apparent symptoms are loud snoring and gasping or choking episodes during sleep.

Most cases of sleep apnea occur because of a closure in the upper airway that restricts air flow. The closure usually results when soft tissue in the rear of the throat collapses and closes during sleep. Possible reasons for the collapse include taking alcohol or sedatives before sleep, enlarged tonsils and adenoids, or other physical abnormalities.

Another type, though less common, is central sleep apnea, in which the airway is not blocked but the brain fails to signal the body to breathe. Some people have both obstructive and central sleep apnea.

Whatever the cause, the problem is the same: People with untreated sleep apnea stop breathing repeatedly while sleeping—sometimes hundreds of times a night and often for a minute or longer, according to the American Sleep Apnea Association. To regain their breath, they gasp or choke, each time awakening slightly from their sleep. With this pattern continuing throughout the night, they never have a chance to fall into the critical deep sleep phase. As a result, they may experience abnormal daytime sleepiness, headaches, impotence, feelings of depression and the other

symptoms of sleep apnea.

Sleep apnea can be diagnosed only by medical evaluation. The standard sleep study requires an overnight stay in a sleep laboratory, where breathing, heart rates, body position and limb movements can be evaluated by an expert in sleep disorders. Though usually not as thorough, other diagnostic tests can be used in the home.

For people with mild sleep apnea, treatment may consist of lifestyle changes, such as losing weight, avoiding alcohol before bedtime and sleeping in a side position instead of on the back. For more serious cases, treatment options are:

- **Continuous positive airway pressure.**

This is the most effective non-surgical treatment for sleep apnea. It requires people to wear a mask over their nose and sometimes their mouth, too. The mask is connected to a unit that blows air into the nasal passages, ensuring that the airway remains open during sleep. The device is available only through a doctor's prescription.

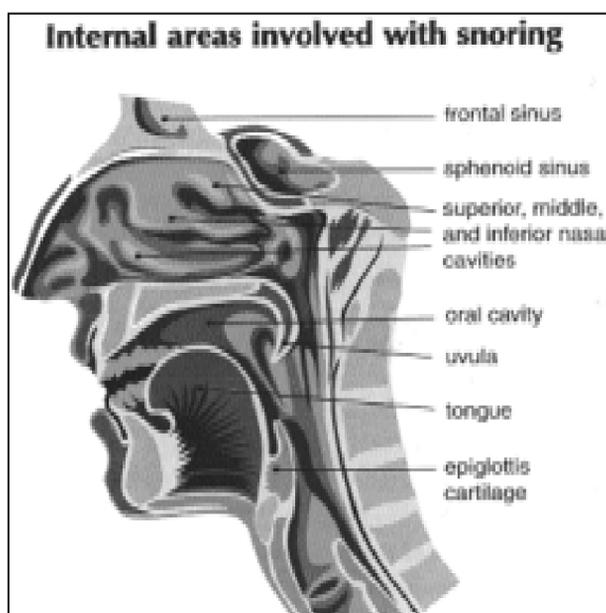
- **Oral or dental appliances.** Though not effective in all people, they may be an option, especially for those with mild to moderate sleep apnea. Patients should be fitted by an experienced dentist or orthodontist.

- **Surgery.** Surgical procedures may include cutting tissue in the back of the throat to widen the airway, removing the tonsils and adenoids and, as a final resort, performing a tracheotomy to create an opening in the throat to allow air to flow to the lungs unobstructed.

Currently there are no approved medicines for treating sleep apnea.

## Under-diagnosed disorder

Despite all that is known about sleep apnea today, many cases go undiagnosed, according to the American Sleep Apnea Association. The reason: lack of awareness by the public and



healthcare professionals.

Misleading advertisements of anti-snoring devices don't help, either. That's one reason the FTC is monitoring promotions for anti-snoring products to make sure that they advise consumers about sleep apnea and the need to consult a doctor or sleep specialist if they have symptoms of sleep apnea.

The bottom line, says the FTC's Dowdy, "If you or someone in your household feels you need something for your snoring, you need to talk to a doctor."

For more information on sleep apnea, visit the American Sleep Apnea Association website, [www.sleepapnea.org](http://www.sleepapnea.org), or contact the organization at 1424 K St., NW, Suite 302; Washington, DC 20005; 1-202-293-3650.

The FTC works for the consumer to prevent fraudulent, deceptive and unfair business practices in the marketplace and to provide information to help consumers spot, stop and avoid them. To file a complaint, or to get free information on any of 150 consumer topics, call toll-free, 1-877-FTC-HELP (1-877-382-4357), or use the complaint form at [www.ftc.gov](http://www.ftc.gov). The FTC enters Internet, telemarketing, identity theft and other fraud-related complaints into Consumer Sentinel, a secure, online database available to hundreds of civil and criminal law enforcement agencies worldwide.

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