

Track and Field results
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The Fort Huachuca Scout



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Scout reports

e-mail: thescout@hua.army.mil
website: huachuca-www.army.mil/USAG/PAO

New trash contractor

As of May 1, the Directorate of Installation Support has a new refuse collection contractor, Sunrise Sanitation, on board for the post and family housing areas. Sunrise Sanitation is in the process of replacing trashcans at the family housing areas and dumpsters in the post areas. If you have any questions, call 533-1442.

Textbooks available for review

The Fort Huachuca Accommodation School District is currently displaying review textbooks recommended by committee for possible adoption. Textbooks include mathematics textbooks for grades K-8 and music textbooks for grades K-6. The public is welcome to critique the textbooks that are on display at the district office. The district office is open 7:30 a.m.-4 p.m., Mondays-Fridays.

Taxes for returning soldiers

The Legal Assistance Office is available to prepare and e-file taxes for soldiers returning from deployment in support of Operation Enduring Freedom. Call 533-2009 to schedule an appointment for tax assistance or for more information.

Range closures

Today	AA, AB, AC, AM, AP, AQ, AU, AV, AW, AY
Friday	AA, AB, AC, AK, AL, AW, AY, T1, T1A, T2
Saturday	AB, AL, AP, AU, AW, T1, T1A, T2
Sunday	AK, AL, AU, AW
Monday	AK, AL
Tuesday	AA, AB, AC, AF, AH, AI, AJ, AK, AL, AM, AN, AQ, AR, AS, AU, AW, AY,
Wednesday	AK, AL, AM, AN, AV, AY, T1, T1A, T2
May 23	AB, T1, T1A, T2
May 24	No Closures
May 25	T1, T1A, T2
May 26	No Closures

For more information, call Range Control at 533-7095.

PX pharmacy closed

The Post Exchange satellite pharmacy of Raymond W. Bliss Army Health Center will be closed until further notice. The main pharmacy at the RWBAHC facility will continue to remain open regular business hours.

TSP open season begins

The next Thrift Savings Plan open season ends July 31. During the open season, you may begin contributing to TSP or change the amount of your TSP contribution by logging on to www.abc.army.mil. Do not submit a TSP-1 Form to the Civilian Personnel Advisory Center Office. It cannot process these forms. To make Interfund changes, use the www.tsp.gov Web site. If you have any questions, call 533-5735, Mondays-Fridays, 7:30 a.m.-4 p.m. or stop by CPAC, Building 22320.

Asian Pacific heritage month

Fort Huachuca celebrates Asian Pacific American Heritage Month 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m., today at Murr Community Center. This year's theme is "Unity in Freedom." Come out and enjoy free food samples, cultural displays and live entertainment.



Photo by Sgt. 1st Class Donald Sparks

We be jammin'

Pvt. Kenneth Anglin, left, and Pfc. Jason Binkley, both Electronic Warfare Intercept System Repair students assigned to Company B, 305th Military Intelligence Battalion, sets up the log periodic antenna on the AN/TLQ-17 Transmitter System. The antenna is a directional jammer which denies the enemy use of its electrical assets.

Signing ceremony highlights SETS agreement

By Sgt. 1st Class Donald Sparks
NCOIC, USAIC&FH

Proclaiming today's youth as America's future, Brig. Gen. James "Spider" Marks, commanding general, U.S. Army Intelligence Center and Fort Huachuca, took part in a ceremony to benefit school districts that serve military children.

Marks, in a symbolic gesture, signed a memorandum of agreement with Dr. Renae Humburg, superintendent, Sierra Vista Public Schools, and Ruben Miranda, president, governing board of Sierra Vista Public Schools, Tuesday at Buena High School which addresses the difficulties of military-connected students transferring from school to school.

"This agreement isn't about Fort Huachuca and Sierra Vista," Marks said. "This is about this school district (and other districts participating in this program) and the Department of the Army."

"There are a number of school districts in this program, but none have an advisory committee that will provide direction such as this one. It is a long-term commitment and is absolutely critical to our kids."

The agreement is a culmination from findings and recommendations identified in the U.S. Army Secondary Education Transition Study, and partners the Sierra Vista Public Schools with Fort Huachuca to aid new students as they arrive here for high school.

This study was conducted in 1997 after the U.S. Army Community and Family Support Center asked the Military Child Education Coalition to con-

See Sets, Page 6

AER exceeds campaign goal

By Katherine Goode
Scout Staff

On May 9, Army Emergency Relief (AER) exceeded their campaign goal for the year of \$80 thousand, with hopes for exceeding over \$90 thousand by yesterday's end of the campaign.

Mr. Jessup, the volunteer installation coordinator of this year's campaign said that the top three coordinators of this year's campaign who went above and beyond are SSG Van Shaik, of the 309th MI Battalion; Capt. Mellissa Walker, of the 11th Signal Brigade; and Mr. Woo, of Electronic Proving Ground.

Saying that donations were made with cash, check, or if active or retired military with a payroll deduction, Jessup explained, "One [military] retiree each year tries to increase the amount of donation that he gives through payroll deduction. This year, he found out that he could not increase his donation from last year's amount of \$3,000 to \$3,250. Nobody had known that there was a cap to what you could donate when using that form of payment, but he capped out."

Realizing that this is a popular form of donation and that it might further help campaigns in the future, Jessup said, "I am going to recommend to AER Headquarters that they start taking civil service payroll deductions as well."

Jessup believes there were many reasons for this year's success. He said, "Contributions weren't one-sided this year, as there was a higher contribution rate by civilians—retired or working on post."

Jessup said, "another reason for the high success of this campaign was also because of a tremendous participation rate in the lower enlisted." He added, "In fact, one private donated \$600."

But he feels the number one reason for AER exceeding its goal this year was because of the commanders.

He said, "We want to thank all the commanders for our success rate. This year we had good command emphasis, and total backing by Brig. Gen. James Marks, and Lt. Col. Eileen Ahearn."

But it is not the size of the

donation so much as the spirit that counts. Walker said, "Anybody that donated should feel good and is a part of this success."

AER supports active duty personnel, retirees and widows, and has multiple categories of aid from emergency leave, funeral payments, car payments, to helping with food in the household, "with," according to Jessup, "approximately \$600 thousand in aid in about the last two years given out on Fort Huachuca alone."

"In fact," Jessup said, "We helped over a hundred families with just food. But most of the money goes out to those needing emergency leave, and car repairs."

"However," Jessup explained, "[The money is] not being given away. It is not for frivolous things. 'No' is in their vocabulary. [The money] is for emergencies only."

Walker said, "I believe that this is an awesome campaign. I grew up as a military brat, and my family has received AER before."

She added, "I think this is something that really helps out the soldiers."

"That's the uniqueness of AER," said Jessup. "When you give to AER, it is for the soldiers."

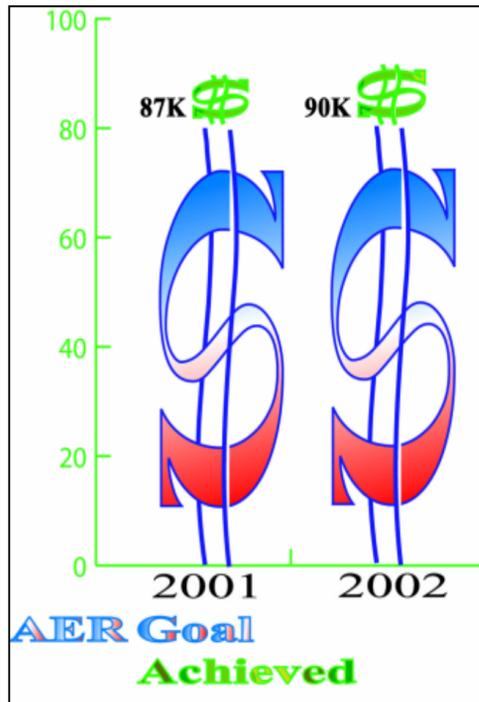


Illustration by Angelica Pequeño

Asian Pacific American Heritage Month

On May 1, 2002, the Fort Huachuca Military Community will begin the celebration of Asian Pacific American Heritage Month. This year's national is "Unity and Freedom," reiterating the importance of forging a common destiny in an increasingly diverse America.

America is strongest when all Americans have the opportunity to make the most of their lives and contribute their talents to our country.

Every sector of American life has benefited from the extraordinary leadership of those who can trace their roots back to Asia and the Pacific Island region.

Asian Pacific Americans have made contributions in all facets of our American society and continue to make substantial contributions in areas of science and medicine, military, politics, education, human rights, sports, entertainment, and the arts. To name a few: Vinod Dahm helped revolutionize the computer chip; novelist Amy Tan continues to delight readers across our nation; Governors Benjamin Cayetano of Hawaii and Gary Locke of Washington have devoted their lives to public service; diver Greg Louganis and football star Junior Seau have proven their professionalism in sports; our Army Chief of Staff, General Eric K. Shinseki, attained the highest rank and military position in the U.S. Army; and Secretary of Labor Elaine Chao was the first Asian American female appointed to a US President's Cabinet.

Asian and Pacific Americans play an important role in the life of the United States, helping us to maintain our leadership in the global economy. More importantly, they inspire us to embrace the wider world, to recognize and appreciate the blessing of our great diversity, and to become one America.

The month of May was chosen to celebrate and honor Asian Pacific American heritage because of its significance to the Asian Pacific American community.

In the first week of May 1843, the first Japanese immigrants arrived in America. And on May 10, 1869, Golden Spike Day, the transcontinental railroad, which Chinese labor built, was completed.

Today, nearly 160 years after the first Japanese immigrants arrived, more than 11 million Americans can proudly trace their roots to Asia and the islands of the Pacific.

I look forward to seeing everyone at the events planned for this month and I encourage all our service members and civilians to celebrate and remember the great contributions and sacrifices that Asian Pacific Americans have made to the United States of America.

James A. Marks

JAMES A. MARKS
Brigadier General, USA
Commanding

Check it out

By *Natalie Danforth*
Administrative Librarian

The Fort Huachuca Main Post Library invites the community to "check out" something unique this week.

Down in the holler

A Gallery of Ozark Folk Speech records the following expressions of the Ozark Mountains of southern Missouri, northern Arkansas, and eastern Oklahoma: An eyewitness to a truck accident exclaimed "it busted through that five-rail fence like a bull through a cobweb!"

When a big barn was threatened by fire, an old timer proclaimed "Folks, if that barn ketches, it'll make hell look like a lightnin'-bug!" By Vance Randolph and George P. Wilson, c1953, University of Oklahoma Press.

Memorial Day video

All the Unsung Heroes, the Story of the Vietnam Veterans' Memorial. Chronicles the memorial's history, interprets its symbolic mean-

ing and through letter and photographs left at The Wall, tells how families, comrades, friends and the nation have remembered their honored dead and missing of America's longest war. Produced in 1990 by the Heritage America Group, 30 minutes.

For 4-7 year olds

Spooky the Teapot Ghost by Jennifer Jordan, c1990.

He lived alone in a teapot until the day he found out that he could help others see at night because he glowed in the dark. By the way, have you ever crunched Live-Saver mints with the lights off? Sparks fly everywhere.

Audio

Dances with Wolves by former Bisbee resident Michael Blake. An unabridged recording of the book read by the author. Seven hours and 40 minutes should get you somewhere, maybe to the Grand Canyon if you don't make any pit stops.

Team Talk

BG "Spider" and Marty Marks Commanding General and wife

We want to let everyone know again just how much we appreciate all the dangerous, demanding work that went into fighting the Ryan wild-fire.

This blaze spread over almost 5,400 acres of Fort Huachuca property, but there were no injuries and no damage to equipment or buildings here on post.

We are indebted to all our firefighters and law enforcement personnel, as well as to the men and women from the U.S. Forest Service, for toiling so diligently to contain this fire and minimize the possibility of damage.

The truly heroic efforts of all those involved ensured that our homes and workplaces remained safe. Our sincerest gratitude goes to everyone who played a part in getting Ryan under control.

We are in a drought, without an end in sight. We must take measures to ensure the wisest, most efficient use of our water resources. As part of our water conservation program, we have very strict watering policies for Fort Huachuca.

We have established specific watering days and times for the various housing areas on post as well as for office and administrative areas.

Know the rules before you turn on the spigot. The watering regulations will be enforced, and penalties for unauthorized watering are severe. Thanks for your help in this critical area.

On another note, we just celebrated one more way our Army family is working to take care of its own.

This past Wednesday, we formally signed a Memorandum of Agreement with our partners in education, the Sierra Vista School Board, to work with us to proactively address educational challenges associated with military kids.

Many of these challenges were identified in the recent Army-commissioned "Secondary Education Transition Study." We all realize that frequent moves required by our military lifestyle result in special challenges for our children, espe-

cially at the high school level.

A successful school transition can mean greater classroom accomplishments, easier social adjustments, and more freedom for high school seniors to make better decisions about their futures.

The signing of this MOA allows our School Liaison Officer, Mr. Javier Barron, to partner with the local schools to come up with specific plans to help ensure school transitions are smoother for our kids. This program is just one more way our Army proves that, while it recruits soldiers, it retains families.

Speaking of school, summer vacation begins May 24. We know all the kids can hardly wait, while parents are seeking fun, safe activities to keep their youngsters busy. Not a problem! Fort Huachuca is chock-full of great things for you and your kids to do.

Youth Services offers roller-skating, Tae Kwon Do and dance classes, and many other great activities. The MWR Arts Center is hosting children's arts and crafts. Of course, you can get your kids involved in a wide variety of sports, and the swimming pools are a great place to spend a hot, sunny afternoon.

The installation chapels offer youth groups and vacation Bible school. And, for older teens, volunteering is another fun – and rewarding – way to spend some time this summer. The library can provide an amazing window to the world, without leaving Fort Huachuca, for children (and adults) of any age.

Summer is a great time for families to relax and recharge – and our post facilities offer a wide range of "things to do" when the inevitable, "Mom, I'm bored!" is heard.

One final note... Monday, May 27, is Memorial Day. Please take a moment to reflect on all those who have come before us and who paid the ultimate price to demonstrate that freedom is not free. Because of them, and all of you serving today, we are able to enjoy our freedoms as Americans. Thank you all.



Best sellers available at post library

Library release

The Fort Huachuca Main Post Library offers readers several holdings from The New York Times' Best Sellers list.

Fiction

Everything's Eventual
2nd Chance
The Summons
Midnight Runner
The Villa
Cold Paradise
Slightly Shady

Death in Holy Orders
Mystic River

Nonfiction

Stupid White Men
Bias
John Adams
What Went Wrong
Shakedown
Self Matters
Body for Life
A Child Called "It"
Seabiscuit

Scout on the Street

Why is it important to celebrate different ethnic heritages?



To see the diversity of everyone that stays here and their background.

Daniel Silva, Delivery Driver



To make everybody aware of what their background and their cultures are.

Sgt. Jack Johannesen, Vet. Services



It's a global village today; and to live in a peaceful world the only way to know people really well is through their culture.

Maj. Deepak Rout, 304th MI Bn.



We work with so many cultures, it's nice to know where people are coming from.

Sgt. Joe Casey, 518th TIM Plt.



World peace.

Ins. Robert Madeo, 304th MI Bn.



In order to overcome the stereotypes and misconceptions.

Cpt. Martin Okada, 304th MI Bn.

Photos by Angelica Pequeño

The Fort Huachuca Scout®

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Health Consumer Advisory Committee meets today at RWBAHC

By Sgt. Sharron L. Stewart
Scout Staff

The U.S. Army Medical Activity Command Fort Huachuca Health Consumer Advisory Committee will meet today at Raymond W. Bliss Army Health Center. The HCAC meets every other month.

According to Col. Lydia Coffman, MEDDAC commander, "It's a committee of consumers whose purpose is to advise us in the areas where we need to improve. It's not like a town hall meeting in that we do not open the floor up and answer general questions that are presented to us. The committee meetings have more structure to them," she said.

Every battalion has an active duty as well as a family member representative who attends the meetings. Coffman said retirees who are over 65 and under 65 are also represented. Members of the general public who have issues or concerns should present them to their representative who in turn forwards them on a form to members of the advisory committee. The advisory committee can research an answer and present it at the meeting.

"I like to do it that way because if we have by name representation, we can reach out to every major category of people," Coffman said.

While those who interested in the information being disseminated at the meetings may attend, those who have issues or concerns must use their proper channels.

"It's not a forum to address individual problems, it's a forum to address collective problems. The patient representative ad-

resses individual concerns," Coffman said. "That's an avenue for everyone to see what happens at the meetings and what issues have been addressed."

Coffman said the minutes from each meeting are posted on the RWBAHC Web site which can be linked from the Fort Huachuca home page. She also said before each meeting, every department in the health center is asked if they have any information they want disseminated.

"We also put out information. For instance when school physicals will be conducted for the upcoming school year, we'll announce dates," she said. "Those who attend the meetings present concerns but in turn they also have to put out information to those they represent."

The HCAC meetings are attended by the deputy commander of Clinical Services, the chief nurse, the deputy commander of Administration, a TRICARE representative, the chief of Preventative Medicine Wellness and Readiness and the chief of Soldier Care.



Photo by Angelica Pequeño

Col. Lydia Coffman, MEDDAC commander, sits in front of her Spanish American War antique medical insignia while discussing the bi-monthly HCAC meetings. Results of the meeting are posted to the RWBAHC Web site.

ceiving good ideas that can help us to raise our level of excellence.

"I'm totally committed to the process but the only way it will work is if the representatives show up. We can't address issues if they don't show up."

Coffman used the temporary closer of the Post Exchange Pharmacy, as the type of issue HCAC would address. "The closure, which is only temporary is due to staffing. That's the type of issue that affects everybody," she said.

"We are down to two pharmacists, which is less than half of what we are supposed to have. No prescription can leave the pharmacy without being verified by a pharmacist.

"We currently have ongoing hiring actions. We are hopeful that we will have someone hired in the next 4-6 weeks," Coffman said.

She said in addition to addressing problems and concerns, "The HCAC is also open to re-

Legal Assistance section receives sixth Award for Excellence since 1995

By Sgt. Jessica Inigo
Scout Staff

The Fort Huachuca Legal Assistance section recently received the Award for Excellence by the Army Chief of Staff, making this the sixth excellence award received since 1995.

Lt. Col. Karl Ellcessor, staff judge advocate, wasn't surprised to see the Legal Assistance section on top again.

"Like the entire Fort Huachuca community, we're extremely proud of the talented group of [Judge Advocate Generals], attorneys, enlisted and civilian support we have

on staff. This is a tremendous quality of life program that helps to make life a little easier for our soldiers and their families during deployments and redeployments," Ellcessor said.

What set the Legal Assistance section apart this year was the aggressive Soldier Readiness Program, according to Capt. Christian L. Deichert, a Legal Assistance attorney.

"We went from a pretty simple process of one SRP a quarter, to having to do SRPs at a moment's notice," he said. "After Sept. 11 we required more to ensure soldiers were

ready to deploy. This wasn't just something to check the box off and say it was done. This was something that was serious, that soldiers needed quick before they shipped out."

keep the standard up for the Fort Huachuca community all by himself.

"Now we have three attorneys working here and the standard has remained the same. We're providing the same quality services,

"We're providing the same quality services, we're just getting to appointments a lot quicker."

Capt. Christian Deichert

SRPs mainly included naming a power of attorney while deployed and preparing wills.

Because so many soldiers were deploying the Legal Assistance section offered briefings to the many different family readiness groups.

"FRGs were briefed about the general services we provide and were advised on their taxes. We just wanted to ensure they were aware of all the services available to them," Deichert said.

Along with the briefings, guidebooks were put together to help different audiences.

"We put out a newcomer's guide, which gave an overview of different legal issues, as well as one specific to reservists who were deploying. We gave the books to the FRGs to hand out. We just wanted to ensure their basic legal rights were protected while deployed," he said.

For four months the Legal Assistance office ran smoothly with only one attorney available. Capt. Robert Fellrath continued to

we're just getting to appointments a lot quicker, that's all," Deichert said.

The Legal Assistance office had various helping hands to keep the standard up along the way. Everyone from instructors to reservists assisted the office, but the main source of support came from the paralegals, said Deichert.

"Without the paralegals we couldn't get the job done," he said. "We'd spend all of our time answering phones instead of answering client's questions."

Spc. John Scott, Sgt. Paula Bluster, Sgt. Anita Francis and Spc. Deanna Fishum all contributed to the legal assistance's success.

"We have a good program here. In an office that normally has two attorneys and typically two paralegals to assist the active community here as well as the retirees, we're doing a great job. People come here to get great legal assistance and that's what we give them," Deichert said.

Fort sentences drunk drivers to jail

JAG release

Last week, the Special Assistant U.S. Attorney for Fort Huachuca successfully prosecuted three civilians who had been apprehended for driving on post while under the influence of alcohol.

The federal magistrate judge sentenced the first civilian to spend one day in jail, pay a \$300 fine, and to serve two years of probation. The magistrate judge ordered the second civilian to spend twenty days in jail, pay a \$550 fine, serve one year of probation, and attend alcohol counseling. Finally, the third civilian received fifteen days in jail, a \$600 fine, two years of probation, and alcohol counseling.

In Arizona and on Fort Huachuca, a person driving an motor vehicle may not have a blood alcohol content in excess of 0.08 percent; additionally, a driver under 21 years of

age may not have any alcohol whatsoever in their system. The maximum punishment for simple, first-time DUI in Arizona is six months in prison, a \$2,500 fine, and three years probation.

The maximum punishment is much higher for any drunk driver who is convicted of three DUI offenses within five years, drives with a suspended license, or drives with a passenger 15 years or younger in the car. A third DUI within five years or driving under the influence with a suspended license is a Class 4 Felony, which is punishable by two and a half years in prison, a \$150,000 fine, and four years probation.

Driving under the influence with a child of 15 years or younger in the vehicle is a Class 6 Felony, which is punishable by one year in prison, a \$150,000 fine and three years probation.



Soldiers' Lawyer

I am deploying, and need to get a General Power of Attorney for my husband. What is the difference between the Basic, Durable and Durable and Springing Power of Attorneys?

By Pfc. Deanna M. Fisher
Legal Assistance Paralegal

A Power of Attorney is a legal document that appoints someone else to act on your behalf.

These are especially helpful for soldiers who deploy and need someone else to take care of their financial and property concerns while they are away. A power of attorney is either Basic, Durable, or Durable and Springing.

While the legal jargon is confusing, the differences between these types of power of attorneys are really quite simple.

A Basic Power of Attorney gives your appointed representative the power to carry out your wishes (as specified in the power of at-

torney) from the time the Power of Attorney is executed until the expiration date contained in the document.

A Durable Power of Attorney is the same as the basic one except that the power of attorney remains in effect should you become disabled, incapacitated, or not able to make your own decisions. Thus, your representative can carry out the power of attorney until you are able to take care of yourself.

A Durable and Springing Power of Attorney does not take effect until you become disabled, incapacitated or not able to make your own decisions.

See Soldiers' Lawyer, Page 7



Photos by Sgt. 1st Class Donald Sparks

Signs of Fury

Capt. Lori Symonds, Company A, 324th Military Intelligence Battalion, plays the role of a protestor during the Kazar Fury Exercise Field on post. The role playing gave soldiers of the Initial Brigade Combat team an opportunity to deal with hostile civilians and media.

Chaplain inducted to serve as Arizona Ranger

By Sgt. Sharron L. Stewart
Scout Staff

The chance viewing of a belt buckle during a Passover Seder has led Chaplain (Maj.) Ira Houck, Installation Chaplain resource manager, to the wearing a different type of uniform after duty hours.

Houck, who is Airborne and Air Assault qualified, was inducted into the Arizona Rangers in April and serves the all-volunteer unit as a pastor. He described the Arizona Rangers as a "highly-trained, highly-organized volunteer law enforcement organization" rich in tradition and whose mission is to assist the local law enforcement organizations with community focused tasks.

Tasks include providing security for public parks and for parades, assisting the Border Patrol in Douglas. They have even served as honorary pallbearers and participated in the local memorial ceremony Oct. 13 to honor the

victims of Sept. 11.

Houck said the organization, open to those over 21, is recognized by the governor of Arizona as a volunteer law enforcement agency.

Houck said serving with the Arizona Rangers would be an excellent opportunity for those who want to see if they are suited for a career in law enforcement. He participated and passed all of the extensive training up to the portion where he would have had to carry a weapon; as a chaplain, he cannot carry arms.

He said volunteers learn about side arms, billy club techniques and radio communication among other law enforcement procedures. Training can last up to nine months.

Houck's wife, Margaret, and Col. Michael W. Boardman, Fort Huachuca's garrison commander, attended his induction. "I was honored and humbled to be inducted," Houck said. "This is an exciting opportunity to serve Fort Huachuca and the Sierra Vista community.

The Arizona Rangers provide an exciting opportunity for service members to volunteer and be part of the surrounding community."

"My interest was first piqued when I saw a volunteer's Arizona Ranger belt buckle at a Passover Seder," Houck said.

The organization, which was patterned after the Texas Rangers, formed in 1901 because the 114,006 square mile region was beset with crime and under constant attack from raiders and bandits. Houck said, retired Capt. Mike Dennis, a local realtor, is responsible for reforming the Rangers. Dennis is also the chairman of the local Military Affairs Committee.

For more information on how to become an Arizona Ranger contact Dennis at 417-2271. For more information about volunteering on post and the Military Outstanding Volunteer Service Medal, call the installation volunteer coordinator at 533-3686.

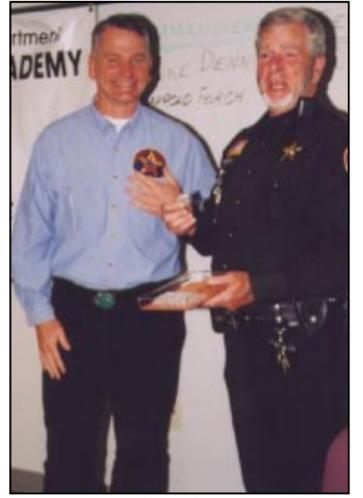


Photo by Sgt. 1st Class Donald Sparks

Chaplain (Maj.) Ira Houck is inducted into the Arizona Rangers.

Army to promote to Captain status at 38 months

By Gary Sheftick
Army News Service

WASHINGTON - The Army will promote officers earlier to the grade of captain, beginning in October.

The accelerated pin-on of bars should help alleviate a shortage of 1,900 captains, according to Army personnel officials. They said many lieutenants are now filling captain jobs. The Army also has 2,200 more lieutenants than it is authorized and the early promotions will help level that out, officials said.

The early promotions will help align the company-grade "inventory" with available positions, said Maj. John Thurman, an operations research analyst in the Directorate of Military Personnel Policy, G1.

The new policy will take effect in October with a gradual implementation, Thurman said. Officers promoted to captain in November will have 40 months of service, instead of the current 42 months. Those promoted in December will have 39 months. A new captain's board is scheduled to meet in November. Those promoted in the spring will have 39-40 months of service, Thurman said, and by June the new policy should be fully implemented with all promotions at 38 months.

The Fiscal Year 2002 Defense Authorization Act authorized the Army to promote officers to captain after just 36 months of service, but Army leaders determined that 38 months would help solve the shortage and still allow lieutenants developmental time as platoon leaders.

"It will require management at the battalion-commander level to make sure lieutenants get trained," one officer said.

Before 2000, captains were not promoted until they had 48 months of service. The exception to this was wartime, officials said. During the Vietnam War, some of today's gen-

erals were promoted to captain with just two years of service.

Army Chief of Staff Gen. Eric K. Shinseki was promoted to captain in 1967 after 29 months of service. Many officers in Vietnam were promoted to captain after 24 months of service - including Gen. Montgomery Meigs, now head of U.S. Army Europe; Gen. John N. Abrams at Training and Doctrine Command; and Gen. Thomas A. Schwartz, commander of U.S. Forces Korea.

The congressional authorization for early promotions to captain has a sunset clause and expires Oct. 1, 2005. At that time, Thurman said leaders will need to reassess whether early promotions to captain would still be beneficial.

The accelerated promotions may substantially bring down the shortage of captains by that time, Thurman said, but added that it won't be an immediate fix.

"Our deficit was a decade in the making," Thurman said, explaining that it will take some time to reverse it.

The captain shortage was caused by an under-accession of lieutenants in the early 1990s, Thurman said. Then it was compounded by attrition during the booming economy of the late 1990s, he said, when job offers were plentiful from the private sector.

Thurman said there was never any intent for the new policy to have an affect on retention of captains.

"We don't think this policy will have any affect on an officer's decision to stay or leave," Thurman said. "Getting promoted to captain four months early is not going to change your world."

Army personnel officials said that captain attrition rates have "stabilized, at or about normal levels." Last year, about 60 fewer captains left active duty than in fiscal year 2000.



Volunteers honored during ceremony

By Sgt. Sharron L. Stewart
Scout Staff

Over 200 chapel volunteers were honored with certificates of appreciation during a recognition ceremony and dinner held at the LakeSide Activity Centre, May 9. Chaplain (Maj.) Dennis T. Nitschke, deputy staff chaplain, served as the master of ceremonies.

According to his calculations, if the average volunteer was paid \$7 an hour for their labor then the chapel volunteers on post have collectively contributed over \$14 million worth of free labor for the community.

"We could not serve our community without volunteers. It's my privilege as a chaplain to be part of a such an effort to recognize ours," said Chaplain (Col.) Juan T. Loya, Installation Staff Chaplain.

We defend our nation through volunteerism.

Chaplain (Col.) Juan T. Loya

He went on to challenge the audience members to dedicate at least two years, or four thousand hours of their lives to volunteer service for the furtherance of their neighbors and their nation.

Loya said that in a State of the Union Address President George W. Bush, "Has called on the people of our great nation to fight activities of evil with acts of kindness.... We defend our nation through volunteerism," Loya said.

"The Bible says the Christian community is the salt of the earth and the light of the world," he told the crowd. "Church volunteers are absolutely essential, the church cannot live without volunteers. Without you, our chapel volunteers, we would not have a Kino Gospel choir or the Protestant Women of the Chapel. Volunteers make everything possible. Without you, the chapel community would not exist.

"Volunteering in the Christian community is an act of commitment to God and to our country," Loya said. "Chapel volunteers are absolutely essential. They are the church's lifeblood."

He went on to relate how four friends of a paralyzed man volunteered their time and effort to let their friend down through a roof in order to be healed by Jesus. "Our purpose is to reach people with a saving knowledge of

God. You make it possible. I thank you," Loya said. Chaplain (Col.) John Barbee, command chaplain for the U.S. Army Signal Command, helped to pass out the awards.

To volunteer for the upcoming Main Post Chapel Vacation Bible School from 8:30 a.m. - noon, July 27-August 3, call 533-4748. It will be a program of learning, crafts, games and singing. Children will learn about God and the stories of the Bible. It's open to everyone and free of charge.

Be aware: May is Commissary Awareness Month

By Bonnie Powell
DeCA

You're ready to serve your country. Your commissary is ready to serve you.

"That's our most important mission," says Defense Commissary Agency Director Maj. Gen. Robert J. Courter Jr. "Commissaries are an essential part of the worldwide military com-



munity, and that's just one of the messages we want to deliver to our service members during Commissary Awareness Month in May."

Actually, every month is commissary awareness month at DeCA.

"Commissaries are a military benefit offering grocery savings of more than 30 percent," says Courter. "Our store directors have been working hard to deliver the good news to the entire military community, from single service members to families, from retirees to Guard and Reserve members." Savings for a family of four shopping regularly in the commissary can amount to over \$2,400 per year.

"We also want to communicate the message that we are a part of readiness - a core element of military family support," says Courter. "We enable military families to be assigned worldwide with active duty members, and we impact quality of life, retention, and a sense of community. Consistent delivery of U.S. grocery products and great prices worldwide are what we are all about."

Commissaries continue to be a focal point of the military community in 2002, just as they have been for over 135 years, and the biannual Commissary Customer Satisfaction Survey rates customer satisfaction higher than ever. DeCA, formed in 1991 from the separate commissary systems, is celebrating its 10th year of existence as an agency, but it's still changing, evolving, and striving for improvements.

"Yes, we have a long tradition behind us, but we haven't stopped seeking a higher standard," says Courter. "Our stores now offer the freshest produce at

See May, Page 7

Servicemembers spellbound during movie depicting Vietnam saga

By Sgt. Sharron L. Stewart
Scout Staff

Some of them were sitting ramrod straight, some were draped over their seats and some were even squirming while they covered their faces, but all of the servicemembers who attended the May 10 showing of When We Were Soldiers Once...and Young were fully engrossed by the intense, sometimes graphic, action portrayed on the screen.

The members of the 309th Military Intelligence Battalion viewed the movie on post at the Cochise Theater as part of their mandatory seven Army Values training. Marines, sailors and airmen were also part of the audience.

When We Were Soldiers is written by then Lt. Col. Harold Moore and civilian journalist Joseph Galloway about the Battle of Ia Drang.

Ia Drang was the first major battle of the Vietnam War. In November 1965, 450 soldiers of the 1st Battalion, 7th Cavalry, under the command of Moore, were dropped into a clearing in the Ia Drang Valley and were immediately surrounded by 2,000 North Vietnamese soldiers. Galloway was a war correspondent.

Before the start of the movie, Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 9972 Chaplain Bill Leach related some of his Vietnam War experiences to the soldiers. Leach, who is the recipient of two Purple Hearts, and a Bronze star with a V for valor device, retired in 1990 as a first sergeant. He was Air Assault qualified, had earned the

Combat Infantry Man's badge and served as a drill sergeant.

"I didn't want either one," Leach said of his Purple Hearts. "Vietnam was jungle warfare. We could have easily defeated them. What I want you young soldiers to know is that in order to lead, you have to know how to follow in order to be apart of a unit. Loyalty to your

Honor played a big role in the movie.

Pvt. Crystal Dacres of Company A, 309

unit is a must. This will help you make it through combat... trust me, I know."

He did three tours in Vietnam as an infantryman but got out when he came down on orders for a fourth tour. He came back 28 months later and served the remainder of his time in the Army as a supply sergeant.

"We received over 700 letters from school children telling us how each and every one of you is their hero. Remember that," said Capt. Eddie Perry, company commander of Company A, 309th MI Bn.

"All of the service members who attend my in-briefings hear me say one thing, do not disgrace the uniform. There have been too many men and women who have come before us to give us what

we have today. Mister Leach is one of those individuals. I just want to say thank you," said Lt. Col. Thomas Kelley, 309th battalion commander.

After the movie was over four servicemembers talked about the impact the movie had on them.

"Honor played a big role in the movie," said Pvt. Crystal Dacres of Company A, 309. She had initially signed up before Sept. 11 but actually joined a week after. Her recruiter gave her the option of declining. "To me everything is a calling. I'm a strong believer in God and I felt that this is what He wanted me to do," she said.

"Honor pretty much wraps up all of the Army values. On the battlefield it can take many different forms," said Pfc. Jason Working who is in the same company as Dacres.

Seaman Apprentice Matthew Boche who is assigned to the Navy Detachment, said he believed the movie focused on courage and commitment. "The two soldiers who were pinned down never gave up," Boche said.

Lance Cpl. Nathan Simkowski who is with the Marine Corps Detachment agrees that honor was pivotal to the movies premise. "Everybody looked out for each other and had each other's back," he said.

Airmen Michael Martinez, 314th Training Squadron, said he believed the soldiers displayed "service before self," which is one of the Air Force values.

Community Updates

TROA dinner meeting

The Coronado Chapter of The Retired Officers Association will hold their monthly dinner meeting for members, spouses and guests at Fort Huachuca's Lakeside Activity Center today.

No host cocktails are 6-7 p.m. with dinner following. The guest speaker will be Judy Mendez, the new commissary officer at Fort Huachuca.

For more information, contact Chapter Secretary retired Chief Warrant Officer3 Joe Gill at 458-4099 or e-mail joegill@c2i2.com.

Registration office closed

The Child and Youth Services Registration Office in Murr Community Center will be closed through Friday and June 10-14 due to the installation of and training on new Child/Youth Management System computer software. To speak with someone during this time, call Linda Crone at 533-0460 or Nancy Whaley at 533-5209. We apologize for any inconvenience.

Put prevention into practice

The Put Prevention into Practice staff is offering a self-care, wellness and "over the counter" class 6-7 p.m., Monday at Murr Community Center specifically geared to Family Readiness Groups. By attending this class family members may obtain a card for over the counter medications as well as a self-care book. Children will not be allowed in the class. Registration is required by Friday. Register through your battalion FRG representative.

Babysitter/latchkey training

Child and Youth Services will host Red Cross Babysitter Training Classes for 12- to 15-year-olds 8 a.m.-5 p.m., Saturday at the Youth Services Building. Learn how to take care of yourself if you are home alone. Receive a Red Cross Babysitter Card, a 4-H Babysitter Certificate and be placed on the CYS Babysitter Referral List when you complete the course. Total cost is \$17. For more information, call Marty Johnston at 533-8385.

MPs host community forum

The Fort Huachuca Military Police will participate in an NAACP sponsored community forum on Law Enforcement in the Community at 6 p.m., Monday. Other agencies included in the program are: U.S. Border Patrol, Federal Bureau of Investigation, Sierra Vista Police Department, Huachuca City Police Department, Cochise County Sheriff and Arizona Department of Public Safety. The forum will be held at the Ethel Berger Center Auditorium in Sierra Vista. The program will include a five-minute introduction of each agency and their programs and priorities. After a 15-minute intermission, the program will allow questions from the audience.

For more information, call Anthony Isom at 538-6915.

Johnson Street closed

Johnson Street will be closed South of Hungerford through Wednesday. The closure is required for the contractor to provide utility taps for the New CIDC Field Investigation Facility that is currently under construction. This is a one-block closure and will not affect anything North of Hungerford. Both Christy and Clarkson will be available as alternate routes.

OSJA closed

The Office of the Staff Judge Advocate will be closed May 23 to allow assigned personnel to participate in a battalion run, conduct an awards ceremony and have an afternoon of organizational day events.

The Legal Assistance Division, will be closed 7-9:30 a.m., May 30 for personnel to participate in specialized client services training.

Resume writing workshop

Army Community Service's Employment Readiness Program will sponsor a hands-on instruction on writing a traditional, Internet and Resumix version of your resume. The workshop is set for 9 a.m.-2:30 p.m., May 23 with a break for lunch. Class size is limited, call 533-6870 for a reservation.

VA Benefits briefings set

Veterans Benefits Briefings are given by representatives of the VA Regional Office, VA Hospital and Tucson Vet Center. Representatives cover VA Benefits such as education and training, health care, home loan guarantees, disability compensation, pensions, life insurance, burial, and vocational rehabilitation. It is important for all soldiers who are submitting claims for medical conditions to come to this briefing. The forms necessary for the submission and an explanation of how to complete the forms is provided. The public is invited to attend this briefing. All VA benefits briefings are held in Building 22420. General information is provided from 8 a.m. to noon, and assistance in filing claims is done from 1-3 p.m. No reservation required. Briefings for 2002 are set for May 23, June 20, July 18, Aug. 21, Sept. 19, Oct. 17, Nov. 21 and Dec. 19.

ASMC monthly luncheon

The American Society of Military Comptrollers will host its monthly lunch meeting, at 11:30 a.m., May 23 at La Hacienda.

Larry McKenzie, chief of the Management & Manpower Division, Army Chief of Staff, G8, U.S. Army Signal Command, will be the guest speaker.

This month's topic is, "Network Enterprise Technology Command, the Future" — a look at where Army Knowledge Management is

taking us organizationally and what we can expect in information technology in the near future.

Cost for the buffet lunch is \$9 for ASMC members and \$10 for non-members. To make reservations and purchase tickets, ASMC members and guests should contact organizational representatives or buy them at the door. Members of the public are welcome to attend. For more information, call Flo DeWitt at 378-9402.

Commissary closed

The Commissary will be closed May 27 and 28 in observance of Memorial Day. The commissary will open for normal operating hours, 8 a.m.-6 p.m., May 29.

BOSS tours Commissary

The Better Opportunity for Single Soldiers will host a Commissary Awareness Campaign 8-9 a.m., May 29 to inform soldiers on the benefits of shopping in the commissary. All single soldiers are encouraged to attend. Soldiers will receive a tour of the commissary and a gift bag. For more information, call the Fort Huachuca BOSS President, Spc. Melissa Garrett at 533-6568.

Installation Retirement Ceremony

The 111th Military Intelligence Brigade will host a Post Review at 7:30 a.m., May 31 on Chaffee Parade Field. The ceremony will consist of a review with decorations, awards and individual retirements. Commands will be given by bugle call after all units are on the field. Participating units include the 36th Army Band, Regimental Band of the Military Intelligence Corps; 111th MI Bde.; 112th MI Bde.; Fort Huachuca Select Honor Guard and B Troop, 4th Regiment, U.S. Cavalry (Memorial).

Combat Lifesaver courses set

There have been program changes made to the Combat Lifesaver Course on Fort Huachuca. FH Regulation 40-2 covers training of Combat Lifesavers and tasks authorized to be performed on the installation. The publication can be found on the Fort Huachuca Homepage at <http://huachuca-www.army.mil>.

The schedule for courses for fiscal year 2002 is as follows:

Combat Lifesaver Correspondence Course (for new personnel): June 3-5, 2002; and Sept. 9-11, 2002.

Combat Lifesaver Recertification Course (for expired personnel): June 6-7, 2002; and Sept. 12-13, 2002.

Combat Lifesaver Refresher Course (for current personnel): June 7, 2002; and Sept. 13, 2002.

Requests for slots with all documentation required in FH Reg. 40-2 should be sent through battalion and/or brigade S-3 channels to the post G-3 schools NCO. Questions on

course content can be directed to Staff Sgt. Jose Lupian or Staff Sgt. Daniel Traver at Raymond W. Bliss Army Health Center at 533-4758/3727.

Federal Jobs Workshops

Federal Jobs Workshops are offered to explain subjects such as What is Federal Government Employment, How To Use the Internet To Find Out Where Government Jobs Are Located, Federal Jobs Benefits, Federal Pay Scales, Interpreting a Federal Job Advertisement, Federal Applications, How to Apply for a Government Job, Veteran's Preference, The Selection Process, RESUMIX Procedures, and Outlook on Opportunities. The public is invited to attend. All Federal Jobs Workshops are held in Building 22420 from 8 to 10 a.m. No reservation required. The public is invited to attend. Workshops are set for June 7, July 12, Aug. 16, Sept. 13, Oct. 18, Nov. 15 and Dec. 6. For more information, call Thomas L. Hapgood at 533-7314.

FRG training scheduled

Fort Huachuca's Army Community Service and Army Family Team Building are sponsoring Family Readiness Group Training. This training is designed for those interested in obtaining skills and knowledge to assist them in effectively working with FRGs.

Follow-up Advanced FRG training, including personality types, conflict management and group dynamics is set for 9 a.m.-noon, June 15. Basic FRG training, including commercial sponsorship, fund raising, private organization status, and rules and regulations governing an FRG is set for 9 a.m.-noon, Sept. 14.

Training will be held at ACS, Building 50010 (located on the traffic circle). To register, call 533-2330 or e-mail gail.mortensen@hua.army.mil.

Moving Wall comes to Sierra Vista

The Moving Wall Vietnam Memorial comes to Veterans Memorial Park, June 20-26. Donations to assist in sponsorship may be made at "The Moving Wall Account" at Compass Bank in Sierra Vista. For more information, call Angela Brown at 456-1265 or e-mail adamant30@earthlink.net.

309th changes command

Lt. Col. Thomas M. Kelley will relinquish command of the 309th Military Intelligence Battalion to Lt. Col. Dennis A. Perkins at 8 a.m., July 11 on Chaffee Parade Field.

Security Agency reunion

The U.S. Army Security Agency Association will host its annual reunion for past members of the agency Aug. 23-25 at the Hon-Dah Resort, nine miles south of Pinetop-Lakeside, Ariz. in the White Mountains. For more information, visit www.azasaa.org, call Dave Waldmann at 378-0159 or e-mail dwaldmann@theriver.com.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<h2 style="margin: 0;">Community Events Calendar</h2> <p style="margin: 0;">To add items to the calendar, call the Central Community Coordinator at 533-6970.</p> <div style="border: 2px solid black; padding: 5px; text-align: center;"> <h3 style="margin: 0;">The 4th Annual West End Fair 2002</h3> <p style="margin: 0;"><i>just outside the Main Gate</i></p> <p style="margin: 0;">May 18, Saturday 10 a.m. – 8 p.m. and</p> <p style="margin: 0;">May 19, Sunday 10 a.m. – 4 p.m.</p> <p style="margin: 0;">Street Dance Saturday 4 – 8 p.m.</p> </div>						
<p style="text-align: right;">19</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Wild Bunch at the OK Corral in Tombstone at 2 p.m. 	<p style="text-align: right;">20</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • San Pedro Kiwanis meets at noon in the Crystal Room of Thunder Mountain Inn. Contact Nilda Townsend at 458-9647. • Thunder Mountain Bridge Club meets at 12:30 p.m. at Thunder Mountain Inn. Call Dianna Smith at 432-3883. 	<p style="text-align: right;">21</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rickety Rockettes meets at OYCC at 10 a.m. • National Association of Retired Employees Chapter 1400 meets at 11 a.m. at OYCC. • Put Prevention Into Practice (PPIP) & Health Promotion Class meets from 2 – 3:30 p.m. at MCC. Call 533-2246 for additional info. • Cochise Toastmasters meets at Landmark Café from 6:30 – 8:30 p.m. Call Toni Reeves at 538-7502. • 504th FRG Meeting at 6:30 p.m. Look on the CAC, channel 97 for location. • Cochise Chordsmen (SPERSQA) meets at SV Methodist Church at 7 p.m. 	<p style="text-align: right;">22</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • La Salida Del Sol Lions meet at Thunder Mountain Inn at 6:45 a.m. Call Lee at 378-1399 for details. • 504th Sig Steering Committee meets in the Conference room at 6:130 p.m. • SV Chess Club meets at Peter Piper Pizza at 7 p.m. 	<p style="text-align: right;">23</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Post schools last day of class. • Resume Writing Workshop from 9 a.m. – 2:30 p.m. offered by the Employment Readiness Program of Army Community Service. Call 533-6870 for reservations, as class size is limited. • SV Optimist Club meets at 6:30 a.m. at the Landmark Café. Call John Schirmer at 378-1062. • National Association of Retired Employees Chapter 1400 meets at 11 a.m. at OYCC. Call 378-6605 for details. • Huachuca Area Retired Teachers Association meets at OYCC at 10 a.m. 	<p style="text-align: right;">24</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rollerskating at Youth Services, Bldg. 49013 from 6:30 – 8:30 p.m. Call 533-3205 for details. 	<p style="text-align: right;">25</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Vigilantes at the Helderado set in Tombstone at 1 p.m. <p style="text-align: center;">Armed Forces Day</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">26</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Wild Bunch at the OK Corral in Tombstone at 2 p.m. • The SV Youth Center is hosting Table Tennis Tournaments at 2 p.m. This free event is open to all youth 11 – 17 years of age. Call 459-4377 for details. 	<p style="text-align: right;">27</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • San Pedro Kiwanis meets at noon in the Crystal Room of Thunder Mountain Inn. Contact Nilda Townsend at 458-9647. • Thunder Mountain Bridge Club meets at 12:30 p.m. at Thunder Mountain Inn. Call Dianna Smith at 432-3883. <p style="text-align: center;">Memorial Day</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">28</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rickety Rockettes meets at OYCC at 10 a.m. • National Association of Retired Employees Chapter 1400 meets at 11 a.m. at OYCC. • Put Prevention Into Practice (PPIP) & Health Promotion Class meets from 2 – 3:30 p.m. at MCC. Call 533-2246 for additional info. • Cochise Toastmasters meets at Landmark Café from 6:30 – 8:30 p.m. Call Toni Reeves at 538-7502. • Cochise Chordsmen (SPERSQA) meets at SV Methodist Church at 7 p.m. • Society for Creative Anachronism meets at OYCC at 7 p.m. 	<p style="text-align: right;">29</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • La Salida Del Sol Lions meet at Thunder Mountain Inn at 6:45 a.m. Call Lee at 378-1399 for details. • The SV Youth Center is hosting Movies at the YC all day. This free event is open to all youth 11 – 17 years of age. Call 459-4377 for details. • SV Chess Club meets at Peter Piper Pizza at 7 p.m. 	<p style="text-align: right;">30</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SV Optimist Club meets at 6:30 a.m. at the Landmark Café. Call John Schirmer at 378-1062. • National Association of Retired Employees Chapter 1400 meets at 11 a.m. at OYCC. Call 378-6605 for details. • Huachuca Area Retired Teachers Association meets at OYCC at 10 a.m. 	<p style="text-align: right;">31</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rollerskating at Youth Services, Bldg. 49013 from 6:30 – 8:30 p.m. Call 533-3205 for details. 	<p style="text-align: right;">1</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-size: 2em; font-family: cursive;">June</p>
<p>MCC = Murr Community Center MPC = Main Post Chapel OYCC = Oscar Yrun Community Center</p> <p style="text-align: center; border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px;">Army Family Team Building classes and information at Murr Community Center, 533-3686 or 533-2330</p>						

SETS from page 1

duct a study on the impact of high school transitions for the military-connected student. After a two-year study, the SETS report announced its findings upon research from high school students, Army senior leaders and several school districts.

Humburg explained what is a "commonality" of nine problems associated with military-connected students and each problem was addressed in the memorandum of agreement.

Some of those problems include: improving the timely transfer of records; develop systems to ease student transition during the first two weeks of enrollment; promote practices which foster access to extracurricular programs; establish procedures to lessen the adverse impact of moves from the end of junior year, as well as before, and during

The Army has an exceptional way of transitioning soldiers from station to station...Now there can be a standardized way for us to transition students using the same model and improve predictability.

Dr. Renae Humburg, Sierra Vista Public Schools Superintendent

the senior year; and provide information concerning graduation requirements.

"We can't say enough how this benefits both the student and the school district," Humburg said. "The Army has an exceptional way of transitioning soldiers from station to station and provides services to support those soldiers. Now there can be a standardized way for us to transition students using the same model and improve predictability."

The agreement is considered a blessing to Marty Marks, wife of commanding general, and is worth the two-year study. As a parent of two daughters who've attended three high schools apiece, she knew firsthand the difficulties of uprooting children from school to school. She's also part of the nine-member Student Transition Service Advisory Com-



Photo by Sgt. 1st Class Donald Sparks

Dr. Renae Humburg, Superintendent Sierra Vista Public Schools, left, and Gen. James A. Marks, Commanding General U.S. Army Intelligence Center and Fort Huachuca, signs the Memorandum of Agreement partnering the Sierra Vista and the Department of the Army as part of the Secondary Education Transition Study.

mittee that will oversee the agreement.

"The SETS participants took their time to make this right," Marks said. "I was part of the initial meeting when this study went underway, and it's great because now there is communication from each school and aids in the aca-

demie success of the student."

Parents interested in obtaining the research report, the executive summary, or the parent guidebook can contact the Military Family Resource Center at mfrcrequest@calib.com.

Transition comparisons for military-connected teens

Soldiers:

Fairly standardized in- and out-processing

Records are easily interpreted

Rank and professional affiliation remain the same

Generally has a sponsor and resources to assist in transition

Students:

Fairly non-standardized in- and out-processing

Records not easily interpreted

School rank and allegiance could change

Generally has no sponsor and few resources

Rattlesnake and skeleton, Desert Centipede, and the Western Coral Snake, a relative of the Indian Cobra, but according to the museum, "injects venom twice as powerful as the rattlesnake. But because of its size, anatomy and habits, there are no known deaths in the Desert Southwest attributed its bite."



Safety Stand Down Day 2002

Leaders, soldiers concentrate on accident prevention



Photos by Kathy Goode



Above: Deputies Randy Wilson, and Leo Tobolski with Cochise County Sheriff's Dept. discussing the DUI Task Force gives telephone number to a citizen interested in becoming a volunteer with the task force. Left: Klinton Smuda and Ryan Quimby, with Troop 234 of the Boy Scouts of America, assist Willie Whitefeather while he teaches how to start a fire without matches in the wilderness. Whitefeather said, "You can use the whole yucca plant to not only make the fire, but it can be your meal also. The roots can be baked into bread, while the fruit is roasted over the fire."

Army profiles SF, careers, defending home, in new commercials, web site

U.S. Army Public Affairs

The U.S. Army launches this weekend three new recruiting television commercials featuring real soldiers in some of the more than 200 Army career fields. The inspiring new ads will run during Armed Forces Week and throughout the summer.

"Ice Soldiers," one of the three new ads, demonstrates high-altitude military operations by U.S. Army Special Forces soldiers at 13,500 feet in more than four feet of snow. It features a seemingly lone soldier scaling an intimidating, rocky cliff.

"This commercial does a great job illustrating the true meaning of 'An Army of One,'" said Sgt. 1st Class Brian Berkebile, the lone climber initially shown at the commercial's start. "It showcases the personal commitment and drive of one soldier, while underscoring the Army's unique and unwavering spirit of teamwork." Berkebile and other members of 10th Special Forces Group from Fort Carson, Colo., participated in the commercial, filmed in the Uncompahgre National Forest. The U.S. Army Special Forces will mark their 50th anniversary June 18.

"Ice Soldiers" is matched by a down-home approach in "Coming Home," a commercial featuring U.S. Army Reserve soldiers returning to their homes and families from weekend military duties across the nation. The commercial emphasizes the 180 ways to serve America as citizen-soldiers while showing Army Reservists have time for their civilian careers, as well as keeping important commitments with family, friends and their communities.

The third commercial, "Made Of," highlights the more than 200 empowering, active-Army career fields interested recruits can select from in today's Army. Filmed at Fort Benning, Ga.,

the spot shows an airborne trainee, Apache helicopter pilot, Ranger, intelligence analyst and medic - just a few of the many career opportunities the Army offers. The campaign includes companion print advertising in major newspapers and magazines; movie theater ads; a companion effort in Spanish known as "Yo Soy El Army;" as well as detailed information at the Army's web site, <http://www.goarmy.com>, profiling the lives of eight new soldiers.

The commercials will air starting May 19 and will be broadcast through mid-summer as part of the Army's numerous community-relations activities during the highly patriotic summer months. Summer community events include having Army soldiers participate at more than 14 major-league baseball games on Flag Day, June 14 - which also is the Army's 227th birthday. Soldier-athletes who won medals at the 2002 Winter Olympics will appear at the May 26 Indianapolis 500 along with West Point cadets who will sing the National Anthem. The Army's soldier-Olympians also will appear at the National Independence Day Parade in Washington, D.C., July 4.

Timing the three TV ads to run during the nation's traditional "patriots' season" recognizes the Army's all-American roots. "Ice Soldiers" will air May 19 after 7 p.m. and again after 9 p.m. "Coming Home" will debut May 19 after 9:30 p.m. on the WB stations. "Made Of," debuts May 26 on Fox Network after 7:30 p.m. after 8:30 p.m. and that night on the WB network. (All times are Eastern Daylight-savings Time.)

The U.S. Army Recruiting Command and Leo Burnett USA developed the three new commercials to help achieve the Army's fiscal year 2002 recruiting goals of 79,500 new active-duty soldiers and 28,825 Army Reserve soldiers by Sept. 30, 2002.

Look for pepperoni, barbecue sandwiches in MREs soon

By Curt Biberdorf
Special to American Forces Press Service

Pepperoni and barbecue chicken pocket sandwiches have been approved for the Meal, Ready-to-Eat.

The shelf-stable sandwiches were first developed by the Department of Defense Combat Feeding Program at the Army Soldier Systems Center here in the mid-1990s as a ration to enhance soldier mobility. They require no refrigeration or freezing, or utensils or heat source before eating, although they can be warmed with a flameless ration heater.

"We've combined shelf-stable bread that now supplements the MRE with meat into a lightweight, identifiable, eat-out-of-hand food," said project officer Dan Nattress.

Shelf-stable sandwiches are comparable in size, calories and appearance to "Hot Pocket" brand sandwiches found in grocery stores. The major difference is in processing that allows the food to meet the Combat Feeding Program's minimum shelf life of three years at 80 degrees Fahrenheit or six months at 100 degrees Fahrenheit.

Military rations are commonly stabilized through thermal processing in pouches, but heat tends to destroy the flavor and texture of the sandwiches, said project officer Michelle Richardson.

The new sandwiches are developed using "intermediate moisture technology." They're preserved by controlling water activity and acidity levels. Humectants, substances that promote water retention, reduce water activity and the amount available for bacteria growth. The pH or acid levels are controlled by choosing low-acid ingredients or incorpo-

rating natural acids into the product.

The amount of oxygen that comes into contact with the food is also controlled by including oxygen scavenger packets. The sandwiches are packaged in triple-laminate pouches to prevent the passage of water and oxygen, both necessary for the growth of yeast mold and bacteria.

"The combination of meat with the bread with differing water activities and pHs makes both safety and acceptability a concern," Richardson said. The components have different water activity characteristics that need to complement each other.

She said the sandwiches passed soldiers' taste tests and meet Food and Drug Administration requirements for food safety.

The sandwiches are being further developed and commercialized under an agreement with a company in Raleigh, N.C. Partnering can reduce overall production costs by opening commercial sales opportunities that create an economy of scale, Nattress said.

Other varieties under consideration are a pizza pocket with Italian sausage and pepperoni slices in a tomato sauce, sliced beef in a barbecue sauce, tuna or chicken salad, ham and cheese, and peanut butter and jelly.

"The number of breakfast items available to the warfighter is very limited and not highly acceptable," Richardson said, who's leading the research. "The investigation of intercomponent films and coatings may allow the use of ingredients previously impossible due to moisture or fat migration."

(Editor's note: Curt Biberdorf works for the Soldier Systems Center Public Affairs Office, Natick, Mass.)

Chalk Talk

Smith student chosen to attend intellectual institute

Colonel Smith Middle School

Smith School is proud to announce that eighth-grader Erin Willis will attend the 2002 Hunicutt Arizona Future Educators' Institute at Arizona State University in Tempe, Ariz.

This program is sponsored by ASU and Phi Delta Kappa, the pro-



Erin Willis

fessional fraternity for educators.

Willis will attend this program June 20-23. As part of a team, she will work to build a model school for presentation at the concluding ceremony.

She is the daughter of Sonya and Matthew Willis of Fort Huachuca.

Deploying with U.S. military?

USAA offers help with planning personal finances

USAA release

SAN ANTONIO — President George W. Bush has made it clear the fight in Afghanistan is just the beginning of the U.S. war on terror. While thousands of U.S. troops have been called into action, thousands more stand ready to be deployed.

Once these fighting men and women have been called into action, their focus must be on the job at hand, leaving their families to handle the daily routine.

This includes everything from taking care of the children to paying the bills. One company is making it easier for deployed military personnel to have confidence their families aren't fighting their own financial and legal battles back home.

USAA, the member-owned association that has served the insurance and financial services needs of U.S. military personnel and their families since 1992, has produced a deployment guide that is free to active duty members and those who serve in the National Guard and Reserve.

This guide offers members of the military help in arranging their personal finances before they leave home for military commitments abroad.

This guide contains helpful tips on preparing financially, legally and emotionally for separation from loved ones. Also in this booklet is a two-page checklist for important arrangements that are best made before a service member leaves for duty. There is also a list of important business and emergency contacts to complete and leave with loved ones.

"USAA originally produced its deployment guide to augment our ongoing face-to-face assistance to deploying units, which occurs even in peacetime," said Susan Pamerleau, a retired Air Force major general and vice president of membership development for the association.

"With the war on terrorism demanding more fulltime military personnel and more deployments, we wanted to make this guide available to all military people, not just our association's members," she said.

A toll-free call to (877) 2DEPLOY or (877) 233-7569 can get the caller a free copy of the 17-page deployment guide. All a caller has to do is verify he or she is on active duty or in the National Guard or Reserve.

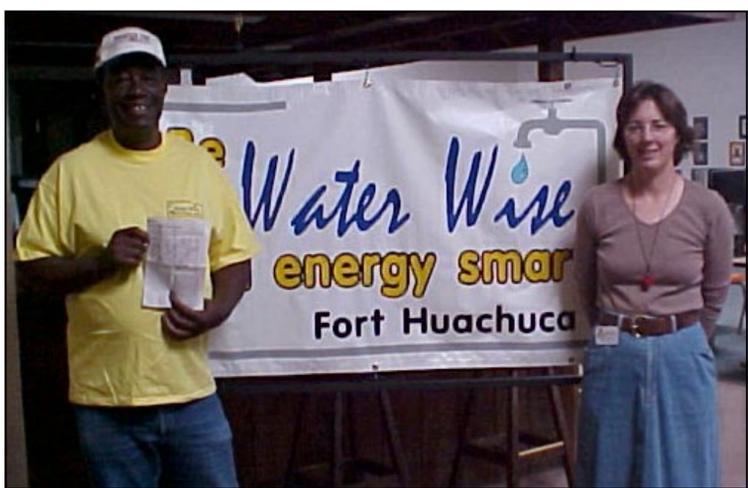
To date, USAA has mailed more than 600,000 guides to its members who are currently on active duty or serving in the Guard and the Reserve.

USAA also has deployment assistance teams offering face-to-face presentations for personnel in military units preparing to deploy. The non-commercial programs cover subjects in the deployment guide and provide a forum for personal financial consultations.

Jim Moon, a retired Army lieutenant colonel, manages the teams. "Our goal," said Moon, "is to help military people ensure their personal and family finances are in order before they deploy."

Moon says USAA's deployment assistance teams have provided help to more than 250 units of all service branches in the past year, and the team's activities comply with Department of Defense non-solicitation guidelines and policies. Commanders of military units interested in possibly hosting a deployment assistance team visit can contact Moon at James.Moon@usaa.com.

USAA members or other military personnel willing to verify their military status online can establish their eligibility for USAA membership and order deployment assistance material at usaa.com on the Internet. They can even sign up for products or obtain additional information before calling USAA for service.



WWES photo

Wise winner

Grady Taylor was the winner of the Water Wise Word Hunt printed in the April 18 issue of The Fort Huachuca Scout. Taylor was the first to bring the completed word hunt to Cheri Melton of Fort Huachuca's Water Wise Energy Smart program. He was presented with a Water Wise and Energy Smart tee shirt at the Earth Day Fun Fest at Murr Community Center.

May from Page 4

great prices, unbeatable deals on fresh meats and we've developed the Best Value Item and Manager's Specials programs to offer even lower prices. We've also streamlined our operations to control costs, while increasing savings and improving customer service."

Commissaries have been listening and responding to customer feedback through focus groups and the "Your Action Line" program. As a result, conveniences such as short-term parking, more express lanes, Grab 'n' Go and quick meal sections, express lunches and more have been added to stores.

Many commissaries will "strut their stuff" by planning outreach activities and tours during Commissary Awareness Month. And "Serving Up Savings," a brand new outreach video about commissary shopping, will make its debut along with "Click 'n' Save,"

a video that helps increase awareness of the commissary Web site and how authorized shoppers can use it to save money.

DeCA will also be announcing recipients in the 2002 "Scholarships for Military Children" program in May. "The scholarship program is just one more way we have become more essential in the lives of military families," says Courter. "Nearly 400 scholarships were awarded in 2001 and that number will grow this year."

Find out more about Commissary Awareness Month by checking out DeCA's Web site www.commissaries.com in May for online shopping sprees, what's on sale, and other Commissary Awareness Month news. Find out what's happening at your local commissary through the "locations" link.

Soldiers' Lawyer from Page 3

A few additional facts about powers of attorney:

— A General Power of Attorney is not a substitute for a legally valid will. Upon your death, the Power of Attorney is invalid, and your will is going to take effect.

— Should you no longer need your power of attorney, you can come into the JAG Office and prepare a Power of Attorney Revocation. The information you will need includes your representative's name, current city and state, and the date the power of attorney was prepared.

— Finally, if you are deploying or simply

need someone else to deal with the Finance Office on your behalf, you will need to get a Special Power of Attorney granting power to take care of matters dealing with military pay. The Finance Office cannot accept a General Power of Attorney when dealing with pay and allowances.

(Editor's note: The Soldiers' Lawyer is provided by your Judge Advocate General Legal Assistance Office. Visit us on the Web at <http://huachuca-www.army.mil/USAG/SJA/la.html> or contact us at 533-2009 for an appointment. Legal advice may not be given over the phone.)

Have we got news for you!
Read it online, click on huachuca-www.army.mil/USAG/PAO

Pets of the Week



Beautiful, long silver-haired linx-point Siamese mix female seeking good family to be a part of. I love to chase rodents and also love to be cuddled. I am very cute, and I'm great with kids. I'm also already spayed. My adoption fee is \$22, which includes a microchip, a leukemia test, vaccinations and deworming. Ask for "Sassy."



I'm a big, tough tomcat that needs a new home. I have beautiful gray fur and a very handsome face. I have a big heart and want to be loved by a new family. My adoption fee is \$42, which includes a neuter, a microchip, a leukemia test, vaccinations and deworming. Ask for "Weeble."



I'm a rambunctious, young male lab/retriever mix with long, flowing white and tan hair. I love to play and go hiking. I also love kids, but you probably need to put me into obedience training if you have small kids, because I like to play so much. I would be a wonderful addition to your family. Please adopt me. My adoption fee is \$42, which includes a neuter, a microchip, a heartworm test, vaccinations and deworming. Ask for "Bruno."



I am a shy, gray merle spayed Australian shepherd. I am very smart, and love to go on walks. I love kids, and would love to have them teach me new tricks. I'm very beautiful, and a purebred. My adoption fee is \$22, which includes a microchip, a heartworm test, vaccinations and deworming. Ask for "Abigail."

These and several other dogs and cats are available at the Fort Huachuca Veterinary Treatment Facility from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., Mondays through Fridays. The facility is now open through lunch. For information, call 533-2767.

Have we got news for you!

Read it online, click on huachuca-www.army.mil/USAG/PAO

Shelter is a necessity for your pet

By Katherine Goode
Scout Staff

With a home that cost pennies on the dollar to build, Steele and Charlie Negrón have everything they could ever hope for. You ask how? It is because Steel and Barney have owners that know of the dangers of keeping animals in the hot, Arizona desert.

Marisol Negrón, wife of Sgt. Miguel Negrón of HHC, 86th Signal Brigade, cautions, "Outside shelter is a must for animals."

Negrón tells friends, "A doghouse doesn't have to be expensive—in fact, all it takes to build one is a little wood and nails."

Also an owner of a cat, Negrón has on all entrances into her home a sign stating that dogs and a cat live there, and it says, "In case of emergency, please rescue us."

These signs were free, says Negrón. All you have to do "is log on to purinaone.com and you can get a free pet safety kit.

Negrón also realizes how critical water is in this dry environment and keeps a large capacity bucket full for her dogs at all times in her backyard, and in her home has large food and water dishes for each dog.

Spc. Eric Lopez of the Post Veterinary Clinic agreed and added that it is best to keep the water in the shade.

"Animals need a constant supply of water if they are going to be outside." He added, "And it is best if the water is kept in a shaded area."

But Lopez urges that the most important thing for your animals is that you make sure all immunizations are current. "It is time to start vaccinating your animals, or make sure their vaccinations are up to date. Also, it is important to do a heartworm test on your dog, and to use a heartworm preventative."

Heartworm is a disease transmitted by mosquitoes, and one bite from an infected mos-



Photos by Kathy Goode

Pet water bowls need to be kept in shaded areas.

quito is all it takes for your dog to become infected.

According to the American Heartworm Society, the worms grow and multiply, infesting the chambers on the right side of the heart and the arteries in the lungs. They can also lodge in the veins of the liver and the veins entering the heart.

The first sign of heartworm infestation may not manifest for a year after infection, and even then the symptoms are often overlooked. But eventually the cough worsens and the dog may actually faint from exertion; he tires easily, is weak and listless, loses weight and condition, and may cough up blood. Breathing becomes more difficult as the disease progresses and the animal develops congestive heart failure.

Lopez said, "All it takes is one pill a month to prevent heartworms."

Negrón said, "Pets can't take care of themselves, it is up to the owner to take care of them."



Pet owners need to make sure their pets are properly vaccinated and all immunizations are current.

JAG explains perils of leasing a car versus buying

1st Lt. Heather Thatcher
Reserve JAG

"What kind of monthly payment are you looking for?" the friendly car salesman asked as I entered the dealership.

This reflects a new trend among auto salespersons. It seems no matter where you go, car dealers don't want to sell you a car anymore; they want to lease it to you.

That should be your first warning. The salesperson, no matter what they say, is not looking out for your best interest and will never, let me repeat never, lose money on a deal. You must look out for yourself.

So why do dealers want you to lease instead of buy? The answer is simple: it puts more money in their pockets.

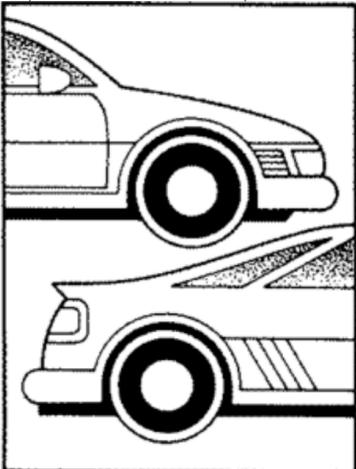
First of all, lease contracts are designed to be confusing and make it difficult to calculate if you are getting a good deal. The contract uses terms most attorneys can't even explain, such as capitalized cost, residual value and money factor.

Theoretically, when you lease a car you are only paying for the depreciation plus interest over the term of the lease, then, when you return it to the dealer at the end of the term they sell it for its current value.

The dealer advertises it as a way to get you into a more expensive automobile for the same monthly payment as a less expensive model. The difference is that, after you finish making the payments on the less expensive model, you own it and can continue to drive it or sell it and pocket the money.

When you lease, the dealer makes money off of the lease then gets the car back to sell it again. Thereby, effectively making a sale on the same automobile twice.

Not only does the dealer get to sell the car twice, when the lessor returns the car at the end of the lease, the dealer can add on many additional charges. For example, when you lease a car you are contracting for a certain number of miles, typically equivalent to 12,000 per year of the lease. If you go over you will be charged; and, it adds up fast.



Say you leased a car for three years and 36,000 miles. Imagine you're a service member stationed 300 miles from home and decided to go back and visit your family three times a year. At the end of the lease you have gone over your mileage allotment by 3,000 miles.

Doesn't seem like much until you figure the cost at 33 cents a mile. You will owe an additional \$990 when you return the car.

Then there are the charges for wear and tear. Lease contracts are worded so that the dealer may recover for damages it feels are more than "normal wear and tear."

What is normal wear and tear? Unfortunately, it is a subjective assessment on the part of the dealer and can leave you with an astronomical bill. Most par-

ents will tell you that a few juice stains in the carpet and upholstery are normal when you have small children, but the dealer doesn't see it that way and can charge you for it.

If you lease a truck and use it for hauling material, you better be careful the bed doesn't get scratched because you'll

be paying to repaint it. Accidentally puncture the back of the minivan seat while loading the baby stroller, you'll be paying for that too.

Recently I had a Legal Assistance client, who had been promised Germany if he re-enlisted. He greatly desired to go and came into see me to find out what he could do with his car. He was leasing a 2000 automobile for four years and still had two years remaining.

Many soldiers believe that if they deploy overseas they can get out of their lease without penalty. This is a myth that is simply not true. You only have two options. One, try to find someone to take over the lease if the contract allows or, two, buy the lease out and try to sell the car on your own.

I asked my client what he paid monthly, hoping that he had got a special deal on the automobile. Turns out he was paying \$460 per month. So much for finding someone to take that over.

For \$460 per month you could buy the same automobile in four years. As for a buy out, I figured the soldier would have to come up with about \$5,000 in cash to get out of his lease.

Unfortunately for this soldier, he was stuck with the car for two more years and would miss out on the opportunity to go to Germany. If he had purchased a slightly less expensive model for the same monthly payment and wanted to sell it to go to Germany, even if he was only able to get low Blue Book value for it, the most he would have lost was \$1,000.

Don't get me wrong, sometimes the nationally advertised factory lease specials can be a good deal...if you can commit to the term without reservation, keep the car in pristine condition and only drive about 12,000 miles per year.

If you feel you must lease, please visit an independent bank or lending institution and have them help you figure out how much you can afford to spend on a lease or purchase before you go to the dealer.

Suicide prevention tools in IET good; new training focuses on cadre

By Jim Caldwell

TRADOC News Service

FORT MONROE, Va. - A review of suicide prevention programs in the Training and Doctrine Command initial entry training for new soldiers show that they are "good."

"It was a systemic look at programs we have in place to care for our soldiers in IET," said Lt. Gen. Dennis Cavin, commander of Army Accessions Command, and TRADOC deputy commanding general for Initial Entry Training.

"The training courses on suicide prevention developed by [Army Medical Department] are very good. Their focus is across the spectrum of situations that cause people to consider suicide."

The TRADOC Suicide Review Board was created at the direction of Gen. John N. Abrams, commander of TRADOC. It was a review process concerning suicide attempts and incidents to ensure education and training programs were pertinent, according to Cavin.

Results of several surveys of suicide prevention programs were presented to Cavin early this month.

"The bulk of suicide gestures occur in IET," he said. "Actual suicides occur more often among permanent party personnel. Statistically, suicides and suicide gestures occur more frequently among mid-term NCOs who are experiencing marital problems, financial problems, problems on the job or a combination of all three."

"We were not sending up a red star cluster. We're making sure we're putting our best foot forward by ensuring that we have the programs and our tactics, techniques and procedures are effective in saving lives."

Statistics from 1995 through March 2002 show that suicide rates among trainees are far below those of permanent party soldiers at the training centers. There were no more than two suicides each year among trainees until 2000 when six killed themselves.

On the other hand the fewest number of suicides among permanent party soldiers throughout TRADOC was in 1998 with 10 deaths. The rate peaked in 1996 with 21 permanent party sui-

cides.

Throughout the Army chaplains are charged with the responsibility of overseeing suicide prevention programs. TRADOC added more chaplains to training centers so a chaplain monitors each training group.

"Our chaplains are doing a wonderful job," Cavin said. "They keep the pulse of the training units and are there when young soldiers need someone to talk to."

The authorized number of chaplains is normally maintained at 100 percent because they're so critical to trainees, according to Chaplain (Col.) Doug McLeroy, TRADOC command chaplain.

"A chaplain and chaplain's assistant are with the trainees from day one. A ministry team greets them at the reception battalion. After they go to their training unit, there's a ministry team there, too."

Chaplains are creative in developing programs that attract the young people, which makes chaplains available if new soldiers need personal advice or religious ministry.

"At Fort Lee [Va.] we have what we call a special religious resource center," McLeroy said. "We've renovated a facility and have given them a place to read, even a place where they can practice on musical instruments. There's a big, large-screen TV with videos and games."

"It's really their (trainees) place to get away during free time, where there are no drill sergeants or others in their chains of command. The chaplain's office is there, too, so they're in an environment of values and an environment of help."

"So if they want to talk to a chaplain, there's a lot of opportunity for us to dialog."

"One of the things we're seeing among the young people coming into the military is their need for growth in the area of coping skills, those things that would help them cope with stress."

Chaplains are teaching drill sergeants and other training cadre skills how to intervene with an individual who exhibits signs of depression that might lead to suicide, and maybe teach coping skills.

The program is called ASIST, or Applied Suicide Intervention Skills Training.

"We have equipped at least two ministry team members at each installation to teach ASIST," McLeroy said. "Each team is

required to conduct a class at least once a quarter. That's just a mark on the wall; some are conducting more than that."

Within the past year, the teams have trained more than 1,300 people. The training targets drill sergeants because of their daily association with young soldiers.

Jim Larsen, a psychologist in the Accessions and IET Directorate for TRADOC's deputy chief of staff for Training and Operations, contributed to the review.

"The CG [Gen. Abrams] is absolutely right," Larsen said. "Adolescents are a very fragile population. They can look awful on Tuesday and look just sunny and great on Wednesday."

He said while the idea of hormones in young people is often joked about, there is proof that "raging" hormones in young people contribute to additional stress in their lives. Hormonal effects, combined with the pressure and physical demands of basic combat training, can result in moody, sullen and over-reactive young men and women, he believes.

"A trainee can throw a "hissy" fit, lie on the floor drumming his heels," Larsen said. "A drill sergeant talks to him a little bit and he's good to go."

"A senior officer who hasn't been around teenagers lately sees this and thinks that kid can never be a soldier."

The TRADOC Analysis Command completed a study on reasons for IET attrition, Larsen said, and learned that a contributing factor is lack of privacy.

"You know, we all had gym and we went through those privacy issues beginning in the seventh grade," he said. "It was funny to us then, but these kids never had gym. BCT is the first time where they're having these public-privacy issues, all these concerns about their bodies."

The TRADOC Inspector General also looked into the suicide prevention program for TRADOC permanent part soldiers. The IG team reviewed the programs at five initial entry training centers and Reserve Officer Corps Training battalions at five universities.

"Our assessment focused on determining the effectiveness of the command programs," said Lt. Col. Kayla Pagel, A Team leader for the TRADOC IG. "We found that overall prevention programs were coordinated efforts by key players and that the majority were doing well."

"A message we emphasized was that prevention programs must be supported and routinely reviewed by leader to ensure that they are working and effective. Everyone must be a part of a support structure to provide assistance and participate in the process."

David Chu: highest-ranking Asian American civilian in Department of Defense

By Rudi Williams

American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON, May 15, 2002 — There were only a few Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders serving in the armed forces when Chinese American David S.C. Chu, 58, joined the Army Reserve in the 1960s.

That's changed over the years, and Chu these days, as the undersecretary of defense for personnel and readiness, is in the best position to know. Sworn in as undersecretary on June 1, 2001, Chu is the defense secretary's senior policy adviser on recruitment, career development, and pay and benefits for 1.4 million active duty military personnel, 1.3 million National Guard and Reserve personnel and 680,000 DoD civilian employees.

Even with the large cutback in military personnel in recent years, he said, there were 6,636 officers, 330 warrant officers and 46,220 enlisted personnel of Asian Pacific ancestry serving in the armed forces as of March 2002.

"I'm delighted by the fact that it is no longer unusual to have Asians and Islanders in the ranks of the military," said Chu,

DoD's highest-ranking civilian Asian American.

"One of the great things about the American military is the degree to which people are accepted for themselves and not seen as different," he said. "They're seen as Americans and expected to contribute on a merit basis to do what we do. That's the standard everyone should hope is set for him or her."

Consequently, Chu said, ethnic observances like Asian Pacific American Heritage Month in May are "useful celebrations of the nation's diversity." The observance highlights the contributions and achievements of Asian Pacific Americans and "helps remind people of where we all came from, which is a lot of different places," he noted.

Focusing on a particular group is useful for young people in school, he said. "Otherwise, the schools might not take up these different histories or take a look at these different cultures," the undersecretary added.

A political appointee, Chu said, "As a youngster, I was always interested in politics. I had a very inspiring economics instructor in college, and I decided that's the subject I wanted

to pursue." He went on to earn a bachelor of arts degree, magna cum laude, in economics and mathematics from Yale University in 1964 and master's degrees in 1965 and 1967. Commissioned a second lieutenant in the Army through the Yale ROTC program in 1968, Chu served in Vietnam from 1969 to 1970 with the Office of the Comptroller, 1st Logistical Command headquarters. He was promoted to captain before ending his short military career, returning to Yale and earning his doctorate in economics in 1972.

Born in New York City on May 20, 1944, Chu said his father emigrated to the United States from China to attend the University of Illinois. His father worked for the China News Service during World War II and after the war went to work for the United Nations.

The father of two, Chu said his children are his hobby. "When they're teen-agers, especially if they don't drive yet, you are the chauffeur," said Chu, an avid gardener. "You're also expected to show up at each game, event, etc., but not be too much in the forefront."

WWW.Huh?: New free Online VA benefits guide available

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

WASHINGTON— The Department of Veterans Affairs has made its comprehensive benefits guide available for free on the Internet.

Federal Benefits for Veterans and Dependents is a 100-page handbook describing benefits provided by the VA and an overview of programs and services for veterans provided by other federal agencies.

VA officials estimate most of America's 25 million veterans qualify for at least some VA benefits, but many are unaware of their entitlements. This handbook includes a listing of toll-free numbers, World Wide Web information resources, and VA facilities.

Most veterans are eligible for healthcare and burial benefits. Many are also eligible for home loan guarantees, educational assistance, vocational rehabilitation, life insurance, and compensation for service-connected disabilities.

This guide explains how to access many of these benefits online. For instance, it provides a Web address and instructions for enrolling via the Internet into the VA healthcare system. The book describes in detail the priority for care and services available. Separate sections describe specialized services available to Gulf War veterans and those exposed to Agent Orange or radiation.

The Montgomery GI Bill and other education benefits are explained in depth. Burial benefits and employment service are also covered, as are rate charts for the various forms of compensation VA provides.

The book can be purchased through the Government Printing Office for \$5 for U.S.-based customers and \$6.25 for those overseas by calling toll-free (866) 512-1800. By providing it online at www.va.gov/opa/feature/, the VA hopes to make the information available to more veterans.

Armed Forces Day message from Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff

On Armed Forces Day 1962, President John F. Kennedy advised the people of the United States to "guard zealously (the) right to serve in the Armed Forces, for without them, there will be no other rights to guard." Today, the citizens of our Nation pause to honor those of you who have exercised that right and volunteered to defend our country. It is my privilege to join them in recognizing the dedication of every soldier, sailor, airman, Marine, and Coast Guardsman who serves in our Armed Forces.

This past year has shown once again the depths of your courage and commitment, and your willingness to endure hardship. Whether National Guard, Reserve or active duty; whether serving on land, at sea, or in the air; whether deployed for combat operations, participating in multinational exercises, or training for future missions, you have performed magnificently. All the citizens of our country know they can depend on you to get the job done.

Many of you will be unable to attend the ceremonies acknowledging your service - - because you are on duty around the Nation and the world, defending America's interests and fighting the terrorists who threaten to destroy our way of life.

Be assured that the people of the United States recognize and appreciate your sacrifice. You continue to demonstrate the very best our Nation has to offer. The Joint Chiefs of Staff and I join all Americans in paying tribute to you and your families. May God bless our country and all of you who serve her.

Gen. Richard B. Myers, USAF
Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff