



The Fort Huachuca Scout



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July 10, 2003

Scout reports

e-mail: thescout@hua.army.mil

Change of command

Command will host a change of command ceremony July 21, at 10 a.m. in front of Greely Hall.

Col. Mary Beth Shively will hand over command to Col. Michael A. Brown. Shively will remain at Fort Huachuca as chief of staff for the Network Enterprise Technology Command. Brown comes to Arizona after serving a tour as deputy brigade commander for the 1st Signal Brigade in Yongsan, Korea.

Savings bonds online

The U.S. Army Savings Bond program is now accessible via the Web. All materials, forms and information are now in electronic format. Information regarding the program will be disseminated using e-mail, and bonds will still be available for purchase throughout the year. The minimum holding period has increased from 6 to 12 months.

The formal campaigns with canvassers and kickoffs will no longer be necessary. Rate changes and other information about bonds will be provided via e-mail.

See www.savingsbonds.gov for more information.

Promotion board

It is time for the CSM/SGM/USASMC Selection Board. All details about this board may be found in MILPER Message 03-195.

Questions may be directed to the appropriate records clerk: 86th Sig, 11th Sig, MEDDAC, Phoenix Recruiting Bn., Yuma Proving Grounds, NCOA, 305th MI: Ms. Whitehouse, 533-1908; 504th Sig, 309th MI, 111th MI, CID, 304th MI: Mrs. Williamson, 533-1909; DENTAC, J-STARS, 306th MI, USAG, 40th Sig, ISEC, OTC, NETCOM, JTC: Ms. Thomas, 533-5285 and NCOERs for all commands: Mr. Simpson, 533-8194.

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11th Signal Brigade photo

Home at last

Soldiers swap deserts, middle east for Arizona

BY ERIC CRAMER
THE SCOUT STAFF

Thirty-seven soldiers from the 11th Signal Brigade returned to Fort Huachuca from Operation Iraqi Freedom as the nation celebrated Independence Day on July 4.

The returning soldiers are from the 269th and 69th signal companies, components of the 504th Signal Battalion.

In total, about 1,600 hundred troops from the 11th Signal Brigade took part in Operation Iraqi Freedom. The 37 who returned on July 4 are the first to come home.

Fort Huachuca Garrison Commander Col. Lawrence Portouw told those attending the Fort Huachuca/Sierra Vista Independence Day celebration he could think of no better way to celebrate

than by bringing home these soldiers.

"Now we have about 2,000 to go," he said.

The airplane containing the returning troops was clearly visible to those attending the festivities at Veterans' Memorial Park in Sierra Vista.

Elements from the 11th Signal Brigade began to move to the Middle East in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom in November, according to Capt. Mark Henry, public affairs officer for the brigade.

Maj. Richard Montieth, rear detachment commander, and other members of the 11th Signal Brigade's rear detachment met the homecoming troops at Libby Army Airfield. Family and friends greeted the returning soldiers at the Murr Community Center at 12:50 p.m.

After a brief return speech and a safety briefing, the soldiers had time to enjoy the Fourth of July activities on and off post.

From top to bottom. Staff Sgt. Ronald Mitchell, Sgt. 1st Class Scott Sherwood, Sgt. 1st Class Donald Crowder and Sgt. 1st Class Bruce Madalinski arrive at Libby Army Airfield after serving in the Middle East as part of Operation Iraqi Freedom. Thirty-seven soldiers from the 269th and 69th signal companies of the 504th Signal Battalion returned to Fort Huachuca on the Fourth of July. The plane carrying the returning troops could be seen from the Independence Day festivities at Veterans' Memorial Park in Sierra Vista.

New general heads to Fort Huachuca

Fort Huachuca will welcome its new deputy commanding general, Brig. Gen. Barbara G. Fast, in a ceremony at 7:15 a.m. July 18 at Brown parade field.

She will succeed former Deputy Commanding General Brig. Gen. John Custer.

Fast was the Director of Intelligence, Headquarters, United States European Command, Stuttgart, Germany and Custer is now assigned to U.S. Central Command Headquarters at

MacDill Air Force Base, Fla.

Before her assignment to U.S.EURCOM, Fast served as National Security Agency, Assistant Deputy Director of Operations, for Operations and Military Operations Integration, Fort Meade, Md.

Fast was commissioned into the Army on Jan. 30, 1976 as a military intelligence officer. She has held a various mixture of command and staff assignments

throughout her Army career.

Highlights of her career include assistant battalion operations officer, company commander and executive officer 18th Military Intelligence Battalion, Munich, Germany; commander, 163rd Military Intelligence Battalion, III Corps, Fort Hood, Texas; G2, 2nd Armored Division, Fort Hood, Texas; and Commander 66th Military Intelligence Group, Augsburg, Germany.

Fast completed the Mili-

tary Intelligence Officer Advanced Course and Tactical Surveillance Officer Course at Fort Huachuca in 1981.

She earned a bachelor of science degree in German and Spanish from the University of Missouri and completed her master of science degree in business administration from Boston University. She graduated from the Armed Forces Staff College in 1987 and the United States Army War College in

1996.

Over the course of her years of service, Fast has earned the Defense Superior Service Medal, Legion of Merit, Defense Meritorious Service Medal, Meritorious Service Medal with four oak leaf clusters, Army Commendation Medal, Army Achievement Medal with oak leaf cluster and the German Silver Cross of Honor.

She is married to retired Lt. Col. Paul A. Fast, a native of Youngstown, Ohio.

WWII veterans may be eligible for one more medal

BY STAFF SGT. MARCIA TRIGGS
ARMY NEWS SERVICE

World War II veterans who earned the Combat Infantry Badge or the Combat Medical Badge are eligible to receive another award to honor their heroism. Twenty-two Bronze Star Medals were awarded in a small community in Goshen, Ind., last month. A few were given posthumously, but most veterans were able to enjoy the moment with family and friends.

After the tears stopped flowing for veteran Lovell "Buzz" Burdette, he began his acceptance speech. He thanked all 15 of his family members who attended the event in the local Veterans of Foreign Wars. From his son to his great-granddaughter, 85-year-old Buzz repeated the words "thank you" through shivering lips.

"It was a very emotional moment," said Ronald Burdette, Buzz's son. "Receiving the Bronze Star Medal was just a tidbit of an award for a man that is as amazing as my dad," Burdette said. "He endured much and showed immeasurable honor, courage and commitment."

Exactly what Buzz's heroic acts are is unknown to his family because he talks very little about his experiences during the war, according Burdette. "He

was proud to serve, and he talks about some of his buddies, but he didn't come home bragging about taking other people's lives."

In 1947, the Bronze Star Medal was authorized for all of those who earned a Combat Infantry Badge or the Combat Medical Badge, according to Army regulation 600-8-2, Military Awards. The medal was designed to honor the infantrymen who endured the greatest hardships and the medics who accompanied them on the front lines, officials said.

When the son of a World War II veteran was restoring lost copies of his father's record, he found out from the National Personnel Records Center out of St. Louis that his father was one of many who had never received the Bronze Star Medal.

John Picuch, a Vietnam veteran, said he was surprised to find out that his father, Stanley Picuch, was eligible for the medal. Moved that his father died without knowing he had earned the award, Picuch spearheaded the drive that got due recognition for 22 others in the small county.

"These men are proud, not boastful, and I wanted as many men as possible to get the honor they deserve," Picuch said.

The chaplain for the local Goshen VFW, Picuch put announcements in the local newspapers stating that he was looking for veterans who had earned the

CIB. He started his pilgrimage in February and said that from the time he started to the event in June, two veterans died before they could be honored.

"It's sad that there are thousands of veterans who don't know that the Bronze Star Medal is automatic as long as their discharge papers state that they received the CIB, Picuch said. "Out of the 22 men we honored, only three knew they were eligible."

Officials from the National Personnel Records Center say that they don't know how many veterans are eligible for the medal or who still have not received the award, because a massive fire in 1963 destroyed most of the official military personnel files from World War II.

Picuch believes that there are thousands, maybe tens of thousands based on the number of eligible recipients from the small town of Goshen.

"There has to be more out there that deserve recognition," Picuch said. "They went to war and quietly came back home, went to work and built this country."

The 18 men from Goshen, along with two sons and two widows who accepted the medal on their loved ones' behalf, received the Bronze Star Medal with their names engraved on the back and a photocopy of a congratulatory letter from President George W. Bush and another from his father, former President George Bush.

Commentary

Mom defends choice as a deployed soldier

BY PFC. CHRISTINA CARDE

While sitting at my desk writing my daily article for the Freedom Watch, an Army newspaper for soldiers in Afghanistan, my co-worker casually turned to me and suggested that I type my name in the Yahoo search engine to see all of the articles I've written that have been posted on the Internet.

Not thinking anything of it, I typed my name in and began to scroll down headlines of stories I've written since my deployment to Afghanistan. I was not prepared for what I found.

"Agape News Press - The case of Private Christina," read one of the sites on the page. Curious, I clicked on it to see what had been printed about me. I received the shock of a lifetime.

Cort Kirkwood, a journalist and editor of The Daily News Record in Harrisonburg, Va., had read an article about me run by the Department of Defense Web news site, Defend America, titled "A Mom's Mission" and had decided to rip it to shreds. He called me everything from basically an unfit mother for leaving my son to go off to war to a sellout for enlisting in the Army for "30 pieces of silver," a.k.a., the Montgomery G.I. Bill.

As I read the article, I realized this was not only an attack on my 3-year-old son and me, but on all mothers deployed in the service of their country. However, since Mr. Kirkwood believes he is the subject matter expert on the lives of

women in the military he has never met or spoken to, I thought I would take the time to broaden his horizons using a few points he made in his article.

"Patriotism ain't the real reason Pfc. Christina signed up (for the Army). She enlisted for college benefits and to improve her family's lot in life. She enlisted for 30 pieces of silver."

Before I joined the Army, my son and I were living in one of the worst sections in the New York City area, where getting your next drug fix took nothing more than walking across the street or knocking on the neighbor's door. Working up



think this is a good idea (to allow mothers to deploy overseas)?"

When I came to this portion of the article, I could do nothing but sit back and laugh at the

to 60 hours a week was just barely paying the bills, and my 2-year-old son could have walked out the door at any time and been shot during a drive-by.

I suppose I could have taken the alternate route and applied for public assistance, so upstanding citizens like Mr. Kirkwood could pay my bills for me, but I decided to get out of the rut I was in on my own and joined the service. Now my son lives in a neighborhood where you can hear a pin drop and lights are out by 9 p.m.

"Who are the military morons who

irony of his statement. The same "military morons" who give American women a chance to serve their country and provide for their families, are the same who fight and die alongside many of these women in today's combat operations. They are the ones who give journalists like Kirkwood the freedom of press and speech to write tasteless, unprofessional and uneducated "news articles" such as "The Case of Private Christina."

At least these mothers can return home with a sense of pride and accomplishment and be able to tell their children that they had a part in defending their country. What will Mr. Kirkwood be able to say other than he bashed the integrity and courage of these female troops during a time of war?

"Perhaps the would-be MacArthurs see nothing wrong with a mother dumping on her young son," was the final statement that stood out for me in the article.

Like many other deployed parents out here, I haven't seen my son in six months. However, I know my son is in a safe place with everything he needs. He will never be a child who has to wear second-hand clothing or the one stuck at home because I can't afford to send him on a class trip. That is the way things should be, and if I have to deploy in search of every Bin Laden and Hussein on the planet to keep it that way, then so be it.

(Editor's note: Pfc. Christina Carde is a member of the 11th Public Affairs Detachment currently in Afghanistan.)



BY CHAPLAIN (MAJ) DENNIS R. NITSCHKE

NETCOM, DEPUTY COMMAND CHAPLAIN

"Blessed is the nation whose God is the LORD..." Psalm 33:12a

It is already July. Amazing!

Last week I missed the deadline somehow, but I continue to believe the importance of celebrating our independence this particular year. If you look at the early history of our nation, the celebration could take place from mid-June through the fourth of July, and some say even into August - so

I'm not "really" late.

It doesn't take a rocket scientist to know that since Sept. 11 holidays are "different." For me, this fourth was much more meaningful.

I usually celebrate with days of barbecues and maybe take in the parade downtown. Well, I didn't change that much, but I do know that my family and I took more time to count our blessings and reflect on what it means to be US Americans. (I use the term "US Americans" because there are several Americas, ours happens to be the "US America.")

I have listened to many people worry about the state of our nation. We can sit, weep and gnash our teeth about the events of Sept. 11 all the way to the 9th Circuit Court's 2-1 vote calling "under God" in the Pledge of Allegiance unconstitutional and include some Supreme Court rulings of late that just do not set well with many people. Or we can realize that US America is much bigger than all of that. It took moments for our national leaders, our military and people serving as police, fire and emergency crews to respond to the tragedies of Sept. 11. We

also rediscovered what it really means to be heroes and what it means to love our neighbor (as well as who our neighbor is). We can take pride in our military in Iraq, Afghanistan, and elsewhere, as they defend our freedoms and protect the freedoms of the masses of people in those countries. We can also take pride in our president and Congress as they continue to lead the nation as one body even with differences and a variety of political goals.

We can also be proud of Fort Huachuca's role in all of this as Military Intelligence Village was renamed "Prosser Village" in honor of Staff Sgt. Brian "Cody" Prosser. He was the first MI soldier killed in the war against terrorism. While he was killed by friendly fire, he was doing his job of getting information to Special Forces soldiers. Being at the dedication, tears came to many eyes as his photo was revealed, another kind of hero - a soldier's soldier. We can be proud of our deployed soldiers and civilians who are protecting our nation from terrorism. We can be proud of our military families - particularly those families of the deployed - as they stand behind us as we

serve.

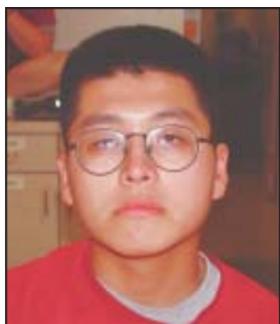
Mostly, we can be proud of our God who led our forebearers in faith to build this great country and then led generations of heroes to stand firm in protecting it for the generations to come. That same God is with us today as we look to do what is right for His people. That same God is with us as we go through our daily struggles and joys - as we look toward life as a blessing.

I hope you were safe this past fourth, enjoying the barbecues, but hopefully you also took the time to realize how much more meaningful the day is since Sept. 11. Hopefully, it was a time to reflect on our part in defending freedom and how we are somewhat in the footsteps of Abraham, a patriarch of the Bible - that we are being blessed in order to be a blessing and that as we call on God, we continue to bless our land. If you didn't get to reflect on that this past week, there is still time ahead.

God bless you - and God bless US America!

You can reach the chaplain at: Dennis.Nitschke@netcom.army.mil.

Scout on the Street



"I cut my paycheck in half and save half of it. I think of long-term goals and emergencies."

Pvt. Michael J. Sigg
A Company,
309th Military Intelligence
Battalion



"I try to put \$20 aside every week. When I go shopping I try to buy what is on sale."

Pfc. Jacqueline L.
Baumann
A Co., 305th MI Bn.



"Know your limits. Make a budget plan. Know how you spend your money."

Pvt. Christopher J. Adams
A Co., 309th MI Bn.



"I make other people buy me stuff."

Pfc. Robert A. Whites
E Co., 305th MI Bn.



"I come back to spend the night at the barracks instead of spending the night at a hotel."

Pvt. Kelley M. Sliauter
A Co., 305th MI Bn.



"I save money through the Army's Thrift Savings Plan."

Pfc. Robert D. Kitcey
E Co., 305th MI Bn.

Photos by Spc. Matthew Chlosta

How do you save money?

The Fort Huachuca Scout®

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Homecomings may mean adjustments for families

BY ELIZABETH HARLAN
THE SCOUT STAFF

The troops that were deployed from Fort Huachuca have started to come home. This is an exciting time for family members but can also be very stressful.

"Separation is the hardest thing any of us ever do. It causes panic and distress," said Judy Pike, supervisory social worker for family advocacy on Fort Huachuca.

According to Pike, readjusting to having a deployed family member back can sometimes be challenging. "When family members are away from each other for any length of time people start to change, not only the family members that are left behind but the soldier as well," she explained. "It is a natural part of life."

"The family is forced to find ways to get along without that person," Pike said. "So the reunion is going to be a major adjustment for everyone."

According to authorities at the Military Family Resource Center, the reunion of your family can be a building block or a stumbling block.

There are some things parents can do to help their children prepare for the return of the deployed parent.

MFRC recommends that you take time to talk and listen; tell your children what is happening. This will give them time to think about the parent's return. Encourage your children to talk about their feelings. Remind your children that everyone has changed while the parent has been away and that it will take

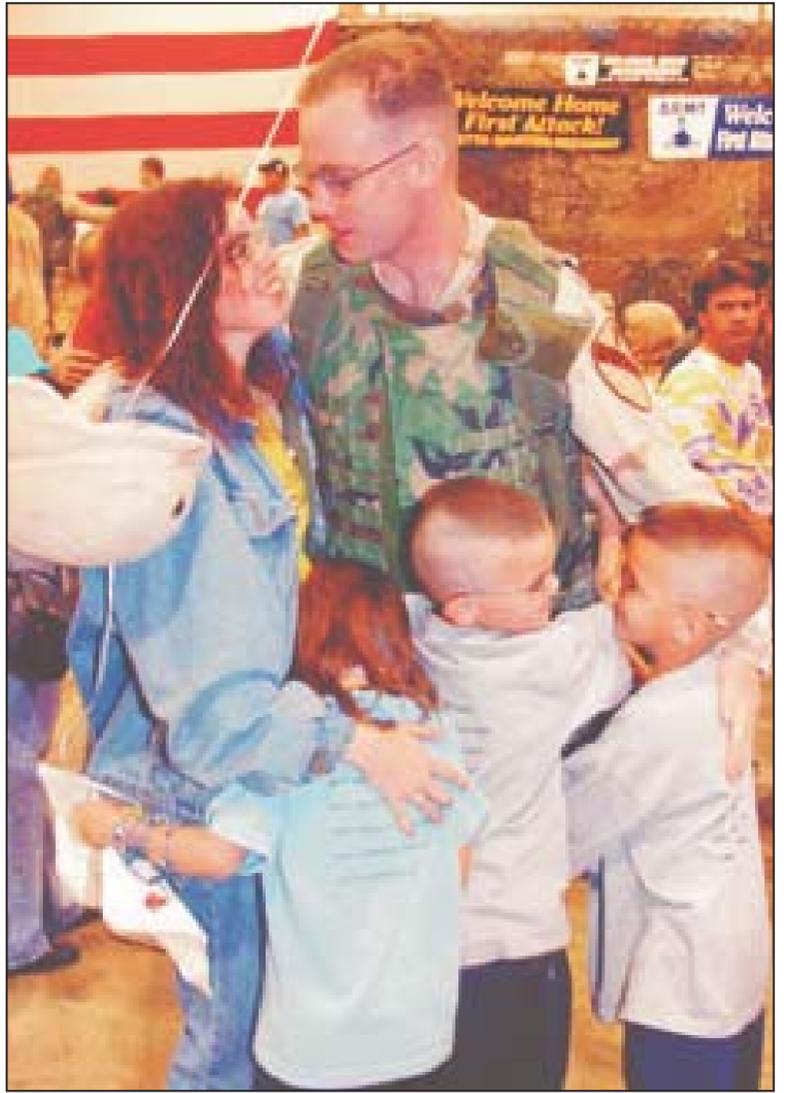
time for everyone to adjust to being a family again. Assure them that it is okay to be excited and worried about what it will be like to have their parent home again. Also plan some favorite activities that your children and returning parent can do together.

Reunions create big changes for the whole family, according to MFRC. During these changes it is important that your children continue in many of the same routines. Knowing what to expect helps them feel safer and more secure.

"Another big thing," Pike said, "is that people have such high expectations of having this fairy tale reunion where everything is going to be perfect." You have to have realistic expectations and know the reunion may not match what you have dreamed.

According to MFRC, there are a few things to remember to help ensure that your reunion with your loved one will go well. It will take time and patience to readjust to being together again. Things will never be exactly the same as they were before the deployed soldier left. Everyone in your family has grown and changed throughout the deployment. Remember to be flexible. Sharing your feelings about the deployed loved one with family or friends will help you.

If you are expecting a deployed family member to return home soon, Army Community Services has a program called Step in to Your Child's World. It is part of the Department of Defense healthy parenting program. In this program there are steps to help you and your children prepare for the return of your deployed loved one. For more information on the program, call ACS at 533-2330.



U.S. Army photo

School Summer break ends mid-August

Fort Huachuca Accommodation Schools will hold student registration July 29 through Aug. 1 at Myer and Johnston Elementary schools and at Smith Middle school here.

All new students and pre-registered students must register at the appropriate school for their grade.

Parents registering new students must supply a birth certificate, shot records, previous school records or address to send for the school records. According to Arizona law, students without up-to-date immunizations will not be allowed into school until verification is provided to the school nurse.

They will need to pick up the 2003-2004 school student handbook, district information sheets, free and reduced lunch applications, class and/or locker assignments and update any emergency contact information.

The 2003-2004 school year starts Aug. 13. If you are not sure which bus number your child rides, check with school personnel during registration, or call them.

Every Thursday during the school year, including the second day of school, is an early release day.

Local school quick facts

Myer Elementary School

- phone number 459-8986
- student registration will be: 8 a.m. to 1 p.m., July 29, 30, 31
- early release-day time for kindergarten is 1:20 p.m.
- early release-day time for grades 4 and 5 is 1:30 p.m.

Johnston Elementary School

- phone number 459-8798
- early release-day time for Johnston elementary grades 1-3 is 1:15 p.m.

Smith Middle School

- phone number 459-8892
- student registration will be: 8 a.m. to 1 p.m., July 30, 31 and Aug. 1
- early release-day time for Smith Middle grades 6-8 is 1:40 p.m.

Buena High School

- phone number 515-2800
- July 31 registration for 12th grade
- Aug. 1 registration for 11th grade
- Aug. 4 registration for 10th grade, A-L
- Aug. 5 registration for 10th grade, M-Z
- Aug. 6 registration for 9th grade, A-L
- Aug. 7 registration for 9th grade, M-Z
- Aug. 9 freshman orientation at 9 a.m.
- Aug. 9 orientation for all other new students at 10 a.m.
- Aug. 13 freshmen begin classes
- Aug. 14 school starts for all students



Photo by Elizabeth Harlan

Oh deer!

The Fort Huachuca community includes a wide variety of wildlife. This mule deer was grazing in the housing area on the old section of the post.

Army tool assists with noncom record keeping

ARMY NEWS SERVICE RELEASE

The Army has developed a tool to monitor the timeliness and error rate of Noncommissioned Officer Evaluation Reports once they reach their final stop in Indianapolis.

Out of the 181,809 NCOs on active duty, about 10 percent of their evaluation reports are turned in late and about 3 percent have errors, said Master Sgt. Gary Adams, chief of the NCO Evaluation Branch at Enlisted Records and Evaluation Center. The error rate is actually down from last year, which was 7 percent, Adams said.

A link titled NCO-ER Online Reports at the Web site, www.EREC.army.mil, can be accessed by personnel specialists who are charged with managing soldiers' files and senior leaders with command and control authority.

"The Army's human resources community has the opportunity to tap into EREC's data base to track what NCO-ERs have been processed," Adams said. "They don't have to call or e-mail us,

and wait for us to respond.

"The link is only to be used by persons with proper justification," Adams said. "When individuals go to the site they have to request permission, and I won't approve an individual who just wants to see if his NCO-ER has been processed," he added.

Personal records can be reviewed by going to EREC's links: Official Military Personnel File Online or Personnel Data Snapshot, Adams said.

Although the link has been operational since late May, Adams said he still receives numerous e-mails from personnel specialists asking him if reports have reached EREC. "I get a lot of requests from individuals who want to go to the site, but they're not the ones who should be taking advantage of the information," he said.

The officer corps does not have a similar tracking system because the size of the force is smaller, according to officials at the Officer Evaluation Reports Branch. There are approximately 70,000 officers on active duty, according to Army Demographics Profile.

Officers receive German badges

BY 2ND LT. CHRISTINA BOWSER

MILITARY INTELLIGENCE
OFFICER BASIC COURSE CLASS
03-06

On June 30, 32 officers from across the United States as well as the countries of Albania, Estonia, and Hungary received the German Armed Forces Proficiency Badge, presented by German liaisons, Lt. Col. Schaefer and Command Sgt. Major Stark.

The officers receiving the badges are a part of the Military Intelligence Officer Basic Course, class 03-06 who participated in the German Armed Forces Competition from April through June. Second Lt.s

Kathy Medeiros and Rick Zambrana were the U.S. representatives, who have already received gold in the competition, and the instructors for the event. Capt. Eddie Perry and Sgt 1st Class Patrick Long are the TAC officers for the class.

The following international officers received the gold GAFPB: Capt. Flamur Melani from Albania, 2nd Lt. Kaupo Martihhin from Estonia, and 2nd Lt. Imre Marton from Hungary.

The following U.S. officers received the gold GAFPB: 2nd Lt. Jeffrey Anderson, 1st Lt. Mark Awad, 2nd Lt. Eric Chewning, 2nd Lt. Anthony Debelak, 2nd Lt. Vuong Do, 2nd Lt. Ishmael Gantt, Maj. James Howard Jr., 2nd Lt.

Billy Hyatt, 2nd Lt. Christina Kassab, 2nd Lt. Richard Kehoe, 2nd Lt. Travis Krug, 2nd Lt. David Musick, 2nd Lt. Matthew Pollock, 2nd Lt. Mark Priest, 2nd Lt. Donald Raines, 2nd Lt. Thomas Reddick, 2nd Lt. Lucas Shinskie, 2nd Lt. Phillip Smith, 2nd Lt. Chaim Spilman, 2nd Lt. David Welteroth, and 2nd Lt. Jae Yu.

The following U.S. officers received the silver GAFPB: 2nd Lt.s Isaac Oates, Michael Rosado and Patrick Silver.

The following U.S. officers received the bronze GAFPB: 2nd Lt.s Warren Bachus, Christina Bowser, Susan Goff and Brian Harris.

Conservation works, water use down

The water pumpage for June is 57,727,000 gallons or 177 acre-feet and is equivalent to 1.9 million gallons per day.

The June pumpage is 3.3 percent less than that pumped in June 2002 (183 acre-feet) and is 42.5 percent less than the 21-year (1982-2002) June average (308 acre-feet).

Total water pumped year-to-date (January-June: 764 acre-feet), is 4.9 percent less than that pumped in 2002 (803 acre-feet).

The June water usage at the U.S. Forest Service Tanker Station on Libby Army Airfield is 350,988 gallons (1.1 acre feet used to fight the Aspen and Ash Canyon fires). Year-to-date water use (January-June) is 534,581 gallons or 1.6 acre-feet.

Treated effluent reuse for June was 56.5 acre-feet. This is water that did not have to be pumped from the groundwater aquifer (a water and energy savings) to irrigate the golf course, Chaffee Parade Field and Prosser Village.

Continued aggressive water leak repairs, water conservation conversions, such as the installation of an additional 100 horizontal axis clothes washers in 2002, in addition to the continued influence of the closures of the East Range Academic Center and the family housing demolition in the Smith/Davis, Arizona Street, Hall Circle, and Perishing Plaza (W1/3) housing areas and the Water Wise Program account for the lower water pumpage.

Saluting our nation's colors- everyday



Photos by Elizabeth Harlan

Sgt. Edward Rhoton Jr. and Cpl. Stacey Thome, of the 18th Military Police detachment, lower the flag.

BY ELIZABETH HARLAN
THE SCOUT STAFF

The retreat of the flag of the United States of America on Fort Huachuca and all over the world serves a twofold purpose. The ceremony signals the end of the official duty day and serves as a ceremony for paying respect to the flag.

Because the end of the duty day varies, the commander designates the specific time for the retreat.

Shortly before the retreat, the troops participating in the ceremony are positioned facing the flagstaff. If a band is not present, recorded music may be played over the base public address system. During the playing of retreat, junior members of the flag security detail assume the position of attention and move to the flagstaff to arrange the halyards for proper lowering of the flag.

When military persons not assigned to a formation are outdoors

and in uniform, on the first note of retreat, they should face the flag, if visible, or music and assume the position of parade rest. Civilians traditionally place their right hand over their heart.

The national anthem or "To the Colors" is played. While the music plays the junior members of the flag security detail lower the flag slowly and with dignity. If the flag is being flown at half-staff, it is raised briskly to the top then lowered slowly. Persons outside in uniform are to stand at attention while the flag is being lowered.

The flag security detail folds the flag. The senior enlisted of the detail remains at attention while the flag is being folded unless he or she is needed to control the flag. The senior enlisted salutes and reports, the flag is secured. The commander or office of the day returns the salute and the flag security detail marches away.

On Fort Huachuca there is a retreat ceremony on Brown Parade Field every day at 4:30 p.m.



Beginning clockwise from top left: Spc. William Moots, 18th Military Police detachment, fires the cannon as the flag is being retreated. Rhoton and Thome carefully remove the flag making sure that it does not touch the ground. Cpl. Stacey Thome helps fold our nations colors.



Community Updates

Range closures

Range closures for today through Wednesday are as follows:

Today – AG, AH, AK, AL, AM, AN, AR, AU, AY, T1, T1A, T2
 Friday – AG, AK, AL, AU, AY
 Saturday – T1, T1A, T2
 Sunday – No range closures
 Monday – AB, AC, AU, AY, T1, T2, T1A
 Tuesday – AB, AC, AM, AU, AY
 Wednesday 16 July - AU, AY, T1, T1A, T2

For more information on range closure call range control at 533-7095.

MEDDAC change of command

USA Medical Activity will conduct a change of command ceremony on the Raymond W. Bliss Army Health Center's north lawn, beginning at 7:30 a.m., July 22. Cochise Theatre will be the alternate site in the event of inclement weather.

The distinguished guest will be Brig. Gen. Charles Fox; the outgoing commander will be Lt. Col. Richard Beitz and the incoming commander is Col. Thomas Smith. The 70th Division Band will also be there.

Watering schedule extended

On Fort Huachuca, watering with sprinklers is normally only allowed in May and June each year.

Because the usual rains, otherwise known as the monsoon, appear to be late, the garrison commander has extended the use of sprinklers through the month of July.



If you reside in housing areas other than those newly constructed, you may water on Tuesdays and Saturdays from 6 - 9 p.m. In the construction areas of Dove and Bonnie Blink, watering will be done by the construction contractor, who may ask for your assistance in moving sprinklers as necessary. Days of the week and time of the day will vary until the lawns are established.

Adherence to the watering policy is mandatory for all residents of Fort Huachuca. As a desert environment, water is a critical issue to Fort Huachuca. Therefore, enforcement of this policy is strict. For purposes of conservation and good stewardship, if the rains start, use of sprinklers should stop.

Health News

First Aid for Epilepsy

ROMAN BILYNSKY, MD, FAAP

LT. COL., MEDICAL CORPS

WBAMC PEDIATRIC NEUROLOGIST

What is a seizure?

Seizures are sudden, uncontrolled spells of excessive electrical and neurochemical discharges of brain cells, resulting in a variety of sensory, motor and behavioral changes. They are the most common sign of epilepsy, but not the only sign. Seizures also occur in other conditions and seizures secondary to other causes, e.g. low blood sugar, heart rhythm abnormalities, high fever, infection of the brain, breath holding spells, etc.

What is epilepsy?

Epilepsy is a chronic disorder of the brain that causes seizures. There are many different kinds of epilepsy. Usually, if you have two or more unprovoked seizures then this would be consistent with a diagnosis of epilepsy. Medications can control or reduce the number of seizures for most people with epilepsy. There are many medications for epilepsy currently in use. When medications do not control seizures completely, surgery may be recommended.

How can I tell if someone is having a seizure?

Seizures usually start very quickly and are usually over in a few minutes. There are many manifestations of seizures, but in general there are two main types.

Generalized Tonic Clonic Seizures ("Gran Mal")

During the seizure the person typically stiffens and falls, sometimes accompanied by a vocal noise, and starts jerking or shaking all over. Their color may change to blue or pale, they may become incontinent of urine or stool, and it may be followed by vomiting.

When a person has a generalized seizure:

1. Keep calm, help the person to the floor, lie them down and put something soft under the head. Try to note the time of onset of the seizure.
 2. Remove any glasses and loosen tight clothing.
 3. Remove any sharp objects from the immediate vicinity.
 4. Do not put anything in their mouth.
 5. Do not try to stop the seizure by hold them down.
- After the seizure:**
6. Roll the person to one side to prevent choking on saliva or vomit.
 7. Stay with the patient until fully awake, since initially he/she will be confused and disoriented.
 8. Do not give them anything to drink or eat.
 9. Try to note the time of resolution of the convulsive seizure – this is important because one minute feels like 10 minutes when

Widowed support center

The Widowed Support Center, located at Fry and Buffalo Soldier Trail, continues to be open and active.

We are open daily, Monday - Friday, from 9 a.m. - 3 p.m. and welcome drop ins. If you wish to speak to someone in particular, call to determine when that person is on duty. We serve both the military and civilian communities.

Our programs have been discontinued for the summer months, but starting in September we will continue our monthly get-togethers with programs, trips, etc. Come help or bring your own craft to work on while enjoying a get-together with friends. We are always looking for new volunteers. For further information call 533-3807.

Caring for your newborn

Caring for Your Newborn is a seminar offering detailed information on holding, bathing, diapering, dressing, etc. Other topics discussed are medical concerns, colic, crying and safety.

The Breastfeeding Your Newborn program discusses benefits of breastfeeding, positions, latching on, problem prevention and solutions and community resources.

Assisting Your Newborn's Development covers current information about the importance of the first years and their effect on brain development.

All classes are free and open to the public. They are held on Wednesday evenings from 6:30 - 8:30 p.m. in the Army Community Services conference room. Call ACS for dates or to sign up for a class at 533-6877/2330.

Santa Catalina Mountains closed

Because the Aspen Fire continues to burn actively in the higher elevations of Sabino Canyon, Coronado National Forest officials have implemented an emergency closure of the Santa Catalina Mountains and the Sabino Canyon recreation area, effective immediately.

The Sabino Canyon Recreation Area, visitor center and parking lot are closed to visitors, and the parking lot is being utilized as an air support facility for helicopters working the fire.

The emergency closure includes the entire Santa Catalina Ranger District with the exception of the Happy Valley area located on the eastern side of the Rincon Mountains.



All roads and trails within and leading into Pusch Ridge Wilderness and the Santa Catalina Mountains are closed to all access and use until further notice. Road blocks are in place at access points into the Santa Catalina mountains and Redington Pass. Additionally, points of entry are posted, with "Stop, No Entry, Fire Hazard" signs.

Dental notes for redeploying soldiers

Soldiers returning from deployment should have their unit dental liaison call Cindy Sumner at Rumion Dental Clinic, 533-1492. She will be able to determine if a redeploying soldier requires a dental exam, and also be able to schedule a dental exam appointment for the soldier.

Lunch and learn workshop

The Special Emphasis Program Committee is sponsoring a Lunch and Learn Communication Workshop titled, "Polishing Your Presentations and Briefs," July 25 at 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. at La Hacienda's, Boots and Saddles Room. Cost will be \$8 which will include a buffet and salad bar.

If you plan to attend, please contact the Equal Employment Office at 538-0276; seating is limited to 40 spaces. The guest instructor for this workshop will be Mike Leiboff, retired communication professor. Civilian and military personnel are invited to attend. Due to limited seating, make your reservations today.

EFMP support group

The Army Community Service Exceptional Family Member Program is sponsoring a support group for family members who are enrolled in the EFMP. The purpose of the group is to provide a forum for exceptional family members to network and share information.

The first meeting will be held Thursday at 6 p.m. in the Army Community Services conference room, building 50010, Smith Street. Thereafter, the group will meet the first Thursday of each month.

To register for the group, call 533-2330. For more information, call the EFMP at 533-6871.

Pharmacy refills

The post exchange pharmacy is currently open for refill prescription services only from 10 a.m. until 4 p.m., Monday through Friday.

Prescriptions should be called into the phone-in refill number at 533-1551. Prescriptions called in prior to 7 a.m. will be ready for pickup after 2 p.m. on the same day. Though refills can be obtained at either location, it is recommended that refills be

called in to the PX pharmacy. All new prescriptions must be filled at the main pharmacy.

Returning soldiers to DMPO

The Defense Military Pay Office would like for all returning soldiers from deployed areas to stop by the S1/PAC and complete Department of the Army form 1351-2 to receive \$3.50 per day for per diem while in the overseas area.

Also a DA form 4187 must be completed to ensure that all incentive pay is stopped the day of departure. Failure to contact your S1/PAC upon your return can result in the soldier being overpaid.

To prevent overpayments, take a second look at your leave and earnings statement to ensure that you are being paid properly. Your S1/PAC is your first point of contact.

Fort Huachuca canyons closed

Garrison commander Col. Lawrence J. Portouw has ordered all canyons on post closed.

"I have taken this precautionary measure to protect the installation, our personnel and the community," said Portouw. "The red-flag conditions forecasted into next week and the great demand for ground and aerial firefighting assets in the state make this a prudent action," he said.

Garden and Huachuca canyons are off limits for the near future and until the current fire threat decreases. No vehicles, pedestrians, cyclists or horseback riders are permitted in these areas until further notice. Military police will patrol the areas to enforce the closure.

Residents and visitors to Fort Huachuca are reminded that a prohibition on throwing any smoking materials out of your vehicle is in effect. Military police will ticket individuals violating this policy.

BSEP program

The education center will sponsor a Basic Skills Education Program class to help soldiers raise the General Technical score.

Class begins Aug. 11 and runs through Aug. 22. If interested call Bob Campbell at 533-5690 or e-mail robert.campbell@hua.army.mil.

Retirement ceremony

There will be an installation retirement ceremony July 25 at 7 a.m. on Chaffee Field. Sgt. 1st Class Wilda Smith, 306th Military Intelligence Battalion and Sgt. 1st Class Laurie A. Williams, Headquarters and Headquarters Company, United States Army Garrison, are both retiring after at least 20 years serving their country. All are invited to attend.

Traveling with TRICARE

During the summertime many families will be taking their vacations or transferring to another assignment. For whatever reason you travel, TRICARE can help with your health care needs while you're on the road.

Emergency care

An emergency is a medical or psychiatric condition that would lead an average, non-medical person to believe that lack of immediate medical attention would threaten life, limb or sight. Emergency care is also appropriate to relieve severe pain or suffering. If you are confronted with an emergency while traveling, seek immediate care at the nearest hospital emergency room. Then follow these tips:

- Contact your primary care manager or doctor should follow-up care be necessary.
- Contact the health care finder at (800) 406-2832, within 24 hours, to initiate a record of the care you are receiving.
- Keep all receipts and other documents related to the care you receive – this will ensure proper and quick payment of your claim after you return home.

Urgent care

For urgent but non-emergency conditions while traveling, you will need to contact a HCF *before* you receive care at a military or a civilian facility. If a prior authorization for urgent care is not received from the HCF prior to receiving care from a civilian provider you will be billed under the Point-of-Service option. This means you will pay a higher cost-share and deductible. We also recommend that you notify your PCM that you have seen another physician soon after you have received urgent care.

Kids traveling alone

If your child will be traveling alone this summer or visiting friends or relatives alone, prepare ahead for possible medical problems. Follow these tips:

- Send their military ID card and prime ID card with them.
- Provide the name and phone number of their PCM or doctor and the number for the health care finder (800) 406-2832 to the caregiver.
- Provide a medical release that will allow the primary caregiver to authorize medical care, if needed.

Prescription medication

Use the TRICARE Mail Order Pharmacy before you leave home. Through the TMOP you can receive up to a 90-day supply of most medications. For additional information, call TMOP at (866) 363-8667 or visit www.express-scripts.com. Also, follow these tips:

- When traveling within your region, pay only the copayment by using a network pharmacy
 - If you need to fill a prescription while outside your TRICARE region, you will need to pay the entire amount and seek reimbursement from TRICARE when you return home. Obtain a claim form by visiting www.TRICARE.osd.mil/claims.
- For further information, contact a customer service representative at (800) 406-2832 or visit www.hnfs.net.

Armynews

Army signs multi-million-dollar contract with Microsoft

BY ANGELA YEOH
ARMY NEWS SERVICE

The Army has signed a six-year contract worth more than \$470 million with Microsoft, to consolidate software purchases and licenses in an effort to improve security and access to information Armywide.

The Enterprise Software Consolidation contract covers 494,000 users as well as software for the Army enterprise network, and is expected to save the Army \$15 million over the next six years, officials said.

As part of the Department of Defense Enterprise Software Initiative, ESI, the contract comes under the Army Knowledge Management strategy to better support Army operations through access to information, according to Col. Mark Barnette, chief of the Army's Information Infrastructure Division, G6.

"The ESI aims to provide a net-centric environment where management and movement of information is critical to the needs of the

war fighter," he said.

At present, each Army post, camp and station buys software on different contracts. This requires more labor and creates more costs, including extra paperwork and systems administration work, said



Graphic derived from cnn.com

Peggy Henderson, acting deputy director of Enterprise Systems Technology Activity.

She added that different elements of the Army

may then be on different baselines - that is, have different operating systems and applications - which aren't necessarily compatible.

In addition, many older systems to which Microsoft will no longer provide technical support are more vulnerable to computer viruses and hackers. Henderson noted that buying this mass amount of software will make it much easier for people to get to more current versions.

Barnette outlined three strategic goals for the Army's AKM transformation: to defend the information network, to support the Objective Force, the Army's future, and to reduce the cost of operations.

Henderson said the new contract is particularly relevant to the last of these goals.

"We're trying to be more like a corporation, be more business-oriented," she said. "For example with buying paper, instead of just buying it for your own office, you're buying for the whole organization because it's substantially cheaper. Enterprise is about treating the army as one integrated organization."

Integration, she said, also enables more efficient information access.

"If you have the most current information, you're going to do a better job of protecting yourself, winning the battle," said Henderson. "Running the Army as an enterprise means that people down on the ground can have the most current information and be in a better position to make immediate decisions in their area rather than waiting for someone on high to get the information and assimilate it."

The aim is to have one Army network, one Army portal, a single sign-on capability, a universal directory service and the ability for plug-in play, where soldiers can go anywhere, anytime and plug in to the network for their work, and gain universal access to information across the Army, according to Barnette.

The Army will buy the software from Microsoft reseller Softmart Government Services, Inc., based in Downingtown, Pa.

Army announces changes in 12-month, skill-based Stop-Loss

ARMY NEWS SERVICE RELEASE

On July 1, Reginald J. Brown, assistant secretary of the Army for Manpower and Reserve Affairs, approved partially lifting Stop Loss for 22 of 24 selected officer specialties and enlisted specialties subject to the Army's all component 12-month, skill-based Stop Loss Program.

The decision to execute a fourth partial lift of Stop Loss will affect approximately 1,200 active Army, 970 Army Reserve and 975 National Guard soldiers between now and January 2004. These soldiers, as they begin their transition from the Army, will be provided sufficient time to complete transition/career counseling processing and demobilization activities for Ready Reserve soldiers. Personnel strength managers from all Army components will regulate separation dates to ensure no adverse impact on Armywide readiness.

The following officer and warrant specialties and enlisted military occupational specialties for active Army and ready reserve soldiers subject to the all component 12-month, skill-

based Stop Loss will no longer be subject to Stop Loss:

Officer specialties: 30 information operations, 34 strategic intelligence, 35 military intelligence, 45A comptroller, 48G foreign area officer (Mideast/North Africa), 51C contract and industrial management.

Warrant officer specialties: 152C OH-6 scout pilot, 153D, UH-60 pilot, 154C CH-47D pilot, 311A, CID special agent, 351B, counter intelligence technician, 351E human intelligence collection technician.

Enlisted soldier military occupational specialties: 52E prime power production specialist, 74B information systems operator, 95B military police, 95C correctional specialist, 95D Criminal Investigations Division special agent, 96B intelligence analyst, 97B counter intelligence agent, 97E human intelligence collector, 97L translator, 98G voice interceptor.

Secretary Brown approved four increments of Stop Loss in support of Operations Noble Eagle and Enduring Freedom. The first increment was announced Nov. 30, 2001, and

focused on active Army Special Forces soldiers and certain aviation specialties. The fourth and last increment was announced Feb. 14, and directed the Active Component Unit Stop Loss for units supporting Operation Iraqi Freedom. On May 27, Secretary Brown approved lifting AC Unit Stop Loss and a third partial lift of Stop Loss for selected skills subject to Stop Loss one through four.

Prior to Operations Noble Eagle and Enduring Freedom, the Army last used Stop Loss during Operation Desert Shield/Desert Storm in 1990, when President George H. Bush delegated Stop Loss authority to the Secretary of Defense.

Stop Loss does not affect most involuntary separations or retirements, nor does it generally limit laws, regulations or policies that lead to involuntary separations, retirements, or releases from active duty.

Analysis for the Global War on Terrorism is on-going. The Army's determination to lift RC Unit Stop Loss and the remaining two skills under 12-month, skill-based Stop Loss will be addressed shortly.