



Scout reports

e-mail: thescout@hua.army.mil

Road repairs

The Directorate of Installation Support will be repairing Arizona Street in the Signal Village housing area beginning Monday.

The contractor, A&S Paving Inc., is expected to be completed April 16.

Residents will have vehicular access to their quarters during the construction. However, there may be periodic restrictions during this construction. Motorists are asked to use care while driving through the construction site.

For more information, call the contract management division at 533-1443.

Turkey trapping

Residents in the old post area are advised that the Arizona Game and Fish Department and Fort Huachuca wildlife management began trapping Gould's turkey Wednesday and will continue through the end of the month.

Bait and trapping locations are in Huachuca Canyon. Trapping techniques involve rocket-propelled net and associated noise (similar to shotgun blast). Normally, capture will occur in early morning.

For more information, call Sheridan Stone at 533-7083.

Pancake breakfast

The Fort Huachuca Sergeant Major Association will hold an all you can eat pancake breakfast 6 - 11 a.m. Saturday at the Landmark Cafe. Tickets are \$2, available from any association member and at the door.

FRG training

Family Readiness Group training will be offered 9-11 a.m. Friday at Army Community Service. This training will cover the basic policies and procedures of running an FRG.

For more information or to register, call ACS at 533-2330 or 533-5919.

INSIDE



A year of war

The Global War on Terrorism continues. - Pages 2 & 7



Future stars

Youth Services basketball season continues. - Page B1

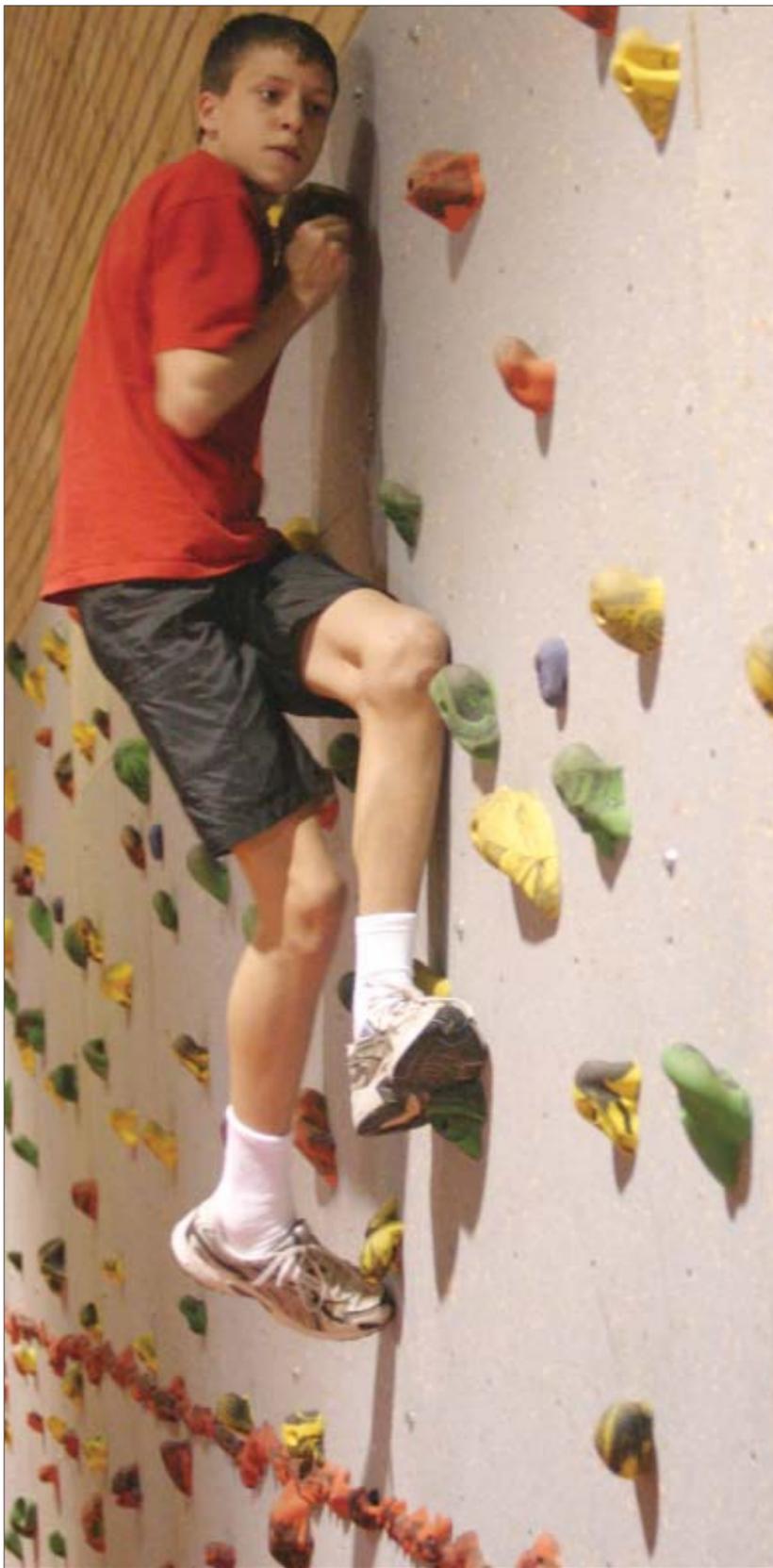


Photo by Elizabeth Harlan

Aim high!

Getting an education isn't all book learning and homework. There was a mini-olympics on Friday at Smith Middle School. The olympics featured field events and fun in the gym and the library. Jonathon Raysor, 13, proved what he was made of as he scaled the climbing wall in the gym.

Top dogs CSM/SGMs meet, discuss MI issues

BY SPC. SUSAN REDWINE
SCOUT STAFF

Senior noncommissioned officers swarmed Fort Huachuca last week for this year's Worldwide Military Intelligence Command Sergeant Major/Sergeant Major Conference.

For five days, sergeants major and other senior enlisted Soldiers gathered at Alvarado Hall to discuss the current state of military intelligence in the Army.

"The conference is designed to keep command sergeants major updated and informed about numerous things," said Command Sgt. Maj. Randy McMillian of the 308th Military Intelligence Battalion. "We basically get updated on ongoing changes in the enlisted MI career field."

"The theme of this conference was military intelligence support to the Global War on Terrorism," said 1st Sgt. Bill Hedges, Advanced Noncommissioned Officers' Course first sergeant at the Noncommissioned Officers' Academy. "The bulk of the briefings have direct application in Iraq, Afghanistan and homeland security."

Approximately 123 people attended this year's conference, which accounts for about 80 percent of those eligible to come, Hedges said.

"It's admirable because we're a nation at war in two theaters at the same time," Hedges said of the turnout.

The conference opened March 8 with remarks from Maj. Gen. James "Spider" Marks, commanding general, U.S. Army Intelligence Center and Fort Huachuca. He told those in attendance that three years was too long for a military intelligence Soldier to be stationed at Fort Huachuca.

"We're looking for combat experience for our instructors and drill sergeants," Marks said

to the sergeants major at the conference. "We're looking at the right arm patches of guys coming in. Tell us who your best and brightest are."

Marks also asked for hands-on leadership from the sergeants major and Soldiers in leadership positions in the sergeants major's commands.

"It's all about leadership," Marks said. "Just stay focused on those young men and women. Get your fingerprints on them."

"The conference is very important. Not only do you get formal briefings but the chance to interact with command sergeants major from different units. It helps you learn a lot, helps you become a better sergeant major or command sergeant major," McMillian said.

McMillian said specific issues are discussed in smaller discussion groups within each of the disciplines of MI.

Command Sgt. Maj. Donald L. Mollett, 519th MI Bn., who has been deployed to both Afghanistan and Iraq, said he was most eager to break down to the small group discussion portion of the conference so that issues could be addressed intensively by those who need specific information.

"Being in military intelligence, if you haven't been there [in theater], seen it, done it, it's hard to talk from a position of authority," Mollett said.

Mollett said he came to the conference looking for advice on the key issues of personnel and equipment. He said he is concerned about issues regarding the use of military intelligence assets in theater.

"I have some observations and lessons learned that could benefit other units and other Soldiers that are going to go there [in theater]," said Command Sgt. Maj. Victor Hernandez, 224th MI Bn., who was de-

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Drugs, sex ends NCO's career

Soldier will serve time, lose rank

BY KAREN WEIL
THE SCOUT STAFF

A soldier convicted of drug use and improper sexual relations will spend 24 months in confinement and receive a dishonorable discharge.

Sgt. Antonio Macias, 29, of Company A, 309th Military Intelligence Battalion, will forfeit all payments and allowances and be reduced to a grade of E-1.

Macias was found guilty of in-

decent acts with another, wrongful use of cocaine, methamphetamine and amphetamines, and two violations of a lawful general regulation on March 11 as part of a plea agreement.

After a hearing, the judge, Lt. Col. Mark Sposato, found Macias guilty of solicitation (for attempting to solicit a Soldier to use illegal drugs) and being absent without leave.

Macias also pleaded guilty to AWOL, but not guilty to desertion and solicitation.

Capt. Eric Stafford, who prosecuted the case, tried Macias on the charge of desertion, a more serious offense, as well as on the charge of solicitation.

Macias, stationed at Fort Huachuca since March 2003, had various duties, including Morse code instructor.

After hearing the sentence handed down by the judge, Macias' wife began crying.

According to prosecutors, Macias discussed sexual fantasies with a female student Soldier on

Oct. 3. One day later, Macias had sex with another female student Soldier on a post facility, in front of a male Soldier.

He also used illegal drugs, including cocaine, methamphetamine and amphetamine, between Oct. 16 and 20, and at one point offered some methamphetamine to one of the female Soldiers.

Between Oct. 20 and 21, Macias went absent from duty, but had no permission to do so. Criminal Investigations Division officers found him

See MACIAS, Page 6

Mayoral program planned on post

BY SPC. SUSAN REDWINE
SCOUT STAFF

Army Community Services is getting ready to start a new program on post to benefit Soldiers and their families living in unit housing.

The program asks for volunteers to "be the mayor" of

their housing units, said Pamela Allen, family services coordinator at ACS. Volunteers can be to anyone 18 or over who is living in unit housing. Allen said the program is designed to build cohesion and give specific housing areas the opportunity to have a voice.

"This is a grassroots pro-

gram to build a sense of community in the housing areas and villages," Allen said.

The mayors will act as liaisons between the residents of the housing areas and the unit sponsors, said Allen. If there are problems, such as work orders not being completed in a timely manner, the mayor will be re-

sponsible for ensuring that the problem is resolved.

"The mayor would be in place to work with unit coordinators without having it escalate into an issue," Allen said. "Sometimes you don't feel like you have a voice. The mayor gives them someone they know to come to, a more comfortable

setting to go to, someone to talk to about issues. It will give people a voice or more of a voice."

The program offers flexibility in how involved the mayors will be.

"It depends on what the mayor wants and what the com-

See MAYOR, Page 7

TeamTalk April is Month of Military Child



BY
MAJ. GEN. JAMES
"SPIDER"
AND MARTY
MARKS

uprooted from home and friends, parent deployments, and current military operations) often make our military children mature way beyond their years. Sometimes it's hard to remember that our problems and issues mean problems and issues for our kids, as well.

Marty and I hope you will all take some time to let your kids know just how important they are as our sons and daughters and how much we appreciate their role as part of our larger Army "family."

Our 2004 Army Family Action Plan conference last week was super! Marty and I are so appreciative of all the hard work contributed by everyone involved that makes Fort Huachuca's AFAP program so successful and dynamic. Our AFAP is clearly the best in the Army because of you! This process of identifying issues gives Army leaders (from the local level all the way up to Department of Army) a way to keep their fingers on the pulse of the Army's most important asset — its people — and to be able to assess problem areas quickly and react to them immediately.

Be assured the Fort Huachuca leadership takes very seriously the issues you all raised last week. We'll work the local ones here; any that affect "big Army" will be forwarded to higher headquarters, where they'll receive the same thorough review and consideration. We'll publish quarterly status reports in the Scout that will give you updates on the progress of our AFAP issues.

Our thanks to Andrea Sovern, the AFAP program coordinator, for putting everything in place to make this happen. The program couldn't exist without the support of this community and all the volunteer participation. We'd like to say a special thank you to our group of teen delegates. These kids gave up a lot of hours of their free time to come together, learn about AFAP, and be a vital part of the program. Thanks, kids, for truly showing you care about being part of our Army family!

Speaking of kids... April is the Month of the Military Child, and we're getting ready to celebrate with lots of events throughout the month. Stresses that are often brought about by a military lifestyle (including frequent moves, being

planned during April: scholastic book fair, special 36th Army Band concert, afternoon of kids doing PT with their parents, storybook character parade, kindervolksmarch, youth services tournament of games and contests, and B Troop display. Be sure and check the Scout and the Commanders Access Channel, and look for handouts from the schools and child and youth services facilities for more information on all these fun things coming up.

"Women Inspiring Hope and Possibility" is the theme of this year's women's history celebration, which will take place from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. March 25, at the LakeSide Activity Centre. Tickets are only \$8 and will not be available at the door. They sell out early, folks, so be sure and call Equal Opportunity at 533-1717 to get yours now. The speaker will be Sierra Vista City Councilwoman Carol Dockter. I know it'll be a great event; hope you can attend.

We'll have our quarterly town hall, "Feedback," 6-7 p.m. Tuesday live from our PAO studio. I hope you'll tune in to Cox TV channel 97 to get updates about what's happening here on Fort Huachuca. And, if you have any questions or concerns, this is your chance to make sure they're heard. You can email questions ahead of time to the PAO at channel97@hua.army.mil, or call in during the town hall to 533-1289.

Thanks for being such positive, participatory members of this community.

Commentary America's Soldiers prove themselves in OIF

BY SGT. 1ST CLASS DONALD SPARKS
NCOIC, USAIC&FH PUBLIC AFFAIRS

When I was asked to write an editorial reflecting on the one-year anniversary of Operation Iraqi Freedom, initially I thought it would be too easy to transfer my thoughts to my fingers — yet this piece was a struggle.

I couldn't keep track of how often I pressed my backspace key or how often I deleted entire sentences and paragraphs because I knew whatever I wanted to say — it just had to be right. And then I recalled a quote from former Sergeant Major of the Army George W. Dunaway in a 1990 interview with the Center of Military History on the American Soldier.

I studied his words line by line and it is appropriate as we look back on a year in which our Army and the resolve of the American Soldier have been tested and friendships on the battlefield have been forged.

"The American Soldier... is unbeatable in war." The entire world witnessed firsthand how lethal a well-trained, well-equipped Soldier can take out his enemy on the battlefield. Breaking tradition and putting aside its differences with the media, the Department of Defense allowed embedded journalists and reporters to eat, sleep and get dirty with Soldiers.

Although there was some early debate and griping from the American

public about how much news coverage was too much, there is no question the role of the media played for delivering into our homes the successes and determination of the American Soldier on the battlefield.

"We cannot give the American Soldier too much credit... He deserves everything we can do for him and he deserves all the respect we can show him." When Time magazine announced the American Soldier as its Person of the Year, there had to be an overwhelming sense of pride for each and every Soldier wearing the uniform. I hurriedly went and bought a copy. The anticipation of reading profiles of courage, stories of strife and passages of survival was worth the wait. And to quote one of the Soldiers on the cover, Sgt. Ronald Buxton, "It's not just us," Buxton said of the Person of the Year award. "It's all of us, all the Soldiers."

It seems in time of peace the American Soldier is forgotten. Yet in times of war, the American Soldier becomes an integral part of the American conscience. Instantly the freedoms our nation takes for granted each day are remembered when each flag-draped coffin returns home. The American Soldier deserves respect for going into a foreign land and eradicating a regime of terror, pulverizing its foe and surviving moments in hell.

"They perform their duties

magnificently and bravely." Whether it was on CNN, Fox News or MSNBC, the images of the American Soldier throughout the Operation Iraqi Freedom campaign displayed the significance of the Noncommissioned Officer Education System.

In many instances it was the young sergeant preparing and leading troops into harm's way. As the first line of the NCO Creed states, "No one is more professional than I." Indeed the American Soldiers were professionals in carrying out their missions in Iraq.

"They don't make policies, and they don't declare war." By no means is this line to be interpreted that the American Soldier is a pawn on a chess board. We simply do what we're told to do and we follow orders. The American Soldier on the battlefield doesn't care about duty, honor, country. The American Soldier cares about his teammate to his front, to his left, to his right and to his rear. The American Soldier doesn't have the time to play politics on the battlefield. During the past year the American Soldier has served his country and his fellow Soldier. And when the order was given to fight, indeed the American Soldier did.

"But they fight, they bleed and they die." This past year more than 500 American servicemembers have

See WAR, Page 7

Spring is good time for clean up

BY GRACE WHITE
DIRECTORATE OF INSTALLATION SUPPORT

Well, it is official, we now have spring! Seems like it has been a long time coming this year, but the trees are popping and the weeds are growing by leaps and bounds. As usual in our spring and summer, this means more time spent in yards mowing grass, edging sidewalks and driveways as well as trimming bushes and shrubs. The maintenance of the exterior of our quarters is a requirement for residing in quarters.

The attention needed in our yards is not limited to grass cutting. Edging of sidewalks, flowerbeds, curbs, fences and driveways is also a requirement. It is not authorized to park vehicles on lawns, seeded areas or yards. Even if your yard does not have grass, you cannot park a vehicle except in carports, driveways or where allowed on streets. Yards should be policed for trash, old Scout issues, debris and

spruced up. Even if the trash blew into your yard from another area, you are required to manage your yard.

Inspections of yard maintenance for compliance with standards is accomplished by unit sponsorship representatives and housing employees. Many residents on Fort Huachuca have received citations for not complying with the yard requirements from housing agents. As a policy, the Housing Division writes the first citation as a reminder that certain standards must be met. If additional citations are received, the Housing Division notifies the Soldier's chain of command for compliance. This is not the approach that either the Housing Office or the command wants to take.

As a National Historic Landmark, Fort Huachuca receives hundreds of visitors each month, and their first impression of our post is the care given to the exterior of our quarters. Let's all give the right first impression about what a great place Fort Huachuca is to live and work.

Scout On The Street

What's your favorite thing about Fort Huachuca?



"The mountain view, the pleasant view."

Sgt. Travonne Brooks
Headquarters and
Headquarters Company,
11th Signal Brigade



"Everywhere you need to go is in the same area - the commissary, the PX, it's really nice."

Spc. Hobbie Cao
Company A, 86th Signal
Battalion



"The delta company drill sergeants."

Pvt. Doug Fowler
Company D, 309th MI Bn.



"I like the scenery. If not the lack of oxygen, I like the scenery."

Spc. Cary Elgin
Company A, 40th Sig Bn.



"School."

Spc. John Iverson
2/84th MI Bn.



"I like it because it's on the west coast and I'm from the west coast."

Spc. James Johnson
Company A, 86th Signal
Battalion

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Make world smaller

Language classes offered for youngsters

BY AMANDA BAILLIE
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

A pilot project running at Fort Huachuca this summer is hoping to attract the military linguists of the future.

The new Huachuca Foreign Language Academy will be offering lessons in a range of languages, from French to Urdu.

It is hoped the scheme, aimed at fourth through eighth graders, will inspire students to take their lessons further and even consider a career in the military.

"The Army is interested in people who can speak critical languages," said Academy Director Cecilia Gross. "There can be a problem acquiring the people who speak these languages and that was something I was aware of when choosing which languages to offer."

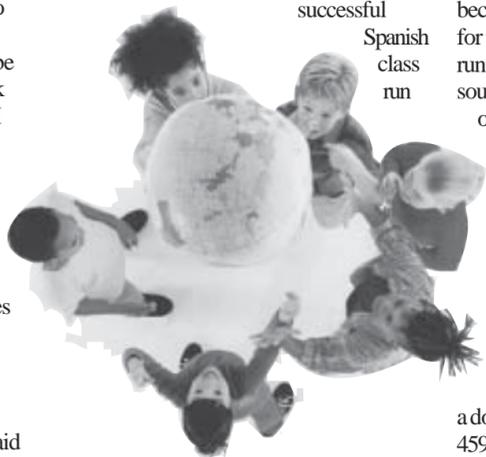
Youngsters who want to attend the four-week program can opt to study Arabic, Chinese, Turkish, French, German, Urdu, Persian and Spanish.

No prior knowledge of these languages is needed, and pupils will also have the chance to study their chosen country's culture.

"School students don't often get the opportunity to take a foreign language," said

Gross, the co-ordinator and teacher for gifted children at Col. Johnston Elementary School, Fort Huachuca. "But it's easier for a child to become fluent in a language the earlier they become exposed to it. We also hope to let the students know what sort of job opportunities are out there for them if they speak another language and hopefully they will realise that where there are critical concerns in the world, when they are adults it may benefit them to speak one of these languages."

The program stems from a successful Spanish class run



last year, which was open to Fort Huachuca students only.

The new academy, however, will offer places to anyone within the Fort and surrounding areas.

All of the languages, except Spanish, will be taught by professionally qualified native speakers, who will teach vocabulary and conversations in areas like greetings, home, family, food and school.

If the program is successful, it is hoped it will become an annual event.

"We are charging \$550 per student because we currently have no funding for the program," said Gross, who is running the project voluntarily. "I know it sounds like a lot of money, but it works out at only \$6.80 per hour for 80 hours of teaching. It can cost a lot more for childcare. But if we can get the program established, we will be able to apply for grants in the future to reduce the costs."

The classes will run between 7:30 a.m. and 11:30 a.m. from June 14 until July 9.

Anyone interested in enrolling their child, or who would like to make a donation, can call Gross at 459-1225 or 459-8772.

Training provides insight to international cultures

BY KAREN WEIL
THE SCOUT STAFF

Not long ago, some U.S. Soldiers brought bomb-sniffing dogs into an Iraqi police station, according to a news article.

While the Soldiers meant no offense and were following procedure, it was not a good idea, given that the dog is generally not well received in Islam.

As one official with U.S. Army Intelligence Center at Fort Huachuca said during a recent interview, even the smallest things are important:

some Soldiers may not know that the hand signal for "OK" is perfectly fine in the Western world, but such a gesture is a big no-no in the Middle East.

With a growing awareness that U.S. military forces operating in other countries must be knowledgeable and respectful as possible of that nation's customs and languages, a group of experienced colleagues is working on a full-fledged cultural awareness program on post.

The goal is to eventually take the 80-hour program to other military facilities.

Dr. Russell Watson, director of training development and support for USAIC, said the intelligence school recently began on its cultural awareness package.

Although very few soldiers based at Fort Huachuca have undergone the program, USAIC plans to train every Soldier in some cultural awareness, regardless of where that person may be deployed.

Helen A. Remily, chief of training development with USAIC, said the 111th Military Intelligence Brigade has established a joint

intelligence training center and will apply new cultural awareness training into its department.

The program will be different from a typical orientation session, Watson and others said.

Soldiers — who may be studying a language such as Arabic through another program — will learn about a nation's geography, history, religion, tribalism, and terrorism and counter-terrorism measures.

"When the Iraq war See CULTURES, Page 6

Competition tough for award

BY SPC. SUSAN REDWINE
SCOUT STAFF

Not everything at the Worldwide Military Intelligence Command Sergeant Major/Sergeant Major Conference was about senior enlisted Soldiers. Spc. Daniel Sheldon, intelligence analyst, 75th Ranger Regiment, was presented the prestigious Command Sgt. Maj. Doug Russell Award at the conference.

Command Sgt. Maj. Lawrence Haubrich, command sergeant major, U.S. Army Military Intelligence Cen-

ter and Fort Huachuca, said that this was the toughest competition he's had to judge.

"I lost sleep over this," he said. "It's unbelievable what our young Soldiers are doing out there."

The award is given annually to Soldiers of the rank sergeant and below to recognize outstanding achievements within the military intelligence community.

Retired Command Sgt. Maj. Doug Russell presented the award to Sheldon.

Sheldon also received the Knowlton Award at the ceremony, which was presented by retired Command Sgt. Maj. Sterling McCormick. The Knowlton Award is

given to Soldiers who have contributed significantly to the promotion of Army intelligence.

Sheldon said he felt very honored to receive the awards and gave credit to those Soldiers he has learned from and those that he works with.

"Everything I've learned, I owe to the guidance of NCOs," he said. "Anyone I work with could stand up here instead of me."

When asked if he had any advice for other MI Soldiers, Sheldon said, "Do your job and be as professional as possible. Just get the mission done."

Anniversary of Hussein's attack on Iraqis reminds world of evil intent

BY DONNA MILES
AMERICAN FORCES PRESS SERVICE

Sixteen years ago Tuesday, 5,000 innocent Iraqi civilians perished under a barrage of mustard gas; nerve agents sarin, tabun and VX; and possibly cyanide.

The brutal attack, launched by their own government, earned Saddam Hussein the

dubious distinction of becoming the first world leader in modern times to have used chemical weapons on his own people.

The victims of the attack were residents of Halabja, 150 miles northeast of Baghdad and just south of the Iranian border. Three-quarters of them were women and children.

The chemical attacks on what has come to be known as "Bloody Friday" were the most

unmerciful during a three-day assault that also included artillery fire and bombs dropped by Iraqi warplanes. As many as 12,000 people died during those three days.

The U.S. State Department reported that the attacks, part of Saddam's al-Anfal campaign, were aimed at repressing Kurdish revolts during the Iran-Iraq war.

But State Department

officials said Saddam's goals were to do more than systematically terrorize and exterminate the Kurdish population in northern Iraq and to silence his critics — he also wanted to test the effectiveness of his chemical and biological weapons.

Following the attack, Iraqi soldiers in protective gear

See IRAQ, Page 6



Service News

Navy ups operational capability, availability

At a March 10 Senate Appropriations Defense Subcommittee hearing, Chief of Naval Operations Adm. Vern Clark told senators the Navy is accelerating investment in Sea Power 21 to ensure the Navy Marine Corps team remains the preeminent naval force in world.

The CNO said the Navy will invest in the technology and the Sailors who will employ it—America's asymmetric advantages. Clark also said the Navy will produce the right readiness at the right cost, while being able to deploy more of the force faster in support of the Fleet Response Plan.

Boxer hosts reception in Goa, India

USS Boxer (LHD 4) held a reception aboard the ship March 9 during the first night of a four-day visit to Port Mormugao. Boxer is the first U.S. ship to visit Goa.

The reception was held for 120 distinguished visitors from the U.S. consulate and other local agencies, including the Indian navy. The reception provided an opportunity for the guests and Boxer Sailors to reinforce the bonds of friendship between India and the United States.

Naval Reserve units deploy to Persian Gulf

More than 350 Sailors and Coast Guardsmen making up Reserve units of Naval Coastal Warfare Group 1 left Naval Air Station North Island for the Persian Gulf March 7.

The command will be on an eight-month deployment as part of the Operation Iraqi Freedom rotation of forces.

Pearl Harbor-based cruiser returns home

USS Port Royal (CG 73) returned home to Pearl Harbor March 11 following a six-and-a-half month deployment with Expeditionary Strike Group (ESG) 1.

The 350 crew members assigned to Port Royal returned to "the Navy's best homeport" following operations in support of Operations Enduring Freedom and Iraqi Freedom.

SWAMI searches Fort Hase beach

Researchers from Science and Technology International dug in deep at Fort Hase Beach aboard MCB Hawaii, Kaneohe Bay, recently for the advanced testing of a new mine-finding apparatus, which allows for airborne reconnaissance and recognition of mine fields and other hidden dangers that could await American troops in times of conflict.

The SWAMI (scalable wind arc multi-spectral imager) is an optical device that, when mounted to the bottom of an aircraft such as a helicopter, is designed to identify both colors, patterns and irregular shapes that could mean danger to U.S. forces - without troops getting close enough to be put in danger.

Women Marines celebrate 61 years

It all started on Aug. 13, 1918, in Washington, D.C. with Opha Mae Johnson answering the call to "Free a Man to Fight" during World War I. Three hundred and five women joined the Marines to serve until they were disbanded in July, 1919.

In November, 1942 the Women Marines Reserve was approved, and on June 12, 1948, Congress passed the Women's Armed Services Integration Act and made women a permanent part of the regular Marine Corps.

This historical event was remembered on March 5, as the Woman Marines of Okinawa came together to celebrate their 61st anniversary at the Butler Officer's Club.

Joint-range extension linking global network

An Electronic Systems Center-developed product, now deployed in operational theaters worldwide, is linking information cells together into a global network to give warfighters broader communication ability.

Joint-Range Extension is a hardware and software system that receives information transmitted on a tactical data link in a particular area of operations and forwards that information to another tactical data link terminal beyond the line of sight.

AF helps leaders help those in distress

Leaders throughout the Air Force are receiving a new tool this spring they can use to recognize and respond to people in distressing situations.

Every squadron commander and first sergeant will get a CD copy of the "Leader's Guide to Managing Personnel in Distress," an interactive product that provides general information, summaries of policy and checklists on 35 topics relating to distress.

CSM, from Page 1

ployed to Iraq and is set to return next year.

Hernandez said he would like to talk to other sergeants major about the level of difficulty they face in theater and the areas they need to concentrate on to make changes.

Hernandez said the basic problems in theater are movement and communication.

"I want to make sure we address the personnel shortage and how to bridge the gap between technology and the usage of technological advances,"

Hernandez said. He said there is a lot of technology available, but the Army has a hard time to make it practical.

"We can't keep up with advances at the field level," Hernandez said. "We're relying on old technology to meet

today's demand on the battlefield."

McMillian said he hopes conference attendees go away with a better understanding that change is good. He said that without change, you cannot have progression into a better

MI corps and Army.

McMillian has been to 11 conferences during his extensive career in the intelligence field.

"Every time it's well-presented. Everyone leaves with more knowledge of the MI

Corps and how to better deal with problems and Soldier issues," McMillian said.

"The MI field is transforming like the rest of the Army. What's good for the Army is good for the MI Corps," McMillian said.

I've got issues

Diary of an AFAP delegate

BY PFC. JOY PARIANTE
SCOUT STAFF

Ever hear people complain that they don't have a voice? That they don't have an outlet for their concerns about life here on Fort Huachuca or about Army life in general? Well why weren't they taking part in the Army Family Action Plan conference last week?

Why didn't they drop their issue in one of the 20 boxes across post? It's that simple to get your thoughts on the podium, to make waves all the way up to the Department of the Army level. Your issues, your ideas, can change policies Armywide.

I was assigned to write an article about AFAP about two months ago. I had no idea what AFAP was, and after interviewing and researching I realized that it was a great program that provided a forum for discussion of Army issues that directly affect readiness and morale. I decided I wanted to be a part of the process, so I decided to be a delegate. AFAP delegates discuss issues submitted from the post community, clean them up and present them to the post for action to be taken.

At the welcoming briefing, people spoke about how wonderful it is that we're all participating and what a great thing we're about to be involved in and associated with. When you consider that the Exceptional Family Member Program, Better Opportunities for Single Soldiers and increased Servicemen's Group Life Insurance are some of AFAP's great achievements, you could definitely say we're a part of something big.

The issues you choose to represent could mean Armywide, even militarywide changes to the way servicemembers live, work and play.

The goal of AFAP is "to serve as a catalyst for change, not a forum for complaint." Delegates from all walks of life and from all ranks and status of the Army family separated into work groups, and we sat and discussed issues from the boxes and issues we brainstormed within our group. We narrowed the choices down to the three we found most important. Then subject matter experts from directorates across post talked with us to give us guidance on the ins and outs of every subject.

After countless drafts and rewrites, the group decided that an issue was being presented as eloquently and powerfully as possible. The key is to use impact words to stress the importance of your point. Words such as devastating, forced, damaging and compromising get the point across. You also have to use two very important Soldier words – morale and welfare – because that's the whole point of all these issues, to improve the morale and welfare of the total Army family.

On the final day of the conference, issues were presented for Maj. Gen. James "Spider" Marks, commanding general, U.S. Army Intelligence Center and Fort Huachuca. Some of our issues will be solved at a post level, and it will be great to see things that really bother the community being taken care of. Others will travel with a team of delegates to Training and Doctrine Command to be reviewed and possibly solved. If they can't be solved there, the delegates take their issues up to DA for policy changes to be made.

Many people who have been involved in AFAP for awhile say that it makes a difference. They vehemently believe it because they've seen issues through to completion. I've only seen the beginnings and I'll say I'm a believer.

Conference unveils new AFAP issues

BY PFC. JOY PARIANTE
SCOUT STAFF

Fort Huachuca held its 2004 Army Family Action Plan issues conference March 9–11 at the Main Post Chapel.

Delegates were separated into issue groups and, based on ideas from the AFAP issue boxes on post and group brainstorming, each group chose three issues related to their group topic.

The 2004 Fort Huachuca AFAP issues are:

Middle School

ISSUE: Fort Huachuca needs a roller rink/café

SCOPE: Currently, Fort Huachuca offers one facility for teen activities after school, on weekends, and summer but no building is dedicated to roller-skating. This service is not offered in the area.

RECOMMENDATION:

1. Renovate an existing facility scheduled for demolition (i.e. gym or bowling alley) to accommodate a roller rink.
2. Incorporate roller rink into the existing plans for a bowling alley and new MWR facility.

ISSUE: Smith Middle School uniforms

SCOPE: Because the uniform brand policy at Smith Middle School is so strict, an enormous amount of time and energy is spent enforcing the policy and assigning detention to students who violate it. Students should be allowed the freedom of choice to reduce behavioral problems.

RECOMMENDATION:

1. Allow any brand of pants as long as they are khaki, black, or navy blue and within the dress code.
2. Designate every other Friday casual dress for students who have not received detention.

ISSUE: Smith Middle School behavior program

SCOPE: Currently the behavior sheet system is arbitrary in nature and does not allow the student a chance to explain the situation. There are no written standards for teachers to uniformly penalize students. Often students are punished if they ask why their behavior sheets are signed. This causes favoritism, inconsistencies, and confusion among students.

RECOMMENDATION:

1. Inform students in the handbook at the beginning of the year for which specific infractions a student can get their sheet signed.
2. Modify the behavior sheet to allow a space for students to provide an explanation.
3. Develop a more specific teacher behavior sheet checklist, which specifies what the infraction was and what rules outlined in the handbook were violated when assigning detention.

High School

ISSUE: Teen employment on post

SCOPE: There are not enough job opportunities on post for military connected teens. Currently Army/Air Force Exchange Service and Non-Appropriated Funds have a combined workforce of approximately 560 on Fort Huachuca. Out of that, only 17 are teen employees.

RECOMMENDATION:

1. Create an employment board made up of post employers and teen representatives that have quarterly meetings to discuss teen employment.
2. Set an overall percentage goal for teen employment on post.
3. Reactivate and fund cooperative education programs at the high school, junior college and college levels.

ISSUE: Communication among Buena High School, parents, and students

SCOPE: Communication continues to be overlooked between BHS, parents, and students. As a result of failed communication, parents and students are not informed of school calendar events, causing frustration between all parties involved.

RECOMMENDATION: Advertise information such as calendar events, sports, information and meetings between 3-6 p.m. on Buena Television and on the Commander's Access Channel.

ISSUE: Youth hunting program

SCOPE: There is no stand-alone program on Fort Huachuca for hunting skills. Youth need the opportunity to learn to hunt. This would promote more interest in hunting on post.

RECOMMENDATION:

1. Establish a youth hunting program.
2. Designate tags for youth.
3. Designate specific times for youth only hunting.

Youth Services, Education

ISSUE: Childcare availability for children 24 months and younger

SCOPE: Care for children under 24 months at Family Childcare, Child Development Center, and within the local community is insufficient. Childcare non-availability negatively affects the military mission and retention due to priority one families without sufficient child care.

RECOMMENDATION:

1. Encourage growth of FCC.
2. Increase funding for additional facilities.
3. Increase awareness of childcare needs in local community.

ISSUE: Flat rate childcare fee

SCOPE: Childcare fee categories, which are based on total family annual income, vary eight to 10 percent for the same childcare services. As of now, the differential between fee categories is unreasonable and inequitable.

Childcare fees need to be recalculated to ensure equitable costs via a standardized percentage of total family income across all categories.

RECOMMENDATION:

1. Revise fee schedules based on standard percentage of actual basic allowance for housing, basic allowance subsistence, and base pay, not to exceed the current cap.
2. Maintain additional child discount as 10 percent.

ISSUE: School bus safety

SCOPE: Children's safety is at risk while on school buses. Ongoing alleged illegal activities such as assault, theft, and drug use cause an unsafe environment that negatively affects learning and quality of life. Parents, school districts, and post are concerned about middle school and high school students' safety.

RECOMMENDATION:

1. Institute chaperone program.
2. Install cameras on buses.
3. Inform parents and students of school bus policies and enforce consequences.

Medical, Dental

ISSUE: Army health centers

SCOPE: AHC cannot adequately support the emergency and full medical needs of all components of the total Army family at their installations. The AHC provides limited outpatient clinical and surgical services, and specialty care, which are not adequately supplemented by off installation health services in the immediate vicinity of the installation.

RECOMMENDATION:

1. Send this issue to Medical Command.
2. Establish fully functioning hospitals with emergency room and limited inpatient services at each installation servicing 26,000 Tricare enrolled members to accommodate the total mili-

AFAP, from Page 4

tary community, when adequate off post care is unavailable within 50 miles of the installation.

ISSUE: Exceptional Family Member Program services

SCOPE: EFMP members are not receiving services they require in a timely manner. The special needs advisor does not have the authority to coordinate all resources such as medical, housing, transportation, education, and psychiatric services.

RECOMMENDATION:

1. Establish an EFMP team with one stop service that has the authority over all EFMP resources such as medical, housing, transportation, education, and psychiatric services.
2. Appoint an EFMP representative at the battalion level as a liaison between EFMP member and the EFMP team.
3. Train unit EFMP representatives in accordance with Army Regulation 608-75.

ISSUE: Respite care

SCOPE: Respite care funding for active duty families is not provided. Every Army family may be confronted with the need to utilize respite care. Without funding, this valuable service cannot be provided, resulting in degraded unit readiness, retention in the military and overall quality of life.

RECOMMENDATION: Establish funding at installation level and include respite care requirements in the directorate of Morale, Welfare, and Recreation budget.

Benefits, Entitlements

ISSUE: Chargeable military leave

SCOPE: Currently military members, while on leave, are charged for non-duty days, which include weekends and federal holidays. However, Department of Army civilians use their earned leave only toward missed workdays, not weekends or federal holidays. This policy negatively affects retention rates because it lowers morale by forcing Soldiers to lose earned leave.

RECOMMENDATION:

1. Change AR 600-8-10, chapters four and 12 to make non-duty days exempt from chargeable leave.

ISSUE: Chargeable emergency leave

SCOPE: Under current policy, emergency leave is deducted from accrued leave. This has a negative effect on emotionally distressed Soldiers forcing them to withdraw leave time, usually used for trips and activities, to deal with the death or illness of a loved one.

RECOMMENDATION:

1. Change AR 600-8-10 to make emergency leave days exempt from chargeable leave.

ISSUE: Permissive temporary duty for house hunting

SCOPE: By current policy, 10 days of permissive temporary duty are authorized for Soldiers. It will, however, be terminated earlier with the signing of a lease or rental agreement. This does

not allow time to move in, activate utilities, enroll children in school, and fully establish a household. This forces the Soldier to take time away from the mission of the Army to accomplish household setup.

RECOMMENDATION:

1. Change AR 600-8-10 to allow the full 10 days of Permissive Temporary Duty for household setup.

Housing, transportation

ISSUE: Pre-termination inspections to clear housing.

SCOPE: Due to the lack of mandatory on-site pre-inspections prior to cleaning, families are presented with items for repair or corrections that were not covered in the pre-termination briefing/counseling. This causes delays in clearing quarters, costly additional re-inspection, delays to quarters turn around, and an inconvenience to the servicemember and family.

RECOMMENDATION:

1. Provide sufficient funding to implement mandatory pre-inspections.
2. Establish continuity by having the same agent perform pre-inspection and



"I thought the most important issue was the one about the Exceptional Family Member Program. People said that families were having trouble getting things like medical care and that's a really big issue if you have a child with a handicap."

Spc. Kristina Baker, Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 11th Signal Brigade AFAP delegate

final inspection.

ISSUE: Fences for government quarters

SCOPE: Currently there are numerous houses that do not have fences. Housing supplies fencing materials from

houses that are being demolished, but this supply is insufficient to meet occupants' demands for fencing. Lack of fencing is a safety, liability, and privacy issue for all servicemembers and their families. Soldiers who wish to provide security for their families by adding a fence must do so at partial or full expense.

RECOMMENDATION:

- 1) Provide fencing material through self-help at no cost to servicemember.
- 2) Incorporate fences in future housing structures.

Soldier support

ISSUE: Financial responsibility training and counseling

SCOPE: Army Regulation 600-8-101 covers mandatory processing requirements, but does not address financial responsibility training and counseling. Due to an inadequate level of financial responsibility training/counseling conducted prior to Soldier movement, Soldiers are either not providing adequate financial support to their families, or are not meeting their financial obligations.

RECOMMENDATION:

1. Change AR 600-8-101, Paragraph 1-6, 2-3, 3-2, 4-1, 5-4, and 6-6, to require mandatory financial responsibility training and counseling for Soldiers, and make available to family members.
2. Implement financial worksheet as part of in-processing, out-processing, pre-deployment, and post-deployment to identify Soldier's financial obligations.

ISSUE: Scheduled family services, programs and classes

SCOPE: Most Army Community Services and installation Soldier and/or family members support services, programs, and classes are only available during the duty day. Due to the Soldiers' work schedules they are unable to attend programs or classes such as parent university, budgeting, or tax preparation service. Soldiers and/or family members miss out on these important educational tools and community building events.

RECOMMENDATION:

1. Change Army Community Services and installation family and educational program and classes to accommodate after duty/weekend programs.
2. Ensure that the modified schedule is widely disseminated and advertised to include the Huachuca Scout and the Commander's Access Channel.

ISSUE: Barracks security barriers

SCOPE: The ineffective barriers surrounding the barracks have created security issues by limiting parking. Current barrier placement forces Soldiers to park in distant, unlit, and unauthorized areas around the barracks. This impacts the safety of Soldiers, civilians, and family members who have business there.

RECOMMENDATION:

1. Review current policies regarding barriers around barracks.
2. Remove the ineffective barriers or provide adequate, safe alternate parking.



"I think the most important issue from this year's AFAP conference is getting a hospital here on Fort Huachuca."

Linda Mosely, Victim Advocacy Coordinator, Army Community Services AFAP facilitator

Family services

ISSUE: One-stop family in-processing center

SCOPE: Currently there is no centralized in-processing center for family members. Many family member services are in need of classrooms, conference rooms, and child care facilities which are currently not available.

RECOMMENDATION:

1. Design, fund, and build a facility large enough to accommodate all programs.
2. Utilize an existing structure with adequate space in a centralized location.

ISSUE: Military family eligibility for supplemental subsistence programs

SCOPE: Military families are not qualifying for supplemental subsistence programs because basic allowance for subsistence and basic allowance for housing are included as income when calculating eligibility requirements. With the exclusion of BAS and BAH, military families would qualify for programs such as women infants and children, food stamps, and family supplemental subsistence allowance.

RECOMMENDATION:

1. Do not include allowance for food and allowance for housing when determining eligibility for subsistence.
2. Increase the federal poverty threshold level for military families.

ISSUE: Directory of free/discounted services

SCOPE: Currently there is no Fort Huachuca/Sierra Vista directory available to servicemembers and their families for free/discounted services such as local military discounts, education, food, and financial assistance. Due to lack of information provided to Soldiers and their

family members, available discounts are not fully utilized.

RECOMMENDATION:

1. Create a consolidated directory containing all available discounted/free services.
2. Publish and distribute a directory online and within the welcome packet.

Consumer services

ISSUE: Common table authorization-50 items

SCOPE: Manufacturers are not producing adequate numbers to meet demand of military issue items. Issue and sale of personal clothing limits the number of manufacturers authorized to produce Table Authorization-50 items. Due to shortages, Soldiers cannot meet regulation uniform wear requirements or get a full CTA-50 issue.

RECOMMENDATION: Change AR 700-84 to allow multiple manufacturers for each item.

ISSUE: Force protection stand-off distance

SCOPE: Force protection stand-off distance implementation seems to be excessive and arbitrary. Stand-off distance used for Fort Huachuca, as mandated by UFC-40-10-10, is 87 feet. The stand-off distances at the post exchange, commissary and Raymond W. Bliss Health Center exceed this standard. These increased distances adversely affect persons with mobility issues.

RECOMMENDATION:

1. Open curb side drop off/pick up zone at facilities affected.
2. Re-evaluate stand-off distance.
3. The stand-off distance needs to reflect the current force protection condition.

ISSUE: Morale, Welfare and Recreation funding

SCOPE: Currently MWR programs that are authorized appropriated funds are not funded 100 percent. Installations are forced to use non-appropriated funds to operate programs that should be receiving appropriated funds. As a result it causes an overall shortage of funds.

RECOMMENDATION: Fully fund all MWR programs which are authorized appropriated funds.

Employment/civilians work group

ISSUE: Department of the Army civilians Army Air Force Exchange Service benefits

SCOPE: DA civilians are equally important to the Army's mission; however, currently they are not afforded equal AAFES privileges. At the discretion of the post commander only necessity items are afforded. Allowing DA civilians unlimited AAFES privileges will increase AAFES sales resulting in increased revenue returned to each installation.

RECOMMENDATION: Change AR 60-20/AFR 147-14 to authorize unlimited AAFES privileges for

See AFAP, Page 7

Why did you choose to get involved with AFAP?



"It's a wonderful experience. It's a great way to implement changes in the military."

Pam Allen, Family Services Coordinator, Army Community Services AFAP facilitator



"My wife's been involved with AFAP for a couple of years at different places and she said I had good ideas and I should go."

Staff Sgt. Anthony J. Anderson, Company A, 309th Military Intelligence Battalion AFAP delegate



"I got involved because it was truly a way to make a difference not only for the Army but for the entire military."

Andrea Govern, AFAP and Army Family Team Building program coordinator



"I volunteered because I wanted to see some things changed for the Army family."

Staff Sgt. James Cummings, Headquarters and Headquarters Company, United States Army Garrison AFAP delegate

Community Updates

Range closures

Today – AC, AD, AL, AM, AR, AU, AW, T1, T1A, T2
 Friday – AC, AD, AL, AM, AR, AU, T1, T1A, T2
 Saturday – AC, AD, AM, AR, AU, T1, T1A, T2
 Sunday – AC, AD, AM, AR, AU
 Monday – AB, AC, AD, AE, AF, AG, AM, AR
 Tuesday – AB, AC, AD, AE, AF, AH, AK, AL, AM, AR, AW, T1, T1A, T2
 Wednesday – AB, AC, AD, AE, AF, AG, AH, AI, AK, AL, AM, AN, AP, AR, AW, T1, T1A, T2
 For more information call, 533-7095.

Relocation workshop

Smooth Move is a relocation workshop for first-tenners and their family members being held at 1:30 p.m., today at Army Community Service, Building 50010.

The workshop is designed to help ease the stress of making the first military move. For more information, call Pam Allen at 533-5919/2330.

Troops to teachers

Troops to Teachers is a federal program that assists eligible military personnel to transition to a new career as public school teachers in "high-need" schools.

To find out about TTT eligibility requirements and funding, Arizona teacher certification requirements and placement opportunities, come to a briefing at 9 a.m. Friday, Room 9 in the Army Education Center.

For more information, call Sue Collins, 1-800-830-2134.

Monthly meeting

The Cochise County Local Emergency Planning Committee's regular monthly meeting will be held at 1:30 p.m. Friday in Room 200 of the Science Building at Cochise College, 901 Colombo Street, in Sierra Vista. The public is invited to attend.

For more information, call Bob Bobar at 432-9550.

Military academies and ROTC answer day

Rep. Jim Kolbe's office will host a special event 10 a.m. – noon Saturday at St. Gregory Preparatory School, 3231 North Craycroft Rd., Tucson, for Southern Arizona high school students interested in applying to United States military academies and Reserve Officer Training Corps programs.

For more information, see Kolbe's Web site: www.house.gov/Kolbe or call Beverly Collier, Academy Coordinator, at (520) 881-3588.

AFTB Level II classes

Army Community Service will present Army Family Team Building Level II classes 5:30 - 9 p.m. Monday, Wednesday, March 29 and 31, and April 5 at Murr Community Center. AFTB Level II is a series of 19 classes, ranging from understanding Army life to enhancing leadership skills.

Call ACS at 533-2330 to sign up.

FRG concept training

Starting this month, ACS will begin conducting "concept block" training for Family Readiness Groups. This month's training will consist of Introduction to Effective Leadership and Meeting Man-

MACIAS from Page 1

in Agua Prieta, Mexico, on Oct. 21, and Macias returned to Fort Huachuca with them voluntarily.

While on the stand, Macias said he was aware of all the Army regulations he admitted to violating.

"As a Soldier, it's my duty to obey every regulation bestowed upon me," Macias said.

Macias told the court about the events of Oct. 3, in which he discussed sexual fantasies with a female student, who was ranked as a private. On Oct. 4, Macias said he ended up in a classroom with another woman, and began kissing her and eventu-

ally having sex with her.

The Soldier who saw the two told authorities, according to court testimony.

Macias said he "had a gut feeling" that someone was watching, but heard only minimal noise.

Macias also said that between Sept. 29 and Oct. 6, he used methamphetamine about six times. Macias said he went to Mexico last October because he "was frustrated by what was happening," and needed to clear his head by working on a music compact disc. He told the court that he had forgotten about CQ duties.

During that time, Macias said he had a

IRAQ from Page 3

returned to Halabja to study the effectiveness of their attack. According to State Department officials, the soldiers divided the city into grids to study the number and location of the dead and the extent of injuries. How the Iraqi dictator intended to use this information was anyone's guess.

During last year's 15th annual commemoration of the tragedy, President Bush called the attacks at Halabja a prime example of the evil Saddam Hussein perpetrated during his regime.

The attack on Halabja was not an isolated incident, but rather, part

of a systematic campaign ordered by Saddam against Iraqi Kurdish civilians. Halabja was among about 250 villages targeted by the Iraqi government between April 1987 and August 1988. Human Rights Watch estimates that Iraqi forces killed 50,000 to 150,000 people

during the campaign.

Mike Amitay, executive director of the Washington Kurdish Institute, said Halabja spells out some important lessons to the world.

"After the events of Sept. 11 and the subsequent anthrax crisis, it is clear that no one is immune from

weapons of mass destruction," he said. "The people of Iraqi Kurdistan represent the largest civilian population ever exposed to such weapons. The benefit to the international community from learning about their experiences is incalculable."

CULTURES from Page 3

started, we became aware that the U.S. might have a presence there for some time," Watson said. "If you provide information on the culture, Soldiers will better understand why people act or pray as they do. It [cultural awareness] is not a new thing, but we're kicking it up a notch."

"We're trying to win the hearts and minds of people and mitigate the opposition," said George Wheat, branch chief for officer course design and development at USAIC. "Hopefully, you also win over some of the opposition and show them there's a better way to do

things. Not necessarily the American way, but maybe within their culture.

"We're all Soldiers, and every Soldier has a responsibility when it comes to interacting with the public," Wheat said.

He added that there are numerous examples of Soldiers doing things to build favor with the Iraqi people, including spending time with children in the classroom, or donating much-needed school supplies."

Remily said the U.S. military is doing a pretty good job when it comes to producing Soldiers who are sensitive to other cultures, but "we

need to further increase our language fluency levels to a '3-3' level [when someone can fully converse in a foreign language]."

Watson said that U.S. efforts to better understand the Iraqi people are improving every day. The first class of Arabic interpreters at Fort Huachuca graduated Friday and 99 percent of those, he added, will be deployed to Iraq.

Dr. George Van Otten, dean of training for USAIC, originally developed the 30- to 40-hour block of training.

When Lt. Gen. William S. Wallace was visiting the fort, Watson and others briefed

him on the program. Wallace wanted to see the program used at other TRADOC schools.

When the post USAIC started doing research, it received numerous e-mails, offering advice, from other military facilities.

Walt Crossman, chief of enlisted training development, said that training includes taking a simple subject, such as geography, and stressing how it affects those serving in other nations.

Crossman added that to make training worthwhile, a program should have a wide variety of people in it, including civilians and

by March 29.

ASP closure

The Installation Ammunition Supply Point will be closed for quarterly inventory March 29 - 31. For emergencies, call Manny Bringas at 533-2512, or Jose Fierros at 533-3617 or 266-2959.

Fort Huachuca welcomes newcomers

The Huachuca Welcome, a newcomer's orientation, is scheduled for 9 a.m. March 30 at Murr Community Center. The orientation will provide information to make the transition to Fort Huachuca a smooth one for spouses and family members. Information about school and youth programs, health care services, employment assistance programs and more will be provided.

Register by March 29 by calling ACS at 533-2330.

Korea orientation

Army Community Service is offering a Korea orientation 6 p.m. April 1 at Murr Community Center for Soldiers and family members going to Korea for the first time. Register no later than March 30 by calling ACS at 533-2330.

For more information, call Pam Allen at 533-5919/2330.

Scholarships available

The Fort Huachuca Community Spouses Club is offering scholarships to high school seniors. The scholarships are open for college, vocational and trade schools and for continuing education. Applications are due April 1.

For more information, call 439-4402.

Main gate construction

Construction at the main gate is scheduled to begin April 5 and last approximately one week. This work is needed to build the turn lane into the new shopette, currently being built. Traffic may be down to one lane inbound and one lane outbound. Post officials recommend that employees and post visitors use the east gate during construction work if possible.

Scholarship available

Application forms for the \$1000 Shirley Hinkley Scholarship are available at Buena High School and the Fort Huachuca Thrift Shop. All applications must be postmarked no later than April 6.

For more information, call 458-4606.

Road work

The Contract Management Division of the Directorate of Installation Support is repairing driveways in Deanza Village and repairing Meyer Street between H Avenue and Rucker Street. Construction is expected to be finished by April 9. Housing occupants will be able to have vehicular access to their quarters during construction.

For more information, call 533-1443.

Toilet rebate

Sierra Vista residents who have owned their homes prior to 1994 and who want to replace older toilets with low water flow toilets may qualify for toilet rebates. Those who apply and are selected could receive up to \$200 to replace two toilets.

For more information, call Marge Petrillo at 458-5775.



Stopping terrorism – a year at war



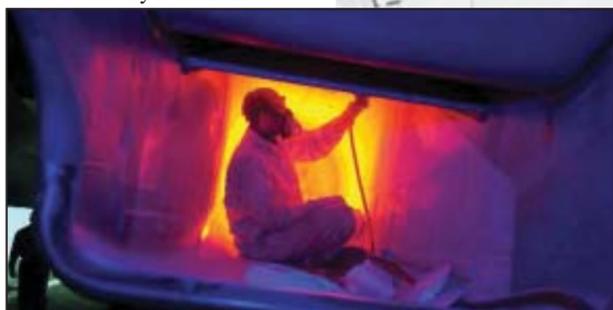
Photo by Airman 1st Class Brandi Branch

Senior Airman Hugh Butler waits after marshaling in a U-2 Dragon Lady returning from a flight supporting Operation Enduring Freedom on Feb. 5. The U-2 is a high-altitude, multi-intelligence reconnaissance aircraft that can fly above 70,000 feet.

BY SGT. 1ST CLASS DOUG SAMPLE

AMERICAN FORCES PRESS SERVICE

On the one-year anniversary of the war in Iraq, Defense Secretary Donald H.



U.S. Navy photo by Photographers Mate 1st Class Brien Aho

Aviation Structural Mechanic 3rd Class Hezekiah Crandall, of Chicago, uses an air-powered sander in the intake of an F-14B Tomcat assigned to the "Pukin' Dogs" of Fighter Squadron One Four Three (VF-143) in the hangar bay of USS George Washington (CVN73).

Rumsfeld told television viewers Sunday he stands behind the president's decision to go to war, although weapons of mass destruction, one of the justifications for the invasion, have not been found.

Rumsfeld, appearing on the CBS program "Face The Nation" with Bob Schieffer, said that he still believes the war with Iraq was "the right thing to do," and that he's glad "it is done."

The secretary told Schieffer the U.S.-led coalition helped liberate 25 million Iraqi people from a vicious regime and decades of repression, death squads, mass graves and mass killings.

He said Iraq was a country that used chemical weapons on its own people and fired ballistic missiles into several neighboring countries. "It's a good thing they're gone," he said of Saddam Hussein and his regime.

Rumsfeld said the United States and United Nations offered Iraqi leader Saddam several opportunities to comply with U.N. resolutions and avoid war, but "he chose war."

"There were 17 U.N. resolutions, there was unanimous agreement that he had filed a fraudulent declaration," Rumsfeld said. "The final opportunity was given with the last resolution, and he didn't take it."

The secretary said other countries with nuclear weapons knew the right thing to do. "(Saddam) didn't do what Kazakhstan did, he didn't do what South Africa did, and he didn't do what Ukraine did. He didn't say, 'Come in and look, and see what we have.' He was engaged in active deception. We'll ultimately know a great deal about what took place," he said.

Later Sunday during an interview with Wolf Blitzer on "CNN

Late Edition," the secretary again defended his stance on the war.

Although no weapons of mass destruction have yet been found, the secretary noted that Iraq is a country the size of California, and that biological and chemical weapons could have been hidden just about any place.

"You could have hidden enough

biological weapons in the hole that we found Saddam Hussein in to kill tens of thousands of people," Rumsfeld said. "So it's not as though we have certainty today." The secretary said there is a team of about 1,200 people still in Iraq trying to determine "what really took place."

Despite violence including this weekend's deadly attacks in



Photo by Lance Cpl. John E. Lawson Jr.

Seaman Luis Fonseca, a corpsman with 2nd Battalion, 8th Marines, examines an Afghan child's ears during a medical civil affairs program at an Afghanistan hospital.



Photo by Staff Sgt. Charles B. Johnson

Soldiers conduct a dismounted patrol in Al Fallujah, Iraq. The detachment is composed of Soldiers from the 346th Psychological Operations Company and paratroopers of the 82nd Airborne Division's Company B, 1st Battalion, 505th Parachute Infantry Regiment.

which six U.S. Soldiers were killed, U.S. efforts in the Middle East over the past year have been worth the risks, Rumsfeld said. The war, he added, is putting pressure on terrorists in both Afghanistan and Iraq, is an "advance for freedom" and is "clearly making the world a safer place."

Rumsfeld offered condolences to the families of those killed by terrorist bombs March 11 in Madrid, Spain, calling the attack that left some 200 dead a "tragic event." The secretary said that although he has no intelligence that would give "clarity" as to who or what organization was responsible for the attack, he did say that there seem to be growing connections among terrorist organizations.

AFAP, from Page 5

DA civilian employees in CONUS.

ISSUE: Employment readiness program

SCOPE: All members of the total Army family need to be made aware of employment programs offered on Fort Huachuca and the surrounding area. In addition, local employers need to be made aware of existing post employment assistance programs.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Co-locate all on-post employment services.
2. Promote employment readiness program through post resources such as a prominent link on the Fort Huachuca Web site, a permanent advertisement in the Fort Huachuca Scout and incorporating the ERP into the in-processing briefings.
3. Promote the program to outside/local employers.

ISSUE: Retired civilian identification cards

SCOPE: Retired civilian employees are currently not issued an official identification. This causes difficulty in

gaining access to on-post Morale, Welfare and Recreation facilities which retired civilians are entitled to use.

RECOMMENDATION: Require Defense Enrollment Eligibility Reporting Systems to include retired DA civilians so that they can be issued identification cards.

Retiree Services

ISSUE: Early retirement plan

SCOPE: Soldiers with 14 to 17 years active duty service can request early retirement with reduction in pension at 15 to 18 years. Due to the Army's operation tempo, Soldiers are burning-out at faster rates of speed. This negatively affects the retention and morale of Soldiers.

RECOMMENDATION:

1. Apply same 20-year retirement plan criteria and prerequisites in accordance with AR 635-200 for the early retirement plan.
2. Based on the Army 20-year retirement plan, Soldiers are afforded the option to accept a lesser pension reduced

by 2.5 percent each year under 20-years.

3. The early retirement plan will stimulate recruiting and retention, while simultaneously enabling the Army to enhance and support effective force management.

ISSUE: Medical and dental annuity fund

SCOPE: Lack of appropriate funds for medical needs upon retirement. Soldiers may invest in a medical and dental annuity fund due to escalating out-of-pocket medical and dental expenses for retirees.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Allotment before taxes into fund and draws interest based on variable market rate.
2. Fund to be used in non-tax status. If removed for any reason other than medical or dental, there will be a gross penalty at the variable market rate of three to 12 percent as well as the current Internal Revenue Service tax rate.
3. Medical expenses would be paid directly from the medical and dental an-

nnuity fund to the billing agent.

Reserve/Guard work group

ISSUE: Medical insurance for reserve components and dependents

SCOPE: Availability of affordable group healthcare for reserve components and families is limited. Reservists are required to meet the same health standards as the active component, yet many Reservists are unemployed, self-employed, students, or work for companies that do not provide health insurance.

RECOMMENDATION:

1. Expand Tricare coverage to include Reserve component Soldiers and their family members.
2. Offer a medical insurance program similar to the Reserve component dental program.

ISSUE: Reserve component mobilization time period

SCOPE: Currently Reserve component Soldiers do not receive mobilization orders that clearly and accurately define the complete time period of ser-

vice.

RECOMMENDATION:

1. Issue mobilization orders in a format similar to Format 400, AR 600-8-105.
2. Mobilize Soldiers for two years with the provision of "unless sooner released from proper authority."

ISSUE: Display of the department of defense/installation vehicle decal

SCOPE: The requirement to display DoD/installation decals that are permanently affixed to vehicles positively identifies all DoD service members, civilians, contractors, and retirees. The decal also identifies installation and rank. This could potentially target personnel by terrorist, negatively affect force protections, and is a deterrent to Homeland Security.

RECOMMENDATION:

1. Affix DoD decals to removable cards to be displayed in vehicle, when on an installation.
2. Eliminate DoD/installation decals.

WAR from Page 2

died in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom. It was someone's son, daughter, husband, wife, brother and sister. Those Americans gave the ultimate sacrifice serving our nation and also securing the freedom of the Iraqi people.

I was told once a warrior's life is a lonely time with little joy, little thanks and visions not too kind. I'd like to think those

brave warriors who died during this past year had their share of moments of joy, they've been thanked more than once for serving their country and they've envisioned many days of kindness. We must all remember, one year later, name by name of those Americans for they fought, they bled and they died.

"And they do it unhesitatingly." I've

told many Soldiers, "The Army isn't for everybody and everybody isn't for the Army." For those who serve our nation and are sent into harm's way, we all know there are no guarantees on the battlefield – except for death. When the American Soldier goes into the valley of the shadows of death, he goes unhesitatingly.

The American Soldier during the past year

in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom has done the nation proud. Mama might not understand why her son or daughter volunteers for deployment. The American Soldier can tell mama there are values like loyalty, duty, selfless service, honor, integrity and courage we all use and hold close to us. It is because of this we all share a common bond – unhesitatingly.

MAYOR from Page 1

munity wants," Allen said.

How effective the program will be will depend on the mayors, Allen said. Mayors could set up block parties, town hall meetings and other community functions, depending on where they want to take the program.

"It will be up to the mayors to make this program work," Allen said.

There are also incentives to volunteer as mayors, Allen said. Among the incentives offered will be one designated parking space at both the post exchange and the commissary for mayors, office space, computers for mayoral use, an Internet account, and free child care when the mayors are involved in official duties for the program, said Allen.

"This is just one avenue to enhance the quality of life for our families and Soldiers," Allen said. "This is one more way for information to be passed down from the commander to the family."

"We want to get the word out that this is an exciting program beneficial to everyone," Allen said.

Allen said this program has been

implemented on other posts and works well.

"This really will be a great program once it's set up and established," Allen said.

Training of the mayors is set for the first week of April. One responsibility of the mayors will be to attend monthly meetings with the unit spon-

sors and unit agencies involved in housing, Allen said. Ongoing training will also be available.

For more information or to volunteer for the program, call Allen at Army Community Services, 533-2330. Residents can also volunteer by contacting the area coordinator for their housing area.