

## Two Army nanosatellites launch on Atlas V



Courtesy Photo

A United Launch Alliance Atlas V rocket blasts off from Space Launch Complex-3 at Vandenberg Air Force Base, Calif., on Sept. 13 with two U.S. Army Space and Missile Defense Command/Army Forces Strategic Command nanosatellites on board. The SMDC nanosatellites were launched as part of the Army's continuing effort to provide low-cost, tactically responsive space capabilities through the use of small satellite technologies. This is the second launch of U.S. Army-built nanosatellites. SMDC is the Army lead for the small satellite program. For more information on the command's nanosatellites, visit the SMDC-ONE fact sheet at: <a href="http://www.smdc.army.mil/Fact-Sheets/SMDC-One.pdf">http://www.smdc.army.mil/Fact-Sheets/SMDC-One.pdf</a>.



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# **Hello World**

## Digital Eagle NewsWire Begins Beta Testing

Welcome to the Beta Edition of the new Eagle NewsWire! This digital newsletter will come to you via email twice a month as a digital file. It will also be posted on our public website which is linked to the Army's Home page. The newsletter will focus directly on human interest stories about the Soldiers, civilians, contractors, friends, and families doing our day-to-day business. If it is related to our space and missile defense story, we want to tell it.

We are one command with a diverse and talented workforce. We are a command spread across the globe providing highly technical capabilities. This creates a challenge in communicating in a way that is not fragmented or diffused. In today's communication environment, information is easily lost in the noise. We want readers to have something which they can freely share with their friends, families, and colleagues. This is somewhat available now with the ASJ and our social media outlet sites, but it misses the target.

So, we've combined three longtime public communication programs – the Eagle, our public website and social media effort, and Army Space Journal – into one streamlined command information effort. All three will continue to exist, but each with its special role. The ASJ will stay as a printed journal with detailed, more technical-type articles. This will create the brand image of our effort. The command public website and social media efforts will continue with the more immediate news feeds as they occur. And, finally, this new newsletter will package highlights to help deliver information more frequently.

We encourage each of you to forward our products to anyone who may have an interest to help others get an idea of what we are about. Since this is the re-introduction of the Eagle in a new way, we want you to have a say in our design. This is why we are calling this the Beta Edition to give you an opportunity to give us your thoughts on what we are doing before we go final with the effort. Our publication dates will be the first and third Thursdays of each month. Deadlines will be the preceding Fridays.

Please enjoy reading the pub — the team worked very hard on putting this Beta Edition together. Let us know what is going on in your world so that we can keep our publication current for you. Contact Carrie David with any articles, photographs or comments — please keep your unit PAO or stringer in the loop. Please take a look at this edition and let us know what we can do to make it better for you.

#### Mike Howard

Army Space Journal Editor-in-chief

# SMDC shows 'awesome' side of science to high schoolers

Carrie E. David **Public Affairs** 

REDSTONE

Ala. - The U.S. Army Space and Missile Defense Command/Army Forces Strategic

ARSENAL,

Command once again joined with other tenant organizations on Redstone Arsenal to show local area high school juniors the fun side of science.

During the all-day event, called Adventures in Engineering, on Sept. 26, the students were shuttled across the installation for briefings and demonstrations by various organizations including SMDC, NASA, the Missile Defense Agency, the Missile and Space Intelligence Center, and Aviation and Missile Research, Development, and Engineering Center, and even off the installation to the University of Alabama at Huntsville.

"Adventures in Engineering is a fantastic way for us to show the exciting opportunities the Army has for students," said third-year demonstrator Shannon Berry, operations and research analyst for SMDC's Future Warfare Center Innovative Ventures Office. "You don't have to wear a uniform to serve your country. That's one of the questions I get most often. I always emphasize how



Photo by Carrie E. David

Tammy Cottam, an aerospace engineer student in the Science Mathematics and Research for Transformation program who works in the U.S. Army Space and Missile Defense Command/Army Forces Strategic Command Concepts Analysis Lab at Redstone Arsenal, Ala., tells high school juniors during Adventures in Engineering day, Sept. 26, about working on space and science projects.

proud I am to serve my country and support the Warfighter while working in a field I love and doing things that are interesting and challenging. It's important to let these students know opportunities like the one I had are out there."

Stephanie Cleveland, an engineer in SMDC's Technical Center Concepts Analysis Lab, agrees.

"Adventures in Engineering is important for SMDC because it is growing our potential workforce," Cleveland said. "Government engineers and scientists tend to fall under a bad stereotype that is not appealing to younger generations. This gives SMDC an opportunity to change that stereotype and show students that SMDC can be a great place to work."

Cleveland, who has participated in the event for five years, said her favorite part of Adventures in Engineering is the excitement from the students.

"You can tell that many of the students view becoming an engineer or scientist as an unrealistic goal for their lives," Cleveland said. "When they see people not much older than themselves working on these amazing projects, they realize

See AIE on page 5

# NCO stops short of completing 100-mile Nijmegen march to aid fellow Soldier

**Mark Heeter** IMCOM Public Affairs

KAISERSLAUTERN, Germany - One hundred isn't such a big number.

"Until you actually start walking and feel it in your feet," said Spc. Nathaniel Stager, referring to the 100 miles in the military category of the Nijmegen March, a grueling four-day event held each summer in The Netherlands.

Stager, a satellite communications specialist assigned to Company C, 53rd Signal Battalion, joined Sgt. Matthew Felker, also with Charlie Company, and others from their unit for the march, July 19-23.

"Trying to finish that, the experience of fighting through the pain for Nijmegen was difficult," Felker said. "Being able to complete that is something that I really feel accomplished doing. Well, almost completed."

On the third day of the march, at about mile 65, something went wrong.

"I was just going and felt a pop in my knee. I thought I was going to be alright, and the pain just spread, and I just couldn't take it anymore -[I] just collapsed," Stager said.

"I didn't feel any initial pain at first. I can do this. I can keep going. I can finish this," he said.

#### NEVER LEAVE A FALLEN COMRADE

"Once he dropped out, and we realized he was going to be unable to finish, I personally stepped forward and said I'm going to stop now and stay with him. I'm not going to leave him in a foreign country by himself, going to the hospital, without



Photo by Mark Heeter, IMCOM

Sqt. Matthew Felker, right, stopped short of finishing the 100-mile Nijmegen March to aid Spc. Nathaniel Stager, who suffered a knee injury on day three of the four-day event. somebody there," Felker said.

The medal chance was gone. The right to say he did it was gone.

"I personally felt that I should not leave him," Felker recalled. "There was a medal at stake. There was all the pushing yourself to try to complete the experience of saying, 'Hey, I finished all 100 miles,' but at that point, I couldn't care less."

Felker returned the next day to finish, but only after having to carve 11 miles out of his total march to aid his Soldier.

"He knew exactly what to do. It was instinctual for him," said Capt. Jeffrey Keenan, the Soldiers' commander, adding that the incident illustrated how much leadership surrounds him in his unit. "It's there every day. They just need a moment.

"It was a wonderful confidence builder for me," Keenan said. "It's just so rewarding to have sergeants like him in my formation."

View SMDC's photos at <a href="https://www.flickr.com/armysmdc">www.flickr.com/armysmdc</a>

#### Carrie E. David **Public Affairs**

REDSTONE ARSENAL, Ala. - Representatives from Fox Army Health Clinic visited the U.S. Army Space and Missile Defense Command/Army Forces Strategic Command Sept. 25 to ensure Soldiers received their flu vaccine.

Maj. Debra Murray, chief of Preventive Medicine, and Sgt. Jerome Cone, medic, administered doses by both the shot and the nasal mist.

Active duty (A/D), National Guard, and Reservists (all services) can receive their flu vaccine 7-10 a.m., Oct. 22 and 1:30-3:30 p.m., Nov. 6, at Preventive Medicine, Fox Army Health Center.

Tricare Prime beneficiaries (A/D and their See Flu Shot on page 8



Photo by Carrie E. David

Maj. Mark Rowell, G-2 office, U.S. Army Space and Missile Defense Command/Army Forces Strategic Command, receives his flu shot from Sgt. Jerome Cone, medic, Fox Army Health Clinic, Sept. 25 at the command's Redstone Arsenal, Ala., location.

### Army stands down for suicide prevention awareness



Photo by DJ Montoya

Army Space Soldiers from the 1st Space Brigade and U.S. Army Space and Missile Defense Command/Army Forces Strategic Command operations participated in the U.S. Army-wide Suicide Stand Down Day activities at the auditorium on Peterson Air Force Base. Brig. Gen. Timothy Coffin, deputy commanding general for operations, addressed Soldiers and Department of Army civilians saying, "Today is an effort - one to build resilience within our formations and to give us individual tools as we go through the difficulties that life throws in our paths." The first part of the day covered suicide prevention training provided by chaplains from the 1st Space Brigade followed by a 'Terrain Walk' for Staff and unit leaders providing resources available in the local area. The final portion of the day was spent on Masters Resiliency Training.

## **Celebrating Hispanic heritage**



Photo by DJ Montoya

Soldiers from the 1st Space Brigade and U.S. Army Space and Missile Defense Command/Army Forces Strategic Command operations share an ethnic meal with John Salazar, Colorado Commissioner of Agriculture during the SMDC Hispanic Heritage Observance in the Training Room of Bldg. 3. Peterson Air Force Base, Colo., on the morning of Sept. 26. Seen here (left to right) are Lt. Col. Karen Roe, commander, 53rd Signal Battalion; John Salazar, and Col. Eric Henderson, chief, G33 Operations Division. 'Diversity United, Building America's Future Today', was this year's theme as was portrayed by Salazar's moving history of his family.



#### AIE continued from page 3\_

they can do the same."

Lindsay Ackridge, a junior at Buckhorn High School, said she enjoyed the demonstrations.

"I liked how they talked about how they analyze stuff and how it's hands-on," Ackridge said. "The demonstrations were really neat. I definitely want to major in engineering, and I would love to do something like that."

Kirsten Mullican, a junior at Hartselle High School, already knew she wanted to major in astrophysics, but said she really enjoyed the Simulation Center's demonstration.

"The 3-D printer was super awesome," she said. "It's really cool to be able to print a part to fix something that's broken and make it work again."

Cleveland and Berry both discuss some of the many entry points and scholarship programs available to math and science students in college. Berry advises students not to get tangled up trying to decide what to become.

"What I like to tell the students is that I'm a physicist employed as an analyst doing the work of an engineer," Berry said. "Any degree with a foundation in math, science, technology, or engineering can open up an array of possibilities with the Army and the government. You might not end up doing exactly what your degree is in, but that foundation in critical thinking is what's really important."

Cleveland's parting words to the students are to find what they love doing.

"The best advice I can give the students, is to figure out what they are passionate about, and then work hard to accomplish that dream," Cleveland said. "If you sit back and wait for life to just hand you opportunities, they will never come."

## SMDC family honored for volunteering

#### Amy Guckeen-Tolson USAG Redstone

#### REDSTONE ARSENAL,

Ala. – The Bertling family gives, so whether a Soldier gives some or all, their sacrifice never goes without a thank you.

The Bertling family – Sam, KC and their son Sam Jr. – has been selected as the Army Volunteer Family of the Year for the AUSA Redstone-Huntsville Chapter. They will compete for the national honor in October.

"We're nobody important or nobody special, but by being recognized in such a way, it shows the people that they can also do it too," KC said of the award. "If we can do it, they can do better. It's just an honor and a privilege to be an American, and it's by the expense of the other military members who sacrifice every day."

Providing service to both Soldiers and veterans has been a lifelong calling for the Bertlings, who not only support the Army in their volunteer work, but professionally as well.

Sam Sr. retired as a first sergeant from the Army in 1996 after more than 24 years of service, and both are Department of the Army civilians who currently work full time as program analysts at the U.S. Army Space and Missile Defense Command/Army Forces Strate-



Photo by Carrie E. David

From left, Association of the U.S. Army's Jim Rountree and Kris McBride present the Redstone-Huntsville Chapter's award to the Bertling family, Sam, KC and Sam Jr. The two video-teleconferencing screens in the background show SM-DC's Huntsville scene and Colorado Springs, Colo., scene.

gic Command.

They both actively volunteer with the Survivor Outreach Services program and Tragedy Assistance Program through Army Community Service. Sam Jr., who served in the Navy, is active in his community of Virginia Beach, Va., where he volunteers for Mothers Against Drunk Driving, the state governor's and senators offices, and at the city visitors center.

"The Bertling family has demonstrated their strong commitment to serving others and various veterans organizations through their highly involved community services," Jim Rountree, vice president, Army Family Programs, of the Redstone-Huntsville chapter, said. "They are all absolutely

passionate in their total support in these efforts. Their love for American values, and their obvious pride to be an Army family exemplifies their distinctive patriotism and love of country."

The family's list of volunteer efforts is extensive, and includes preparing and serving Thanksgiving and Christmas meals for Soldiers stationed at Hohenfels, Germany, where they were assigned in the 1990s, assisting in the days following the April 27, 2011, tornadoes and serving in various capacities at the churches in the communities where they have lived.

"We are very proud of KC, Sam and Sam Jr. and all the efforts that they have put in," Lt. Gen. Richard Formica, com-

See Bertlings on page 8

# Space course open for registration

The Army Space Cadre Basic Course is presented in two one-week phases. Phase 1 must be completed first, but the two phases do not have to be completed in consecutive weeks.

The ASCBC provides a fundamental understanding of space concepts and capabilities for the Army Space Cadre.

The two week ASCBC also fulfills the education requirements for the Basic Space Badge and Level 1 civilian space professional certification.

This course, or equivalent, is required for all U.S. Army Space and Missile Defense Command/Army Forces Strategic Command personnel (both phases for those in space cadre billets; Phase 1 for all others) within one year of joining the command.

<u>Upcoming course dates</u>

Huntsville - Phase 1, Dec. 3-7; Phase 2, Dec. 10-14 Colorado Springs – Phase 1, Dec. 3-7; Phase 2, Dec. 10-14 Colorado Springs – Phase 1, Jan. 7-11; Phase 2, Jan. 14-18 Interested personnel contact Jim Schlichting at James.A.Schlichting.civ@mail.

#### Flu Shot continued from page 5\_

family members, military retirees and their family members of all ages) with providers at FAHC will be offered flu shots during scheduled appointments beginning Oct. 1.

All other beneficiaries may receive shots as scheduled:

Oct. 13 (Sat) 7:30-11:30 a.m. at Fox Army Health Center (all ages)

Oct. 26 (Fri) 9 a.m.-1 p.m. at the Redstone Arsenal Commissary (adults only)

Nov. 7 (Wed) 4-6 p.m. at Fox Army Health Center (all ages)

Nov. 16 (Fri) 9 a.m.-1 p.m. at the Redstone Arsenal Commissary (adults only)

Flu shot screening forms and Vaccine Information Statements for adult and pediatric vaccines are available for printing from the Fox Army Health Center website at www.redstone.amedd.army.mil.

Adult and child screening forms and Vaccine Information Statements (VIS) for both mist and shots are located under the "Essential Links" tab on the right.

For more information, call 955-8888, x1441 or 1442.

#### Bertlings continued from page 7\_\_\_\_\_

mander of SMDC, said. "We're proud as can be that you have selected one of SM-DC's own to compete in October. Thank you for all you do on duty and off duty to support our Soldiers."

mil or (719) 554-1905.

Perhaps best known for her work with Korean War veterans, together with her husband, KC, a native of Korea, is best known for her work with Korean veterans, and established the Legacy 4 Korean War Veterans Foundation in January 2011.

The 501(c)3 not only supports the veterans at home in the Tennessee Valley, but raises funds to send any that are interested back to Korea for a week, where they are able to see how the country has changed as a result of their labors six decades ago.

"It's a great opportunity for nine Korean War veterans to go back and see what they actually did," Formica said.



www.facebook.com/armysmdc www.facebook.com/49thBattalionGMD www.facebook.com/USArmyKwajaleinAtoll 1st Space Brigade and 53rd Signal Battalion, HHC

### Irvine retires after 25 years



Photo by Carrie E. David

Ronald Chronister, deputy to the commander, U.S. Army Space and Missile Defense Command/Army Forces Strategic Command, congratulates Lt. Col. Marguerite Irvine, Future Warfare Center, on her retirement from the Army following a ceremony at the command's Redstone Arsenal, Ala., headquarters Sept. 28. Irvine retires after 25 years of service.

## Ramlakhan medically retires



Photo by Carrie E. David

Lt. Gen. Richard P. Formica, commanding general, U.S. Army Space and Missile Defense Command/ Army Forces Strategic Command, pins the Meritorious Service Medal on Sqt. Najeet Ramlakhan, enlisted aide, during his retirement at the command's Redstone Arsenal, Ala., location Sept. 17. Ramlakhan medically retires with 14 years of service.

## Davis retires after 37 years



Photo by Carrie E. David

Col. James Wetzel, deputy chief of staff G-2, U.S. Army Space and Missile Defense Command/Army Forces Strategic Command, presents newly retired John Davis' wife, Jane, with a three-star note from the commanding general during Davis' retirement Sept. 21 at the command's Redstone Arsenal, Ala., headquarters. Davis retires with 37 years of service.

## Gilbert retires after 34 years



Photo by Carrie E. David

Col. Bennie Pokemire, deputy chief of staff G-6, pins the Superior Civilian Service Award to Deborah Gilbert, an information management specialist, during her retirement at the command's Redstone Arsenal, Ala., location Sept. 28. Gilbert retired with 34 years of federal service.

# Tool integrates education, training

### **Army Civilian Training** and Leader Development Division, G-3/5/7

Army Career Tracker (ACT) is a leadership development tool that integrates training and education into one personalized, easy-to-use website. Users can search multiple education and training resources, monitor their career development and receive personalized advice from their leadership.

First implemented for enlisted Soldiers, ACT expanded to officers and Army civilians in the fall of 2011. All career programs - in addition to all enlisted and officer career management fields (of all active and Reserve components) -are scheduled to be in ACT by the end of 2012.

ACT allows users to:

- · View career related data in one online portal;
- · Examine personalized professional development models or career maps;
- · Receive recommendations from leaders, mentors and/or supervisors;
- · Identify the operational/ functional, institutional and leader development requirements in alignment with organizational mission and for progression in a professional career field; and

· Plan new activities designed to reach professional and personal goals.

ACT offers a roadmap to help civilians determine what they have to do to reach the highest levels in their career programs so they can put a plan in place to reach their goals.

Employees are encouraged to access ACT at least monthly to communicate with their leaders, supervisors and mentors about career development goals and obtain the latest news and information tailored to their career program and individual needs.

Users are also expected to use ACT to create and track their personal and professional career development goals. Users can search multiple education and training resources, monitor their career development and receive personalized advice from their leaders.

The system allows civilian and military supervisors and mentors to monitor their employees' goals and provide them developmental recommendations, notifications and career advice.

Supervisors will be able to view records for both their civilian and military employees. In addition, those civilians who also wear a uniform part time are able to view both records through the one system.

Part of the 2011 Army Campaign Plan, Army Learning Concept 2015 (ALC 2015) and the Civilian Workforce Transformation Initiatives. Army Career Tracker is managed by the U.S. Army Training and Doctrine Command.

The system leverages seven existing Army systems to capture and present career management data; it does not replace or eliminate current systems and programs.

## Army Career Tracker

https://actnow.army.mil

ACT training, simulations, frequently asked questions and a tutorial

https://www.us.army.mil/suite/page/601000 http://www.t3ac.army.mil/Pages/Army-Career-Tracker.aspx

## SATCON trades land for water

2nd Lt. Raena Guerrero Co. D, 53rd Signal Bn.

JOINT BASE PEARL HARBOR-HICKAM, Hawaii — Soldiers with Company D, 53rd Signal Battalion, 1st Space Brigade, (Satellite Control), U.S. Army Space and Missile Defense Command/ Army Forces Strategic Command, visited the guided-missile destroyer, USS Chung-Hoon, here, recently.

These Soldiers are satellite control operators who work at a Wideband Satellite Operation Center, or WSOC, in Wahiawa. Hawaii.

They monitor the entire space network and provide pertinent customer service to ensure all satellite communication missions are supported

in the Pacific theater.

When underway, Navy ships in the Pacific depend on Co. D, to ensure they get the satellite communications they have reauested.

This tour was scheduled so Soldiers could gain insight into the daily life of the telecommunications Sailors aboard a ship

Navy Lt. Peter Lesaca, combat systems officer, USS Chung-Hoon, led the tour.

"Guided-missile destroyers are multi-mission, anti-air warfare, anti-submarine warfare and anti-surface warfare surface combatants," Pelsaca explained.

When the USS Chung-Hoon is under attack, satellite communications provide capabilities for command and control,

intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance, he added.

After seeing the three levels of sleeping racks and a minimal amount of shower space, Spc. Ryan McNeal, Co. D, said, "I'll never complain about the barracks again!"

"This tour gave our satellite controllers working knowledge of the Warfighters' types of equipment and communication capabilities," said Staff Sgt. Jacob Hackenberg, operations noncommissioned officer, Co. D, "This becomes useful in improving our customer service. When operators see a satellite access authorization for a user like the USS Chong-Hoon, we now have personalized them and will continue to build working relationships."

## Army astronaut retires from active duty



Photo by Mike Howard

Brig. Gen. Timothy Coffin, deputy commanding general for Operations, U.S. Army Space and Missile Defense Command/Army Forces Strategic Command, presents retiring U.S. Army astronaut Col. Douglas H. Wheelock with a one-star note and coin for his 30 years of service to the nation. Wheelock was the first active-duty Army astronaut to command the International Space Station. In addition to being an ISS commander, he has also served as a mission specialist and flight engineer. Wheelock was also awarded the Legion of Merit medal for service as a NASA astronaut attached to SMDC.

# FRG gets renewed focus

Capt. Michael Odgers 100th Missile Defense **Brigade Public Affairs** 

#### **COLORADO** SPRINGS,

Colo. - In recent years, the 100th Missile Defense Brigade's Family Readiness Group hasn't been given the attention that it deserved. There wasn't enough money in its fund to help pay for functions and interest and support for the group had been waning.

However due to the enthusiastic efforts of volunteer spouses and members of Headquarters, Headquarters Battery the group has received a lot more attention as well as a lot more money in its coffers.

"The program is now financially afloat," remarked Capt. Ronald Bailey, HHB commander. "We went from having 200 dollars to over 2000 in our fund."

Several fund raising efforts, the largest of which was parking cars at the Colorado State Fair, have brought enough money to the fund to pay for a family picnic as well as well as a Christmas party and a Bowling and Pizza Party both scheduled for later this year.

We're a National Guard unit that doesn't reside on a post. "We have Soldiers that live as far south as Pueblo, and as far North as Aurora, "said Bailey.



Photo by Sgt. Benjamin Crane

Caden Weger enjoys the festivities during a 100th Missile Defense family picnic held at Peterson Air Force Base Sept. 28. The family readiness group was able to pay for the picnic because of recent successful fundraisers that have put the family readiness group in the black. The group plans to fund two more functions scheduled later this year.

"This creates challenges to get families together but emphasizes the importance of ensuring our families feel like they're part of the unit"

Bailey has not only been trying to schedule family events that are enjoyable to all ages, but also to spice up the meetings in order to incentivize attendance. For example, he hopes to schedule a book swap for the next meeting.

"This unit does its war-time mission every day and doesn't deploy. But it's still just as important if not more so to ensure the families feel a connection to the unit," added Bailey.

"We wanted to have a group

that held more functions than just once a year, and included more robust fund raising events" commented 1st. Sgt. Robert Cunningham HHB 1st. Sgt. "The picnic went well and we have several events we are planning for the rest of the year."

Cunningham hopes the new attention will bring families together, increase family support and unit camaraderie.

It's a lot of work, but I love doing it, "said Rebecca Henne, a FRG leader and volunteer. "I hope that all of our efforts to get the group moving will pay off. We hope this will encourage more family participation."

## SMDC brigades offer final M-9 qualification for the year





Photos by Sgt. Benjamin Crane

The 1st Space Brigade and 100th Missile Defense Brigade ran one last M-9 qualification range for the training year at Fort Carson, Colo., Sept. 25. Everyone was afforded the opportunity to qualify and those already qualified were able to increase their score if they beat their qualification score. "The range went well, everyone qualified," remarked 1st Sgt. Robert Cunningham, Headquarters, Headquarters Battery, 100th Missile Defense Brigade.

Photo above: 100th Missile Defense Brigade and 1st Space Brigade Soldiers, police brass and ammunition as they shut down the M-9 range due to approaching weather.

Photo left: Sgt. Grant Henne, 100th Missile Defense Brigade, fires his M-9 pistol during qualification.

Look for the full release of the ASJ Eagle Oct. 18. Deadline for comments and submissions is Oct. 12. Please submit to Carrie David at Carrie.E.David@us.army.mil.