

UP AND DOWN THE HILL

SERVING THE FORT A.P. HILL COMMUNITY



Ashleigh Christopher, 6, granddaughter of Mike Brandt, Plans, Analysis and Integration, was one of many children who spent the morning with a parent or grandparent as part of "Take Our Daughters and Sons to Work Day," and the afternoon at Earth Day. Ashleigh enjoyed the wildlife and firs at the Virginia Department of Game and Inland Fisheries display. For more photographs, see Page 5. (Photo by Mary A. Bodine.)

New technology lightens UXO 'LOADS'

by **Mary A. Bodine**
Fort A.P. Hill Public Affairs

Without live-fire training, today's military would be ill-prepared to combat terrorism. However, unexploded ordnance litters military training areas as a result, limiting land use and creating a safety hazard.

New technology being used at Fort A.P. Hill promises to revolutionize UXO removal and even generate revenue from recycling the material. The Lightweight Ordnance and Armaments Demilitarization System, or LOADS, is a mobile machine designed to crush or cut inert ordnance and make it acceptable for salvage or recycling, said John J. Stine, director of

Demilitarization Services Division, UXB International, Inc. -- the company that designed LOADS.

LOADS is being used on Fort A.P. Hill to remove about two tons of inert ordnance -- some dated from the 1940s -- for a range upgrade project, said Gregory Quimby, project manager, AMEC Earth and Environmental, Inc., the company responsible for the range design, construction, and its environmental remediation. The range is being converted from an anti-armor range to a multipurpose machine gun range. UXO clearance on the range was necessary for new construction, he added.

"We took the construction footprint for the range modifications and conducted a surface clearance,"



John Kierepka, UXB International, Inc., shows members of the Fort A.P. Hill team how the Lightweight Ordnance and Armaments Demilitarization System cuts or crushes ordnance. (Photos by Mary A. Bodine.)

Quimby said. "If the UXO was live, we flagged it for detonation, which
(See LOADS, Page 2)

"We sleep safely in our beds because rough men stand ready in the night to visit violence on those who would do us harm."

-- George Orwell

LOADS (Continued from Page 1)



Ordnance, collected from Range 33, is consolidated before it is crushed or cut in the Lightweight Ordnance and Armaments Demilitarization System -- a new system that easily converts inert munitions to scrap metal for recycling. (Photo by Mary A. Bodine.)

will be done with explosives; if it was nonhazardous UXO, we collected it and consolidated it in a central location for LOADS processing.”

AMEC also used electromagnetic scanning and geophysical surveys to clear 10 acres of UXOs buried less than two feet in the ground, Quimby added. About 30 acres of surface land was cleared for the project.

Once the ordnance is processed through LOADS, it will be collected, smelt and recycled, Stine said. Revenue generated from recycling is credited to the installation’s account, resulting in a cost-savings for the military, he added.

Traditional methods of UXO removal were burying or burning munitions on the range, Stine said.

“We knew there had to be a better way of removing UXOs from training areas,” he added. “From blank paper to operation, it only took 18 months to build LOADS. We began testing it in late 2002 and started using it immediately after that. There have been four modifications on the system since, expanding the types and sizes of munitions it can handle.”

On the Fort A.P. Hill project, LOADS will cut or crush 40-mm grenades, 60-mm mortars, 81-mm mortars, 3.5-inch rockets and other munition remnants, Quimby said.

“This technology will enhance the way ranges are cleared in the future,” he said. “Because it is transportable, we will be able to clear more ranges, safer. Although the machine is not designed to process live ordnance – everything has to be inert – by passing it through the machine, you can be sure that it is rendered safe. If there is a live round, the machine can certainly absorb the impact better than the human body.”

Brass deformer builds bucks from recycling

by **Mary A. Bodine**
Fort A.P. Hill Public Affairs

Fort A.P. Hill recycles as much as 70,000 pounds of small arms ammunition casings annually, said Charles Rupe, ammunition handler, installation Ammunition Supply Point.

The money generated from recycling brass, as well as other metals, is given back to the installation. However, until Fort A.P. Hill purchased a brass deformer -- which mutilates casings so that they can not be reloaded -- the installation was only receiving a portion of the money generated from recycled brass, said Rupe, who is certified through the Qualified Recycling Program School, Huntsville, Ala.

Until Fort A.P. Hill bought a brass deformer three years ago, Rupe said that casings were sent to the Defense Reutilization and Marketing Office in Richmond, Va., and were consolidated with other installation’s casings. DRMO would demilitarize the casings and sell them to a recycler or smelter at a bided price. DRMO would take 10 percent of the proceeds as its fee and then distribute the remaining recycling proceeds to the installations. This meant that Fort A.P. Hill would receive the same amount of money from brass recycling as a non-training base, Rupe added.

With the brass deformer, Fort A.P. Hill receives all of the money generated for recycling from casings expended during training, Rupe said.

“When a unit drops off casings, it is first screened for live ammunition and then run through the brass deformer,” he said. “The brass deformer has magnetic strips so it will also pick up any live ammunition or links, which aren’t brass. We ship off the mutilated casings to a company in Ohio that runs a smelting operation. All of the money comes back to Fort A.P. Hill.”

At a rate of 62 cents a pound, Fort A.P. Hill earns thousands of dollars a year by recycling brass, Rupe said.

The ASP also collects and processes other metals and wood from launchers, ammunition cans, pallets and other materials for recycling, Rupe said.

Technicians ‘target’ technology for training

by Mary A. Bodine
Fort A.P. Hill Public Affairs

With an inventory of more than one thousand stationary and moving infantry and armored targets, Range Control provides an enemy for training that adequately prepares warfighters to respond and engage decisively on the battlefield, said Woody Broaddus, range technician.

Many of Fort A.P. Hill’s targets are automated by computer or radio and are strategically placed on ranges to provide a realistic enemy for Soldiers to identify, evaluate and fire on.

“Many of our ranges are sculpted to fit the needs of the unit,” Broaddus said. “For example, Range 26 is scenario driven. The unit (designs) their training and we write the program for the targets.”

Targets on Range 26 are computer operated and give units the flexibility to fire on infantry and armored moving and stationary targets. Units decide which targets will be used and at what point in the scenario they will pop up, Broaddus said. Range Control then writes a computer program for the scenario. After training, Range Control provides the unit with a report of the target’s hits and misses as recorded by the computer.

Other ranges, like Range 24, a multipurpose training range, are radio operated. This range gives the range officer flexibility to decide what targets will be used and when by using a radio to control targets, Broaddus said.

Most of the targets on Fort A.P. Hill are made out of plywood or are pneumatic infantry targets, which are designed to sustain up to one thousand direct hits and return to at least 80 percent of its original shape after a hit, Broaddus said. The electronic mechanisms attached to the targets for radio



(Top) Tony Johnson, Range Control carpenter (left), and Woody Broaddus, range technician, discard a shot-up armor target on Range 24. These targets are radio controlled, computerized scoring targets. (Left) Johnson shapes a piece of plywood into an armor target. (Photos by Mary A. Bodine.)

control costs \$3,000 for infantry targets, \$15,000 for stationary armor targets, and up to \$50,000 for moving targets, which are attached to rails and can move up to 15 mph, Broaddus said. Efforts by Range Control to weather-proof these mechanisms and using solar energy to recharge batteries has helped extend the lives of the systems.

Technicians will also modify ranges and targets to fulfill a unit’s training needs.

“We (had) a unit from (Marine Corps Base) Quantico (Va.) come through to do a sniper exercise with a downed helicopter, so we had a helicopter hauled out here,” Broaddus said. “If the request is within reason, we’ll support it.”

To accommodate aviation units, range technicians will cover a target with plastic fiberglass or

place charcoal under the target to create heat for units to conduct live-fire with infrared technology, said Tony Johnson, Range Control carpenter.

When the training need for a live-fire access control point range was identified, Range Control was presented with a unique challenge: How do you make a stationary vehicle target appear as though it were moving?

“We used three armored targets, painted them to look like trucks and developed a program so that each target would pop up (sequentially),” Johnson said. “The way we were able to get the targets to pop up gives the illusion of a vehicle moving. We should be getting a mover to make it more realistic pretty soon.”

Because range technicians
(See Target, Page 6)

New law helps consumer credit standings

by Steven Chucala, Esq.

Fort Belvoir Staff Judge Advocate Office

Identity theft with its devastating impact upon consumer credit standings, not to mention the loss of funds by business firms, continues to escalate. Client requests for assistance to combat the effects of this growing criminality continue to reach the Congress and the president as consumers turn to the government for relief.

The federal government has over the years passed legislation as the Fair Credit Reporting Act and even laws making all forms of identification theft punishable as a crime. State laws also attempt to attack this nationwide crime. Nevertheless, the many laws do not appear to have halted the crime wave which is very lucrative and easy to commit.

In a continuing effort to assist consumers, President Bush signed into law the Fair and Accurate Credit Transaction Act of 2003 (F&ACRTA). The purpose of this act is to help all Americans of every income level and background to build good credit status and to confront the problem of identity theft. It will also serve to ensure citizens are treated fairly when they apply for a mortgage or other forms of credit.

The F&ACRTA seeks to ensure lenders make decisions on loans based on their full and fair credit histories, and not on discriminatory stereotypes by making permanent the 1996 uniform national standards established for credit agencies to follow which made millions of consumers eligible for credit.

The present law provides the following rights to consumers:

- Every consumer has the right to their credit report free of charge every year. This will permit consumers to review their credit report each year and identify any ID theft.
- To avoid ID theft, this law requires merchants to leave all but the last five digits of a credit card number off of store receipts. This requirement will ensure that the slips of paper consumers throw away do not contain their credit card number.
- Creates a national system of fraud detection to identify thieves. Previously, consumers had to telephone all of their credit companies and the three credit reporting agencies to alert them of the crime. Now, consumers will only need to make one call to receive advice, set off a nationwide fraud alert, and protect their credit standing.
- The new nationwide system of fraud alerts for

consumers will require the credit reporting agencies to follow procedures to ensure any future requests are by the true consumer rather than a thief posing as the consumer. The law will also allow active duty military members to place special alerts on their files when they are deployed overseas.

- Regulators are required to establish a list of red flag indicators of identity theft, drawn from patterns and practices of identity thieves and evaluate these indicators in their compliance examinations of financial institutions.

- Lenders and credit agencies are required to take action before a victim even knows a crime has occurred. With oversight by bank regulators, the credit agencies will draw up a set of identity guidelines to identify patterns common to identity theft, and develop

methods to stop theft before it can cause major damage.

Whether this law will curtail identity theft and ensure accurate credit ratings remains to be seen.

It appears that every effort to stop thieves has had only minor success since consumers continue to make themselves vulnerable to theft. Although public knowledge and warnings against con men and identity theft have been broadcasted

to the public, consumers continue to answer telephone calls from strangers

seeking their social security numbers, credit cards, dates of birth, and even annual incomes of their family.

Notices that consumers have won a contest or they have been selected to receive a free trip or that funds were found in an abandoned account, that will be collected by a caller for a fee, continue to be honored by consumers as they send hundreds of dollars to thieves and then expect the government to recover their funds. Almost weekly, e-mails that are false from alleged banks, insurance companies, and even E-Bay requests us to verify our accounts with personal information. The requests appear to be real but are all false. People responding to such false requests volunteer themselves to identity theft as the personal information they provide is passed from one crook to another.

As your chief of legal assistance, the best preventive law advice I can provide is for everyone to stop offering their identity to thieves and sending them money for services that will never be provided. Valid purchases by mail may best be accomplished by sending a cashiers check or money order rather than authorizing electronic bank transfers. Legislating more laws will not provide us with immunity from thieves.

To file a fraud alert, request your credit report or address other matters, consumers may call one of the three major credit reporting agencies which will communicate with the other two. The Equifax free telephone listing is (800) 525-6285.



About 500 students from five counties came to the Fort A.P. Hill Earth Day celebration April 22. Exhibits, displays and demonstrations by 35 agencies educated attendees about the environment, conservation and biology. (Above) One of the most popular demonstrations, conducted by the Military District of Washington police, showed how trained military working dogs help capture and find criminals and keep police officers safe.

Children swarm around a demonstrator for the opportunity to touch a live snake. At this exhibit, they learned how to identify a poisonous snake from a nonpoisonous one. At other exhibits, attendees were able to touch eels, crabs, bass, hissing cockroaches, and live birds. (Photos by Mary A. Bodine.)



Earth Day

April 22



(Left) Installation fisheries biologist Brian "Scutter" Lee teaches a group of students about the anatomy of a fish. (Photo by Kristine Brown.) (Above) The Fort A.P. Hill Fire Department demonstrated how a team clears a hazardous material spill.

RECREATION

• TIME OFF • COMMUNITY • SPORTS

Thrill seekers tempted to DarKastle

by Mary A. Bodine
Fort A.P. Hill Public Affairs

The Directorate of Morale, Welfare and Recreation has teamed with Anheuser-Busch Adventure Parks to offer an exhilarating summer for Fort A.P. Hill employees and their families.

MWR is offering discounted tickets of \$35.40 for children ages 3-6 and \$41 for adult admission to Busch Gardens Williamsburg, Va., park. Nearby Water Country USA tickets are discounted to \$24.20 for children ages 3-6 and \$29.80 for adult admission.

The ticket price for Busch Gardens Williamsburg includes all shows, animal attractions and rides, including the park's newest attraction, "Curse of the DarKastle: The Ride," debuting May 1.

"The Curse of the DarKastle is a state-of-the-art dynamic thrill ride with special effects and roller coaster thrills that combine to give the guest a theater-like experience," said Diane Centeno, communications manager, Busch Gardens Williamsburg/Water Country USA.

The Curse of the DarKastle is the European-themed park's first new major ride since 1999, Centeno said. The ride transports guests on a "gravity-defying" sleigh through a haunted Bavarian castle, she added.

"We wanted to provide something new for our guests," Centeno said. "This is a ride people have never experienced before. We used the latest technology in audio, visual, and special effects and developed a unique ride through theme and ride engineering."

The Curse of the DarKastle is limited to persons 42 inches or taller. However, the park also offers activities for children like Land of the Dragons, a play area for children with several rides and activities.

For more information or to purchase discounted



Morale, Welfare and Recreation specialist Tina Collier, steps off of the Curse of the DarKastle: The Ride bus. The bus was on post April 19 to promote the new ride. (Photo by Mary A. Bodine.)

tickets, call Tina Collier at the Community Activity Center at 633-8219.

Under the "Heroes Salute" program, Anheuser-Busch Cos. Inc., is offering free single-day admission to its SeaWorld and Busch Gardens parks to active duty military, active reservists, U.S. Coast Guard, National Guardsmen and as many as three direct dependents until Dec. 31. Honorees must register online at: www.herosalute.com or at the entrance plaza of participating parks and show a Department of Defense photo ID.

Target (Continued from Page 3)

Stationary infantry targets like the one pictured here are pneumatic, meaning they are able to return to 80 percent of its original size after being hit.



provide the means for units to conduct live-fire training, Broaddus said his team will replace targets at any time or run 24-hour operations if that is the support that is needed to keep the training mission going.

● WELL BEING ● SAFETY

HEALTHY LIVING

Fresh fruits fight fat, help heart health

by Lt. Col. Will Wheeler

Darnall Army Community Hospital, Fort Hood, Texas

Are you failing at grocery shopping? Is your cart filled, but with little to no fresh fruits and vegetables? Most Americans do not achieve the recommended amounts of at least five servings per day for optimal health. With that in mind, we need to start spending more time in the produce section and end up with more fresh produce in our shopping carts.

Here are some benefits to fruit:

Easy to transport (the perfect snack) -- Since there aren't too many vending machines that sell fruit, your best bet is to buy them at the grocery store and make sure to have them available throughout the day. Whether you store it in a cargo pocket, brief case, book bag or desk drawer, fresh fruit is a ready, quick nutritious snack.

Fills your stomach -- Fresh fruits are good fiber sources as well. In addition to the health benefits of a high-fiber diet, fiber-containing foods can be quite filling. Adding fruit between or during meals will help reduce your intake of other higher-calorie foods.

Nutrient-dense -- Most fruits are good sources of vitamin A and C, potassium, and folic acid. Fruits



contain little to no fat, have zero cholesterol, and average 60 calories per serving. Vitamin A and C are antioxidants, which have been shown to help reduce the risk for some cancers, heart disease, cataracts, and arthritis. When you also consider fruit as a low-calorie, no- or low-fat food, adding fruit to your diet will probably assist you in meeting your body-fat goals.

Contains phytochemicals -- Phytochemicals may not sound appetizing, but these plant compounds found in fruit, vegetables, legumes, and whole grains may help protect us against some chronic health problems, including some forms of cancer and heart disease. More is being discovered about these compounds and their exact role in reducing health risk. In the mean time, it is a prudent recommendation to select a variety of foods that contain phytochemicals.

Buy fresh -- Canned, bottled, and frozen fruits are just as nutritious as fresh, but it is hard to beat the taste of fresh fruit. It takes time to select, store, and handle but the taste of fresh fruit is worth it. Give it a try.

Can't beat the variety -- There are hundreds of different types of fruit. As part of the national campaign to promote eating five fruits and vegetables per day, the National Center for Chronic Disease Prevention and Health Promotion features a fruit of the month at: www.cdc.gov/nccdphp/dnpa/5ADay/month/index.htm.

Biologists introduce science at Career Day

by Mary A. Bodine

Fort A.P. Hill Public Affairs

"Did you kill it?" was the most commonly asked question of wildlife biologist Mark Indseth at the Bowling Green, Va., Primary School Career Day April 13.

With bug-eyes and dropped jaws, more than 200 students gawked at the animal skulls, deer jaws, and jars of snakes, bats and deer fetuses Indseth displayed on a table before them. The captive audience listened as Indseth explained how deer teeth help him age the animal and how health surveys help him understand animal populations on

Fort A.P. Hill.

The school Career Day gave Indseth and fisheries biologist Brian "Scutter" Lee, both of the Environmental and Natural Resources Division, an opportunity to get "kids interested in science," Lee said.

"We wanted to relate what they were learning in school to how it helps us in our job," said Lee, who brought fish native to Fort A.P. Hill waters for the presentation. "For example, I told them that I have to collect and count fish -- just like their learning to count now. I wanted the kids to understand that the skills they are learning

now are skills they will build on and use throughout their lives."

Lee and Indseth stressed the importance of education throughout their presentations and discussed the educational requirements to be a biologist, Indseth said.

"The purpose of Career Day is to spark their interest in possible jobs and to show the kids that school is relevant and important," Indseth said. "It's also important for us to participate (in Career Day) because it shows the community that we take care of the environment and care for the animals that live (on Fort A.P. Hill)."

NEWS NOTES

Legal help available May 10



The next legal assistance services at Fort A.P. Hill will be May 10, at 9 a.m.

Legal services are available for active duty, retired military and their authorized family members of all the services possessing a valid Uniformed Services Identification Card. (Reserve and National Guard personnel must be on active duty.)

Call Debbie Moore, director of Human Resources, at 633-8326 to schedule an appointment.

TSP open season starts April 15

Open season for Thrift Savings Plan contributions will be April 15-June 30. These elections will be processed under current TSP rules.

Beginning July 1, open seasons will be eliminated

and employee contribution elections will be processed under new rules -- that is, the elections must be made effective no later than the first full pay period after they are filed.

For more information about TSP, visit: www.tsp.gov. To change TSP elections, visit: www.abc.army.mil.

Hunters track elusive gobblers

This year's spring gobbler season runs from April 9-May 14. Fort A.P. Hill hunting permits are available for \$40 at the Morale, Welfare and Recreation Game Check building.

To purchase a permit, a hunter must have a valid Virginia State Hunting License. If the hunter has never hunted on Fort A.P. Hill before, he or she will be required to watch a 15 minute safety video. Hunting permits purchased last fall are valid for spring gobbler season.

For more information, call 633-8244.

SALUTES

● HAILS, FAREWELLS ● ACHIEVEMENT ● FAMILY

Hails

Fort A.P. Hill welcomes the following new employees:

- Police Officer William Hinson, DES;
- Police Officer Jonnie Sanders, DES;
- Firefighter Samuel Hill, DES;
- Leslie McKinny, DPTMS;
- Andre Barber, DPTMS;
- Kendra Harley, DOC;
- Ken Comfort PAIO (returned from Iraq);
- Curtis Marshall, DPW;
- Joseph Loving, DPW;
- Warren Rife, DPW;
- Daniel Doyle, DOL;
- Kevin Fields, DOL;
- Calvin Chapman, DOL;
- and the following new members of the Fort A.P. Hill team here to support the National Scout

Jamboree: Capt. Carla Whitlock, DPTMS; Ensign John Paragas, MSO; YNSN Gregory Orr, MSO; Maj. Jerome Peed.

Farewells

Fort A.P. Hill bids farewell to the following employees:

- Installation Command Sgt. Maj. Gary Carr retires from the military after 28 years of service. Carr officially retires Aug. 1

Achievements

- Firefighter Grover Abernathy, DES, and Diane Stewart, DPW, were awarded a Quality Step Increases;
- Maureen Thompson, DOL, was given a promotion;
- Leslie Bland and Cathy Brooks, both of RMO, received Special

Act Awards for performance from February 2004-April 2005;

- Members of the DPW Carpenter Shop and DPTMS did an outstanding job in preparing for Command Sgt. Maj. Gary Carr's retirement ceremony and gifts;
- Terry Banks, Tim Southard and Brenda Brownley of DPW ENRD for leading the effort in the planning, coordination and execution of Earth Day;
- Terry Banks, Tim Southard and Brenda Brownley of DPW ENRD did an excellent job leading the effort in the planning, coordination and execution of Earth Day; in conjunction with Earth Day, Francoise Sibley, DPTMS, coordinated the "Take Our Daughters and Sons to Work Day."

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