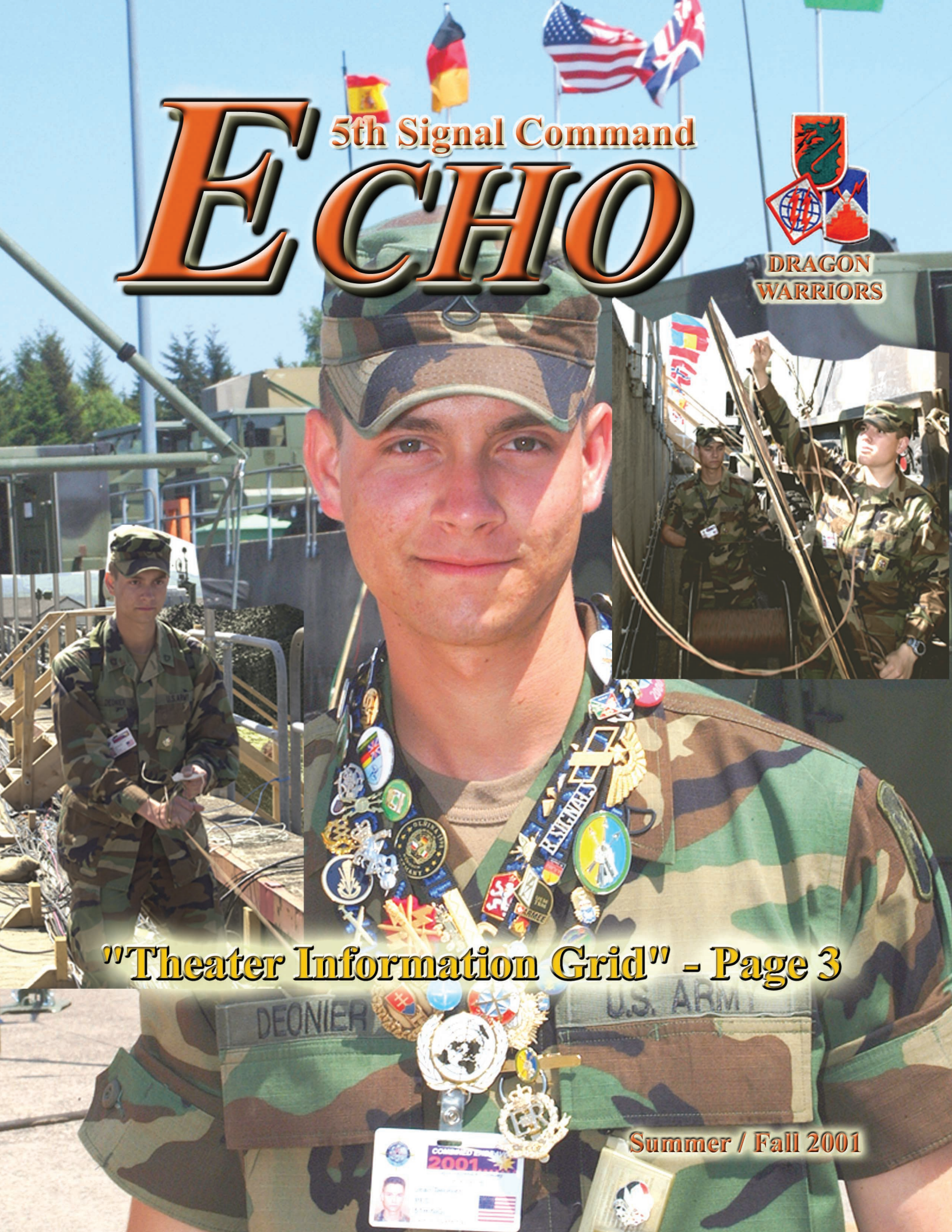


ECHO

5th Signal Command



"Theater Information Grid" - Page 3



Summer / Fall 2001



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Cover Photos



Pfc. Jean Deonier, 72nd Sig. Bn., shows collection of signal unit pins from 37 countries at CE2001. Photo by William Triplett with inset photos (Deonier and Spc. Esaid Olverad) by U.S. Air Force Staff Sgt. Omolara Akinretoy and Airman 1st Class Heather Zokal.



Signal Ball photos by Sgt. Thornton.

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From the Commanding General

Brig. Gen. Marilyn A. Quagliotti

Transformation to “Theater Information Grid”

For this edition of the ECHO, I want to take a moment to bring you up to date about 5th Signal Command's on-going transformation to the Theater Information Grid. What does the future look like for the 5th Signal Command; who operates and maintains most of the C4 Infrastructure in USAREUR? It is my belief that in the future, we will continue to employ split-base operations whenever we deploy - using the Strategic Tactical Entry Points sites today, which will evolve into Teleport Sites tomorrow. The site in Landstuhl, Germany is our primary site. Lago Di Patria, Italy, run by the Navy, is our secondary entry point. Landstuhl and Ramstein are scheduled for upgrades to a "virtual teleport."

Hackers will continue to try to break into our networks, steal our information, and be a nuisance or worse. We can expect this threat to escalate in the future, get more sophisticated, and become hard to detect with current software tools.

Deployed commanders will want specific information delivered

to them rather than searching for it. They, and their staffs, don't have time to search. They need to know what is important to them, not everything that is out there. We need to provide the right information, at the right place, at the right time, for the right warfighter. In addition, warfighters need the flexibility to search for information, if desired.

Information that is important to a deployed commander will come from a variety of sources. In addition to the Army, sources will include systems such as the Global Command and Control System-Common Operational Picture, a joint system operated by the European Command (EUCOM); Imagery, a program operated by the Defense Intelligence Agency; Digital Map Information, a program operated by the National Imagery and Mapping Agency; and Air Tasking Orders (ATO) which is headed up by the Air Force.

To get information to deployed commanders, the 5th Signal Command's role will be Information Dissemination Management (IDM) a

part of Network Operations as defined by the Global Information Grid (GIG) concept. This includes:

- (a) Awareness of where the data is on the network.
- (b) Getting access to data for our commanders.
- (c) Delivery of the data from the sustaining base (data storage location) to the tactical user.

The role of the deployed commander will be to determine what information requirements they need, not to worry about where it comes from. Information sources and responsibilities span functional areas. Optimally, what we would want is a disciplined policy and process to input data and establish functional ownership for the quality of the information on the network.

We want to be able to mass combat power, not forces. In the future, if we build our networks right, we should be able to connect weapons platforms to sensors virtually so that, for example, a patriot missile system or field artillery sys-

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From the Command Sergeant Major

Command Sgt. Maj. Michael A. Terry

Professional Development

Hello again, and welcome to our second issue of the ECHO. Our magazine enjoyed great success in our inaugural issue last quarter and promises to get better with each edition. I encourage every member of the command to not only read the magazine, but also if you've got something you'd like to see in print, contact our editor about putting an article in the next edition.

Last issue, I introduced myself on a personal level, so this time around I will discuss some professional issues.

In my travels throughout the command, I've spoken to many of our soldiers and civilians about personal and professional development. I found that many of the soldiers have military occupational specialties (MOSs) that translate into college credit. All that is normally required is for you to establish residency with an accredited school and ask for an evaluation of your military schools, MOSs, and experience. You may be sitting on a gold mine of college credits and not

even know it.

Now, every specialist and sergeant in the organization should already know this, but every semester hour is worth 1.5 promotion points. If your experience, training and schools added up to 12 semester hours, you would have 18 additional promotion points. Add in some college level examination program (CLEP) or defense activity for nontraditional education support (DANTES) exams, and you're on your way to the next rank.

The best thing about CLEP and DANTES is that they are free! The only cost involved in these exams is your time and effort. If you're curious as to how difficult the exams are, I took the CLEP English with essay exam about a year ago - but of course I had only been out of high school a little over a month (big joke) - and I passed it. And if I can pass them, I know that you can.

Staff sergeants and above, the same information mentioned above is just as relevant to your careers. Even though you don't gain

promotion points for your education, you do gain promotion potential. At the Department of the Army centralized boards, education is always a huge piece of consideration for promotion. So, what I need to concentrate on with you is your records maintenance. You need to review your microfiche often and keep it updated.

In some of the records reviewed so far, I have found missing items such as award certificates, college transcripts and training certificates. They were on the 2-1 or enlisted record brief (ERB) but not on the microfiche. Board members at the department level compare the microfiche, photo, 2-1 or ERB, and what is known as the Personal Data Sheet to see if all matches. You should be doing the same. You have everything at your disposal, with the exception of the Personal Data Sheet.

My offer I made before to check records for any member of this command still stands. All I need is a photo, 2-1 or ERB and a copy of your microfiche. And for those NCOs interested in how they

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5th Signal Command is a complex, diversified, geographically disparate organization that depends on all its members--soldiers and GS or LN civilians--to be performing at peak levels to successfully accomplish its mission and move forward through the 21st century.

We must define those positive assets that lend themselves to being members of an aggressive, successful, caring organization. Not only do we need to achieve these qualities as part of our personal goals; we need to consider these attributes when we hire, supervise, mentor, evaluate, and recommend individuals for appropriate recognition.

This is an especially critical time for 5th Signal Command. The ongoing transformation and task organization of the brigades and some staff directorates require members of the 5th Signal Command team to have an understanding of the command's strategic vision, and how their everyday responsibilities fit into the "larger picture" of the Global Information Grid in providing superior theater-level communication support to warfighters of all services.

We must understand functional information systems, end to end--how each piece of that system connects and relies on the other to succeed. For example: A supply clerk seated at a terminal ordering parts for a weapons system in the division relies on our ability to provide stable, fast communications to order, verify, and check on that part until it reaches its destination.

Transformation and task organization require us to exhibit a strong sense of "teamwork" rather

than hold onto territorial attitudes that will hinder progress. We realize these concepts are complex and require a paradigm shift for many. It is the commander's personal charter that all personnel will be kept well informed through all available channels, and those directly affected by job-related changes will receive appropriate training to ensure all are technically proficient, and thus, guarantee the success of our endeavors.

As we work through the transformation, our "communicators"--military and civilian--must be inquisitive about the process and its results, assertive in ensuring we make the right changes at the right time, yet understanding the dynamics of change and its effects on organizations. We must be able to explain the benefits of this change and how we will be able to provide seamless end-to-end capabilities to all warfighting, national security, and support users once the transformation is complete.

In the signal arena, our members must be individuals who are able to take a customer's abstract concept to the concrete level, remaining adaptable and flexible should mission requirements change. Recognizing that our fellow team members often carry a heavy workload, we must be able to work independently, with little supervision.

Because some customers might not be as knowledgeable about communications and technical matters as others, we must be good communicators--articulate, creative, freethinking, confident, helpful, and courteous, as we ascertain the customers' needs and then seek to develop systems that

meet those needs. We must be focused, with a high level of attention to detail in resolving problems, seeking innovative solutions to complex problems.

As responsible travelers on--and developers of--"information highways," we must always remember that we open the command, the armed forces, and the government to cyber-terrorism when we do not properly protect our computer systems or when we are irresponsible in the use of the Internet.

We must be frugal stewards of American tax dollars, and recognize that funding levels often decrease while mission requirements increase. We must seek smart, cost-effective solutions and spend wisely to ensure we have sufficient monies to meet our fiscal obligations.

As guests in a foreign country, we must be considerate and act as "good neighbors," informed about the unique customs of the host nation where we reside. We must have a feeling of ownership, both for the services we perform as 5th Signal Command, and as residents within our military and civilian communities.

Additionally, all of us should remain responsible and loyal citizens, regardless of our citizenship, knowledgeable about current events, with a positive attitude toward the military and elected leaders. We must represent our nations well.

Finally, we must be conscientious, mature individuals who maintain a healthy attitude, high work ethic, and who seek to expand our professional skills in search of excellence.

Marriage Enrichment

A Time to Get Away, Reflect and Grow!

By Chaplain (Lt. Col.) Ed Drew

On Friday, March 9, we boarded the bus for the beautiful mountains of southern Germany with 32 soldiers and spouses. It was the beginning a four-day Marriage Enrichment Retreat for Headquarters, 5th Signal Command and 2nd Signal Brigade.

We stayed at the General Patton Hotel in Garmisch, and everyone said the food was "OUTSTANDING!" The following topics were included in the 12-hour marriage enrichment training: The

Incredible Worth of a Woman; How to Energize Your Mate in 60 Seconds; The Five Keys to Loving and Lasting Relationships; The Tremendous Value of a Man; The Secret of a Close-Knit Family; and Finding Fulfillment. Classes were held at the spacious Abrams Complex.

Not only was plenty of time allowed for shopping in Garmisch, but also for sightseeing at the picturesque Neuschwanstein Castle, and for skiing the snow-covered slopes of the Zugspitze.

Chaplain Ron Benzing hosted us Sunday morning for the

Catholic and Protestant Services at the Garmisch Community Chapel.

For many, the highlight of the retreat was the renewal of the wedding vows. And, the most frequent comments on our after-action reports were that couples felt that their marriages had been strengthened and that they would have liked the retreat to be longer! This marriage enrichment retreat was a great time to get away, reflect and grow!

Chaplain (Lt. Col.) Drew is the Brigade Chaplain for the 2nd Signal Brigade.



Hylton takes command of Army Signal Command

By Sue McKinney

FORT HUACHUCA, Ariz. - Brig. Gen. James C. Hylton took command of the U. S. Army Signal Command (USASC) during a silent change of command ceremony held here July 11.

Maj. Gen. William H. Russ handed over the reins in signal style as semaphore flags indicated movements rather than vocal commands during the ceremony.

Joining Hylton and Russ was General John W. Hendrix, commander of the U.S. Army Forces Command, Fort McPherson, Ga.

Soldiers from ASC units around the world amassed to pay

tribute to Russ and welcome Hylton to the command.

After the unit flag was passed, giving command of ASC to Hylton, Hendrix took the stand and praised Russ and his wife, by telling the audience that the general and Mrs. Russ leave the command in great shape. Hendrix said that Russ' leadership has been truly remarkable.

Prior to the change of command, Russ received the Distinguished Service Medal for meritorious service as commander of ASC.

Russ leaves to take the reins of the Communications and Electronics Command headquartered at Fort Monmouth, N.J.

Hendrix said that the ASC family is lucky to have the Hyltons, who are not strangers to Fort Huachuca and ASC. He said that under Hylton's leadership, ASC would continue to ensure information dominance across the spectrum of conflict.

Hylton comes to ASC from the Office of the Director of Information Systems, Command, Control, Communications and Computers, Office of the Secretary of the Army, Washington, D.C., where he served as the director of programs and architecture.

"I am extremely grateful to General Hendrix for the confidence and trust in appointing me to serve

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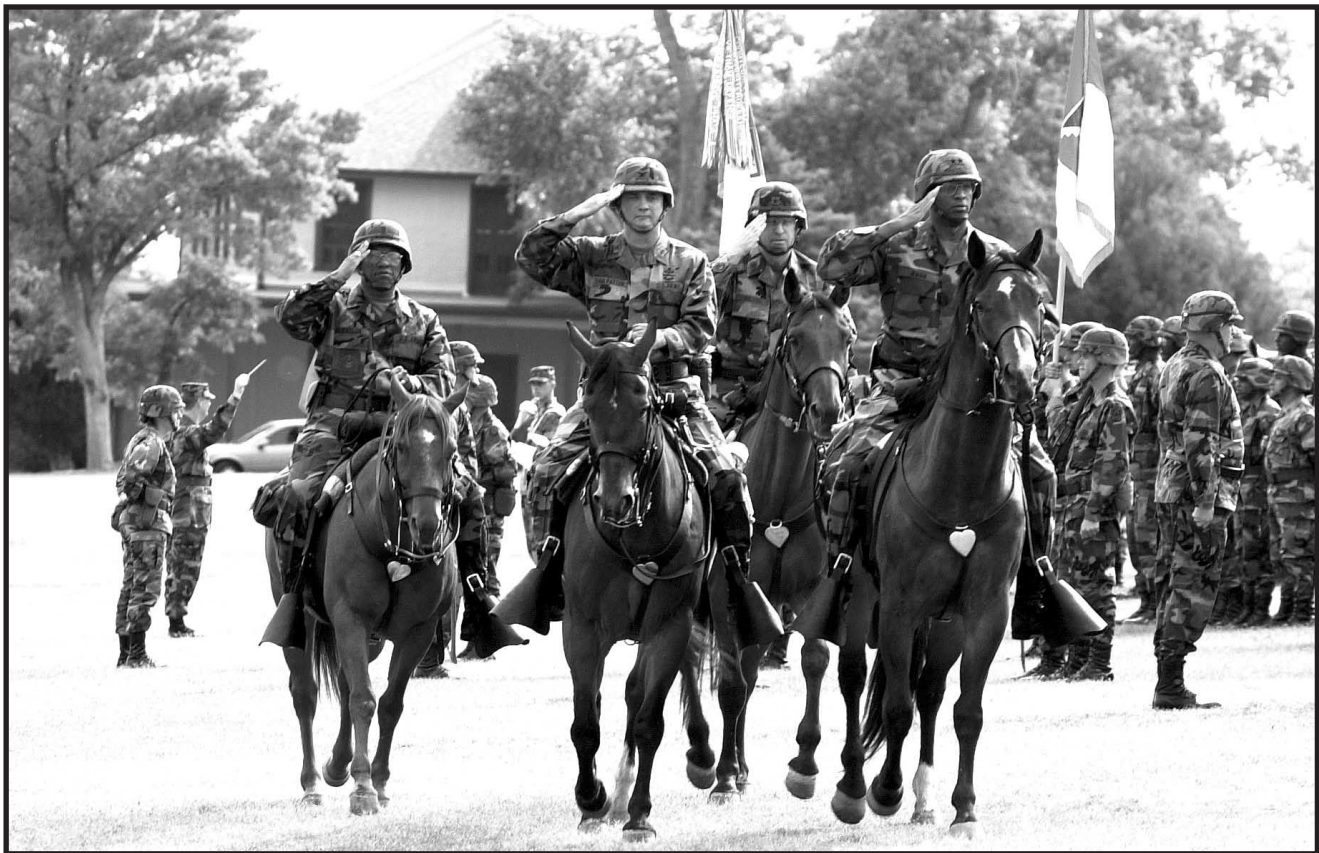


Photo by Sgt. 1st Class David Dismukes

(From l.to r.), Command Sgt. Maj. Larry Paylor, U.S. Army Signal Command, command sergeant major; Col James Van Patten, deputy commander, ASC; incoming ASC commander, Brig. Gen. James C. Hylton; and outgoing ASC commander, Maj. Gen. William H. Russ, conduct an inspection of troops during the change of command ceremony at Fort Huachuca, Ariz., July 11.

“Transformation”

Continued from page 3

tem can use the radar systems from a Navy ship or Air Force aircraft to provide targeting information. These communications links provided, either through tactical or strategic (C4 Infrastructure) networks, would make it possible to mass combat power instead of forces - with sensors and shooters separated by thousands of miles. Today you can access and control video cameras on the Internet, so why not remotely control sensors and shooters over joint networks?

Given that we have made the correct assumptions, we have gone through a series of events and drawn some conclusions about how we should posture ourselves for the future. These ideas are as follows:

The present organization of the 2nd Signal Brigade has the battalions providing strategic networks aligned with the Area Support Groups. In addition, they have Regional Service Centers and Community Service Centers (CSCs) which respond to network outages and customer service requirements within their area. They currently have no network visibility or management tools at the battalions to predict outages or track network intrusions. They are in a reactive mode, only responding to an outage or intrusion after the Theater Network Operations Center (TNOC) / Regional Computer Emergency Response Team (RCERT) notifies them there is a problem. All of this network control capability is centralized at the 5th Signal Command Headquarters at the TNOC and RCERT.

During a series of Required Operational Capability (ROC) drills and summits - two internal to 5th Signal Command and one with our joint partners, EUCOM J6, Air Force, Navy, and the Marines - we, as a community, determined we are not organized properly. We do not have the proper doctrine in place, our work force is not trained for the future, and we did not have the software tools at the right places to address the future assumptions I've earlier stated.

Following the internal ROC drill, I directed the 2nd Signal Brigade and its battalions to begin a detailed mission to task and analyze network operations of the Theater Information Grid and begin planning for reorganization based on the following guidance:

- a. Integrate Network Management of all networks (SIPRNET, NIPRNET, VTC) into a single facility at each echelon.

- b. Establish Network Operations and Security Centers (NOSCs) at strategic battalions and align these with warfighting headquarters.

- c. Collocate all Information Services Support for customers into a one-stop shop called a Network Service Center on each installation where our current CSCs are located.

At the same time, 5th Signal Command DCSOPS participated in work groups led by the J6 EUCOM with the other service components to develop the missions and task analysis from the Theater C4 Coordination Center to the service components' NOSCs. This work is ongoing and will be a continuous process. We will learn and adapt our processes as we grow into our new organization.

These doctrine, organization, and technology changes within this organization will cause us to retrain our entire workforce - who, previous to this time, was in a reactive posture to every outage or intrusion. My "commander's intent" of this change is to posture ourselves for the future to provide better support to the deployed warfighter operating in a split-based mode by providing network operations and security support. In working with warfighters, we will investigate and pilot IDM tools. We also need to develop and train a cadre of Network Operations professionals who will operate from the "sustaining base" to support warfighters.

My conclusion is that technology is not enough. If we are going to be postured to have a Joint Theater Information Grid in EUCOM to support operational level requirements for the future, we must change doctrine and organizations, retrain our work force, insert technology at the right locations, and the hardest part of all, change our culture (people) and processes. When we take this action, it is bound to be controversial. However, I believe it is critical to the command and control of networks in support of future Joint Operational C4ISR and Logistics tasks.

The bottom line is that these efforts will allow us to change the way we fight and communicate in the future.

From the Desk of the 2nd Signal Brigade Commander

The 2nd Signal Brigade has been very busy since the publication of the first ECHO. The brigade has been providing the Supreme Allied Commander, Europe; the Commander in Chief, European Command; and the Commanding General, U.S. Army Europe and their headquarters with strategic communications to command and control their forces in sustaining base installations throughout the European Command's area of responsibility.

In addition to the sustaining base support that has been provided, strategic signal support to these commanders and their staffs has also been provided to command and control Operations Joint Guardian and Joint Forge in the Balkans, Northern Watch in northern Iraq, Focus Relief in West Africa, and humanitarian de-mining operations in eastern Europe, Africa and the Balkans. A special thanks to all the members of the 2nd Signal Brigade for supporting these commanders.

Concurrently the brigade has been transforming to better meet our supported warfighter require-



ments. The Network Operations & Security Centers (NOSC) and Network Service Center (NSC) concept has been developed to include their missions and mission-essential task lists. Facility requirements have been identified and are being built to facilitate network operations. The NOSC facilities will provide our Network Managers, Information Dissemination Managers, and Information Assurance personnel an efficient, ergonomic and safe environment to perform network operations.

We will be doing the same for our NSCs. Additional help is on the way as additional manpower has

been approved to facilitate our transformation to NOSC's and NSCs.

The 2nd Signal Brigade transition is not being done in a vacuum; rather, it is a part of a larger transition which also includes 5th Signal Command Headquarters and our sister unit, 7th Signal Brigade. Thanks to both headquarters and their personnel for the mutual support. We all know that signal is an end-to-end thing and if one part doesn't work the message will not get through.

Summer was a time for transition of many of our leaders and personnel. Best wishes to all who departed this summer and thanks for a job well done. Welcome to new members of the brigade. We are happy to have you here and look forward to your success as a part of the command and the transition process.

Best wishes to all,
Colonel William E. Lane

A handwritten signature in black ink, which appears to read "W. E. Lane". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

"Professional Development"

Continued from page 4

stack up at the department level, I will provide you an honest appraisal.

Whether military or civilian, you are responsible for your own careers. Your supervisors can counsel, mentor, and point you to the nearest education facil-

ity, but it is you who has to put in the actual effort.

All and all, things are going extremely well throughout the Dragon Command, and this is directly attributable to the great soldiers and civilians that make this a world-class organization. It never ceases to amaze me the level of professionalism and pride of accomplishment that every one of you displays.

The transformation of 5th Signal Command continues along with the rest of the Army. I am sure before too long, all of our soldiers will be wearing their black berets as a sign of this transformation.

I thank each and every one of you for what you do for the Dragon Command, our Army and our great nations.

128th Sig. Co., 39th Sig. Bn. participate in Nijmegen March

Story and Photo By
Sgt. Travis Price and
1st Lt. Lynn Smolinski

The international Nijmegen March, consisting of four days of marches, is an annual 100-mile march held in Nijmegen, The Netherlands. Known simply as "The Nijmegen" to most soldiers, the 25-mile-a-day march was held July 17-20 and included a team from the 128th Signal Company, 39th Signal Battalion, located at Supreme Headquarters Allied Powers Europe (SHAPE), Belgium. This was the 85th year of the march, which started in 1909.

In last year's march more than 40,700 people from 51 different countries participated, including seven members of the 128th Signal Company marching with another unit from SHAPE.

This year the 128th led the way for the SHAPE Community. They organized a 20-member team, consisting of 12 soldiers from the 128th Signal Company, and eight others from four different organizations in the SHAPE and Brussels area.

Sgt. Travis Price, a veteran from last year's event and team captain for this year, prepared everyone for what was undoubtedly a very grueling four days. "The key to surviving the marches was to train hard, train long and train early," said Price.

The main goal of their training was to condition everyone's feet to handle the rigors of the long marches. They also had to condition their bodies and minds to have the stamina to endure this prestigious, yet difficult march. The team began training in



2001 Team Members

March with very short distances - only two miles a day three days a week - and with little or no weight in their rucksacks. Gradually, the distance and weight increased until they reached the point where they were marching 10 miles twice, and 20 miles once each week, all with at least a 22 lb. rucksack. The 10-mile marches were conducted in and around the SHAPE area; the 20-mile marches in nearby towns.

The team discovered hiking trails close to Brussels, and traveled to Dinant and Namur, both located in southern Belgium. While marching through these towns, they saw the citadels, a multitudes of castles and churches, and plenty of Belgian wildlife. They have seen parts of Belgium most service members will never see. All of this training was worth it. As Price admits, "the march is the hardest thing I have ever done in the Army, but it was also very rewarding to march alongside numerous armies from all over the world."

The 128th earned a team medal for finishing with 100 percent of their 20-man team. Team members feel the hard work and training prepared them to meet the challenge and live up to their adopted motto "Start as a team, finish as a team!" They were also very proud to be representing the U.S. Army in such a spectacular event.

39th Sig. Bn. Plays Key Role in Integration of New Buildings

Story and Photo By
Mike Saal

BRUSSELS, Belgium -- On June 5, the NATO Support Activity (NSA) community and morale support programs in Brussels continued to expand and improve with the dedication of two new buildings.

The NSA complex has been in the same location since 1974. Its mission is to provide administrative and logistical support to U.S. Agencies/Activities and personnel located in Brussels and to function as a coordinator of based operational support, missions and agreements.

The 39th Signal Battalion's Network Service Center (NSC) Brussels played a key role in the suc-



Mme. Sandrine Blaton (Property owner), Lt. Gen. David Weisman, and Brig. Gen. Earnie Callender of the Military Delegation to NATO officially cut the ribbon to Brussels NATO Support Activity's two new buildings, while Col. Stephen Hayward, 80th ASG and Lt. Col. Don Isbell, commander, NSA observe.

cessful integration of these two new buildings. The NSC was involved in the relocation of 150+ computers and their peripherals, three file servers, three copier machines, the

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52nd Signal Battalion

“AAME Award winner at ASC”

By Sgt. 1st Class
Donna E. Traylor

STUTTGART, Germany (May 2001) -- Maj. Gen. William H. Russ, commanding general, U.S. Army Signal Command, recognized the 52nd Signal Battalion, for winning first place at ASC and being runner up at the U.S. Forces Command level for the prestigious Army Award for Maintenance Excellence (AAME) in the tables of distribution and allowance light category.

The battalion mission, providing around-the-clock communications support for Headquarters, U.S. European Command, and the 6th Area Support Group from Stuttgart to Garmisch, Germany covers an area of more than 20,000 square miles. The 587th Signal Company and Headquarters and Headquarters Detachment have already covered more than 400,000 miles this fiscal year providing logistics and communications direct mission support.

The AAME is more than just a maintenance award to the 52nd Signal Battalion. The battalion views this award as a direct reflection of its readiness posture and recognition for the hard work and dedication of all the battalion's soldiers and civilians living up to their motto “WE TRANSMIT.”

“The maintenance of excellence book is a 12-month job with a great deal of hard work and off duty time put in before it's ready to compete,” said Mr. James E.

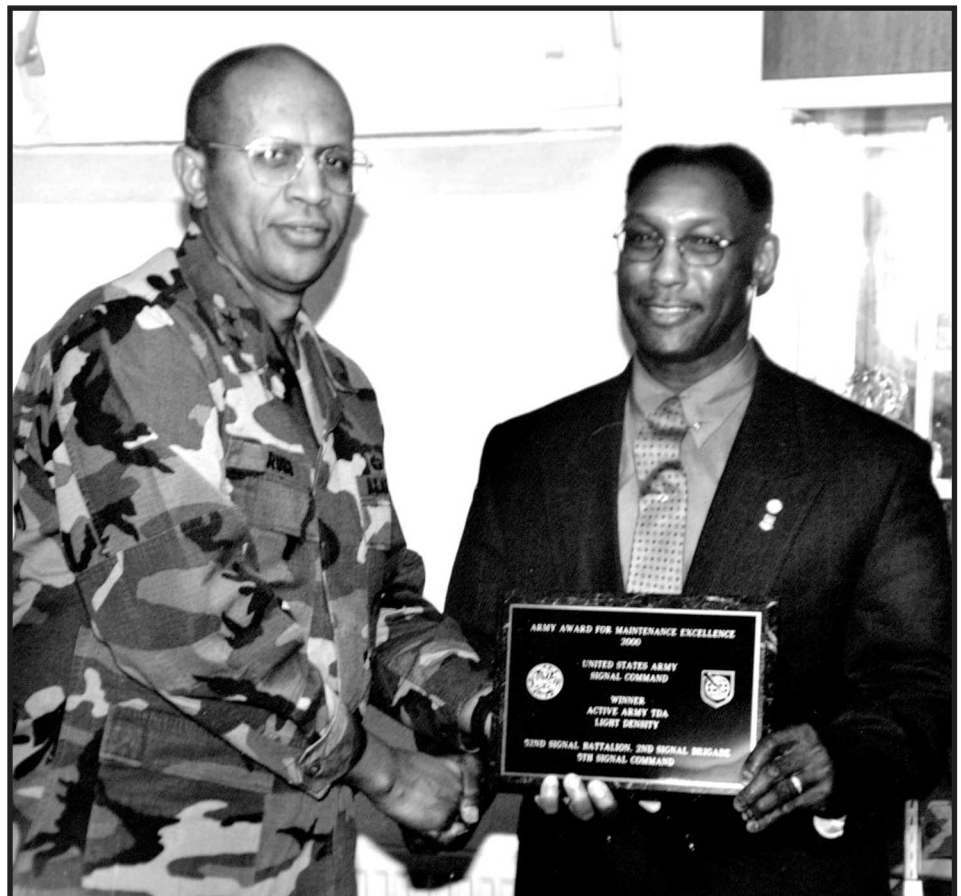
Williams, battalion maintenance officer. “We are striving to be the very best in the command where attention to details is the name of the game,” he said.

The battalion's success is attributed to their three-pronged approach to maintenance, concentrating on leader involvement, maintenance management, and training. The unit's leaders are involved and routinely participate in command inspection programs. The leadership emphasizes maintenance management ensuring standard operating procedures are kept up to date. Finally, each unit

ensures its operators are trained through its maintenance training, driver's training, and on-the-job training programs.

The maintenance team's job is especially difficult given the geographical dispersion and the unique mission of the 52nd Signal Battalion. The unit is responsible for providing continuous strategic, tactical, and reach back communications.

Russ also presented ASC Commander's coins of excellence to Williams, Mr. Roger Albertson, battalion maintenance technician, and Sgt. 1st Class Elgin Traylor, battalion maintenance noncommissioned officer in charge, for their outstanding performance in ensuring maintenance excellence within the 52nd Signal Battalion.



Williams accepting the plaque from Maj. Gen. Russ for the S-4 shop.

WAAF and 1st Armored Division receives State-of-the-Art Communications

By 2nd Lt. Terry Huffstickler

WIESBADEN, Germany - - Back in the winter of 2000, word came down from United States Army Europe (USAREUR) about the closure of Bad Kreuznach, Germany. As a result of the closure, the 1st Armored Division headquarters and several subordinate elements would relocate to Wiesbaden Army Airfield (WAAF) and four other communities in central Germany.

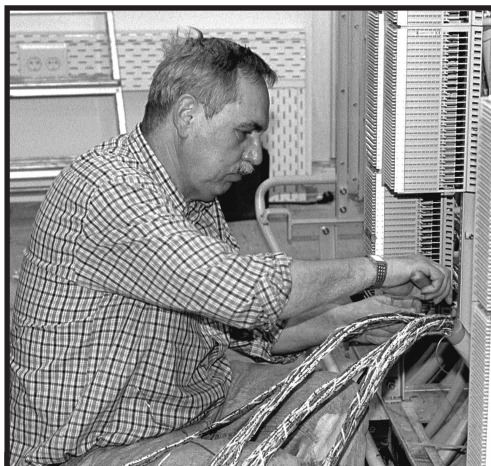
The 102nd provided seamless communications support to the division as it re-stationed and, at the same time, relocated their headquarters from Bad Kreuznach to Hanau, Germany.

To adequately prepare Wiesbaden Army Airfield for the Division, USAREUR invested \$3 million in new fiber, copper and electronic equipment to dramatically transform Wiesbaden's aging infrastructure.

USAREUR and 5th Signal Command's intent was to move the division to Wiesbaden and bring it into the 21st century of communications. USAREUR added an additional \$1.5 million project for fiber, copper and electronic upgrades at two of Wiesbaden's sub-communities, Wackernheim and Dexheim.

The staffs of USAREUR, 5th Signal Command, 2nd Signal Brigade, the 1st Armored Division and the 102nd Signal Battalion worked very closely for 10 months to make this project a success. At the completion of

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Mr. Wolf Brachvogel (l.), a Siemens employee, and Sgt. 1st Class Perry Sandy, HQ 5th Signal Command, pulling cable at WAAF.

Photos by Spc. Jan Allende

Wiesbaden Army Airfield gets rewiring overhaul

By Sgt. Adam Thornton

WIESBADEN, Germany - Units stationed at the Wiesbaden Army Airfield got a rewiring overhaul, courtesy of the 102nd Signal Battalion recently stationed here.

Fiber-optic cables branched out like electronic tendrils as they were laid inside trenches dug out from the Network Service Center (NSC) to the surrounding buildings on the airfield.

"It's painful, and you want to pull your hair out sometimes, but this is what we love to do," said Sgt.

Dennis Franks, NSC noncommissioned officer in charge.

Benefiting from all the hair-pulling are units such as the "104th Area Support Group, the 1st Armored Division recently restationed here, 3rd Corps Support Command, the 205th Military Intelligence Brigade and other miscellaneous organizations on the installation," said James Ellersick, network administrator and chief of planning for the NSC.

"A year in just the planning phase, over 50 buildings on the installation airfield were renovated for the upgrade," said Franks.

"This upgrade consisted in

part to a complete removal of the existing copper wiring and replacing it with speed-of-light fiber-optic cables, along with new switching systems to accommodate the tremendous rate at which the cables carry data. With fiber-optic you're getting one gigabyte of bandwidth as opposed to six megabytes you get with copper wiring," he said.

The tricky part of making the transition from copper to fiber-optic was keeping communications service up for the customers during the system overhaul. "Our main

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Ackerman Speaks at Regimental Signal Ball

Story and Photo By
Sgt. Adam Thornton

MANNHEIM, Germany -- Attending his last Regimental Signal Ball before retiring, Lt. Gen. Mike Ackerman, inspector general,

to thank you for the great job that you do," he said.

"There is no place I'd rather be than here spending time with the great folks that make up the communicators here within Europe and all the outlying areas," he said.



Ackerman walking among audience as he gives his speech in the Rosengarten.

gave the keynote address to fellow signaleers at the 2001 European Signal Ball at the Rosengarten in Mannheim, Germany, June 2.

Ackerman took the floor of the huge dining area to speak to the audience and walked freely with microphone in hand to share his thoughts and experiences he gained over his 36 years of service in the Army.

"It's great to see so many of you turn out for what is a very, very important function," Ackerman said in opening. "First of all I want

Ackerman, who served the majority of his career as a signal officer, reflected back on start of his career 36 years ago when he enlisted as a private.

"Thirty-six years ago, I did not think that one day I would be standing in front of a bunch of folks as a three-star general. Not back when I was Pvt. Ackerman," he said.

Ackerman's perspective was a little different then. "... there was only one rank I ever really wanted. That rank was to be a cor-

poral. And I really wanted that bad, because I could move into a room with four guys instead of 30, and I didn't have to pull "KP" (kitchen police) anymore," he said as the crowd let out a bellow of laughter.

"So when I made corporal I was one happy individual. Boy believe me, that was a great time," he said.

As Ackerman advanced in time and rank, commissioned in 1966 as an infantry 2nd lieutenant, he was witness to many of the changes taking place in the Army.

"Anybody that's been in the Army for any period of time knows what change is. We've been changing all the time. Any Army that is not looking to change itself is an Army that's never going to succeed," he said.

While much of the equipment, strategies and structure evolve, Ackerman emphasized that the soldiers are really what makes the Army.

"As I travel around and see what the soldiers, the warrant officers, the officers, the civilians and what everybody else is doing, I'll tell you, I'm damn proud of every single one of you and what you do because you make the impossible look easy all the time," he said.

Having lived under impossible odds as a soldier himself, Ackerman said, "I'll tell you, in those 36 years that I've been out there, I've been shot at, I've been shot, I've been shot down ... I had cancer that they say was a direct result of being exposed to Agent Orange. I moved 28 different times ... I've served in every type of unit I think we've got in the Army. And if you ask would I do it again, I'd say in a heartbeat, I'd do it again."

Soldiers Volunteer for New Duty Station "South of the Alps"

By Sgt. Adam Thornton

MANNHEIM, Germany - The recent integration of the 509th Sig. Bn. into the 7th Sig. Bde. means a new duty station for a handful of soldiers plucked from their respective units here and assigned to the battalion.

Thirteen soldiers from both the 44th and 72nd Signal Battalions volunteered for the assignment providing voice and data capabilities to the Southern European Task Force (SETAF).

"We're anxious and ready to get down there and make our contribution to the 509th," said Sgt. 1st Class Mickey Pletcher, light communication package noncommissioned officer in charge, 58th Sig. Co., 72nd Sig. Bn.

Soldiers arrived on site in July to begin their tour of running and maintaining a light communications package, as they have many times before during previous deployments. The exception this

time: Its not a deployment. "This is a permanent change of station (PCS) move and a long-term commitment," said 1st Lt. Jeffrey Kacala, commander, Headquarters and Headquarters Detachment, 509th Sig. Bn.

Another difference for the highly deployable tactical team will be the customers they serve. "With past deployments we constantly had different costumers. With the 509th, we'll only be supporting one costumer," said 1st Lt. Clara Crowe-Chaze, light communications package officer in charge, Bravo Co., 44th Sig. Bn. This makes it easier on SETAF in that there is no longer the need to task communication teams throughout USAREUR to handle their missions," she said.

To be eligible for the PCS move, soldiers had to have the designated military occupational specialty and enough time left in service to complete the tour. With those blocks checked, soldiers were able

to volunteer for the assignment. And the list was not lacking. "All members (of the team) volunteered to move. We're all excited and ready to go," said Kacala.

"I feel great about having the chance to be stationed in Italy," said Spc. Shane Lambert, data team chief, 324th Sig. Co., 72nd Sig. Bn. For Lambert, Italy not only brings new scenery, but also added responsibility. "This will be my first time as team chief," he said.

These future 509th soldiers have plenty of experience under their belts to handle the mission they volunteered to tackle.

"The time I spent in the 58th Sig. Co. provided me with the necessary tools to be successful in any assignment," said Pletcher.

Lambert said that the training he received from 7th Sig. Bde.'s Data University particularly helped him prepare for the assignment.

"We will all take our experiences gained from other packages and deployments and put them to use in support of 509th and SETAF," said Kacala.

"State-of-the-Art Communications"

Continued from page 12

the project, the 102nd had installed more than 1,875 new telephones, 110 foundry switches, and terminated more than 15,000 meters of new copper and 15,927 meters of new fiber. For the 102nd Signal Battalion, this project included not only WAAF, but also the Dexheim, Wackernheim, Giessen, and Hanau communities, as more than 60 buildings were brought up to the best standard in USAREUR.

To accomplish this great feat, the battalion, comprised of 189 people - 45 of whom are soldiers - reallocated personnel from its Network Service Centers in Darmstadt, Giessen, Baumholder and its headquarters company in Hanau, to assist those already on the ground at the WAAF.

The 102nd was also augmented by more than 20 Reserve and National Guard soldiers on their two-week annual training, one National Guard officer on a six-month contingency operations temporary tour of

active duty, and two cadets on cadet troop leadership training from the U.S. Military Academy.

These soldiers and civilians, together with their fellow Dragon Warriors from 5th Signal Command and 2nd Signal Brigade, came together and made the 1st Armored Division's re-stationing happen on time and to standard.

In December 2001, the NOSC will occupy a state of the art facility in Wiesbaden, where it will directly support the 1st Armored Division.

Coles is the new commander of the Fighting 44th Sig. Bn.

Photo and Story By
William Triplett

Soldiers aligned in formation were the backdrop to a change of command ceremony held at Sullivan Barracks Sports Field June 29.

The colors of the 44th Signal Battalion were ceremoniously passed from Lt. Col. Mark Baines, outgoing battalion commander, to Lt. Col. Theresa Coles, 44th Signal Battalion's 19th commander.

"There is really no one job or experience that prepares one for their next assignment, it is more of a combination of all previous jobs and experiences," said Baines in his farewell address.

"The Signal Corps is in the midst of a relatively significant paradigm shift. How we are organized, train, and most importantly how we

are supporting the warfighter is very dynamic right now. Leaders, at all levels, are presented with some tough challenges," he said.

Baines is now the deputy commander, 7th Signal Brigade.

Coles is returning to Germany after her most recent assignment with the Inspector General for the Department of the Army, Washington, D.C.

"It is great to be back in the 5th Signal family. And I am particularly thankful for the trust and confidence placed in me to command this 'Outstanding' battalion," said Coles.

"To the soldiers standing before me, I am well aware of the great accomplishments of the Fighting 44th, and I am honored to be your commander," she said.

"Although training will remain our number one priority, people are still the most important

asset in the command. Integrity, loyalty and trust are non-negotiable. NCOs are the backbone of the Army, empower them and hold them accountable," she said.

"We will continue to be ready to accomplish all assigned missions, and provide reliable communications support to the warfighter," said Coles.

Coles graduated from Reserves Officer Training Corps Program at Villanova University, Villanova Pa., and was commissioned as a second lieutenant in the U.S. Army Signal Corps in 1983.

Her military courses and school includes the Signal Officers Basic and Advance Courses, the Combined Armed Services Staff Course, the Joint Staff Officers Course, Command and General Staff College and the Inspector General Course.

She is married to Lt. Col. Steven Coles of Washington, D.C. They have two sons, Joseph and Aaron.



(From l. to r.) Lt. Col. Theresa D. Coles, incoming commander; Maj. James McGovern, battalion XO; Lt. Col. Mark D. Baines, outgoing commander; and Col. Susan S. Lawrence, commander, 7th Signal Brigade troop the line during change of command ceremony.

Army Signal Command Unit Wins Maintenance Award

By Carol Conner

Top honors went to the 58th Signal Company in this year's Secretary of Defense maintenance award competition. The company took first place in the small unit category. Part of the Army's 5th Signal Command, the unit is based in Mannheim, Germany. It will now compete with unit winners from the other Armed Forces for the coveted Phoenix Trophy at the Department of Defense maintenance symposium in Kansas City, Mo. on Oct. 31.

According to U. S. Army Signal Command's maintenance awards program manager, Chief Warrant Officer Kenneth Wycoff, "To reach the Phoenix Trophy competi-

tion, 58th Signal Company had to win competitions from the battalion level to the Department of Defense level. This was a challenge. However, their mission accomplishments were impressive. In the past year, this unit has performed 27 operational missions. They have the distinction of being the most deployed company in U. S. Army Signal Command."

"Competition requirements included analysis of each unit's operational readiness, their effective use of maintenance resources and innovative management techniques, as well as quality of life programs," explained Wycoff.

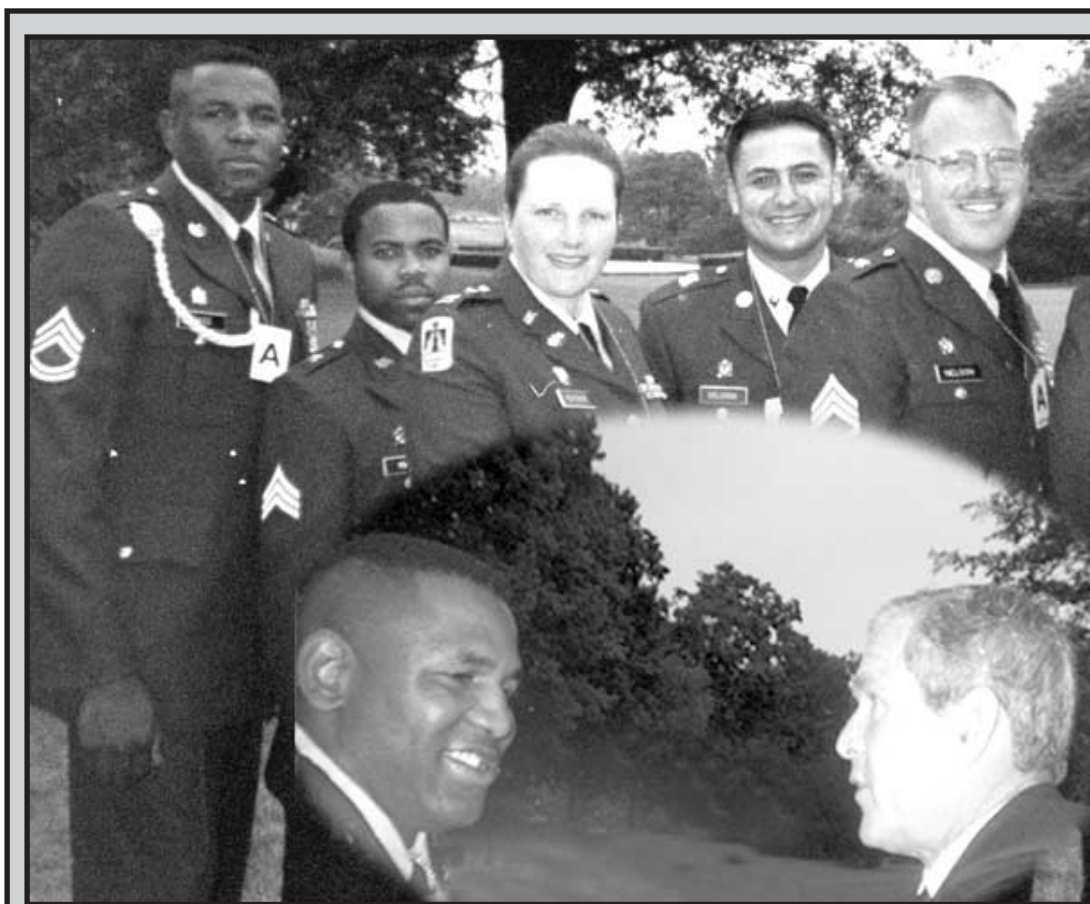
"Maintenance is not a goal. It is a necessity. It is a readiness imperative for our globally deployed forces.

The 58th Signal Company is a shining example of our commitment to readiness," said Brig. Gen. James C. Hylton, commanding general of Army Signal Command.

"We are proud to be the first signal unit to win the Secretary of Defense's maintenance award," unit commander Capt. Robert Purtle said. "We hope that when we leave the Department of Defense Maintenance Symposium in October, we will be taking the 'Phoenix' back to Germany with us," he added.

The Phoenix Trophy is awarded to the 'best of the best.' Only one of the six Secretary of Defense maintenance award winners will take it home.

The Army's 58th Signal Company will be competing with two Air Force units, two Navy units and one Marine Corps unit for the prestigious trophy.



Accepting the Secretary of Defense AAME award in the "Light Category" from Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 7th Sig. Bde, in Washington D.C., July 18, are, from left to right, Sgt. 1st Class Willie Bass, Sgt. Jevon Hall, Capt. Elizabeth Bledsoe, Sgt. Daniel Delgado, and Staff Sgt. Todd Nelson.

Inset photo:

Sgt. 1st Class Willie Bass is thanked in person by President George W. Bush for his excellent work and commitment to service during a visit to the White House.

Terrorist Force Protection Condition

**Story and Photo By
Sgt. Adam Thornton**

MANNHEIM, Germany - Sullivan Barracks, Benjamin Franklin Village and military installations throughout Mannheim, tested their readiness to react to a possible terrorist attack during a threat condition exercise May 22.

Soldiers from 7th Signal Brigade joined forces with soldiers from both the 510th Personnel Support Battalion and 293rd Base Support Battalion to guard the perimeter of Sullivan Barracks and surrounding areas, including thorough searches of vehicles.

"With force protection, we need to show anyone who may consider any type of attack toward U.S. personnel that we take this seriously. We can implement tight security extremely quickly," said Capt. Chip Frazer, S2 officer in charge, 7th Sig. Bde.

Sullivan Barracks soldiers rallied on the grounds of the brigade headquarters in the early morning hours the day of the exercise. Donned in full "battle rattle," (battle dress uniforms), the soldiers were inspected to ensure they had the appropriate gear and were qualified on the weapons they carried.

"They were briefed on safety measures and each was given a "use of force" card they were required to review and carry with them during the exercise," said Sgt. 1st Class Timothy Reynolds, S-2 noncommissioned officer in charge, 7th Sig. Bde.

Following the "train as we fight" concept, security force sol-



Spc. Gerald Steeves, Alpha Company, 44th Signal Battalion checking the undercarriage of vehicles entering Sullivan Barracks, ensures nothing suspicious gets through.

diers were then issued live ammunition and hand-held radios. After communication checks were made with the Emergency Operation Center, Force Protection Condition (FP CON) Charlie was announced and the soldiers moved out to their points.

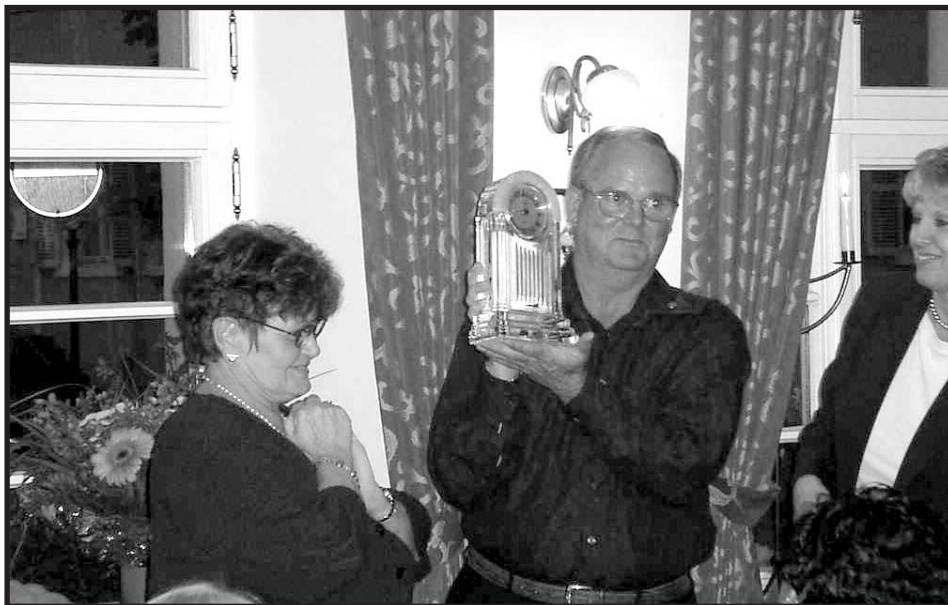
For soldiers with families living in the housing area, guarding the streets in which they reside brought a sense of added alertness during the exercise. "This is an important exercise due to the fact

that many of us have families out here in a relatively unprotected area," said Staff Sgt. Todd Nelson, ammunition issuer and qualification screener for the exercise. "It's important that the brigade and other units on Sullivan Barracks can come together and protect the families during a crisis," he said.

To ensure the exercise was executed smoothly and with minimal complications, thorough coordination and planning preceded the event. The German Police help

5th Signal Command Bids Farewell to Billy Neal

Story By Terrell Swindall



Neal shows off clock presented him and wife, Hilde (left), as Col. Caryl Tallon, DCSPER, looks on. Photo by Mr. Werner Hermes

SCHWETZINGEN, Germany -- Friends, associates and family members gathered June 8 at the Brauhaus to say goodbye to Mr. Billy Neal and his wife, Hilde. Neal has been the 5th Signal Command's safety director for more than 12 years. An invaluable asset to the command, he communicated the important message of safety and risk management to every level within the organization. Neal will retire to Florida where he plans to spend a lot of time fishing and playing golf. Best wishes to Billy and Hilde. We all will miss his smiling face. Auf Wiedersehen.

Terrorist Force Protection Condition

regulate traffic-flow problems caused by the vehicle inspection check points.

"Some drivers were really annoyed by the delays," Reynolds said.

Annoyed or not, soldiers were not swayed in their determination to correctly inspect vehicles and the identification of persons desiring entry to the installation.

"We had role-players who tried to get in without proper IDs and registration and who came up with all kinds of excuses to be allowed in, but couldn't," Reynolds said.

"I think we caught everything we were supposed to catch," said Spc. Gerald Steeves from 44th Sig. Bn., who was a check-point guard during the exercise.

A portion of the five-hour exercise included an upgrade from FP CON Charlie to FP CON Delta, signifying that a terrorist attack was imminent. This employed a reserve force that augmented the present force and made for tighter security and even more thorough vehicle inspections. "A key part of the exercise was the sudden increase in force protection. A quick, strong display of protection in this type of situation is vital," said Frazer.

The upgrade added a realistic twist for the soldiers involved.

"When we practice for real, I feel better about doing it for real," said Pfc. Louis Martin from 44th Sig. Bn., who was a member of the FP CON Delta team called into action.

At the close of the exercise, the soldiers regrouped for an after action review to discuss the exercise and what they thought was good and what they thought needed improvement.

"From what I've seen, I think this was effective training," said Steeves.

"Of course there's always room for improvement. That's why we have these exercises - to shore up our weak points," said Reynolds.

The hard work and preparation was evident at the end. "We had NCOs making sure that everything went according to plan, from issuing ammunition to making sure vehicle inspections were done to standard. Our soldiers made this happen," said Frazer.

Memorial Day Celebrations in Normandy

By Jozsef Wetzl

COLLEVILLE-SUR-MER, France -- On the occasion of this year's Memorial Day celebrations, Brig. Gen. Marilyn A. Quagliotti, commanding general, 5th Signal Command delivered the memorial address (discours de souvenir) at the Normandy American Cemetery in Coleville-sur-Mer, France.

Beginning the day at 8:30 a.m., in the town of Bayeux, Quagliotti was accompanied by a delegation of French dignitaries for the first wreath laying ceremony at the foot of Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower's monument. Continuing along the coast of

Normandy, where many Americans soldiers died during the June 1944 landings, the group placed wreaths and rendered honors at designated points of significance, such as the British Commonwealth War Cemetery; the Omaha Beach Memorial at Vierville-sur-Mer; the Pointe du Hoc Memorial to the famous D-Day cliff assault by American Rangers; and the Saint Laurent-sur-Mer Memorials to French Veterans of both World Wars and the Normandy children killed in the 1944 invasion. At each stop, waiting groups of veterans proudly displayed their unit colors

with battle streamers, thus giving special meaning to each short wreath-laying ceremony.

Mayors and other officials from each stop along the way joined the official delegation, which, under escort by French Police, finally arrived at the Normandy American Cemetery in Colleville-sur-Mer just in time to commence with the almost two-hour official program. The ceremony began with a dramatic low-level fly-over by two U.S. C-130 aircraft in commemoration of the D-Day airborne operations. A French military band from the military district of Rennes rendered honors to the nations by playing the "Marseillaise" and the "Star Spangled Banner." In his opening remarks, Monsieur René Huard, president of the Memorial Day Association spoke about his father, who was deported for being in the "résistance." Huard asked everyone never to forget. Invocations followed by representatives of the Bishop of Bayeux and Lisieux, and the Israelite Community of Caen. Mayor Thomines of Colleville-sur-Mer and Monsieur Francis Idrac, prefect for the Low Normandy and Calvados region, then delivered remarks in French noting the "indestructible ties that unite France and the United States" and the "indescribable debt" of the French people to the United States for liberating Normandy and then the European continent. Ms. Cormack, U.S. Consul General from Rennes, read a proclamation by the president of the United States issued on the occasion of Memorial Day 2001. The U.S. Air Force in Europe Color Guard from Ramstein and



Photo by Gregory Quagliotti

Mr. Behrend, Deputy Chief of Mission to the OECD at the podium in the center of the Normandy American Cemetery Memorial. From right to left: M. Huard, President of the Memorial Day Association; Mr. Dellinger, Superintendent, Normandy American Cemetery; Ms. Cormack, U.S. Consulate, Rennes; Brig. Gen. Quagliotti, commanding general, 5th Signal Command and M. Thomines, Mayor of Colleville-sur-Mer.

the French 42nd Signal Regiment from Bretteville/Odon represented the U.S. and French Armed Forces while the Landstuhl Children's Choir and Ms. Andrea Rose-Rousseaux provided the appropriate musical frame for the ceremony.

"We are met on a great battlefield of war on hallowed ground consecrated by those, living and dead, who struggled here," said Quagliotti, paraphrasing Abraham Lincoln's famous speech at Gettysburg.

Her words seemingly spoke aloud what many of those in attendance felt in this awe-inspiring place, where the remains of 9,387 U.S. servicemen and women are interred. This cemetery, 172.5 acres in extent, is one of 14 permanent American World War II cemeteries constructed on foreign soil.

The ceremony was conducted from the memorial platform at the entrance of the cemetery. Facing west, this memorial, with its semi-circular colonnade, overlooks a reflecting pool, two flagpoles from which American flags fly

daily, the graves areas and a chapel. Centered in the open arc of the memorial facing toward the graves is a 22-foot bronze statue, "The Spirit of American Youth Rising from the Waves." The headstones, precisely aligned against the immaculately maintained emerald green lawn, were decorated for this special day with the "Stars and Stripes" and the French "Tricolore." The cemetery is surrounded on the east, south and west by heavy masses of Austrian pine, inter-planted with laurel, cypress and holly oak. Elm trees in the lawn areas and views of the nearby English Channel complete the scene that conveys an unforgettable feeling of peace and serenity.

However, in her remarks, Quagliotti reminded those in attendance of the contrasting situation that confronted the Americans, who landed in Normandy on June 6, 1944. "During perhaps the most crucial days of World War II, the forces of tyranny and liberty clashed on these seas, in these skies and on this land. Today we enjoy

the freedom purchased at great cost in that battle. These white crosses mark that cost - the lives of our fallen heroes. We gather today to remember their sacrifice and honor their valor. We revere what they accomplished and the gifts of peace and freedom that they have bestowed upon our world. However, we recognize that these gifts are never guaranteed. They must be protected and nurtured. We must never allow the forces of oppression to demand of us another down payment for the freedoms we have already purchased so dearly," said Quagliotti. She ended her remarks with a challenge for all, "As we end our observances on this Memorial Day, let us resolve to honor the memory of the heroes of Normandy with our continued vigilance so that all men may enjoy the blessings of peace and liberty."

Editor's Note: Special thanks to Mr. Gregory Quagliotti for photos and his contribution to this article.



Normandy American Cemetery in Colleville-sur-Mer

Photo by Gregory Quagliotti



SECRETARY OF THE ARMY
WASHINGTON

June 8, 2001

MEMORANDUM FOR ALL ARMY PERSONNEL

SUBJECT: Army Directive #1 – Intent

I am honored to be appointed the 18th Secretary of the Army and extremely proud to be back in the Army at this critical juncture in our history. No matter what the challenge, we will meet it by working together to accomplish the Army's priorities.

People are the Army. I will ensure that we are doing our best to recruit, assign, promote, and manage people in a manner that ensures we are providing opportunities for people to grow professionally, balance family and mission, and have fun.

Readiness is our mission. I will review the manner in which we assess readiness, account for resources as a part of our readiness, and I will fully engage in the Secretary of Defense's strategic review that will determine what we must be ready to accomplish. I will also find ways to make more efficient use of our resources in order to support the Army's core needs.

Transformation is an imperative. We must transform everything about the Army – the way we train, equip, fight, and care for people. Everyone must understand the vision General Shinseki articulated for the Army and take actions at your level to contribute to the transformation. I expect every member of the Army to embrace transformation to the fullest to make it a reality.

Let there be no mistake. I am here for one reason - to work hard for the active and reserve component soldiers, civilians, veterans, and their families. I am fully committed to do everything in my power to improve the quality of life for our people, strengthen our readiness to prevail in every mission, and make the transformation of the Army a reality.

I look forward to working with every one of you. See you in the mud.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Tom White".

Thomas E. White

Equal Opportunity Emanations

By Sgt. 1st Class Tracy Strub

Enhancing cross-cultural awareness among all soldiers, civilian employees, and their families is a key part of EO programs. Observances recognize the achievements and contributions of specific racial, ethnic, or gender groups to our society. Ethnic observances promote better understanding, teamwork, harmony, pride, and esprit de corps among all groups of people.

In March, the 2nd Signal Brigade and 293rd Base Support Battalion (BSB) EO and Equal Employment Opportunity (EEO) offices teamed up to co-host the 14th annual Women's History Month celebration. The Top Hat Club had standing room only as guest speaker, Command Sgt. Maj. Diane Williams, command sergeant major, Aviation Training Brigade, Fort Rucker, Ala., captivated the crowd with a tribute to this year's theme of "Celebrating Women of Courage and Vision."

Williams spoke of the many women who made an impact on the changing face of America and how our nation's women could not be where they are today without the strength, courage, wisdom, and persistence of those who preceded them. She also spoke of how her own experiences of mentorship in the Army and being selected and serving as the first female command sergeant major of the 2nd Squadron, 6th Cavalry Regiment, left a positive impression on her and the soldiers she led while assigned there.

April brought us "Days of Remembrance" for victims of the Holocaust. This event not only served as a remembrance of the victims, but also as a strong reminder of what can happen to civilized people when bigotry, hatred, and indifference reign. The 7th Signal Brigade, EO Advisor, constructed a Holocaust Museum in the brigade headquarters.

Over a period of three weeks, soldiers and civilians were able to drop in and view an assortment of artwork, stories, and poster displays by various artists who were held in the concentration camps.

On April 27, the 293rd BSB, EO office teamed up with the 18th Military Police Brigade and 7th Signal Brigade EO offices to host a local field trip in the surrounding community. The event included a close-up and personal view of the Jewish community with a guided tour through the synagogue and Jewish Cemetery in downtown Mannheim.

Soldiers, civilians, and family members of the Mannheim community learned of the human spirit and life that flourished before the holocaust. They also saw how the holocaust affected those in this community during its darkest hours, and how they prevailed as survivors to rebuild their lives.

HHC, 7th Signal Brigade took time out of their schedule to celebrate the lesser known holiday of "Cinco de Mayo" (Fifth of May). While enjoying a luncheon and display honoring the event,

Spc. Mayra Iturriaga explained to members of her unit that Cinco de Mayo is widely celebrated by Mexican-Americans and commemorates the victory of the Mexican army over the French army at the Battle of Puebla on May 5, 1862.

Finishing out the Spring season, we celebrated the 9th Annual Asian Pacific Heritage Month on May 26th. Community EO personnel and AAFES teamed up to put on a variety of Asian cultural displays of dancing, food, prizes, and martial art demonstrations in front of the Mannheim Post Exchange. This year's extravaganza, which carried the theme "Asian Pacific Americans Emerging Together," began with a pair of Filipino folk dances, the Subli and Salakot, presented by the Mabuhay Dance group. The Asian Pacific Dance group then took the stage and entertained the audience with a colorful display of Hawaiian hula dances.

Soon, unsuspecting members of the crowd were lured on stage by dancers for a lesson in "hula etiquette." The audience received more than just a visual display of Asian dance; between acts they participated in trivia contests, enjoyed free food tasting of several different types of Asian food prepared by the Chinese Mandarin Restaurant, and learned about famous Asian Americans from the cultural poster display.

The next highlight of the day were the young students of Manera's Tae Kwon-do Center from the Mannheim Youth Center who put on a powerful display of budding expertise. The spectators were "wowed" by the group's

Family Subsistence Supplemental Allowance for Soldiers

By DCSPER Staff

The Floyd D. Spence National Defense Authorization for fiscal year 2001 enacted a new allowance, the Family Subsistence Supplemental Allowance (FSSA).

Congress enacted this allowance to move soldiers off food stamps, by providing them a monetary allowance that raises them above the gross income threshold set by the U.S. Department of Agriculture. Soldiers stationed outside the United States are eligible to participate in the FSSA program even though food stamps are unavailable overseas.

The FSSA program increases a soldier's basic allowance for subsistence by an amount intended to remove the soldier's household from eligibility for benefits under the department's food stamp program. By law, FSSA may not exceed \$500 a month. This program is voluntary; soldiers must apply and be certified

to receive FSSA. The first field grade officer in a soldier's chain of command certifies eligibility for FSSA.

A soldier is eligible for FSSA if the soldier's gross income, together with the gross income of the soldier's household, does not exceed 130 percent of the poverty line as defined by the Department of Agriculture. A soldier's housing allowance, or the value of the housing if the soldier resides in government quarters, must be counted as income for FSSA eligibility.

Soldiers who believe they are eligible for this entitlement may go to the Department of Defense website <https://www.dmdc.osd.mil/fssa> and fill out the on-line form to see if they might qualify for FSSA. Soldiers who believe they may be entitled to FSSA need to visit the nearest Army Community Service (ACS) financial counselor for pre-screening assistance.

The soldier uses his last name for identification and social security

number for the password. Should the on-line tool determine the soldier is eligible for FSSA, the ACS counselor will print the form and recommend payment to the certifying official.

Once a soldier has gone through pre-screening with an ACS financial counselor, the soldier will take a copy of the application and supporting documentation to his personnel administration center for processing, certification, and forwarding to finance.

Eligibility for FSSA terminates when a soldier's household income increases by \$100 or more, household size decreases, or soldier is promoted, reassigned to another permanent duty station, or in receipt of FSSA for 12 months. Soldiers may reapply for FSSA benefits if they believe they are still qualified.

Additionally, the Department of Defense requires all soldiers receiving FSSA, with the exception of those who have been certified within the last 30 days, to re-certify annually on 1 February.

"Equal Opportunity Emanations"

demonstration of moves, fighting techniques, and self-defense tactics. To top off a great day of cultural awareness, a couple of lucky members of the audience took home two new children's bikes as grand prizes in the AAFES Asian Pacific drawing that afternoon.

Some dates and events to keep in mind for your future EO planning:

- * Hispanic Heritage Month, Sep 15 - Oct 15th
- * Native American/American Indian Heritage Month, November 1-30th

The EO team sends kudos to the many people who gave their

time and efforts freely for making Spring 2001 a season to remember. We look forward to working with all of you again soon. And remember, when dealing with EO, we urge each and every one of you to become part of the "I" crowd: **Intelligent, Inquisitive, Informed, and Involved!**

"Wiesbaden Army Airfield"

Continued from page 12
goal was to keep downtime eliminated when making the switch," said Ellersick.

To do this, soldiers were stretched thin and worked long hours. "Soldiers are working double-duty because, along with the com-

pleting the upgrade, they still have to perform their previous ongoing support missions," said Franks.

Not only do the soldiers have to complete their ongoing support missions, but they must also keep their soldier's skills honed. "We still have to do the 'Army stuff' ... qualify

at the ranges, do PT and sergeant's time training," said Spc. Andrew Dubois, systems operator analyst, NSC.

Still, despite the pressure-cooker environment, "... we always make mission," said Franks.

Army Benefits Center-Civilian (ABC-C)

Managing your civilian benefits options is getting easier with the start up of the ABC-C.

The ABC-C provides automated benefits support to Army appropriated-fund employees through the Interactive Voice Response System (IVRS), the Employee Benefit Information System (EBIS), and trained counselors.

The ABC-C provides services in the following program areas:

- *Retirement (Civil Service and Federal Employees Retirement Systems)
- *Thrift Savings Plan
- *Federal Employees Health Benefits
- *Federal Employees Group Life Insurance
- *Survivor Benefits

The IVRS, an automated self-service program you access from a touch-tone telephone system, allows you to transfer to a benefits counselor for additional assistance.

The EBIS, a web application, allows you to access general and personal benefit information and conduct electronic transactions using a computer. The system contains comprehensive information and personalized benefits statements.

Access EBIS on the web at <http://www.abc.army.mil>; access IVSR by calling one of the following toll-free numbers:

Germany: 0800-1010282 or DSN1986 (no prefix, just this number)

Belgium: 0800-78245

Italy: 800-780821

Netherlands: 0800-0232739

United Kingdom: 08-000857723

Initially, your PIN will be a four-digit number equivalent to your month and year of birth (MMYY). For security purposes, once you access the system, you must change it to a new six-digit number.

Most transactions are processed overnight. You can verify your transaction within 48 hours by revisiting the web site or calling the ABC-C. You can also verify your transaction by reviewing your leave and earnings statement.

Both systems (EBIS and IVSR) are available seven days a week, 21 hours a day. Benefit counselors are available Monday - Friday, 6 a.m. - 8 p.m. central standard time.

“Hylton”

Continued from page 7

as the 15th commander of the Army Signal Command,” said Hylton.

Hylton told Russ that he had clearly laid the foundation for ASC's technological and operational relevance in the 21st century.

“As you depart today, do so with the confidence that your vision will be sustained,” he said.

Hylton told ASC soldiers, civilians, families and members of the industry team that he had big shoes to fill.

“The men and women on the parade field, and the thousands they represent exemplify what’s best about our great country,” he said. “They have my unflinching commitment to keep them persuasive in peace, decisive in war and preeminent across the operational spectrum.”

He was commissioned through the Reserve Officer Training Corps Program in 1971 while earning a bachelor's in business administration from Marshall University. He received a master's in public administration from Golden Gate University. His military education includes the Signal Officer Basic and Advanced Courses, the Radio Systems Officer Course, the Army Command and General Staff College Course and the National War College.

Awards received by Hylton include the Defense Distinguished Service Medal, Defense Superior Service Medal, the Legion of Merit with two Oak Leaf Clusters, the Bronze Star, the Meritorious Service Medal with two Oak Leaf Clusters, and the Army Commendation Medal with one Oak Leaf Cluster.

Hylton is married and has two children.

Editor's Note: McKinney is with the Army Signal Command Public Affairs Office.

“39th Sig. Bn. Plays Key Role”

Continued from page 10

termination and activation of 200 telephones and more than 300 LAN connections. This included the installation of more than 12,000 feet of network cable and 25 AFN satellite TV drops throughout the NSA complex. Also the new Foundry switch equipment and nine cable cabinets for the community's LAN were installed.

In addition to accommodating the customers, the 39th Signal Battalion's NSC Brussels seamlessly relocated from Building 1 to Building 3 in the NATO Support Activity complex.

Editor's Note: Saal is the chief, NSC Brussels.

RCERT-Europe "On Point for USAREUR"

By Col. Brooks Chamberlin

Late at night in a far away land a young man hunches over a computer keyboard. He pauses to admire his work. He finished producing a "computer worm" that will wreak havoc on the Internet.

It may sound like a line from a Tom Clancy novel, but early in May fiction became a reality for USAREUR. As the threat of organized hacking from Chinese sources became a reality, the U.S. Army Regional Computer Emergency

Response Team - Europe (RCERT-E) saw the first attacks hit USAREUR.

The RCERT-E Current Operations Division, referred to as COD, monitors network activity for security-related intrusions and attacks. This office identified the first intrusions and implemented a series of measures tailored to contain and then prevent significant damage to USAREUR computer networks. The quick reaction and professionalism of the RCERT-E stemmed the tide of an all-out assault against computer systems in USAREUR.

Two members of the RCERT-E team, Mr. Lee Liddell and Mr. Trevor Reschke, analysis of attacks on USAREUR networks by a computer worm led to defensive measures and scanning tools adopted across DoD to contain and stop exploitation of computer servers.

The Background for the Attacks: In early April, a U.S. Navy EP-3 surveillance plane and a Chinese fighter jet collided, killing the Chinese pilot and causing the surveillance plane to make an emergency landing on Chinese soil. Chinese hacker groups vowed revenge against the United States using Information Technology warfare.

The Attack: The first attacks were directed at "Sun" computer systems where a known, yet easily fixed, vulnerability was exploited. Once systems were infected, they became vectors to carry out attacks against systems running Microsoft Web Services software. The Sun systems, mostly from academic environments and almost entirely from the United States, proceeded to identify which servers and workstations had Internet web services turned on. Once the addresses for these systems were gathered, the second attack phase began, renaming and moving system files to an accessible directory. After those actions the final phase of the attack caused the web page on web servers to be defaced, usually with an expletive against the U.S. Government and a hacker group known as PoizonBox.

The Defense: At first blush, the attack seemed to be simple web page defacements. Previous web page defacements occurred individ-



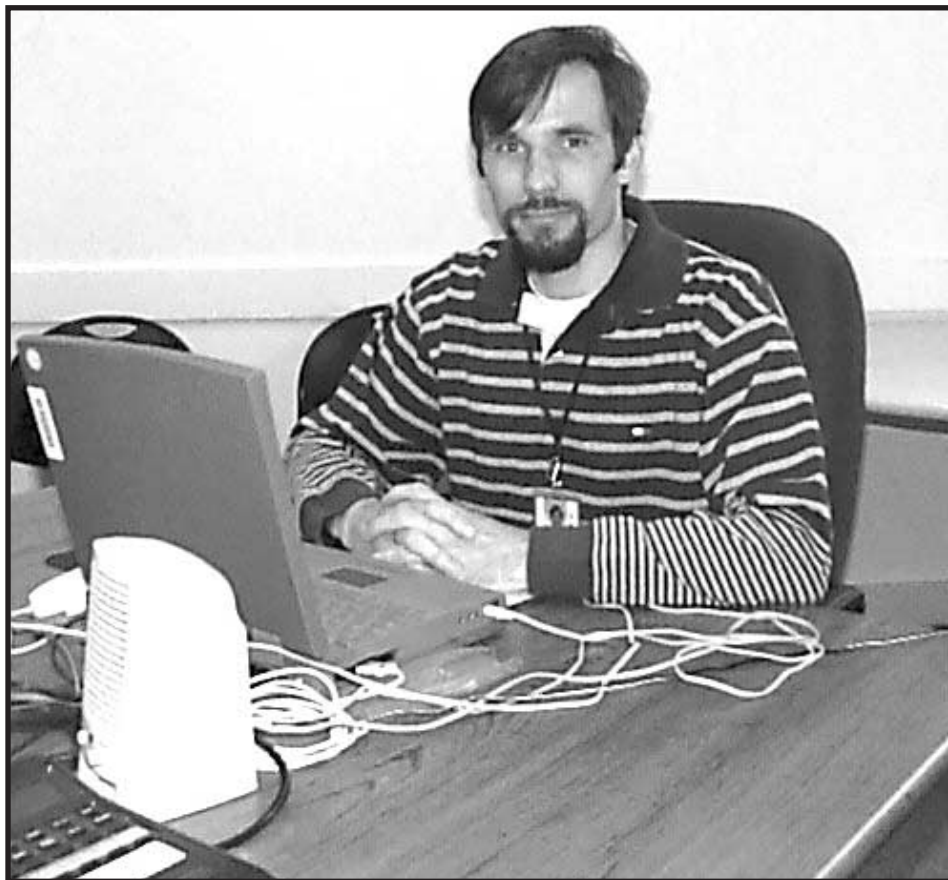
Mr. Lee Liddell

ually, often months apart. But this attack was more aggressive and simplistic in its exploitation of Unicode to send instructions to a system and have it respond to the instructions as if they were coming from the authorized user. Once the COD discovered the Unicode strategy, our Intrusion Detection Systems were updated with software instructions to prevent further attacks on USAREUR systems.

Meanwhile, analysis of the attacks that had already occurred continued. Initially, it had appeared that the attack was against web servers alone. However, further analysis of the Unicode attack code revealed that system files in other kinds of Microsoft Servers had also been renamed and placed where they could be exploited later.

While there were no obvious signs of hacking (such as defaced web pages) on these other servers, hackers had left a backdoor behind and could access and exploit these systems - a potential for serious network damage. The RCERT-E and Information Assurance Program Manager (IAPM) therefore recommended that incoming web site traffic that originated from outside of dot-mil domains be blocked temporarily. This would prevent hackers from exploiting our servers until all systems were checked and configured to avoid exploitation.

Careful in-depth reviews of system logs and the development of computer programs to scan all systems in USAREUR's networks for the renamed files provided the RCERT-E with a list of potentially infected systems. The COD immediately began to notify Information Assurance Managers and System Administrators across USAREUR to inspect their computer systems.



Mr. Trevor Reschke

After the Battle: The cleanup is now complete and inbound web site traffic is back to normal. The COD staff and other forensic specialists within the RCERT-E are the true heroes of the day. They discovered the infected systems and notified the Land Information Warfare Activity and the Army Computer Emergency Response Team to the threat.

The local measures and tools developed by this team were eventually adopted for use across the Department of the Army and Department of Defense. Similarly, some CONUS-based MACOMs adopted our tactic of temporary blocks of selected inbound web site traffic while their units applied the fixes necessary to prevent exploitation.

What next? Sadly, this event echoes the concerns of the previous

article from the 5th Signal Command's DCSINT and USAREUR IAPM. Every one of these successful attacks could have been prevented at the user and unit level. Had fixes required by IAVA and the RCERT-E security baselines (available on the RCERT-E web page) been applied, none of these attacks would have been successful.

This attack underscores two important issues: that IAVA compliance is very important and must be addressed as a high priority, and system administrators are some of our most important security tools. Application of available fixes to known vulnerabilities is the key ingredient for USAREUR to be able to withstand such an attack in order to support our warfighters.

Did You Know?

By IG Staff

This month the IG team want to pass along some major points from The Inspector General Bulletin, slightly edited to provide highlights from each article. The complete articles to the DA publication are located at <http://saig-web1.ignet.army.mil/saig/fr2.htm>.

Contact your Dragon Inspector General if you have any questions, DSN 380-5526.

WEIGHT CONTROL AND "FLAGS"

We found an important change to AR 600-8-2, Suspension of Favorable Personnel Actions (Flags), which may have been overlooked in the last several years. Current Army messages and memorandums allow soldiers who are flagged for failing the Army physical fitness training (APFT) to be recommended for and receive awards. Soldiers who are flagged for weight control may receive a waiver permitting them to be recommended for and receive awards only when the award is for valor, heroism, or length of service retirement.

Paragraph 1-15b(1) of the current AR 600-8-2 states "Flags for weight control block only attendance at full-time civil or military schooling, promotion, assumption of command, and reenlistment or extension." However, MILPER message 88-154 subsequently made several changes to AR 600-8-2. One of those changes prohibits soldiers flagged for weight control to receive awards and decorations. It

states "Following [the word]" promotion," add "awards and decorations."

The message was later amended by MILPER memorandum DTG 01 02 061415Z, published in June 1990. This memorandum authorizes MACOM commanders to approve waivers for soldiers considered for awards due to valor, heroism or for length of service retirement. The MACOM commander may further delegate that authority to other general officers for awards that do not require MACOM level approval (AAM and ARCOM). The message did not make any changes to policies that currently allow soldiers flagged for failing the APFT to be recommended for or receive awards.

Although MILPER messages and memorandums have a two-year expiration date, the expiration of a message does not mean the procedural guidance contained therein has expired. The proponent of AR 600-8-2 has stated these changes will remain in effect until the revised regulation has been published.

MEDICAL TRAVEL REIMBURSEMENT

Section 758 of the National Defense Authorization Act of 2001 provides a travel entitlement for TRICARE Prime enrollees in certain situations. This entitlement applies when enrollees are referred from their Primary Care Manager's (PCM) office to a specialist for necessary specialty care whose office is over 100 miles. The travel entitlement will be implemented by each

Service under the Joint Federal Travel Regulation (JFTR). Each Military Treatment Facility (MTF) will be responsible for handling all their enrollees who must travel for specialty care, and the lead agents will be responsible for civilian PCM referrals. TRICARE management agency officials are working with the Per Diem Travel and Transportation Authorization Committee to include this new provision within the JFTR. This entitlement does not replace the current entitlements in place for travel payment of active duty soldiers by their unit for out-patient travel or payment by the MTFs for in-patient travel as currently stated in the JFTR. The entitlement will be enacted once the changes to the JFTR have been implemented. The "anticipated implementation" date is NLT June 2001.

TRICARE DEBT COLLECTION

To assist TRICARE beneficiaries with resolving debt collection issues, the Under Secretary of Defense (Personnel and Readiness) established Debt Collection Assistance Officer (DCAO) Programs at every lead agent office and at every military treatment facility worldwide. DCAOs provide priority assistance when presented documentation verifying that collection action has been started or that negative information is reflected on a beneficiary's credit report as a result of late or non-payment for medical or dental care received through TRICARE. While DCAOs cannot provide legal advice or act as beneficiary advocates, they will take all measures necessary to

Continued on page 29

Army Knowledge Online Account Mandatory

By Diane A. Grant

WASHINGTON (Army News Service, Aug. 22, 2001) -- Every soldier, reservist and Army civilian will be required to have an Army Knowledge Online account by Oct. 1.

This requirement was spelled out in a memorandum signed Aug. 8 by Secretary of the Army, Thomas E. White and Army Chief of Staff, Gen. Eric K. Shinseki. The memo outlines the goals and direction for Army Knowledge Management, a strategy to transform the Army into a "network-centric, knowledge-based force." The Army Knowledge Online portal is a central part of that strategy.

"The Army Knowledge Management will allow the Army to leverage its knowledge as an enterprise," said Lt. Col Jane F. Maliszewski, director of Strategic Outreach, Army Chief Information Office.

"Army Knowledge Management facilitates the move to an

e-Business environment by harnessing best practices that will improve the efficiency and effectiveness of our management and operations."

In the future soldiers, reservists, National Guardsmen, and civilians will no longer have to send away for copies of their personnel and financial records; they will be able to access this information through an Army Knowledge Online account, officials said. Eventually, they will be able to view and update their personnel data on the Web.

All Army Knowledge Online users will also be given an e-mail account that they can use for the rest of their career and even after retirement. The e-mail address will stay the same no matter where soldiers and civilians are stationed worldwide, officials said.

Army Knowledge Online provides secured access for users, by using encryption mechanisms similar to those used in banks and investment corporations, said the

chief of Army Knowledge Online, Lt. Col. Rod Wade. In the future, new soldiers and employees will be issued an Army Knowledge Online account with their identification card.

"Army Knowledge Online will allow the Army to tailor information to specific groups. If they need to get information out to a certain grade or branch of employees, they can target that group and tailor the information. This allows the Army to operate more efficiently," Wade said.

"Army Knowledge Management will effect a faster more accurate decision cycle for the Army," Maliszewski said, "through greater access to proven information. Eventually, it will provide online employee support services for all soldiers and civilians, as well as a robust knowledge base to enhance our warfighting capabilities."

To sign up for an Army Knowledge Online account go to: www.us.army.mil and click on "I'm a New User" to register.

Tax Relief Program Transitions for Use of the Euro

HEIDELBERG, Germany -- Changes in the tax relief program for U.S. Forces in Germany are already underway to assist personnel in completing deutsche mark tax exempt purchases through the end of 2001 and to begin making tax exempt purchases in the euro currency as of Jan. 1, 2002.

Military and civilian members of the U.S. Forces are now able to acquire euro checks from commu-

nity banking operations, credit unions and civilian banking institutions when they need a "bank check" to pay for tax exempt purchases on the German economy for which they have the option of paying in euro. Army and Air Force tax relief offices will now accept those euro checks and endorse them to the vendor concerned.

Effective Oct. 1, 2001, one-stop tax relief offices -- those offices which can accept cash payment and

issue a value added tax check -- will be able to process tax exempt purchases in euro. This change is in direct response to the request of customers at those offices. Otherwise, priced purchase orders and VAT check payments will continue to be made in DM until the end of this year.

As of Dec. 1, 2001, new euro tax relief forms will be available to customers through Army and Air Force tax relief offices. The new unpriced purchase orders may be used for purchases up to euro 2,500 beginning Jan. 1, 2002.

Current DM forms issued as unpriced purchase orders may be used

“Did You Know?”

Continued from page 27

ensure each case is thoroughly researched and that beneficiaries are provided with written findings and assistance in the minimum time possible.

If a complainant experiences undue payment delay for any TRICARE claim that has not been presented to a debt collection agency, the Beneficiary Counseling and Assistance Coordinators (BCAC) at your lead agent or military treatment facility are available to assist in preventing these issues from becoming debt collection concerns.

Contact information for DCAOs and BCACs can be found on the TRICARE web site at http://www.tricare.osd.mil/dcao/DCAO_Dir.doc and http://www.tricare.osd.mil/tricare/beneficiary/bcac_dir.doc

INITIAL CLOTHING ISSUE REQUIREMENTS

Most units in the field are aware of the requirement in AR 700-84, Issue and Sale of Personal

Clothing, requiring “show down” inventories be conducted of their soldiers with the rank of E-4 and below. To properly conduct these inventories it is imperative that leaders stay abreast of changes in initial issue clothing requirements.

The regulation that governs this issue, common table of allowances (CTA) 50-900, clothing and individual equipment, and the list of items provided in Appendix E, AR 670-1, Wear and Appearance of Army Uniforms and Insignia, are outdated. To ensure current requirements are known, the DA Deputy Chief of Staff for Logistics publishes a “Clothing Bag” list each FY. This list is the standard and should be used to inventory soldiers’ clothing.

Particular attention should be paid to the notes on the bottom of the clothing bag list. Items like the coat cold weather camouflage (Field Jacket) are issued in a quantity greater than what the soldier is required to maintain. The quantities issued are only required to complete basic training. After completing basic training, soldiers are only required to maintain the items and

quantities for which the Army provides a Clothing Replacement Allowance (CRA). The FY 01 clothing bag list and CTA 50-900 can be found on the web at <http://www.forscom.army.mil/ocie/>. Mandatory possession date memorandums have been published for some items on the list. Most of those memorandums can also be found on the web site.

The requirements in AR 670-1 Appendix D-2b, which explains that unusual wear and tear of one clothing bag item is offset by the CRA provided for another item, is sometimes misunderstood as justification to require a soldier to maintain all items and quantities on the clothing bag list. The CRA provided for one item can offset the cost of another CRA covered item. It does not offset the cost of a non-CRA covered item. It is not justification to require a non-CRA item be maintained.

Soldiers are consistently told to maintain all of their “initial issue.” It is important that leaders provide proper guidance regarding what “initial issue” includes.

through Dec. 31, 2001. Beginning Jan. 1, 2002, customers will not be able to use these expired forms unless they take them to a tax relief office for modification to the Euro. Customers are encouraged to acquire enough of the current DM forms to meet their needs through Dec. 31, 2001. This will limit the number of unused DM forms customers would have to have modified and help them avoid possible delays in receiving tax relief services after the holiday period.

Effective Jan. 1, 2002, new priced purchase order forms will be

available to customers to transact purchases above euro 2,500.

Members of the U.S. Forces who are patrons of the Utilities Tax Avoidance Program are reminded that there are no requirements for individuals to make any changes on their UTAP tax relief agreement, however, they will be required to make payments to servicing utility companies in euro beginning January 2002.

USAREUR and USAFE will host a joint one-day training and certification workshop on Oct. 25, 2001, for community tax relief officials.

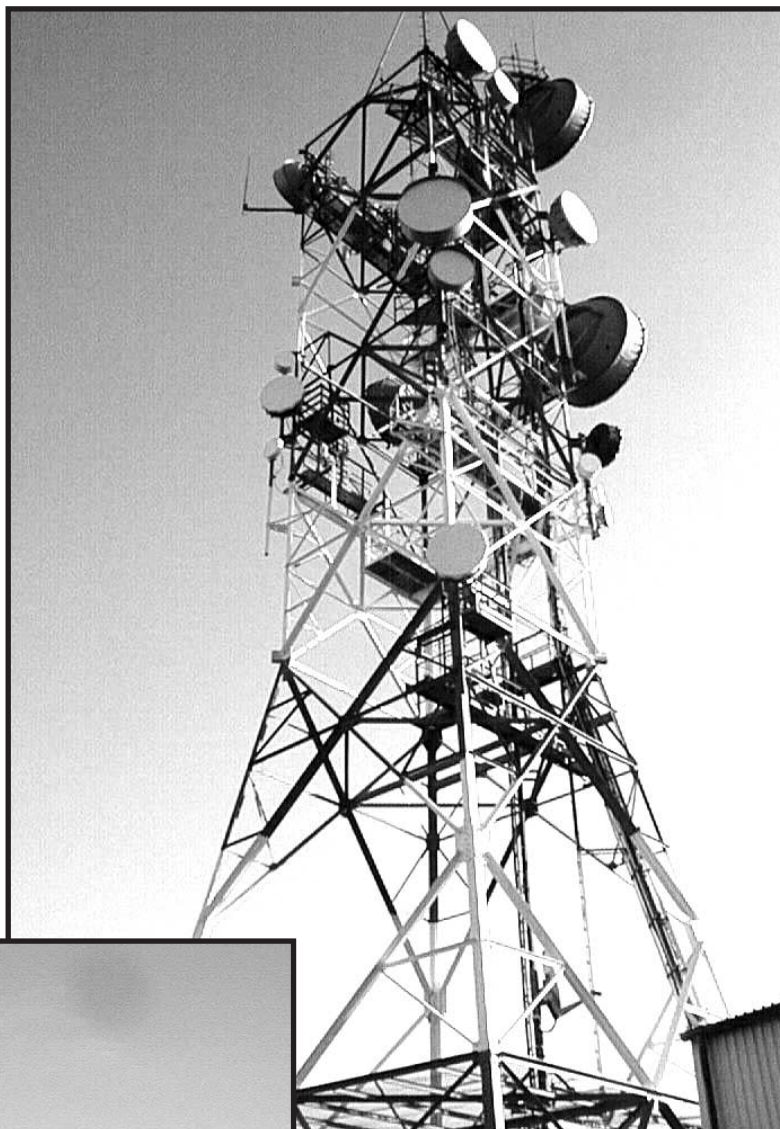
This special training workshop will be held at the USAREUR MWR Training and Development Center in Schwetzingen and will address new tax relief policies and transition procedures for use of the new EURO currency on Jan. 1, 2002. For additional information please contact Mr. Dave Mattingly, USAREUR tax relief officer at 379-6504 (email: mattingd@hq.hqusareur.army.mil) or Ms. Bea Crider, acting USAFE tax relief officer at 496-6566 (email: bea.crider@sembach.af.mil.)

Facility Modernization - Communication Tower Upgrades

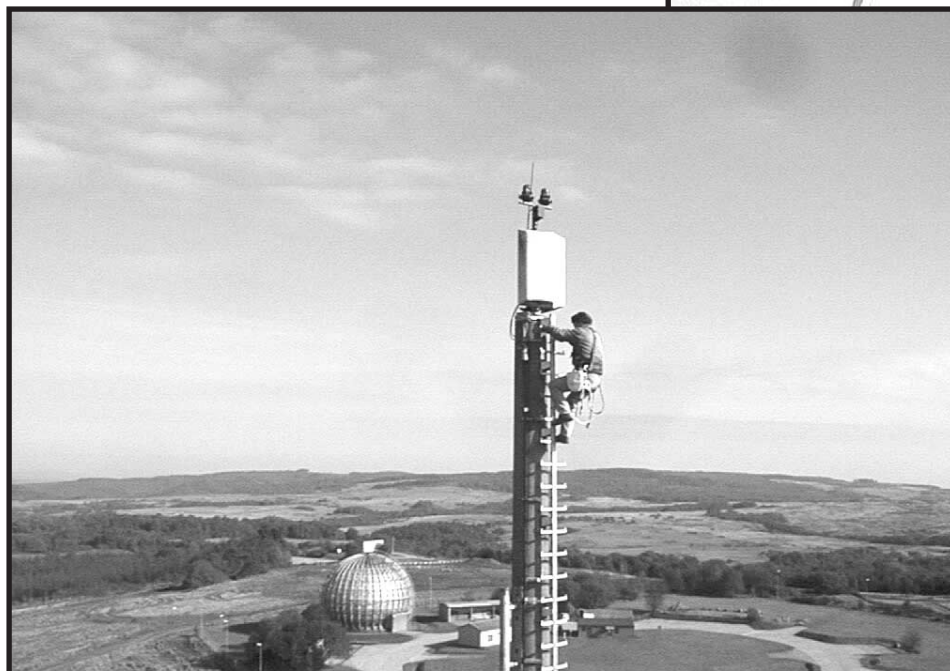
As part of an ongoing program to modernize 5th Signal Command's facilities, the DCSENGR has embarked on an effort to upgrade more than 40 communications and AFN towers. The upgrades will bring towers into compliance with the latest safety and structural standards.

The towers in question are both steel and concrete structures. The current schedule is to complete all structural repair and maintenance by the year 2004. Cost of the upgrades is estimated at \$5 million, of which a part is being financed by the U.S. Army Signal Command.

Thus far, all the towers have been surveyed and prioritized by severity of deterioration. Each upgrade consists of a design and a construction effort executed by various German government construction agencies.



Above: Stuttgart DII



Left: Mr. William Gibson descending Baumholder TV Tower after changing light bulbs.

Use of Government Computer Systems

By CJA Staff

The Joint Ethics Regulation (JER), DOD 5500.7-R, is the primary regulation concerning the ethical obligations of government service. The JER applies to all Department of Defense employees, to include all active duty military and DoD civilian officers or employees. Aspects of this regulation are punitive in nature; violations of the JER may be punishable as violations of a lawful general order, or of Article 92, Uniform Code of Military Justice (UCMJ).

A general principle, which serves as the foundation for the JER, is that government property should only be used for official purposes. A punitive portion of the JER that applies to the use of federal government resources states, "Federal Government communication systems and equipment (including Government owned telephones, facsimile machines, electronic mail, Internet systems, and commercial systems when use is paid for by the Federal government) shall be for official use and authorized purposes only."

This language is found in paragraph 2-301 (a) of the JER and is in bold face, which indicates that it has the effect of a lawful general order. This means that any misuse of government resources or use for unauthorized purposes can result in either punitive measure under the

UCMJ or civilian penalties under applicable federal regulations.

Official use is defined as any uses that are necessary in the interest of the Federal Government. Morale calls only fall into this category if approved by theater commanders for deployed soldiers.

The JER does allow some limited use for personal reasons with the prior approval from a supervisor in the grade of GS-11 or above or a commissioned officer. Examples include brief calls home while on temporary duty or any communications that are reasonably made while at the work place. This includes phone calls to home, scheduling doctor or auto repair appointments, brief Internet searches, or other limited convenience purposes. However, it must be stressed that this can only be done with supervisor approval.

In addition, there are some limitations to this provision. The use of government resources should not adversely affect official duty performance. It should be of reasonable duration and frequency and done during personal time whenever possible. It must serve a legitimate public interest such as keeping employees at their desks. It must not reflect adversely on the Department of Defense and not overburden the communication system or create significant additional costs.

The JER states that, in accordance with applicable laws

and regulations, use of government systems may be monitored. All employees should use Federal communications systems with the understanding that any use constitutes consent to monitoring for any type of use.

The language in the JER does create constraints for the use of government resources for official purposes. The legal experts in the Standards of Conduct Office for the Department of the Army have interpreted the JER as limiting political or religious messages in official correspondence, often seen as quotes attached to the signature blocks in e-mail message. All government employees should understand, also, that misuse of government systems might result in the supervisor limiting or withholding approval for personal use.

Generally, the Director of Information Systems for Command, Control, Communications, and Computers, has issued guidance stating that Army e-mail should not be used in ways that would interfere with official duties, undermine readiness, reflect adversely on the Department of Defense, or any unlawful activity or personal commercial purposes. This includes chain letters, unofficial advertising, soliciting or selling via e-mail, and other uses incompatible with public service.

The bottom line is that the public provides the Army the resources that it needs to conduct official business. All soldiers and DA civilians should be mindful of this public trust and only use government systems for authorized purposes.

PROMOTIONS

Nominated for Major General

Brig. Gen. Quagliotti

May and June Promotions To:

HHC, 5th Signal Command

Babel Sgt.
Boudreaux Staff Sgt.
Clay-Vaughn Staff Sgt.

2nd Signal Brigade

Dukes Master Sgt.
Henderson Pfc.
Holloway Pfc.
Jackson Staff Sgt.
Merrill Sgt.
Miller-Butchee Staff Sgt.
Platt Staff Sgt.
Solis Staff Sgt.
Stuard Staff Sgt.
Tempke Spc.
Williams Sgt.

7th Signal Brigade

Badillograjales Spc.
Bandera Pfc.
Durham Staff Sgt.
Engels Sgt.
Foster Spc.
Gibson Spc.
Glenetski Sgt.
Gonzalez Pfc.
Granberry Pfc.
Gunnsmith Sgt.
Henning Sgt.
House Sgt.
Hudak Pfc.
Johnson Sgt.
Jubert Spc.
Lewis Staff Sgt.
Mahan Pfc.
McCartney Spc.
Miller Sgt.
Morris Sgt.
Munoz Pfc.
Myers Spc.
Payton Maj.
Ray Sgt.

Robinson Staff Sgt.
Smith Sgt.
Smith Spc.
Smith Sgt.
Smotherman Pfc.
Thibodeaux Sgt.
Travaras Staff Sgt.
Wagoner Spc.
Whitlowe Sgt. 1st Class
Wodecki Spc.

Lt. Col. Strickland HHC, 5th
Staff Sgt. Van Duzer HHC, 5th
Master Sgt. Ward HHC, 5th

Commander's Award for Civilian Service

Ms. Maroney 39th, 2nd
Ms. Baxley HHC, 5th

Army Commendation Medal

Sgt. Acosta C. Co., 44th
Sgt. 1st Class Appicelli HHD, 72nd
Sgt. 1st Class Burnette HHD, 2nd
Sgt. Cortez HHD, 2nd
Sgt. Cwiok 52nd, 2nd
Spc. Davis 52nd, 2nd
Sgt. Johnson 58th, 72nd
Spc. Jones HHC, 5th
Staff Sgt. Jones HHC, 7th
Capt. Kendrick HHC, 44th
Capt. Keske HHC, 7th
Staff Sgt. Krueger 324th, 72nd
Capt. Kwee 268th, 72nd
Sgt. Lanspeary HHC, 44th
Sgt. Leonard 324th, 72nd
WO Levaine A Co., 44th
Sgt. 1st Class Makaiau B Co., 44th
Sgt. 1st Class Marcus A Co., 44th
WO Mims A Co., 44th
Sgt. Miller 52nd, 2nd
Spc. Moore A Co., 44th
Staff Sgt. Moses HHC, 5th
Spc. Nethken HHC, 44th
Sgt. 1st Class Pacheco 43rd, 2nd
Sgt. Pankey HHC, 7th
Sgt. Pittman 52nd, 2nd
Sgt. Ponce 43rd, 2nd
Sgt. Releford 43rd, 2nd
Sgt. Rosado-Sanchez 324th, 72nd
Sgt. 1st Class Saxton B Co., 44th
Staff Sgt. Stewart HHC, 5th
Sgt. Soto HHD, 72nd
Sgt. Sulyans HHC, 7th
Staff Sgt. Turner HHD, 2nd
Sgt. Walker 324th, 72nd
Spc. Whitaker 43rd, 2nd
Staff Sgt. William HHC, 7th
Sgt. 1st Class Williams HHC, 7th
Sgt. 1st Class Woolridge 43rd, 2nd
Staff Sgt. Youngquist 43rd, 2nd

AWARDS

Legion of Merit

Lt. Col. Bonnewitz HHC, 5th
Master Sgt. Fairley HHC, 7th
Lt. Col. Kirby HHC, 7th
Maj. Zionk HHC, 7th

Superior Civilian Service Award

Mr. Neal HHC, 5th
Mr. Johnson HHC, 5th

Meritorious Service Award

Sgt. 1st Class Andrus 52nd, 2nd
Maj. Bailey HHC, 7th
Com. Sgt. Maj. Brown HHD, 2nd
Lt. Col. Burnett HHD, 2nd
Master Sgt. Dibert HHC, 7th
Lt. Col. Dowdy HHC, 5th
CWO Filipowski HHC, 5th
Master Sgt. Hanner HHC, 7th
Sgt. 1st Class Harp HHC, 5th
Sgt. 1st Class Johnson HHC, 7th
Maj. Jones HHC, 5th
Staff Sgt. Jones HHC, 7th
Maj. Maley HHC, 5th
Sgt. 1st Class Morris HHD, 2nd
Master Sgt. Neilson HHC, 5th
Maj. O'Connor 43rd, 2nd
Maj. O'Connor HHC, 7th
Maj. O'Malley HHD, 2nd
Warrant Officer Padro HHC, 7th
Capt. Paraan HHD, 2nd
Capt. Peyton HHC, 7th
Sgt. Maj. Scott 43rd, 2nd
Capt. Segars HHC, 7th
Master Sgt. Shebaro HHC, 7th
Maj. Smith HHC, 7th
Maj. Smith 509th, 7th

Achievement Medal for Civilian Service

Mr. Cole	69th, 2nd
Mr. Acker	69th, 2nd
Mr. Griffin, III	39th, 2nd
Ms. Lozada	HHD, 2nd
Ms. Gallup	HHC, 5th

Army Achievement Medal

Staff Sgt. Bond	HHC, 7th
Staff Sgt. Clay-Vaughn	HHC, 5th
Spc. DeJesus	43rd, 2nd
Spc. Itson	HHC, 7th
Sgt. Lane	52nd, 2nd
Spc. Little	HHC, 5th
Sgt. Lopez	HHC, 7th
Spc. Reynolds	HHC, 7th

LENGTH OF SERVICE

AWARDS

40 Years of Service

Mr. Cascarano	HHC, 5th
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35 Years of Service

Ms. Benayad	43rd, 2nd
Mr. Peters	HHC, 5th

30 Years of Service

Mr. Denig	43rd, 2nd
Mr. May	43rd, 2nd
Mr. Proeller	69th, 2nd
Karel Keak	102nd, 2nd
Mr. Winter	HHC, 5th

25 Years of Service

Mr. Johnson	HHC, 5th
Mr. Kerr	HHC, 5th
Mr/ Buchinger	43rd, 2nd
Mr. Rodriguez	43rd, 2nd
Ms. Meckel	HHD, 2nd

20 Years of Service

Mr. Pronk	43rd, 2nd
Mr. Scharrer	69th, 2nd
Ms. Peters	102nd, 2nd
Mr. Jennings	HHC, 5th

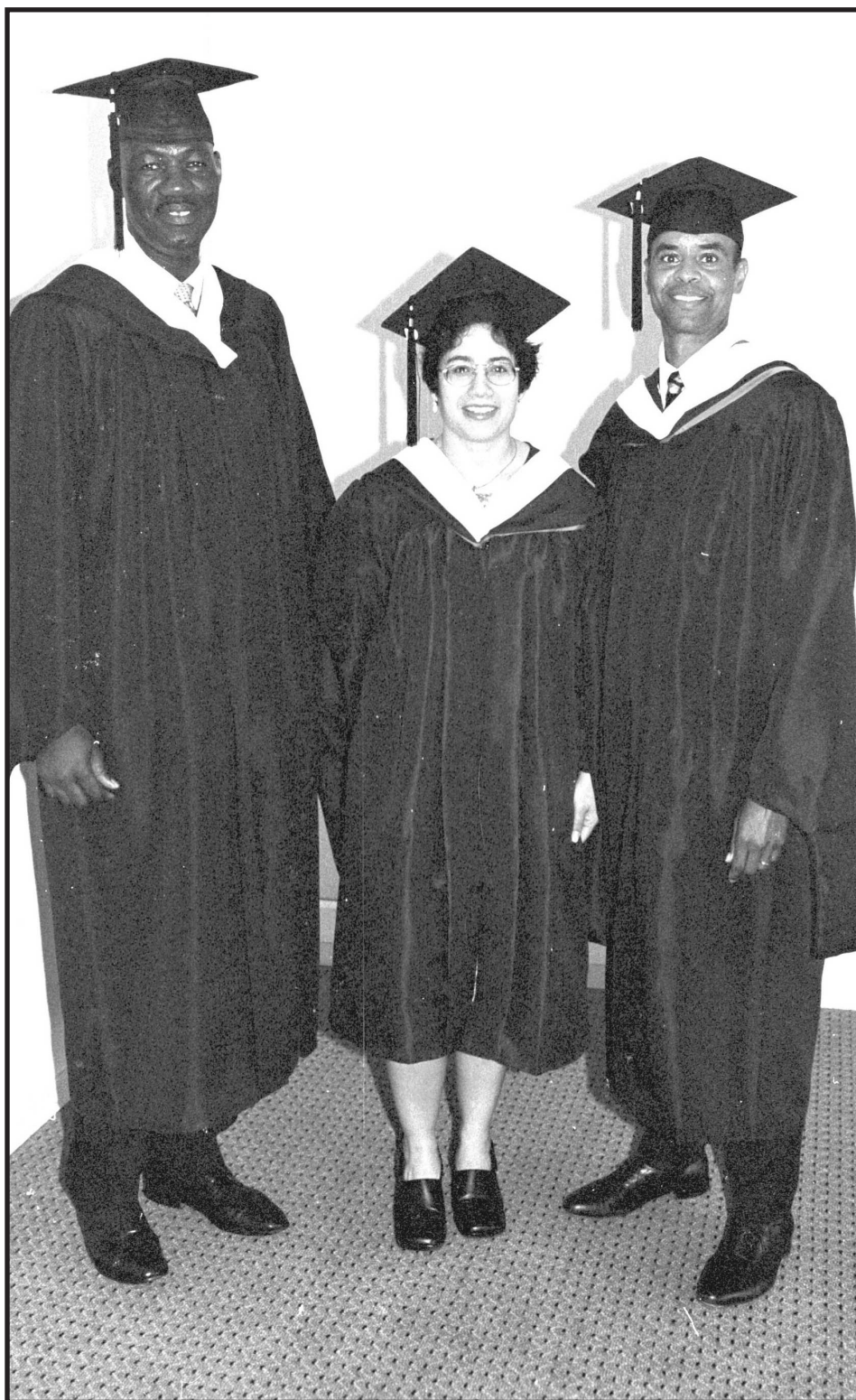


Photo by Spc. Jan Allende

Dragon Warriors earn Master's Degree

Kudos for top noncommissioned officers earning their Master's Degree in Human Relations from the University of Okalahoma. From left to right: Sgt. Major Michael Davis, Master Sgt. Venus Carpenter, and Sgt. Major Amos Keith.

Task Force Oregon's Signal Battalion

The 509th Sig. Bn. Role in Supporting Task Force Oregon in Vietnam.

By Danny Johnson

In February 1967, Gen. William C. Westmoreland, the commander of U.S. Forces in Vietnam, organized a planning group to establish an Army Task Force to send to the northern I Corps area of Vietnam. Westmoreland needed an infantry division but realized that none would be arriving from the United States for some time. So the decision was made to form a division using assets already in Vietnam. Maj. Gen. William B. Rosson headed up the planning group for this task force. This planning effort would ultimately turn into a multi-brigade force called Task Force Oregon, composed of the 196th Light Infantry Brigade; the 1st Brigade, 101st Airborne Division; and the 3rd Brigade, 25th Infantry Division (replaced in August 1967 by the 3rd Brigade, 4th Infantry Division). Rosson would become Task Force Oregon's first commander.

Task Force Oregon became an operational entity on April 20, 1967, when troops from the 196th Infantry Brigade landed at the Chu Lai Airstrip to conduct infantry operations around the base camp that would ultimately become the headquarters for Task Force Oregon. Personnel from the 3rd Brigade, 4th Infantry Division began search and destroy operations in the Southern Quang Ngai Province, and in May 1967, the 1st Brigade, 101st Airborne Division arrived at Duc Pho conducting operations in the jungles west of Duc Pho. At one point, there was even an amphibious tractor platoon of Marines attached to the 196th Infantry Brigade!

Task Force Oregon's early operations included Malheur I and Malheur II, Hood River, Benton and Cook. In September 1967, Operation Wheeler was launched against elements of the 2nd North Vietnamese Division working the area northwest of Chu Lai.

Communications support for Task Force Oregon came from signal assets already within Vietnam, primarily from the 1st Signal Brigade. Contingency stocks and units of the 1st Signal Brigade were used to form a tactical signal unit that would ultimately become the divisional signal battalion for the 23rd - which was called the AMERICAL Infantry Division. The 1st Signal Brigade's, 21st Signal Group, provided the



Combat signalmen with Task Force Oregon on patrol.

majority of the signal support to Task Force Oregon while it was in existence.

The battalion headquarters came from Headquarters and Headquarters Detachment, 509th Signal Battalion. The 459th Signal Battalion furnished its Company C and the 36th Signal Battalion provided its Company A. A reinforced platoon from the 167th Radio Relay

Company was also part of this ad hoc battalion. The 3rd Brigade, 25th Division had its own signal support that consisted of a portion of Company B, 125th Signal Battalion. The 196th Infantry Brigade received its support from the 156th Signal Platoon (Forward Area). Company B, 501st Signal Battalion, supported the 1st Brigade, 101st Airborne Division. Headquarters and Headquarters Detachment, 509th Signal Battalion arrived in Vietnam by way of Fort Huachuca, Ariz in September 1966.

It deployed to Vietnam as a headquarters detachment only. It was initially based at An Khe, where it supported the An Khe area as well as the 1st Cavalry Division with communications. In April 1967, the battalion headquarters moved to Chu Lai to begin support to Task Force Oregon. In September 1967, the 23d Infantry Division (AMERICAL) was activated replacing Task Force Oregon. The 509th remained supporting this division-sized force until its assets were used to form the AMERICAL Division's, 523rd Signal Battalion in January 1968. With the activation of the 523rd Signal Battalion in January 1968, HHD, 509th Signal Battalion was inactivated in Vietnam. It earned two Vietnam campaign streamers for its efforts there.

In December 1976, HHD, 509th Signal Battalion returned to the active rolls of the Army this time in Vicenza, Italy. This would be the first return of the battalion to Europe in many years. Today, the 509th is assigned to the 7th Signal Brigade where it provides support to SETAF.

(Johnson is the Media and Historical Affairs Officer, Public Affairs Office, HQ, 5th Signal Command).

Combined Endeavor 2001

“Interoperability for Future Operations”

Story and Photo by
William Triplett

BAUMHOLDER, Germany -- More than 1,000 service members and civilians from 37 countries and NATO were at the German military training installation, Lager Aulenbach, near Baumholder, Germany, testing the interoperability of their communications and information systems, or CIS.

Combined Endeavor 2001, known as CE 2001, allowed nations to integrate their CIS and test its compatibility with each other. The exercise-workshop, labeled the largest communications and information systems exercise in the world, also provides a peacetime exchange for participants to engage socially and recreationally.

The two-week exercise-workshop, May 10 - 24, was a culmination of a year of planning by participating countries.

Testing was conducted on information systems and assurance,

wide area and local area networks, digital and analog switchboards and high-frequency transmissions systems.

On the technical side, the interoperability testing conducted amongst participating countries will determine “what works and what does not work,” said Lt.Col. James E. Barrineau, exercise director, CE 2001. “Often, communications equipment purchased by different countries does not conform to the same standards, requiring extra effort and expense to maintain connectivity. Combined Endeavor is designed to fix those problems,” said Barrineau.

Information gained and lessons learned during the exercise-workshops is compiled into interoperability guides and distributed to all participating countries. These guides will enable countries to work more effectively together in future real-world operations.

“Working with the other countries was an excellent experi-

ence not only for me but, for my team as well,” said Staff Sgt. Mark Brust, platoon sergeant, C Company, 72nd Signal Battalion. “The training we got will help if we have to connect with a country that has different equipment. We will already know how to work the system in and keep it in for as long as needed,” said Brust.

Since 1995, the U.S. European Command in Stuttgart, Germany, has sponsored Combined Endeavor under its in the spirit of “Partnership for Peace” program. Germany has hosted the multinational engagement every year.

German and American support personnel from the German Raketenantillerielehrbataillon 52 (52nd Rocket Artillery Battalion), the U.S. Army 222nd Base Support Battalion and the U.S. Army 5th Signal Command built an entire infrastructure to accommodate the massive influx of participants and equipment. Aside from the standard lodging, mess and deployment functions, support personnel meticulously laid out cabling and designed work areas for maximum productivity. There was even a “Cyber Café,” so participants could stay in touch with families and co-workers on-line and access the Internet.

Countries participating in CE2001 included Albania, Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, the Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Macedonia, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Lithuania, Moldova, the Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Romania, Russia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Ukraine, the United Kingdom, the United States, and Uzbekistan.



Lt. Col. Berrineau, in front of the EUCOM flag, leads group on 3-mile run during Sports Day/Bar-B-Q activities.

