

The Outpost

Published for the employees and families of Yuma Proving Ground, Yuma Test Center, U.S. Army Garrison - Yuma, Cold Regions Test Center, and Tropic Regions Test Center

U.S. Army Yuma Proving Ground, Yuma, Arizona 85365

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New entrance gate at Yuma Test Center serves drivers better than ever ***Gate named after Gen. Walton 'Bulldog' Walker***

by Yolie Canales

A spanking new state-of-the-art entrance gate opened at the Yuma Test Center headquarters area early this month, witnessed by over 200 members of the workforce and people from town. A historic event, the gate replaces a temporary structure created in the days after 2001's attack on the World Trade Center towers.

The gate is named after Gen. Walton "Bulldog" Walker, who served under Gen. George Patton and trained troops for desert warfare in preparation for World War II's North African campaign in an area that became part of the proving ground.

Col. Thomas Payne, Yuma Proving Ground commander, said he decided to name the new gate in honor of Walker because of his profound impact on the establishment of YPG. Walker was killed in 1950 in a vehicle accident in Korea.

In addition to the Walker Gate ribbon cutting, Payne dedicated an M41 tank, known by tank crews as the "Walker Bulldog tank," an agile and well-armed vehicle that began its production run in 1951. The tank will remain on display as visitors make their way to the installation's entrance.

With thousands of vehicles passing through each day, a main gate entrance of any installation is critical to creating a positive first impression. When Payne took command of YPG two years ago, this gate was one of the many things he wanted to accomplish before moving on. He commented on numerous occasions, "I've been to numerous military installations in my career and the gate at YPG is one of the least attractive I've seen."

Even though he is leaving behind a permanent improvement to the proving ground with the new gate, the reality is what goes behind the

scenes. "It's all about the vital testing that takes place here and the nearly 3,000 employees who come through our gates every morning that mean the most," said Payne. "While I'm proud of the team effort behind the gate, the work that we perform each day is what is really significant."

Prior to September 11, 2001, YPG was an open post. Security personnel were stationed only at sites where sensitive testing was being conducted. The new "Walker" gate features three vehicle lanes, each with a large covered overhead and attractive guard shack that are climate controlled. In addition, the gate meets all necessary security requirements.

Employees and visitors can now look forward to going through a much more efficient and improved security screening and entry to the installation. The long, single line of vehicles that once snaked out to Laguna Dam Road on many mornings now is officially a

thing of the past.

Of course, all this would not have been possible without the team of individuals involved in the planning and execution of the project. A joint effort between YPG's Director of Public Works (DPW) and Pyramid Services, portions of the construction was contracted out to a number of local companies.

"From the electrical to the design, to the asphalt and concrete work to the overhead shade and placing of the guard shacks, to the carpenters and right down to grounds people, it all came together without major problems," said Reginald Willoughby, construction representative for DPW's Engineering Division. "And it was all accomplished to deliver a product that the end user is happy with."

It's safe to say that YPG's drivers are satisfied with the result.



Yuma Proving Ground commander Col. Thomas Payne (cutting ribbon) Lt. Col. Stephen Milton, YTC commander (left) Rick Martin, (next to Payne) garrison manager, local dignitaries and YPG personnel, gather for the official grand opening of the new Walker Gate in the Yuma Test Center area earlier this month. (Photo by Mark Schauer)

News Notes

Paid internship/scholarship opportunity available now

The U.S. Department of Agriculture is accepting applications for the 2011 USDA Public Service Leaders Scholarship Program! This program provides a combined scholarship and internship opportunity to college and university students leading to permanent employment with USDA upon completion of their degree.

Students selected into the program will receive:

- * Full-tuition scholarship
- * Paid internship leading to permanent employment
- * Employee benefits, mentoring, career development, and leadership training and use of a personal computer.

For a listing of available scholarships and to apply online, please visit www.usdascholarships.com blocked<http://www.usdascholarships.com/>.

Successful applicants are leaders in their community and committed to public service. Selectees will intern during the summer and return to their home institution to complete degree requirements. Airfare is paid for by the agency. Upon graduation, scholarship recipients become permanent employees of the USDA and must be prepared to work for USDA for one year for each year of educational assistance received.

The application deadline is May 20. If you have any questions, please call (202) 720-6506 or email: Sandra.cortez@osec.usda.gov <blockedmailto:Sandra.cortez@osec.usda.gov>.

**Come out and enjoy a "Free" concert,
an evening of fun and relaxation**

The 36th Army Band

will perform patriotic marches, popular themes from movies, jazz, medleys and much more!



**Place: Historic Yuma Theatre
Time: 7:00 p.m.
Date: Wednesday, 25 May 2011**

Tickets are "free" but seats are limited. Limit four tickets per person

YPG employees can obtain tickets at the Public Affairs Office, Bldg. 2100, Rm 39 or call 328-6533. The public can obtain tickets at the Yuma Art Center, 254 Main Street, and (928-373-5202). Tickets will be available at the Yuma Art Center beginning Wednesday, May 11 and at YPG on Thursday, May 12.

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New fiscal reality doesn't change what is owed to Soldiers, families

submitted by Lt. Gen. Rick Lynch

A fundamentally different fiscal reality. We will be hearing some variation of that phrase from Army leaders for a long time to come. The Army's budget is smaller than it has been in previous years, and it will get smaller still. However, a different fiscal reality does not change the reality of what we owe to Soldiers and families for their service and sacrifice. The Army's commitment to Soldiers and families remains as strong as ever.

For the last 18 months, the Installation Management community has been taking a hard look at the programs and services we provide to Soldiers and families, with an eye not only to costs but also to effectiveness. As the inevitable belt-tightening comes, we are not trying to do more with less. We are working to make sure we can do the important things better.

One of our most important efforts has been to fully establish survivor outreach services (SOS), to provide survivors with longer-term, expanded support and care after casualty assistance ends. SOS staff have made tremendous progress in a short time, receiving more than 24,000 cases from Casualty and Mortuary Affairs, and they continue to enhance services as more survivors provide feedback. This past year, SOS initiated a survivor vehicle decal program to ease installation access, established a Facebook page, and held the first annual SOS summit to address challenges survivors face.

Other efforts include:

Transforming how Army Community Service delivers services, by cross-training more generalists to handle multiple programs and moving service locations out into communities.

Adding 44 more Systems Navigators to Exceptional Family Member Programs at 26 installations, to assist families with special needs members in accessing educational, medical, housing and personnel services on and off post.

Hiring more than 240 additional Army Substance Abuse Program counselors for installations worldwide.

Launching the Confidential Alcohol Treatment and Education Pilot, a program which allows Soldiers to seek help for addiction without mandatory command involvement.

Launching a pilot program in which military student transition consultants join school liaison officers in working with school districts, garrisons and families to help students succeed at their new schools.

Revising the Total Army Sponsorship Program that helps prepare Soldiers, families and civilians for their new duty station.

Reinvigorating the Army Family Action Plan process, with an analysis and review process that has reduced the backlog of active AFAP issues



Lt. Gen. Rick Lynch

from 86 in February 2010 to 51 in February 2011.

This is a snapshot of what we have been doing to enhance support for Soldiers and families. It does not begin to convey the full scope of the programs and services installation management professionals provide every day, including housing, public works, emergency services, environmental programs, recreation, child care, single Soldier programs and Family programs.

When we look at some big indicators, we see evidence that the Army is meeting the needs of Soldiers and families. The Army is exceeding its recruitment and retention goals, and on the most recent survey of Army families, the majority of spouses said they are satisfied with the Army as a way of life. This is significant after 10 years of ongoing conflict—it speaks to the dedication of Soldiers and their Families and the Army's commitment to providing a quality of life commensurate with their service.

In the new fiscal reality, it will be more of a challenge for the Installation Management Community to provide the level of support we want for our Soldiers and families, but we will. We are finding better and smarter ways to provide services and programs by asking ourselves the same questions families ask when they look at their own budgets: do we really need it? Is it worth the cost? What are we willing to do without?

To answer these questions, we need to keep hearing from Soldiers and family members— through ICE and local AFAP summits, for example— about the specifics of what is working, what needs to be improved, and what is missing. The commitment to supporting Soldiers and families remains as strong as ever, but more than ever, we have to make sure we are on target in meeting their needs.

*Next Outpost
deadline is noon
May 19th*

Remembering the Alamo each day

Ten years of dedicated work showcased

by Mary F. Flores

It took 10 years for Yuma Proving Ground history buff Steve Greeley, museum specialist, to gather a huge assemblage of intricate tiny replicas of soldiers, artillery and other appropriate paraphernalia, and little more than two weeks to assemble a stupendous diorama of the 1836 battle at the Alamo.

Greeley, who spends many of his off duty hours as a history hobbyist and re-enactor, put the diorama on display at YPG's Heritage Center for public viewing earlier this month.

"My diorama of the Alamo was spawned by my interest in the history of the first half of the 19th century, because of its connection to the Napoleonic wars," Greeley explained. "The Napoleonic wars are a historical period in which I have been interested for many years."

Even though the battle at the Alamo took place 175 years ago, most of the weapons used by the Mexican Army and the Texan defenders were the same as those used at the battle of Waterloo in 1815. In addition, President General Antonio Lopez de Santa Anna, Mexico's self-proclaimed dictator, considered himself the "Napoleon of the West."



Steve Greeley carefully puts final touches to the Alamo display. The diorama of the 1836 battle at the Alamo will be on display at the Yuma Proving Ground Heritage Center through the month of June for public viewing. (Photo by Mark Schauer)

The diorama depicts the moment before dawn on March 6, 1836, when the Mexican Army advanced in silence toward the Alamo, in an attempt to catch the defenders by surprise. Colorful, miniature plastic Mexican soldiers formed in battalions are lined up in two ranks, surrounding the perimeter of the Alamo, as they did on that historic day.

Although Greeley purchased hun-

dreds of display pieces from various hobby shops over the years, many figures used in the diorama, for example; "The Alamo Mission," were hand-made by Greeley himself.

"I did a lot of embellishing with paint, clay, aluminum and thread," he said. "I made one particular Mexican soldier's hat out of masking tape with clay inside, then used red thread and a toothpick to form the headdress." Many of the plastic soldiers that make up the Mexican Army needed to have uniforms painted on, so he painted each piece, one-by-one, a tedious task that took hours over the course of several years.

If you visit the Alamo today, the City of San Antonio has grown around it and the majority of it has vanished — the Alamo no longer appears as it did in 1836. Although archeologists still discover new facts about the Alamo every day, no one really knows definitively exactly how

it looked during the siege. A major part of the Alamo was destroyed when the Mexican army was ordered to retreat from Texas after the Texans won their independence. They destroyed the free standing walls of the Alamo and most artillery pieces and artillery positions inside. Shortly after the siege, squatters and other people moved inside the Alamo and lived there for an indeterminate time, and in the process, up until 1870, these squatters destroyed most of the original buildings to make space for new buildings.

What is left today is quite different from 1836, Greeley said. "In 1845, Texas became a state and two years later the U.S. Army moved into the unfinished Alamo chapel and utilized it as a quartermaster depot. Later, the Army constructed the top portion of the Alamo's chapel, known as the 'Alamo hump,' which is as it appears today."

Yuma Proving Ground made history in 2004 when it test fired a full size model 1841 six pound cannon for the History Channel, similar to the plastic figures used in Greeley's Alamo diorama. Copper cannon balls were fired from the gun and captured with high-speed photography as they were aimed at a 24 foot-wide target.

Members of the public are encouraged to view the impressive Alamo diorama and Greeley will gladly provide a brief history lesson as an added bonus.

The diorama will be on display through the month of June at YPG's Heritage Center, located in the Main Administrative Area. Hours of operation are Monday through Friday, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. For more information, call (928) 328-3394.

Annual event helps safety record

by Mark Schauer

'Nobody gets hurt' is the safety ethos at YPG, and is a difficult ideal to accomplish given the inherently dangerous nature of testing weapons and explosives. Though these tests take place each day, many years have passed since the last fatal testing accident occurred.

The safety mission is harder than ever given the dramatic increase in workload in recent years, yet the proving ground's safety program has been recognized with multiple awards from the Developmental Test Command, which oversees Army test centers. YPG's senior leadership feels the proving ground's annual safety awareness week plays a major role in maintaining this sterling record.

"YPG is the leader in the command and we are extremely proud of it," said Tony Brockington, director of safety at YPG. "Other installations have safety stand-downs after a mishap or a single annual safety day, but we are the only installation in DTC that devotes an entire week to safety awareness. YPG still carves out time for high priority work, but the results are clear."

Evolution

The first YPG Safety Awareness Week was held in 1993 and was a far cry from its modern incarnation.

"We held that first one on main post with 20 courses and 718 people in attendance," Brockington recalled. "All the instructors came from in-house, people registered manually and there was no vendor day."

In 2011, in contrast, 157 courses

were offered at 26 different facilities across the proving ground and drew nearly 5,000 students. Better than 90 percent of the workforce participated, resulting in an average of 5.1 hours of training per employee, up from 3.3 hours in 2010.

Unlike in previous years, range personnel were pre-registered in core classes that were most relevant to their job field. This consisted of four hours of intense training in necessary skills that ran the gamut from first aid basics and personal protective equipment to procedures on how to handle unexploded ordnance and venomous creatures. Employees also had an opportunity to visit displays from more than 40 different vendors of safety-related equipment.

"We have fun doing this, even though it always is a great deal of work," said Brockington. "The 2011 event was a logistical challenge, but we knew from previous years how to make it a success."

Over the years, safety awareness week has also expanded to go beyond preventing workplace accidents and injuries to health and wellness issues. Classes regarding cholesterol and diabetes awareness, foot protection, and bloodborne pathogens are standard offerings, as are classes concerning less intuitive risks. In one class, for instance, the U.S. Border patrol briefed participants about drug cartel activity near the border and safety trips for travelling in Mexico.

"We're concerned about the workforce's health and safety 24 hours per day," said Brockington. "If you have

(See Safety on page 8)

236TH ARMY BIRTHDAY
JUNE 14, 2011

HELP US CELEBRATE
THE 236TH BIRTHDAY
OF AMERICA'S ARMY -
SOLDIERS, FAMILIES AND CIVILIANS

DATE: 9 JUNE 2011
TIME: 0800 - 0900
LOCATION: POST THEATER

We are "America's Army:
The Strength of the Nation."

Quick-action by gunners averts artillery

Even when using rigorous safety procedures

by Mark Schauer

Tests involving artillery are inherently dangerous.

Even when conducted using the most rigorous safety procedures possible, the possibility of severe injury or even death exists. Though the explosive projectile itself is encased in steel, propelling charges that power shells through the air are lined in a powdery and combustible nitrocellulose case. In 1989, a test accident in an early incarnation of the Paladin self-propelled howitzer claimed the lives of two Israeli Soldiers and wounded two others, a tragedy that is commemorated by a somber memorial plaque attached to a large rock at Yuma Test Center.

"It was powder that killed those men," said Wayne Schilders, YPG's chief of weapons operation. "The powder doesn't explode, but it burns very fast with intense heat. It's a dangerous situation."

More common at YPG, however, are instances where mishaps are averted without injury to personnel or damage to property, as in a recent test involving the M109A6 Paladin. Test officers were evaluating the interior ballistics of the platform's 155mm gun tube, firing at both slow and fast tempos to study their effects. The weapon's ammunition weighs more than 100 pounds, and its range is increased by adding propelling charges. This test called for test firing projectiles at zone 8, which require the largest propelling charge, conducted every 90 seconds.

As the gun crew composed of Ernest Ballard, Angel Daniel, Steven Allen, Gerald Miller, and Angel Ramos received and prepared to load the tenth round of the morning, however, the unexpected occurred. A conduit running alongside the turret ring located just inside the loading compartment

door began to smoke and spark.

"As I watched the ammo vehicle drive away, I could see sparks flying in my peripheral vision as I turned," recalled Ernest Ballard, gun crew leader. "I started yelling for Angel Ramos to clear the gun."

The gun crew sprang into action with test personnel under shelter inside the gun position's control rooms witnessing the problem via live video feed.

"I went out and sparks were raining down from a conduit that lines the interior of the hull of the gun," said Mike Dickerson, munitions and weapons test officer in charge of the evaluation. "In an instant, one gun crew member had a fire extinguisher. The gun crew leader actually walked the 100 pound bullet all the way back behind the conditioning chamber, which is behind a reinforced concrete wall, and another gunner walked the charge back."

With the projectile and propellant safely removed, the Paladin's driver turned off the ignition, after which the sparking ceased. The entire incident was captured by video cameras, and participants were surprised at how quickly they had averted the crisis.

"Being in the moment, it seemed like slow motion," Daniel said. "It felt like it took an hour, but watching the video, it was only a matter of seconds."

"The whole process was 15 or 20 seconds at most," said Dickerson. "That's with people running out from inside the gun position to turn the gun off, removing the ammo from the gun to safety, and alerting the gunner inside the gun."

Subsequent investigation showed that the normal concussive shock of repeated firings loosened a bolt, which allowed two eyelets connecting electrical cabling to touch and short circuit, which produced the sparks.

"It wasn't a horrible situation



Gunners Ernest Ballard, Angel Daniel, Steven Allen, Angel Ramos and Gerald Miller in the front row are, from left to right, Command Sgt. Maj. Forbes Daniels, chief of the gun crew, Col. Thomas Payne, and YPG Technical Director Julio Dominguez. In the rear row are Combat Systems Director Larry Bracamonte, Angel Ramos, Gerald Miller, Ernest



The test in which the near-mishap occurred called for test firing projectiles at zone 8, which requires the largest propelling charge, conducted every 90 seconds, a rapid pace that experienced gunners can safely perform. "We're lucky we have a pretty tight nucleus," said Ernest Ballard, gun crew leader (center). "Keeping the same personnel and having a lot of experience really pays off when you have an incident downrange. If you had a heavy rotation of people in this job, it would not be a good thing." (Photo by Mark Schauer)

where there was imminent danger, but it could have become that," said Dickerson. "It probably would have taken more than contact with a few sparks for the propelling charge to cook off, but I wouldn't want to test that theory."

The gun crew on site the day of

"I went out and sparks were raining down from a conduit that lines the interior of the hull of the gun."

Mike Dickerson, Munitions & Weapons Test Officer

the incident was a well-seasoned one. The newest member of the crew has worked at YPG for four years as a civilian, and previously served as an

disaster at Kofa Firing Range Procedures — severe injury is possible



er were presented awards for their quick action in averting disaster. Shown here in the Weapons Operation Division Wayne Schilders, Allen, Daniel, YPG Commander [unclear] from left to right are Yuma Test Center Commander Stephen Milton, Ground [unclear] Ballard, and Trax Project Manager Tom Foltz. (Photo by Mark Schauer)



Projectiles fired by the M109A6 Paladin self-propelled howitzer weigh more than 100 pounds and its range is achieved by adding propelling charges. The weight of the ammo didn't slow the quick action of the gunners when nearby sparking threatened a 'cook off': "In an instant, one gun crew member had a fire extinguisher," recalled test officer Mike Dickerson. "The gun crew leader actually walked the 100 pound bullet all the way back behind the conditioning chamber, which is behind a reinforced concrete wall, and another gunner walked the charge back." (Loaned photo)

artilleryman while in uniform. Crew leader Ballard has 20 years of experience, and Daniel more than 25 years.

"We're lucky we have a pretty tight nucleus," said Ballard. "Keeping the same personnel and having a lot of experience really pays off when you have an incident downrange. If you had a heavy rotation of people in this job, it would not be a good thing."

All five gunners were recognized by YPG commander Col. Thomas Payne for their outstanding performance under pressure.

"Words on paper or in meetings are one thing, but when you actually see safety procedures being performed instantly and without hesitation, you really gain respect for the professionals who can do that," said Dickerson. "It was really something to see all the procedures that are drilled into us followed in such a quick, instinctual kind of way. It was a gun position-wide effort."

"If not for the quick action of the gunners, it could have become a bad day in the history of YPG," added Schilders. "It only takes one event like that to get you a memorial plaque when it's over. These men deserve a lot of credit for preventing that type of tragedy."



Even when using the most rigorous safety procedures possible, the possibility of severe injury or even death exists when testing hard-punching artillery like the Paladin. In 1989, a test accident in an early incarnation of the platform claimed the lives of two Israeli Soldiers and wounded two others, a tragedy commemorated by a somber memorial plaque attached to a large rock at Yuma Test Center. "These men deserve a lot of credit for preventing that type of tragedy," said Wayne Schilders, weapons operation division chief, after the five gunners averted disaster during the recent test. (Loaned photo)

Viewpoints

May is Asian-Pacific Islander Month. We asked members of the workforce, 'What is your favorite Asian or Pacific Island food?'



Kimberly Ross, contracting specialist: My mother's wanton soup, because it is comfort food from my childhood. Making it is a laborious process: it has ground pork, shrimp, green onions, water chestnuts, other vegetables, and a wanton wrapper, which is made of flour and water.



Pierre Bourque, direct fire team leader: My mother is Malaysian, so I grew up with a lot of ethnic dishes. Chicken curry and lime curry are really good. It is surprising how much variety there is in curry: Thai curries are different from Malay curries, which are different from Chinese and Japanese, which are variations of East Indian curries. There are curry fish heads, curry mussels, all sorts of things. There are differences in the fine spices used, but all are made from fresh ingredients.



Julita Greek, administrative assistant: Pinakbet. It is a stir fry with bitter melon, eggplant, winged beans, ginger, garlic, onions, okra, and tomato. My parents and the old folks made it when I was a child, and we learned to cook it as we grew up. I make it often... we had it last night.



Spc. Chung Ho Kuk, patient administrative specialist: Bulgogi. It is marinated barbecued beef that you can eat in a hamburger bun, which is great. It is very hard to find here, unless you are in San Diego or Los Angeles, but I had some at a church function yesterday. I also like galbi, spare ribs marinated in soy sauce and other spices, which is also very good.



Kay Raleigh, administrative officer: Raw seafood dishes like abalone are my favorite. Oysters, octopus, and squid are great for your health. I also like mandu soup, which is the Korean version of wanton soup. Kimchi, a fermented vegetable dish that comes in winter and summer varieties. It is stored in large jars and is outstanding.



Ann Sanchez, contracting director: I'm Japanese, but Thai food is my favorite, and Vietnamese food is a second. I like Thai food because it is hot and spicy, and Vietnamese soups are the best. Pho is my favorite: it has noodles, beef, and all kinds of spices like ginger and star anise in the broth.



Leslie Wegge, supervisory program specialist: My favorite is pancit, a noodle and vegetable soup dish. Growing up, I always called them, 'the invisible noodles,' because they were always clear. I also like lumpia a lot, which is very similar to an eggroll. The ingredients depends on which region of the Philippines you live in and how well off your family is. When I was growing up, there was a fried beef version with crushed vegetables, and a dessert version with a banana and sweetener rolled into the lumpia wrapper, then deep fried and covered with powdered sugar. Siopao, or steamed bread with a delicious meat filling, is another favorite: my mother would make it for me when I was pregnant. I enjoy them to this day.



Michelle Brown, IT specialist: I love all types of Asian/Pacific foods. Kalua pig is one of them, which in Hawaiian means "to cook in an underground oven." I also love manapua, a steamed chinese pork bun which consists of barbecued flavored pork filled dumplings. Some others are spam musubi, teriyaki meat, shoyu chicken, chow mein, pancit and of course, rice and mac salad. There are so many different types of food, it's hard to name just a few. They are all so 'Ono,' Hawaiian for delicious!

Kudos: NCO & Soldier of 2nd Quarter



Congratulations to Staff Sgt. Trasey Roby (top photo) and Spec. Travis Loomis for being selected as Yuma Proving Ground's Non-Commissioned Officer and Soldier of the 2nd Quarter. Both Soldiers work at the health clinic.



USA Staffing new job process

submitted by YPG CPAC

As the Army grows and makes changes, so does the Civilian Personnel Online job application process. USA Staffing has now become a way of announcing jobs for several agencies and the Army is implementing this new tool with their Civilian Personnel Advisory Center staff. With those changes, come new changes for the applicant. Here are some tips for anyone applying for jobs under USA Staffing:

Tips for applicants

As of April 1, YPG's CPAC began using USA Staffing to fill vacant positions. (See USA Staffing on page 7)

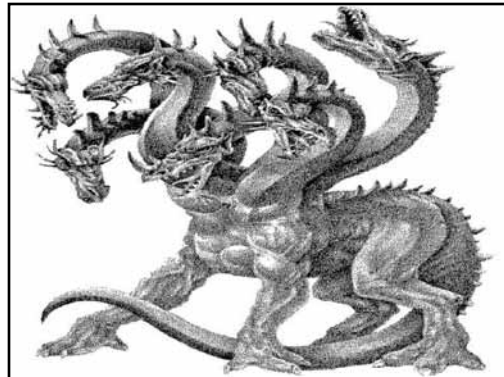
Suspicious mail packages: Know your indicators

submitted by Manny Enrique

After 10 years of hunting for the master mind of 911, the nation and the rest of the world learned that the most wanted terrorist in the world was no longer walking this earth. We were quick to celebrate and for some of us, have personnel closure to the attacks of 911.

Terrorism is like the Hydra of Greek mythology, a serpent with many heads. We cannot be naïve enough to think that the war on terrorism is over just because one of the heads of terrorism was cut off.

As our nation and allies raises the security posture around the world, here at home we must not fall into a false sense of security. A simple and proven tool used by terrorist is, the 'letter or parcel bomb.' Know the indicators and know what to do.



Police Desk 328-2720/2663/2346

Faces of Terrorism

International Domestic Lone Wolf.... Narco

USA Staffing (Continued from page 6)

tions at this installation. Army vacancy announcements will continue to be posted on both www.armycivilianservice.com and on www.usajobs.gov. Jobs announced under USA Staffing will require some new application procedures and documents which will be described in the individual vacancy announcement.

There are steps you as an employee or potential applicant can take to simplify and expedite the process of applying for specific jobs under USA Staffing.

1. **Create accounts under both USAJOBS and Application Manager.** A USAJOBS account is needed to apply for all Army vacancies. You may already have a USAJOBS account, if not, go to www.usajobs.gov and click on "first time visitors" and then "create an account." An 'application manager' account will be required when you apply for jobs under USA Staffing. Go to www.applicationmanager.gov and click on "create an account;" then follow the directions.

2. **Pre-position your resume.** You may create and store up to five versions of your resume in your USAJOBS account. This allows you to tailor your resume content if you have significantly different types of experience/skills and apply for jobs in different occupational areas. Be sure that your resume clearly describes the duties you have performed and level of your experience. Include the beginning and ending dates for each job and the hours worked if less than full time. If you include volunteer experience, include the amount of time spent and describe the work you did.

3. **Upload supporting documents.** Some documents are required to verify your eligibility for employment, veteran's preference, education and/or credentials. You can scan these documents, save them on your computer, and upload them to your USAJOBS account by following the instructions under the "upload a new document" section. Once you correctly upload a document, it is available for use in all future applications.

4. **Make sure your account has your current contact information, especially your email address.** Review and update your resume periodically so it is ready to use when you find a vacancy in which you are interested.

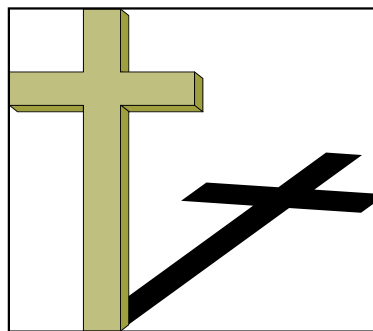
Chaplain's Corner

Biblical lesson for life

submitted by Chaplain Maj. Douglas Ball

We have a tendency to go all out in the military. There are those who walk around saying 'airborne!' and referring to everyone else as 'legs.' I hear the words 'air assault' and then 'rakkasan' coming from Staff Sgt. Robert Mathis multiple times each day.

I understand this tendency, because I've had the privilege to serve in two different cavalry units. I am always elated at any chance to break out the



Stetson, spurs and saber. My wife is never as excited, however, for she's never seen the beauty in wearing a cowboy hat and spurs with the Army dress blue uniform.

But, that's the cavalry – either you love it and really get into it, or you don't. There's not much middle ground. It's difficult to be lukewarm about the cav.

This is actually a good, and even biblical, lesson for life. It tells us to be either hot or cold, because being lukewarm leads to nothing

good. If you are in your marriage half-heartedly, for instance, it will lead to your heart not being in your relationship. If you just fiddle around about reaching your dreams and goals, you'll never achieve them. If you only allow your faith to impact a small part of your life, it will soon have no impact at all.

So, in the words of Joshua to the people of Israel, 'Choose this day whom you will serve.' Pick your direction and go after it wholeheartedly. Throw on the Stetson of marriage, put on the spurs of your goals, and don't forget the saber of your faith. Wear everything with pride!

Do what it takes to not be lukewarm in your life – that's the Army way, and it's the right way.

An eye saved by wearing protection

submitted by Safety Office

As the result of a private contractor safety glasses program, an employee began encouraging his 18 year-old son, who installs siding on houses, to wear safety glasses while working. The son finally relented, when aluminum dust started getting in his eyes. About one week later, he was applying siding with an air powered staple gun. When the son fired a staple, it hit a metal plate behind the sign, ricocheted back towards his face and one leg of the staple penetrated the safety glasses' lens. The staple hit with such force that the frames were cracked and the son received bruising on the eyebrow and cheekbone.

The safety glasses definitely saved his eyesight and possibly even his life.

Eye protection in the workplace

Every day an estimated 1,999 eye injuries occur in American workplaces. The financial cost of these injuries is enormous— more than \$300 million per year in lost production time, medical expenses, and workers compensation. No dollar figure can adequately reflect the personal toll these accidents take on the injured workers.

The Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) and the 25 states and territories operating their own job safety and health programs, are determined to help reduce eye injuries. In concert with efforts by concerned voluntary groups, OSHA has begun a nationwide information campaign to improve workplace eye protection.

Take a moment to think about possible eye hazards at your workplace. A 1980 survey by the Labor Department's Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) of about 1,000 minor eye injuries reveals how and why many on-the-job accidents occur.

What contributes to eye injuries at work?

Not wearing eye protection. BLS reports that nearly three out of every five workers injured were not wearing eye protection at the time of the accident.

What causes eye injuries?

Flying particles. BLS found that almost 70 percent of the accidents studied resulted from flying or falling objects or sparks striking the eye. Injured workers estimated that nearly three-fifths of the objects were smaller than a pin head.

Where do accidents occur most often?

Craft work; industrial equipment operations. Potential eye hazards can be found in nearly every industry, but BLS reported that more than 40 percent of injuries studied occurred among craft workers, like mechanics, repairers, carpenters, and plumbers.

How can eye injuries be prevented?

Always wear effective eye protection. OSHA standards require that employers provide workers with suitable eye protection. To be effective, the eye wear must be of the appropriate type for the hazard encountered and properly fitted.

Eye protection works

BLS reported that more than 50 percent of workers injured while wearing eye protection thought the eye wear had minimized their injuries. But nearly half the workers also felt that another type of protection could have better prevented or reduced the injuries they suffered.

Please stop by the Safety Office to view safety brochures and videos.

Family, Morale, Welfare & Recreation Happenings



YPG contributes to science fair success



YPG test engineers Doug Goodman (left) and Pierre Bourque (center) critique a student's entry at the 2011 Yuma County Science Festival.

by Mark Schauer

As Yuma County's largest employer and high technology workplace, Yuma Proving Ground has a vested interest in encouraging local youngsters to pursue math and science.

YPG employees took this to heart on Fri., May 6 and Sat., May 7 by serving as volunteer judges at the 2011 Yuma County Science Festival. Of the nearly 70 judges, 16 work at YPG.

"There were an amazing number of YPG folks," said Debbie Weber, science teacher at Castle Dome Middle School and one of the event's organizers. "It's really nice to be able to count on our YPG neighbors to help out each year. They play a major role by lending their expertise and judging projects in areas they are highly qualified. They ask important questions, which makes students realize they must have a great knowledge base to be competitive. What they add is very helpful."

The high turnout of judges was especially needed for this year's festival, which boasted 350 projects created by 447 local elementary, middle school, and high school students. The students were separated into three age groups and each group's entries were subdivided into seven different scientific categories, including engineering, biology and medicine. To evaluate the entries, teams of two or three judges were assigned to a given age group and category. They ranked the projects and assigned points for aspects like scientific thought, skill and thoroughness. Three entries from each category and age group

were selected on Friday to compete in Saturday's final round for cash prizes.

Winnowing down 350 projects was time consuming work, but each judge was thorough in his or her questions of the young scientists.

"I owe where I am now in part to a 5th grade science teacher I had," said Pierre Bourque, direct fire team leader at YPG's Combat Automotive Systems Division.

"I want to encourage more young people to get involved with science at an early age," added Doug Goodman, YPG test engineer. "I'm amazed at the breadth of quality within each age group."

Elementary student projects included comparisons of which brand of popcorn pops fastest and which color birdseed birds prefer, while older students studied auto fuel economy and solar power, to name a few.

"This was very impressive," said YPG Command Sgt. Maj. Forbes Daniels, who served as a judge for the first time. "The projects were put together well and were relevant and time sensitive."

"This is an example of the partnership and collaboration that exists in Yuma," said Tom Tyree, Yuma County School Superintendent. "There are a number of people in the community who have volunteered their time and stepped up to support this event financially who understand the importance of math, science, technology, and agriculture to what we do. YPG is a hidden gem, and hopefully we're going to produce some people who will work there someday in the military or as a civilian engineer."

Future test (Continued from page 7)

setup within Share Point as work flows utilizing electronic signatures and eliminating the need to be hand carried.

"We are planning to begin training employees in Share Point by the end of July. This is a tool that will assist with testing as well," he explained. "We are working with test officers to identify requirements to develop a dashboard that will provide a 'one stop' capability giving them access to a multitude of information sources they need each day such as the ATEC Decision Support System and the Range Test Scheduling System."

Another project Johnson and his organization have deployed in cooperation with YPG Resource Management (RM) is a data base for tracking unfinanced requirements (UFRs). This database provides an enterprise system for the users to identify, pri-

oritize, and track requirements could not be forecasted through regular channels. Although the ultimate responsibility for UFRs belongs to the Resource Management Directorate, Advanced Technology has teamed with RM to manage the process to ensure that the proper coordination across the test centers is executed.

A native of Joliet, Ill, and a graduate from Northern Arizona University with a bachelor's degree in electrical engineering technology, Johnson says he likes the change of pace in his new job. "I enjoy my new job and the people I work with. I look forward to the new challenges that we will face in the future and the opportunity of working together with YPG organizations to identify new processes, technology, and investments we will need to support the test mission."

Safety (Continued from page 3)

an employee with health issues, he or she can't come to work. That's why we take a holistic approach."

Unlike in the early years of safety awareness week, many courses are taught by subject matter experts from the Yuma community.

"It's a two-way street," Brockington said. "They help us with the courses at no cost to us, and they have the opportunity to gain a few new customers along the way."

Results

Safety week also provides a prime opportunity to address current mishap trends, with dramatic results. During 2009, for example, there was

an average of one vehicle accident per month caused from striking wild animals. After an intensive awareness campaign, only one such accident occurred during all of 2010. This same success was replicated across most accident categories, from cuts, lacerations and falls to lifting accidents.

"Education is critical to minimizing risk and mitigating hazards," said Brockington. "The current test tempo is not going to slow down any time soon. Safety awareness week is one of the things you must have in your toolbox to reduce mishaps."