

THE GLOBAL LINE

Best Newsletter in AMC

ASC at AUSA

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Army Ten-miler

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ASC helps Habitat for Humanity

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Small team with big results

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NCO Spotlight

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CSM Blake outlines Reset

The Army Sustainment Command's top enlisted Soldier says Reset is focused on taking care of Soldiers and their **see page 17**



Greetings to all of you throughout the Army Sustainment Command!

Maj. Gen. Yves J. Fontaine
U.S. Army Sustainment Command

Thank you for the warm welcome you have given to my family and me, and for all of your help and cooperation during this period of transition. From the start, you've made us feel a part of this command and community, and we greatly appreciate your warmth and courtesy.

Many of you attended the change of command ceremony, and many more of you were able to view the Town Hall meeting held soon after. I'd like to use this forum to highlight a few points from those occasions. These points bear emphasis and provide insight into how I intend to lead ASC.

First, you should know that ASC is well-known and highly respected throughout the Army. Our accomplishments have earned us a reputation for excellence, and our mission and the way we've performed it have given us a critical role in the Army's overall mission of fighting and winning on the battlefield. We need to enhance that reputation by placing our focus squarely on ASC's customers and making them our top priority. ASC's support is integrated into combat units, and we stand shoulder-to-shoulder with Soldiers on the front lines. That's all the reason we should need to be certain that our support is the very best we can deliver.

The ASC has relatively few military personnel and is largely populated by civilian and contractor employees. Whether you wear the uniform or not, I respect each and every one of you, and fully comprehend the importance of the work you do for the Army.



All of you want to do a good job, and it is the job of those in leadership positions within ASC, to guide, mentor, and provide you with the resources you need to excel. We're also obliged to recognize and reward the excellent work you provide. That said it's my intent to re-energize our awards program.

As a husband and father of four daughters, I know and recognize the importance of family. I don't expect anyone to be a "workaholic."

I do expect you to spend time with your family, to refresh yourself through rest and recreation, and to place your work life and your home life in balance. Our families are part of the ASC team, so they need our time and attention just as our jobs do.

Finally, I view ASC as a family, and believe that we all need to treat one another as members of the same family. All families, even happy ones, have disagreements and conflicts. Families succeed and prosper by learning how to resolve these disputes with respect and understanding. Families, and organizations, fail when they react to problems with abusive behavior.

While we should always make room for questions, we should never make room for abuse. I will not tolerate abuse in any form, and will expect everyone to be treated with dignity.

We need to stay together, because that's the only way we can accomplish a mission that is complex, challenging, interesting and vitally important to military readiness. We have a lot to do, and I'm looking forward to working with you as we get it done.

Airborne!

THE GLOBAL LINE



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ASC unveils video portal at AUSA

New exhibit proves big hit at annual capitol gathering

Story and photos by Jon Connor
ASC Public Affairs

WASHINGTON – The Army Sustainment Command's new exhibit at the Association of the United States Army's annual gathering in the nation's capital was an instant hit with attendees Oct. 5-7.

"Whoever thought of that was one smart person," said a passerby who participated in the portal interaction.

That person was actually a handful of ASC personnel looking for ways to draw people to the booth to enable the command's mission to be told. By policy, the Army cannot give out "gifts" like other commercial industry organizations which have proven themselves to be popular with attendees. ASC was part of the overall display effort presented by the Army Materiel Command that conveyed the concept of "Materiel Enterprise."

It is one of the Army's four core enterprises and is responsible for the materiel management from concept to combat, according to Army doctrine. The Army Materiel Command is partnering with the Office of the assistant secretary of the Army

for Acquisition, Logistics and Technology to adopt an enterprise approach – communication, cooperation, and collaboration.

This enterprise serves to deliver and sustain equipment readiness. It also works with the other three core enterprises to synchronize with them to protect Soldier dwell time and help preserve the all-volunteer force.

This was tied into the Army's theme for 2009 Year of the NCO. This year, AUSA presented a dual-edge theme – America's Army: The Strength of the Nation and Noncommissioned Officers: The Strength of the Army.

"The support is here," said Anita Thompson, AMC's marketing manager with the Public and Congressional Affairs office.

"We have four-star, three-star [generals], congressional members" visiting the AMC booth area. "I am impressed with the interest."

Thompson said working at the AMC level is like working for corporate America and much is expected by stakeholders.

See AUSA, page 4



The ASC portal exhibit offered 18 video vignettes lasting 10 to 20 seconds each on the various missions of the Army Sustainment Command. The video pictured discusses prepositioned stocks.

AUSA

continued from page 3

“We’re generating information,” she said of the different sub-command booths comprising the AMC exhibit. “People want to know about the MRAP [Mine-Resistant Ambush-Protected vehicle] in the field,” she said of one Soldier’s mother.

Exhibit gatherings like this allow AMC to show customers that it is meeting their needs, she said. “They’re always improving the food, vehicles and equipment.”

The ASC portal, which some attendees said reminded them of the portal from the movie and television series *Stargate*, is a video portal comprised of eight plasma screens that displayed photographs of the ASC mission conducted around the world. Vignettes with narration lasting from 10-20 seconds informed the participant on a particular subject, complemented by matching photos dissolving into one another throughout the presentation.

The creation of the portal and exhibit was contracted to a company in Roselle, N.J.

“Overall, the people are more interested in this display than anything else” compared to other products offered by us, said Sgt. 1st Class Duane Dark, an ASC Soldier who served as a command subject matter expert. “It’s an attention-getter.”

Dark said this was the second time he has had the opportunity to serve as an SME at AUSA. The previous time was with the U.S. Army Special Operations Command.

“This is a lot fancier exhibit by a long shot,” he said.

As attendees walk by the portal, they see a big blue, oceanic screen. Upon inquiring, they are asked to place their right hand in a device that activates the portal to show one of 18 vignettes

on mission-related subjects such as Logistics Civil Augmentation Program, Field-Level Reset, Retrograde, and Army Pre-positioned Stocks to name several.

But it’s not just a visual display, as various thunderous sounds emerge from speakers including a subwoofer creating a very real lifelike scenario.

“I’ve had people really interested in the Reset program,” Dark said.

The other ASC SME, Master Sgt. Alton Lewis, said this was the first time he attended AUSA.

“I am very impressed. I would definitely recommend this to any Soldier,” Lewis said.

Lewis said the portal display was the attention-drawer to the ASC booth. Upon participating in the interaction of vignettes, Lewis said most attendees were receptive to the ASC products – a new command video, brochure and command newsletter, *The Global Line*.

“This [the portal] gives us the ability to show people what we bring to the fight,” Lewis said.

The AUSA meeting in Washington, D.C., is the largest landpower exposition and professional development forum in North America.

Records show about 30,000 people attend, including senior leaders from the Army, Defense Department, Congressional personnel, as well as foreign dignitaries.

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Gen. Ann Dunwoody, commanding general of Army Materiel Command, and Maj. Gen. Yves Fontaine, commanding general of Army Sustainment Command, converse with Master Sgt. Alton Lewis on ASC’s new portal exhibit at the AUSA meeting. Lewis served as a subject matter expert for ASC.

Darien Hawkins of the Joint Training Counter-IED Integration Center, Newport News, Va., watches a vignette at the ASC booth during the annual AUSA meeting in Washington, D.C., Oct. 5-7.

ASC team runs in annual Army Ten-Miler

ASC Public Affairs Office

Eight Army Sustainment Command Soldiers were among 30,000 runners in the Army Ten-Miler held Oct. 4 in Washington, D.C.

“We began training back in March,” said team captain Chief Warrant Officer 3 Carrie McLeish of G6, Information Management. Starting with twice-weekly one-hour runs, the team steadily built stamina and esprit. “We ran in the Bix 7 race in July, using that as a test of whether we were on track for the Army Ten-Miler,” she said.

The training paid off, with all eight team members making the trip to D.C. for the Army’s premier running event.

“The Army Ten-Miler is a huge race, with runners from all over the world,” McLeish said. “We crossed the starting line at least 12 to 15 minutes after the cannon shot that began the race.”

Organizers say the Army Ten-Miler is the largest race of its kind in the world.

Sponsored by the Rock Island Arsenal Morale, Welfare and Recreation activity, the group ran as Team Rock Island Arsenal, finishing 26th of 38 teams in the Active Duty – Mixed category.

“MWR funded our travel, lodging and uniforms, for which we are all appreciative,” McLeish said.

Fittingly in the Year of the NCO, ASC’s NCO of the Year, Sgt. Kent Martin, the training NCO for ASC, posted the team’s best time, finishing 1,973rd overall in a time of 1:15.10. His teammates were

quick to point out that Martin is also the youngest in the group that included Col. Andy Stewart, ASC intelligence officer; Maj. Richard Davila, commander of Headquarters and Headquarters Company, ASC; First Sgt. Robert Fultz, HHC first sergeant; Maj. Shane Garrison, the ASC G6 corporate support officer; Capt. Scott Leifker, ASC anti-terrorism officer; and Capt. Jared Sweany, ASC staff judge advocate.

“It was a good team effort,” said McLeish, who went on to say seven of the eight members of this year’s team will be moving on before the 2010 race.

Col. Andy Stewart, ASC intelligence officer, passes the halfway point in the Army Ten-Miler, held Oct. 4 in Washington, D.C.



John Wyras, ASC Distribution Management Center, who ran the Army Ten-Miler independently, begins recovering at the finish line.



Team Rock Island Arsenal, comprised of eight Army Sustainment Command Soldiers, is ready to run in the 2009 Army Ten-Miler. From left: Capt. Scott Leifker, ASC anti-terrorism officer; Maj. Shane Garrison, the ASC G6 corporate support officer; Capt. Jared Sweany, ASC staff judge advocate; First Sgt. Robert Fultz Headquarters and Headquarters Company first sergeant; Col. Andy Stewart, ASC intelligence officer; Maj. Richard Davila, commander of HHC, ASC; Sgt. Kent Martin, ASC schools NCO; and Chief Warrant Officer 3 Carrie McLeish, ASC G6.

ASC Soldiers help make house a home

Story and photos by Sgt. 1st Class Sean Riley
ASC Public Affairs

Thirty-five Soldiers of Rock Island Arsenal's Army Sustainment Command volunteered to work all day Oct. 17 at the Habitat for Humanity's 61st house in the Quad Cities area.

Sergeant Maj. Joseph Kalsic, ASC chaplain noncommissioned officer-in-charge, organized the Saturday event. Kalsic originally requested 15 to 18 volunteers and when more than 55 Soldiers volunteered to help, Kalsic soon found he had to turn the well-wishers away finally settling on 35.

According to Kalsic, the contractors were very impressed with the work put in by the Soldiers.

"Our efforts put a dent in the work remaining to make this house a home," said Kalsic.

The Soldiers provided assistance with hanging drywall in the second floor, shingling the roof of the tool shed in the backyard, constructing stairs and railings for the back porch, and cleaning up and recycling of the scrap wood by chipping it into mulch for use around the outside of the house.

The event for the Soldiers was themed around the Year of the Noncommissioned Officer, a Department of the Army initiative designed to highlight and recognize the contributions of the NCO Corps to the Army.

Maria and Roberto Medrano, the future residents of the home, approached the Quad City Habitat for Humanity office in December of 2008 asking for assistance. The QC Habitat for Humanity okayed their request and construction began in May 2009.

An empty lot on East 15th Street in Davenport, Iowa was selected, and six months later, the beginnings of a two-story house stand on what the QC Habitat for Humanity project leaders call House 61.

House 61 is unique in that it is the first "green build" for the Quad City-based organization. From the sprayed foam insulation, the tank less water heater, to an air-conditioning unit that runs at 93 percent efficiency and recycled scrap wood used as mulch, the house is about as earth friendly as can be.

Army Sustainment Command Soldier Sgt. 1st Class Lenita Cornett signs the framework of the Quad City Habitat for Humanity house. It has become a tradition for volunteers who work on Habitat for Humanity builds to inconspicuously sign the house.



Sergeant Maj. Joseph Kalsic hammers a nail as he shingles a roof on a shed Oct. 17.

Soldiers of the Army Sustainment Command stand on the porch of a Quad City Habitat for Humanity build in Davenport, Iowa. Approximately 35 Soldiers from ASC volunteered to assist in the build by hanging drywall, shingling the roof of the tool shed in the backyard, constructing stairs and railings, and cleaning up and recycling the scrap wood. Pictured from left to right are Master Sgts. Joe Phearse, Rodney Watson, and Sgt. Maj. Sharon Campbell.

Joint Robotics keeps troops high-tech

Story and photos by Summer Barkley
402nd Army Field Support Brigade

JOINT BASE BALAD, Iraq – A few Marines, Soldiers and civilians work with equipment right out of the pages of yesterday’s science fiction when they keep a fleet of robots in the fight at the Joint Robotics Repair Detachment located at Victory Base Complex in Baghdad.

The robots are not the lumbering hulks of old movies, nor are they the sleek, almost human creations of more recent films. They range in size from a few pounds to over 6 tons and offer Soldiers a way to gain situational awareness and search for improvised explosive devices and explosive force projectiles from safe distances.

“We repair and maintain all robots in theater,” said Army Master Sgt. Ronald L. Helsley, JRRD noncommissioned officer-in-charge. “Units bring equipment to the shop and if it can be repaired in four hours or less we will do the work and return the equipment to the unit.”

Helsley estimates that the team returns well over 90 percent of the equipment within the four hour time-frame. If JRRD can’t fix the equipment within four hours, a one-for-one exchange is done and the damaged equipment is either repaired in JRRD’s workshop or transferred to a facility with greater capability.

The equipment, accounted for on the 2nd Battalion, 402nd Army Field Support Brigade theater property book, is issued to units for use in explosive ordnance disposal, route clearance and other missions.



Chief Warrant Officer 5 Mary T. Czuhajewski, commander Logistics Support Element, Multi-National Force-Baghdad and Marine Cpl. Jose A. Torres look on as Master Sgt. Kevin J. Gabrielson, 1st Battalion, 402nd Army Field Support Brigade team lead operates a PackBot using a heads-up display at Joint Robotics Repair Detachment at Victory Base Complex, Baghdad.

“My job is very interesting,” said Marine Cpl. Jose A. Torres, as he demonstrated using X-box controls and a heads-up display to maneuver a robot at the facility. Torres, a trainer and technician, said the “X-box generation picks up the skills quickly.”

Marine Maj. John Amiss, JRRD commander, said he talked with a sergeant in Kuwait who told him that a robot saved his life by detecting and detonating a “daisy chain” of improvised explosive devices.

“Last week we had a Talon [robot] blown up,” Amiss said. “Thank goodness it was a robot. We can lose a million of them and it’s worth it.”

Army Sgt. David A. Thomas, robotics technician said when the units bring their equipment in, “they want their robots back and in the hunt.”

Army Staff Sgt. Clay D. Enyert said he has “the coolest job ever,” and Guy Piskulic, a civilian with Jacobs Technology, agreed by saying, “it’s awesome.”

The 1st Battalion, 402nd AFSB supports JRRD with administrative assistance by providing personnel accountability for the staff and managing evaluations and awards for Army personnel.



An iRobot PackBot picks up a demonstration object at the Joint Robotics Repair Detachment at Victory Base Complex, Baghdad. The robots can be operated by a commercial off-the shelf controller or a heads-up display.

LOGCAP Recap

ASC Public Affairs

Editor's note: LOGCAP – Logistics Civil Augmentation Program – is a multi-billion dollar Army initiative to hire civilian contractors to perform services supporting the U.S. military in wartime and other contingencies. Use of contractors allows military units to focus on combat operations. Working with Army Contracting Command and the Rock Island Contracting Center, LOGCAP enables the Army to focus on the fight. The following reports from field activities highlight some recent examples of LOGCAP making the difference.



Courtesy Photo

LOGCAP Forward Operator Sam Samonte gives training to paratroopers from the 82nd Sustainment Brigade at Fort Bragg, N.C., on their roles and responsibilities as contracting officer representatives once deployed to Afghanistan.

LOGCAP Forward Operator helps train 82nd Sustainment Brigade

FORT BRAGG, N.C. – LOGCAP Forward Operator Sam Samonte was part of a huge effort by the LOGCAP Executive Directorate to ensure units training for their upcoming missions in Southwest Asia were prepared to execute their contract oversight and management responsibilities.

In early October, Samonte and the LOGCAP Team, consisting of representatives from Support and Performance Contractors, the LOGCAP Support Officer, and Defense Contract Management Agency, provided the paratroopers from the 82nd Sustainment Brigade valuable training to enhance their understanding and reinforce their upcoming roles and responsibilities as contracting officer representatives.

The 82nd SBDE is training to prepare for its upcoming Operation Enduring Freedom rotation, as the command and control element

of sustainment operations in Afghanistan. This LOGCAP Executive Directorate training initiative has led many units from the U.S. Army and Marines to improve contract oversight and to understand what LOGCAP and other contracted services can do and should do for the Soldiers, Airmen, Marines and civilians serving in Southwest Asia.

LOGCAP helps stop fire at COB Adder dump

COB ADDER, Iraq – The U.S. Air Force Fire Department at Contingency Operating Base Adder requested assistance to stop a fire that was spreading in late September and could not be contained in a customer-controlled dump area. Contract Administration quickly notified the Administrative Contracting Officer to obtain authorization to provide assistance.

After rapid approval, the LOGCAP contractor's Horizontal Department secured the personnel and heavy equipment needed. The Horizontal Department provides earth moving services. They quickly deployed to the scene to create a fire break. Horizontal's immediate response and support contributed to containing the fire and preventing the potentially hazardous situation from getting out of control.

The USAF expressed their gratitude to the LOGCAP contractor's Horizontal Department for being able to support the request on such short notice and ultimately ensuring the safety of all personnel on COB Adder.

LOGCAP helps general host conference, soccer team

COB SPEICHER, Iraq – In early October, the Contingency Operating Base Speicher Morale, Welfare and Recreation, hosted the Commanding General's Conference at the main gym. The event was sponsored by Maj. Gen. Robert L. Caslen Jr., commanding general of the 25th Infantry Division. Also in attendance, as special guests, were players from the local professional soccer team from the city of Samara. The festivities concluded with a large cookout.

With the help of the MWR, Construction and Labor departments, the LOGCAP contractor provided support and planning recommendations for the event. It took approximately three weeks of coordination between the LOGCAP contractor and the COB Speicher Mayor's Cell to ensure the conference was a success.

LOGCAP contractor personnel set up four tents with 25 tables and 40 chairs, a public address system, marked and cleaned the soccer field, and

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H1N1 flu: nothing to sneeze at

By Barbara Toner
ASC Public Affairs

Each location has its way to deal with the flu; ASC headquarters at Rock Island Arsenal is incorporating a form of social distancing by skipping the hand shake in favor of the “fist bump” and “air bump.”

The Center for Disease Control reported 46 states with widespread influenza activity during the week of Oct. 17-23, with 506 deaths. The CDC also reported that a survey of 10,000 adult conducted during the first 11 days of October indicated that one in five children had already had flu-like illnesses. To make matters worse, delays in manufacturing of the H1N1 vaccine have caused shortages, not just in the United States but globally.

According to the U.S. Army Center for Health Promotion and Preventive Medicine, the H1N1 vaccination is mandatory for all Soldiers. Other priority groups, at ASC in Rock Island, include emergency essential (deployable) civilians, first responders, child development center workers, military family members and retirees. DA civilians are highly encouraged to obtain the vaccination through their primary physician or other local sources. Those ASC Soldiers and civilians living or working in locations outside of the Rock Island

Arsenal area should contact their local medical facilities for information concerning the availability of the flu vaccine.

If the H1N1 flu vaccine is in short supply or not available in your area, you can implement several lifestyle changes to prevent the spread of illness.

Remember the three Cs: clean hands frequently to prevent spreading germs; cover a cough with a tissue or a sleeve, not with a hand; and contain germs by staying home if sick.

If more social distancing is part of your plan to keep the H1N1 bug away, consider replacing shaking hands with a “fist bump” or “air bump.” They convey the same message of camaraderie without the possible transfer of germs.

H1N1 Protection Measures

THE FIST BUMP



THE “AIR” BUMP



Remember the 3 C's

CLEAN- your hands frequently to prevent the spread of germs.

COVER- your cough and sneeze with a tissue or use your sleeve, not your hand.

Contain- your germs. Stay home if your sick.

Rock Island Arsenal
DPTMS

While H1N1 is a serious concern, don't forget to get a seasonal flu vaccine. Most people can obtain them at the same time.

For more information, go to the Military Vaccine (MILVAX) Agency Web site at <http://www.vaccines.mil/H1N1> or the USACHPPM Web site at <http://usachppm.amedd.army.mil>. MILVAX has a 24-hour, toll-free number call for more advice about vaccines: (866) 210-6469. ASC Headquarters Soldiers and employees can obtain up-to-date information on the vaccine by going to the RIA Ready Army Web site: <http://www.ria.army.mil/sites/riapo/whatsnew.cfm>.



And they're off...

Maj. Gen. Yves J. Fontaine, commanding general, Army Sustainment Command at Rock Island Arsenal, Ill., starts the 12th annual Quad Cities Marathon in downtown Moline, Ill., Sept. 27. The 26.2-mile run starts and ends in downtown Moline, and covers, four cities, three bridges, two states and one island – the Army's Rock Island Arsenal. The marathon is a USATF (United States of America Track and Field) certified course and Boston Marathon qualifier.

Photo by Valerie Buckingham, RIA Garrison Public Affairs

Small team delivers big results on the battlefield

Story and photo by Summer Barkley
402nd AFSB Public Affairs

JOINT BASE BALAD, Iraq – The Materiel Enterprise is a vast and complex operation, meant to harness the Army’s intellectual and industrial might, then deliver the best equipment to Soldiers when and where they need it.

A small team of acquisition, logistics and technology experts here is making good on the promise

of the Materiel Enterprise to troops on the battlefield. The 402nd Army Field Support Brigade’s Acquisition, Logistics and Technology Directorate’s mission is to integrate and synchronize acquisition and technology support with accountability and sustainment in the brigade area of responsibility.

ALT-D is also responsible for synchronizing technology insertion accountability during retrograde operations to prevent equipment loss or destruction. In other words, ALT-D is a special staff section that monitors current and planned equipment fielding and rapid-equipping activities and advises the brigade commander on these activities.

The team has three essential tasks: assist synchronization of equipment fielding between program executive officers and program managers, warfighters, and AFSB sustainment and accountability requirements; integrate, collect, analyze, and provide feedback to the Warfighter; and, synchronize technology insertion and accountability during retrograde operations.

With only four people until recently, the ALT-D has successfully facilitated more than 85 fieldings consisting of more than 300,000 items. Key to the process is being aware of what’s coming and what support is needed to make the fielding successful.

When required, they also coordinate lodging and transportation for personnel who arrive with the new equipment. Most importantly, they facilitate accountability actions for the equipment; bringing the Materiel Enterprise full circle.

“We are the single face in theater for the warfighter to communicate requirements for sustainment and accountability for newly fielded items,” said Lt. Col. Steven Van Riper, ALT-D Director. “For the

commander, we bring integration of new fielding with existing sustainment and accountability processes we have in place.”

The MRAP Egress Trainer or MET is a recently fielded solution to a need identified by the Army. ALT-D worked with Army Central Command and Program Executive Office for Simulation, Training and Instrumentation to field 14 METs and five



Alan Tiffany, a Raytheon contractor, operates the MRAP Egress Trainer during an officer professional development training session Aug. 19 at Joint Base Balad, Iraq. The device is used to train Soldiers on how to safely exit an MRAP in the event of a roll-over. Fourteen METs have been fielded by the 402nd Army Field Support Brigade Acquisition, Technology and Logistics Directorate. ALT-D has fielded more than 300,000 cutting-edge items to Soldiers on the battlefield.

HMMWV Egress Trainers. ALT-D provided logistical support and assistance to the field service representatives for movement of the systems to their designated locations. The 402nd also provides life support for the FSRs and conducts property accountability actions by placing these systems on the theater property book.

“The 402nd’s greatest role is the contribution and use of our resources for all the things the program manager needs to field equipment to the warfighter,” said Maj. O’Neill Williams, ALT-D’s science adviser. “We contribute to the development of a fielding plan.”

When the Army identifies a need, science advisors and science-and-technology assistance teams can take the needs and articulate them into an Operational Needs Statement or a Joint Urgent Operational Needs Statement.

See ALT-D, page 15

NCO Spotlight: Master Sgt. Mark A. Mohler Sr.

Name: Master Sgt. Mark A. Mohler Sr.

Hometown: Albion, Mich.

Duty Position: Battalion Command Sergeant Major

Duty Section: 1st Battalion, 402nd Army Field Support Brigade, Joint Base Balad, Iraq

How long have you been in this position? Eleven months.

How long have you been in the Army? Thirty-two years (four active, 28 Reserve).

Tell us about your job and what you do: I am the senior principal adviser to the battalion commander. I am responsible for the health, welfare, discipline, safety and accountability of more than 3,400 Soldiers, DA civilians and DoD contractors in the largest AMC footprint in Iraq. I assist and coordinate with the staff sections and contractor leads on administration and Army standards of appearance and conduct. I am also responsible for the oversight operations related to safety, housing, contract supervision, scheduled equipment maintenance and quality of life improvements for all battalion locations within Iraq.

What other positions have you held in the Army? First Sergeant of the 431st Quartermaster Company (Petroleum) Lansing, Mich.; First Sergeant of 310th General Support Maintenance Co. Jackson, Mich.; Platoon sergeant and motor sergeant of Co. B, 983rd Engineer Bn., Bryan, Ohio and a maintenance instructor at the 2087th USAR School in Toledo, Ohio.

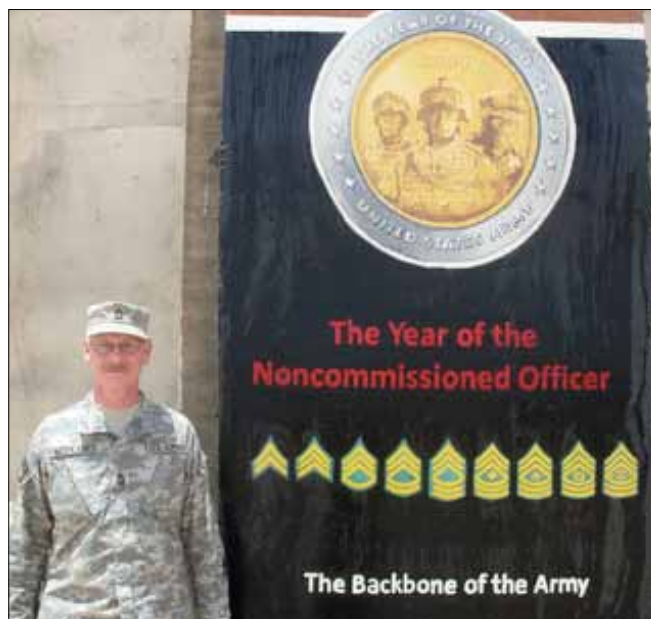
What is the best part of your job? Getting to meet a wide diversity of people.

What is the best part of being an NCO? Seeing junior enlisted rising to the NCO ranks under one's leadership.

Why is the NCO Corps important? Without the NCO Corps, the Army would not move.

What is your most meaningful/memorable experience as an NCO? Taking my first company as first sergeant.

What are your future plans? To retire (in about nine years) and travel with my wife.



Most people don't know (*blank*) about me: I'm a really shy person.

What do you like to do in your spare time? Camping with family.

What is your personal philosophy? Complete the job at hand; it does not pay to put it off until tomorrow. I also believe military members lead turbulent lives, but they are people like everybody else.

**2009:
Year of the NCO**
Recognize an
outstanding NCO in
your unit today!



Each month, The Global Line intends to feature a noncommissioned officer. To nominate an NCO from your organization, send a photo, brief description and supervisor endorsement to ROCK-ASC-GLOBAL-LINE@conus.army.mil

Recap

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ensured the grills and gym equipment used for this event were in place. MWR technician Robert McRae and construction labor superintendent Ernesto Murillo, were recognized by Caslen with coins for the superior standard of quality service they provided during the Commanding General's Conference.

K-LOGCAP ribbon cutting ceremony at Kandahar Airfield

KANDAHAR AIRFIELD, Afghanistan – In support of a rapid buildup of forces, LOGCAP has performed heroically to ensure the best service is maintained for the warfighter. In some cases, camps or Forward Operating Bases have grown literally over night from a couple thousand Soldiers and Marines to more than 10,000. As of mid-October, there are 17,730 Relocatable Buildings on contract and moving into theater and the majority will need LOGCAP support to assemble and install. This constitutes a great expansion effort as the mission grows throughout the south and west of Afghanistan.

Based on this expansion, LOGCAP Kandahar completed the construction of a new building to accommodate the increased staffing required. This building, constructed by a LOGCAP contractor



Courtesy Photo

This new building, constructed by a LOGCAP contractor, is located at Kandahar Airfield, Afghanistan. It represents one of the first of its kind built from containerized units to keep costs down.

within established funding thresholds, represents one of the first of its kind built from containerized units to keep costs down. This building and the effort required in its construction have become the envy of all other organizations at KAF. While this effort would not raise an eyebrow in Iraq or Kuwait, in Afghanistan, this is a big deal. The project represents an outstanding effort for the benefit of all who now occupy the building today and for those in the future.

General signs Army Family Covenant



Maj. Gen. Yves J. Fontaine, seated left, signs the Army Family Covenant with Rock Island Arsenal Garrison Manager Joel Himsl, on Oct. 21 during the grand opening of the Rock Island Arsenal Child Development Center. Fontaine and Himsl are surrounded by CDC staff, children who attend the center and their family members.

Photo by Ted Cavanaugh

After 230 years, the 'Blue Book' still guides NCOs

By Sgt. 1st Class Brian M. Shay
Army Sustainment Command



Sgt. 1st Class
Brian M. Shay

During the early American Revolutionary War, there was very little standardization or guidance for the duties and responsibilities of the non-commissioned officer. The Continental Army lacked strong central command and was made up of state-run militias operating independently of each other. Each militia operated by its own rules and regulations.

In 1777, a Prussian officer named Friedrich Von Steuben volunteered to help. General Von Steuben's influence almost instantly helped to establish the identity of the U.S. Army.

Von Steuben volunteered his military experience through Benjamin Franklin, who wrote a letter of recommendation to George Washington. In 1778, Von Steuben met Washington for the first time at the winter camp in Valley Forge, Penn. Washington was instantly impressed with Von Steuben's military bearing and forceful personality.

By mid-March 1779, Von Steuben personally started training a 100-man guard company in the basics of soldiering. This unit still exists and is known today as The President's 100. In a short time, Von Steuben proved his ability as a drill master through his exceptional tact and experience. For these efforts Washington appointed him the Inspector General of the Army. Later that year, Von Steuben began organizing his ideas into print.

In 1779, Von Steuben's publication, "Regulations for the Order and Discipline of the Troops of the United States," was ready to be printed. Due to the war, however, there was a scarcity of paper. The first printer decided to bind the book with the blue paper he had on hand. This is how the book got the nickname: The Blue Book. In March of 1779, Congress endorsed it and ordered it to be used throughout the Army. Many of the state militias also adopted the Blue Book. In 1792, Washington pushed through the Uniformed Militia Act, which included the use of Von Steuben's regulations.

The Blue Book's guidelines on personnel management replaced the British model of class and station. Instead, Von Steuben melded all the ranks into a unified force, founded on an inflexible

but even-handed chain of command. Von Steuben simplified his writings, putting in plain language what needed to be learned, how to teach it, and why. The U.S. Army's discipline nearly matched that of the best professional European armies.

The Blue Book remained the official guide to military training and maneuvers until it was replaced in 1812. Many of Von Steuben's writings are still in use in today's manuals, such as FM 3-21.5 Drill and Ceremony.

The usefulness of the Blue Book led to the publication of the first official Noncommissioned Officer Guide in 1904. The latest edition of the guide, FM 7-22.7, was published in December 2002. The current guide provides important information, such as the history of the NCO Corps and the importance of NCO professional development, and defines the roles of the NCO. Duties and responsibilities of the NCO in 1779 compared to now have largely remained the same. Prior to The Blue Book, NCOs were selected, but received no formal training for the positions they held. With clear-cut guidance, NCOs could accomplish what was expected of them.

In 1779, there was no formal method of selecting qualified people to serve as NCOs. Regimental commanders noticed certain traits in people and promoted on this merit alone. The Blue Book emphasized the importance of selecting quality soldiers for the NCO Corps.

From the Revolutionary War to World War II

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Contributed photo

Regulations for the Order and Discipline of Troops of the United States, Part 1. Baron Friedrich Wilhelm von Steuben.

The Materiel Enterprise: Materiel solutions for our Soldiers

ASC Public Affairs

You hear it often enough, but what is the Materiel Enterprise? Army Materiel Command recently delivered this explanation, which was printed in the Army's Stand-To! bulletin:

The Materiel Enterprise (ME) is one of the Army's four core enterprises and is responsible for materiel management from concept to combat. The ME brings together all of the organizations and stakeholders involved in providing materiel solutions for our Soldiers. It incorporates all the materiel life cycle functions to include research, development, acquisition, testing, distribution, supply, maintenance, industrial base operations and disposal. The goal is to provide Army leadership with information and analysis to enable them to make sound decisions. The ME leaders, the Acting Assistant Secretary of the Army for Acquisition, Logistics and Technology (ALT), Dean G. Popp, and the commanding general, U.S. Army Materiel Command, Gen. Ann E. Dunwoody have moved out to adopt an enterprise approach.

Why is it important to the Army?

At the strategic level, the ME must deliver and sustain equipment readiness. Additionally, we must synchronize our efforts with the other core enterprises so that we protect Soldier dwell time and contribute to preserving the all-volunteer force. At the operational level, the ME provides the most effective and sustainable equipment for Soldiers and units at the right place and time.

How does the Materiel Enterprise operate?

The ME is all about communication, cooperation and collaboration. The intent is to achieve transparency across the entire organization - its people, processes, capabilities and components. The ME established two forums that allow

stakeholders to collaborate on materiel lifecycle efforts. The Materiel Enterprise Executive Forum is responsible for setting the strategic direction and priorities for the ME. The Materiel Enterprise Collaboration Council is responsible for the integration of functions across the enterprise and synchronizing ME efforts with the other core enterprises.

What is the Materiel Enterprise doing?

The ME launched several initiatives that provide the necessary visibility to develop effective and efficient solutions. Examples include the Materiel Enterprise Portal (MEP) - an ASA(ALT)-AMC collaborative effort to forge materiel and logistics solutions to meet the immediate needs of warfighters in Afghanistan and Iraq, and the launching of Portfolio Reviews, an effort that enables a common operating picture of Program Executive Office (PEO) and Life Cycle Management Commands' areas of responsibilities and product lines.

What's ahead?

Through the improved communication and collaboration that the ME brings, we will ensure innovative, effective, efficient and sustainable equipment to provide our warfighters with the decisive edge.

Editor's note: Army Sustainment Command is in the thick of the Materiel Enterprise. From the headquarters through its seven brigades, right on to the smallest brigade logistics support team working alongside deployed forces, ASC Soldiers, civilian employees and contractors are the face of the Materiel Enterprise. ASC's motto says it all: "On the Line" ... When forces in the field need materiel solutions, they start with us.

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the NCO received his promotion directly from the regimental commander. This meant NCOs who transferred regiments would lose their rank as an NCO, unless special permission was granted by the general in chief of the Army. This allowed the stripes to stay with the regiment.

Today there is a selection process. NCOs are evaluated on their military performance and knowledge. This allows for the selection of the

best of the best and changing units does not take the NCO's stripes away.

There have been many changes in the NCO Corps since The Blue Book was first written in 1779. Rank structure, the selection process and training of the NCO have greatly improved. Yet the majority of the responsibilities remain the same. NCOs continue to train and take care of Soldiers, and the Army has recognized the importance of a strong, professional NCO Corps. As long as the Army continues to select and train quality NCOs, we will remain the "Backbone of the Army."

1-401st hosts ASC commander on SWA sweep

Story and photos by Dustin Senger
Area Support Group - Qatar Public Affairs

Maj. Gen. Yves J. Fontaine finished his first visit to U.S. military installations in Southwest Asia as commanding general of Army Sustainment Command at Camp As Sayliyah, Qatar, Oct. 16. During his introductory travels, Fontaine toured Army Prepositioned Stocks - 5 resources in Kuwait and Qatar. Lt. Col. Peter Butts, commander of the 1st Battalion, 401st Army Field Support Brigade, explained APS-5 sustainment facilities at the Qatar base.

ITT contractors support the 1-401st AFSB mission in Qatar. Logisticians, supply clerks and administration specialists assist Soldiers with APS-5 organization and distribution. Additionally, contracted mechanics regenerate combat power by repairing, overhauling and upgrading theater-provided equipment.

Charles Shy, from Warrensburg, Mo., is an ITT Global Maintenance and Supply Service liaison based out of Rock Island, Ill. During Fontaine's visit, he explained a successful implementation of the latest HMMWV retrofit mission: Fragmentation Kit Seven. According to Shy, the vehicle maintenance operation can safely and efficiently handle expanded retrofit activities.

"There are a lot of untapped resources here," said Shy, after meeting Fontaine. "APS-5 is fully



Maj. Gen. Yves J. Fontaine, ASC commanding general, listens to Charles Shy, from Warrensburg, Mo., explain successful implementation of the latest HMMWV retrofit mission at Camp As Sayliyah, Qatar, Oct. 16. Shy is an ITT Global Maintenance and Supply Service liaison based out of Rock Island, Ill.

stocked and operational in Qatar – we want more work." Shy expressed hope that showcasing the site's sustainment capabilities will help better balance future workloads.

"A review will determine where to best position APS-5 stock between Qatar and Kuwait," said Butts, adding the Army is always looking for ways to maximize capabilities and better support the war effort.

ALT-D

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"Once validated and approved as a need, RDECOM [Research, Development and Engineering Command] canvasses for a technology solution," Williams said. "It used to take up to five years for a product to be produced, but now can be as little as 90 days."

"We should have visibility [on new fieldings] about 120 days out," said Maj. Camilla Wood, ALT-D assistant director. Wood said the team then begins working on what "we need to do to ensure everyone has visibility on what's coming."

Joshua Sherrod, ALT-D support operations officer is responsible for making sure newly fielded items are on the property book while working with Multi-National Corps-Iraq to make sure the distribution of newly fielded items is correct.

"Once the initial fielding plan is done, I step in and work whatever problems come up," Sherrod said. "I can coordinate with the right people to utilize 402nd assets."

"ALT-D marries the Materiel Enterprise piece with the acquisition and technology pieces," said

Daniel Hernandez, ALT-D deputy. "We really are a force-multiplier."

The ALT-D team demonstrated its flexibility and responsiveness Sept. 19 when they "took a tour of a Stryker" parked at one of the dining facilities at Joint Base Balad. Williams noticed that the Soldiers had made a modification in the form of side-mounted illumination. The Soldiers returning to their vehicle talked to the ALT-D team and explained the whys and hows of the modification. That brief meeting resulted in a request for information being submitted to RDECOM within 48 hours.

"At the end of the day, you know you're making a difference," said Williams. "I talk to the Soldiers about their specific needs, their vehicles – what's good, what needs to be better and I push that up to make their lives better and safer."

"The mission we do on a daily basis impacts Soldiers on the ground and they can see the results," said Wood. "People are impacted by the decisions we make – it's about the warfighter and what they need and making sure they are protected."

Gates calls NCOs the Army's 'Steel Spine'

By John J. Kruzel
American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON – Soon after donning his Air Force second lieutenant uniform in 1967, Robert M. Gates learned an important lesson about how the U.S. military functions.

"It took me all of about a day and a half before I figured out who it was that really made the military run – or at least, made we junior officers run: the noncommissioned officers," he told an audience at the annual Association of the U.S. Army conference here Oct. 5.

"So I did what my sergeant suggested," he recalled. "And the two of us did my job pretty well."

Gates, now secretary of defense, reflected on how this early insight into the value of NCOs helped to shape his view of the military that he would lead as its civilian chief some 40 years later.

Often described as "the backbone of the military," a noncommissioned officer, or NCO, is an enlisted member of an armed force who has been given authority by a commissioned officer. The Army's NCO corps includes corporals and all grades of sergeant.

NCOs have been celebrated for decorated service in American military conflicts from Valley Forge to Gettysburg, to charges on Omaha Beach and battles along the Ho Chi Minh Trail, to today's wars in Iraq and Afghanistan.

In recognition of their contribution for more than two centuries, the Army has designated 2009 as the Year of the NCO, an initiative aimed at enhancing awareness and public understanding of the roles and responsibilities of today's NCOs, who Gates said form the Army's "steel spine."

"As secretary of defense, I pay every bit as much attention to what NCOs say now as I did when I was a very green second lieutenant," he said. "I always make it a point to meet with and listen to NCOs around the country and in the theater, where they're serving with such honor and distinction."

Highlighting an exceptional example of the kind of courage and leadership often associated with NCOs, Gates invoked the story of Army Sgt. 1st Class Jared Monti, an NCO who posthumously received the military's highest decoration last month.

Monti, then a staff sergeant, was killed June 21, 2006, after braving enemy rifle and rocket fire three times in an attempt to rescue a fellow Soldier wounded while battling Taliban insurgents in Afghanistan, near the Pakistan border. Last month, Monti joined an elite fraternity of servicemembers who have received the Medal of Honor.

"His is a story of true valor, and there are so many others," Gates said. "And in fact, it's hard to believe that only six Medals of Honor have been bestowed since 2001, all posthumously."

Gates also singled out Sgt. Jason Easom, an Army NCO with two tours in Iraq under his belt. Easom, an enlisted aide to the defense secretary, is one of the first people Gates sees when he enters his office in the morning, Gates noted.

"As you might expect, he's almost always there when I leave, as well," the secretary added, underscoring his personal knowledge of the daily contributions NCOs make.

First time since World War I



Rock Island Arsenal military personnel assigned to the Army Sustainment Command prepare to raise the American flag over Rock Island Arsenal, Ill., Oct. 1. This was the first time military personnel have raised and lowered the colors during reveille and retreat on the island since World War I, except for special ceremonies or occasions.

Photo by Sgt. 1st Class Sean Riley

CSM Blake outlines Reset at AUSA

Presentation links war missions with care of Soldiers, families

Story and Photo by Jon Connor
ASC Public Affairs

WASHINGTON – Taking care of Soldiers and their families is a big focus of Reset, said Command Sgt. Maj. Stephen D. Blake, the Army Sustainment Command's top enlisted Soldier speaking at the Association of the United States Army's annual gathering here Oct. 5-7.

Blake gave a very passionate presentation that included a PowerPoint presentation augmented by a jumbo video screen. But, the enlarged screen was not needed, as all eyes were on him during his intense mid-day delivery titled "AMC Reset Mission" in the Walter E. Washington Convention Center during the second day.

"I'm a command sergeant major, not a general. My focus is always about the Soldiers ... always on the mission first," Blake opened, setting the stage for his following remarks.

Reset is a series of actions to restore Army field equipment to a desired level of combat capability commensurate with a unit's future mission.

Reset is part of the Army Force Generation or ARFORGEN which is a structured progression of increased unit readiness over time, resulting in recurring periods of availability of trained, ready,

and cohesive units prepared for operational deployment in support of combatant commander requirements.

Interwoven throughout his presentation was the concept of "Materiel Enterprise" or ME. It is one of the Army's four core enterprises and is responsible for materiel management from concept to combat, according to Army doctrine. The Army Materiel

Command is partnering with the Office of the Assistant Secretary of the Army for Acquisition, Logistics and Technology to adopt an enterprise approach – communication, cooperation, and collaboration – to this end.

"We blend well with our environment – invisible," Blake said of ASC/AMC. "Who cares? It's all about the product. What am I doing for the Soldiers? What I am doing for their families? Do they have what they need? Do they have time to train? Time to fight? Are we bringing them the right stuff?" Blake rhetorically asked.

But as Blake repeatedly told attendees, this is not just a process

for equipment, but rather a process that affects the quality of life Soldiers and their families experience.

"All the equipment they redeployed is broken. We've got to get it from them. We've got to get it

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Command Sgt. Maj. Stephen D. Blake, command sergeant major of the Army Sustainment Command, gives a passionate class on the "AMC Reset Mission" at the Association of the United States Army's annual gathering in Washington, D.C.'s Walter E. Washington Convention Center Oct. 5.

AUSA

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The event allows the Army to present key messages regarding strategy to its own personnel and the general public.

AMC is a four-star command, comprised of 11 subordinate commands, and is one of the largest commands in the Army with 66,000

personnel in 149 locations worldwide, including 47 states and 50 countries. It provides materiel readiness – technology, acquisition support, materiel development, logistics power projection, and sustainment – to ensure dominant landforce capability. It is headquartered at Fort Belvoir, Va.

ASC is a two-star command headquartered at Rock Island Arsenal, Ill., specializing in sustainment.

Reset

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fixed before they got into MRE [Mission Readiness Exercise] six months later,” Blake said.

“All the equipment left in the rear – that we took from them the whole year – we’ve got to hand it back to them at the six-month point. Then we take it back from them after their certification because they’re going to deploy again,” Blake said of this ongoing cycle during wartime.

This equipment left at the home installation is known as Left Behind Equipment or LBE.

LBE is equipment a unit does not take with it during a deployment and can be re-issued elsewhere to it can be used for training or to other units returning from deployment. Often, it must be repaired to bring it up to standard.

Referencing LBE, Blake said he knows three things from his rank and position: that Soldiers want a leader they can count on; that Soldiers want to believe in their individual skills and have confidence in their equipment; and Soldiers want to believe and trust their battle buddies.

“That equipment piece of the whole thing is just as important as that leader or that buddy left and right,” he said.

The numbers can be mind-boggling regarding equipment as Blake cited Fort Hood, Texas – the Army’s largest installation and only two-division post – as an example. He said 70,596 different pieces of equipment were serviced there just in a 12-month period.

“We got to maintain visibility of our equipment to keep it ready for that person in another country at another time that would do us harm,” he said.

The roles, Blake said, that AMC/ASC have are to restore the Army’s combat capability; to repair its equipment; to replace equipment if needed; and, to recapitalize it. “We need to ensure our commanders have the time and the tools to be in the fight every day,” he said.

Blake conveyed a moving testimonial from a sergeant major wounded in combat receiving treatment – his 15th surgery – at Walter Reed Army Medical Center. While other life-quality concerns were discussed, Blake said the sergeant major kept emphasizing one certain piece of equipment as the wounded Soldier’s wife stood by and participated in the discussion.

“The main thing that sergeant major told me at least 15 times was how good that vehicle – MRAP – was,” Blake said, referring to the Army’s Mine-Resistant Ambush-Protected vehicle used in Southwest Asia operations.

“All they could tell me was ‘You wouldn’t believe how good that MRAP was,’” Blake relayed. “They

[the Soldiers in the blast] got that truck because it was the right truck at the right time and the right fight,” he said. “We can’t afford to let our war-torn equipment go to pieces in the rear while we’re focused on the fight forward.”

Blake also took the opportunity to give high praise to the civilian workforce – Dept. of the Army and contractor – in their vital role in supporting the warfighter and their country.

“We’ve got 80,000 civilian contractors and DoD employees who serve that patch (AMC) every day providing a service to our Soldiers and their families,” Blake said.

In his travels to ASC footprints throughout the globe, Blake said it’s more than obvious to him of the dedication and concern of the civilian workforce.

“They work hard ... their work is a representation of their pride ... about what they give back to the Soldiers and their families in the fight – that’s patriotism,” he said. “You can’t put a mark on that because they care about what they’re doing for the Soldiers every day. It matters to them.”

Blake said the civilian workforce under AMC/ASC are in the Army vehicles traveling Afghanistan’s roads.

“Your mark, your pride, your handshake – our Soldiers, our leaders are in the vehicle with them. We’re in the fight with them every day. I can tell you it’s important that everything’s right when you travel this road,” Blake said.

In the end, listening to those Soldiers in combat is crucial, Blake said.

“We need to always be able to listen to our Soldiers, accept criticism, accept feedback, be constructive and take it ... and do what they’re asking us to do,” he said. “It’s their lives at stake. It’s their trust we want to earn.”

Stay Army Strong Fight H1N1

Prepare for H1N1 flu the same way you do for seasonal flu. Get vaccinated as soon as you can. You’ll need both H1N1 and seasonal flu vaccines.

Take everyday steps to protect your health:

- Wash your hands often.
- Cover your nose and mouth when you cough or sneeze.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose or mouth. Germs spread this way.
- Try to avoid close contact with sick people.
- Stay home if you are sick.