

AMC News

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Headquarters, U.S. Army Materiel Command

November/December 1990

AMC: Desert Shield Roundup



An 82nd Airborne soldier mans a checkpoint somewhere in Saudi Arabia.

U.S. Army Electronic Photo

Family Support Lessens Burden on Those Left Behind

by Christine Born
Public Affairs Office

They are there when you need them. They provide the expertise, knowledge and the help you need. Everyday. Every week. And they like their job. They are Logistic Assistance Representatives.

While the LARs devote their careers to helping others, until recently, nothing was in place to help their families when the LAR was deployed. But thanks to a program developed by the Logistics Assistant Program Activity, that has now changed.

A Logistic Assistant Officer Family Support Program for Desert Shield was established when the operation began. The program is currently in place at five bases in the United States and will most likely include Germany, Robert Greber, the director of the LAPA, said.

"There is nothing in the regulations to assist Army civilian family members," Greber said. "We thought there needed to be something in place. The idea just developed after a number of people talked about it and kicked it around and we now have a good program in place."

The program is essentially a network of the family members of the approximately 120 civilian LARs and the wives of the five military Logistics Assistant Officers who have been deployed. They hold monthly meetings and luncheons and have also started a newsletter, Greber said.

"There has always been a non-formalized support group among the LARs when someone was in trouble," he said. "Now we have a formal program."

"We have always encouraged that our people have family care plans set up and updated regularly. We work with civilian personnel offices and mobilization planners to provide our people with necessary information for insuring proper care of families during times of emergency or mobilization."

The regional LAO managers at Fort Hood, Texas, Fort Bragg, N.C. and Fort Lewis, Wash., and the senior LAO representative at Fort McPherson, Ga., have organized the various groups within their regions. The local support groups work with the Family Support Centers already in

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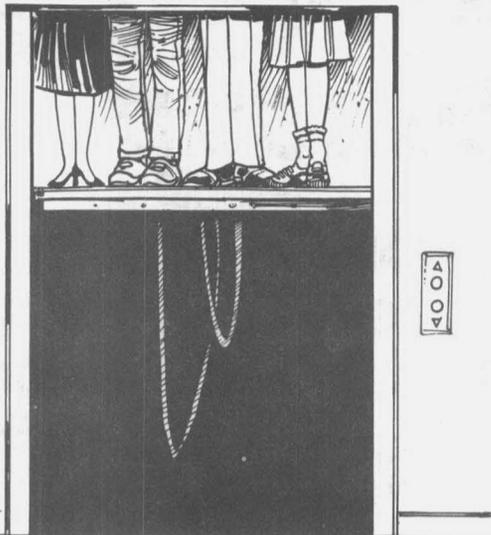
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I heard it in the elevator



By Otis

Otis is lucky to be alive.

It all started here at 5001 Eisenhower Ave one day after lunch as the eclectic group Otis dines with rode the elevator back up to work. By the third floor we had stopped four times (if you count three door opening and closings on the second floor) and each time the door opened we could see scores of excited people rushing down the hall toward the stairs.

As we ascended we began to speculate as to what was going on.

- Was it yet another fire drill that was cancelled but being held anyway?
- Was it the overflow from the PT test that wasn't cancelled but wasn't being held?
- Was it the last minute rush to take advantage of lump sum retirement?
- Or was it just people trying to keep warm?

As we entered the office, Lumpy, our crack admin staffer, pushed past crying, "THERE'S A ROSE TRUCK OUT FRONT! THERE'S A ROSE TRUCK OUT FRONT!"

Used to Lumpy's enthusiasm, manner of speaking and phone message takings, we were only mildly curious why anyone would be concerned about a roast duck. Much less one that was out front. No one drew the connection between the roast duck being out front and the descending crowds.

Otis wants to pause at this point to share an observation.

It seems when it is important, people will use the stairs rather than the elevators. And that's great because, believe it or not, there is a sign by the elevator doors that implies the HOV 3 requirement in the elevator is lifted in case of fire and seems to point out the quickest way to the fire is to run down the stairs. (If you don't believe it, check it out.) Anyway, Otis is glad to know only he was confused because everyone else acts like they know what to do in case of emergency.

And was this ever an emergency! If you don't know by now, a vendor was selling roses, not ducks, from the back of his truck for \$5.00 a dozen—for a while, that is, until moved along by Alexandria's finest for vendoring without a license. In a short while he was back and the crowds formed again. The fact that this was really a good deal made it exciting. The fact there might be something slightly illegal about it and stopped at any moment, heightened the excitement.

People pushed and shoved in a good natured way. But there was still an air of anxiety about the whole affair. Being of less than Olympian stature—height or girth—Otis was soon jostled aside, ending up pinned against the Credit Union money machine. Flowerless. Or deflowered, because someone had snatched them from Otis's tiny fin-



gers, before Otis had a chance to claim them as his own.

From this vantage point, some thoughts came into focus. It is amazing what people will do if there is the perception that they can get something for nothing. For some people, something for nothing or something in it for them somehow changes the ethics or morality of the situation.

Take software, for instance. People know how hard it is to get; but, what the hey, they need it, it's for a good cause, so they bootleg. The illegality and denial of just reward to the manufacturer gets subsumed in the desire to get something you need. Or, like recycling. Everyone wants to save the planet. They just don't like the hassle of saving it by putting their paper in the little recycling boxes. Something for nothing.

Something for nothing usually results in roses that wilt before morning.

Oops. Almost my floor. Think I'll walk up a flight. Watch out for the ducks!

Chaplain's Corner

Remember to Forget

by Chaplain (Col) Donald W. Gover

Most of us have trouble with remembering. Names, events, even faces fade to some inner recess of our minds that are not instantly recoverable.

As I have gotten older, it seems the problem has worsened. Just the other day, I called an action officer in the Pentagon with an urgent issue. By the time he reached the phone—for the life of me—I couldn't remember why I had called him!

I explained this by stating the obvious ... the older we get, the more we have to remember. It is also true that if we are preoccupied with many issues, we are more likely to forget specific items.

My suspicion is that age plays a part I would rather forget.

Why, then, the title, "Remember to Forget?"

Many of us spend large amounts of time and energy remembering and reliving negative experiences.

Mistakes we have made, slights suffered or deep wounds inflicted by people or life's circumstances. Some are so painful and deeply imbedded that we become embittered and fearful.

How blessed it would be if these things could simply be forgotten!

The Holy Scriptures tell us that God has the ability to forget our sins, "to remove them as far as the east is from the west and sink them in the deepest sea."

Would that we could be more God-like! Perhaps that is the key. If we strive to be more like Him, we might be able to forget our and others failures.

In short, forgetting is far more crucial in terms of our spiritual health, than remembering.

Remember to forget.



Best wishes and happy holidays from the staff of the AMC News to all of our co-workers, especially those carrying out AMC's mission in Operation Desert Shield.



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Commander Gen. William G.T. Tuttle Jr.
Chief, Public Affairs Col. Douglas H. Rogers
Editor Gregory J. Mahall
Assistant Editor Christine Born

Hqs Briefs

Holiday Parties

Offices holding their holiday parties in the AMC Building should use caution when plugging in crock pots, hot plates, coffee pots, etc. These appliances may only be connected to dedicated circuits. Using a non-dedicated circuit may result in a power outage. Questions may be addressed to Cindy Pearson, 4-3620

Who to ask?

Due to recent reorganizations, retirements and other personnel changes, the CPO branch chiefs have been rotating as Acting CPO. Betty A. Lucas, room 2N25, 4-9365, is the acting CPO from Dec. 9 to Dec. 22 and Philip D. Ferguson, room 2S25, 4-9495 from Dec. 23 to Dec. 30. The personnel office is open from 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

College Transfer

The Commander, U.S. Army Materiel Command, has approved the transfer of the U.S. Army Logistics Management College located at Fort Lee, Va., to the U.S. Army Training and Doctrine Command, Fort Monroe, Va. ALMC, which is co-located on a TRADOC installation, will come under the management of the U.S. Army Combined Arms Support Command. Excluding the School of Engineering and Logistics at Texarkana, Texas, and the Directorate of Intern Training, which will be assigned within AMC, all other schools and functions will remain in place.

The provisional transfer was effective 1 January with full command and control effective 1 October 1991, pending Department of the Army approval.

Lost and Found

About 12,000 household goods shipments were delayed at various points in transit due to the failure of three international freight goods carriers. Military Traffic Management Command re-booked the shipments and recommends you contact your personal property shipping office for further information.

WANTED: Writers. Poets. Artists

The AMC News is looking for a few talented people to contribute to each issue of the paper. Credit and recognition will be given to the contributor. Here's a chance to add to your resume and showcase your talents. Contact either Chris or Greg at 4-8010 for details.

Army Changes Stop/Loss

Retirements Halted by Crisis

HQ AMC, ALEXANDRIA—Approximately 1,000 Army Materiel Command soldiers overseas—enlisted, warrant officers and officers—could be affected by the Army's new temporary involuntary foreign service tour extension policy according to Sergeant Major Clarence L. Porter, AMC Deputy Chief of Staff for Personnel Sergeant Major.

The Army has halted end-of-service discharges and voluntary retirements and will involuntarily extend foreign service tours for almost all soldiers, officers and enlisted, until further notice.

The Nov. 21 announcement of an expanded STOPLOSS program accompanies a new freeze on reassignments for soldiers stationed overseas and the cancellation of the traditional Christmas Holiday break at Army Service schools. The reason: worldwide readiness and continuing support to Operation Desert Shield.

"We have to be able to keep all our units manned and ready while at the same time, deploying additional forces to Southwest Asia," said Brigadier General Theodore Stroup, the director of Military Personnel Management in the office of the Deputy Chief of Staff for Personnel.

Sgt. Maj. Porter said, "There are too many variables at this time to determine the exact number of AMC soldiers who will be affected by STOPLOSS."

The original STOPLOSS, which began Sept. 1, affected about 2,300 soldiers monthly in certain specialties only; it also did not pre-empt normally scheduled retirements.

The revised version prevents the release from active duty of:

- all soldiers in all specialties and at all grades.
- all soldiers scheduled for voluntary retirement with less than 30 years active service.
- soldiers on "defective erroneous enlistments."
- soldiers ineligible to re-enlist because of locally imposed bars to re-enlistment, failure to meet weight standards, fitness test failure, or declinations of continued service.

Some exceptions apply—soldiers scheduled for mandatory retirements or qualitative involuntary discharges, discharges for pregnancy, soldiers on terminal leave with approved retirement dates before Dec. 1, and cases of extreme hardship. The Total Army Personnel Command is the approving authority for exceptions to the revised STOPLOSS.

"We plan to use common sense and compassion in processing requests for exceptions (to the STOPLOSS)," Stroup said. "We've already granted some exceptions to the previous policy. For example, one young soldier had already moved his family, applied and paid for matriculation at a university, and had all but gone when the first STOPLOSS took effect. We approved an exception in his case, and we'll continue to look at these requests case by case."

In the Reserve Components, only soldiers whose units have already been activated are affected by the STOPLOSS revision.

Stroup estimates the new guidelines will keep an additional 1,280-1,500 soldiers on active duty each month.

Beginning Dec. 1 in Europe and Jan. 1 everywhere else, an involuntary Foreign Service Tour extension will indefinitely freeze in place all soldiers overseas, including those in Alaska and Hawaii.

The extensions also delay until further notice the movement of soldiers already on orders to return from overseas, and Stroup said the needs of the Army will determine whether those orders will be carried out or rescinded.

Exceptions to the extensions may be approved for soldiers:

- awaiting involuntary separation or voluntary resignation in lieu of elimination or for the good of the service.
- for whom the extension would pose an extreme hardship.
- on orders for a nominative assignment (unless deferred by Department of the Army).
- awaiting medical discharges.
- scheduled for mandatory retirement.
- reclassifying from an intermediate nuclear force specialty.

—on orders for the National Training Center at Fort Irwin, Calif., or the Joint Readiness Training Center at Fort Chaffee, Ark.

—slated to attend a Leader Development Course en route to their new assignment (when practical).

Army officials say these soldiers can be deleted or deferred, moved to a later class date, or allowed to proceed.

Major Army Commanders may grant exceptions to the involuntary extensions, such as in cases where a soldier's household goods have already been shipped in preparation for reassignment.

In conjunction with the involuntary overseas extensions, PERSCOM is reviewing current orders reassigning stateside soldiers to overseas locations. Officials say some soldiers on orders for foreign service could be diverted to meet readiness requirements.

Stroup said that the cancellation of the traditional holiday break—commonly called "exodus"—at formal Army schools will make more trained soldiers available ahead of schedule. Included among Army Schools that normally close during the Christmas-New Year's period are enlisted and officer initial-entry training, and military occupational specialty-producing schools.

"We've asked (Training and Doctrine Command) to contact local ticketing agents on behalf of soldiers who may have already made financial or travel arrangements for exodus," Stroup said. "So far, all indications are that they'll be sympathetic to the needs of soldiers who have to cancel their plans." (ARNEWS)

UNFORTUNATELY

THE BEST EXCUSES FOR NOT WEARING SEATBELTS ARE ALWAYS

GETTING BURIED



Women's Week Speaker

McClendon Prophetic During Speech

By Anthony Ricchiazzi
Public Affairs Office

One of Washington's best-known veteran journalists told AMC employees that they should educate themselves to watch and take part in our government.

Sara McClendon gave her thoughts on government, including women in government, in her speech to AMC employees for observance of Federal Women's Week in November.

"When we don't watch our government, that's when we get into trouble, like the S & L's," McClendon said.

McClendon, who has covered 10 presidents from Franklin D. Roosevelt to George Bush, said that we are living in very important times and that people should realize that they are part of their government.

The problem, warned the author of "My Eight Presidents," is the growing attitude that lawmakers are doing an overall poor job.

"In almost everything you read today they're trying to show up Congress as less educated, less competent and less technical and I think that's a shame."

From her vantage point she feels that there is great talent in government and that we as readers should be more critical of what we read.

"It's important for you not to take the word of the first thing you hear," she said.

"Look at it casually. We have some dedicated people in the House and Senate," she emphasized.



Sara McClendon shares a laugh with Lt. Gen. Billy M. Thomas prior to her talk at HQ AMC.

McClendon conceded that she did not fully understand why the President and Congress could not get together on the Federal budget, except that constituents were concerned that they could not

live on the budget being negotiated and that Congressmen were afraid of taking a strong stand due to repercussions from the White House.

She predicted that many House members would be voted out this term because "a lot of people have become disgusted with the budget problems."

When McClendon briefly spoke on the subject of women in government, it was punctuated with the sense of humor that turned up through most of her discourse.

"We need more women in government and I'll tell you why. Women are so practical and you can't say no to them," she said to the many men who were present.

But her main emphasis was on the problems of the Federal government and the budget. She ended her talk by urging the audience to "watch and see what is going on."

She told the story of an old woman who had gone to the drug store to find that the price of her prescription had become too expensive. She could not pay, so she said "I guess I'll just die."

McClendon made her point by saying that people who are living well have no conception of what it's like to be poor.

"I want you to sit down and make a list of what you think are the priorities of this nation," she said, adding that her first priority would be adequate health care for everybody.

AMC NCO and Soldier-of-the-Year

By SGM Dale McInnis and
Anthony Ricchiazzi
Public Affairs Office

The AMC Soldier and Non-Commissioned Officer of the Year are Spec. Timothy S. Stone and Sgt. Patrick A. Carr, respectively.

Stone is a light wheel vehicle mechanic assigned to 95th Maintenance Company, U.S. Army Test, Measurement, and Diagnostic Equipment (TMDE) Support Group, Redstone Arsenal, Ala. He is also the U.S. Army TMDE Support Group Soldier of the Year.

Stone, who did not plan to compete but changed his mind when he

learned that it could help in getting promoted, said the stress from the competition was difficult to manage at times.

"The stress was something else," he said. "You're never sure if you are covering all the bases."

Carr pictured who is also the NCO of the Year for the Test and Evaluation Command, Aberdeen Proving Ground, Md., is a strategic microwave system repairman assigned to Communication Test Company, Test Support Battalion, Electronic Proving Ground, Fort Huachuca, Ariz.

Carr, who saw the Army as an opportunity to overcome challenges, remarked that there was a great deal of studying for the NCO of the Year competition.

"Three companies practiced their boards daily for two months" he said.

Carr competed against NCOs from his own unit, TECOM, and AMC.

"What made the competition even stiffer was knowing that you were competing against the best of the best and not knowing how you would do against them," said Carr.

A recent board of AMC command sergeants major selected Carr and Stone from among top contenders representing ten AMC major subordinate commands and the TMDE support group.



Mrs. Tuttle hosts holiday tea, Brings dash of color to lobby

by Christine Born
Public Affairs Office

While singing carols, the AMC Ladies Group, led by Helen Tuttle, kicked off the holiday season by decorating a Christmas tree for the AMC lobby. The tree was covered with red, white and blue ornaments, in support of Operation Desert Shield.

The tree and some of the decorations were donated by the AMC Federal Credit Union and presented by Katherine Coleman, President and Chief Executive Officer of the Credit Union. June Brailsford brought handmade styrofoam ornaments decorated with the AMC shield and Marget Arwood presented the red ornament to top the tree.

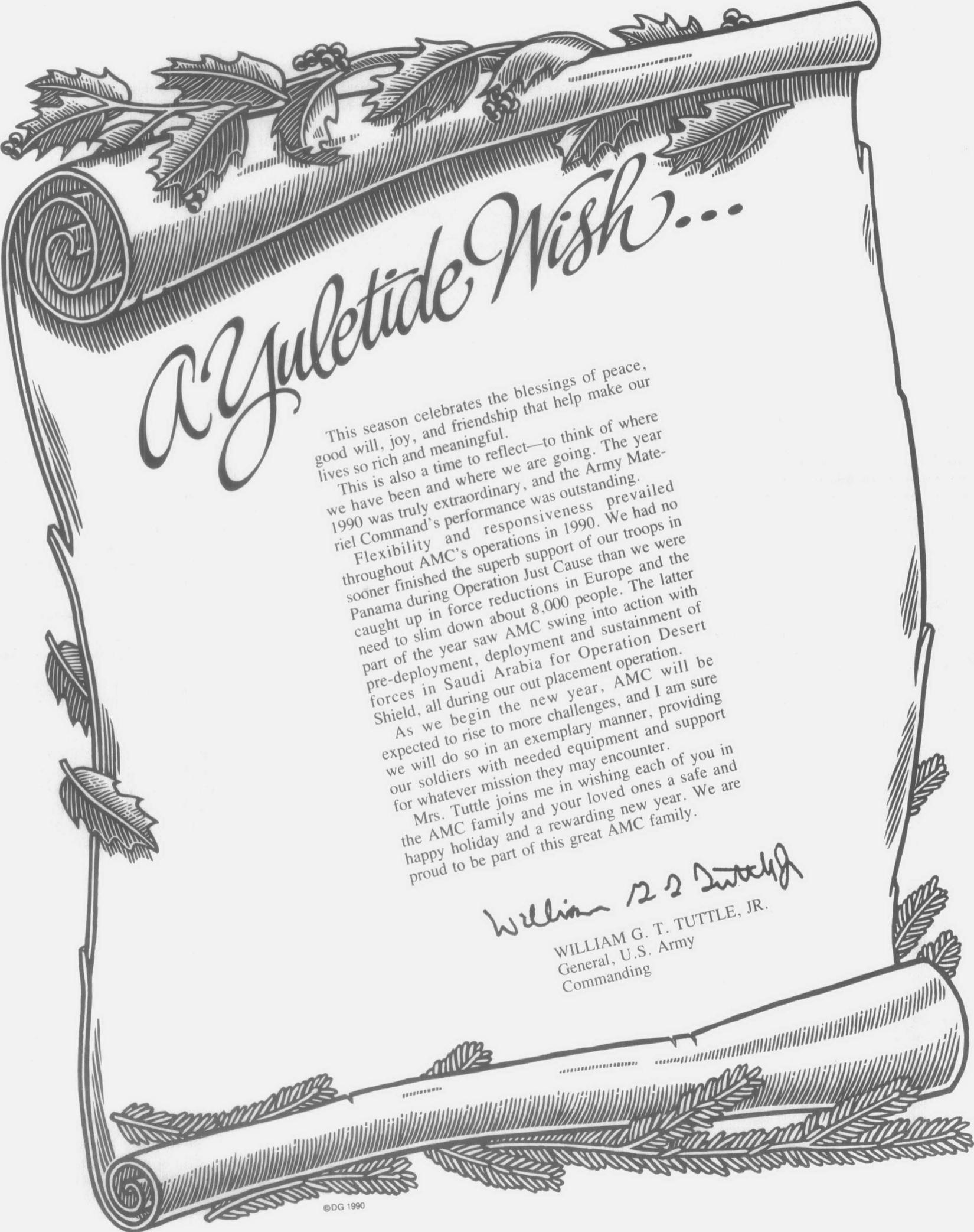
Prior to decorating the tree, the ladies gathered in the Commanding General's Mess for holiday cookies, punch and coffee provided by the ladies.

After enjoying the homebaked goods, the ladies made red velvet ribbons to put on the tree. Mrs. Tuttle thanked everyone for helping and Gen. William Tuttle stopped by to express his gratitude.

"I thank all of you for taking the time to help us get the holiday off to a start," Mrs. Tuttle said.



Mrs. Helen Tuttle talks with Katherine Coleman, President and CEO of the AMC Federal Credit Union. The funds for the tree were donated by the Credit Union.



A Yuletide Wish...

This season celebrates the blessings of peace, good will, joy, and friendship that help make our lives so rich and meaningful.

This is also a time to reflect—to think of where we have been and where we are going. The year 1990 was truly extraordinary, and the Army Materiel Command's performance was outstanding. Flexibility and responsiveness prevailed throughout AMC's operations in 1990. We had no sooner finished the superb support of our troops in Panama during Operation Just Cause than we were caught up in force reductions in Europe and the need to slim down about 8,000 people. The latter part of the year saw AMC swing into action with pre-deployment, deployment and sustainment of forces in Saudi Arabia for Operation Desert Shield, all during our out placement operation.

As we begin the new year, AMC will be expected to rise to more challenges, and I am sure we will do so in an exemplary manner, providing our soldiers with needed equipment and support for whatever mission they may encounter.

Mrs. Tuttle joins me in wishing each of you in the AMC family and your loved ones a safe and happy holiday and a rewarding new year. We are proud to be part of this great AMC family.

William G. Tuttle, Jr.

WILLIAM G. T. TUTTLE, JR.
General, U.S. Army
Commanding

Quality Corner

The following "TQM Self Test" was extracted from an article written by Ed Tate, TROSCOM Resource Management, that had previously appeared in "The Gateway Reporter." By answering the questions honestly, you will begin to develop an understanding of how your current beliefs and philosophies match up with those of Total Quality Management.

Do you feel that the United States is experiencing some serious difficulties with respect to the quality and consumer appeal of many of its products and services?

Do you believe that government, academic and industry leaders have a primary role to perform in improving the quality of the nation's products and services?

Do you believe that the vast majority of our workers want to take pride in their work, and to become more involved in solving problems in the workplace?

Should the quality of products and services be ultimately defined through the eyes of the consumer or customer?

Does the quality of the work system or process ultimately determine the quality of the output product or service that results from the system/process?

Do you believe that most organizations can benefit from better teamwork among its managers, supervisors and employees?

Do employees in your organization represent a significant but under-utilized source for improvement ideas?

Do you think that there is too much rework, waste and misguided effort in your organization?

Do you think that the products and services provided by your organization can be improved?

Do you think that our nation should be more concerned about the long-term implications of its business and government decisions, as opposed to near-term results and pay-offs?

Do you believe that improved quality usually translates into better efficiency?

Do you feel that managers'/supervisors' primary roles should be concerned more with helping, coaching, leading and removing obstacles as opposed to directing, controlling and evaluating?

Should organizational success be greatly measured in terms of how well the organization serves customers' needs and expectations?

Do you believe that the organization should strive to improve trust and openness between its managers, supervisors and employees?

Do you believe that government should award business more on the basis of best value/total cost as opposed to the lowest bid?

Do you believe that you must somehow be able to measure quality and customer service before you can determine whether they are improving or deteriorating?

Do you believe that personnel can benefit from education and training on how to evaluate and improve the quality of the products and services provided by their organization?

Does excessive reliance on competition for individual rewards and recognition sometimes create adversarial relationships?

Do you believe that some of the factors which influence the quality of products and services are beyond the direct control of the individual worker.

Do you believe that mere "slogans" (i.e. "Do it right the first time!") do not in themselves actually help people to do a better job, and in some cases are insulting to the worker?

So, how did you do? If you answered "yes" to the majority of these questions, then your current set of beliefs, attitudes and values are probably most compatible with the TQM philosophy. Keep reading the "TQM Corner" to find examples of how people are finding ways to effect continuous process improvement.



RIF Numbers Final; More On the Way?

By Greg Mahall
Public Affairs Office

AMC personnel people are calling the past reduction-in-force procedures a dramatic success.

In the latest numbers released on Dec. 6, AMC Personnel Action Officer Monte Russell reported that of the 4,894 people that were directly affected by the RIF, only 194 were actually involuntarily separated from the command. Further projections show that an additional 20 people may face involuntary separations come Jan. 4. These additional 20 will come from areas outside of Headquarters, AMC.

Included in the total RIF package were 1,302 downgrades and 3,398 reassignments at the same grade level. The actual effect on individuals was lessened as a concentrated effort was made to achieve the necessary manpower reductions with minimal harm being done to individuals, Russell said.

"We really tried to get to the numbers we needed, the numbers projected by the budget," Russell said, "by imposing a hiring freeze, by letting the temporaries go, by asking for RIF authority and getting the Voluntary Early Retirement Authority.

"Once things started moving, and the reality of the RIF became more clear, people weighed their options and made their choices regarding voluntary early retirement and/or moving on to safer jobs," he said.

"Everything came together well enough that we didn't really have to deal with people as much as we dealt with vacant positions."

Russell said that many vacant positions had been created due to the hiring freeze imposed earlier in the year.

"When that freeze was instituted," Russell said, "normal attrition worked to free up some slots. Many of these positions were eliminated first off, which of course meant that there was no one in the positions to be affected by RIF. In other cases, vacant positions were used to place people affected by the RIF, rather than having to separate them."

As of March, when the RIF planning process began, AMC on-board strength was almost 104,000 people. As of the end of October, that strength had decreased to 95,600. Included in that reduction were 1200 transfers external to AMC due to DMR decisions, 2100 retirements including those under VERA, and net losses due to attrition of approximately 3400 more personnel, and release of 1,500 temporaries. In the final analysis, after reinstating 2,000 positions because of Desert Shield, AMC separated only 194 people from a total of 4,900 people scheduled for separation when the RIF notices were initially given out in early August.

AMC also continues for the rest of this fiscal year under a modified one-for-three hiring freeze.

"This one (RIF) is behind us," Russell said. "I'm not sure if there will be another, what with Desert Shield and all, but ... with more talk about budget-cutting and the like continuing in the papers and on Capital Hill, you've got to expect one, sooner or later.

"I'm just glad that sometimes, and we proved this, cuts don't immediately mean people."

Troops Bring Desert Shield to N.J. Kids

by Stephen Larsen
Public Affairs Staff, CECOM

They were some 900 strong. The sixth, seventh, and eighth graders filled up both sections of bleachers on opposite sides of the gym, as well as folding chairs set in rows, covering almost the entire middle of the gym floor. If it wasn't the entire student body of the school, it was close to it.

The students were gathered for an old-fashioned assembly. The date was October 26, the culmination of 'Spirit Week' at the Jonas Salk Middle School in Old Bridge, New Jersey, a sleepy little bedroom community where people chose to live for the quiet suburban way of life, even if it meant they had to make an hour or more commute to New York City or northern New Jersey to make a living. Today, the quiet of Old Bridge was interrupted by the pounding of drums and the sound of brass and wood winds as the student body assembled to show that it cared about the military people deployed in the deserts of the Middle East.

"I saw different things on television about what's going on over there, the sacrifices our soldiers are making," said Libby Stelevich, Home Economics teacher and driving force behind Spirit Week. "I said, 'It's time to do something.' I talked to various people, and ... Oh my God, it's falling—"

She was off in mid-word to rescue a banner that was drooping at the rear of the gym, one of the thousand-and-one little details she had to take care of to mold the controlled chaos of the assembly into something memorable for the kids.

Even before the assembly started, the kids in the audience seemed to unanimously support Operation Desert Shield, even if the whole business was a bit abstract to them.

Thirteen-year-old Danny Feldner explained how operation Desert Shield was "the war going on between those two countries," and how the school was showing support by signing bedsheets, which they would send to the service people, along with cookies and paperback books. "It's not cool, it's cruel," said Feldner of Iraq's invasion of Kuwait. "They have no right." He was impressed by the military folks, waiting at the rear of the gym to make their entrance. "They're big and strong. It looks like they're not gonna give up."

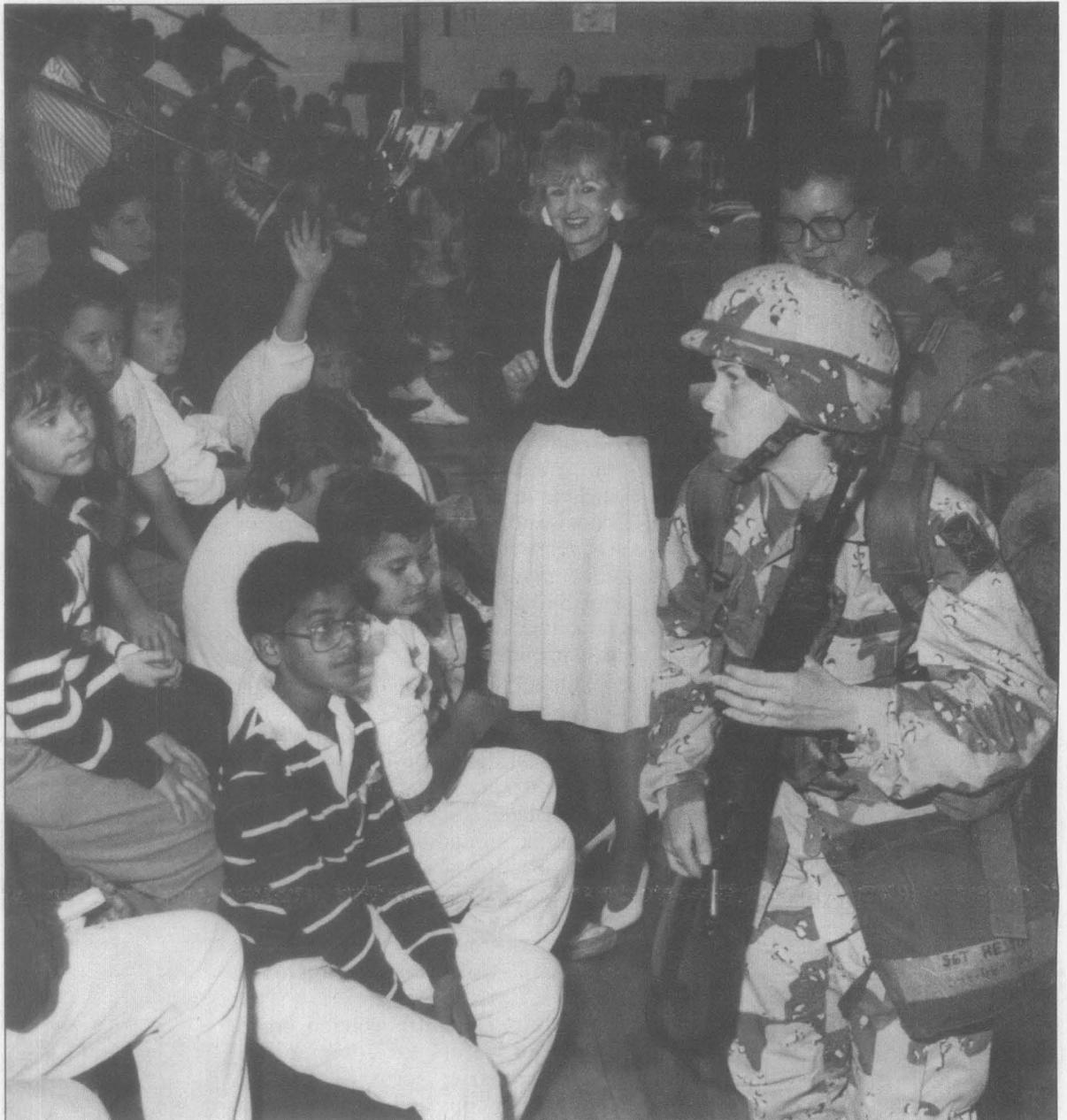
To twelve-year-old Danny Smith, Operation Desert Shield was "the guys in the desert helping us keep peace so there's no war." He thought that the situation would be resolved with no bloodshed, while thirteen-year-old student council representative Mark Canzaro saw the conflict in economic terms. "We should take action to get Saddam Hussein out," he said, "because the budget keeps going up, and to bring our men home."

Twelve-year-old Lisa Goretskie shyly said she thought it was good that the soldiers were doing what they were doing in the Mid-Eastern desert. "They're doing something for us—our country. I think they're brave." Amy Shamburg, eleven years old, agreed, adding "I think it's good our school is doing a lot for them."

"Can I say something?" piped up twelve-year-old Jean Ceravolo. "Good luck to the soldiers."

"Can you say that for me, too?" asked Lisa.

The school band started to play and the service people marched down the main aisle. There were the usual introductory remarks, such as by Mr. Alvarez, the principal. Before long, the military



Greg Brower

Sgt. Ann Resko of the 513th Military Intelligence Battalion shows typical desert gear to students of the Jonas Salk Middle School in Old Bridge, N.J. during "Spirit Week" assembly in support of Operation Desert Shield.

people, from the Army National Guard, and from Army and Navy Recruiting, came to the podium to address the students. The presentations of some of the speakers were so detailed and briefing-like that they would have made the Joint Chiefs fidget in their chairs, let alone 900 middle-school kids. Acronyms and terms like "mobilization site," "deployment," and "operational readiness" filled the air. The kids, 11, 12, and 13 years old, fidgeted, to no surprise.

When it was the turn of the two soldiers from Fort Monmouth to address the students, you could sense something different was in the air. For one thing, they shunned the podium, walking right out into the crowd of students sitting in folding chairs on the gym floor. The students could see them up close; they were people, wearing the desert camouflage uniforms they had seen on CNN and the evening news. Surprisingly to them, one of these soldiers was a woman—petite, pretty, looking like she should be worrying about homework or the prom instead of wearing desert camouflage and a kevlar helmet. The students whispered, wondering how she could stand up under the pack on her back, which was nearly equal to her size.

"I'm going to try to do this without the micro-

phone," said Sergeant First Class Luis Lebron of the 513th Military Intelligence Battalion at Fort Monmouth. "Can you hear me back there?"

"No," came a collective answer from the students.

Now Lebron's voiced boomed like that of a drill sergeant. "Can you hear me now?"

The 900 students practically cheered out yes, and Lebron gave them the thumbs-up sign and went into his pitch. He introduced his partner, Sergeant Ann Resko, telling the students she was the training Non-Commissioned Officer of the 513th, and how she was a marvel at passing her physical testing requirements.

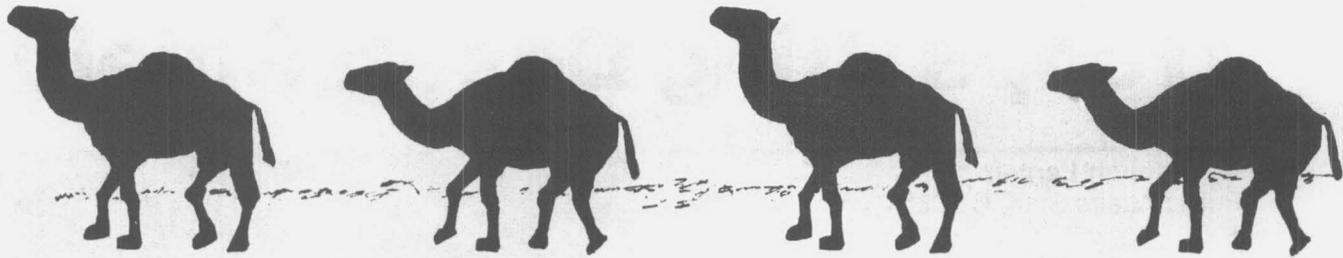
"She scored 272 out of 300 on her P-T test," said Lebron. The students murmured.

"She passed all her physical training tests the first time, and received the Commandant's Award for physical fitness," he said. More murmurs.

"She did 91 sit-ups in two minutes." "Whoa!" rose up from the gym-full of students, as if they had one voice. This they understood—91 sit-ups in two minutes—by this small woman. They were clearly impressed.

See TROOPS, page 11

DESERT SHIELD



AMC Also Ships Spiritual Materials

Chaplains Ensure Supplies on Hand For Spiritual Needs

By Christine Born
Public Affairs Office

A listing of supplies a soldier in the field needs would probably include items such as BDUs, MREs, boots and sunglasses. Many other requests for a sundry of items are also made. But one item which is not normally thought of, and just as important as the others, is ecclesiastical supplies.

About two and a half months ago, a tasking from the chaplain at the Central Command calling for ecclesiastical supplies went out. AMC responded and two and a half months later, 1000 boxes of supplies are on the ground, ready for distribution in Saudi Arabia.

"The spiritual needs of the soldier were recognized as being every bit as important as other logistical needs," Chaplain (Col.) Donald W Gover said.

The kits contain powdered grape juice and wafers for communion, Bibles, rosaries, crosses, plastic communion cups and prayer books. The initial shipment of 24,000 pounds of supplies left the United States in mid November and arrived just before Thanksgiving, Chaplain (Maj.) Mark Fentress said.

The total cost amounted to \$270,000 and paid for 3000 boxes of the supplies. The second shipment of 2000 boxes should arrive in Saudi Arabia in January.

"This office put in an extraordinary amount of hours working full time to make this happen," Fentress said.

Frank Toner, acting branch chief for Inventory and Storage Branch for Transportation and Equipping Division of SMT said the funds came from the Food and Forage Act, enacted by Congress to support the field.

The kits didn't exist in supply channels so Toner worked with the Defense General Supply Center in Richmond to determine what was needed. They obtained a contract with the Tonini Religious Supply Distributor in Louisville, KY. Following all of the paperwork, the kits were type classified and assigned a National Stock Number.

Toner worked with New Cumberland to package the kits in sturdy

containers and wrapped the contents in plastic to preserve the materials from the weather.

While all of the above procedures are not unremarkable, the timeframe in which they were accomplished, is. From start to finish, the project took about eight and a half weeks.

"From the concept to the product, this project is really all about meeting the needs of the soldier," Fentress said. "This office is privileged to be a part of this process."

Through the supply channels, the kits will be in the hands of chaplains by Thanksgiving, he said.

The actual process of getting the supplies to the battalion chaplains was not easy. Ecclesiastical supplies were not a part of the Army logistical system. Distribution in the United States is not a problem, but supply in the field is, Gover said.

"With the help and dedication of a great deal of people, we accomplished something that has never been accomplished before," Gover

said.

"It is crucial in Arab countries to remember the sensitivity involved with religious items," Gover said. "For instance, the items cannot be sent through the regular mail, they must be a part of the logistical system."

"It was a remarkable action and response on AMC's part to meet the requirements of the soldier. AMC recognized the need in marvelous fashion."

The shipment of the chaplain kits is not the only logistical issue for the chaplains that has come along since Desert Shield began, Gover said. With the help of DESCOM, 20,000 items of devotional literature and 47,000 New Testament Bibles have been shipped and are already in Saudi Arabia.

All of the effort involved in getting supplies to the field will undoubtedly be appreciated by the soldiers, especially during the holiday season.



AMC Chaplains Donald Gover and Mark Fentress inspect one of the spiritual "care packages" destined for shipment to their counterparts in Saudi Arabia.

Chris Born



Support Centers Open to Assist Military Families

Army Community Support Centers have gone into full swing in response to Operation Desert Shield, Harold Moyer, Army Community Service Program Manager, said.

When the army is mobilized, the already existing ACS Centers become what is in essence Family Assistant Centers. The same services which have been offered continue, but more people are involved and more attention is given to the individual family member who is left behind, Moyer said.

"We have never used the program to its fullest potential before," Moyer said "but thanks to the foresight of the headquarters and our mobilization plan, it is working great."

The main difference between the

current program and the everyday operation of the ACS, is that its services are expended to the civilian and his family, Moyer said.

"AMC is making sure the total family takes part in the services the ACS has to offer," he said.

All AMC installations have the capabilities to put the program into affect, but not all of them have. Only those installations with a large number of AMC personnel deployed have gone into action, Moyer said.

Some of the services provided the military and civilian family include job placement services, child care and guardianship, financial matters and information on paperwork and which forms to fill out.

Newsletters on services and general information like mailing tips

have been established at Letterkenny Army Depot, Sacramento Army Depot and Tank Automotive Command. Hotlines to call for information have been set up at Letterkenny, Sacramento, Dugway Proving Ground and Red River Army Depot. All of the ACS centers offer family support groups which meet on a regular basis, Moyer said.

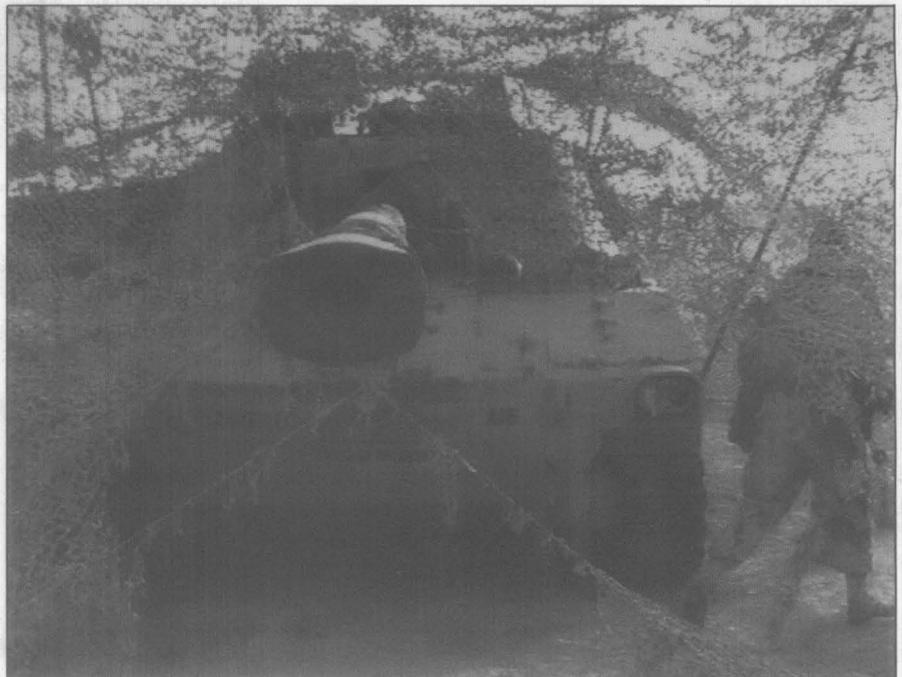
The ACS center also enlists the aide of the installation's legal, personnel, Chaplain, child development, military finance, transportation and housing offices and the American Red Cross, Moyer said.

Pamphlets detailing family care plans, family readiness and civilian employment in Southwest Asia are available through the ACS.



U.S. Army Electronic Photo

Soldiers of the 24th ID make adjustments on the 107 mm mortar somewhere in Saudi Arabia.



U.S. Army Electronic Photo

An M1A1 tank under camouflage netting in the Saudi Arabian desert.

Bowl-A-Mania:

Fearless Football Forecast—the Sequel

by Greg Mahall
Public Affairs Office

Each and every year, I go out on a limb at least twice ... Eagles over the Redskins. They play twice so that means I either make one prediction or two, depending how you look at it. Its always the same ... Eagles win. It makes for interesting dealings with people around here. Luckily, I've been able to split each of the last two years, giving me one week of eating crow and the other week of being obnoxiously smug. Y'know ... win a six-pack, lose a six-pack. But this year's win was especially sweet when the burning question of "How many Redskins can you fit in one ambulance in Philadelphia?" was actually answered. Any how ...

So this stuff is not as all-important and life threatening as an Eagles/Redskins scrum. Actually, its kind of fun.

Every year I like to try my hand at predicting the winners of the infestation of college bowl games that glut the airwaves at this time. Using the ever-popular "Who's Got the Meaner Mascot" theory, I actually went a respectable 8 and 5 if you discount the silly ties that I predicted.

This year, I thought, why not be more serious? You couldn't do any worse, right? Watch what serious (and logic) does to these predictions (in other words, don't bet the house on any of these):

CALIFORNIA RAISIN BOWL: San Jose State. Basically, you've got the same type of mad-man mascots, Chippewas versus Spartans. Of course, the Chippewas didn't wear armor so, with a little added protection involved, take the Spartans.

POULAN/WEED EATER INDEPENDENCE BOWL: Louisiana Tech. Talk about luck! Joe Krivac and the Terrapins (turtles) of Maryland upset Virginia and get a bowl bid. Of course, the Bulldogs of Tech wouldn't win many but it is safe to say that any kind of dog can run circles around a turtle anyway. Remember the tortoise and the hare?

EAGLE ALOHA BOWL: Arizona. Wildcats over Syracuse Orangemen. Did you ever see the Syracuse mascot? Of course you have, this is Big East country. A friend of mine is right, it looks like a pumpkin with extremities.

LIBERTY BOWL: Ohio State. Technically, the Falcons of Air Force should do something to a Buckeye, but until I figure out what a Buckeye is, I must use the logic that people that want to play football—BIG TIME—go to Ohio State as opposed to one of the service academies.

ALL-AMERICAN BOWL: Southern Mississippi. No reason.

Golden Eagles beat the Wolfpack of North Carolina State only because I never have put a lot of stock in ACC football. How would you like to be a Dukie or a Wakey just anticipating the prospect of facing Florida State every year now that they've joined the ACC?

BLOCKBUSTER SUNSHINE BOWL: Florida State. Seminoles hunt down and slaughter Nittany Lions. As a Penn State supporter, it is really tough to pick against the home team. The one redeeming factor is that Saint Joe and the boys beat Notre Dame in the shadow of the Golden Dome. It allows me to still

this year ... part of the logical process, you see. So, using logic, red is a more powerful color than green so I'm calling it ... Southern Cal.

DOMINO'S PIZZA COPPER BOWL: Wyoming. The Cowboys have been beating on animals ever since Golden Bears were first discovered in California. Prediction: Domino's will set a new land speed record for dropping sponsorship of this game due to the fallout from the recent King holiday vote.

ANAHEIM FREEDOM BOWL: Colorado State. Rams over the Oregon Ducks. Only because it seems logical to me, of course, logic

FLORIDA CITRUS BOWL: Georgia Tech. The Yellowjackets sting the hell out of the Cornhuskers of Nebraska. Nebraska, because of it's loss to Oklahoma, is this year's choice for the team that lost so much in such a short period of time.

MOBIL COTTON BOWL: Miami. The Hurricanes bluster the slow, plodding Longhorns of Texas. Bevo had better wear rain gear. For the first time in a long time, I intend to watch this game because it may be the best one available on New Year's Day.

SUNKIST FIESTA BOWL: Louisville. I'm not really sure there should be so many bowl games because some teams shouldn't be there.

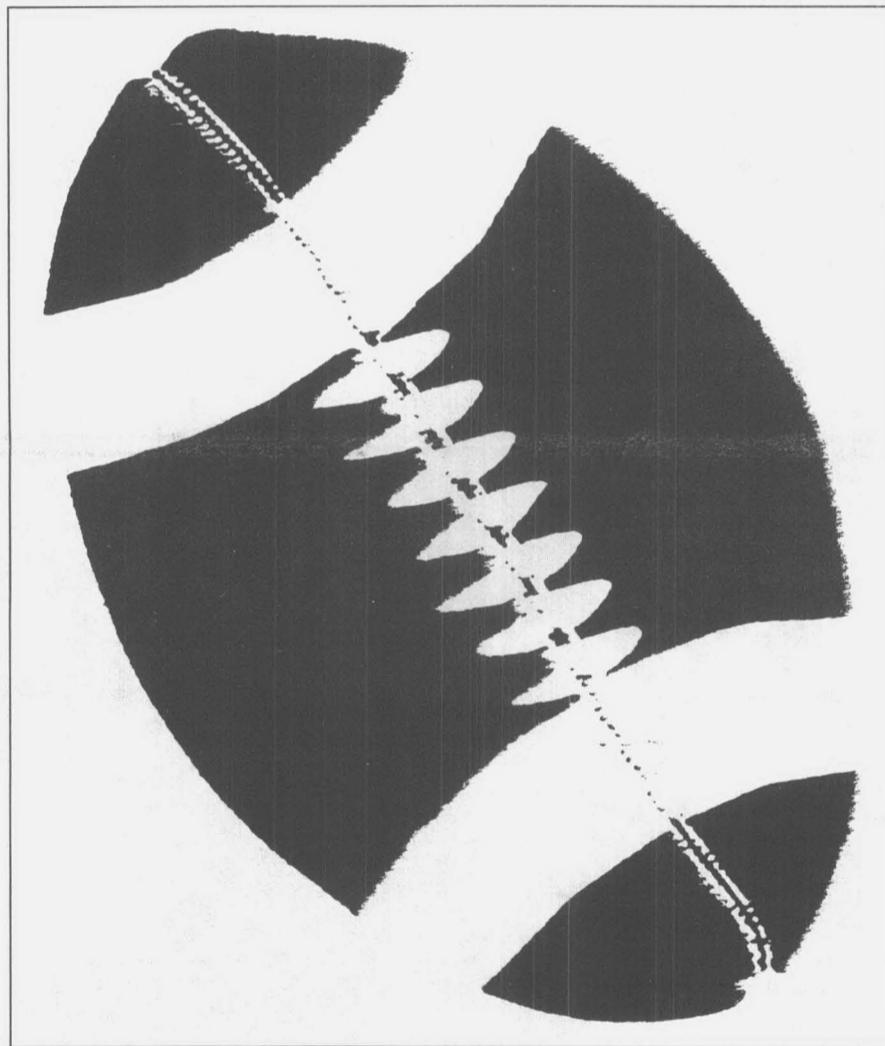
ROSE BOWL: Washington. Call it tradition. This pick has nothing to do with the mascots because, once again, what the hell is a Hawkeye? Iowa just can't win because I think its a federal law or something that prevents a Big Ten team from winning the Rose Bowl. It's called the Gramm/Rudman or Woody/Bo or something like that.

FEDERAL EXPRESS ORANGE BOWL: Colorado. Good game number two on New Year's Day. Refer to last year's column for why. Of course, I lost that pick last year but the revenge factor, coupled with the "I-Hate-Notre-Dame" factor, much like the ex-Cub factor, causes logic to be immediately vaporized.

USF&G SUGAR BOWL: Tennessee. Should be Virginia because Cavalier sounds much better than Volunteer but this is a "who cares/so what" game. Between them, they have five losses and two ties. Hell, Virginia's not even ranked anymore, just rank. If Virginia had a healthy Shawn Moore, I'd give them the nod but, of all teams, Maryland put the hurt on Moore big time in the season finale.

So, what does this do to the national championship picture? Absolutely nothing. Colorado is Number 1, they beat Notre Dame in the Orange Bowl and walk out the winners. That's what the polls will say. I beg to differ. This is the first year in my memory that I haven't seen a discernable Number One team anywhere. Notre Dame? Nope. Miami? Nope. Colorado? Maybe. Houston, Florida, Florida State? No way. On any given day ... yes, they all could be it and many of them actually were. The only reason somebody will be voted Number One is because we are conditioned to think that there MUST be one.

I've got news for you ... in 1990 NOBODY is Number One! And frankly, Scarlett...



spit in the general direction of South Bend. Hey Lou! You ain't Number One!

PEACH BOWL: Auburn. Tigers over Hoosiers of Indiana. Where I come from, you really don't want to refer to yourself as a "hoosier", it carries a bad connotation.

SEA-WORLD HOLIDAY BOWL: Brigham Young. An Aggie is supposedly an agricultural student, at least that's what Marshall tells me. But sometimes, Texas A & M has a goat on the sidelines. In that regards, take the Cougars over a goat anyway.

JOHN HANCOCK BOWL: If I were picking ties, this would be it. I mean, the Trojans of Southern Cal and the Spartans of Michigan State? Come on! But, I'm not picking ties

was never my strong suite. Last year, I was in full support of freedom for Anaheim. Since Anaheim is free, this is in memory of the struggle for that freedom.

MAZDA GATOR BOWL: Mississippi. Rebels, much like Seminoles, can shoot Wolverines of Michigan much like Nittany Lions. Naw ... Changed my mind. Take Michigan, Big Ten over the Southeast Conference anyway. Why? Be logical. Why not?

HALL OF FAME BOWL: Illinois. Fighting Illini (Indians) shooting arrows at and through the Clemson Tigers. Much like the Blockbuster Bowl reasoning. Or by reason of insanity. Call it what you like.

LARs: Persian Gulf Support

LARS, from page 1

place at installations and use their sources, such as counseling services.

The objectives of the program are to ensure essential services like morale, welfare and recreational activities are available to family members. Chaplain services and public affairs information are also provided.

Holding dinners to celebrate the birthdays of the deployed LARs and their family members is one method of support being offered. The meetings also provide information on local businesses which are offering free video taped messages to send to Saudi Arabia.

"The luncheons provide a forum for the spouses to meet each other and talk about problems and concerns that they may have," Greber said. "We also use the luncheons as a means to provide updated information on a variety of issues ranging from how to send mail or packages to their spouses to benefits and entitlements that they are authorized."

The LAO Central Office in Fort Hood, Texas has published a newsletter entitled "Black Hats." Some of the items included in the newslet-

ter are recipes of cookies and other baked goods which hold up well in shipping. A listing of holiday mailing deadlines and cartoons are also included.

The newsletter is entitled "Black Hats," which comes from the black baseball hat the LAR wears as part of his uniform. Even though he is a civilian, the LAR is authorized to wear BDUs when deployed. But to further identify the LAR as a civilian, a black baseball hat with the LAR logo was instituted around 1987, Greber said.

Setting up support groups, either through meetings or by phone, can be important for mental health. According to an article written by Lt. Col. James A. Mills, Jr., the chief of occupational therapy service at the Landstuhl Army Regional Medical Center, sociological studies have shown that people with good friends and good social support networks are more likely to take care of themselves.

They also are less likely to commit suicide. The article stresses people without social support have a death rate two to five times higher than that of people who have the support of others.

**Say the word
and you can break
a child's spirit.**



Words that demean and insult a child can hit as hard as a fist. And leave scars you can't see. Stop using words that hurt. Start using words that help.

**stop using words
that hurt.**

TROOPS: Desert Shield Support

TROOPS, from page 7

Lebron explained the gear soldiers would use in the desert, pointing out each item on Resko's person—a one-quart canteen, ruck sack, chemical booties and gloves, gas mask, and M16 rifle (a version with the firing mechanism removed).

"Okay, I need a volunteer," said Lebron. "How about you?" He selected Mark Canzaro, a strapping thirteen-year-old, to try on Resko's 40-pound ruck sack. 900 students leaned in closer.

"It's pretty snug. It puts a lot of pressure on my shoulders," said Canzaro. He could see—or rather feel—how uncomfortable it would be to wear this any time, let alone with the canteens filled to add some 20 lbs., let alone in the broiling desert.

Sergeant Resko put her ruck sack back on and walked into the audience, making her way through the students, around the gym. Wherever she went, the students swayed towards her, like an 1800-legged amoeba was in the bleachers, flowing towards her. She was mobbed by students, peppering her with questions.

"Is that a real gun?"

"Yes, but the firing mechanism has been removed."

"How much does it cost?"

"I don't know. I wouldn't want to have to buy one. The only way I'd have to buy one was if I lost one."

"How can you wear that heavy pack?"

"It's like part of my body now. It's no heavier to me now than my purse."

"Do you wear your wedding ring in combat?"

"No, I wouldn't want the sun to shine off of it in the desert, and give my position away to the enemy."

"Were you afraid in basic training?"

"Yes, but I figured everyone else was as scared as I was. The first six months were the hardest."

Leaving the school was a difficult proposition for Sergeants Resko and Lebron. They were mobbed by students, every ten feet down the hall taking nearly as many minutes to traverse. Pork Chop Hill must have been quicker to travel, although not as pleasant.

Danny Edwards, a sixth grade, black-haired version of Bart Simpson, waved a pad and pen at Sergeant Lebron. "Can I have your autograph?" Lebron good-naturedly complied, as the boy's teacher, Dr. Marleen Milden, caught up to him in the pack of students surrounding the soldiers. "What are you doing out of class?" she asked him. Then to no

one in particular, she announced: "Danny has had quite a day today."

Teacher Libby Stelevich, motioned to a colleague to come see a pint-sized student in her classroom trying on Sergeant Resko's pack. "You want to see something, Mr. Phillips? This is a classic picture."

Finally, after a half-hour or so, the hall was empty; there were no more autograph seekers, the soldiers were

able to leave. It almost seemed as if they didn't want to.

"How often do they do this?" Sergeant Lebron asked. "If you need any more soldiers to do things like this, we'll be glad to do it." He sat back in the car, a thoughtful look spreading across his face.

"That's the first time anyone ever asked me for my autograph," he said.

People

Special Act Awards

James M. Allingham
Frederick J. Anci
Clinton E. Anderson
Gennaro A. Aveta
Stephen V. Balint
James A. Bass
Yolanda Y. Bergeron
William L. Bidwell
Anthony C. Bizzarri
Princess A. Blount
Judith A. Blowe
Amy N. Boardman
Robert D. Bolonde
Susan P. Boone
Christine L. Born
Frances Bostic
Commie L. Brown
David P. Browne
Tina L. Campbell
Tracy L. Campbell
J. Randolph Carr
Nicholas A. Cenci
Donald D. Clingerman
Frances S. Clohan
Rodney Coles
Sandra L. Courtney
Nancy Coward
Jacqueline M. Cowdrey
Nancy L. Crane
Herbert L. Cully
Oscar Dallacqua
Janice Dickerson-Kirksey
Elindsey C. Dodson, Jr.
James H. Dorrall, III
Nancy B. Dunn
Barbara J. Earnest
Martha C. Elliott
Faith Faircloth
Beverly A. Ferguson
Luis A. Figueroa
Carolyn P. Fish
Edward Frazier
Raymond W. Freeman
Archie B. Ford
Sally A. George
William P. Gilhooly, Jr.
Betsy A. Gleason
Modena T. Gooley
Walter Gooley, Jr.
Lois W. Grant
Dale W. Green
Lynne A. Hagen
Maryann Hall
Roger V. Harold
Anita Henry
Milton G. Hilliard

AMCPA Edward J. Hittle
AMCRE Gary A. Holloway
AMCPP Charles D. Hudson
AMCDE Arlene M. Jackson
AMCPD Teresa M. Janseen
AMCDE Thomas A. Jeffries
AMXDO Michael P. Johnson
AMCDSM William M. Johnson, Jr.
AMCDSM Jacqueline A. Jones
AMCDSM Robert A. Julius
AMCAE Amy E. Keene
AMCQA Ann M. Kinkella
AMCPE James E. Leggett
AMXDO Gary T. Lindsey
AMCPE Lisa Logan
AMCPA Lois A. Longo
AMXDO Charleen Looney
AMCDSM Arthur C. Lorenzo
AMCPE Jose Lopez-Merced
AMCRE C. Ivonne Malave
AMXDO Gregory J. Mahall (2)
AMCIM Debra G. Maroney
AMCQA William W. Mayhall, Jr.
AMCRE Jimmie L. Mayo
AMXDO George P. Mercer
AMXDO David M. Montague
AMCIS George L. Moore
AMCRE Miguel L. Morales
AMCAM Sheila A. Murl
AMCIS Jing-Ing Oura
AMCMI Darlene K. Paukei
AMXDO Lisa A. Pauline
AMCQA Robert T. Pettiford
AMCIS Susan E. Pettit
AMCPP Dianne M. Piatt
AMCPA Lisa A. Pittelkow
AMCCS Robert W. Porter
AMCRE Janice Sexton Prevatte
AMCPA Jillie J. Ransom
AMCAM Thelma A. Reamy
AMCQA Linda S. Reynolds
DAMO Anthony J. Ricchiazzi
AMXDO Ermerdene Ross
AMCQA Peter J. Rowland
AMCIR Victor M. Russell
AMCDE Richard C. Sarrano
AMCAM Alvin M. Schwartz
AMCRM Lenore A. Selzo
AMCPE Walter L. Shaffer
AMCQA Lisa E. Shipe
AMCQA Wanda B. Shimko
AMCIR Garnet C. Sluss
AMCDSM Claude S. Smith, Jr.
AMCIS Rex J. Stone
AMCDE Sigrid E. Strand
AMCIS Roberta K. Tarbert
AMCDE Lorraine P. Tate

AMXDO Harriett Gee Tribble
AMCDSM Elaine C. Twiner
AMCPE Diane E. Tyler
AMXDO Timothy N. Wade
AMCPE Margaret S. Warren
AMXDO Mary T. Watt
AMCRM Lawrence C. Williams
AMCQA

On-The-Spot Cash Awards

AMXIG Cathy S. Akers
AMCDSM Ronald J. Bepko
AMCEN Gary R. Berkner
AMCMI Michael J. Bernard
AMCPSM Pamela Bishop
AMCAM William R. Browder
AMCIS Linda S. Collette
AMCRM Kathleen M. Cook
AMCDE Sandra L. Courtney
AMCIS Herbert L. Cully
AMCPE Michele R. Curry
AMCRM William H. Curtis
AMCMI Jackie M. Dabbs
AMCDSM Nellie L. Diaz-Pastrana
AMCDSM Janet W. Erickson
AMCMP John T. Evans
AMCDSM Dorothy M. Gathers
AMCPE James G. Gleason
AMCDSM Connie L. Greenwood
AMCIS Claude A. Gulliford
AMCDE Patricia A. Jones
AMCRM Mary Ann Hall
AMCQA Anita Henry
AMCRE Frances Hill
AMCRM Michael M. Kiefer
AMCPE Anne M. Kinkella
AMCDE Paul A. Lange
AMCQA Gerald A. La Tour
AMXDO James W. Leach
AMXDO Delores R. Lepera
AMCIS Kathleen T. Love
AMCPE Carmen I. Malave
AMCMI Richard R. McMahon
AMCDSM Harold L. Moyer
AMCPE Denise D. Nash
AMCGS Jing-Ing Oura
AMCPE Louise L. Pettengill
AMCQA Karla J. Reed
AMCDSM Linda S. Reynolds
AMCIS Rebecca R. Rowsey
AMXDO Cynde P. Russell
AMXDO Linda M. Sanders
AMCQA John A. Savelli
AMCRM Geraldine D. Smith
AMCIS Thomas A. Stasiak
AMCPE Joseph F. Suszynski
AMXDO Linda M. Tackett

AMCRM Cynthia M. Trussell
AMCIS Jennifer J. Tylee
AMCPE Terry S.B. Wahl
AMXDO Sharyn R. Walker
AMXDO Kathleen M. Wysocki
AMCRM
AMCQA

Length of Service

Sherley D. Gravely 35
Louise S. Hewitt 35
Clarence E. Shaw 35
Foster Walker, Jr. 35
Ioma M. Wilkie 35
Hugh T. Burchette 30
Harry W. Franks 30
George M. Haber 30
Daniel J. Ostrowski 30
Victor M. Russell 30
Donald B. Smith 30
Carey R. Teague 30
Robert L. Davis 25
William K. Dement 25
Carolyn D. Gilliam 25
Thelma L. Harris 25
Eugene R. Ostin 25
David A. Polinsky 25
Helen C. Richards 25
Margaret S. Warren 25
Jeffrey A. Crisci 20
Jean L. Daniels 20
Pamela J. Morris 20
Edward C. Murphy 20
Corlis E. Saunders 20
Thomas R. Speights 20
Mary H. Day 15
Rosalie M. Jordan 15
Maxine H. Lehman 15
Kathleen T. Love 15
J. Bruce Parker 15
John S. Svalina 15
Frances E. Badali 10
Robert D. Berger 10
Lynn M. Harris 10
Viola Hise 10
Constance M. Hughes 10
Eduardo D. Japzon 10
Jennifer C. Leonard 10
Frank Lewis 10
Judith A. Blowe 5
Patricia M. Ciccolo 5
Vera M. Evans 5
Fidelma M. Hale 5
Crista L. Malik 5

Hey AMC Soldier!

By CSM Michael B. Pierce

A big part of my charter is to take care of AMC personnel—soldiers, officers, civilians and their families. I feel keeping you informed is a very important part of my job. I'm Command Sergeant Major Michael B. Pierce and in case we've not met yet—I took over the duties of AMC Command Sergeant Major in early August this year.

This column is one of the tools I have to get the word out to you. While most of these will address primarily soldiers' concerns, some topics will also affect the officer and civilian side of the house.

My first topic is the NCO Self-Development Test. Getting the word out about this change in the way the Army will test and validate soldiers' skills and proficiency can't be emphasized enough.

Supervisors, whether you wear "mufti" or Army green, the SDT will impact on both active and reserve-duty soldiers.

On 30 November 1990, the phased implementation of the Non-commissioned Officer SDT program began. The SDT will eventually replace the current Skill Qualification Test.

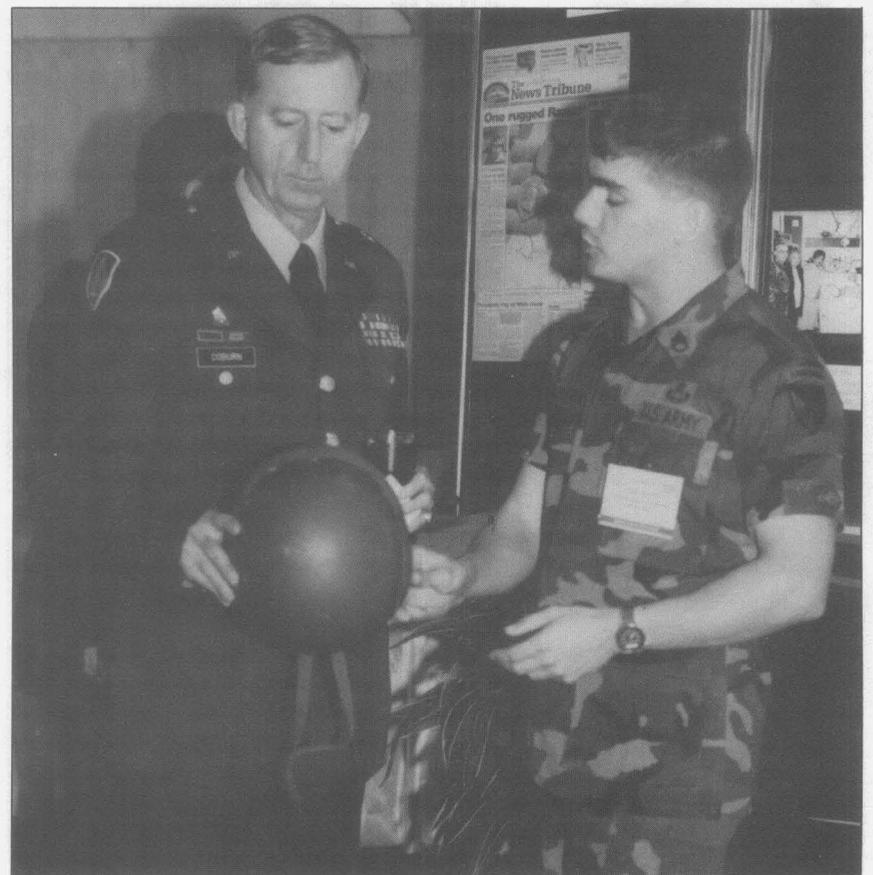
Like the SQT, the SDT will be linked directly to your promotion, assignments, school selection, and retention.

The SQT has served its purpose. The SDT reflects the emphasis on NCO self-development, as well as self-sustainability of skills and proficiency.

The SQT ends for privates, privates first class, specialists and corporals. The current SQT is still in effect for sergeants, staff sergeants, and sergeants first class until the SDT is developed (Goal: 1 Oct 91). Only sergeants and above will take the SDT in the future.

SDT test questions will come from two sources. One is the familiar Soldier's Manual and the other is a reference set of four training and leadership field manuals. Distribution of the first SDT reference manual set is to begin in March 1991. Each sergeant, staff sergeant and sergeant first class will be required to keep and maintain a set of these manuals.

I intend to keep a set too.



Anthony Ricchiazzi

Brig. Gen. J. G. Coburn, ADCS for Procurement, hears Staff Sgt. Louis R. Olivera during Operation Just Cause. Olivera was part of the AMC Exhibit Staff at the AUSA Convention here.

Holidays stir thoughts of seasons past



**BEA CASEY
AMCDRA**

In 1959 my husband and I had started the long process of adoption. Just a few days before Christmas, we received a call asking us if would like to share our holidays with three foster children. My husband and I had never been so excited. We shopped until we were exhausted, buying clothes and toys for the chil-

dren. When the children arrived, we decorated the tree together. This helped to break the ice and from that time on we were a family. We played in the snow, went to church, had long talks and created memories that are still very special to me. Even though these children were not adoptable, my husband and I were content we helped to make that Christmas a happy one for them.

**ANNE KINKELLA
AMCIS-MB**

When I was 13 years old, I had to spend Christmas in the hospital. Despite being in the hospital, that Christmas is still very special to me; it was the year my father got me my first horse.



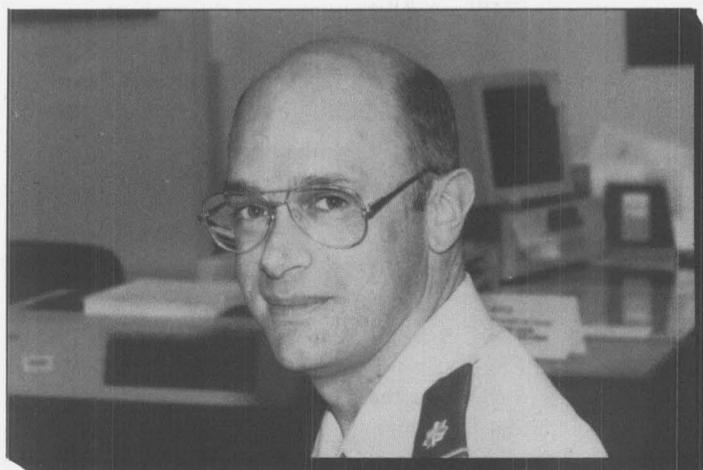
**CAROLYN BOLTWOOD
AMCAM**

Christmas 1975 was the year my family was stationed in Turkey. We went on a ski trip with a few of our closest friends. I will always remember that Christmas—of the friendship we shared and the gift of skiing we learned. Today, I am a staff instructor for a youth ski club, sharing the same gift of skiing and friendship. I want to thank my Mom and Dad for that special Christmas. Happy Holidays and God Bless to all.



**MAJ. PATRICK MERRYMAN
AMCGS**

I remember one Christmas my father told my brother and I that things were tight and Christmas was going to be small. Come Christmas morning—he was right.



*Photos and
legwork by
Robin D. Anderson*

command roundup

TACOM successfully shows tough tanks in United Arab Emirates

WARREN, Mich.—The Army's M1A1 Abrams main battle tank and M2/3 Bradley Fighting Vehicles performed flawlessly during a grueling month-long demonstration of mobility, firepower, durability and maintainability in the United Arab Emirates.

The fifth in a series of such demonstrations of modern U.S. armor to potential foreign military sales customers, the event marked the UAE's first exposure to America's "second-to-none" landpower, warfighting armored systems. UAE military and political leaders' reactions to the combined armor's handling of the 1,568 kilometer course, which included some of the worst heat, finest sand and highest dunes on Earth, were highly positive.

The UAE is an oil-rich federation of what were once seven Arab Sheikdoms with a population of fewer than 200,000, covering some 32,000 square miles, located on the Arabian Sea, bordered by Saudi Arabia to the west and the Gulf of Oman to the east.

The demonstration team and equipment entered the UAE and commenced the demonstration at Abu Dhabi which serves as the capital city of the federation.

The demonstration included hands-on use of the Abrams and Bradley by a highly experienced group of some 20-plus UAE military people who have driven and fired British, French and Soviet armored vehicles such as the Challenger, AMX 40 and T72 tanks respectively.

"A very important portion of the tests, one which indicates how well the Abrams/Bradley team can be expected to operate in the desert, truly impressed the UAE officials," said Lt. Col. Robert Daniels, of the Army Program Executive Officer for Armored Systems Modernization (PEO-ASM) International Operations group, who headed up the American test contingent of 25 soldiers and civilians.

"First, the UAE government required that equipment be tested during the summer. And it must be tested under the most arduous circumstances."

Starting with fully fueled vehicles, UAE crews tested the operating range of both the M1A1 and M2A2 by driving across rough terrain at the maximum speed the crews could stand. At cross-country speeds of up to 40 mph, in slightly more than six hours, the Abrams covered 335 kilometers and the Bradley 310 kilometers before running out of fuel, he added.

Following the arduous mobility testing, the vehicles rolled into the firepower test course. After firing one test round to zero the 120mm maingun, the Fort Knox, crew with Staff Sgt. Clayton Settle at the trigger, squeezed off 21 for 21 daytime center-of-mass hits at ranges of up to 2900 meters.

The test also included moving tank versus moving target engagements at 1600 meters. The target was half the normal NATO-approved target size, which is the size of a Soviet BMP Fighting Vehicle. Nighttime firing consisted of 17 of 17 dead-center kills.



An M1A1 maneuvering on a desert test course.

U.S. Army photo

The high point, though, was that both TOW 2 missiles fired at a target 2900 meters, made what appeared, at first to be one hole in the target—closer investigation showed the hole to be slightly elliptical, indicating the missiles hit within an inch or so of each other, he said.

"The vehicles came through with flying colors as far as maintenance was concerned," Daniels said. "We took extremely few spare parts along with us and we never had to call out for help. Fact is, we had zero mission failure incidents during the entire event."

The UAE officials who observed the tests—including Sheik Mohammad Bin Zayed Al Nayhan, who serves as deputy chief of staff UAE Armed Forces and Brig. Gen. Saif Sultan who heads up the selection team—indicated they were highly impressed with the Abrams/Bradley armor team.

Planning for the demonstration was done on a short fuse. The action was initiated in June for an August demonstration. The Secretary of Defense's Defense Security Assistance Agency pushed hard and cleared away some of the routine obstacles that normally take a great deal of time to negotiate.

Everything was in place to meet the short fuse deadline, however, the transportation demands of

Operation Desert Shield necessitated temporary postponement. When the go ahead finally came, on September 21, all hands pulled together under the direction of Maj Robert Stavale, fielding and readiness officer PEO-ASM, to put men and materiel in place September 27. The demonstration was completed by October 26.

The successful demonstration marks the fifth time these particular Abrams tanks have been demonstrated to allied potential buyers—Saudi Arabia and Egypt in 1987, Pakistan in 1988 and Sweden concluding in June 1990. "They have been through the worst deserts and heat in the world, the Arctic and back and they keep on running.

"I believe the type of exposure buyers get in these demonstrations convinces them we've got the best to offer," said Daniels.

The Egyptian co-production agreement is for 555 M1A1s and the Saudi Arabians want 700 M1A2s. This type of business can help preserve the U. S. armor industrial base and keep the tank plants running into the future.

"The team effort characterizing the M1A1 demonstrations—with military and civilians, government and industry pulling together—is the kind of effort needed to preserve the U.S. defense industrial base," Daniels said.

—Art Volpe

command roundup

Old Time Siege "Rifle" Comes Home to Rock Island Arsenal

ROCK ISLAND, IL—Rock Island Arsenal supplies modern artillery for the American soldier. That's been the case since the 19th century. Ninety years ago, the 5-inch breech loading siege rifle was "modern artillery."

Now, one of the weapons has returned to the arsenal for restoration. A second, incomplete siege gun, is supplying needed parts.

The removal of several layers of paint has revealed that the gun tube was fabricated in 1898 at Watervliet Arsenal, New York. The carriage was built and the weapon assembled in 1900 at Rock Island Arsenal. Only 70 siege rifles were produced, all at this island in the Mississippi River.

Weighing 6,800 pounds, the gun wasn't very maneuverable. But then, it didn't have to be.

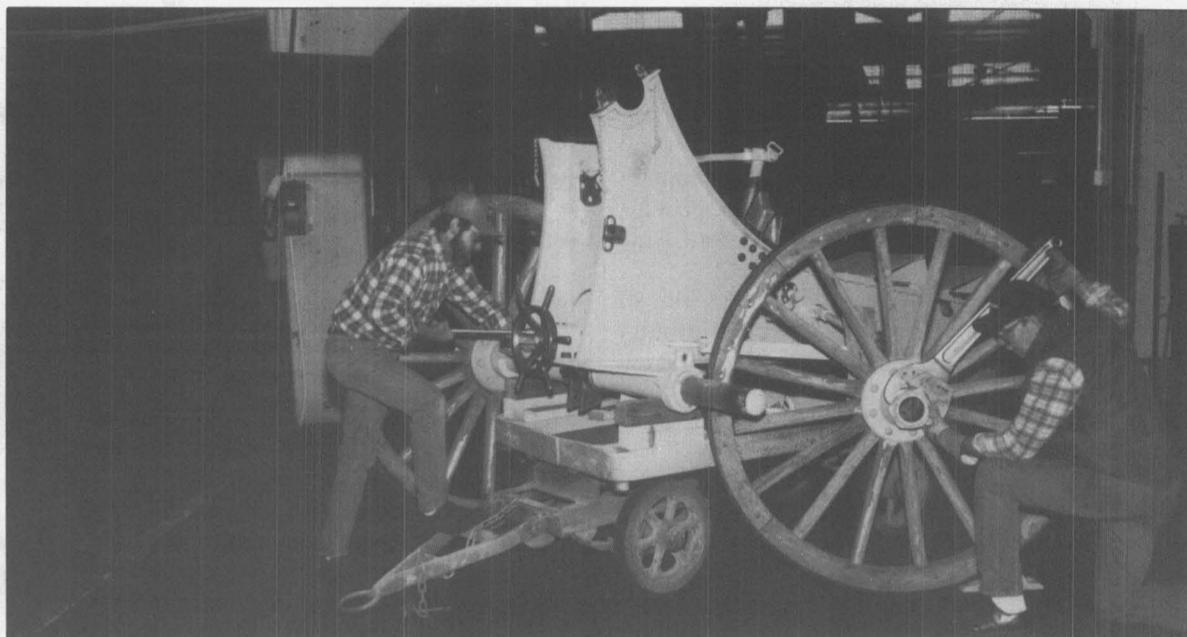
"It's use was limited to sieges," Rock Island Arsenal Museum Curator Dan Whiteman says. "It wasn't designed for quick movement on the battlefield."

Set up in an entrenched area behind field works, the siege rifle could train its 138-inch-long-gun tube on enemy positions and fire up to two rounds a minute toward them. It was termed a rifle because it fired in a flat trajectory. Similar weapons which lobbed their shells were termed howitzers.

Although technology passed the gun soon after its introduction, it was considered a good weapon. Mr. Whiteman says the invention of recoil mechanisms made it obsolete.

In effect, the guns were too new for fielding during the Spanish-American conflict in 1898 and yet obsolete long before World War I.

For nearly 70 years, four of the guns were nothing more than curiosities, rusting quietly in an Oregon graveyard. Like many of the graveyard occupants, they were victims of age. Yet, in the midst of rust and rot, there was enough good left for renovation.



U.S. Army photo

RIA Prototype Shop employees Gary Soltau (left) and Don Tucker work on the 5-inch siege rifle.

"The Oregon National Guard Museum got the weapons from the old cemetery, where they were probably placed shortly after the first World War," says museum curator Whiteman. "We then got two from them."

The Oregon museum recently completed restoration on one of their weapons. Restoration work here is being done by a team from Rock Island Arsenal's Operations Prototype Section.

Larry Johnson, acting chief of the Assembly Section, says that his men all wanted the chance to work on the antique. What has surprised me the most is what they were able to do in those days," he says.

"They did some good machining with the equipment they had to work with."

The work has been an interesting challenge for

Prototype Section machinist Gary Soltau. "The gun restored in Oregon wasn't the same as ours," he says. "When they wanted to remove the breech for restoration, all they had to do was remove some bolts. Our gun had no bolts and the breech was rusted tight. The only way to open it was to cut the hinges."

When the breech is restored, the hinges will be welded to original condition. Many parts, though, were immune to rust. When long-painted surfaces were cleaned, workers were surprised to find brass beneath. Those parts have been cleaned and polished to a rich shine and are to be displayed in their natural brilliance.

Once restoration is complete, the gun will be put on display at Rock Island Arsenal, where it was built so long ago. —AMCCOM

Picatinny Arsenal Employee Works to Save the Future for "Heirloom" Plants

PICATINNY ARSENAL (Dover, N.J.)—An East Greenville, Pa., native, currently the post agronomist at the U.S. Army's Armament Research, Development and Engineering Center here, is trying to save the world in his own way ... by saving its plants.

Specifically, Roger Wentling, post agronomist in the land management section, is trying to keep the seeds of so-called "heirloom" plants in existence to preserve the diversity of plants' gene pools.

Wentling is a member of "The Seed Savers Exchange." The group's members grow all manner of beans, vegetables and garden plants.

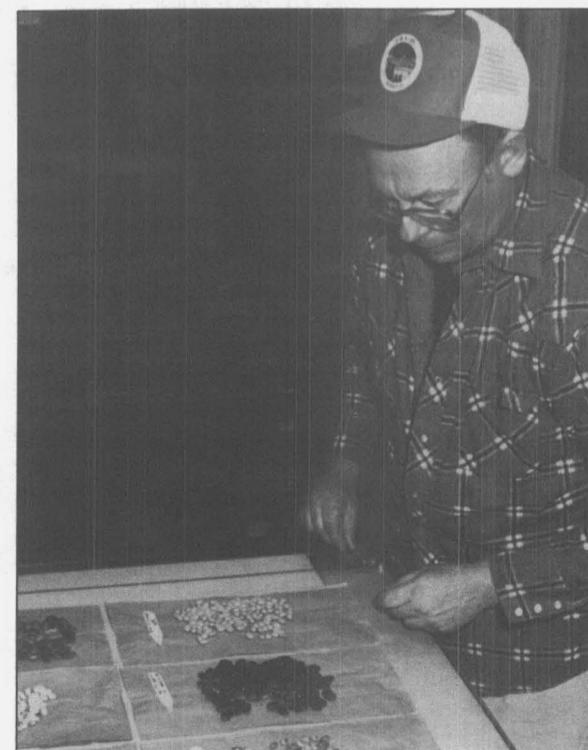
His special project is the "Mortgage Lifter" tomato. He says there are currently only three people growing that rarest variety of the species, including himself. He's been contacted by the University of Kentucky with a request for seeds. He says he donated a starter supply to the school which now raises the plant in its historical garden.

The seed exchange publishes a volume called "The Garden Seed Inventory," an index to the variety of plants currently being raised for their

seeds. The group is willing to provide seeds to anyone interested in their cause. The "fruits" of their labors are being kept by the growers, according to Wentling. The group does ask participants to harvest and share the plants' seeds, however, to continue the process.

"We just want people to keep growing out these plants to keep the seeds going," he said. "The tomatoes I grow, for example, are completely edible and they're superior in taste to anything I can buy in a store. We also invite people to get in touch with us if they've got old seeds or plants which could be part of this program. It's critical that people know that there is no magic silver bullet when it comes to saving seeds, they must be constantly grown out or they off and disappear."

To illustrate the importance of continually growing out all kinds of plants, Wentling's oldest bean is one supposedly found in a New Mexico cave. Beans like that one have been grown out for hundreds, if not thousands, of years by many generations of Native Americans. If it weren't for that ongoing effort, according to Wentling, this and other varieties would have died off and disappeared. —Dutch Meier



Keith Hagedorn, Jr.

Roger Wentling, Picatinny Agronomist, prepares packages of bean seeds for members of "The Seed Savers Exchange."