



# G-5's "Eye on AMC" U.S. Army Materiel Command

*Essential in Peace, Indispensable in War*

January 9, 2003

## Logistics goes modular with configured loads

Logistics support to the Stryker Brigade Combat Team 1 is different. Part of a joint effort between the Army Materiel Command, Defense Logistics Agency, Combined Arms Support Command, Transportation Command, Military Surface Deployment and Distribution Command (formerly the Military Traffic Management Command) and Army Medical Materiel Agency, strategic configured loads represents a leap ahead in military logistics. It reduces the logistics footprint, streamlines processes and ultimately enhances responsiveness to the needs of all warfighters.

Under the new concept, stock numbers for specific needs are selected by a unit before it deploys to create individual modules. Each module has a single stock number that Soldiers use to place their orders. Creating modules speeds the requisition time, reduces the size of logistics forces, reduces airlift requirements and helps minimize the facilities need to receive, unpack, store, repack and transport goods.

Before there were configured loads, a Soldier who might need to build a two-man position, for example, would research an array of field manuals, find the right stock numbers, place an order and then wait for each of the items to arrive. With strategic configured loads, that same Soldier places an order using a single stock number, and when the module arrives, a two-man fighting position is sitting there waiting for him.

Not just a major step for logistics, creating the partnership among the various logistics agencies in the Department of Defense represents a giant leap in the bureaucratic process. It took just 90 days from concept development to execution for all of the agencies involved to agree on how to make this a success.

## TARDEC plays key role in international military R&D

Did you know that the Research, Development and Engineering Command's Tank Automotive Research, Development and Engineering Center has engineers and scientists who are actively involved in NATO-sponsored international military research and development?

RDECOM-TARDEC Executive Director for Research Dr. Grace Bochenek is the U.S. national representative on NATO's Advanced Vehicle Technologies Panel, and as the primary land representative, she coordinates research activities across the Army. The panel is comprised of an international team of scientists devoted to future military land, air, sea and space vehicle research, development and engineering. Other panel members include representatives from the Navy, Air Force and NASA.

"A number of our associates have been involved in the NATO AVT technical teams over the years, and these engineers and scientists are highly respected among their international colleagues," Bochenek said. "It's important for people to know about our involvement in NATO, as TARDEC plays a key role in many of the U.S. military's vital science and technology programs. Our associates' R&D efforts impact not only our military, but they also have the opportunity to make a difference on a joint and coalition level."

## Volunteers in Kuwait

*AMC personnel tell their story*

*"The greatest difference between work here [Kuwait] and work at home [TACOM, Warren, Mich.] is that here I can see direct results of my actions—vehicles that were broken are now working."*

--Chris Hunt, who worked as a parts expediter at AMC's Logistics Support Element-Southwest Asia. At TACOM headquarters, Hunt works in the HMMWV sustainment office managing a block of secondary items.