



G-5's "Eye on AMC"

U.S. Army Materiel Command

Essential in Peace, Indispensable in War

September 10, 2004

Two Sherpas fielded in Iraq

Two Sherpa Guided Parachute Cargo Systems and associated spares were fielded in August in Iraq to accurately re-supply warfighters in isolated areas and conduct sustained container delivery re-supply missions.

The Sherpas are part of the Joint Precision Airdrop Delivery System Extra Light program managed by Product Manager Force Sustainment Systems at the U.S. Army Soldier Systems Center in Natick, Mass., under the command and control of Project Manager Force Projection, and Program Executive Officer Combat Support and Combat Service Support.

The goals of the JPADS Extra Light program are to release cargo systems from an altitude of up to 25,000 feet from C-130 or C-17 aircraft, land at a pre-determined impact point within 100 meters circular error probable and attain a 2,200-pound capacity.

This is the first time that a program of this complexity has been undertaken to turn "dumb" airdrop systems into "smart" ones. Since joint forces will be continuously in asymmetrical conditions, this capability is essential for re-supply.

The 1,200-pound-capacity Sherpa used in Iraq consists of a commercial laptop, airborne guidance unit, 900-square-foot ram-air canopy, accessory box and shipping container.

Umatilla safely moves first rockets to disposal facility

Umatilla Chemical Depot chemical weapons handlers moved one pallet with 15 GB-filled (sarin) M55 rockets from a storage igloo to a disposal facility at the depot. The workers used a specially designed steel container on a flat bed truck to move the pallet.

"I was extremely pleased with the operation," said depot commander Lt. Col. Doc Holliday, who observed the entire movement. "The workers showed confidence and professionalism. The methodical, detailed approach to their work looked routine."

Current plans are to punch, drain and shear one rocket from the pallet of 15. The sheared rocket pieces will be thermally decontaminated in the facility's deactivation furnace system. The drained chemical agent will be stored in a facility holding tank. In about a month, officials estimate they will have enough drained agent to destroy in one of the facility's two liquid incinerators.

Volunteers needed to assist with eCYBERMISSION

eCYBERMISSION, the Army-sponsored science, math and technology competition for students in grades six through nine, needs volunteers to serve as cyberguides, ambassadors and installation points of contact for this year's competition.

Volunteers are generally Army personnel who must have an active security clearance. Approximately 400 to 600 volunteers are needed.

Volunteers serving as ambassadors visit community groups within their regions to explain the program's key messages to educators while encouraging students to participate. Cyberguides are scientists and engineers who serve as online mentors to provide guidance, support and answers to students' questions. Personnel who volunteer as installation points of contact will be the main channels of communication from the program's headquarters to the ambassadors and cyberguides located at the installations.

Cyberguides are needed for four hours per week while ambassadors are needed for 15 to 20 hours per month. There is no standard time commitment for installation points of contact.

To learn more about the program and to register as a volunteer, visit www.ecybermission.com.