



G-5's "Eye on AMC"

U.S. Army Materiel Command

Essential in Peace, Indispensable in War

March 28, 2003

Picatinny's inventions

The vital role of Picatinny Arsenal has been highlighted during the conflict in the Middle East. As one of the nation's oldest arsenals, beginning with cannon shot and axes for George Washington, Picatinny has been supplying weapons and ammunition bringing soldiers the lethality they need where and when they need it. Every individual weapon, every pistol, assault rifle and machinegun, and the ammunition they fire, came through Picatinny at some stage in their development. Munitions developed at Picatinny include the bunker defeat munition, a shoulder-fired bunker buster that can punch through walls and has been a great success in destroying caves in Afghanistan. In the kinder, gentler end of the munitions spectrum, Picatinny's scientists and engineers have been designing less-than-lethal ammunition such as "sponge grenades" for peacekeeping missions.

Quick Action likely on supplemental to pay for war

Congress is poised to act quickly on President Bush's \$74.7 billion emergency funding request for the war with Iraq, with Democrats likely to seek even more money for homeland security. But while Bush's request for some \$63 billion in additional Pentagon spending is unlikely to be challenged, Democrats are bound to use the size of the request to support their view that the administration's proposed tax cuts are too large. The fiscal 2003 supplemental spending request will reach Capitol Hill on Tuesday. According to a senior administration official, the supplemental spending request also includes more than \$3 billion for relief and reconstruction in Iraq, about \$5 billion for additional foreign aid and another \$4 billion for homeland security. The administration official said lawmakers should resist the temptation to add money to a supplemental spending bill to fund their own priorities. House Appropriations Committee Chairman C.W. Bill Young, R-Fla., said he will move the supplemental spending request through the House quickly and intact. Republicans would like to complete action on both the budget resolution and a supplemental spending measure by the time the April recess begins April 11. While Senate Appropriations Committee ranking Democrat Robert C. Byrd of West Virginia and House appropriator Nita M. Lowey, D-N.Y., predicted Bush will get the money he wants for defense, they said they will attempt to increase the homeland security figure by \$7 billion to \$10 billion.

AMC demonstrates war technology on Capitol Hill

Representatives from the Army Materiel Command's research facilities demonstrated technology being used by the Army in the war on terrorism March 21 at the Senate Russell Building at the request of Chairman Pat Roberts of the Emerging Threats and Capabilities subcommittee of the Senate Armed Services committee. Army Materiel Command experts demonstrated technology being used in the War on Terrorism, including operations in Iraq and Afghanistan, and in Homeland Security operations. They also discussed projected technology improvements for use in the force that will be the end-result of Army Transformation - the Objective Force. Among the equipment and technology demonstrated was protective body armor, the Scorpion Integrated Protection Analysis Combat Ensemble, the PackBot and various unmanned aerial vehicles.

Combat Equipment Battalion – Livorno prepares U.S. Army, Europe Unit for contingency operations

Since Feb. 20, Army Materiel Command's Combat Equipment Battalion – Livorno, Italy, has been going full-speed, preparing equipment and materiel for contingency operations. The 260 skilled and loyal Italian civilian workers are key to the success of operations there. "Within hours of getting the call from our headquarters, we went to 24/7 operations," said Alberto Chidini, battalion operations officer.



Vincenzo Basile, a mechanic from the Combat Equipment Battalion – Livorno, Italy, and Spc. Curtis S. Haugen check Haugen's M-923 truck, making sure it is combat-ready. More than 500 vehicles belonging to a U.S. Army Europe unit preparing for contingency operations were inspected and repaired at CEB-Livorno.

MEDIA WATCH

AMC provided support to the Homeland Defense Chemical Biological Umbrella test in Norman, OK, with several key agencies playing a crucial role in the test. CECOM provided expertise for radar to the PM NBC Defense System office and was directly responsible for the technical support during previous testing of military systems. SBCCOM supported this test by providing LIDAR (Light Detection And Ranging) which is used as a truth in accuracy measurement for dissemination of the aerially dispersed materials. PM NBC DS has the technical and managerial lead on the overall effort. PMNBC DS worked in conjunction with NORAD, FAA, the Office of Homeland Defense and NORTHCOM in this test. PEO CBD has the strategic oversight of this particular program. Additionally, AMC provided Mark Hughes, the public affairs specialist from McAlester Army Ammunition Plant, to provide public affairs assistance for the test.

Lean Manufacturing in AMC

The challenges of our operating environment calls for new approaches and new ways of thinking about what we do, and in this, there is potential for great progress. AMC is implementing "Lean" practices to catapult AMC to the forefront of innovation and productivity in DoD and to permanently establish our organic base as a vital and essential. Implementing Lean concepts such as instituting one-piece flow, eliminating non-value added activities, and establishing several pull "supermarkets" is reducing man-hour expenditures which is allowing more work to be done, improving on-time delivery, reducing excess inventories, and throughput time. For more information on AMC's lean initiatives please view our Lean web page via the link on the AMC home page at www.amc.army.mil.*

ARNEWS posts 'Iraqi Freedom' Web page

The Army News Service has gone online with a new Web site for "Operation Iraqi Freedom."

For news with multiple embedded photos from the front lines of the war, go to <http://www.dtic.mil/armylink/news/stories/>.*