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Brigadier General Keith M. Huber and Brigadier General Jay W. Hood Begin Work as Deputy Commanding Generals at First U.S. Army

By Karen Bradshaw

Brigadier General Keith M. Huber and Brigadier General Jay W. Hood have assumed responsibilities as First U.S. Army deputy commanding generals.



During his welcome ceremony and retreat, Brig. Gen. Keith Huber tells First U.S. Army soldiers and civilians how impressed he is with their professionalism. He spoke of looking ahead to his work with the Reserve Component units in First Army. (photo by Ken Rich)

Huber comes to First Army from his latest assignment as Commanding General 10th Mountain Division (Light Infantry) (Rear) and Fort Drum. In November 2001, he deployed to Kosovo as the Commanding General Task Force Falcon until May 2002. Brig. Gen. Huber, a West Point graduate, has wide ranging experience from a variety of assignments involving Special Forces, light infantry and air assault infantry units over the last 28 years. He commanded at the company and battalion levels within the 101st Airborne Division (Air Assault). He served for a year as a brigade field advisor in El Salvador during their conflict. During the Gulf War, Brig. Gen. Huber was the Chief of Operations for the 101st and during the Haiti campaign he served as the United Nations mission Chief of Operations for an entire year. His brigade command was in Honduras with Joint Task Force-Bravo. Prior to joining the 10th Mountain Division (Light Infantry), Brig. Gen. Huber served two years as the Director of Operations (J3) of U.S. Southern Command in Miami.

Brig. Gen. Huber will lead, coach and mentor senior commanders and staffs of Reserve Component units in First U.S. Army's area of responsibility of 27 states, District of Columbia, Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands. Huber's ultimate responsibility is to enhance the combat readiness of Reserve Component soldiers and units in First Army by ensuring that standards are met and current doctrine and tactics are followed.

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To First Army soldiers and civilians

On 9/11 we paused in remembrance of those who suffered from the terrorist acts of one year ago. America was not stopped on that date. On the contrary, over 30,000 National Guard and Army Reserve soldiers are now serving domestically and around the world, many in response to the Nation's call against terrorism. First Army has mobilized more than 20,000 of those soldiers. Each day our military continues to respond in superb fashion. Be proud of your efforts in providing training support to these troops under these circumstances. Your collective efforts are the key to successfully mobilizing soldiers for America's sake. The First Army team is magnificent in its accomplishments.

We have no way of knowing what lies ahead. But we must be ready. Our job is to respond to the President's call. We must ensure that our National Guard and Army Reserve troops are prepared. Careful planning must reflect the urgency of these times. Take personal responsibility to stay physically fit and look after your families' readiness.

Finally, recognize that our higher operational tempo means we must pay closer attention to safety concerns. These busy times can push us to our limit, but as professionals, it is up to us to look out for each other including our Guard and Reserve troops. Whether it is in the field or at home, keep safety uppermost in your mind. Risk assessment, safety and force protection must play prominent roles in all we do. Be proactive. If you see something wrong, fix it or call attention to it. In the long run, it could save a life or prevent an injury.

We are involved in a noble endeavor for peace and security. Thank you for your efforts during this historic time.

Lt. Gen. Joseph Inge

TRICARE benefits for activated Reservists, National Guard and their family members

Families of activated reservists and National Guard members become eligible for healthcare benefits under TRICARE Standard or TRICARE Extra on the first day of the military sponsor's active duty, if his or her orders are for a period of more than 30 consecutive days of active duty, or if the orders are for an indefinite period. Persons called up in support of contingency operations remain eligible for an additional 30 days (TA30) following expiration of the order.

Families of Reserve and National Guard members who are called to active duty for 179 days or more may enroll in TRICARE Prime, if they live where Prime is available. Family members of reservists and National Guard activated on indefinite orders cannot enroll in TRICARE Prime until the 179th day of active duty. Until the 179th day, these families are eligible for the TRICARE Standard and Extra options. TRICARE Prime enrollment will not be retroactive. There are no enrollment fees for active-duty family members. But enrollment forms must be completed, and military treatment facilities and/or TRICARE Prime network providers must be used.

<http://www.armymedicine.army.mil/armymed/healthcare/tricareb.htm>

2,000 + U.S. Army forms available via Web

Service members now can access more than 2,000 departmental forms with the click of their computer mouse.

The U.S. Army Publishing Agency (USAPA) made available a software program on its Web site that can be downloaded by active- and reserve-component soldiers and Army civilians.

"Nobody will have to buy form software again at the local units," said John Czekner, chief of publishing division, USAPA. "They can just download the software and use it on their personal computers."

Users can access these forms online at USAPA's Web site, www.usapa.army.mil.

Command Sergeant Major's Message



**Command Sgt. Maj.
Jeffrey J. Mellinger**

Instead of comparing our lot with that of those who are more fortunate that we are, we should compare it with the lot of the great majority of our fellow men. It then appears that we are among the privileged. Helen Keller

We are privileged to serve. Not every resident of a country is accepted for service to that country, and if you are reading this, you are among the few privileged to serve. So my thoughts this month are about those who serve on our left and right, fulfilling their duties and obligations to the nation through their service to it.

Over the past month, I've had the opportunity to see some of what's best about our Nation and Army. Like many of you, I spend time out with soldiers, civilians and family members as they work to make better everything they touch. And it is the time I spend with our Army which continues to remind me that we are all fortunate to be citizens of this great country.

I was privileged to spend time with National Guardsmen helping their neighbors clean up in the aftermath of a tornado. It was clear from their enthusiasm, energy and sense of urgency that they understood the importance of their task. As I traveled with the state CSM and the NCOIC of the detail, we were stopped by one of the town's citizens who handed over a thank you note. And the smiles and waves of the hand were too numerous to count. I wonder if we take enough time thanking those who help us?

Do you believe our soldiers are tough enough? We've heard about the battles at the high altitudes in the mountains of Afghanistan. While we argue that fitness levels are not what they should or could be, I observed one young soldier as he struggled to make the 12-mile foot march to earn his Expert Infantryman's Badge. He quite literally passed out before the finish line. When awakened by his NCO, he wanted to pull the IV line and get going again. He would not complete the task that day, but the following training day, he was out there again. This time he was successful, and proudly displayed his new blue and silver badge. We are fortunate to have soldiers who give their all, and then give some more.

Yet another day took me to a Sergeant Audie Murphy Induction ceremony. To look at the achievements and

accomplishments of these NCOs is to look again at what is best in our Army. We have NCOs who are willing to go beyond what we expect of them. When we recognize leadership achievements of our noncommissioned officers, we also recognize the achievements of the NCOs and officers who taught them well to begin with. Each one teach one.

Award ceremonies also help drive home that we are all surrounded by the best of the best. At one ceremony, a young officer is promoted, and until we were told, many did not know what component she served in. Her contributions were what we expect from all soldiers, and (at least to me) her component was simply an insignificant fact. What was significant was that she was making a difference. Yet another awardee, for long and faithful service as a civilian, had already served a full career, retiring as a CSM. Look around your own area and see the quality of the people your work with. You have to be proud.

This week, soldiers, civilians and family members met at a number of locations for the Army Family Action Plan. Each participant is attempting to raise issues and concerns designed to make the conditions of our service better. The AFAP delegates consider how to ask for better housing, better pay and allowances, more educational and employment benefits. But they also look for ways we can help ourselves and make better what we already have.

So take a moment and compare your lot to that of your fellow man. I think you'll agree that we are indeed fortunate to live in this country, and even more fortunate to serve.

First In Deed!



Army to tighten re-enlistment window

Army News Service

Active-duty soldiers will need to re-enlist or extend 12 to three months prior to their separation date, beginning Oct. 1.

The Army announced that it was reinstating this re-enlistment policy, which had been relaxed since October 2000. The purpose of the tighter re-enlistment window, personnel officials said, is to identify soldiers who desire unbroken service, and for the Army to program replacements for those who plan on returning to civilian status.

"During the past two years about 8 percent or approximately 5,000 soldiers delayed their re-enlistment decision until within three months of ETS," said Mr. Ron Canada, chief of the U.S. Army Personnel Command retention office. "The largest categories of these are careerists; that's too many."

Canada expressed his concern that many soldiers may be denied retention after Oct. 1., if they decide to wait it out. A tremendous amount of work processing exceptions to policy will be placed on leaders and counselors if they don't enforce the 12 to three-month re-enlistment window, Canada added.

Leaders are an integral part of the retention business, Canada said. He said leaders up and down the ranks must ensure that all soldiers are counseled on the re-enlistment window and that they may be denied further retention when within three months of ETS.

"I need everyone to help out in this effort," Canada said. "It's that important."

Processing procedures for exceptions to the three-month cutoff will require a copy of the soldier's re-enlistment interviews from Department of the Army form 4591-R to validate that the soldier was counseled. Additionally, the exception will require a statement from the affected soldier with a reason he did not re-enlist within the 12 to three-month window and complete justification as to why exception should be approved.

This information is also being provided to Sgt. Maj. of the Army Jack Tilley to disseminate to command sergeants major Army-wide, personnel officials said.

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Army Regulation 601-280 outlines in paragraphs 3-6 and 4-1e the re-enlistment window of three to 12 months.

The Army's success in recruiting and retention has postured the Army to once again reinforce that re-enlistment is a privilege, personnel officials said, and therefore requires soldiers to make their retention decisions earlier. Therefore, they are rescinding policy messages 01-02 and 01-03, dated Oct. 5, 2000 and Oct. 13, 2000.

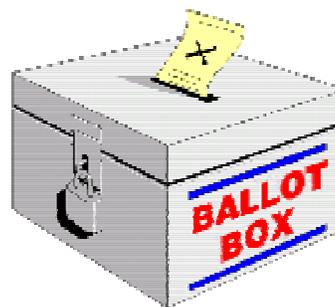
Exceptions to the three-month window will be considered for meritorious cases only, officials said. The exception must be endorsed by the first general officer in the soldier's chain of command. Requests should be submitted to PERSCOM in accordance with paragraph 3-10 of AR 601-280.



The 2002 general election is fast approaching

This chart (http://www.fvap.gov/vag/pdfvag/appendix_a.pdf) lists the 2002 State primary election dates in the States, Territories, and the District of Columbia; primary runoff dates (if applicable); states with U.S. Senate and Governor races; and the number of U.S. Representative seats up for re-election. The General Election is Tuesday, November 5, 2002.

Federal Voting Assistance Program (FVAP)
(<http://www.fvap.gov/>)



Good to go

By SGT Jordan P. St. John
STARC PA, Massachusetts Army National Guard

"Good to Go." That was the result of the most recent evaluation exercise for the Massachusetts National Guard's 1st (WMD) Civil Support Team, according to the First Army's Weapons of Mass Destruction Division Chief Ronald Jones.



(L to R) SSG Michael Kleinebreil of Attleboro, SGT Adam Snow of Beverly and SGT Aubrey Maddox of Cumberland, R.I., carry SGT Joseph Johnston of Dorchester on an emergency stretcher during a terrorism exercise held June 24th in Windham, New Hampshire. Johnston was role-playing as a radiation exposure victim during the daylong session. The four are members of the Massachusetts Army National Guard's 1st (Weapons of Mass Destruction) Civil Support Team or 1st (WMD) CST. The Guard members joined members of the Southern New Hampshire Hazardous Materials Response Team, the New Hampshire State police and representatives of more than a dozen area community police and fire departments in the drill that was centered on a bombing incident at an area school.

"The key challenge for any Civil Support Team is to find and analyze the chemical, biological, radiological or nuclear substance or device and get that information to the civilian incident commander as quickly as possible," explained Jones. "Using that critical information, the incident commander, who is usually a local police or fire chief, can then determine whether an evacuation is called for and how great an area it might include and what needs to happen next to resolve the situation."

Jones lead a team of a half-a-dozen observer-controller trainers from the First Army WMD

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Deputy Commanding Generals (con't)

Brig. Gen. Jay W. Hood, is First U.S. Army Deputy Commanding General and the Assistant Division Commander



Brig. Gen. Jay Hood was welcomed as the Assistant Division Commander, 24th Infantry Division (Mechanized) at Ft. Riley, Kansas, home of the 24th. Brig. Gen. Hood and his staff are a Forward element of the 24th Infantry Division (M) operating at Fort Jackson, S.C. (U.S. Army photo)

(ADC), 24th Infantry Division (Mechanized). As the ADC, 24th Infantry Division (Mechanized) Forward, Brig. Gen. Hood is stationed at Ft. Jackson, S.C.

and will execute training and readiness oversight of the three Army National Guard enhanced separate brigades assigned

to the 24th Infantry Division (Mechanized): the 30th Heavy Separate Brigade in North Carolina, the 48th Infantry Brigade (Mechanized) in Georgia, and the 218th Heavy Separate Brigade in South Carolina. As DCG First Army, Hood will assist and evaluate training readiness of Reserve Component units, to include planning, preparation, and execution of training programs, mobilization and deployment for contingency operations.

Brig. Gen. Hood joined First U.S. Army from his last assignment as Assistant Chief of Staff, Operations, KFOR, Camp Bondsteel, Kosovo. Before that year in Kosovo, Hood served as the Chief of Staff, 82nd Airborne Division, Fort Bragg, N.C. He has served in numerous assignments in operational and command positions in units in Europe and field artillery units in the 82nd Airborne Division and XVIII Airborne Corps. Hood served as the S-3, (Operations) Division Artillery, 82nd Airborne Division, Ft. Bragg, N.C. and in Operations Desert Shield/Storm, Saudi Arabia. He has served as Chief, Current Operations, G-3, XVIII Airborne Corps, Ft. Bragg, N.C.; Policy Staff Officer and later Branch Chief, Plans and Policy Directorate, United States Central Command, MacDill Air Force Base, Fla.; and Commander, Division Artillery, 82nd Airborne Division, Ft. Bragg, N.C.

College Free For Spouses

By Tanya S. Biank, Staff Writer
Fayetteville (NC) Observer

Military spouses can now register for free college courses through an online university scholarship program. The American Military University's Spouse Schoolmates Scholarship Program is providing 2,500 scholarships worth \$3.7 million to military spouses for undergraduate education in 2002.

"We hope it will be popular," said Del Bender, an Army retiree and the AMU field representative at Fort Bragg. "It's a one-of-a-kind program. It is the only program we know of in the nation that is specifically geared for military spouses."

The scholarship program, which was launched last month in Washington, allows spouses of service members who are taking AMU courses to enroll for free.

"They don't even have to pay for books," said Terry Grant, the program's director. "And that's unheard of." Grant said 85 percent of the wives of enlisted men do not have bachelor's degrees.

"There is a need," she said. "There is definitely a need. Spouse employment and education is a big issue."

The spouse can register for the same number of courses as the service member and can take any course offered by AMU, Grant said.

Spouses of active-duty, Reserve and National Guard service members are eligible. The scholarship covers \$750 per course. Students must maintain a 2.5 grade point average. Classes start the first Monday of every month. Students can take four-, eight- or 15-week courses.

"With other grants, loans and scholarships you have to prove how bad off you are," Grant said. "You don't have to bare your financial soul to us."

Students will need computers, though. Students attend an "electronic" classroom and can e-mail their instructors, chat online with other students, and download research materials and assignments.

Grant said taking courses online is a big help to those military families who struggle with day care, lack of transportation, and moves to new duty stations.

Grant has been there herself. As the young wife of an enlisted man, she struggled to make ends meet while trying to get an education.

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"The bottom line is, not a lot has changed," she said. "Family income is not enough, day care is not open long enough, and there is not enough education money available."

The spouse scholarship program eases some of that burden, she said. Grant said students who don't own computers can use library computers or those on post.

Grant completed her degree in 1996. "It really changed me as a person," she said. "There was always something that was missing, and it was that sense of accomplishment. I think a woman getting her education is the most important thing she can do for herself."

Bender, the program's field representative, is also taking courses online through AMU. He said the standards are the same as in traditional classes.

"You've got papers to write and books to read," he said. "The only difference is you are sitting in the pleasure of your easy chair with your computer."

For information or to register for the Spouse Schoolmates Scholarship, call (877) 468-6268 or log on to <http://www.apus.edu/apus/Spouses/>.

New Deputy

By Master Sgt. Bob Haskell
National Guard Bureau

A former Missouri high school football coach who has since devoted nearly two decades toward molding National Guard soldiers into a respected global force through deployments to Latin America is settling into his new position as deputy director of the Army National Guard.



Brigadier General Clyde Vaughn

Vaughn, 56, became the deputy director of this country's 350,000-member Army Guard at the Readiness Center in Arlington, Va., on Sept. 15 after spending 31 months as the Army's

deputy director for operations, readiness and mobilization at the Pentagon

VEAP converts to GI Bill may lose benefits

by Tesia Williams
PERSCOM Public Affairs Office

Soldiers who converted from the Veterans Educational Assistance Program to the Montgomery GI Bill are at risk of forfeiting their contributions and losing their benefits, officials said, if they don't make their payments. Soldiers have 18 months from the time they signed the Montgomery GI Bill, Department of Defense Form 2366, to pay the mandatory contribution of \$2,700, personnel officials said.

Many of the 5,000 soldiers who signed up for the program may have already missed their deadline, according to officials at the U.S. Total Army Personnel Command "Program participants need to contact their finance office and make sure the contribution will be paid within the 18-month deadline," said John Rizkallah, chief of the Education Incentives and Counseling Branch at PERSCOM. If soldiers are not able to pay the \$2,700 in time by using monthly allotments, they have the option of combining the allotment with a lump sum or they can make a single lump sum payment, Rizkallah said.

"The law states that if participants don't pay the contribution in full within the deadline, they forfeit anything they contributed to VEAP and will not be eligible for any education benefits through the Veterans Administration," Rizkallah said.

It is imperative that soldiers look at the date they signed their DD Form 2366 and ensure that they have the contribution paid in full within 18 months of that date, Rizkallah added.

"To date, the VA has not made any exceptions to the deadline," he said.

VEAP was first enacted by Congress for post Vietnam-era soldiers. It was designed to attract high quality men and women to the all-volunteer Armed Forces. Congress signed the VEAP conversion law on Oct. 30, 2000, making it the second conversion opportunity since October 1996.



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Volunteers assist in campaign kick-off

Gayle Johnson, First Army Public Affairs Office



First U.S. Army's Chief of Staff, Colonel John J. Jordan (3rd from left) along with volunteers Captain William C. Keltner (right), Sergeant First Class Terry Barbee, and Mrs. Ann Deweese join the celebration with Fountain students.

Volunteers from HQ, First U.S. Army joined Fountain Elementary students and faculty for this year's 25-Book Campaign kick-off September 13. The event included magic shows and parades. First Army volunteers

visited classrooms as guest readers. Volunteers will continue to read to classes during the school year and, along with teachers, stress that every book is a magical journey to increase student interest in reading.

The purpose of the campaign is to increase student interest in reading, improve reading abilities and establish a life-long enjoyment of literature with special emphasis on celebrating the importance of reading.



Sergeant First Class Terry Barbee (left) and Captain William C. Keltner joining Fountain students at the beginning of the kick-off parade. Photos by Karen Bradshaw

Students at Fountain have a vested interest in completing the 25 book reading commitment. The magician caused their principal, Dr. Tonya Mahone-Williams, to disappear right before their eyes. She was allowed to reappear only after each student agreed to read at least 25 books during the current school year.

First U.S. Army participates in a partnership with Fountain that provides volunteers for a one-hour a week mentoring program for students in kindergarten through grade 5. Interested volunteers are asked to contact Ms. Gayle Johnson, First Army Public Affairs office, at (404) 469-7327.

The U.S. Army announces national launch of web-based science, math and technology competition for middle school students

Army Chief of Staff Gen. Eric K. Shinseki plans to announce on Oct. 1 the nation-wide launch of eCYBERMISSION -- a unique science, math and technology competition for middle school students. As a completely web-based competition, eCYBERMISSION is the first of its kind among science events for youth. The launch event will commence at 11 a.m. Eastern in the main auditorium at Poe Middle School at 7000 Cindy Lane in Annandale, Va. (Fairfax County).

Other participants in this Oct. 1 launch event will include the Hon. Claude Bolton Jr., Assistant Secretary for Acquisition, Logistics, and Technology, and Ms. Asma Junco, administrator at Holmes Middle School.

Gen. Shinseki and Mr. Bolton will explain the value of eCYBERMISSION and its role in supporting the President's commitment to education and to the achievement of excellence in science, math and technology. Students who participated in an eCYBERMISSION Beta test last spring will be demonstrating the different components and features of the web site -- including the site's collaboration tools and the competition's interactive learning experience, called MissionMax.

All 7th and 8th grade students in the United States, U.S. territories, and Department of Defense public, private and home schools will be eligible to participate in eCYBERMISSION. The Army plans to expand the competition to 9th and 10th grades during school year 2003-2004.

During the competition, student teams identify a problem in their community that is related to one of four theme areas: health and safety, arts and entertainment, sports and recreation or the environment. Selecting a real-life problem encourages self-discovery and illustrates how science, math and technology apply to everyday life. Teams then formulate a hypothesis, conduct research and experiments, and submit their solution to the problem as a project on-line. Students are encouraged to collaborate as a team using discussion forums, bulletin boards, and monitored chat sessions through the eCYBERMISSION website. Judges then review and score the team submissions on-line and determine regional winners. Regional winning teams with the highest

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cumulative score are then invited to a finalist round where they present their projects live to a panel of judges. Regional and finalist winning-team members will receive U.S. Savings Bonds.

Currently, the Army is funding the development of this competition, including promotional activities and awards. The Army also provides volunteers to assist students in completing the competition. Army CyberGuides from Army laboratories and engineering centers serve as on-line subject matter expertise for students. Army Ambassadors help promote the competition to teachers, students, and community groups through public outreach efforts throughout the country.

On Oct. 1, this unique web-based competition can be accessed at <http://www.ecybermission.com>



2002 ASSOCIATION OF THE UNITED STATES ARMY ANNUAL MEETING

The Association of the United States Army (AUSA) will host its annual meeting Oct. 21-23 at the Marriott Wardman Park Hotel, Washington, D.C.

This year's theme, "Realizing the Army Vision", will highlight successes and ongoing efforts in the Army's Transformation. There will be number of presentations by senior Army leaders during the meeting and a wide array of exhibits.



First woman selected as command sergeant major of Army Reserve

by Lt. Col. Randy Pullen

For the first time, a female was selected as the Army Reserve command sergeant major.

Command Sgt. Maj. Michele S. Jones was selected by Army Reserve Chief Lt. Gen. James R. Helmly to become the ninth command sergeant major of the Army



Command Sgt. Maj. Michele Jones was selected to become the ninth Command Sergeant Major of the Army Reserve. Jones is the first woman to be selected as the top noncommissioned officer in the Army Reserve, as well as the first woman to be chosen as the senior NCO in any of the Army's components.

will serve as the principal enlisted advisor to the Army Reserve chief. She takes office October 28, 2002.

Jones' military education includes the Primary Leadership Course, Basic Noncommissioned Officer Course, Advanced Noncommissioned Officer Course, Battle Staff Operations Course and the First Sergeant's Course. She is a graduate of the Instructor Training Course, Small Group Instructor Course, Civil Affairs Operations Course, Master Fitness Course, Retention NCO Basic and Advanced Courses and the Sergeants Major Course. She has an associate of arts degree in general studies and a bachelor of science degree (Cum Laude) in business administration from Fayetteville State University. She is currently completing her master of arts in management/international relations.

Reserve. She is currently serving as the command sergeant major of the 78th Division -- Training Support, Edison, N.J.

She is the first woman in the Army's history to serve as a division command sergeant major.

Jones will succeed Command Sgt. Maj. Alex Ray Lackey, who has been the command sergeant major of the Army Reserve since October 1999. Lackey will retire in October 2002, ending a 32-year active Army and Army Reserve career.

As the command sergeant major of the Army Reserve, Jones

Good to go (Con't.)

Division who conducted an evaluation of the 1st CST during a grueling 12-hour exercise held at Camp Edwards June 26. "Our focus is to be as highly-trained and well-practiced as possible," said 1st CST Commander LTC Peter Cusolito, "so if a real-world incident should happen, we would be there with the best possible assistance to back up local and state law enforcement and fire crews."

The Massachusetts team of 22 full time guardsmen, who are biological, chemical and radiological experts, was one of the first Weapons of Mass Destruction Civil Support Teams established less than 5 years ago by the Department of Defense and placed within the structure of state National Guard units. There are now 32 such teams across the nation. Twenty-seven of the teams have been certified, with the Massachusetts unit being one of the first to go through the periodic re-evaluation process.

Just two days before the evaluation at Camp Edwards, the team was at a middle school in Windham, New Hampshire supporting bomb squad members of the state police, the Southern New Hampshire Regional Hazardous Materials Response team and a number of state and local police and fire department first responders.

"The events of September 11th certainly brought a new importance to our work on threatening or terrorist activities," said Windham, New Hampshire Fire Chief Steven M. Fruchtmann who was incident commander at the June 24th exercise that included the 1st CST soldiers. But, we have been working with the Massachusetts Guard's WMD team for several years. The expertise and sophisticated equipment they bring to scene is tremendous and something we would not have otherwise."

In addition to the state-of-the-art chemical, biological or nuclear protection suits worn by the CST survey teams, the unit boasts a high tech communications van that can beam voice and data anywhere in the world via satellite uplink. That communications capability makes immediately available scores of technical experts to the CST team and the first responders. The unit also brings a well-equipped mobile diagnostics lab to the incident site along with a full decontamination operation to assist people exposed to chemical or biological agents.

A LOOK AT OCTOBER



Celebrating Hispanic Heritage - Biography

Ellen Ochoa

Born: April 10, 1958 in Los Angeles, California, United States

Nationality: American

Ethnicity: Hispanic American

Occupation: Astronaut

Source: *Contemporary Heroes and Heroines*,

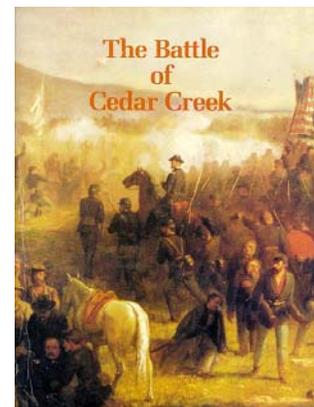


The first recorded celebration of Columbus Day in the United States took place on October 12, 1792. Organized by The Society of St. Tammany, also known as the Columbian Order, it commemorated the 300th anniversary of Columbus's landing. The 400th anniversary of the event, however, inspired the first official Columbus Day holiday in the United States in 1892.



On October, 28th, 1886 President Grover Cleveland accepted the Statue on behalf of the United States and said in part: "We will not forget that Liberty has here made her home; nor shall her chosen altar be neglected."

The last great battle of the Civil War in the Shenandoah Valley of Virginia took place on 19 October 1864 along Cedar Creek between the towns of Strasburg and Middletown.



Army Reserve Trains New West Point Cadets

Story by Maj. Keri Robertson
Executive Officer
Army Reserve Readiness Command

The U.S. Army Reserve Small Arms Readiness Group recently completed marksmanship training for the more than 1,000 new cadets entering the United States Military Academy. This was the first time the SARG has been involved in



A new cadet learns to fire his weapon under the watchful eye of a trainer.
Photo courtesy U.S. Army Reserve.

Cadet Basic Training and 100% of the 1,115 cadets who received training qualified with the M16A2 rifle.

“It was an outstanding effort between the SARG and the U.S. Army Reserve 98th Division (Institutional Training),” said Sgt. 1st Class Kevin Lawson, the mission non-commissioned officer in charge. “This is a great achievement, especially for initial entry soldiers,” said Lawson, referring to the 100% qualification record. The training mission at West Point was one of the largest deployments of the Laser Marksmanship Training System used by the SARG. There were a total of 80 LMTS training lanes and 12 LMTS RETS (Remote Electronic Targeting System) lanes. The new cadets received one day of marksmanship training with the LMTS prior to advancing to live fire.

The LMTS is a commercial system obtained by the Army Reserve in 1997. It has been in the testing and evaluation stage until last year when the equipment began to be fielded on a larger scale. Instructors Army-wide are now receiving training in its application.

LMTS uses a barrel mounted laser device inserted into the soldier's weapon and a combination of static and computerized targets. The target devices provide feedback for the instructor regarding shooter performance. When the weapon is dry fired it emits a laser pulse onto the target. An instructor can then instantaneously triangulate a shot group or deduce shooter error based on the information provided by the LMTS.

SARG developed a series of LMTS exercises to train the fundamentals of marksmanship from basic steady position to actual target acquisition on a simulated RETS

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Range. The SARG emphasizes the “Crawl, Walk, Run” method, focusing on the progression of training, building from the basic fundamentals to the advanced skills necessary in marksmanship. The LMTS equipment was also used on the live-fire range to reinforce the fundamentals for those shooters having difficulty.

The 98th DIV (IT) provided 19 instructors, plus logistics and range operations personnel. Once the plan was developed, the SARG trained the 98th DIV (IT) instructors in the application of LMTS. SARG members then served as advisors throughout the mission, providing subject matter expertise and remedial training for problem shooters on the live-fire range.

“The LMTS piece is by far the best method that I have ever seen to teach preliminary marksmanship instruction,” said Maj. Ron Wigger, Basic Rifle Marksmanship Committee Chief for USMA and West Point Rifle Team Coach. Wigger requested assistance from the SARG in planning and implementing a revised weapons training strategy for West Point Cadet Basic Training.

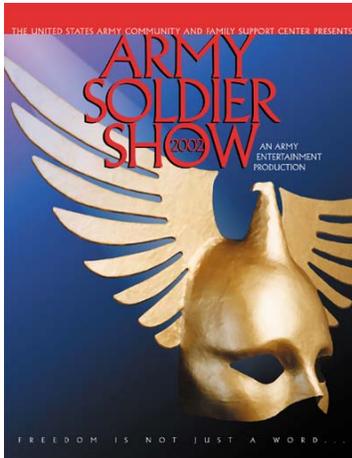
The mission of the SARG focuses on the training of mobilizing troops, development of marksmanship training methodology, new equipment and training the trainer. It is a rare situation when they provide direct training to initial entry-level soldiers. The mission at West Point was seen as an opportunity to train and possibly influence future leaders of the Army on the importance of quality marksmanship training and individual soldier skills.

The SARG, based at Fort Gillem, Ga., is a subordinate unit of the USAR Readiness Command located at Fort Jackson, S.C.



“Because We Care, We Share”

Campaign Ends November 1, 2002



October
 3 Redstone Arsenal, Al.
 6 Fort Knox, Ky.
 8 Fort Campbell, Ky.
 10 Fort McPherson, Ga.
 12,13 Fort Gordon, Ga.
 16 Ft. Benning
 (Columbus) Ga.
 19,20 Fort Rucker, Ala.
 22,23 Fort Stewart, Ga.
 26,27 Fort Jackson, S.C.
 30 Fort Bragg, N.C.

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Women of the 2002 U.S. Army Soldier Show kick up their heels doing the Can-Can in the racy segment adapted from Moulin Rouge, the movie.

WHAT IS IT? The U.S. Army Soldier Show is a high-energy MTV-style 90-minute live musical review showcasing the talents of active duty soldiers who are selected by audition from throughout the Army. They are amateur artists who have a passion for music, dance and performing. They come from infantry, artillery, transportation, military police, medical, intelligence, armor, aviation, signal and other tactical units. The show is put together in six weeks, and then tours for six months.



Diamond-loving 1st Lt. Angel Stone gets a "lift" from gentlemen Sergeants Rodney Watts and Albert Latuch in the Sparkling Diamond segment of the 2002 U.S. Army Soldier Show.

The U.S. Army Soldier Show is coming to the Robert Ferst Center for the Arts at Georgia Tech Oct 10 at 7:30pm. The production is free and open to the public.

Photos by Harriet Rice, CFSC PA



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Send us your stories or story ideas.

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Published by First U.S. Army Public Affairs Office
 Lt. Gen. Joseph R. Inge—Commanding General

Lt. Col Robert Saxon—Chief, Public Affairs
 Robert.Saxon@first.army.mil
 Ms. Gayle Johnson—PA Assistant—Editor
 Gayle.Johnson@first.army.mil

First U.S. Army Public Affairs Office
 4705 N Wheeler Drive
 Forest Park, GA 30297-5000

DSN 797-7327 CML (404) 469-7327
 FAX DSN 797-3101
 CML FAX (404) 469-3101