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# The Bullet'n



“Supporting the Warfighter”

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Army Materiel Command  
News Release

FORT BELVOIR, Va.-- Two Army Materiel Command organizations, Tooele Army Depot, Tooele, Utah, and Crane Army Ammunition Activity, Crane, Ind., have both achieved tremendous safety records and recognition in the past year.

Tooele recently reached 290 days since their last lost time accident. This is truly significant because lost time accidents are those severe enough to take an employee out of the workplace, and therefore create a loss in production. Similarly, from February 2007 through February 2008, Crane Army went 378 days between lost work day cases.

Also, just last September Crane Army also became the first AMC and Joint Munitions Command site to achieve merit status for the Voluntary Protection Program, only the second Army installation to accomplish this significant feat. The U.S. Department of Labor Occupational Safety and Health Administration established the VPP to promote effective worksite-based safety and health.

“I commend both Tooele and

## Tooele and Crane set safety standard



Crane for these significant achievements. Our people are our greatest asset, and it is critical that we keep them safe. Toole and Crane have set the standard that all AMC organizations should emulate,” said Gen. Benjamin S. Griffin, command general of AMC.

As you approach the entrance of Tooele, it becomes very clear that safety initiatives throughout the depot play a major role in providing a healthy work environment for its employees. As you come in the gate, an electronic sign announces the number of days without an accident. Fiscal year 2008 was the safest year on record there and there hasn't been a lost time accident to date in fiscal year 2009.

In February 2007, Tooele depot management decided to apply for VPP. OSHA designed this program to improve safety records and readiness of civilian and military personnel. The program is recognized as an accident reduction “best practice” for the private sector to improve safety in industrial operations.

One of the measurements within the VPP application is the reduction of lost time injuries. A program that was instrumental with this effort at Tooele was the Safestart TM training modules. It is a simple but highly effective training program to remind employees to think about safety not only at

their worksites but at home as well. Tooele applied for VPP status on in June of 2008.

There were only two injuries reported in fiscal year 2008; and Tooele achieved an 83 percent reduction of recordable injuries from fiscal year 2007 to fiscal year 2008.

“The safety of our employees is my number one concern. Even one accident is too many and we will continue to improve through initiatives like Safestart TM until we reach a goal of zero accidents,” stated Col. Yolanda C. Dennis-Lowman, depot commander.

Like Tooele, Crane Army is proud of their safety achievements, and the installations marquee proclaims that when you enter the Navy Region Midwest, Naval Support Activity Crane, where Crane Army in a tenant. Crane Army earned a merit status designation in the VPP following an inspection by OSHA.

Since becoming the first JMC site to be recommended for merit status for the Voluntary Protection Program, Crane Army is currently

*“Safety” continued on page 5*

# Army News

## Sustainers make voting 'too easy' across Iraq

By 3rd Sustainment Command  
Public Affairs

JOINT BASE BALAD, Iraq -- People all across the United States are looking forward to elections on Nov. 4. The campaign to register as many eligible voters is also in full swing in the United States, as well as right here in Iraq.

"Most Soldiers and civilians have access to the Internet all over Iraq so most can go fill out, print and send in the registration forms," said Col. Cheri Provancha, support operations officer for the 3d Sustainment Command (Expeditionary).

"For remote sites, each unit is assigned a 'voter registration officer (or noncommissioned officer) to insure the materials and help are available to everyone who wants to exercise their right to vote."

Americans are located all over the world and military leaders of all branches of service have made available the resources so they can exercise their right to vote if they choose to.

"We are trying to inform the troops, no matter if they are in the States or overseas, in remote sites or right here on Joint Base Balad," said Maj. James Hess, plans and operations officer in charge for the G1 personnel section for the 3d ESC.

"They still have a right to vote and we are providing the opportunity and are dedicated to giving them that opportunity."

The quickest and easiest way to register or request a ballot is to log onto the Federal Voting Assistance Program web site at [www.fvap.gov](http://www.fvap.gov) and click on either the "military" get started box or the "civilian" get started

block, said Hess.

"It's not hard and it's their right and privilege. The earlier they start the process, the sooner it's done, but it starts with the individual

and their desire to vote," said Hess. Some reports have stated that registering to vote or requesting a ballot is a long and difficult process. Others in the military, however, feel the process is simple.

"I would tell them to follow me and I would help them out because it's too easy; it's just too easy," said Pfc. Angelina Perry, a member of the 70th Regional Readiness Command headquartered at Fort Lawton, Seattle, Wash., and attached to the 3d ESC.

"Filling out my voter registration card is something I want to do and it's very important since this is my first time to get involved with history ... I want to be a part of it."

The journey for a ballot is a long one - more than 7,000 miles from Iraq - but the military's system has several reliable procedures to keep it on track down to the actual box they are placed in at each Army Post Office and daily

*"Vote" continued on page 9*



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Contributions to The Bullet'n are welcome; contact information follows.

E-mail address: [darryl.howlett@us.army.mil](mailto:darryl.howlett@us.army.mil). Postal address: The Bullet'n, ATTN: AMSJM-PA, 1 Rock Island Arsenal, Rock Island, Ill. 61299-6000. Phone: (309) 782-1514, DSN 793-4516. Datafax: (309) 782-3935, DSN 793-3935.

Brig. Gen. William N. Phillips

Commanding General

Steve Abney

Chief, Public Affairs Office, JMC

Peter Rowland

Chief, Public Affairs Office, Picatinny Arsenal

Darryl G. Howlett

Editor

Maggie Browne

Lean Six Sigma Section



Rikeshia Davidson

Assistant Editor



*U.S. Army courtesy of Crane Army Ammunition Activity*

Navy Capt. Larry Williams (standing), guides participants through the Pandemic Influenza planning exercise at Naval Support Activity Crane.

# Crane participates in Pandemic Flu exercise

## Crane Army Ammunition Activity News Release

CRANE, Ind. -- Representatives from Crane Army Ammunition Activity participated in a Navy-hosted one-day, pandemic influenza planning exercise Sept. 10, along with members from the Navy and the local community.

PANFLUEX 2-08 is part of the regularly scheduled Navy Region Midwest exercise designed to provide facilitated discussions between Naval Support Activity Crane, its tenant commands and local agencies regarding pandemic influenza planning.

Crane Army Chief of Staff Norman Thomas, security manager Leah Clinton and security specialist Judy Brown, represented Crane Army at the exercise.

According to the U.S. Government Pandemic Flu Web site ([www.pandemicflu.gov](http://www.pandemicflu.gov)), a flu pandemic occurs when a new influenza virus emerges for which people have little or no immunity, and for which there is no vaccine.

The disease spreads easily person-to-person, causes serious illness, and can sweep across the country and around the world in very short time.

With so many employees living in the counties surrounding the Crane base, an influenza pandemic would affect everyone both inside and outside its gates.

Navy Region Midwest Public Health Emergency Officer Capt. Larry Williams, DC, moderated the exercise and provided an overview of the virus, how it spreads and the consequences if the United States is unprepared.

Once the participants broke into discussions groups, Williams guided them by explaining the possible impact on both the Navy base and its surrounding military community.

“What I found most interesting is that the experts are saying ‘when’ the pandemic flu hits the U.S. - not ‘if.’ So, it was reassuring that exercises like these are being held in communities all across the country to help prepare for this type of emergency,” Clinton said.

“It was also reassuring to learn that there

will be simple things people will be able to do to drastically reduce their likelihood of getting the pandemic flu, like washing hands and wearing a mask,” she added.

While there have been no reported cases of the pandemic influenza on U.S. soil, federal, state and local governments throughout the country are working to ensure they are prepared for the worst.

The worst occurrence of a pandemic flu hit in the United States in the years 1918-1919.

Worldwide, that influenza was credited with killing anywhere between 30 and 50 million, with America suffering an estimated 675,000 deaths.

The participants at the exercise hope that, through coordinated planning, chaos can be minimized and essential services maintained.

The prospect of a pandemic flu is frightening, but they know that not being prepared at all levels is even more frightening.

## *A service to others, chaplain likens RIA to 'coming home'*

By Margaret Browne  
JMC Public Affairs

ROCK ISLAND ARSENAL, Ill. -- Believing in something bigger than yourself may just be a mantra for some folks. But for Capt. (Promotable) Ronald Beltz, command chaplain, Joint Munitions Command, it was an inspiration for him to join two great institutions: the religious ministry and the U.S. Army.

Beltz's family was originally from Pennsylvania; however, as dependents of a military officer, they lived in several places such as California, Michigan and Iran. "We lived in Iran during the 1970s, while the Shah (Reza Pahlavi) was still in power," he said.

His father retired from the military and got a job at a cement plant in Buffalo, Iowa. They ended up in Bettendorf, Iowa, where Beltz graduated from Bettendorf High School and Augustana College in Rock Island, Ill., where he received his Bachelor of Arts degree in 1988.

It was at Augustana that Beltz first thought about becoming a minister. "I studied religion and one of my professors encouraged and motivated me," said Beltz. "I also had mentoring at home because my parents raised me in the faith."

He entered the seminary right after college, but he had also wanted to join the Peace Corps. "I applied for both," said Beltz. "I knew I wanted to do something with my life that involved helping people."

The seminary he went to was

Lutheran School of Theology, Chicago, Ill., where he received his Master of Divinity in 1993.

Beltz's decision to join the Army in 2001 was something of a natural one too. "Since my father was an Army officer and a West Point graduate, I had the exposure to that," said Beltz.

His Army career has taken him to such places as Fort Hood, Texas, Fort Jackson, S.C., and Illesheim, Germany. He has served two year-long deployments. The first time was with Operation Iraqi Freedom and the second was with Operation Enduring Freedom in Afghanistan.

He views his mission here at JMC as service to others.

"It's all about providing religious support and meeting the individual where they are on the faith journey," said Beltz.

Some of the tasks in support of that mission include training in such areas as suicide prevention and awareness, ethics and morals, and leading prayer breakfasts.

His return to the Quad Cities was very unexpected. "We're excited to be here because it is 'coming home,'" said Beltz.

His return came about because Beltz was selected for promotion. "They asked me where I wanted to go and I said 'an island', so they sent me here. I really meant Japan or Hawaii," he said.

But the only reason he did not select Rock Island Arsenal was because it did not occur to him that he would be selected to come back, he said.

Beltz and his wife, the former Rebecca Kammerer, met at Augustana and have been married for 17 years. They have two children.



*U.S. Army photo by Margaret Browne*

Capt. (Promotable) Ronald Beltz, Joint Munitions Command chaplain, pictured in his office following military assignments in Iraq, Afghanistan, Texas and South Carolina.

## Safety *continued from page 1*

working to achieve star status. It must first correct certain 90-day items in order to achieve VPP Star Status.

Crane Army Safety Supervisor Walt Shearin said, "Everyone is confident that we can correct the 90-day items and achieve star status. This status will show the rest of the Army Crane's dedication to not only being one of the best, but also one of the safest."

The news that Crane might become only the second Army installation to achieve star status has energized its employees to achieve the goal. In remarks to the Crane workforce, Crane Army Commander Col. Charles Kibben said, "... this prestigious award for safety is directly attributed to your personal dedication and hard work to keep our organization safe. From a personal perspective, I am extremely proud to be part of this team."

Crane Army also received recognition for its achievement in safety of reducing its total injury rate 89 percent from 2006 to 2007. Brig. Gen. James Rogers, former commanding general of Joint Munitions Command, presented a certificate of achievement to Crane Army along with a one-star note highlighting the significance of the achievement. In the note Rogers wrote he had directed JMC to reduce accidents and injuries at all of its locations this past year, and Crane Army responded with outstanding results.

Crane Army believes in a safety philosophy that the best equipment and people can only excel with a strong safety program in place. The Crane Army leadership continually fosters the culture of safety at Crane Army and Kibben cannot speak to a group of employees without reinforcing it.

Kibben recently challenged employees when he told them, "While our work effort has been tremendous this year, we all need to take a moment to reflect on what needs to be done to improve safety within the

organization. The ultimate goal for this organization is to have zero lost time accidents next year and while this objective may seem ambitious, it is something we all need to focus on. One accident that injures any employee on the job or at home is too many from my standpoint and I fully believe the only way to make this place a true safe work environment is through your individual and collective effort."

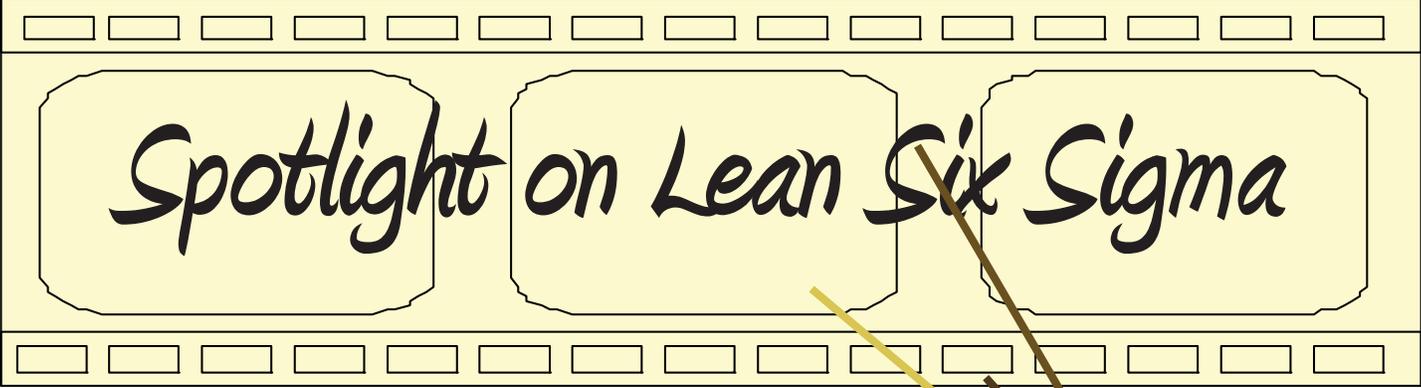
"I am very proud of the safety milestones that Tooele and Crane have achieved and are continuing to achieve. The industrial processes at our depots, arsenals and ammunition plants can be dangerous, but throughout AMC we have a great safety record, thanks to the hard work and dedication of our employees and leaders. Tooele and Crane are setting a new standard for our entire command," said John Man-



*U.S. Army photo by Darrin Lampman*

# THE AMMO INSPECTOR

Sgt. 1st Class Glendia Williams, Ammunition Non-commissioned Officer, 401st Army Field Support Brigade - Forward, inspects .50 caliber ammunition, Sept 23, 2008, at the Bagram Airfield, Afghanistan, Ammunition Supply Point. Working with Quality Assurance Specialists (Ammunition Surveillance) from the U.S. Army Joint Munitions Command, Williams ensures ammunition found to be serviceable is processed for reissue to the warfighter, while unserviceable ammunition is processed for demilling. Demilling ensures the ammunition can no longer be used for its intended purpose.



## Spotlight on Lean Six Sigma

### *Potential to save lives takes place of cost savings*

By Gwendolyn Thomas  
JMC Ammunition Surveillance

ROCK ISLAND ARSENAL, Ill.-- A joint force serves to maximize the firepower of our warfighters. But joint is only as good as the coordination of its elements.

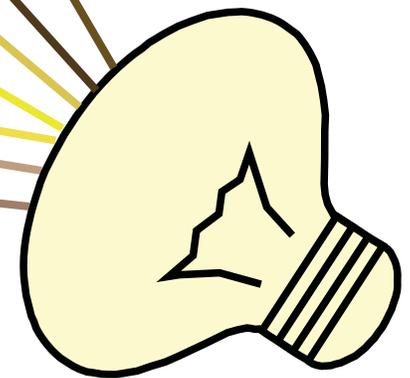
That's why a team from the Joint Munitions Command embarked upon a Lean Six Sigma green belt project to streamline the Ammunition Surveillance Division's process for tracking other services, ammunition reclassification actions and making the process more efficient.

By identifying and refining

the process, it was possible to determine its effectiveness and to see what improvements were needed.

The team developed an International Standards Organization procedure that outlines the process. The procedure was developed to clarify and provide guidance for incoming personnel. Also, it will allow continuity in the event of numerous deployment requirements for JMC, Quality Assurance Surveillance Ammunition Assistance personnel. A pilot was run that yielded clarification of the process.

"Great project. It will benefit the HQ by assuring accurate tracking and accountability



of all services' suspension and restriction notices and proper analysis/processing per Single Manager for Conventional Ammunition guidance," said Lisa Hale, logistics management specialist, JMC's operations, plans and training team.

The project yielded no cost savings, but by providing the Warfighter with a more efficient way of tracking ammunition, there is the potential for saving lives.

### *Lean Six Sigma: taps into 'voice of the customer' for results*

By Connie Resetich  
JMC Human Resources

ROCK ISLAND ARSENAL, Ill.-- Adequately staffed offices are essential to the efficient operation of any organization. Here at the JMC, a Lean Six Sigma green belt project was carried out to see if the cycle time between selection and making the job offer for any opening that may occur among competitively filled positions could be reduced.

The team was made up of 10 members from both JMC and the U.S. Army Garrison-Rock Island.

The team used the "voice of the customer" and focused on several customer requirements. Among these were a

firm job offer, job acceptance, effective date established, office reviews, automated job offer, process maps eliminating non-value added steps and filling the job.

Some of the improvements made include electronic process selection statements and the streamlining of functions such as: qualifications verification, career program requirements; Priority Placement Plan and pre-employment requirements verifications; and tentative and firm job offers.

Team member Ruth Dahl, programs specialist, Human Resources Directorate, said, "I believe the project was successful in streamlining the process and getting new employees on board in a timely manner."



*U.S. Navy photo courtesy of Norfolk Naval Air Station*

A transportation truck makes its way onto the runway at the Norfolk Naval Air Station to deliver ammunition to a C17 plane.

# *JMC recognizes Sailors, civilians at Norfolk Naval Station*

By Marcy Salmonson  
JMC Security Assistance

NORFOLK NAVAL STATION, Va. – The Army and Navy on the same team is always a reason for a good story, and representatives from the Joint Munitions Command made it a reality.

Daniel Stackwick, deputy for security assistance, JMC, visited the Norfolk Naval Air Station, to recognize the excellent sustained support of the transportation of ammunition to Afghanistan and discuss future requirements.

Sewell Point Weapons Station and Norfolk Terminal employees were presented one-star notes, signed by former JMC Commander Brig. Gen. James E. Rogers.

Floyd Bavery, a transportation management specialist from JMC, also made the trip to Norfolk. Upon arrival, Norfolk Naval Air Station Air Freight Officer Paul Goss and Gary Young, a supervisor for special handling, led the JMC personnel on a tour of the facilities.

They saw and discussed Norfolk's capabilities and limitations for possible increase in future workload at Norfolk. Later, they viewed the preparation for the upload of a C17 performing one of the Special Assignment



Airlift Mission (SAAM) flights. After the aircraft departed they took a tour of the rest of Norfolk Naval Station.

JMC personnel also attended an awards ceremony for personnel from the weapons station, air terminal, and naval base. Stackwick discussed the importance of supporting the missions and expressed his appreciation for the can-do attitude of all involved with these shipments. Presentations were made to the commander of the weapons station and the executive officer of the air terminal.

On Sept. 16, Stackwick and Bavery watched the build-up of incoming cargo on 463L pallets for a SAAM mission in the weapons station area. During this process they saw first-hand the circumstances that limit the number of SAAMs that can be supported by Norfolk.

They discussed possible courses of action that would allow Norfolk to increase its support, and also discussed issues that would help Norfolk better provide support in the future.

Employees prepare to upload the ammunition onto the plane.

*U.S. Navy photo courtesy of Norfolk Naval Air Station*

Mike McBride, Blue Grass's military affairs officer, (center) and Sgt. 1st Class Donald Hill, Blue Grass's noncommissioned officer in charge of military training, (on steps) brief the 826th Ordnance Company Soldiers during the Mobilization Ordnance Specific Training conducted at Blue Grass Army Depot.



U.S. Army photo by John Stephens

By Jo Adail Stephenson  
Blue Grass Public Affairs

RICHMOND, Ky. – Army Reserve Soldiers and Blue Grass Army Depot employees are getting the “most” out of MOST, Mobilization Ordnance Specific Training, a pilot program providing critical hands-on munitions training to deploying Soldiers.

“This is a pilot program Blue Grass started. When an ordnance unit gets mobilization orders, they can come to Blue Grass to get hands-on munitions training. At this time, it is still the only Army installation that gives this very specific hands-on training prior to deployment,” says Mike McBride, the depot’s military affairs officer.

It all began with a phone call from Maj. Tim Dye, 321st Ordnance Battalion, to McBride requesting specialized munitions training for one of their units being mobilized in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom. The Battalion already had two units training regularly at Blue Grass.

The deploying unit had a three-week window of opportunity for training so the two discussed timetables and set up MOST to meet the specific ordnance training missions and requirements the unit would need to complete their combat mission in theater.

Blue Grass was approached for the unique and quick turnaround training “based on years of cooperation and the superb working relationship with Mike (McBride)” and the Depot’s “full-spectrum of support for the MOST program,” according to Dye, now a lieutenant colonel mobilized to the U.S. Army Ordnance Center and School working in the Reserve Affairs Office.

Different than the annual training Reserve Soldiers usually go through (i.e. National Training Center, Joint Readiness Training Center and Golden Cargo exercise), MOST provides ordnance units the opportunity to conduct specific

## Blue Grass helps Soldiers make ‘most’ of munitions training

technical and operational munitions training prior to their movement into the combat theater. It also provides unit leadership with the opportunity to conduct critical skill sets training identified as essential to the unit’s mission success.

“This program benefits everyone - Soldiers receive hands-on critical skills training prior to their deployment while their work here assists the Depot with cost-saving benefits and ultimately results in saving taxpayers’ money. It is also absolutely essential that these Soldiers are fully trained prior to their deployment,” says Col. Joseph A. Tirone, Blue Grass Army Depot commander.

The fourth unit to take advantage of this training at Blue Grass was the 826th Ordnance Company’s four platoons – its headquarters platoon and 3rd Platoon in Madison, Wis., 1st Platoon at Rockford, Ill., and 2nd Platoon at Milwaukee, Wis.

“It is an AT (annual training) and is getting us ready for mobilization,” Sgt. 1st Class Richard Siedenbug, the Company’s noncommissioned officer in charge, says about the three-week MOST training at Blue Grass.

“MOST” continued on page 12

## Vote *continued from page 2*

reports of the progress are submitted to the commanding general of the 3d ESC to ensure the process stays on track.

"Ballots are separated from regular mail and placed in a specially marked ballot box," said 1st Lt. Calvin Ma, postal operations officer for the 3d ESC. "Ballots are then counted, certified by military and contractor voting representatives and the count is placed outside and inside of each box with a notice sent to the Postal Operations Directorate, or POD, and the Automated Military Postal System, AMPS, for complete tracking to (John F. Kennedy Airport) where it leaves our jurisdiction," said Ma.

After the box is packed and marked with special tape, it is placed inside a transportation container last so it will be the first item removed at the next destination. The box is scanned upon arrival at each station with a message sent to all reporting agencies informing them where and when it has arrived.

"AMPS is visible at higher levels, such as human resource company, brigade, sustainment commands and POD for tracking purposes," said Ma. If ballots are not moved in a specified period of time, a notice is sent to the ESC.

"Positive actions at the ESC level are taken for delays over 72 hours," said Ma. With the 3d ESC accountable for all mail coming into and leaving Iraq, they are being proactive in the movement of all mail - especially ballots.

"The 3d ESC is responsible for the mail distribution system here in Iraq," said Provancha. "We are tracking registrations and ballots from the remote APO stations all the way back to JFK Airport for distribution back to the United States."

Waiting until the last minute means ballots could be delayed due to weather or aircraft problems and, ultimately, not counted. "All deployed personnel need to understand their ballot must be postmarked by Nov. 4," said Provancha.

"So ... Soldiers out on the remote sites need to understand the timing is very important for the APO to get their registration back to their county of record."

"We should encourage each person to exercise their right to vote," said Hess.

"Voting is one of our most important rights allowed us in the Constitution." The right to vote has long been one of the main foundations of the United States of America. From the Revolutionary War to Operation Iraqi Freedom, American Servicemembers have fought and died all over the world to keep us free and give us that right.

"We are defending the right to vote and defending our constitution. It's kind of counterproductive not to exercise the thing you are here protecting," said Provancha.

"By exercising our right to vote we are playing our part in deciding our own future in the armed forces as well, regardless of our political affiliation."

## Scranton AAP conducts annual Anti-Terrorism exercise



*U.S. Army photo courtesy of Scranton Army Ammunition Plant*

An exercise participant approaches a suspicious bag at Scranton Army Ammunition Plant during SCAAP's annual Anti-Terrorism/Force Protection exercise held October 22. The event combines the efforts of SCAAP officials, Office of Emergency Services, American Red Cross and Scranton Police and Fire Department. The goal of the exercise is to ensure all government, contractor, and tenant employees at SCAAP have the capability to respond to any type of emergency and ensure the safety and accountability of all employees at the plant.

# After four decades of service, Serao says good-bye to Picatinny

By Eric Kowal  
Picatinny Public Affairs

PICATINNY ARSENAL, N.J. -- The Armament Research, Development and Engineering Center's Enterprise and Systems Integration Center parted ways with its executive director in a retirement ceremony on Oct. 2.

Patrick A. Serao, a member of the Senior Executive Service, left behind a legacy in a career culminating over 40 years of service to the Department of Defense.

During his career Serao held various engineering, supervisory and senior management positions in ARDEC, the program executive offices and the office of the Project Manager for Combat Ammunition Systems.

In January 2004, Serao was appointed to the SES level, but it was not until October 2007 that he began his most recent duty as the executive director of ESIC.

As if to show support that Serao's career was a family affair, four of Serao's five children and their spouses, along with some of his grandchildren were in attendance as well as his parents, his wife, Elaine, and her mother.

During the ceremony, Maj. Gen. Fred D. Robinson Jr., commanding general of the Research,



*U.S. Army photo courtesy of Picatinny Arsenal*

Maj. Gen. Fred D. Robinson Jr., commanding general of the Research, Development and Engineering Command, recognizes Patrick A. Serao, executive director of the Engineering Center's Enterprise and Systems Integration Center, and his wife Elaine during Serao's retirement ceremony.

Development and Engineering Command, recognized the Serao family's contributions saying, "We, all Americans, owe this family a debt of gratitude for over 40 years of service."

Robinson told spectators that Serao began work on the recently released global positioning system-guided Excalibur round more than 15 years ago.

"He somehow had the insight that this type of system would be needed in the future," Robinson said.

Robinson added, "Last year there was a request from the field for this type of system. If it were not for Pat's insight, this project would have taken years. He has allowed Soldiers to save lives and to increase competency."

Serao, who began his career in 1968, warmed the crowd by opening his remarks with a quote from a Bob Seger song: "Forty years where'd you go? Forty years, I don't know."

During the ceremony, Serao thanked a list of individuals, but no gratitude was more heartfelt than when he asked his wife to come on stage and he presented her with a diamond necklace. He added, "I don't have enough time to thank 40 years of individuals, but you know who you are."

To truly understand the impact that Serao had on both the installation and the Army, one would have to read his biography. In short, Serao has truly done it all, said Robinson.

From implementing Lean Six Sigma management philosophies to systems acquisition, Serao did it all for the customer -- the American Soldier.

Serao's contributions led to the production and fielding of more than 30,000 Gunner Protection Kits to Soldiers.

Of his greatest accomplishments, Serao talked about receiving a letter from a Soldier who thanked him and his staff for the GPK and for saving the Soldier's life.

On receiving the thank-you note, Serao said, "It doesn't get any better than that."

Before closing out the ceremony and writing the final chapter in the book of a 40-year career, Serao stood tall and recited the Army Creed and said that he was proud to be part of such a fine organization.

# Battle of Richmond defined war-shaped Blue Grass



*U.S. Army photo by Justine Barati*

The former Blue Grass Army Depot commander's mansion, known at the time as the Rogers House, was critical during the battle. The house started as a Federal headquarters and field hospital and then changed over to Confederate with the doctors staying at their posts.

By Justine Barati  
JMC Public Affairs

BLUE GRASS ARMY DEPOT, Richmond, Ky. -- Many people may not realize a battle involving the death and injury of more than 1,300 Americans was fought on the Blue Grass Army Depot property in Richmond, Ky.

"It was the only example where the Federal Army ceased to exist at the end of the battle," said Phillip Seyfrit, the Historic Properties Director for Madison County, Ky.

During the Civil War, the Battle of Richmond was fought here. In fact, the battlefield was 2,000 yards wide and eight miles long, what is now the western boundary of the depot.

The battle took place Aug. 30, 1862, and was "the most complete victory one side had over the other during the entire war," said Seyfrit.

The Army is instrumental in maintaining this history. The former Depot Commander's mansion, known at the time as the Rogers House, was critical during the battle.

"The house started as a Fed-

eral headquarters and field hospital and then changed over to Confederate with the doctors staying at their posts," said Nathan White, the depot archeologist and cultural resource manager.

"When you're in this building, you may be standing where a Soldier may have been when he took his last breath," said Seyfrit.

According to Seyfrit, Bernard J. Irwin--the first person to receive a Medal of Honor-- fought at the Battle of Richmond and may have worked here. He was a Union doctor who stayed throughout the battle. After it was over, he went back to Cincinnati to get more medical supplies to attend to the wounded, Seyfrit said.

"With the significance of the Battle of Richmond to the local area and the awareness that the Rogers House served as a field hospital and rallying point, it became apparent we needed to transfer this historic site to Madison County so it could be restored and used as a living history center," said Arthur "Art" Ries II, civilian executive assistant for the depot.

White concurs, "Maintaining those properties is not the Army's mission. When we can, we try to transfer them to interested parties or state governmental organizations. We transferred the property to Madison County, and it is run by their employees.

They are responsible for maintaining the same historic preservation standards as are Army employees."

"If it wasn't for the depot being there, this [building] would have been lost years ago," Seyfrit said. Most of the "others are all torn down," he said. The Battle of Richmond Historic Areas, including the Rogers House, are listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

Seyfrit is heading the Madison County effort to refurbish the Rogers House. "We want to get it back to the original condition. It will be a visitor and living history center with hands-on and interactive exhibits," he said.

The restored Rogers House -- The Battle of Richmond Visitors Center had its grand opening Oct. 4.

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Phillip Seyfrit, the Historic Properties Director for Madison County, holds china that dates back to the Civil War and may have been in the Rogers House during the Battle of Richmond.

*U.S. Army photo by Justine Barati*



## **MOST** *continued from page 8*

Depot personnel have built flexibility and versatility into MOST to match each unit's unique needs with current Blue Grass operations. The program is designed for the unit to be divided into small teams and rotated through as many different training opportunities as possible during the time allotted.

"It's good for our young Soldiers... They have to step up and take team leader positions. It forces them to be a leader more than just following. A lot of them have not handled live ammo or equipment before and it's a rare opportunity for us to work with live ammo. They (Soldiers) are working right alongside the civilians," explains Staff Sgt. Jennifer Giese with the 826th.

As the Soldiers rotate through and work with the depot's highly trained and highly skilled civilians, they receive specialized munitions training, familiarization and safety instruction in shipping, receiving, warehousing, rewarehousing, demilitarization and operating heavy equipment to offload and onload munitions containers for shipment by rail and truck, according to Jim Brookshire, the depot's munitions division field supervisor.

"The Soldiers are eager to absorb what the civilian operators are showing them. They are an outstanding group of men and women to work with," says Glen King, the depot's mobile equipment supervisor.

This type of training also provides Army Reserve units with detachments

located in different geographical areas the opportunity to conduct collective training tasks prior to deployment.

"Our platoons drill in separate detachments but here they can work together as a team with others than just their platoons," says Sgt. Jason Kress with the 826th.

The 826th is a "modular" unit which means that it can deploy as a company or by platoon and can be deployed as a unit but go to different locations once in theater.

"Being a modular platoon, everybody in the platoon has to know how to do everything," notes Giese.

MOST also provides the unit's officers and NCOs the opportunity not only to be able to evaluate their Soldiers on leadership and varied skill levels but also to set a schedule for their unit that mirrors the unit's deployed battle rhythm prior to deploying into the combat zone.

"It's the last chance they have to handle live ammo before going in theater," says Staff Sgt. Evan McKearn with the 826th.

At Blue Grass, if the unit has Soldiers with other than an ordnance military occupational specialty, they are matched up with depot personnel who perform those jobs as part of MOST. The 826th had military firefighters who worked and trained with the depot's firefighters. One Soldier, a supply clerk, had the unique opportunity to train and work with the depot's Chemical Defense Equipment Division.

To date, three other Army Reserve ordnance units - 811th, 2125th and 962th - have received MOST training at Blue Grass.

"I have expressed many times that the training we received at Blue Grass enabled us to show up here (Iraq) and begin work without any additional training," CW3 Paul Campbell with the 962th expressed in an recent email to McBride.

The MOST program at Blue Grass has already grown to a two-member team with the addition of Sgt. 1st Class Donald Hill, noncommissioned officer in charge of military training. He and McBride coordinate the training and all "life support" - logistics, scheduling, billeting, meals and Morale Welfare and Recreation assistance - with unit NCOs.

"The long-term goal is to make this a part of the formal training for the Soldier and develop the program into the official training process for Regular Army and Army Reserve units. Blue Grass has the experience, life support and training capabilities to conduct this type of training," says McBride.

Blue Grass is also host to numerous other military units in support of training. Recently, Blue Grass hosted the 1204th Kentucky National Guard Aviation Battalion, the 1052nd U.S. Army Reserve Transportation Company, U.S. Marine Corps Reserve Military Police Company and Eastern Kentucky University ROTC.

**More  
information  
on MOST**

Ordnance Center, Blue Grass Army Depot (859-779-6603) or (U.S. Army Reserve Command) has added MOST to the UTS (Unit Training System) for units to program their training, making the program easier to plan for AT/pre-deployment training.

Additional contact: [timothy.dye@us.army.mil](mailto:timothy.dye@us.army.mil)

# Mission takes Pine Bluff Arsenal to the Soldiers

By Rachel Newton  
Pine Bluff Public Affairs

PINE BLUFF ARSENAL, Ark.-- With several trips under their belts now, the Chemical Biological Equipment Repair Teams are continuing to take the Pine Bluff Arsenal's equipment reset mission directly to Soldiers in the field. The CBERT missions began October 2007 with the first trip to Fort Drum, N.Y.

"These missions came about because TACOM wanted to get more expertise on their products," said Stephen Lee, CBERT project manager. "It has morphed into some a lot bigger than originally thought."

During the mission trips, the teams do reset and repair work on masks, chemical alarm units and decontamination units where the Soldiers are stationed before they deploy.

"Essentially what we are doing is we are taking our expertise in our workforce and services to the Soldiers," said Col. Bill Barnett, arsenal commander. He said that he expects to see a more expanded role for PBA as the mission trips progress. "It gives the units in the field assured readiness."

Barnett explained that the arsenal is linking this service to the Army's Force Generation model. "We are not just randomly going out to these units and working with equipment," he said. "We are going to units who are preparing to deploy or returning from deployment. The communications I have had with fellow commanders out there is that they absolutely think that the program and our support to the Soldiers is wonderful."

Lee said the civilian teams are now interfacing more with the military. "We are providing a service to the military which is getting big kudos from higher headquarters," he said. One hundred percent of the masks that are fielded by the military, including everything in the M-40 series, are being repaired and reset, said Lee, explaining that this includes M40, M40-A1, M40-A2, M45 and M48. "It is all of the masks," he said.

The teams have been to Fort Bragg, N.C.; Fort Hood,

Texas; and Schofield Barracks, Hawaii. Future missions are planned for Fort Bliss, Texas, and Germany.

Barnett said that one of the greatest advertisements for this program is the quality of the services being offered by CBERT.

"They didn't realize that this service was out there and are saying, 'Wow, we want this,'" he said. "This is going to be the way of the future. Anytime you have a new program there are growing pains and things to get used to. It takes a tremendous amount of coordination to do this."

When the trips were just getting started, personnel to do the work were short, so volunteers were taken from throughout the arsenal for the CBERT missions. An additional 38 people have now been hired to do these mission trips, said Lee, who explained that the teams are made up of 15 to 18 individuals on each trip.

"The first mission I went on was to Hawaii in February 2007. Then I turned right around and went on one to Fort Drum," said Debbie Carroll, budget analyst for the Directorate of Chemical Biological Defense Operations. "Going from warm temperatures to 11 degree temperatures took a bit of getting used to. There was definitely a lot of work to do. But the trips were great."

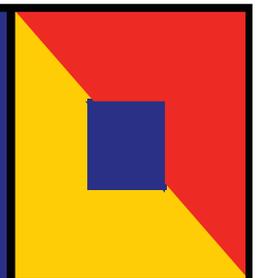
The work being done on these missions just complements what we are already doing in the Chemical Biological Defense Directorate on the Arsenal, said Barnett.

"This is a great mission and has become a very relative and significant portion of what we do in the area of chemical and biological defense," he said.

"It is receiving great support and I see it as a continuing and enduring mission. I am so proud of how our Workforce has responded to this need in a very short period of time. They have put together a sound package that is being very well received and admired and watched at the highest levels of our Army. Our leaders are watching this."

*"We are not just randomly going out to these units and working with equipment...We are going to units who are preparing to deploy or returning from deployment."*

*Col. Bill Barnett  
Commander, Pine Bluff Arsenal*



# JM&L LCMC's Safety Spot Check

When TDY be smart,  
be safe



## Airport Hints

### Helping you THINK:

#### *The "Operator" –*

- Do I or my travelers require any special accommodations (wheel chair, diet, other)?
- What Identification do I need to take with me and what can I leave at home?
- What kind of shoes should I wear to the airport to help avoid accidents? How do I dress for the weather that I expect to encounter?
- Do my POCs at the destination know the flight number and expected time of arrival?
- Do I have a valid passport and a means to safeguard it? Allow at least two months for renewal or issue if going internationally.

#### *The "Equipment" –*

- How much luggage do I REALLY need? What kind of luggage? Can I take a smaller case with me? One with wheels to avoid having to carry heavy load for long distances? Should I use a backpack or a briefcase?
- Can I take public transportation to the airport instead of driving?
- Do I know what is allowed to be brought on to an airplane as a carryon or in checked baggage?
- What type of aircraft am I scheduled to fly on? Am I able to assist with an exit row if asked? How big (or little) is it?

#### *The "Operating Environment" –*

- When is the BEST time to travel (middle of the week or the weekend) to avoid traffic problems and accidents?
- Is there any construction or any other projects on the way to, or at, the airport, that could delay my arrival at the airport or cause me to spend extra time getting to my gate?
- Do I know how the airport(s) I will be visiting are laid out so I can minimize my time between flights, if needed? Is there a train or shuttle so I don't have to walk the entire distance between flights?
- Do I know that I require a paid ticket to go to a gate?

### Helping you PLAN:

#### *The "Operator" –*

- Consider traveling with a "buddy" and take a cell phone with you if you have access to one (don't forget the charger, as many airports now have electrical outlets that can be used to charge your phone, computer, or whatever)?
- Keep your medicines in your carryon luggage, as checked baggage can be lost or delayed.
- If traveling for pleasure, check your insurance policy beforehand to see what your coverages are for rental cars and valuables, in case of an accident or theft.

#### *The "Equipment" –*

- Clean out your vehicle prior to driving it to the airport so there won't be valuables showing as it is parked in the lot. Put your airport claim check in a safe place. Use a steering wheel lock if available.
- Avoid using larger bills in transactions so you won't be a target.
- Ask for a rental car you are familiar with, as driving a strange car in a strange place lends itself to distracted driving and increases the chance of an accident.
- Consider a Global Positioning System for use in unfamiliar places...they work very well.

#### *The "Operating Environment" –*

- Watch your credit cards and receipts in airport restaurants, shops, etc as there are identity thieves waiting to take advantage of the unsuspecting.
- Remember that airplanes, jetways, and airports are full of "hazards" and sometimes have low ceilings, steep steps, and protruding surfaces. Make the extra effort to act deliberately, and steadily, when walking, carrying luggage, or boarding/disembarking from an aircraft.
- Use handrails on escalators, moving stairs, and steps.
- Also remember that there is no privacy in an airport. Limit the quality and quantity of your cell phone conversations as people WILL be listening. Remember OPSEC.
- Learn where the airport first aid and security stations are in case of an emergency.