

# The Voice

Vol. 5, Issue 6

Published in the interest of the 704th Military Intelligence Brigade

December 2001

## Inside The Voice



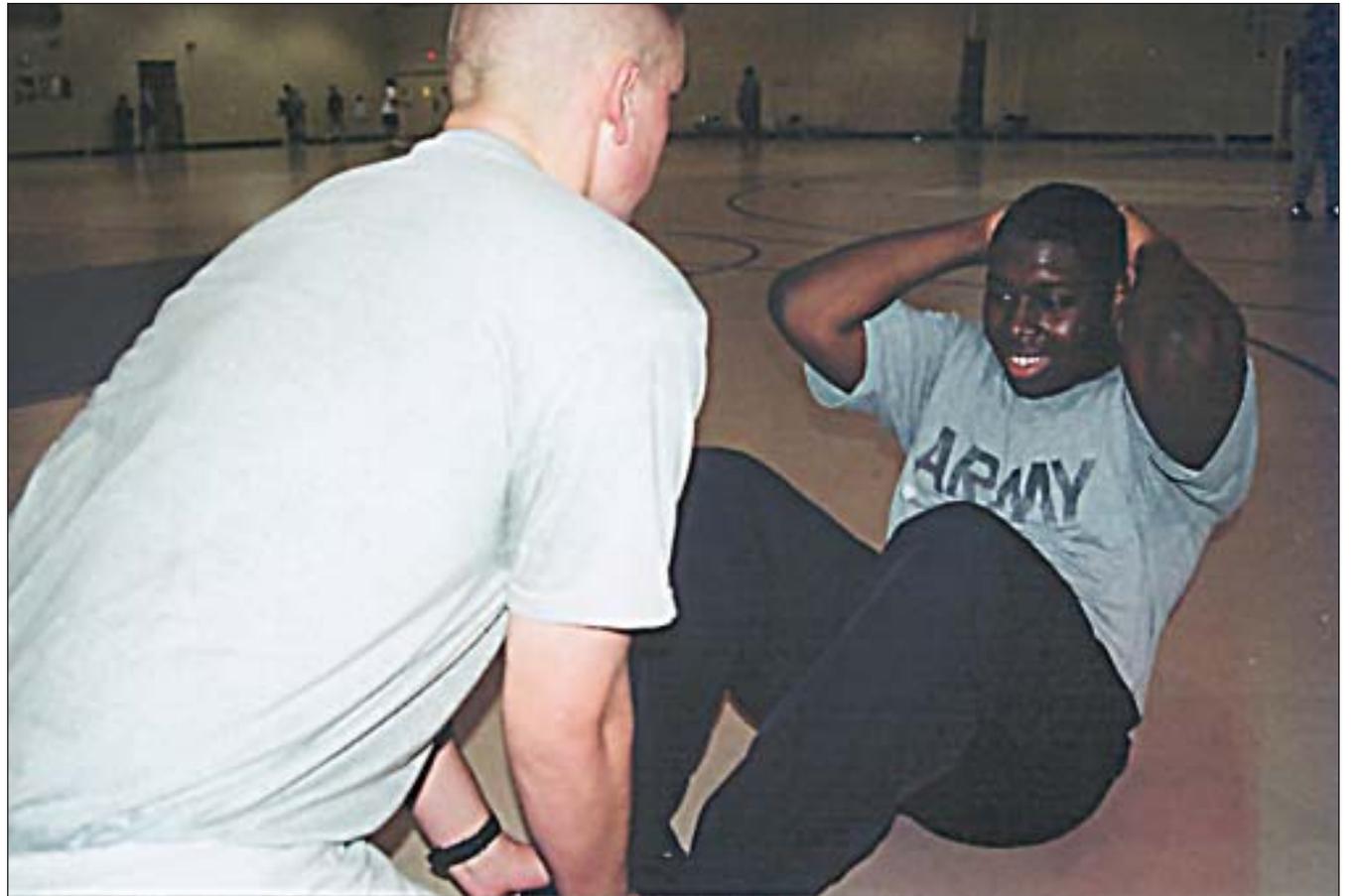
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*photo by Spc. Brian Murphy*  
Spc. Adrian Alston does sit-ups while Spc. Michael Caves holds his feet during Special Population physical fitness training.

## Taking physical fitness seriously

BY **SPC. BRIAN MURPHY**  
*Editor, The Voice*

Most of us have heard the age-old adage "I've done more before nine a.m. than most people do in an entire day." The saying might not apply to everyone, but the soldiers from Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 704<sup>th</sup> Military Intelligence Brigade who participate in the special population physical fitness program know that it rings true for them.

Those soldiers, normally 25 to 30 soldiers per day, who are participants in the five-day-a-week program can tell you that they do more in the one-hour session than many servicemembers do in a day.

The program is mainly for PT failures, overweight soldiers and people from Receiving and Holding Platoon who are designated to do PT five days a week, said Sgt. 1<sup>st</sup> Class Errick Wash, training noncommissioned officer for brigade plans and operations, 704<sup>th</sup> MI Brigade.

Wash volunteered to take over the PT program in September, having run

a similar program during his time at Fort Belvoir, Va. Since then, he and his itag-team partner, Sgt. Muta Wells, have brought a certain level of energy and a positive vibe to the program that wasn't there before.

The results speak for themselves. Under Wash's program, one soldier, who was on the program for being overweight, scored a 300 on his PT test. Another soldier scored a 280. The reason for these soldiers' success is simple, according to one of the participants.

"You have fun while you're getting your work-out," said Spc. Adrian Alston, who recently joined the program. "They really motivate you and push you to give more. They don't want to waste your time and they don't want you to waste theirs. You're laughing and having fun, but you're giving an honest effort."

Wash agrees with Alston's assessment.

"We do average PT, but we make it fun," he said. "We get everyone involved. We have the soldiers do several sets of ten push-ups, but because they're competing against each other

they aren't thinking of the total number of push-ups. Before they realize it, they've done more than one hundred push-ups. We keep their mind away from that number and keep them focused on the competition."

When soldiers first arrive to the program Wash explains to them the importance of being physically fit.

"A lot of people don't realize," Wash said. "You may be at Fort Meade or Fort Belvoir today, but you could be in Kosovo or in the Middle East helping in the war against terrorism tomorrow. You just never know. These soldiers need to be in good health and at a high level of fitness. We're just doing what we can to help them out."

The soldiers in the special population program might be walking away with a higher level of fitness, but they are not the only ones getting something out of the program.

"When I see a soldier from our program cross the finish line at the two-mile run, and he's passed his PT test for the first time in six or seven months," Wash said. "The smile on his face is my reward. That's the thrill I get out of being a part of this."

# Spouse shows festive way to reenlist

BY SGT. 1ST CLASS WILLENE ORR  
*Brigade Reenlistment*

Often times we hear soldiers say, "I just want a small, quiet reenlistment with only the officer present." As Career Counselors, we must ensure the ceremony is conducted professionally and in a manner meaningful to the soldier no matter how big or small. Recently, Sgt. James Bills, of Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 704<sup>th</sup> Military Intelligence Brigade, was administered the oath of reenlistment. His spouse, Petty Officer 3<sup>rd</sup> Class Paula Bills, played a crucial role to ensure his reenlistment was more than just another ceremony. Below is "Her Story" in her own words.

Most people think of a Reenlistment as "just another ceremony." On Oct. 12, one particular reenlistment was more than just a ceremony though. When James came to me with his decision about staying in, he told me that it was never a big deal for the Army when people signed again. Yeah Right! That was like telling me that Christmas wasn't a big deal. I have made a bit of a reputation for being a party planner, and I had every intention of living up to that very reputation. My husband and I had decided that if he chose to stay in, then I would get out after our next tour. It was then that I realized that all the chances I would have had to stay Navy were gone. Everything that he did in the Army from there on would be a "BIG DEAL!" I told him many times that every time he stayed Army or did something special, he could expect me to pour my heart in it. I figured that if I couldn't reenlist myself then I was going to have fun with his!

As that special day was approaching, my husband readied himself for the upcoming occasion. We both had negotiated to go to Hawaii only days before. With only a week before the ceremony, I was busy buying a cake, finding a place, getting together a guest list and lastly, brainstorming a theme for the decorations. It took one trip to the party store and the theme was decided! "Let's Hula!" I bought the leis and the party began. There is no real way to describe the cake (everyone there will tell you it was the perfect reenlistment cake). I got a table and we set out to create the first red, white, and blue Luau. I had a lot of help with it. James' Section NCOIC, Sergeant 1st Class Ava Drayton, assisted me by making the punch, and I would have never pulled it off without Sergeant 1st Class Willene Orr, 704<sup>th</sup> MI Brigade Career Counselor, who took the pictures since I had forgotten to buy film. Lt. Col. Jerry Sharp, former commander of 742<sup>nd</sup>



photo by Sergeant 1st Class Willene Orr

Lt. Col. Jerry Sharp presents Petty Officer 3rd Class Paula Bills with a certificate of appreciation Oct. 12.

MI Battalion, I swore, was going to get lost and we felt sure that James would never get to reenlist.

So finally the day came and it was perfect. With the many friends and chain of command members present, my husband raised his right hand, with Sharp presiding, to take up another 4 years in the Army. After months of recovery and hard work to stay Army, I stood by as Sgt. James K. Bills reenlisted to continue his service in the military. This wasn't just another ceremony, it was my husband promising that if they needed him in the Middle East, he would go. It was my husband saying that regardless of a near-fatal car accident, the ups and downs of dual military, and the terrorist attacks, he was still staying. Everyone watched as James said the Oath of Reenlistment. Afterwards, all who were present helped themselves to the many snacks and the very decorative cake. We sat around and ate barbecue and visited. I felt like the proudest Army wife in the world as I stood next to my husband when he said the oath. Many years will pass before he will get to reenlist again. And when he does, you

can bet that the same fate awaits him. For there is not a more proud feeling in the world than to stand by as an Army Wife and say that regardless of the trials and tribulations, I'll not only be here as his wife but as his encouragement and strength. I'll be his best friend. I can truly say that watching that wonderful man that day made me see it doesn't take a war to make a hero! It only takes just a man who will choose the path of military service to fight for what he believes.

If you have a special article pertaining to a reenlistment, please forward to: orrw@meade-704.army.mil. For more information on Retention please contact me or your Battalion Career Counselors listed below:

704<sup>th</sup> MI Brigade  
Sergeant 1st Class Willene Orr (301) 677-0164  
741<sup>st</sup> MI Battalion  
Staff Sgt. Veronica Ingle (310) 677-0157  
742<sup>nd</sup> MI Battalion  
Staff Sgt. Cynthia Kling (301) 677-0117  
743<sup>rd</sup> MI Battalion  
Staff Sgt. Shelly Pringle (303) 677-5048



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Commander  
704th MI BDE  
ATTN: IAMS-PAO (Editor, The Voice)  
Fort Meade, MD 20755-5930  
DSN 622-0173  
Commercial (301) 677-0173

#### U.S. Army Intelligence and Security Command 704th Military Intelligence Brigade

**Commander**  
Col. Deborah J. Beckworth

**Command Sergeant Major**  
Command Sgt. Major Randy Wilson

**Public Affairs Officer/S-6**  
Ben Wigney

**Public Affairs NCOIC / Editor**  
Spc. Brian Murphy

**Graphic Artist**  
Spc. Anishka Forbes

#### 704th MI Brigade Mission

The 704th Military Intelligence Brigade conducts continuous full-spectrum signals intelligence, computer network and information security operations directly, and through NSA to satisfy National, Joint, Combined and Army information superiority requirements.

#### Focus

To ensure mission accomplishment in an ethical environment while providing opportunities for individual professional growth and satisfaction, we must have:

- Competent and caring leaders,
- Well trained and fit soldiers,
- Efficient, effective unit operations,
- Unit cohesion and pride,
- Planned, orderly growth and change.

# MWR takes soldiers horseback riding

BY SGT 1ST CLASS JOHN MOODY  
743rd Military Intelligence Battalion

With a brisk, fall chill in the air, 15 soldiers and family members of the 743rd Military Intelligence Battalion set out on their first Morale, Welfare and Recreation trip of the new fiscal year for a day of horseback riding at Fort Carson's Turkey Creek Ranch.

One of the battalion's noncommissioned officers, Sgt. Jessie Paxton, a Missouri native and cowgirl extraordinaire, acted as the trip's organizer and ensured the whole event ran smoothly and safely.

The day started out with a safety brief by Paxton, covering convoy movement down to Fort Carson, plans for the day and the basics of good horsemanship. A few of the battalion's cowboys (or should I say cowboy wannabes) threw in their opinions and advice.

Upon arriving at the ranch, soldiers donned their cowboy hats and the first group set out to meet their assigned horses. Equestrian experience among the group ran the gamut from your average weekend pleasure riders to previously semi-professional riders to your run-of-the-mill, Saturday night, local-country-bar-electric-bull-riders (of course, the least experienced riders proved the most entertaining!) Once mounted, the soldiers set out for their adventure.

The sun was shining, the sky was blue, the scenery typical for Colorado: breathtaking panoramas of mountain vistas and sweeping, rolling grasslands. Each group consisted of a line of ten soldiers atop ten horses.

The trail rides each lasted for just over an hour, winding through the forest and valleys of the foothills of the Rocky Mountains. A few of the soldiers (mostly those referred to as city-folk types) were thrilled to experience their first view of a



photo by Cpl. Aimee Hannah

743rd Military Intelligence Battalion soldiers take a break during their day of horseback riding.

horse's rear and the mysterious, fragrant functions of a horse's digestive system.

Despite a few scratches from overhanging trees, some seriously sore saddles, and a few dirty hats, overall, the ride proved quite tranquil. Following the trail ride, the group relaxed in the picnic area, everyone with some story to share on the events of the day. While everyone was relegating the crowd with their tales, the grill was fired up and all participants were treated to an exquisite bar-b-que feast. After lunch, Paxton was presented a battalion coin for her outstanding job in organizing the event.

Thanks also go out to Cpl. Aimee Hannah for documenting a Day on Horseback with photographs. Best of all, thanks to MWR funding, the entire day was enjoyed at no cost to the participants.

The staff at Turkey Creek Ranch provides an extraordinary outdoor experience to soldiers and family members at a relatively low cost. Comprised of soldiers and civilians from the Fort Carson area, the staff members are all very friendly, professional and more than willing to assist the novice rider. To setup a Turkey Creek Ranch experience, call (719) 526-2358.

## 741st Joint Testing Facility has grand opening

BY STAFF SGT. ARTHUR CHILDRESS  
Joint Testing Facility

The 741st Military Intelligence Battalion hosted a ribbon-cutting ceremony for the Fort Meade Joint Testing Facility Dec. 3. Located next to Bldg. 9828, the JTF is the largest joint military and Department of Defense civilian-testing center of its kind in the Mid-Atlantic region. The facility is dedicated to administering language tests such as the Defense Language Proficiency Test, or DLPT, to approximately 1,500 individuals per year.

The JTF was originally owned and operated by the National Security Agency Directorate of Operations along with a National Cryptologic School supported Independent Learning Center housed in re-locatable facilities on Perimeter Road. In February 1998, the 704th Military Intelligence Brigade's commander assumed responsibility from NSA's Directorate of Operations for the Joint Testing Facility staffing, equipment and mission through formal memorandum.

The 704th MI Brigade informally in-

herited the remaining Independent Learning Center structures and mission in order to sustain vital, unclassified training opportunities for military personnel awaiting clearances. This second mission is now known as the Joint Learning Facility. Both missions fit well into the 704th MI Brigade's structure, which already included the very successful Joint Language Center, located in the converted basement of Bldg. 9828, whose average annual student throughput is 500.

In an effort to streamline operations, the 704th MI Brigade consolidated the three missions under one umbrella, the Joint Training Center, in December 1999. Working with required footprints and capacities and within physical building restrictions, the organization was able to co-locate everything except the testing facility in Bldg. 9828 during its year 2000 physical consolidation effort.

In late January, the NSA announced imminent plans to start construction of Perimeter Security Anti-Terrorist program structures: the main NSA Visitor Control Center, an x-ray capable vehicle inspection facility and canine kennels.

The facility continued operations in the Perimeter Road building until construction noise exceeded acceptable test condition parameters.

The operation temporarily relocated to a 694th Intelligence Group dormitory dayroom in April with 10 examinee positions. The interim quarters enabled the JTF to keep pace with the high demand for DLPT testing and to maintain compliance with official test environment standards. In October, the JTF moved to its current home: a new, 30-seat modular structure conveniently located next to the Joint Language Center.

The new JTF building at the corner of Emory and O'Brien Roads is the result of maximum cooperation between the 704th MI Brigade, NSA and Fort Meade Garrison, who all recognized the importance of the language-testing mission. Due to the support of the entire installation, the JTF is now poised to better support not only the entire installation, but also military and DoD personnel throughout the greater Baltimore-Washington area. With a new, expanded building comes additional opportunities for the JTF, as

well as some much-needed relief for other facilities on post.

As part of a mutual agreement, the JTF has assumed all language testing requirements from the post Education Center. Additionally, while the 694th Promotion and Testing building is being remodeled, the Testing Facility agreed to accept not only the unit's more than 150 previously scheduled DLPT examinees, but to provide space for its Air Force-specific testing program.

Though the JTF is well traveled, it is not through moving yet. The 704th MI Brigade is working with the Fort Meade Strategic Planning Office to relocate the Joint Training Center to the DINFOS area in permanent, training-designated spaces as part of the overall base construction and building renovation initiatives.

Rest assured that regardless of where the JTF ends up, it will continue to provide a quality-testing environment for its quality customers.

For more information or to schedule a test, have your Command Language Program Manager or unit training office contact the JTF at 301-677-0496.

# All this soldier wants for Christmas is ...

COMMENTARY BY SPC. BRIAN MURPHY  
Editor, *The Voice*

Merry Christmas everyone. For many, this is the best time of the year. I admit, for a long time, seeing snow fall on the larger-than-life sized Christmas tree all decorated with ornaments at the White House was enough to send me to bed warm and fuzzy.

As I get older and (somewhat) wiser, I noticed that throughout the years I had taken many of life's simple pleasures for granted. The last few years Christmas has been more of a hassle than a holiday. What should I get my brother? When do I need to ship out this gift to make sure it gets there in time? How much can I afford to spend on lavish gifts for my friends and families without forcing myself to eat tree bark the rest of the month?

Instead of enjoying that time of the year, I secretly wished for it to hurry by. That doesn't sit well with me anymore. The more I think about it, the more upset I get with myself for letting things change.

This year I only want one thing from Santa. I want things to return to the way they were. I want to love every second of helping my family set up the tree and the stockings. I want to go to church on Christmas Eve and sing all of the songs without looking at the words. Then I want to rush home and open one present with my family before going to bed early. I want to set out milk and cookies for anyone who might stop by that wonderful winter night. I want to lay in bed unable to sleep because of the excitement running through my little mind. I want to wake up at about five in the morning and sneak into my brother's room, so the two of us can convince our parents it isn't too early to get up and see what wonderful gifts Santa brought. I want to be the lucky one who gets to put baby Jesus in our nativity scene that morning. I want to call all of my relatives and thank them for their gifts and to hear what Saint Nick dropped off under their tree.

I wish each of you reading this article could see the smile on my face as I write this. Just reminiscing has me teary-eyed. There is only a small window where everything associated with Christmas is perfect. I've narrowed it down to somewhere between

the ages of two and seven. Don't believe me? I'll prove it to you.

My first Christmas was going to be perfect for my family. At least that's how mom planned it. She had her little baby boy dressed in his iSunday best and the camera was loaded to capture the moment little Brian sat on Santa's lap for the first time. To stack the deck even more in mom's favor was the fact that the part of Santa that afternoon was played by my own father. Mom just wanted to take a photo of her son sitting on his dad's lap for the photo album. This sounds too easy, right?

For those of you who aren't familiar with Murphy's Law, it states anything that can go wrong will. To my knowledge that photo was never taken that year. The word hysteria can best describe the situation as this two-year-old monster frantically kicked and screamed his way as far away from Jolly Olei Saint Nick as possible. A good time was not had by all. That's why you have to be at least two to at least partially enjoy the Christmas experience.

The reason the holiday loses so much of its wonder for those around the age of seven is simple - that one little smarty-pants in your class who ruined it for the other 20 or so children. The one who points out that Santa's handwriting always looked an awful lot like your parent's. The one who swore he stayed up hiding behind the sofa waiting to see who really ate those cookies so many of us left out on Christmas Eve. I'm pretty sure that if it weren't for that little blabbermouth I would still believe it all today. I hope he got a lump of coal that Christmas - even if it was his dad who put it there.

So that is my problem. I long for the days when everything in my life was right. John Denver and the Muppets sang Christmas music as the Murphys shared a perfect moment. I was six and my brother was two. There were no Sadams or Osamas in my world. The only people around were the ones I loved



cartoon by Mike Bochenek

the most.

I decided to share my dilemma with a good friend of mine. After explaining how much I missed the simple pleasures associated with being a kid, she chuckled and said she immediately had the answer to solve my problem. 'I have kids,' she said. 'That way you can relive those so-called best days of your life and still continue to live your life.'

That's one stocking stuffer I can do without.

## Local servicemembers visit Veterans Home

BY SPC. MICHAEL CAVES  
*Better Opportunity for Single Soldiers*

As a way of paying respects to the servicemembers of yesterday, the Fort Meade Better Opportunity for Single Servicemembers Program visited the Soldier and Airmen Home in Washington, D.C. Nov. 8.

Single servicemembers had the opportunity to meet some of America's heroes and bring joy to the lives of retired military personnel. Those who participated felt that the event was successful because it combined the two things retirees do best: tell stories and play Bingo.

The event began Thursday afternoon with soldiers introducing themselves to retirees. After receiving a warm welcome from a captive audience, soldiers met with retirees individually to get to know them and ex-

change stories. Once each of today's servicemembers had the chance to talk to the veterans, the staff began a game of Bingo. During the match, veterans paid close attention for the opportunity to win money, and servicemembers assisted the bingo players. One lucky soldier was even able to lead the bingo match as a caller. After a few exciting rounds of bingo, veterans enjoyed refreshments and cookies made by the soldiers.

The veterans were thankful and appreciative for the snacks and company the Fort Meade BOSS Program was able to provide, and likewise, each BOSS Member was grateful to have been afforded the opportunity to meet with retired Soldiers and Airmen. Most of the retirees were ready with stories to tell, and could hardly wait for the Fort Meade servicemembers to say hello. The other, not-so-eager veterans were quiet when soldiers ap-

proached, but their reluctance quickly disappeared once they saw the familiar green uniform. Many of the retirees had plenty of stories to share, some about the trials and tribulations of World War II, and some about their various peacetime tours of duty, some of which included Fort Meade. It was interesting how much the soldiers and veterans had in common despite age differences.

It was a unique and necessary experience for soldiers to meet with veterans. Fort Meade servicemembers met with veterans who had been to war. These retirees participated in the battles we've only read about in history books, and it was an honor to talk to them. Every soldier who attended was able to learn something, and both soldiers and veterans alike learned that the military's commitment to its servicemembers doesn't end when they leave the battlefield, or even when they get out of service.

It is important for military servicemembers at Fort Meade to reach out to the community, especially during these times of heightened tension. The great thing about this trip is that the BOSS program was not only able to volunteer in the community, but also given the privilege to spend time with retirees. Soldiers helping soldiers is what BOSS is all about.

The BOSS Visits the Vets trip was extremely successful and will be repeated as often as possible. The veterans were very grateful for the time, attention (and cookies) the Fort Meade BOSS program was able to provide. Servicemembers were equally thankful for the chance to give back to a retired community that has given so much. If anyone is interested in visiting the veterans, or any of our other community service programs, please contact SPC Caves (301-677-0745) or your unit BOSS Representative.

# Day of mourning honors German POWs

BY MICHAEL CODY  
*The SoundOFF!*

Scars from an old war were seen as bonds in a new one in a Nov. 18 ceremony at the post cemetery.

Each year, representatives of the German armed forces and German embassy in Washington remember 33 soldiers, sailors and airmen who died in prisoner of war camps and who were buried at the cemetery during World War II.

The ceremony marks a national day of mourning ó similar to Memorial Day and Veterans Day ó that has been observed every November since the end of that war.

This year's day of mourning, two months after the terrorist attacks of Sept. 11, led Capt. Lutz Helmrich, the naval attache to the German embassy, to reflect on the effects of tyranny, and on the debt owed the United States by his country.

The United States led western countries in helping Germany to rebuild after World War II, then stood by democratic Germans until the Soviet Union collapsed and their country was re-united at the end of the Cold War.

Now, Germany is willing to give back this solidarity we enjoyed over decades, Helmrich said. We are supporting the United States in the war against international terrorism in all fields, including the employment of German armed forces.

While some Germans debate whether military force is the right answer to the problem, in the end you will see a very strong, reliable, sustained commitment from the German government, he promised.

Installation Commander Col. Michael J. Stewart joined Helmrich in placing a wreath on the grave of Korvetten Capitän Werner Henke, the highest-ranking German buried here, then walked with him among the other plain headstones, each decorated by the German Wives' Club with a German flag and two carnations.

Henke, a U-boat commander, sank 25 ships before his boat, the U-515, was sunk in April 1944. He was shot while climbing a fence at Fort Hunt, Va., where he had been incarcerated.

What we're honoring is the martial spirit, Stewart said later, adding, Any service member who exhibits loyalty, devotion to duty, respect, selfless service, honor, integrity and personal courage deserves honor.

Most of the Germans buried in the cemetery were privates or privates first class in the army. Some were members of the German Air Force. One was an enlisted sailor, one was a border guard, and one was a non-commissioned officer in the SS ó the Schutzstaffel ó a group that included the Gestapo and Waffen SS, elite combat forces.

The youngest was 21; the oldest, 46. Two Italian prisoners also were buried here, Helmrich noted. Not one is more important than any other, he said, adding that no nation is special, either.

We remember the millions of deaths on the front lines and at home, during World War II, Helmrich said. We remember those who died in prisons and in death camps as a result of despotism and crime, as a result of suffering, flight and persecution.

Germany is a difficult fatherland, not because of the first world war, but because of World War II, and the fact that the German people (were) held hostage by a criminal government ó a government which not only started the second world war, but in the name of the German

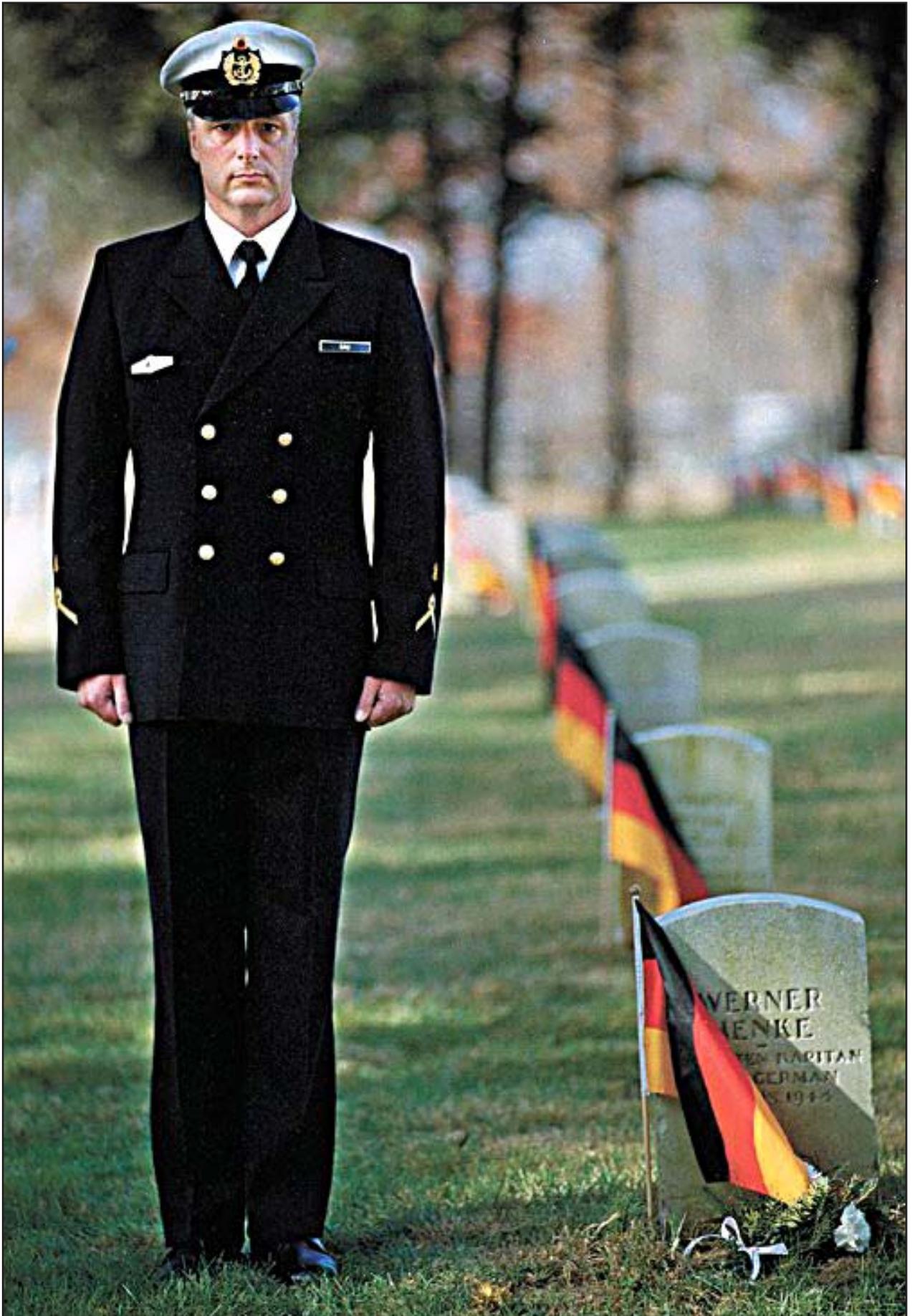


photo by Chris Zuppa

German Navy Master Chief Petty Officer Andreas Gau stands at attention next to German U-Boat Commander Werner Henke's grave during a German Day of Mourning ceremony here Sunday.

people committed crimes, thus violating international law and the rules of humanity, Helmrich continued.

While the Wehrmacht deserves some blame, he said, most members of the German military conducted themselves with honor. They, too, were victims, Helmrich said. They didn't have a choice. But nevertheless, they deserve our remembrance and mourning.

As Helmrich spoke, a film crew from Story House Productions, based in Washington

and Munich, was taping. Executive Producer Jens Afflerbach said the footage will be used for a docu-

mentary on the Battle of the Atlantic, to be aired on ZDF, German public television, in January, then in the United States on the History Channel.

**« We remember those who died in prisons and in death camps as a result of despotism and crime, as a result of suffering, »**

- Capt. Lutz Helmrich  
naval attache,  
German Embassy

Afflerbach's subject was Henke, whose rank translates to lieutenant commander. He described Henke as an ambitious professional officer who (despite the Iron Cross given him by Hitler) had trouble with the Gestapo.

According to Afflerbach, Henke married five weeks before putting out to sea for the last time, and promised his wife to return.

# 741st soldiers battle in Turkey Bowl



photos by Spc. Brian Murphy

HOC Quarterback John Avalos, Turkey Bowl MVP, threw for three touchdowns in a 28-18 victory over Company A in the Turkey Bowl championship game at Gaffney Field Nov. 20.

BY SPC. BRIAN MURPHY  
Editor, *The Voice*

Nothing is automatic ñ that is why they play the games.

Defeating heavy odds and every team in front of them, the players from Headquarters and Operations Company, 741<sup>st</sup> Military Intelligence Battalion won the Turkey Bowl at Gaffney Field Nov. 20.

There was a lack of respect for the HOC squad before the games even began, according to HOC quarterback John Avalos. The biggest culprit was Company B, the team HOC met in the first playoff game.

“They thought they had us beat from the get-go because they won flag football on OíDay,” he said. “We caught them by surprise and showed them a few things they werenít expecting to see. We hit a lot of short passes to our center. We took an early lead and they couldnít recover.”

In the first-round match-up against Company B, Avalos connected on a short pass to his favorite target, center Jerry Calzado for an early touchdown and a 6-0 lead. The score proved to be enough as both teamsí defenses stepped it up and neither offense found the endzone again.

Team HOC faced the Turkey Bowlís

other underdog team, Company A, after they shocked the trash-talking Company C 19-14 in the other first-round contest. Company C held a 14-6 lead at halftime before Company A quarterback Chad Pifer took over. He threw for one touchdown and rushed for another to lead Company A to victory and the championship game.

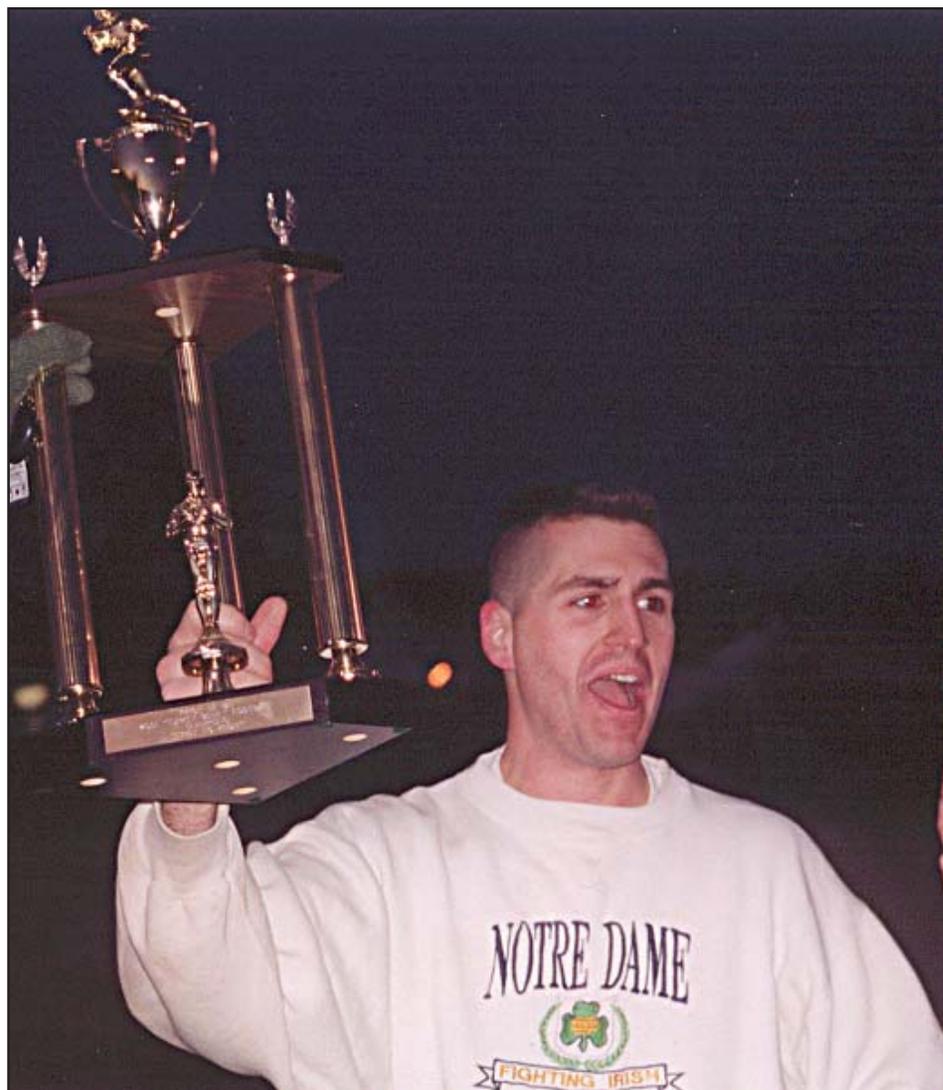
HOC had a different strategy coming into their game against Company A. Instead of playing a defensive battle, like their first-round victory, the team vowed to do more offensively, said Avalos.

“In flag football you have to throw the ball, have fun, make everyone get excited about it. Defensive games are boring to watch. Weíre here for the fans,” he said.

Heeding his own advice, Avalos threw for three touchdowns as the HOC offense overpowered Company A in the championship game 28-18.

After the game, Capt. Steven Swingle, HOC commander, talked about his teamís performance.

“We thought coming into these games we had a good chance to win,” he said. “We didnít feel the need to talk trash. We were the overall winners for OíDay and we knew we could win again in the Turkey Bowl.”



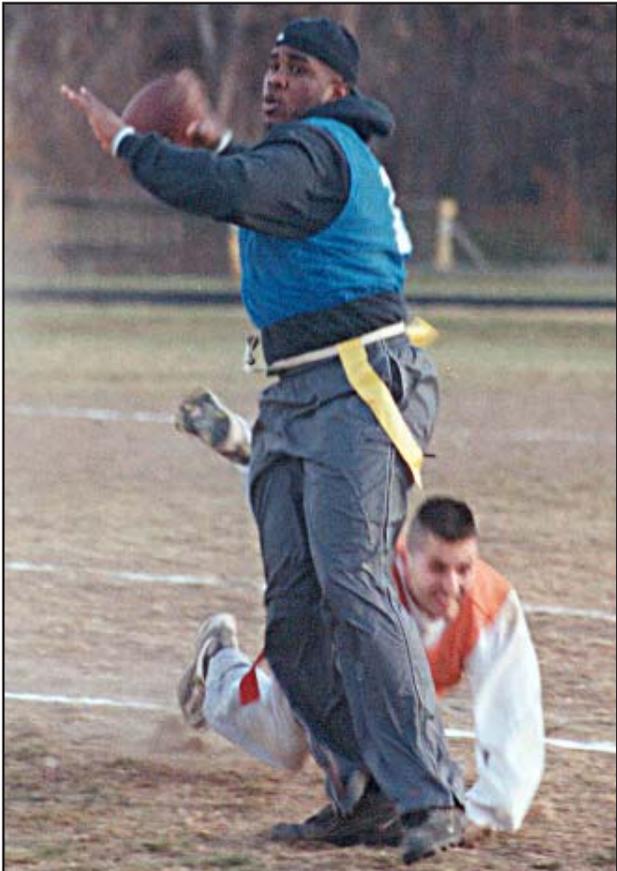
Capt. Steven Swingle, HOC commander, accepts the Turkey Bowl trophy.



Company A quarterback Chad Pifer sprints past the Company C defender for a second-half touchdown.



Company C wide receiver Xavier Walker jukes past a Company A defensive back during their playoff game loss.



Company B quarterback Jonathan Hollway forces a pass.



Company B wide receiver Joseph Robertson is stopped for a loss by Rickie Carlyle and the rest of the HOC defense.

# Turkey Bowl 2001

## HOC vs. Company B Playoff game

HOC defeated Company B 6-0 in their playoff game. The only score of the contest was a 25-yard touchdown pass from HOC quarterback John Avalos to Jerry Calzado.

## Company A vs. Company C Playoff game

Led by quarterback Chad Pifer, Company A overcame an eight-point halftime deficit to eliminate Company C 19-14.

After two quarterback keepers by Company C quarterback Shaun Kuhn, the Cobras went into halftime with a 14-6 lead. But the second half belonged to Pifer who rushed for a touchdown and threw for another with three minutes left in the contest to steal victory.

## HOC vs. Company A Championship game

Turkey Bowl Most Valuable Player John Avalos threw for three touchdowns as HOC cruised to a 28-18 victory and staked their claim as champions of the 741st MI Battalion.



## Around the Army



photo by Photographer's Mate 3rd Class Saul Ingle

## Servicemembers take safety precautions

U.S. Navy Postal Clerk 3rd Class Eric Gomez wears protective mask and gloves when handling mail aboard USS Carl Vinson. Activities on U.S. Navy ships often mirror new trends in American life, such as these new safety measures for mail handlers. Carl Vinson is conducting missions in support of Operation Enduring Freedom.

# Flu, anthrax share symptoms

FORT MONROE, Va. (Army News Service) - With the approach of flu season, an Army doctor said people who contract the virus may instead fear they are infected with anthrax.

"That is because the symptoms of flu are similar to the early symptoms of those reported in people infected by the terror weapon," said Col. Bernard DeKoning, command surgeon for the Training and Doctrine Command.

"So, not all symptoms of the flu are caused by influenza or anthrax," he said. "A subtle, but perhaps helpful distinction is that anthrax normally doesn't cause a runny nose or a productive cough."

A productive cough brings up mucous or drainage.

"One must keep in mind that the flu can be caused by any number of viruses," he said. "The flu comprises symptoms such as fever, cough, fatigue and/or respiratory discomfort caused by any number of strains of influenza and other viruses."

Only the most common strains of flu have vaccines against them, DeKoning explained. Flu itself sometimes can be dangerous, especially among the elderly and people with certain medical conditions.

Sniffles and a productive cough are not 100 percent fool-proof indication that a person has not been inflicted with anthrax, either, the doctor said.

DeKoning said that people who choose to see a doctor because they do not know whether they have anthrax or the flu should retrace their activities over the past week by asking themselves the following questions:

Did I or do I have a runny nose and/or a productive cough?  
What were my activities?

Who was I with?

Were those people experiencing the same signs and symptoms?

When did they start experience the signs and symptoms?

Do those people have runny noses and productive coughs?

Any unusual sores on my skin?

Did people I was with have skin sores?

**"We should all remember that the chance of any of us coming in contact with anthrax is extremely small."**

*- Col. Bernard DeKoning  
command surgeon,  
Training and Doctrine  
Command*

"Your doctor will find the answers to these questions very helpful," DeKoning said. "Based on your answers, your doctor may want to consult other colleagues and perhaps perform some tests such as a nasal swab or a blood test."

In the Army, flu vaccinations will be carried out just as they are every year.

"This year, a slight delay in influenza vaccine delivery has been experienced," DeKoning said. "Upon receipt of the first shipment of vaccine at military installations, vaccination of mission critical personnel and high-risk medical individuals will begin."

"It is anticipated that sufficient influenza vaccine will be available by late November to meet all military beneficiary requirements," DeKoning said.

DeKoning said anthrax vaccine is currently not available for civilian use. Besides, inoculation against anthrax consists of six shots over 18 months, plus a booster shot every year after that.

"We should all remember that the chance of any of us coming in contact with anthrax is extremely small," he said. "Yes, we all need to be vigilant about our surroundings. However, we also need to live our lives, enjoy our freedoms and not become paralyzed by the fear of anthrax."

## Around the Army

# Soldier wins big on 'Millionaire' show

FORT EUSTIS, Va. (Army News Service) — Several service members competed Nov. 11-12 in a two-part special edition of the national television show 'Who Wants to be a Millionaire,' but it was a Fort Eustis Army captain that took home top earnings with winnings totaling \$125,000.

Capt. Travis Sumner, movements officer for the 7th Transportation Group, won the most money for the two-part program, which honored members of the Armed Forces in recognition of Veterans Day.

'I'm pretty excited and happy about it,' Sumner said of his experience at the New York studio.

Other notable winners included Army Sgt. Maj. Steven D. Malnar of Fort Monroe, Va., and Air Force Staff Sgt. Jim Laverty, who each won \$64,000. Navy Lt. j.g. Shannon Martin and Coast Guard Chief Scott Hastings pocketed \$32,000 and Marine Capt. William Hennessy walked away with \$16,000.

Sumner said just being on the show was a great experience and that's what he focused on more than the money. 'I always said to myself when I went into this that I was just going to try to enjoy everything regardless of what else happened. Winning the money is just a bonus.'

Sumner said that at first he was a little nervous, but as the game progressed and he kept answering more and

more questions, he became more relaxed and focused. He said the show's host Regis Philbin does a good job of keeping contestants calm during the show.

'Regis really wants people to win,' Sumner said. 'He's a genuinely nice person.'

Sumner said another thing that helped was the show's lighting. He said that when a contestant is seated across from Philbin they can't really see the audience and therefore are able to focus just on the questions.

Sumner said he plans on using the money to pay off his car and student loans and then put the rest in the bank. He also said he might treat himself to a trip somewhere, but is still undecided.

Fellow soldier and money-winner Sgt. Maj. Steven D. Malnar, the U.S. Army Training and Doctrine Command public affairs sergeant major at Fort Monroe, Va., talked to Sumner after the show and gave him some advice.

'Capt. Sumner is a really great guy,' Malnar said. 'I told him that after winning \$125,000, he'd better start wearing those glasses with the big fake nose and funny mustache. He's a single guy, but not for long.'

Malnar said his winning \$64,000 isn't cause for big changes in his life.

'It was great to have had this experience, but it hasn't changed much,' Malnar said. 'I'm not going on any lav-



'Who wants to be a Millionaire' host Regis Philbin.

ish spending sprees or exotic trips. This [win] just means we are going to be debt free. I'm going to pay some bills, not that we have a lot. For the most part we'll apply this money to doing things for my kids.'

'My only real purchase,' Malnar added, 'will be a riding mower; I've got an acre of land and I'm tired of pushing a mower.'

In late October, thousands of service members competed for the right to be on the show but only 14 were selected to attend the tapings.



photo by Tech. Sgt. Dave Ahlschwede

## Mr. Las Vegas and friends visit servicemembers

Wayne Newton, 'Mr. Las Vegas,' Chairman of the USO Celebrity Circle and Bo Derek perform for Aviano spectators at the USO show at Aviano AB, Italy. USO performers, along with the Air Force, Army and Marine Corps' top enlisted advisors entertain the Aviano crowd who gathered to see the show on 16 Nov 01. The USO produces at least 20 overseas entertainment tours each year, reaching tens of thousands of service men and women. Well-known entertainers volunteer their time to perform morale-boosting shows for U.S. military personnel stationed overseas.

# The Wall

## A tribute honoring yesterday's heroes



photos by Spc. Brian Murphy

There are 58,195 names of servicemembers who made the ultimate sacrifice, by giving their lives for their country, on the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Wall in Washington, D.C.

COMPILED BY **Spc. BRIAN MURPHY**  
Editor, *The Voice*

Located between the Washington Monument and the Lincoln Memorial on the Mall in Washington, D.C., the dramatic and somber Vietnam Veterans Memorial was dedicated in November 1982.

The monument was officially accepted by President Ronald Reagan on Nov. 11, 1984, when he signed a document transferring the memorial to the U.S. Park Service.

The V-shaped memorial consists of two 250-foot walls of polished black granite sloping to the ground from an apex of 10 feet. The walls are inscribed with the names of the more than 58,000 U.S. men and women who were killed or missing in the Vietnam War.

Privately funded through the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Fund headed by Jan Scruggs, the memorial was designed by Maya Ying Lin, a Yale architecture student whose design was chosen over 1,421 others submitted in the public competition.



Hundreds of people visit the memorial daily. Many leave gifts or mementos, while other individuals make rubbings of the names.

# SAFETY BRIEF

BY PATTI SHELLEY  
SAFETY OFFICER

## Christmas Trees

Many artificial trees are fire resistant. If you buy one, look for a statement specifying this protection. A fresh tree will stay green longer and be less of a fire hazard than a dry tree. To check for freshness, remember: A fresh tree is green. Fresh needles are hard to pull from branches. When bent between your fingers, fresh needles do not break. The trunk butt of a fresh tree is sticky with resin. When the trunk of a tree is bounced on the ground, a shower of falling needles shows that the tree is too dry. Place trees away from fireplaces, radiators, and other heat sources. Heated rooms dry out trees too rapidly, creating fire hazards. Cut off about two inches of the trunk to expose fresh wood for better water absorption. Trim away branches as necessary to set the tree trunk in the base of a sturdy, water-holding stand with widespread



feet. Keep the stand filled with water while the tree is indoors. Place the tree out of the way of traffic and do not block doorways. Use thin guy wires to secure a large tree to the walls or ceiling. These wires are almost invisible. Keep a fire extinguisher handy in the tree area. Be sure to discard the tree well away from your home, not even with the trash until you can properly dispose of it. Remove the tree promptly if it becomes dry.

Artificial snow sprays can irritate lungs if inhaled. To avoid injury, read container labels; follow directions carefully. Decorative Lights Inside or outside, use only lights that have been tested for safety. Identify these by the label from an independent testing laboratory. Check each set of lights, new or old, for broken or cracked sockets, frayed or bare wires, or loose connections. Discard damaged sets or repair them before using. Fasten outdoor lights securely to trees, house walls, or other firm supports to protect them from wind damage. Use no more than three standard-size sets of lights per single extension cord. Turn off all lights on trees and other decorations when you go to bed or leave the house. Lights could short and cause a fire. Never use electric lights on a metallic tree. The tree can become charged with electricity from

faulty lights, and any person touching a branch could be electrocuted! To avoid this danger, use colored spotlights above or beside a metallic tree, never fastened onto it. Keep bubbling lights away from children. These lights with their bright colors and bubbling movement can tempt curious children to break candle-shaped lights. The resulting broken glass is dangerously sharp and allows the escape of the liquid, which contains a hazardous chemical. Automatic lighting timers can be used to ensure that lights are not left on. These are available for both indoor and outdoor applications.

**Candles and Votives** Never use lighted candles on a tree or near other evergreens. Always use nonflammable holders. Keep candles away from other decorations and wrapping paper. Place candles where they cannot be knocked down or blown over. Never leave burning candles unattended. Always keep burning candles up high, out of the reach of children.

**Holiday Decorations and Trimings** Use only noncombustible or flame-resistant materials. Wear gloves while decorating with spun glass angel hair to avoid irritation to the eyes and skin. Choose tinsel or artificial icicles of plastic or nonleaded metals. Leaded ma-

terials are hazardous if ingested by children. In homes with small children, take special care to: Avoid decorations that are sharp or breakable. Keep trimmings with small removable parts out of the reach of children. Pieces could be swallowed or inhaled. Avoid trimmings that resemble candy or food. A child could eat them.

**Fireplace** Before lighting any fire, remove all greens, boughs, papers, and other decorations from the fireplace area. Check to see that the flue is open. Before closing the flue, be sure that the fire is out completely. Use care with fire salts which produce colored flames when thrown on wood fires. They contain heavy metals, which can cause intense gastrointestinal irritation or vomiting if eaten. Keep them away from children. Install at least one carbon monoxide detector and a smoke detector in your home. Have your chimney inspected at least once a year and cleaned if necessary. Creosote a chemical substance that forms when wood burns, builds up in chimneys and can cause a chimney fire if not properly cleaned. Always use a fire screen and only burn material appropriate for fireplaces. Avoid burning trash or paper, which can float up the chimney and onto the roof or yard.

## CIVILIAN'S CORNER

BY SAM JONES  
BRIGADE SENIOR CIVILIAN

Notes from the November Defense Civilian Intelligence Personnel System Update:

Where is your resume?

The WCPOC is moving toward incorporating applicant resumes into the Resumix database which currently resides at Fort Huachuca and is eliminating use of the Army National Capitol Region (ANCR) Resumix database which is housed at the Hoffman Building in Alexandria, VA. In order to do this, they are asking that you submit a three page resume and the answers to 32 supplemental questions to the address(es) listed in their applicant kit, which is found on their website. By doing this, both the application and referral processes will be streamlined. If you have previously applied under one of the announcements issued by the ANCR CPOC (those announcements begin with the letters NCR) you will find information about the status of your application by accessing the ANCR ROAR system at <http://cpolrhp.belvoir.army.mil/ancr/pages/employment.html>. (Please note that as of the printing of this Update, this site has been experiencing periodic technical difficulties. After you have selected the URL above, hold the SHIFT key and then select the link titled ROAR (RESUMIX Online Applicant Response). If your first attempt is not successful, please wait a short time and try again.) If you have applied under



one of the announcements issued by the WCPOC (those beginning with WCPOC), you may check the status of your resume by accessing the West Region ROAR application. The West CPOC is establishing a link from their ROAR to the ANCR ROAR which will facilitate easy movement from one system to the other. Eventually, all ANCR announcements will be closed out and you will only need to check the WCPOC ROAR.

Leadership of Civilians During Times of Crises ó A Word from the ADCSINT. The current challenges each of us now face are enormous and often daunting but we cannot ignore any of our responsibilities. One of our most important is our responsibility to our troops and our civilian employees. We must continue to give high priority to their supervision and development. This means we must find the means to continue to ensure they are mentored, held accountable and promoted and rewarded in a timely and fair manner. We must also ensure that they continue to receive the training and development that is required by their positions, their disciplines, and our Army Civilian Training, Education and Development System (ACTEDS) plan. I urge commanders, senior intelligence officers and all supervisors, military as well as civilian, to redouble their efforts. I urge careerists to maintain their high level of engagement with both their command's objectives and their career development. Continue to work with your supervisors to do the right thing. Terrance Ford

New Requirement to Consider Professionalization When Competitively Hiring and Promoting. Under the new ACTEDS Plan, personnel management practices will more frequently recognize and reward attainment of competency standards and professionalism. Attainment and maintenance of the range of competen-

cies required or recommended by this ACTEDS plan should become a key consideration in most personnel actions. The previous article highlighted the new requirements for Performance Management. This article focuses on Selection and Promotion Processes and provides information updated even over the new ACTEDS plan to incorporate the new requirements of Army's the changing referral system. Beginning in FY2002, competency attainment (professional development/breadth but not formal certification) will be a required factor for consideration by selecting officials in competitive CP-35 selections and promotions to the next higher grade; and a desirable factor for consideration for non-competitive selections and promotions.

Training/Professional Development. When initiating requests for competitive selections/promotions, Selecting Officials will incorporate training and professional development criteria, in addition to minimum qualifying requirements, that include relevant ACTEDS skills/competencies and specialized training and/or education requirements for the position (including those required for the applicable Career Track, Career Level, Career Area and Specialty).

Resume Kits. Resume Kits/Instructions will include information for the applicant regarding the importance of documenting attainment of relevant training, education and professional development/breadth of competency in resumes or other application packages.

Selections. Selecting Officials will weigh attainment of relevant training, education and professional development/breadth of competency as a positive factor in the selection process, and document its contribution as part of the selection rationale.

# 742nd soldiers enjoy Thanksgiving



*courtesy photos*  
Gavariel Del Villar enjoys the festivities during the potluck dinner.



Sgt. Sergio Barajas and family spend time together during the 742nd MI Battalion's celebration.



Stephanie McCaffery, daughter of Sgt. Aaron McCaffery, smiles as she poses for a photo.

BY SPC. BRIAN MURPHY  
Editor, The Voice

More than 40 soldiers and family members of Company B, 742nd Military Intelligence Battalion got together for a Thanksgiving Potluck celebration Nov. 20.

During the potluck, the soldiers and family members also held a raffle. Half of the money raised during the raffle went towards funding the Holiday Ball, while the other half went to the raffle's winner - Staff Sgt. Elgin James.



## VISION STATEMENT



### 704th Military Intelligence Brigade

**Be the premier Army team providing full-spectrum signals intelligence and operational support to warfighters and national command authorities *HERE AND EVERYWHERE.***