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Visit the Brigade web page at www.meade-704mi.army.mil



photo by Spc. Brian Murphy

Spc. Tina Wellenreuther, or "Mrs. Tina" as the children refer to her as, assists Jamie on one of the classroom computers at Van Bokkelen Elementary school. She has been working in the kindergarten classroom at the school since August.

Soldier heads back to school

BY SPC. BRIAN MURPHY
Editor, The Voice

Not all soldiers spend their days jumping out of a C-130 airplane or in the driver's hatch of a M1A2 Abrams tank. Some soldiers prefer an environment with carpet squares, snacks and naps.

One soldier who fits that description is Spc. Tina Wellenreuther, Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 704th Military Intelligence Brigade, who has been donating her time to the kindergarten class of Van Bokkelen Elementary school since August.

Wellenreuther, a signal intelligence analyst, learned of the job from a former reception-and-holding platoon soldier who worked at Van Bokkelen. Wellenreuther, who worked at a Texas high school prior to joining the Army, immediately went to her supervisor, Sgt. 1st Class Xavier Walker, to see if she could work at the elementary school until she received her clearance.

"At first he seemed hesitant," she said. "But we both knew that it would be at least six months until I could move

to my new job, so he talked it over with who he needed to and then told me I could."

Wellenreuther, or "Mrs. Tina" as the children refer to her, has been working with the kindergartners ever since.

"The first time I walked into the classroom in my uniform all of the children were staring at me," Wellenreuther said. "They thought it was the coolest thing that I was in the Army. Then they started asking me all sorts of questions, like 'do you know my dad?' or 'do you carry a gun?' They wanted to know all about me. A few of the kids have even said when they grow up they want to be a soldier like Mrs. Tina."

Wellenreuther's morning kindergarten class has 26 students, and the afternoon class has 35 students. With only one teacher and one assistant, it isn't difficult to see the challenges in containing such a large classroom of energetic youngsters.

According to Charlene Beardon, instruction assistant, who has been with Van Bokkelen for 20 years, Wellenreuther's arrival has been a blessing.

"I don't know what we would do without her," Beardon said. "She has been greatly needed. It is very challenging to do everything with only one teacher and one assistant. She does so much to help us out. It doesn't matter what we ask of her, she does it right away."

In addition to her time at the school, Wellenreuther also has the every-day soldier tasks to work into her busy schedule.

"I am still a soldier," she said. "I go to (physical fitness training) three times a week. I still report to Sergeant Walker several times each week. I just spend a majority of my day with kindergartners."

Wellenreuther knows she won't be at Van Bokkelen forever, so she's trying to get the most out of her time there.

"This has been the greatest experience," she said. "I enjoy coming to work every day. I know that I am very lucky to have received this opportunity. But it will be difficult for me to say good-bye once I receive my clearance and have to move on. I'll have to come back and visit these kids after I leave."

Child Abuse: a problem that can be prevented

BY SGT TRINACE RUTLEDGE
INSCOM Public Affairs

To most people, the thought of harming an innocent child is unthinkable. But every day stories about children disappearing, children found dead and people accused of having sex with children make the headlines.

Some people think of child abuse as just physical, but it goes further than that, said Vickie Lafollette, director of the Family Advocacy Program, Fort Belvoir, Va.

Abuse comes in many forms: physical, neglect, verbal/emotional and sexual, Lafollette said. Each form of abuse is just as harmful as the next.

What constitutes abuse? The line that separates a person's differentiation of abuse from simple discipline is not drawn by economic, cultural, racial, or gender background, according to Lafollette.

You wouldn't be able to pin point someone who is going to abuse their child. You can't go by race, gender, or rank. Some of the problems that lead up to abuse, Lafollette said, are when families are in deployable units and/or have limited resources. Other issues that can lead to abuse are substance abuse, financial problems and unplanned and unwanted children.

Lafollette said, however, that there are clear state and county guidelines about what constitutes abuse. She said in physical abuse cases, the FAP looks for bruises, welts, open sores, hair pulling, slapping on the face and kicking. She also said that when the FAP looks at injured children, they look at whether the injury is consistent with the parent's explanation of what happened.

Child abuse and neglect is a problem, but a problem that there is hope for and a problem that can be prevented through intervention.

Lafollette said the Family Advocacy Program has help for anyone seeking it, but she understood why some might be hesitant in getting help.

We are aware that sometimes our soldiers are worried about their career, she said. She also said that they realize that everyone has problems. We don't punish soldiers for getting help. If the leadership doesn't let soldiers know we support them and encourage them to get help with problems, soldiers aren't going to get help.

Anyone seeking help can call anonymously. Lafollette said that she tells callers up front what she has to do legally, depending on the severity of the problem, should they reveal their identity.

It is important to realize that there are a lot of resources here to help, she said. Some of the forms of help the FAP has are free classes that help with financial issues, marital counseling, a food bank and mental health referrals.

Another important avenue for soldiers is the chaplain.

We do individual counseling with families, said Col. Sir Walter Scott, U.S. Army Headquarters Intelligence

and Security Command chaplain. According to Scott, families are individual and their issues are unique. His office works with them based on that. We also help families in terms of getting through the guilt. They need to know they can be forgiven and move on, Scott said.

Lafollette added that sometimes she meets parents who just don't have a clear knowledge of parenting skills. They place unrealistic expectations on children; such as expecting a 15-month-old child to be completely or even partially potty trained. Some parents leave small children unattended in bathtubs, sometimes with disastrous consequences.

We once had a child left unattended in the bathtub while the parent went to answer the phone. The child had to be resuscitated, Lafollette said. The child apparently slipped under the water and nearly drowned.

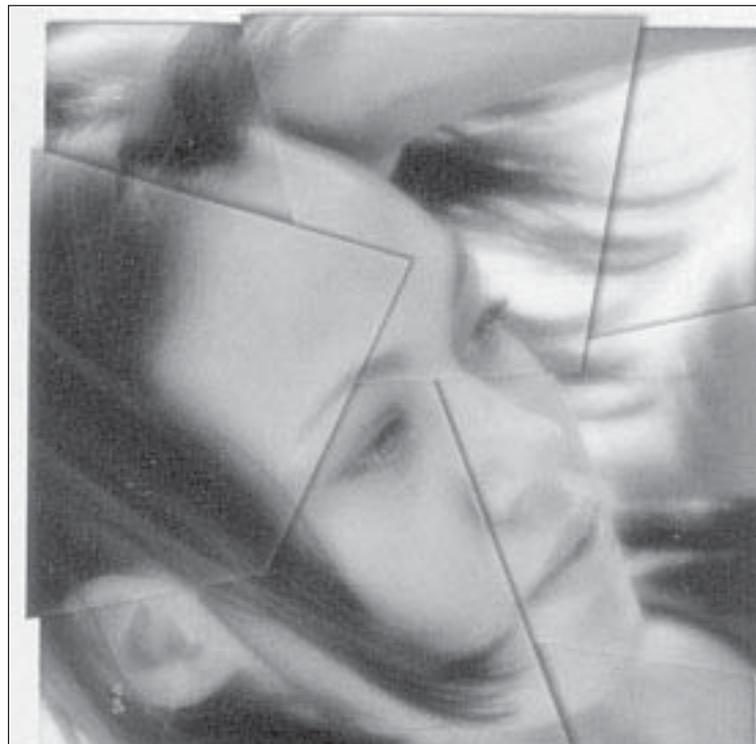
She said they had a case in which an active duty soldier left her six-month-old twins home all day while she went to work. It wasn't until the neighbors heard the constant crying of the babies coming from the house and decided to call the police that the soldier was found out.

According to the Army FAP guide for noncommissioned officers, it is important for leaders to know their soldiers and their family members. It also said that leadership should recognize that some issues, such as relocation, housing, child care issues, single parent issues, special needs children, relationship or transition issues, could lead to stress that could escalate into abuse.

Generally there isn't just one thing that leads to abuse or neglect, Lafollette said. Sometimes the family members don't have a clear understanding of the military system, which could lead to problems. She said they ask questions like, why can't my husband or wife be home? Or they don't understand the chain of command and it creates stress that can lead to abuse.

Living on a military installation doesn't always help the situation. Lafollette said that many parents who live on post seem to have a false sense of security where their children are concerned. Parents get distracted and may leave their small children outside unattended for long periods of time, both on and off post. She said not only are the children susceptible to injury, but to kidnappings and molestation.

Just because a child fits the guideline to be left alone, doesn't mean they are ready to be left, Lafollette added. She noted that some parents often put older children in charge of the younger ones. At Fort Belvoir, the local Fairfax County guidelines state that no child seven and under can be



left alone unattended for any amount of time.

Children should not be left in that responsibility role. Many people do it because it is cost efficient. The potential is there for something minor or very serious to happen, she said.

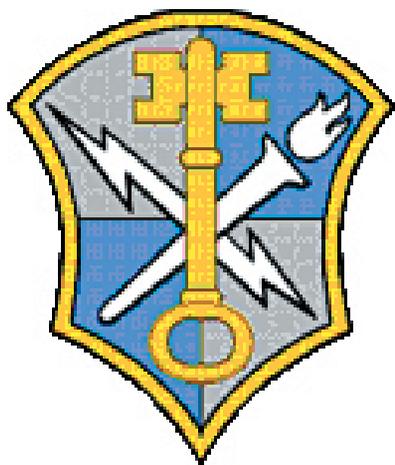
In other incidences, some parents may not realize that humiliating a child, such as name-calling, is a form of abuse. Others feed and clothe their children, but never spend any time with them, which is a form of neglect. Others allow their children to witness domestic violence, which is also a form of abuse, Lafollette said.

Lafollette said that she could understand someone not having clear knowledge on where the abuse or neglect line is drawn, but for some things, there is simply no excuse.

I have a hard time believing that you don't give your child baths or wash their clothes. Some parents can't afford to feed their children, she said, and others just don't care about fixing meals.

The Headquarters and Headquarters Company INSCOM first sergeant, 1st Sgt. Randy Markham, said that if a soldier were to come to him seeking help he would evaluate the severity of the situation and determine if Family Advocacy or other trained professionals need to get involved.

The bottom line is child abuse does not have to happen. There is help readily available to anyone seeking it. Anyone needing help with a family issue can contact the Fort Belvoir Family Advocacy program at (703) 805-2693, the Fairfax County Child and Protective Services Hotline (703) 324-7400, Dewitt Army Community Hospital (703) 805-0510, or the unit chaplain or 911.



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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.

EDUCATION BRIEF

BY DEBRA T. DAY

BRIGADE EDUCATION COUNSELOR

Spring semester is rapidly approaching, and registration for classes at colleges on post is ongoing.

School bulletins have been available since

mid-November, so it is imperative that students who have not already registered, do so as soon as possible to ensure the best selection of classes on post or at the main campuses.

As was the case during FY 00, the Army Tuition Assistance (TA) available to soldiers is \$3500 for FY 01, which began Oct. 1. The per semester hour (sh) cap is \$187.50, again the same as the last FY. The key to receiving TA is the degree program and an official evaluation or Servicemember Opportunity College (SOC) agreement. The soldier must



present one or the other of these documents to an Education Center Guidance Counselor upon request for TA.

If a soldier does not possess one of the two documents, an outline from the college catalog of the school to which the service member will attend may be used on a temporary basis.

Once the service member has received TA for nine semester hours from this Education Center, no further TA will be provided to the service member unless he has an official evaluation or SOC agreement from the college that he is attending.

To receive an official evaluation from the school means that the soldier would have ensured that all previous college transcripts were forwarded to the school he is now attending, to include military transcripts via the AARTS or the Department of Defense Form 295.

Possible exceptions to the nine-semester-hour rule will be addressed on a case by case basis. The rationale behind the nine-semester-hour rule is first and foremost to benefit the soldier.

For obvious reasons the rule, en-

ables the service member to use his TA money only for those courses that have not been transferred from schools both military and civilian to the school that the service member is currently attending. Speak with a Guidance Counselor at the Education Center, at (301) 677-6421 for details.

Anne Arundel Community College

All degree-seeking students who have not yet taken college math or English and who do not have an SAT or ACT score, must take the school's placement tests in these two subject areas before taking any classes. AACC is a Service Members Opportunity College Army Degree 2 school and offers a wide range of certificates and 2 year degrees in the classroom and on-line. For details contact the school's office for more information. (410) 672-2117.

University of Maryland University College

UMUC is a SOCAD 4 school with certificate programs at the undergraduate as well as graduate area. The college programs offered on Fort Meade include bachelor degrees in everything from Psychology to Information Systems. The school also of-

fers graduate programs. Contact an advisor at the college for details, at (410) 551-0431.

Bowie State University

The school offers a Teacher Certification program as well as graduate programs in Counseling Psychology, Guidance and Counseling, and Management Information Systems. For details on these and many other programs, contact Manfred Reinhold at (301) 912-2318 for more information.

Central Michigan University

CMU offers Masters degrees in General, Health, Software, International, and Human Resource Administration, as well as a graduate program in Information Resource Management. CMU's prior learning program awards academic credit for relevant, well documented work and life experience. You can also apply relevant transfer credit from accredited institution to your degree. Contact Linda Zedan for details at (301) 621-9796.

The Fort Meade Education Services Division is located in Building 8601, Zimborski Ave. For information about testing and other services, call (301) 677-6421 and ask to speak with a Guidance Counselor for details.

743rd officers pay respects to local veterans

BY MAJ. DEBORAH L. BECKWITH
Executive Officer, 743rd MI Battalion

The date was November 10th. Fifteen officers from the 743rd Military Intelligence Battalion grudgingly crawled from their nice warm beds bright and early in the morning to don their Class A uniforms and drive in the freezing cold to rally in the battalion parking lot. Were they sick? Crazy? Out of their heads?

At the request of Lt. Col. Mark Quantock, battalion commander, they went to the Veterans Home at the Denver Medical Center to pay tribute to their predecessors. Upon arrival, the officers met with Ron Davis, the recreation therapist, who suggested they break into groups to tour the wards and meet residents.

Fortunately, both Quantock and Maj. Elizabeth Caldwell had previous experience visiting the veterans wards; Quantock visited veterans when he was stationed at Fort Leavenworth, and Caldwell's previous profession was as a registered nurse, so she had experience working with our older generations. Many of the officers were very uncomfortable, as they were visiting unfamiliar territory, but that feeling didn't last long.

First they met 91-year old Jake Weaver who joined the Army shortly before D-Day. Upon his departure, Jake's uncle told him that Jake would return in a pine box, to which Jake replied, "That's okay, the Army's paying for it!" Jake landed at Normandy and continued the drive through Luxembourg, Belgium and Germany serving as a messenger. He told us of having three radios shot off of him during his travels back and forth between his headquarters carrying information; his mode of transportation was whatever was available to include running. He told us how he went to Supply after he lost his third radio and the supply sergeant refused to give him another radio.

According to Jake, Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower was nearby, found out what was going on and gave the supply sergeant two choices: either give Jake a radio or switch places with him. Needless to say, Jake got his radio.

Farther down the corridor they met Mr. Zawedia, from the Ukraine. He was captured and thrown into a Labor Camp during the German invasion of the Soviet Union in 1941 during Operation Barbarossa. After being released from the Labor Camp, he immigrated to the United States and enlisted in the Army, later serving in the Korean War. 1st Lt. Alex Braszko, assistant plans and operations officer, whose family is from the Ukraine, practiced his language skills with Zawedia.

The officers also met the only female veteran at the hospital, Carmen Mendez, who served as an Air Force finance clerk during the Vietnam War. She said the troops returned from Vietnam with no finance records whatsoever. They told her what they were owed and that's what they got paid. She never had reason to doubt their integrity and figured they knew what they were owed better than she did! She informed us that it wasn't easy being the only female among all those men at the hospital either. She said that the 2 a.m. visits to her room by gentlemen callers for cigarettes made her quit smoking.

Then there was Joe Parnell. Joe's side of his two-person room holds a corner display of what he has held most precious in his life and everything he has left to show who and what he is and was. Pictures of his family adorn the wall around his corner of the room to his late wife, his children, and their children. And on the dresser in the corner were his scrapbooks and in his eyes to his life. Shortly after three of the visiting officers walked into his room, he began showing them these scrapbooks. Sitting in a wheel chair, turning the pages of a scrapbook and describing each plane he'd flown, his face glowed with

animation. He was in his glory telling us his war stories. Joe showed them the plane he and his co-pilot were flying over the ocean when his fourth engine quit for no reason. They were directed to return to base to determine what was wrong. Everyone came out to see what had gone wrong and upon landing they discovered a dead pelican between engines three and four. Laughing, he continued to show the officers pictures of another plane he had crash-landed. Although the plane was a mess, Joe landed unharmed. Unfortunately, as Joe was climbing out of the cockpit he accidentally hit the ejection seat button. He went flying through the air and landed on a fence, breaking his leg one reason he is now in a wheelchair.

The 743rd MI Battalion officers enjoyed the many war stories the veterans shared and were an avid audience. But they couldn't overlook the harsher realities of the wars many of these veterans had endured. Mr. Conyers, who lives across the hall from Jake, served in what he called an all-Negro regiment that contributed heavily to the Allied efforts in North Africa and which later served under Gen. Clark during the 5th Army's tour in Italy. When the European War ended in '45, the regiment boarded a ship expecting to be homeward bound. Instead they were transported to Iwo Jima to participate in the war in the Pacific. Fortunately for them, that theater of war ended shortly thereafter.

In all, the officers spent two hours that morning visiting with the many veterans in that hospital. Many friendships and promises were made that morning and the officers of 743rd MI Battalion promise to keep them. The feelings of appreciation they felt towards the veterans who took the time to give a younger generation in the military an opportunity to converse with, pay respect to, and thank those service members who have served our nation so honorably in the past. It was an experience none of them will ever forget and one they plan to do again.

Soldier boxes with professional ambitions

BY SPC. BRIAN MURPHY
Editor, The Voice

There aren't enough hours in a day for Staff Sgt. Derek Sierra. Between balancing his Army duties and responsibilities and his career as a professional boxer, Sierra rarely finds time to do much else.

Sierra, a platoon sergeant with Headquarters and Operations Company, 742nd Military Intelligence Battalion, can normally be found in one of two places: at the office, or at the gym.

"They keep me busy," he said. "When I get off work, I normally head straight to the gym."

The New York City native has been with HOC, 742nd MI Battalion for three years. Of his current job, Sierra said he is gainfully employed.

"We don't have too many eight hour days," he said. "You just try and get as much of it done as you can in a day. Some days I'll look up at the clock and be like 'I've been here for ten hours.' There is always something that needs to be done."

Sierra joined the Army seven years ago as a Spanish and Arabic linguist for the simplest of reasons.

"I always knew I wanted to join the military," Sierra said. "I wasn't sure what branch I wanted to join though. When I talked to my recruiter, he asked if I wanted something in the military intelligence field. It just sounded like something I wanted to do. I guess he caught me at the right time at the right place."

Once Sierra joined the Army he turned his attention to doing the best he could to serve his country. He vowed to do his task, whatever it may be, to the best of his ability. And according to his peers, it shows.

"Staff Sergeant Sierra is easily one of the best non-commissioned officers in charge in the entire battalion," said Capt. Roberto Gonzalez, commander, HOC, 742nd MI Battalion. "When he puts his mind to something he gets it done. When I give him a task I know he will accomplish it without problems. But more importantly, he is a great leader. He expects a lot from his soldiers. He pushes them to always better themselves."

So once Sierra got the hang of the "Army life," he began to focus on his first love. The 30-year-old Sierra has been a fan of boxing for as long as he can remember. Once he turned 14 years old, the attraction to the sport went from watching the fights to actively participating.

"Growing up the people who had respect were the people who earned it," Sierra said. "We used to play

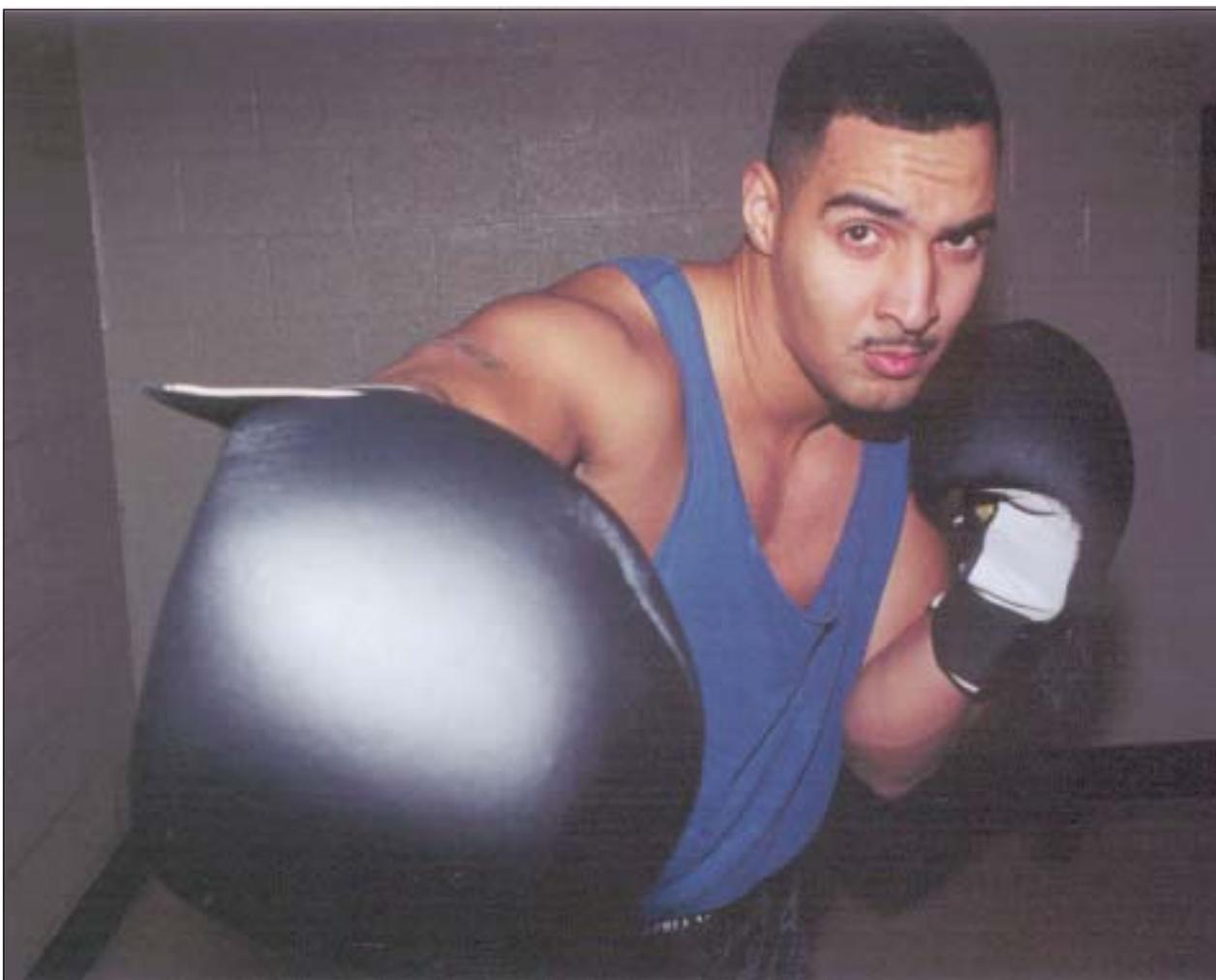


photo by Spc. Brian Murphy

Although not shown here, according to Sierra his strength in the ring is his left hook. His mentality in the ring also sets him apart from a majority of his competitors. "I use a lot of body punches," Sierra said. "Everyone tries to earn a knock-out by going after their opponent's head. I've put a lot of guys out with body punches."

around and box in the street. We weren't trying to hurt each other, we were just playing around."

But it was while Sierra watched the 1984 Olympics that he made his decision.

"I was watching the boxers and I remember saying to myself that I could compete with those guys," Sierra recalled. "That's when I became serious about wanting to be a professional boxer."

So Sierra found a local gym where he could begin training for his career as a boxer. Shortly thereafter, Sierra began fighting in amateur boxing matches, where he compiled a record of 40-20. Last March, Sierra had his first professional fight in Glen Burnie, which he lost by decision.

"I should have won," Sierra said. "I didn't train like I should have. I was a better boxer than he was, I just didn't prepare myself. I've learned from that though."

That's not the only lesson Sierra has learned during his boxing career. Sierra knows that at the age of 30, time may not be on his side.

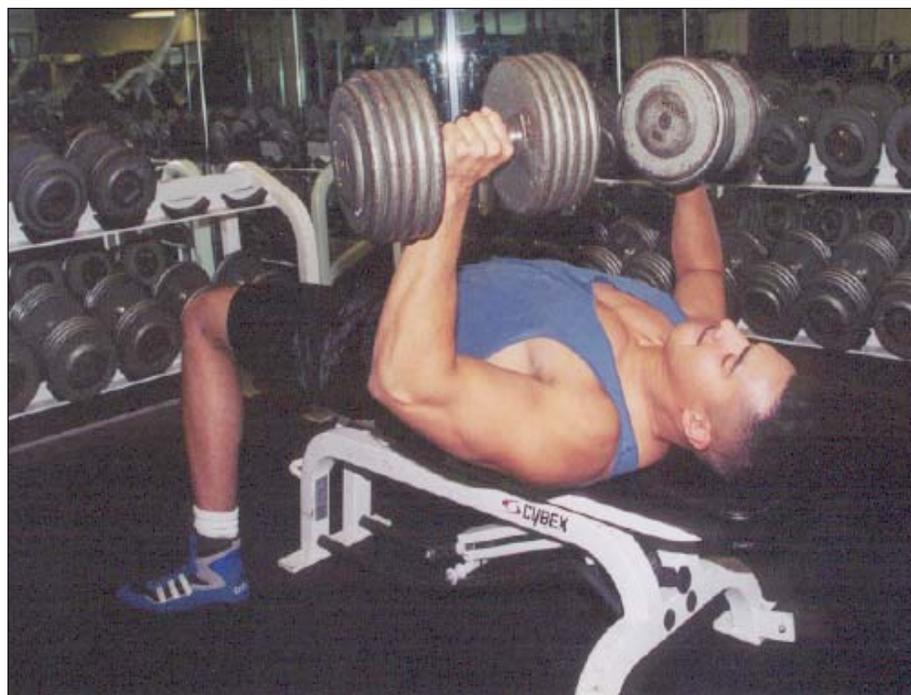
"I wasted away a lot of my younger years," he said. "Boxing came natural to me at a young age and I didn't work as hard as I should have. But I am motivated now. I still have several good years in me and I still feel good in the ring. It's not too late for me to get to where I want to be."

Sierra's goal is to one day be the Cruiserweight champion of the world.

"When I do something I

do it the best way I know how," he said. "I want to one day be the best. I'll continue to train and do what I can to get to that level, but if I don't make it I won't consider what I've done a failure. I love boxing. That's what it has always been about."

At a time when the world of professional boxing is clouded with the Don Kings, Mike Tysons and other bad stories, fans should appreciate a boxer who isn't out to make millions or earn endorsements. Sierra is just a man who continues to do what he loves.



Sierra's loss in his professional boxing debut last March has only pushed him to work harder for his next fight, which he hopes to have in early 2001. Until then, he plans to spend as much of his free time as possible in the gym.



In addition to lifting weights, Sierra also works on his conditioning by conducting cardiovascular exercises such as jumping rope while squatting.

Holiday Ball gives 480 reasons to be festive

BY SPC JONATHAN MATTHEWS
The Voice

Four hundred and eighty soldiers and family members from the 704th Military Intelligence Brigade attended the annual Holiday Ball at the Presidential Suite of the Marriot, Baltimore - Washington International Airport Dec 8.

According to Sgt. Michael Litvack, event coordinator, although the ball took an excessive amount of preparation, it was well worth the work.

"I thought the night went according to plans and went great," Litvack said. "A lot of coordination was necessary, but I definitely had a blast attending the event. I can't wait for the next one. The hard work paid off once it was over."

To make the event as convenient as possible, shuttle buses from Fort Meade to the hotel were provided, as well as childcare for those who needed it. The ball kicked off with the posting of the colors by the brigade honor guard and the singing of the National Anthem by Spc. Markelle Jones, an awards specialist from Company B, 742nd Military Intelligence Battalion.

"The evening went exceptionally well," he said. "My most memorable event of the evening was doing the National Anthem in front of my fellow brothers and sisters in arms. I was also very impressed with the way the sequence of events had been planned out so carefully. It was a great time to be amongst fellow soldiers. I would definitely attend one again."

After the anthem, soldiers enjoyed their meals while singing Christmas songs. After dinner, the soldiers and family members listened to the guest



Courtesy photos

Capt. Paul Kirschbaum and wife, Claudia, pose for a photo after dinner during the 704th Military Intelligence Brigade's annual Holiday Ball in the Presidential Suite of the Marriott located at the BWI Airport Dec 8.

speaker, Col. Donald Woolfolk, commander, U.S. Army Intelligence and Security Command, who talked about transitioning from the old Army to today's modern Army. Then it was time to dance.

The most memorable part of the evening according to Sgt. Denise Goode, 704th MI Brigade, was when Command Sgt. Maj. Randy Wilson, brigade sergeant major, and Col. Deborah Beckworth, brigade commander, started dancing

to their favorite hip-hop music.

"We got a pretty good laugh out of that," she said. "I went to the ball because I like participating in these types of special holiday functions. I was expecting to just go and enjoy a pleasurable time with fellow soldiers. There was never a dull moment in the evening's events."

The one sentiment consistently repeated throughout was that everyone had a great time and can't wait for next year's Holiday Ball.



Sgt. 1st Class Robert Sykes, personnel and administrative noncommissioned officer in charge, and wife, Lorretta, pose for a photo opportunity.



photo by Spc. Anishka Forbes

On the twelfth day of Christmas ...

Soldiers from 742nd Military Intelligence Battalion gathered for a Holiday Run Dec 8. Led by Col. Deborah Beckworth, brigade commander, and Lt. Col. Jerry D. Sharp, commander, 742nd MI Battalion, the troops went for a run around the 704th Military Intelligence Brigade area singing Christmas Carols to help spread their festive mood.

Chaplain's trip visits Mount Vernon

BY SPC. BRIAN MURPHY
Editor, The Voice

On the day the nation *finally* learned who would be the 43rd president of the United States, soldiers from Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 704th Military Intelligence Brigade visited the home of the first president.

Twenty-five soldiers took advantage of the opportunity to tour George Washington's historic Mount Vernon home during the Chaplain's Day Away trip Dec. 13.

The purpose of the trip was to offer soldiers and family members an introduction to the Maryland area, according to Chaplain (Maj.) Harry Colter, event coordinator.

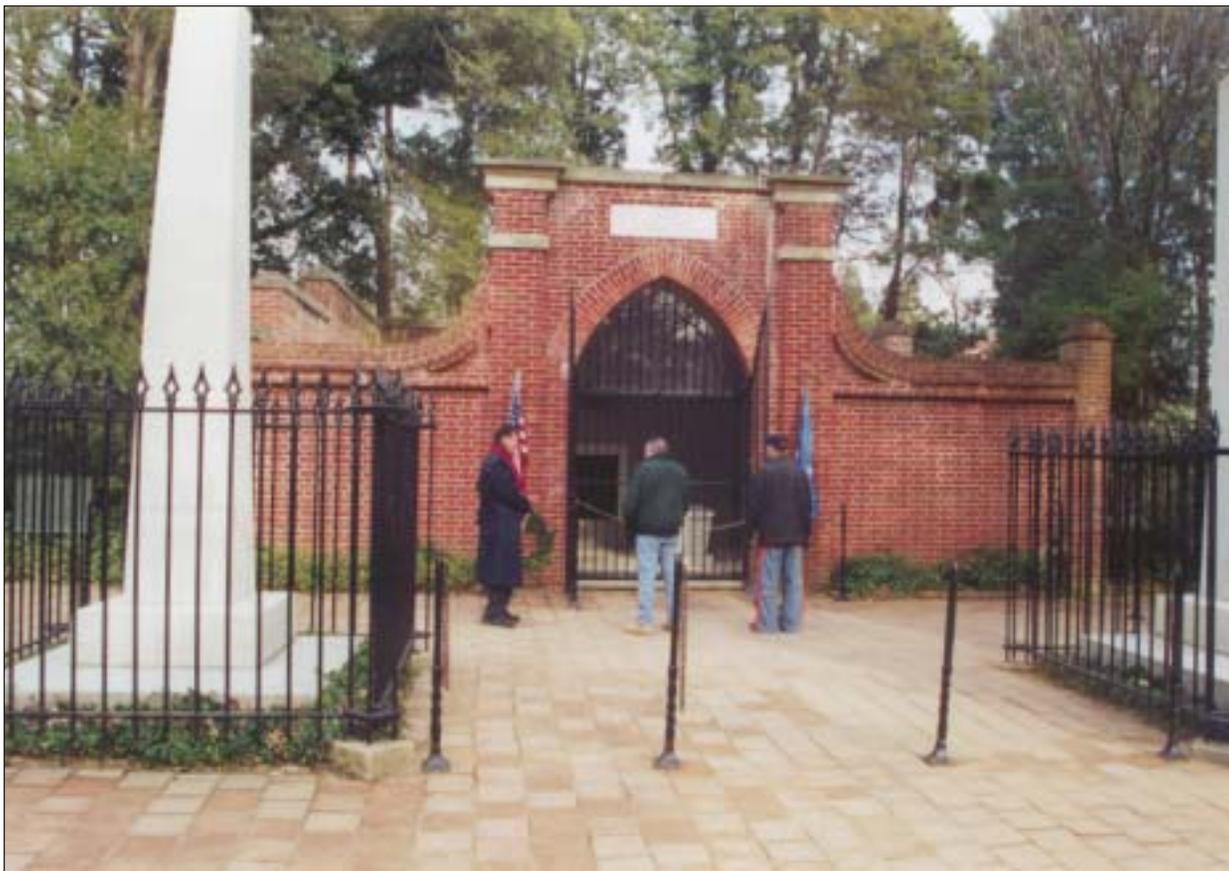
"These trips also provide some awareness of the values which provide a foundation to the work we do and the service we give to our nation," Colter said. "We also provide ample opportunity for stress reduction, enhancing communication, awareness of our historical heritage, and building cohesion not only among unit members, but within families as well."

Colter was the person responsible for making the Mount Vernon Day Away trip a reality.

"I selected Mount Vernon for several reasons," Colter said. "The obvious reason is the historical significance of visiting the home of our first president. I also wanted to emphasize the basic values of freedom and liberty which are important to us as soldiers and citizens."

Colter also had personal reasons for selecting Mount Vernon.

"Mount Vernon is a place of beauty and just walking the grounds along the Potomac provides ample opportunity for individual reflection," he said. "Too many of our soldiers and their family members fail to take advantage of visiting locations of such historical significance while assigned here. This was an effort to show some of our unit members what is in the area."



photos by Spc. Brian Murphy

Soldiers from Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 704th Military Intelligence Brigade visit the George Washington's Tomb during the Chaplain's Day Away trip Dec. 13.



Before Washington was the president of the United States, he was a farmer. Washington had horses, pigs and numerous other animals. Therefore, those animals are still living at Mount Vernon.



More than one million people from around the world visit Mount Vernon every year. For those interested, a guided tour of 14 rooms in George Washington's mansion is available.



Spc. Jeremy Hand (right) and his new friend enjoy a cup of hot cider prior to the tour of the Mount Vernon Mansion.



George Washington acquired Mount Vernon in 1754, and worked hard over the next 45 years to expand his home to reflect his status as a Virginia gentleman. He personally oversaw every detail of design, construction and decoration -- even when away at war. The vivid paint colors used throughout the mansion are the same colors selected by Washington to decorate his home. Each room open for viewing has been restored and furnished based on a 1799 inventory.



(Above) George Washington died in his master bedroom at Mount Vernon December 14, 1799. In his will he directed that he be buried on his beloved Mount Vernon estate. He also selected a site for a new brick tomb to replace the original family vault, which at the time was deteriorating. When the tomb was completed in 1831, Washington's body was moved there from the old vault, with the remains of his wife, Martha, and other family members.

(Right) All employees at Mount Vernon wear clothes from the 18th Century. Some individuals even look to be from that era.



Around the Army

Author helps Guard beat recruiting scare

BANGOR, Maine (Army News Service) ó Author Stephen King's request to check out a four-wheel drive military vehicle while writing a new novel and movie resulted in a promotional plug for the Maine National Guard's new college tuition assistance program.

It also helped the Maine Army Guard surpass its recruiting goal for 2000, officials said, in a year many were concerned about meeting that goal.

“You know, one of the few things scarier than my books and movies is trying to pay for college,” said the internationally acclaimed horror writer in a 30-second public service announcement carried by Maine television stations from July through October.

That helped spread the word about the Maine Guard's new college assistance plan that guaranteed people 100 percent tuition for attending any of Maine's public colleges if they joined or re-enlisted in the Maine National Guard.

The Maine legislature funded the tuition program with \$300,000 on a one-year trial basis. By Thanksgiving, nearly \$500,000 in state and federal funds had been given to Maine Guard troops pursuing undergraduate and graduate degrees, explained Army Guard Master Sgt. Robert Haley, the Pine Tree State's education services specialist.

The money went so fast, said Lt. Col. David Duehring, that the King announcement had to be pulled on Oct. 31. The television stations will be asked to air it again if the legislature refunds the tuition program in 2001, added the Maine Army Guard's recruiting and retention manager.

Maine is hardly the first state to benefit from a National Guard tuition assistance program. In fact, it was one of just eight states that did not offer college money to its Guard members before getting the funds, explained Army Guard recruiting Sgt. Maj. Kerry

Birmingham.

But having a celebrity such as Stephen King promote the program does not happen everywhere.

King agreed to record the spot last June in exchange for examining a Maine Army Guard wide-bodied Humvee, Duehring explained, to support his new story line in which the Army seals off a section of northern Maine where an alien ship has crashed.

The 53-year-old King remembers the lean years of working his way through the University of Maine in Orono before graduating in 1970 and before achieving literary stardom and financial security when Doubleday & Co. published his novel *Carrie* in 1973.

“He was the poorest college kid I ever knew,” recalled wife Tabitha King during a recent A&E Biography program about the prolific author.

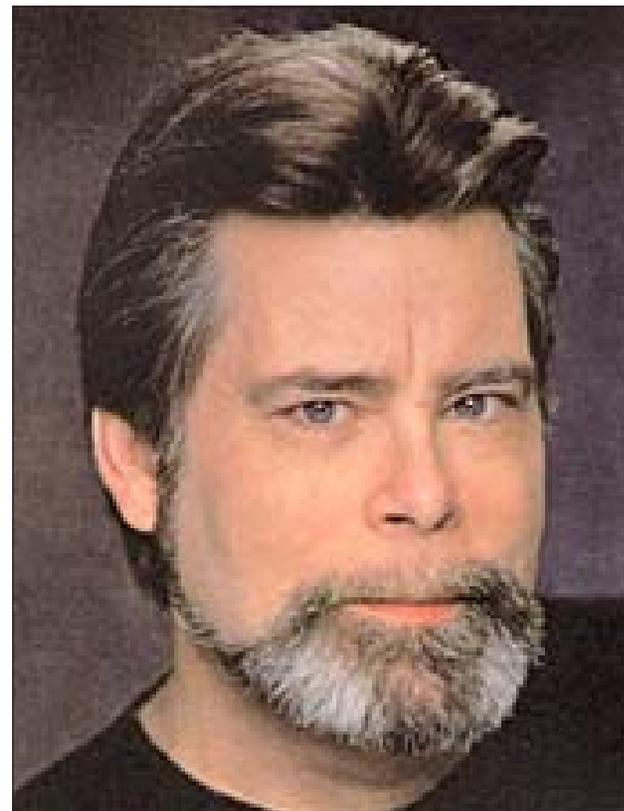
King opposed the Vietnam War as unconstitutional when he was in college, according to his Internet biography, and he was declared 4-F and ineligible to serve in uniform after he graduated because he had high blood pressure, limited vision, flat feet and punctured ear drums.

But King has gained a reputation for being generous with his money and time to his alma mater and to Maine people in general. Those who know him were not surprised that he helped the Maine Guard promote its new tuition incentive program.

“In addition to the GI Bill, signing bonuses and paid skill training, the Maine Guard will pay 100 percent of your tuition at any public college in Maine,” King stated. “It's a great way to serve your community and reduce the cost of college at the same time. So don't be scared. Call the Maine National Guard recruiter today.”

People have clearly gotten the message.

Fifty-five have enlisted in the Army Guard and 20



King agreed to record a promotion plug in exchange for examining a Maine Army Guard wide-bodied Humvee. He wanted to study the vehicle to support his new story line in which the Army seals off a section of northern Maine where an alien ship has crashed.

have joined the Air Guard thanks to the program, said Haley. Each new recruit has signed up for one year longer than the amount of time the tuition assistance is enabling them to go to college, he added.

“We might not have achieved our required strength without it,” observed Birmingham. “We had to have a total of 2,228 people in the Army Guard by Sept. 30. We finished with 2,254.”

Environmental transformation on Army's horizon

ATLANTA, Ga. (Army News Service, Dec. 13, 2000) ó Solar and geothermal energy sources, “green” bullets, and alternatively-fueled vehicles may be commonplace on 21st-century Army installations.

Such innovations were among issues discussed at the Army Worldwide Environmental and Energy Conference held last week in Atlanta, Ga. The conference brought together Army leaders, installation managers and civilian agency representatives to discuss critical environmental and energy issues facing the Army as it transitions into the future.

Outcomes of this first-of-its-kind summit will yield marching orders for the Army's environmental campaign plan and operational directive, officials said, and will lead to the integration of environment and energy in support of new Army objectives.

“The Army is in transformation, and we have a distinct set of goals,” said Ray Clark, principal deputy to the assistant secretary of the Army for Installations and the Environment, addressing more than 450 Army experts

on energy and environment. “We're going to learn how to make our installations last through the year 2050 as well as they have served us up to the year 2000.”

For the soldier and installation staff, this means learning how the Army can best regionally manage land and natural resources, create energy-efficient posts and execute sustainable range operations, officials said.

Fort Huachuca, Az., has been operating with solar energy for the past 20 years in the form of conventional solar hot water heaters and photovoltaics, or direct electric production from the sun. The conference allowed energy professionals like Bill Stein from the post to share knowledge learned through the years with other posts new to such energy technologies.

“Currently, Fort Huachuca is installing daylighting systems and two solar walls in our two main hangers,” said Stein, the energy coordinator and utility sales officer for the U.S. Army Intelligence Center and Fort Huachuca. While solar panels harness the sun's energy for use at a later time,

daylighting captures the intensity of the sun's brightness and distributes that “daylight” indoors, removing the need for artificial lighting.

“As we increase the daylighting use on the fort, most people will enjoy a better work environment. Studies have shown that people work better in daylight than with artificial light,” Stein said to the conference participants.

The conference also targeted innovations in training. Many posts already have Integrated Training Area Management programs that ensure training operations include natural resource conservation practices. Others have received green bullets, the lead-free 5.56mm bullets used in small arms training. In the future, these range sustainment practices will increase.

“The Army has established two initial brigades at Fort Lewis, Wash., to facilitate the overall Army transformation,” said Ted Reid, the Integrated Training Area Management program manager at Forces Command. Knowledge gained from the Lewisi brigades will address valuable environmental challenges, Reid said.

“The Training and Doctrine Command and the Fort Lewis staff are developing new warfighting and training doctrine for the transformation force,” said Reid.

“This will influence future range and training land requirements to accommodate new weapons systems vehicles and tactics the transformation force will use,” he added.

Others contributing in Atlanta to discussions on Army environmental initiatives were leaders from the White House Council on Environmental Quality, the Environmental Protection Agency, the Department of Energy and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. Many took the time to tour alternatively-fueled vehicles, displayed to demonstrate future technologies which will cut costs and emissions for the Army's quarter of a million trucks.

Conference organizers said participants left with a clearer understanding of how to best integrate tactics for the Army environmental campaign and take on the daunting task of creating the next generation of sustainable Army installations.

Around the Army

Shinseki approves new beret flash

Beginning in April, soldiers will be issued black berets bearing a universal flash designed to represent the Army's Revolutionary War victory.

All soldiers will wear the distinctive new Army flash except those serving in airborne, Ranger and special forces units, who will continue wearing the same berets and flashes.

The flash, which consists of a blue field with 13 white stars around the border, was designed to symbolize the colors the Continental Army carried throughout the Revolutionary War and at the victory at Yorktown.

Army Chief of Staff Gen. Eric Shinseki decided on the universal flash design Nov. 20, officials said.

"The reason this flash was chosen is because it is representative of the Army's, the country's, history," said Master Sgt. David Schad, spokesman for Sgt. Major of the Army Jack Tilley.

Shinseki tasked Tilley with developing procedures and guidelines for issuing the black beret after announcing his controversial decision in October that the entire Army would adopt the distinctive headgear which has been worn by Ranger units for decades.

The new flash was one of four designs considered. The three other designs consisted of a solid black flash with a golden-yellow border, an "Army Green" one with a golden-yellow border, and an "Old Glory" dark-blue flash with 13 white stars, said Pam Reece, an industrial specialist with the Army's Institute of Heraldry.

The approved flash is a blue field with 13

white stars around the border, the same shade found on the Medal of Honor.

Officers will wear their rank in the center of the shield, officials said. Enlisted soldiers will wear their unit crests.

Soldiers will begin wearing the black berets June 14, but should receive their first of two Army-issued berets in April. The advance shipment should give them a chance to shape it to ensure a proper fit.

"The intent is to get the beret fielded in time and allow time for soldiers to prepare them and understand how a beret is properly worn, and to make sure they don't look like they took it out of the bag and put it on their head," Schad said.

The berets will come with the flashes already sewn on to prevent tailor shops near posts from being flooded with thousands of flashes to attach.

"It won't be a matter of 10,000 soldiers who have to get their flashes sewn on and where are they going to get it done," Reece said.

Officials plan to issue a second beret and Army flash in October to make it less of a logistical challenge.

The next step is to allow the Army's 16 major commands, if they so choose, to design their own flash, Reece said. Officials are discussing whether to let other subordinate commands design their own flashes, but no decision has yet been made.

While the plan is moving forward, the idea of having soldiers wear the same color beret as the Rangers remains a heated issue.

Both active and retired Rangers have attacked the



Beginning next June, officers will wear their rank in the center of the shield, officials said. Enlisted soldiers will wear their unit crests.

idea, arguing that the black beret has been a symbol of the elite, light infantry unit since the Korean War.

Shinseki has been mum on why he picked black as the color, commenting only on the subject of having berets as standard headgear.

Army spirit races forward despite setback

WASHINGTON (Army News Service) — Cadets at the U.S. Military Academy in West Point, N.Y., got some high-speed help in prepping for their annual football game against Navy from National Hot Rod Association star driver Tony "Shoe" Schumacher.

Schumacher, who finished the 2000 NHRA race season ranked number two in Winston Cup standings, spent several days at the academy and then the Pentagon the week prior to the Dec. 2 football classic. He met with top Army officials — including Secretary of the Army Louis Caldera and Sgt. Maj. of the Army Jack Tilley — and led cheers for his new Army team at both locations.

The Army began sponsoring Schumacher's NHRA racing team last summer. The Army last competed in the NHRA race circuit in 1980 by sponsoring Don "The Snake" Prudhomme's Funny Car team.

In his debut race as an Army partner, Schumacher, driving a sleek, black and gold, 25-foot, 6,000-horsepower dragster named "The Sarge," led the pack at Indianapolis with the best time over the Labor Day Weekend races.

"Some sponsors are heavily involved in the sport; others aren't," Schumacher said. "Many drivers will get a sponsor and then just slap the name on their car and racing uniforms. For me as a driver, I want a partner that is strongly behind me and one that I can believe in — the Army fits the bill to a tee."

While the Army gets name recognition with a four-time national racing champion, the hot rod team gets funding and technology support, according to the racer. That technology support includes the use of an Army wind tunnel, engineers and scientists at the Tank Automotive Command in Detroit.

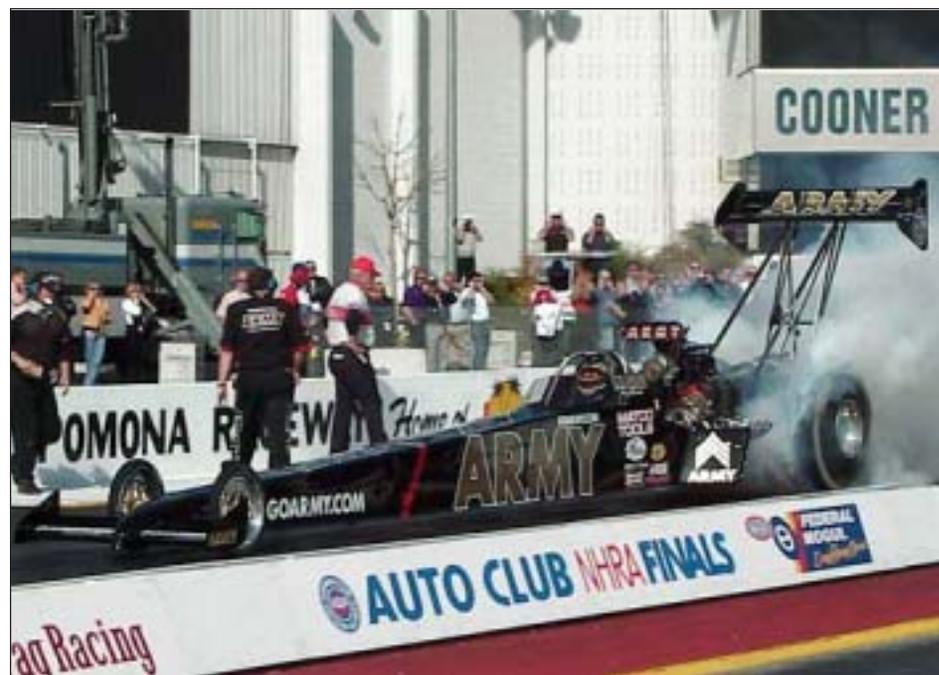
"We were the first team to eclipse the 330-mph barrier; the Army team is going help me go even faster," Schumacher said.

Competing in the Autozone Nationals at the Memphis speedway Oct. 7, Schumacher crashed while zipping down the track at more than 300 mph.

In addition to totaling The Sarge, the Army racer dislocated his shoulder, broke several teeth and his left leg in six places, dislocated three fingers and suffered a concussion and numerous contusions.

"This was his first serious accident — and hopefully his last," said Don Schumacher, Tony's father, the Schumacher racing team leader and a Funny Car racing legend during the 1970s. "The Sarge is built to absorb the shock wave from any impact and divert it around the cockpit."

Recalling his first meeting with Tilley in Indianapolis, Schumacher said he had



The Army began sponsoring Tony Schumacher's National Hot Rod Association racing team last summer. Schumacher's car is appropriately named "The Sarge."

hoped to give the Army's top NCO the racing helmet he admired, but it too had been smashed in the crash.

Despite the accident, Schumacher was back on the racing track for the Matco Tools SuperNationals at Houston Raceway Park less than two weeks later. After a qualifying run, he said he decided to wait another week or two because of the loss of strength to his injured hand.

Back for the last NHRA race of the season, Schumacher placed second in the Southern California Auto Club finals Nov. 12. That finish gave him enough points to place second overall for the season.

"As safe as my team is — and they are safe — there are going to be some bad breaks in this sport no matter what you do," Schumacher said. "It's all part of the game and I play the game all the way. Though the rules have changed to slow things down a little, I am going to hit 330 (mph) again next year."

Around Town

Reflections from Vietnam Veterans Memorial

Veterans Day is only one day. That doesn't mean soldiers and civilians should only remember and honor veterans one day out of the year.

Located in downtown Washington D.C., the Vietnam Memorial Wall is a place where soldiers and civilians can go pay tribute to those who proudly fought for their rights.

Congress authorized a site in Constitution Gardens near the Lincoln Memorial for the Vietnam Veterans Memorial July 1, 1980. Later that fall it was announced that the memorial's design would be selected through a national competition open to any U.S. citizen 18 years of age or older. The 1,421 design entries submitted were judged anonymously by a jury of eight internationally recognized artists and designers.

The winning design was the work of Maya Ying Lin, of Athens, Ohio, who at the time was a 21-year-old college student at Yale University. Lin conceived her design as creating a park within a park - a quiet protected place unto itself, yet harmonious with the site. To achieve this effect she chose polished black granite for the walls. Its mirror like surface reflects the surrounding trees, lawns, monuments, and the people looking for names.

The memorial's walls point to the Washington Monument and the Lincoln Memorial. The 58,209 names are inscribed in chronological order of the date of casualty, showing the war as a series of human sacrifices and giving each name a special place in history. According to Lin, the names would become the memorial. The Memorial was dedicated on November 13, 1982.

The names begin at the vertex of the walls below the date of the first casualty (1959) and continue to the end of the east wall. They resume at the tip of the west wall, ending at the vertex above the date of the last death (1975). With the meeting of the beginning and ending, a major epoch in American history is denoted. Each name is preceded on the west wall followed on the east wall by one of two symbols: a diamond or a cross. The diamond denotes that the individual's death was confirmed.

The approximately 1,150 persons whose names are designated by the cross were either missing in action or prisoners at the end of the war and remain missing and unaccounted for. If a person returns alive, a circle, as a circle of life, will be inscribed around the cross. In the event an individual's remains are returned or are otherwise accounted for, the diamond will be superimposed over the cross.



Soldiers of the 704th Military Intelligence Brigade pay their respects at the Vietnam Memorial Wall during a Chaplain's Day Away trip. During the trip soldiers were allowed to travel downtown to visit numerous different sites. Many soldiers made the visit to the Vietnam Memorial Wall their first stop.



photos by Spc. Jonathan Matthews

The Vietnam Memorial Wall is a unique tribute to the more than 58,000 individuals who gave their life during the Vietnam War. The walls of the memorial point to the Washington Monument and the Lincoln Memorial

SAFETY BRIEF

BY CAPT. ANTIONETTE N. RAINEY
SAFETY OFFICER

Winterizing Your Car

Ready for winter? Get your car ready, too. Here's what you need to know for tire maintenance



and a look under the hood. Have your kids prepare a winter safety kit, and remind your teen of winter driving tips.

Tire Maintenance

Rain, snow and ice reduce tire traction and compromise your control. What's the solution?

1. Get winter tires. Winter tires dig into loose snow and compress it into their large tread grooves (like packing a snowball), resulting in snow-to-snow traction. You can choose from three types:

High performance winter tires were originally designed to meet strict government regulations for driving on high-speed highways in Europe. They feature large directional and/or asymmetric treads to enhance handling and steering, resist hydroplaning and help tires work through slush.

Studless winter tires are most

common and increase traction on ice through the use of advanced tread rubber compounds. They're a safe alternative to studded tires, which are forbidden in many states.

Studdable winter tires are popular for light truck owners and drivers who spend a lot of time on snow and ice-covered roads. Small carbide pins (istudsî) that chip into ice can be inserted by your tire specialist.

2. Check your tire pressure. Fall and early winter are the most critical times to check tire inflation pressures because the days are getting shorter and temperatures are getting colder.

Tip: For every 10-degree Fahrenheit change in temperature, your tire's inflation will change about one pound per square inch (psi) (up with higher temperatures and down with lower).

Tip: Check your tire pressure in the morning before you drive a few miles. If you park in an attached or heated garage, you will lose pressure when you leave its warmth.

3. Check your tire treads and sidewalls. Look for thin or uneven tread wear. Take a Lincoln-head penny and insert it Lincoln-head first into your tire tread at the most worn part of the tire. If you see the top of Lincoln's head, you may need new tires.

Cut or damaged sidewalls are also weak areas that can collapse under severe conditions.

Under the Hood

1. Check your battery. It takes a lot more power to start your car when it is cold outside. Check for clean and tight connections and proper fluid levels. Clean corrosion (a whitish powder) from battery terminals.

2. Check your cooling system. Your coolant system keeps your car warm. Check the level, acidity and concentration of radiator fluids at least every 3,000 miles.

Tip: A mixture of fifty percent anti-freeze and fifty percent water will protect down to 40-degrees below Fahrenheit.

3. Clean your fuel system. Add a de-icer to your fuel to keep moisture in the fuel system from freezing.

4. Change your oil and oil filter. Check your owner's manual for the grade of oil recommended for winter. In most cases, 10w30 oil works year-round.

5. Inspect your air filter, rubber hoses and drive belts and replace as necessary. Also check your fluid levels (transmission, brake, differential, power steering and window washer fluid).

Winter Safety Kit

Prepare a winter safety kit to keep in your car at all times. Be sure to include:

1. Winter necessities such as an ice scraper; tire chains; extra

washer fluid; boots and gloves; and sand, kitty litter or old house shingles for traction.

2. Emergency supplies such as extra clothing and blankets, flashlight with spare batteries, energy bars or dried snacks, drinking water, a battery-powered radio with spare batteries, a first aid kit, booster cables, safety flares, a small shovel, and a jug of water and funnel for radiator refills.

3. Tools and ifix-itî supplies such as a screwdriver, pliers, rubber hammer, wrench, a can of penetrating oil, an old scarf and belt for emergency hose repairs, and a small throw rug and old shower curtain (for kneeling next to your car or getting under it).

Winter Driving Tips

No matter how safe your car is, winter driving requires extra attention. Brake gently, accelerate gently and steer gently. Remember these tips, too:

Tip: As every driver's education teacher repeats, steer into a skid.

Tip: If you get stuck in the snow, throw kitty litter, old newspapers or dirt in front of and behind the drive wheels.

Tip: In snowy conditions, drive in lower gears. Avoid using your over-drive feature.

Tip: Always keep your gas tank at least half full.

CIVILIAN'S CORNER

BY SAM JONES
BRIGADE SENIOR CIVILIAN

As most of you should know by now, Charles Keller has moved on to bigger and better things. We all wish him well and much success in his new environment and exciting challenges. For those of us that are left behind though, my name is Sam and I will be writing these articles at least for the next few months.



I am the Deputy Chief of the Army Technical Control and Analysis Element (ATCAE), 742nd Military Intelligence Battalion, 704th Military Intelligence Brigade. When Charlie decided to leave, the 704th MI brigade commander, Col. Deborah Beckworth asked me to sit in as the Brigade Technical Advisor until we hire a permanent replacement. That could be me or it could possibly be you, or it could be some one we don't even know yet.

Most of you know me. However, for those who do not, I served 22 years in the U.S. Army and retired as a senior Warrant Officer in early 1993. I was hired

by the 704th MI Brigade in the spring of 1995 and have worked in the Army TCAE since that time. I've been in the intelligence business a little over 28 years and served in various assignments around the world.

I'm not a stranger to the organization. I have been associated with the 704th MI Brigade (and its previous designation CONUS MI GROUP) since the early 80s. I served as the group assistant S-3/training officer for three years.

In late 1990, I returned to the brigade and was assigned as the chief of the Military Operations Support Team in the Army TCAE. During that time I worked very closely with the Civilian Personnel Offices, establishing the brigade's civilian personnel requirements, writing job descriptions, and initiating hiring actions. For the past two years I have also been the brigade assistant activity career program manager for CP 35 (Intelligence).

I will keep you informed of any new developments or information concerning the civilian population of the brigade, training opportunities, job opportunities, and everybody's favorite - pay and allowances. There is also a wealth of information on line. Remember, the computer is your friend. (That's what they keep telling me) and I will provide civilian related web sites as they become available.

So call, write or just come by the office to say hello.

SPECIAL PAY RATES

The Office of Personnel Management has recently released a special salary schedule for IT positions in the General Schedule (GS)/Competitive Service.

It was expected that this schedule and its provisions would apply equally to CIPMS/DCIPS positions based on existing CIPMS/DCIPS authorities and practices. OSD issued a clarifying memorandum Dec. 8 specifically authorizing the implementation of special pay rates for Information Technology Workers in DCIPS.

It should be noted that this special pay rate will apply only to those in specific job series ñ GS/GG 334, 854 and 1550 regardless of whether they are in the Competitive Service or DCIPS.

PROMOTIONS

Please take time from your busy schedule and join me in congratulating our new GG-13 supervisor, Paula Monroe. She will be leading the newly established Communications Development Team in the Army TCAE.

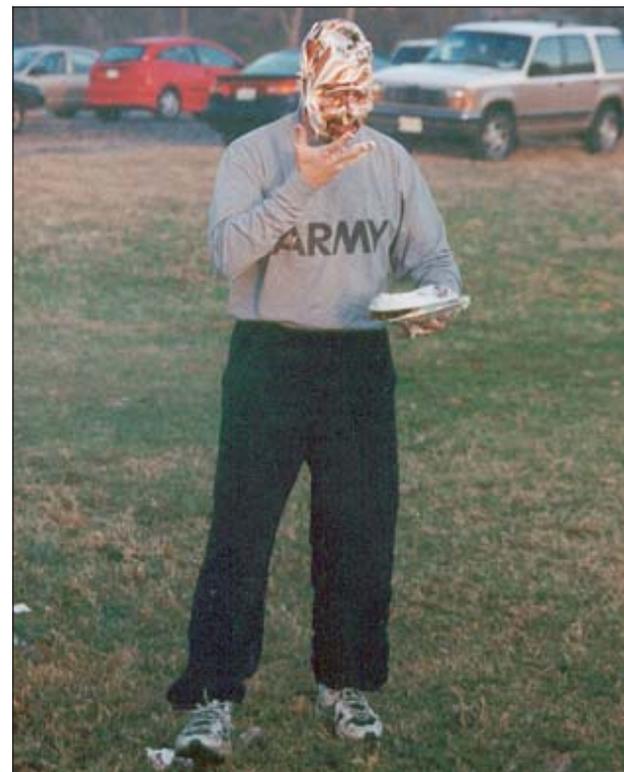
GOODBYE

Once again, we are saying goodbye to one of our top civilians in the 704th MI Brigade. Scott Atwood left the brigade to take a contractor job in Europe. We wish him and his family all the very best.

Big Dog soldiers make bids to lower ticket costs



Pvt. 2 Brandi Jones enjoys her day in the spotlight, or day at the big desk, as she reviews documents during her day as acting brigade commander. Jones purchased the job for a modest \$23.



photos by Spc. Jonathan Matthews

Capt. Carl Lamar, brigade security officer in charge, surveys the situation after receiving his pie to the face.

BY SPC. JONATHAN MATTHEWS
The Voice

Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 704th Military Intelligence Brigade held a Big Dog Auction Nov. 17 in an effort to raise money for the Holiday Ball.

The purpose of the auction was to lower the overall ticket price for the Holiday Ball, according to the event coordinator, Sgt. Brian Sladky. He borrowed the idea for the auction after seeing the 742nd Military Intelligence Battalion's auction a few weeks prior.

"I wanted to do one more last good deed before I left and help raise money to lower the ticket prices," he said. "This is an event that all soldiers should attend. It should really be a good time. I attended the one last year and I had a blast. Overall I think the auction was a great success and the ball will be one too."

In all, more than 40 items were auctioned off and more than \$1000 was raised for the unit. Items such as televisions, cellular phones and lawnmowers were avail-

able for those soldiers interested. More creative items such as Physical Fitness Training exemption for a week, three-day passes and the honor in filling for commander for a day were also available to the highest bidders.

The honor of filling in for Col. Deborah Beckworth went to Pvt. 2 Brandi Jones, Reception and Holding Platoon, who paid a modest \$23.

"I bid on the commander for a day because I wanted to know what it would be like," she said. "No one else was bidding and I wanted to do it for the experience. I would definitely do it again if the opportunity is there again."

Jones' day in the spotlight was Dec. 1. As commander for the day, she started with a 741st Military Intelligence Battalion run. Then, at 9 a.m., Jones' schedule picked up with meetings and promotion ceremonies. For lunch, Jones and Beckworth went to the local dining facility.

After lunch, her rotation of meetings and promotions continued. But it was the last ceremony that was

the most memorable for Jones. That is when she was presented with a brigade coin and a Certificate of Achievement from Beckworth.

Some of the highlights for the auction included Sgt. 1st Class Scott Cleary, plans and operations noncommissioned officer in charge, 704th MI Brigade, trying to outbid three other noncommissioned officers for a pie to the face.

Cleary offered to become a target for a pie to help raise money for a good cause. But to make it more interesting he added the stipulation that if he outbid them, he would get to pie the bidder.

"It would have been good fun to pie the guys who were trying to pie me," he said. "This is an important event for units to do because it helps defray the cost for the soldiers, it's a lot of fun, and most important it's team building."

Cleary may have lost in his effort to outbid Sgt. Michael Ramos and friends, but his loss was the unit's gain. The winning bid was \$105, easily the highest of the auction.



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.*