



INSIDE ^{PEO} STRI

M A Y 2 0 0 7

IN THIS ISSUE

Blake Sends All Safe Summer Wishes, Recognizes the STRI Team for Their Hard Work ... Page 2

Gen. Casey Becomes Army's Chief of Staff; Proud to Take Charge, Confident in Soldiers ... Page 3

Feeney Visits STRI to Show His Staffers the Military Training Coming Out of The District He Represents ... Page 5

In Pictures: Employees Participate in Annual Organization Day ... Page 7

WORTH REPEATING

“The Soldier remains the heart of our Army. Our Soldiers serve with courage and distinction as we enter the fifth year of the Global War on Terrorism. They remain dedicated to something far bigger than themselves: protecting our Nation.”

— *Mr. Pete Geren, acting secretary of the Army*



U.S. Army Photo

During their visit to the Program Executive Office for Simulation, Training and Instrumentation in Orlando, Fla., the Uzbekistan Ministry of Defense representatives also toured the John F. Kennedy Space Center -- America's gateway into space.

PEO STRI Takes First Step in Realigning with Former Ally

By Kristen Dooley, *Public Affairs Specialist*

The Program Executive Office for Simulation, Training and Instrumentation (PEO STRI) hosted a landmark visit for the Uzbekistan Ministry of Defense April 3 to April 5.

Recently, the U.S. reopened its doors to the Uzbekistan military, in which PEO STRI was the first agency selected to possibly rekindle the relationship. “The U.S. Central Command (CENTCOM) and ARCENT, the Army component command of CENTCOM, set a strategic goal of reestablishing military-to-military contacts with the Uzbekistan Ministry of Defense,” said John Daniele, deputy of the Customer Support Group who oversees foreign military sales for PEO STRI.

Following the terrorist attacks of Sept. 11, Uzbekistan became a key ally in the Global War on Terror by allowing U.S. troops to utilize Karshi-Khanabad, an airbase in their country

which neighbors Afghanistan.

As the Uzbeks fostered support of the U.S. military's missions against al-Qaeda, they were granted ample military aid, to include constructive simulation training capabilities.

“PEO STRI led this effort by fielding, operating and sustaining the capability under the foreign military sales arrangement,” Daniele said.

Then in May 2005, Uzbek troops opened fire on protesters in the country's eastern city of Andijan. The U.S. and European Union viewed this as a violation of civil rights; therefore, the U.S. ceased all military aid to Uzbekistan. “As such, the PEO STRI training program was cancelled,” Daniele added.

During the recent visit to PEO STRI, the Uzbeks were offered peaceful training capabilities in order to possibly forge the ceased pact.

Continued on page 11

A Summer Safety Message from the PEO

The summer is heating up and we're all getting our plans in order for some fun in the sun. This is a good time to review some simple safety tips to help make the summer enjoyable and accident-free.

Summer safety encompasses so many different areas. Whether you have an active, outdoor lifestyle or stay close to home, take a little time to put safety first. Simple things like maintaining the proper fluid levels in your vehicles, inspecting the fuel lines on your propane grills before the big holiday cook-out, wearing sunscreen and donning protective gear in the water can mean the difference between a great summer and an unhappy experience.

Hurricane season officially starts June 1. Currently, many hurricane survival kit items are available in stores. Batteries, flashlights, blue ice and generators should be purchased. This is a good time to take stock of what

you have and replenish any missing or depleted items. Take the time to set up and review a Family Disaster Plan.

Summer vacation begins soon for school-aged children which means they'll be outside playing. Obey the speed limit, especially in residential neighborhoods. Children don't always think before they run into the street—be alert and ready to respond.

If necessary, please remember to designate a sober driver or keep the number of a taxi company you can call for assistance in getting home. Whatever you do, please **DO NOT** get behind the wheel of ANY vehicle if you are impaired in any way.

Each one of you is vital to the Program Executive Office for Simulation, Training and Instrumentation and the U.S. Army. You are our most valuable asset. Enjoy your summer and remember to be safe. ■



Gen. George W. Casey Jr. Becomes Army Chief of Staff

By J.D. Leipold, *Army News Service*

Gen. George W. Casey Jr. became the 36th chief of staff of the Army, assuming the position from Gen. Peter J. Schoomaker, April 10.

Gen. Casey was the first commander of the Multi-National Force-Iraq, a coalition of more than 30 countries, until February. He had served as Gen. Schoomaker's vice chief of staff before deploying to Iraq in 2003 to assume command of the coalition.

Guest speakers at the ceremony included Secretary of Defense Robert M. Gates and Acting Secretary of the Army Pete Geren, both of whom praised Gen. Schoomaker for his accomplishments and the positive changes he made to the Army after being called from retirement in 2003 to assume the top uniformed Army position.

Sec. Geren, who hosted the ceremony, called Gen. Schoomaker a great teacher and Soldier, and honored him for nearly four decades of active service characterized by sacrifice, courage and devotion to duty.

"It's been a privilege to work alongside this extraordinary leader, this great teacher, a man who has given so much for his country and the Army he loves," Sec. Geren said. "Pete Schoomaker is a patriot, a man who has always put the country first and always answered the call to duty."

Sec. Gates also expressed his gratitude to Gen. Schoomaker, thanking him for his vision and leadership.

"Challenging times require extraordinary vision and leadership, and Pete has shown both those qualities," Sec. Gates said. "He has entirely changed the manner in which our Army is trained, deployed and organized."

In his parting words, Gen. Schoomaker reaffirmed that today's Soldiers are still the Army's greatest strength, because war will continue to be fought in the human dimension.



U.S. Army Photo/J.D. Leipold

Gen. George W. Casey Jr. became the 36th chief of staff of the Army today at a Fort Myer, Va., ceremony. Gen. Casey took the reins from Gen. Peter J. Schoomaker (left).

"While technology has changed our Army, there can be little doubt that when you look into the eyes of our warriors today, as I have in the last four years, I see the same patriotism that George Washington must have seen at Valley Forge," Gen. Schoomaker said. "I have looked into the eyes of today's warriors and I am proud to report they continue to exceed every expectation for courage, dedication and selfless service - they are the heart of all we do, they are our future, and they demonstrate strength, compassion and warrior ethos."

Gen. Casey spoke last and thanked both secretaries, the president, Congress and Gen. Schoomaker for their faith in his abilities to lead the Army.

"I'm proud to be taking charge of an Army that's regarded as the best in the

world at what it does," Gen. Casey said. "I have watched the men and women of our Army in action in the most demanding combat environment. I take great pride in the courage, the confidence and the commitment of our Soldiers and civilians to both the ideals that have made this country great and to making a difference in our world. They epitomize what is best about America.

"They and their families carry heavy burdens in today's war with a hard road ahead, yet their willingness to sacrifice to build a better future for others and to preserve our way of life is a great strength for our nation," he said. "We are Army Strong and I could not be more proud today to be a Soldier and to stand shoulder-to-shoulder during this time of danger and uncertainty." ■

ARMY VALUES



LOYALTY
DUTY
RESPECT
SELFLESS SERVICE
HONOR
INTEGRITY
PERSONAL COURAGE



U.S. ARMY

ARMY STRONG.™



U.S. ARMY

CALL TO DUTY
BOOTS ON THE GROUND

ARMY VALUES



Feeney Visits PEO STRI

By Kristen Dooley, *Public Affairs Specialist*



U.S. Army Photo/Doug Schaub

was a wonderful opportunity to showcase our workforce and reinforce to our local congressional staff the work we do for the Warfighter," Marion said.

"It is important for our local congressional delegation to see and meet members of PEO STRI to better understand the role we play in the Orlando community and the impact we have on training Warfighters."

After receiving an overview briefing, Feeney and his staff received a Counter-Improvised Explosive Device (C-IED) demonstration from Project Manager Training Devices (PM TRADE).

The magnitude of these homemade bombs became a reality when a PM TRADE employee staged an explosive vest detonation during the presentation. The congressional staffers, along with multiple on-lookers,

jumped in fear as if it were an actual IED attack.

Following the simulated assault, Feeney and his staff were escorted to the Army's Research, Development and Engineering Command's Simulation Technology and Training Center for an exploration of the next generation of medical technology.

Feeney and his aids said they were impressed with the advancements the Orlando-based Army and its industry partners are making to better support the Soldier.

"PEO STRI's excellence was recently recognized when it was designated the central acquisition entity for all Army training simulators. This designation is a credit to James Blake's leadership and the dedication and talents of the rest of the PEO STRI community," Feeney said. ■

Feeney introduced his Washington and local staffers to the Army's Orlando-based agencies to make them aware of the advancements and research in military training taking place in the district he represents.

U.S. Rep. Tom Feeney is no stranger to the Program Executive Office for Simulation, Training and Instrumentation (PEO STRI). During his visit to the Orlando-based Army agency April 11, he actually explained much of the simulation jargon to his 11 staffers who accompanied him throughout the tour.

"In the later part of the 20th century, the U.S. military revolutionized Warfighting due in part to an emphasis on high-fidelity training that simulates the stress and decision making of actual combat. PEO STRI and Team Orlando led that revolution," Feeney affirmed.

Each year, he invites his staffers, local and national alike, to a week-long working hiatus in the district he represents. This year, PEO STRI was among the constituents in which he and his staff paid a visit.

"I was pleased to show off PEO STRI to my staff," Feeney said.

Their two-hour visit commenced with a PEO STRI overview briefing by Pete Marion, customer support executive. "This



U.S. Army Photo/Doug Schaub

U.S. Rep. Tom Feeney visited the Army's Program Executive Office for Simulation, Training and Instrumentation April 11.

Blake Hails Fort Lewis' Driver Trainer

By Kristen Dooley, Public Affairs Specialist

Dr. James T. Blake, program executive officer for the Army's Simulation, Training and Instrumentation agency, welcomed the second delivery of the Common Driver Trainer/Stryker Variant (CDT/SV) to Fort Lewis, Wash., April 17.

"The CDT/SV is the Army's latest training success story, and I am proud to be a part of it," Blake said.

The CDT/SV enables Soldiers to train on the full spectrum of driver-related tasks to include open desert trails, congested urban intersections, icy-downhill road marches and roadside attacks all before deploying into harms way.

"One of the biggest strengths in this simulation is allowing a Soldier to make and learn from his mistakes without risking his crew or equipment," Blake asserted.

The Soldiers at Fort Lewis commended PEO STRI for their efforts in developing and fielding the training device.

"They hit the head of the nail with it," said Sgt. John McDowell, 25, who



U.S. Army Photo

The Common Driver Trainer/Stryker Variant (CDT/SV) is the baseline of the CDT architecture in which the reconfigurable common platform allows driver training for various U.S. Army tactical vehicles including the tank and humvee.



U.S. Army Photo/Doug Schaub

The Stryker is an eight-wheeled, armored combat vehicle especially effective in urban areas. The Stryker family of vehicles creates a force that can move infantry to the battlefield quickly and securely.

is assigned to the post's newest Stryker brigade, 5th Brigade, 2nd Infantry Division. "It's dead-on."

Another Soldier, Spc. Michael Blanchette, 24, praised the authenticity of the device. "It's very realistic – the physics, the way it kind of pushes you back and forth."

In addition to its training advancements, the CDT/SV benefits the Army in another way. The system is designed with a common set of hardware and software that can be leveraged among various vehicle types.

"This greatly reduces costs and increases value across the Army," Blake added. "Commonality is clearly the way forward, and we are leading that charge within the simulation and training community."

Fifteen trainers will be fielded worldwide; nine of which will be fielded in the next five months.

"Initiative and innovation are what PEO STRI is all about. It has allowed us to be a leader for change in the past and present. Now we are leaning forward to continue that trend into the future," Blake said in reference to the CDT/SV. ■

ORGANIZATION DAY • APRIL 13, 2007



CONGRATULATIONS



PM CATT!



THANKS TO ALL THE PARTICIPANTS!

CITIZEN STRI



"In honor of Memorial Day, who do you think was the greatest military leader?"

HOLIDAYS & Events

- May 4
Colors - all military
- May 7-11
DOD M&S Conference
- May 9-11
Quad A Conference
- May 13
Mother's Day
- May 17
Town Hall Meeting
- May 28
Memorial Day



"I believe Robert E. Lee was the greatest military leader. Although he was always outnumbered and had inferior weapons, he successfully led his troops to defeat the Union Army in many battles throughout the Civil War."

- Maj. Marc Dorrer, PM CATT

Protocol TIP OF THE MONTH

By Marge Hadbavny

A lady knows what RSVP means and always responds to an invitation upon hearing that request. She also offers to split the dinner tab with a gentleman. If he refuses, she graciously accepts his kindness and says thank you.

From the book, How to be a Lady, by Candice Simpson-Giles; 2001.

"George Smith Patton Jr. was a leading U.S. Army general in World War II throughout campaigns in North Africa, Sicily, France and Germany. In World War I, he was a senior commander of the new tank corps and saw action in France. In World War II, he commanded major units of North Africa, Sicily, and the European Theater of Operations. He was a brilliant military leader whose record was also marred by insubordination and some periods of apparent instability."



- Devin Lyders, PM ConSim



"The action of selecting one person as the greatest military leader could possibly be construed as a measure of one's character and leadership style. For that matter, I believe that a great leader should be charismatic, intelligent, decisive, honorable and above all things, have the ability to fight with conviction. The aforementioned all resided in the great Spartan king, Leonidas."

- Kyle Platt, PM CATT

MEET YOUR SOLDIER AT THE GATE

Families of military members may escort their military passenger to the gate or meet them at the arrival gate. The family member can go to the airline that the military member is flying on and receive a pass. They will be required to have a pass and photo ID to get through the security checkpoint. This is a wonderful opportunity for families to stay with the departing military member longer before they depart, or to be able to greet them at the gate upon their arrival.

Want your opinion heard? Answer June's Question! **What are your summer plans?** Send your response to kristen.dooley@us.army.mil and put Citizen STRI in the subject line.

U.S. Army Photos/Doug Schaub

LEGAL CORNER



By Laura Cushler, Associate Counsel



Tips on Finding a Good Eldercare Facility

Do you have an elderly parent or relative who is living on their own? Are you the one who may have to help find them assisted living or a nursing home at some point? If that is the case, you may be interested to know that the U.S. Government offers information through the Department of Health and Human Services that can get you started. This article provides some tips on where to look, how to choose, and how to investigate the quality of an Eldercare facility.

1. Get the names of local facilities. Contact the Eldercare Locator at www.eldercare.gov to obtain a list of facilities in your area. This service is provided by the U.S. Administration on Aging which is part of the Department of Health and Human Services.

2. Don't depend only on the federal website. You can find a link to "Compare Nursing Homes in Your Area" at www.medicare.gov; however, comparing the information on that site to the state inspection reports on which it is based can give you an incomplete and possibly misleading picture of any home you have under consideration.

3. Contact your local ombudsman. Every state has a government official whose job is to investigate nursing home complaints and advocate for residents and their families. The ombudsman can provide information about how to find a facility and get quality care, assist you with complaints

and help you resolve problems. The National Citizen's Coalition for Nursing Home Reform website has links to every state's ombudsman program. See www.nccnhr.org.

4. Consult third-party reports to winnow out bad facilities.

Consumer Report's free Nursing Home Quality Monitor at www.consumerreports.org/nursinghomes can help you cross potentially bad homes off your list. Avoid facilities that have appeared on their list repeatedly and those that performed poorly on two of their three dimensions of quality. Also check state penalty information on the site — if a nursing home has received even a small state fine, consider that a warning.

5. Check the home's ownership. A resident's chances of receiving good care generally are better at an independent not-for-profit facility than at a for-profit chain. Ask whether the facility is about to (or has) changed owners. Be aware that, if the facility is part of a large corporation that has split itself into smaller, limited-liability companies, you may have little recourse against the home if things go badly.

6. Visit the homes incognito. Make several unannounced visits to facilities you are considering at different times of the day. Drop in between 9:30 a.m. and 10:00 a.m., for example, to see how many people are still in bed. Facilities with too few staff members will not get people out of bed until late in the day, if at all. Also, visit at

dinnertime — if 75 percent of the residents are eating in their rooms instead of the dining room, that's not a good sign. Ask the nurse aides how many residents they each care for; the smaller the number, the better.

7. Read each home's state inspection survey. This form should be readily accessible at the front desk of every nursing home. If it is not and you have difficulty obtaining it, consider that a warning that the facility may be hiding damaging information. Of course, a lengthy survey with lots of violations indicates problems.

8. Visit the homes again. After you make two or three visits to the facility incognito, make an official appointment with the administrator to inquire about your findings. Also ask about any deficiencies that appeared on the state inspection survey; the percentage of residents who are incontinent, in restraints or have pressure sores; and staffing issues, including turnover.

9. Also ask about top-level turnover. Good care starts at the top. If the administrator and the director of the facility have worked there for several years, count it as a positive sign. Frequent changes in those positions could indicate instability, which could translate into poor care. Ask the administrator to share his or her philosophy of care. Ask how he or she respects residents' dignity and communicates that philosophy to the staff.

For more information, see www.aoa.gov. ■

TEAM ORLANDO IN PICTURES



U.S. Army Photo/Doug Schaub

Col. Matthew T. Clarke's sons pin on their father's new rank at his April 2 promotion ceremony officiated by Maj. Gen. Charles A. Cartwright, program manager for Future Combat System's Brigade Combat Team.



U.S. Army Photo

Project Manager Constructive Simulation participated in their third Habitat for Humanity effort April 14. Their contributions included the removal of shingles and tar paper from the roof of an existing house and replacing it with new tar paper.

ORGANIZATION DAY WINNERS

WINNING TEAMS

1st Place
PM CATT

2nd Place
PM Field OPS

3rd Place
PM TRADE

1ST PLACE WINNERS

Basketball Skills: PM TRADE

Dominos: PM TRADE

Best Cake: PM TRADE

Best Cookie/Brownie: PM Field OPS

Best Pie: PM FF(S)

Egg Toss: PM TRADE

Bingo: PM CATT

Golf Chip: PM CATT

Horseshoes (singles): PM ConSim

Horseshoes (doubles): PM CATT

Professional Relay: PM Field OPS

Softball: PM CATT

Texas Hold 'Em: PM TRADE

Volleyball: PM CATT

Water Relay: PM CATT

Tug of War: PM ConSim

STRI Idol: PM CATT

2007

Five Uzbeks represented their country during a three-day meeting in Orlando, Fla. The majority of the gentlemen worked in Uzbekistan's modeling and simulation center.

"Reestablishment of the Battle Command Training program, and possibly other simulation capabilities, was the topic of discussion during the Uzbekistan Ministry of Defense visit to PEO STRI," Daniele said.

The Uzbeks were receptive to the talks and said they were impressed with PEO STRI's capabilities.

"Thank you very much for this opportunity," Lt. Col. Kadirov Bahadir Bakhramovich spoke in Russian and the translator reiterated in English. "Over the last five years since we created our modeling and simulation center, we've heard a lot about PEO STRI. It's interesting to see what's happening here and after the [overview] briefing, we have a better understanding of the complexity of the organization."

"Unfortunately, we had no choice but to terminate our agreement," Bakhramovich of Uzbekistan's National Security Council said

about the former training alliance Uzbekistan held with the U.S.

Lt. Col. David Bennett, ARCENT's Uzbek desk officer, assured that this meeting was to look toward the future, not the past. "This is a cooperative relationship. My hope is we'll find innovative ways to accomplish Uzbekistan's objectives. There is one thing that the U.S. asks, however, and that is to focus on peaceful training needs."

PEO STRI may be an integral force in realigning the former alliance that currently lacks between the U.S. and Uzbekistan.

"The meeting opened the door for the State Department to renegotiate ties with Uzbekistan through PEO STRI's constructive simulation program," asserted Mark Pye, PEO STRI's customer advocate for international business and programs.



U.S. Army Photo

While on their visit to the U.S., the Uzbeks explored more than simulation technologies. They explored a variety of what the U.S. has to offer and, in doing so, experienced the beach for the very first time.

"PEO STRI's ability to support their simulation center may very well be the cornerstone in providing the U.S. access back into Uzbekistan and opening the dialogue between our two countries." ■

Now Taking Reservations

Saturday, June 16th 2007

232nd Army Birthday Ball

Renaissance Orlando Resort at SeaWorld.

Hosted by:

The AUSA Sunshine Chapter
in conjunction with

PEO STRI

Further information to follow.

For updates check the Sunshine Chapter website:

www.ausa-sunshine.org

or call 407-712-7009 / 407-513-7581



INTRODUCING
Libby Devine
 THE
PEO STRI
EMPLOYEE SPOTLIGHT



U.S. Army Photos/Doug Schaub

By Kristen Dooley, Public Affairs Specialist

During the Program Executive Office for Simulation, Training and Instrumentation's (PEO STRI) annual Organization Day held April 13, 2007, Libby Devine clearly stood out as her squad's most cooperative competitor. When their team,

Project Manager Future Force (Simulation) (PM FF(S)), could not find a contestant to compete in STRI's rendition of American Idol, she sang a Marilyn Monroe inspired "Happy Birthday."

"I try really hard to be a team player," said Devine, administrative assistant for PM FF(S). "As we gear up each year for Organization Day, I do my best to encourage team participation and spirit."

"I also try to gather the team at least once or twice a year for a social function in order to strengthen the team's cohesiveness."

Aside from team-building, Devine is responsible for executing many of the administrative duties within PM FF(S) to include coordinating travel arrangements, purchasing office supplies and consolidating their staff notes. Her main responsibility resides in supporting the project manager and deputy project manager.

"I don't think I ever really have a typical

day. There is a lot of repetitive work in admin, but each situation is different," Libby said.

Devine, a STRI native who began working with the organization in 1987 when it was Project Manager Training Devices (PM TRADE), said her coworkers are the main

reason she enjoys her job. "I really do work with a great group of folks."

When PM TRADE relocated from the Navy Base in what's now Baldwin Park to Central Florida's Research Park, Devine trained the entire workforce on how to use the new telephone system. Today, she said she still considers that her most challenging professional task.

"I attended training sessions, then I created my own training materials and proceeded to set up training sessions where I

demonstrated the use of the phone," Devine explained.

Nevertheless, she successfully accomplished her mission. As for her future goals, Devine said she hopes to pursue further education and eventually work in the budgeting or program analyst field.

For now, Devine's free time is spent with her family. She also enjoys reading, figuring out Sudoku puzzles and playing bingo. ■

“I try really hard to be a team player, as we gear up each year for Organization Day, I do my best to encourage team participation and spirit.”

— *Libby Devine*

Hails and Farewells

Hails

Maj. Marc C. Dorrer	PM CATT
Maj. Brian J. Smith	PM TRADE
Frances Purser	PSG
Jill Edwards	PSG
Teresa Baker	PSG
Kyle Platt	PSG
Eric Hoffman	PM ITTS
Devin Lyders	PSG
Bruce Mulkey	PM Field Ops
Susan Jaimungal	PSG

Farewells

Robert Hutchinson	PSG
Holly Foster-Andersen	PSG
James Avent	PM ITTS
Charles Joyce	PM ITTS
Martin Mattern	PM ITTS
Master Sgt. Stacy Quarterman	PM ITTS
Sgt. 1st Class Michael Petersen	PM ITTS



INSIDE PEO STRI

Inside STRI is an authorized publication for military and civilian members of the U.S. Army Program Executive Office for Simulation, Training and Instrumentation, Orlando, Fla. 32826. Inside STRI is published under the authority of AR 360-1 and applies the Associated Press Stylebook industry standard.

Contents of Inside STRI are not necessarily the official views of, or endorsed by, the U.S. Government, Department of Defense, Department of the Army, or PEO STRI.

Editorial material for publication should be submitted to PEO STRI Public Affairs Office, 12351 Research Parkway, Orlando, Fla. 32826. The PAO reserves the right to edit all material submitted for publication.

For more information about PEO STRI or to view Inside STRI online, visit our Web site at www.peostri.army.mil

Editors:

Kristen Dooley
 Staff Writer and Editor
Kristen.dooley@us.army.mil

Heather Kelly
 Editor-in-Chief
Heather.l.kelly1@us.army.mil

Layout and Design:
 Angel Starr/DFC