Army Leaders Visit PEO STRI, Discuss Way Ahead During Fiscal Challenges

By Rick Gregory, PEO STRI Strategic Communications Support Staff

Giving what she called the “100,000-foot overview” of the challenges facing Army acquisitions, the Honorable Heidi Shyu, assistant secretary of the Army for Acquisition, Logistics and Technology (ASA(ALT)), and her principal military deputy, Lt. Gen. Michael Williamson, spoke to the PEO STRI workforce during a Town Hall meeting on November 7.

One of the top challenges, she pointed out, is the dramatic difference in the downward monetary spiral between the research, development and acquisition (RDA) account and the Army’s budget in general.

“In the last five years our actual budget in the RDA account has gone down 33 percent,” she explained. “The Army’s top line has gone down 15 percent. That tells you we are going down twice as fast. If we can’t take down the force structure as fast and we still have a very large operation and support (O&S) cost that leaves the RDA account to be the bill payer, so we are under significant pressure.”

She emphasized that since no one believes sequestration is going away, her office will continue to be faced with a challenging fiscal environment that involves planning multiple budgets, which, as she pointed out, is a painful task.

In looking at the budget, she said one of the ongoing ways to meet the challenge is to continue to pursue multi-year buys and looking at “should cost” as part of the Better Buying Power initiative.

“The multi-year buys give us a great discount in terms of quantity buys just like if you go to a Costco or Walmart. Quantity buys are always cheaper,” she said. “As well, when we put together the ‘should cost’ in our programs it brings a lower cost number because you try to anticipate the efficiencies you can gain.”

She used a pyramid diagram to explain to the workforce what ASA(ALT) has done to realize efficiencies.

At the base, she pointed out, is saving operation and support costs by divesting of old equipment that the Army no longer needs. She said the Army Chief of Staff directed the Army to get rid of old, outdated trucks and they did just that by divesting 20,000 of them.

“We are looking across the board at all of our portfolios to discover other old equipment that we can divest of since it is very expensive to sustain, especially when the Army is not using it,” Shyu said.

The older equipment that is not divested and kept in the Army inventory will be in a resetting and sustaining mode, the next level on the pyramid.

“If the Army is going to fight a contingency in the near term, it has to be done with the equipment in the inventory we have today,” she pointed out. “We are not going to be investing in anything new if we have to go next week so we are taking the equipment coming out of theater right now and resetting it for use in the next contingency.”

Continued on page 11
To The PEO STRI Workforce,

As any fan of baseball’s Chicago Cubs will tell you, at the end of every season the familiar chant is always “Wait ‘til next year!” That’s because the Cubs haven’t been winners of the World Series in more than 100 years.

At PEO STRI, though, we don’t have to wait until next year to be winners. Since I assumed the organization’s charter last May, I have been extremely impressed with the spirit, drive and professionalism displayed throughout the command. To me, you are all winners and, throughout the Army, PEO STRI is seen as a winner in our mission to acquire and sustain training and testing solutions for the Army.

As we begin a new year, I am optimistic that we will continue to accomplish our very important mission. Our Soldiers deserve nothing less than our 100 percent commitment to that end. We must ensure they continue to receive the most technologically advanced training and testing solutions to help them maintain a mission-ready posture to overcome any threat directed at our nation or allied nations.

During 2015 there will be continued change in the military services structure. As you know, because of budget constraints our Army is going through significant changes, both in the way we fight and the number of Soldiers we have to engage in and win potential conflicts. PEO STRI is not exempt from the mandate of change.

As you may have heard from your leadership, an Organizational Restructure Tiger Team has been stood up to make recommendations on the creation of a new project management office called PM Integrated Training Environment (ITE). Team members will also be looking for efficiencies through the realignment of portfolio elements into other project management or project director organizations.

Rest assured this is not an effort to reduce our workforce, but rather a means of balancing the organization’s portfolio and obtaining a more efficient means of accomplishing our mission.

Thank you for the superb effort you put in during 2014 to meet our Soldiers’ training and testing needs. I have no doubt this winning team will continue to hit it out of the park in 2015 regardless of any challenges we may face.

Regards from your program executive officer,
Heart-wrenching stories are being written and broadcast all over the country about needless deaths from drivers who thought they could maneuver their vehicle and cell phone at the same time. Here are just a few.

A 32-year-old North Carolina woman died behind the wheel just moments after posting a Facebook message and hitting a truck head-on. When investigators checked her online activity, they also discovered that she had been posting selfies as she drove. (New York Daily News, April 26, 2014)

A Katy, Texas man died in a car crash he caused by texting and driving, officers said. Police said the 56-year-old driver slammed into an 18-wheeler in Navasota on Thursday morning in Grimes County. “He was on the computer and texting and doing stuff on the Palm Pilot at the time of the crash,” Trooper Kenneth Balzekas told KBTX. “It was smashed between him and the steering wheel and was still on with partial messaging. He was looking down. That would explain why he never hit the brakes.” (Click2Houston.com, June 6, 2012)

The tragic last text being sent by a driver who was moments later killed in a car crash wasn’t important enough to cost him his life, according to his distraught parents. The University of Northern Colorado student, 22, was typing out a reply on his iPhone when he drifted into oncoming traffic and rolled his car off the road. Witnesses say he had his head down as he wrote “Sounds good my man, see ya soon, ill tw” read his unfinished message before crashing. (New York Daily News, April 11, 2013)

“IT’S IMPORTANT TO REMEMBER THAT MOST CELL PHONE COMMUNICATIONS REQUIRE TWO PARTIES. IT TAKES TWO TO TEXT, SO YOU HAVE A RESPONSIBILITY NOT TO PARTICIPATE IN SUCH RISKY BEHAVIOR.”

- DAVID TEATER, DIRECTOR OF TRANSPORTATION INITIATIVES

Texting while driving is a growing trend, and a national epidemic, quickly becoming one of the country’s top killers. The Center for Disease Control reports that 69 percent of drivers in the United States ages 18-64 reported that they had talked on their cell phone while driving within the 30 days before they were surveyed. Drivers believe they can operate a multi-ton machine flying down the highway while they compose communications to their friends, but statistics do not lie.
Gen. Mark Milley knows a thing or two about why modeling and simulation must play a significant role in preparing Soldiers for the rigors of combat.

As the commanding general of the U.S. Army Forces Command (FORSCOM), he is in charge of the training and preparation of the nation’s ground forces; a force that represents about 80 percent of the U.S. Army personnel structure.

While addressing the audience as the keynote speaker at the opening ceremonies of the Interservice/Industry Training, Simulation and Education Conference (I/ITSEC) on December 2, the general stressed repeatedly the importance of combat readiness.

“Our primary focus at Forces Command, above everything else, is combat readiness. It is our number one priority,” Milley said. “I often tell my commanders there is no other ‘number one’ except preparation for war. The purpose of the military is two-fold. One is to conduct combat operations and number two, if not in the actual conduct of combat operations, your sole task is to prepare for combat operations.”

He quickly told the audience, comprised of military, industry, academia and government modeling and simulation representatives from around the world, that they play a critical role in preparing Soldiers for the ground combat.

“To focus on combat readiness, our number one priority,” he pointed out. “The units were not ill-prepared to confront the invading Army from the North. The North was broken.”

In one example, he took the audience back to the summer of 1950 when 80,000 North Koreans crossed the 38th parallel in their invasion of South Korea. With only 800 U.S. military advisors on the ground in South Korea who were working with the South Korean government’s armed constabulary, the invaders from the North gained ground quickly.

Milley said with the end of World War II just five years earlier and the United States basking in the glow of victory, the U.S. Army was ill-prepared to confront the invading Army from the North.

“Our Army had been reduced. It was a hollow Army lacking funding and readiness was not a priority,” he pointed out. “The units were not properly manned, didn’t have the sufficient equipment and the equipment they did have was broken.”

That lack of readiness, he said, led to the initial task force from the 1st Battalion, 21st Infantry, 24th Infantry Division, that had been serving with the occupational forces in Japan, being quickly and completely annihilated when they were sent to South Korea to stop the advance from the north. The rest of the 24th Infantry Division also met resounding defeat and the division commander was captured when they entered the fight.

“These were brave Soldiers, all of them,” Milley said. “They were put into combat without the proper training and equipment. Putting our sons and daughters into harm’s way without the tools and training is unacceptable in any era.”

Focusing on more recent conflicts, the FORSCOM leader told the audience that the products they fielded to the military played a major role in succeeding on those battlefields.

“The concept of building our exercises to simulate the realities of combat through the use of simulation is one that paid huge dividends during operations Desert Storm, Iraqi Freedom and Enduring Freedom,” he explained. “The raid on Osama bin Laden could never have happened without the use of simulations.”

He also pointed out that the technological innovations in medical simulations has saved many lives on the battlefield, and cited Sgt. Thomas Block, an Army ranger serving in Afghanistan in 2012, as a beneficiary of that technology.

When Block suffered severe, life-threatening injuries as the result of a suicide bomber detonating his charge, the medic with the patrol was quick to act, Milley explained. He said the medic not only put a tourniquet on each of the wounded Soldier’s legs, but he quickly placed three needle decompressions in his chest and a hemostatic dressing on his profusely bleeding right eye, saving the Soldier’s life.

“This brilliant performance, under pressure, came from constant training, constant rehearsals...
PEO STRI Employees Honored At 2014 All Saints Ball

Ten PEO STRI employees, both military and civilian, were honored at the 2014 All Saints Ball held at the Renaissance Orlando at Sea World resort on December 12.

The awards portion of the formal ball recognized the awardees for their distinguished service and contribution to the Army’s armor, aviation, field artillery, air defense, infantry, medical and military branches. Lt. Gen. Ken Tovo, deputy commanding general, United States Southern Command, served as the keynote speaker.

2014 ALL SAINTS BALL Awardees

- **LT. COL. DOUGLAS TWITTY**
  Order of Saint George
  (armor branch)

- **MAJ. DAVID KIMZYEY**
  Order of Saint George
  (armor branch)

- **ROGER LENNOS**
  Noble Patron of Armor

- **ANTHONY MARTON**
  Order of Saint Michael
  (aviation branch)

- **GLEN LOUPE**
  Order of Saint Barbara
  (field artillery and air defense branches)

- **ROB WOLF**
  Order of Saint Maurice
  (infantry branch)

- **JAMES TODD**
  Order of Saint Maurice
  (infantry branch)

- **BILL REESE**
  Order of Saint Maurice
  (infantry branch)

- **LT. COL. DANIEL IRIZARRY**
  Order of Military Medical

- **DON STEWART**
  Lt. Col. Thomas W. Knowlton Award
  (military intelligence branch)

Lt. Gen. Ken Tovo (left), deputy commanding general, United States Southern Command, shares a lighter moment with MG Jon Maddux, PEO STRI’s program executive officer.

Lt. Gen. Ken Tovo gestures to an audience member during his keynote address.

MG Jon Maddux (center) takes time out of the evening to pose with the color guard from East River High School, Orlando.
With the U.S. Army serving as the lead military service, PEO STRI played a major role this year in the annual Interservice/Industry Training, Simulation and Education Conference (I/ITSEC) held at the Orange County Convention Center December 1 through 4.

Sgt. Maj. Alan Higgs, PEO STRI’s senior enlisted advisor, and Lt. Col. (retired) Earle Denton, salute the colors during the opening ceremony.

MG Jon Maddux speaks to the audience during the opening ceremony.

MG Jon Maddux, PEO STRI’s program executive officer (left) and Gen. Mark Milley, commanding general of U.S. Army Forces Command and keynote speaker, pose for a photo before the opening ceremony.

Traci Jones (right), PEO STRI’s G-7 and the Army’s I/ITSEC principal, takes time for a photo with Janet Spruill, the I/ITSEC program chair, and I/ITSEC Conference Chair Ron Smits.

Congressman John Mica (Fla.) is greeted by PEO STRI’s MG Jon Maddux, as Congressman Bobby Scott (Va.) looks on.
Gen. Mark Milley greets PEO STRI's chief of staff, Col. Sharlene Donovan, as MG Jon Maddux looks on.

Capt. Wes Naylor (left) commanding officer of the Naval Air Warfare Center Training Systems Division and Naval Support Activity Orlando, receives the I/ITSEC flag from MG Jon Maddux at the conference’s closing ceremony. The Navy will be the lead service for I/ITSEC 2015.

Sgt. Maj. Alan Higgs races across the finish line at the 5K Run held December 3 during the convention.

Congressman Bobby Scott (Va.) tries his skills on the Virtual Battlespace 3 Games for Training program while Wallace Tennille from PEO STRI looks on.

PEO STRI’s Rob Wolf (left) and Col. Vince Malone wait for visitors at the Army booth.

Gen. Mark Milley greets PEO STRI’s chief of staff, Col. Sharlene Donovan, as MG Jon Maddux looks on.

PEO STRI’s Jerry Sirmans delivers the invocation at the opening ceremonies.

Lt. Gen. Robert Brown, commanding general of the U.S. Army Combined Arms Center, speaks to the audience during the General/Flag Officer Panel.

Capt. Wes Naylor (left) commanding officer of the Naval Air Warfare Center Training Systems Division and Naval Support Activity Orlando, receives the I/ITSEC flag from MG Jon Maddux at the conference’s closing ceremony. The Navy will be the lead service for I/ITSEC 2015.
Speed Of Innovation Key In Army Operating Concept

By David Lopez, Army News Service

Both the Army and America’s adversaries enhance their prowess on the battlefield with technological innovation. But to be successful against an array of unknown enemies, the Army must focus not just on innovation, but on the speed with which it can deliver that innovation to Soldiers.


A central theme of the publication is the concept of preparing the American Army for combat with unknown enemies, in unknown locations, and with unknown allies at their side.

“This Army Operating Concept was written specifically to deal with the unknown,” Perkins said. What the Army won’t know, expressed in the Army Operating Concept, is where it will fight, who it will fight, or who it will fight alongside. What the Army will know, Perkins said, is that it will be expected to “exceed all expectations.”

Perkins said in combat, the Army can overmatch an enemy's capability through adaptation and innovation. With a known enemy, the Army innovates by creating a “known differential” between the Army's ability and the enemy’s capability, he said. But with an unknown enemy, he said, innovation is only part of the equation for a win. Speed of innovation is important as well.

“We have to enable that young leader both through training, education, and organization, to have the ability to innovate very quickly — from the materiel aspect of it when we buy stuff for the Army, to how we organize ourselves, and how we apply all the elements of national power.”

According to the new Army Operating Concept, “The Army must adapt faster than enemies and potential adversaries. Army forces will have to develop materiel solutions much faster than in the past due to the ease and speed of technology transfer and adaptation by enemies.”

Self-Reporting Critical Step In Maintaining Security Clearances

By John Moran, Army Contracting Command, Deputy Chief of Staff Intelligence and Security

Soldiers and civilians with security clearances have a responsibility to conduct themselves in a manner that will not jeopardize their clearances.

This includes keeping the security office informed of changes in their personal lives or activities that may have potential security ramifications.

People holding security clearances are expected to report the following actions to the security office:

- **CHANGE IN PERSONAL LIFE** – Changes in marital status, co-habitation (living in a spouse-like relationship), and change of name must be reported. Special requirements may apply if an intended spouse or partner is a foreign national.
- **FOREIGN TRAVEL** – For business or pleasure.
- **FOREIGN CONTACTS** – All cleared personnel must report contacts with individuals of any foreign nationality, either within or outside the scope of their official activities.
- **FINANCIAL PROBLEMS** – Serious financial difficulties must be reported. This includes filing for bankruptcy, garnishment of wages, having a lien placed upon property for failing to pay a creditor, or eviction from a residence for failure to pay rent. One reason for requiring that these financial problems be reported is to assist you in obtaining appropriate financial counseling.
- **LOSS OR COMPROMISE OF INFORMATION** – If a person inadvertently or accidentally loses or compromises classified or other sensitive information (including For Official Use Only and Personally Identifiable Information), this must be reported immediately as the first priority is to regain control of the information.
- **ARRESTS** – If a person is arrested for any reason, this must be reported regardless of whether or not they are convicted or charges
Under Sec Army Carson: Civilian Employees ‘Indispensable’ from Afghanistan to Africa

By Gary Sheftick

As the troop drawdown in Afghanistan continues, the demand for Army civilian employees there will increase, predicted the service’s under secretary.

Speaking at the Department of the Army Civilian Luncheon Oct. 15, during the AUSA Annual Meeting and Exposition, Under Secretary of the Army Brad R. Carson said the Army’s civilian workforce is indispensable. He pledged to continue support for career program development and training for civilians serving worldwide.

More than 1,000 Army civilians now serve in Afghanistan, Carson said, adding that more than 16,000 have served there over the past few years.

Army civilian employees assist with logistics, budgeting and planning, he said. Others help train Afghan security forces as part of the Advise and Assist program.

“The skills of the Army civilian workforce are as much needed as those brought by our military personnel,” he said.

With Soldiers now deploying to West Africa to help contain the Ebola epidemic, the under secretary predicted Army civilian employees will also assist with the mission there.

“For it is our civilians who possess those skills necessary to serve in positions like advisor to the minister of health, contract specialist, lawyer, engineer or safety (specialist),” Carson said. “So whether in Afghanistan or Sierra Leone or the many dusty places in between, this is not easy work and it is not work that is going away.”

A total of about 225,000 civilians currently work for the Army, Carson said, adding that’s only appropriated-fund employees. If non-appropriated fund, or NAF, employees were included, the total would be about 301,000.

Despite this workforce size, Carson said civilian personnel have not always been given the best professional development opportunities. Progress is being made, though, he said.

All Army civilians today are in one of 31 career programs. Just four years ago, only 40 percent had career programs.

That means four years ago, only 40 percent of the Army’s employees had access to funds for professional development, explained Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Army for Civilian Personnel Gwendolyn R. DeFilippi.

Professional staffs have been hired to assist career program managers, she said. Employees have been given access to Army Career Tracker — long used by Soldiers to chart career progression and now available to civilians.

“Indeed much effort has been spent to make life better for our civilian workforce,” Carson said.

Many strides have been made, Carson said, but more work needs to be done. He suggested more mentorship programs for civilian employees and a comprehensive talent management program for the workforce.

“I need your help,” he said to civilians in the audience, “Your ideas, your passion, your commitment. I believe that together, we and the Army can do some revolutionary things.”

The Army civilian workforce has a “long and rich tradition of service,” he said. He used the example of John Garand, developer of the M1 rifle.

Garand was a civilian firearms engineer who worked for the Army from 1919 to 1953. His M1 rifle was eventually lauded by Gen. George Patton “as the greatest battle implement ever devised.”

“Mr. Garand did not develop this mainstay of the American Soldier overnight,” though, Carson said. “His design was forged through years of deliberative trial and error — years rife with the inevitable failures that ultimately enabled success.”

He said Garand had something in common with Army employees of today: a desire to make a difference and to be part of a cause larger than himself.

Carson pointed to a current Army employee who made a difference — Ashley Russell, who with a graduate degree from the University of Chicago, originally took a GS-7 position with the Army Medical Command. As a GS-11, she led a review of the Army’s Medical Evaluation Board, or MEB, process at Fort Riley, Kansas.

At the time, MEBs were taking an average of 254 days at Fort Riley. Her team identified a number of processes that could be shortened, lowering the average MEB completion time there to 120 days.

Originally, narrative summaries that were supposed to be completed in five days were taking 60. She put together a standard for Medical Command that shortened the average completion time for narrative summaries by more than 50 days.

Russell, who now serves as a GS-12 with Army G-1, was recognized earlier this year at the Lean Six Sigma awards ceremony in the Pentagon.

She saved the Army millions of dollars by “vastly improving” the MEB process, Carson said. “More importantly her work made life better, simpler, easier for injured Soldiers and their families. And there is no price tag on that.”

Luc Dunn of AUSA NEWS contributed to this article. For more ARNEWS stories, visit www.army.mil/ARNEWS, or Facebook at www.facebook.com/ArmyNewsService, or Twitter @ArmyNewsService
Social Network Safety: How to Protect Your Identity Online

As a result of recent world events and a continual effort to protect the force, special agents with the U.S. Army Criminal Investigation Command’s Computer Crime Investigative Unit (CCIU) are strongly recommending that anyone affiliated with the U.S. military, review their social media accounts to make sure they are using the best security settings to protect their online profiles.

Social media platforms such as Facebook, Twitter and LinkedIn are powerful tools that can help bring communities together. However, an individual’s online profile can provide cyber criminals with an endless pool of personal information and potential targets to be exploited. As such, it is vital that individuals stay on the alert and be personally responsible for their online presence to protect themselves, their loved ones and the Army.

With that in mind, CID is providing the following information to help the greater Army community protect themselves online and significantly reduce the chance of becoming a victim of cyber crime.

As a service to the U.S. Army and DoD communities, CCIU has produced comprehensive how-to guides to safely configure an individual’s Facebook and Twitter accounts. Configuration guides for other social networking platforms will be available in the near future. To download the guide visit www.cid.army.mil/documents/CCIU/2can/SocialNetworkingSafetyTips.pdf and select the respective guide at the bottom of page one.

Social Networking Safety Tips

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<th>THINGS TO KNOW</th>
<th>HOW TO PROTECT YOURSELF</th>
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<td>THE INTERNET DOES NOT FORGET. Once something is posted on a social networking website it can spread quickly, and no amount of effort can delete it. Do not post anything you would be embarrassed to see on the evening news.</td>
<td>KNOW THE TERMS ON SOCIAL NETWORKING WEBSITES. Facebook, Twitter, LinkedIn and other social networking sites frequently change their privacy and user policies. Social networking sites’ privacy settings default to everyone. This means anyone can view your profile, not just the people you know. Securely configuring one’s account will minimize who can see your information.</td>
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<td>YOU ARE NOT ANONYMOUS. Cyber criminals have the capability to gather and exploit both individuals and organizations if the information is out there.</td>
<td>SAFE SOCIAL NETWORKING. Never disclose private information when using social networking websites. Be very selective who you invite or accept invitations from as criminals often use false or spoofed profiles to gain access to personal and private information, such as birthdates, marital status, and photographs. Social media posts that contain personal identifying information (PII), digital photos that contain metadata (i.e., information written into the digital photo file such as who owns it, contact information, location, and internet search terms) can be used against you and your family.</td>
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<td>MORE ISN’T ALWAYS BETTER. Participating in multiple social networking sites significantly increases one’s risk and affords cyber criminals alternate avenues to strike and gather information.</td>
<td>CHECK-OUT AND TAG-OUT. Do not use check-ins or post your specific location on social media. Also, prevent people from “tagging” you in photos and videos.</td>
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<td>HIDE YOUR PROFILE FROM SEARCH ENGINES. This can be accomplished by going to the social networking site account settings and unchecking the “Public Search Results” box. This will remove your public preview from Google, Bing, and Yahoo search returns.</td>
<td>CLICK WITH CAUTION. Always use caution when clicking on links in social networking posts, even from someone you know. Reports of personal social networking accounts being hacked by criminals have increased in recent years. Clicking on a link that appears to be benign in nature may in fact contain embedded malware that can compromise your device. Once compromised, any data on your device can be exploited.</td>
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<td>LOGIN NO NO’S. Do not use your social networking site to login to other sites or use the save password, remember me, and keep me logged in options from a public or shared device. Use strong, unique passwords and never use the same password for all online accounts.</td>
<td>INSTALL/UPDATE YOUR ANTI-VIRUS/FIREWALL SOFTWARE. Antivirus and firewall software is a must for anyone to safely navigate online. Always keep your security software up to date in order to provide the most complete protection from malicious programs as thousands of new viruses are detected every year. Also, ensure your antivirus software program updates automatically and scans your computer on a recurring schedule.</td>
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This information is current as of October 25, 2014.
That, she said, leads to the next pyramid level of modifying and modernizing the aging equipment and systems, something she said the Army does very well with platforms that have been in inventory for as long as 30 years. “The vehicles we have today, for instance, aren’t anything close to what they were when they rolled off the production floor years ago. They are significantly more capable.”

The next two and final layers on the pyramid of efficiencies are new systems or capabilities, followed by science and technology (S&T). She said those areas are where some painful decisions are made.

She explained that as the budget starts to decline, if ASA(ALT) becomes the bill payer for O&S accounts, the money has to come from somewhere and that is the three largest portfolios of aviation, mission command and combat vehicles which represent half of the budget. That means, she said, sacrificing new capabilities that were planned and investing in the next generation of capabilities.

That’s where S&T, the fourth biggest portfolio, comes in and is an area where the Army’s acquisition executive said she fought very hard to keep whole as the other pieces of the pie have come down.

“We have maintained our S&T portfolio. That’s the investment in our future!” she emphasized. “We are investing in critical future capabilities in the areas of stronger, lighter armor; the next generation of combat vehicles; and we are looking at the next generation of helicopters that can give us twice the flying range as what we have today as well as the ability to fly higher.”

Another critical area, one that has the full attention of the Army Chief of Staff, is enabling U.S. Army Soldiers to be the best trained Soldiers in the world.

“This is exactly where you guys come in,” she said to the PEO STRI workforce. “You provide the services and capabilities to train our Soldiers. That is a critical capability.”

She said STRI’s program executive officer, MG Jon Maddux, and her principal military deputy, LTG Williamson, are both working closely with the Training and Doctrine Command to fully understand their needs and tie them to the budgeting process to best modernize Army training.

Williamson emphasized to the workforce that no one knows their business better than they do and that in the current fiscal environment they have to help the requirements owners. “From your seat, where you deal with the requirements owner and the users, you have to be able to look at them and say, ‘Yes, it would be really nice to have that thing you want. I can get you something, but I may have to modernize and improve something you have today,’” he explained. “Or, because there is a threat or new technology that is so important and valuable we make the decision that we have to invest in that new technology.

“We have to be part of the process. We can’t sit on the sidelines and think those darn requirements owners don’t know what they want. We have to help other people as we go through acquisition and as we go through requirements.”

He ended by saying that speed is critical in the acquisition of new technology. “We have to do things faster! We have to examine technology, capitalize on it and get them out to the field faster!”

The information was provided from the Defense Personnel and Security Research Center, Self-Reporting Your Own Activities, Online Guide to Security Responsibilities.

SOLDIERS COMBAT-READY continued from page 4

and constant use of simulations in highly realistic training environments,” Milley said. “Our requirement today is that all medics perform at that level at home station and have access to multiple simulated trainers.

“Modeling and simulation give us the power to train our troops despite fiscal challenges. We know it’s effective, we know it’s efficient and we know it is relatively inexpensive.”

He urged the audience to remain on the cutting edge in the simulation world and used a quote from Pres. Abraham Lincoln to drive home the point.

“Abraham Lincoln once said, ‘Give me six hours to chop down a tree and I will spend the first four hours sharpening the axe,’” Milley said. “That’s what you do. Modeling and simulation in training help us sharpen the axe!”

SECURITY CLEARANCES continued from page 8

were dropped for lack of evidence. Minor traffic violations are the only exception to this reporting requirement.

OTHER INVOLVEMENT WITH THE LEGAL SYSTEM – Any other involvement in legal or court proceedings should be reported if the person is a target of the legal action, such as being sued for any reason or if there is any possibility the individual might be required to discuss their job or organization under oath.

PSYCHOLOGICAL OR SUBSTANCE ABUSE COUNSELING – When counseling is needed, individuals are encouraged to contact their Employee Assistance Program or other counseling service. A person does not need report counseling if they sought counseling on their own initiative. A person must reporting counseling if they were advised to seek counseling owing to their work performance or other undesirable behavior.

OUTSIDE ACTIVITIES – Any planned or actual outside employment or volunteer activity that could create a real or apparent conflict with one’s responsibility to protect classified information.

The information was provided from the Defense Personnel and Security Research Center, Self-Reporting Your Own Activities, Online Guide to Security Responsibilities.
The Hon. Heidi Shyu, assistant secretary of the Army for Acquisition, Logistics and Technology, and Lt. Gen. Michael Williamson, her principal military deputy, share a lighter moment during the PEO STRI Town Hall held in Warfighter Park on November 7.

Lt. Gen. Williamson is shown by Lt. Col. Daniel Irizarry, clinical advisor, Joint Program Office for Medical Modeling and Simulation, how to insert a needle into a combat casualty simulator’s chest to treat air buildup in the chest cavity from a punctured lung.

The Hon. Shyu receives a briefing from Lt. Col. Corey Hemingway, product manager Live Training Systems, during her visit to PEO STRI on November 7.


The Hon. Shyu speaks with members of PEO STRI during a luncheon she had with them while visiting PEO STRI on November 7.

Lt. Gen. Williamson takes time out of his visit to enjoy a luncheon with PEO STRI team members.