

INSIDE STRI

ORLANDO, FLORIDA

OCTOBER 2006

Soldiers, Sims & Savings

By Kristen Dooley

As printer ink and FedEx envelopes are seemingly harder to come by, the financial impact of the Global War on Terror becomes quite evident to the Program Executive Office for Simulation, Training and Instrumentation (PEO STRI).

"We're trading mouse pads for missiles," said Sherry Tew, administrative assistant to the PEO support team. "And I don't mind it in the least. We all know the Warfighters need and deserve the financial support much more than we do."

PEO STRI plays an integral part in conserving economic resources on behalf of the U.S. Army. This article will explore some of the cost effective measures the organization is taking to save



U.S. Army Photo/Doug Shaub

The UH-60 Black Hawk is a medium-lift utility or assault helicopter that replaced the Huey (UH-1) family. The aircraft can perform an array of missions, including the tactical transport of troops, electronic warfare and aeromedical evacuation. UH-60 Black Hawk simulators have proved to be effective training devices and cost efficient for the Army.

money for the service.

Simulated Aircraft Training

In recent cost analysis studies,

simulators have proved to be more cost effective and fuel efficient than training Soldiers with real aircraft.

According to a study conducted

by the Assistant Secretary of the Army Acquisition, Logistics and Technology, the UH-60 Black Hawk simulator saves the Army \$304 for each hour

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CITIZEN STRI

What was the best Halloween costume you ever wore?

Want your opinion heard? Answer November's Question! What is your favorite part of Thanksgiving meal? Send your response to kristen.dooley@us.army.mil and put Citizen STRI in the subject line.



Dr. Roger Smith
CTO

"That would be Mike Tyson (the boxer) with the Mao Tse Tung tattoo and the bitten off ear of Evander Holyfield on a string around my neck."



Celia Frazier
BOO

"The best costume I ever wore was an actual burka brought back from the Middle East. I couldn't resist though — I just had to wear my boots with heels."



Will Bass
BOO

"I haven't dressed up in years, so I really can't answer. But, when I was growing up, I always wanted to be Dracula."



Carole Ruark
PSG

"I think the best costume I ever wore was when I became Carrot Top's mother for one particular Halloween."



U.S. Army Photos/Doug Shaub

Sept. 11, 2001 Remembered

By Kristen Dooley

On the five year anniversary of Sept. 11, the Naval Air Warfare Center Training Systems Division (NAWCTSD) held a commemorative ceremony to pay tribute to those who perished in the attacks on the World Trade Center, the Pentagon and United Flight 93. More than 500 Team Orlando employees gathered to honor the heroes of Sept. 11 and those who serve in the Global War on Terror. "I believe this is an event we should never forget," said Phillip Howell, public affairs director for NAWCTSD, who presided over the ceremony. "I wanted to remind our workforce that while many men and women are overseas fighting, we are relatively safe here."

The distinguished guests included U.S. Navy Capt. Steve Burris, commanding officer for NAWCTSD, U.S. Army Col. Kevin Dietrick, deputy program executive officer for the Program Executive Office for Simulation Training and Instrumentation (PEO STRI), U.S. Air Force Col. Lou Olinto,



U.S. Navy Capt. Steve Burris (right) recognizes U.S. Army Lt. Col. Sterling Powell during the 9/11 commemorative ceremony. Lt. Col. Powell was in the Pentagon when American Airlines Flight 77 struck the building.

commander of the Air Force Agency for Modeling and Simulation, and U.S. Marine Corps Col. Walter Augustin, program manager for Marine Corps Training Systems.

"Today's ceremony was an opportunity for all of us to reflect on the events of September 11, 2001, and the

progress that we have made as a nation in combating terrorism around the globe since that time," said Dietrick. "I was impressed, but not surprised, by the size of the crowd that attended."

A delegate from each service participated in the event to represent their service's contribution to the war on terror. In addition, the Orange County and Seminole County first response teams participated in the ceremony. A University of Central Florida policeman represented the institution as they are an integral part of Team Orlando.

"While the nation remains at war, it is most important to remember those who have made the ultimate sacrifice for our nation. PEO STRI, along with the other services, raised the morale of Soldiers, Sailors, Airmen, Marines, Coast Guardsmen, government employees and contractors through today's ceremony," said Lt. Col. Sterling Powell, who was in the Pentagon at

the time of the attacks and represented PEO STRI in the ceremony. "We remember that day with emotions of fear and anger, yet it reminded America that the freedoms we take for granted also have a cost. Sometimes we have to pay the cost with our lives."

A moment of silence was taken at 8:46 a.m. which signified the time the first plane hit the north Twin Tower. The brief ceremony concluded with the choir singing "America the Beautiful."

"Thank you for remembering and honoring those who paid the ultimate price for the freedom we enjoy," said Powell. ■



Pictured left to right: Capt. Steve Burris, Col. Lou Olinto, Col. Kevin Dietrick, Col. Walter Augustin and Jim Crandall pause during a moment of silence to honor the victims of Sept. 11.

PEO STRI Celebrates Release of OneSAF

The next generation of full spectrum computer generated forces has arrived, and it's coming to a digital battlefield near you.

By Heather L. Kelly

The U.S. Army Program Executive Office for Simulation, Training and Instrumentation (PEO STRI) released the One Semi-Automated Forces (OneSAF) Objective System (OOS) software version 1.0 Sept. 29.

A release ceremony was held here Oct. 2 in Central Florida's Research Park to mark the event.

"This is a very special occasion, one that has been a long time in the making," said Dr. James Blake, program executive officer for PEO STRI. "We now have a single solution to support all of the Army's modeling and simulation domains."

The OOS was initially designed to reduce duplication of the Army's modeling and simulation investments, create simulation interoperability and meet future force requirements, but its capabilities extend well past the original concept.

"Not only will OOS be the central element of the Army's embedded training efforts, it will also aid our sister services in their modeling and simulation activities, advance Army and Department of Defense training transformation initiatives, and improve value, quality and responsiveness to our primary customer -- the Warfighter," Blake commented.

As a Soldier who has served as both a user and developer of modeling and simulation products, Lt. Col. Rob Rasch,

product manager for OneSAF, agreed.

"Our trainers will utilize OneSAF to better prepare our Soldiers, units and staffs for the situations they may encounter as they fight our nation's wars," Rasch said. "After all, losing a simulated battle costs nothing compared to losing the lives of our Soldiers on the real battlefield."

Responsible for managing the implementation and distribution of the software, Rasch said OOS will be delivered to every brigade and battalion in the Army.

"The system will become a common training component on every Future Combat Systems embedded training platform," explained Rasch. "It will also provide tools to the Research, Development and Acquisition, Advanced Concepts and Requirements, and Training Exercise and Military Operations domains."

The OneSAF program has won numerous awards including a Department of Defense Top 5 Software Projects award for 2004 and 2005. This year, the OneSAF team is competing for the 2006 Florida Governor's Award for Modeling and Simulation.

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



U.S. Army Photos/Doug Shaub

Top: U.S. Army Maj. Federica King, assistant product manager for the One Semi-Automated Forces (OneSAF) program, proudly displays the modeling and simulation software that will be delivered to every brigade and battalion in the Army. After six years in development, the Program Executive Office for Simulation, Training and Instrumentation (PEO STRI) released the OneSAF Objective System (OOS) version 1.0 Sept. 29.

Bottom: The One Semi-Automated Forces Objective System (OOS) is evolutionary modeling and simulation software. The system creates interoperability between simulations and will be a common training component in all Future Combat Systems embedded training platforms.

Headquartered in Orlando, Fla., PEO STRI provides interoperable training and testing solutions, program

management and life-cycle support for the Army's most advanced training systems around the world. ■

PEO Taking Strides toward NSPS

By Kristen Dooley

Editor's Note:

This article is the first in a series that will detail PEO STRI's conversion to the NSPS. More details will be forthcoming as information is made available.

The Department of Defense (DOD) announced in July that it will implement the second phase (Spiral 1.2) of the National Security Personnel System (NSPS), a new civilian human resources system, to more than 66,000 employees between now and February 2007.

As directed by the Department of the Army, the Program Executive Office for Simulation, Training and Instrumentation (PEO STRI) is taking steps toward that conversion, which will initially convert all NH-IV level personnel. Current plans are for the remainder of PEO STRI

employees to convert in fiscal year 2008.

"Our goal is to train the trainers first," said Dr. James Blake, program executive officer for PEO STRI. "The next step will be implementing it into the workforce."

Under the new classification structure, individuals will convert to NSPS without a loss of pay.

The NSPS is comprised of three interrelated elements: pay bands, pay schedules and career groups. The pay band fits into a pay schedule and a pay schedule fits into one of four career groups.

Every position fits into a career group – namely, standard, scientific and engineering, medical, and investigative and protective services. They are broad groupings of jobs that perform related work. For PEO STRI employees, all

positions will fall into the standard and scientific and engineering career groups.

Pay schedules combine similar types of work within each career group. They define and classify positions based on the nature of the work performed, career patterns, mission and job competencies.

Much like the current Contribution-based Compensation and Appraisal System, NSPS groups positions based on a pay band within a specific pay schedule. The new pay scale establishes a pay-range for each pay band, with a minimum and maximum rate.

"Pay is directly linked to performance and mission accomplishment," said Mae Hazelton, personnel resources manager for PEO STRI. "A basic tenet of NSPS is to make meaningful distinctions

in employee performance and to ensure employee development with ongoing feedback and dialogue."

NSPS is a management system that compensates employees based on their performance and contribution to the organization.

"NSPS is not about personnel rules and policies, rather it is about driving culture change away from a focus on activities and levels of effort and toward a culture of performance and results," stated Francis J. Harvey, secretary of the U.S. Army. "We can and must leverage flexibilities in NSPS to execute our national security mission."

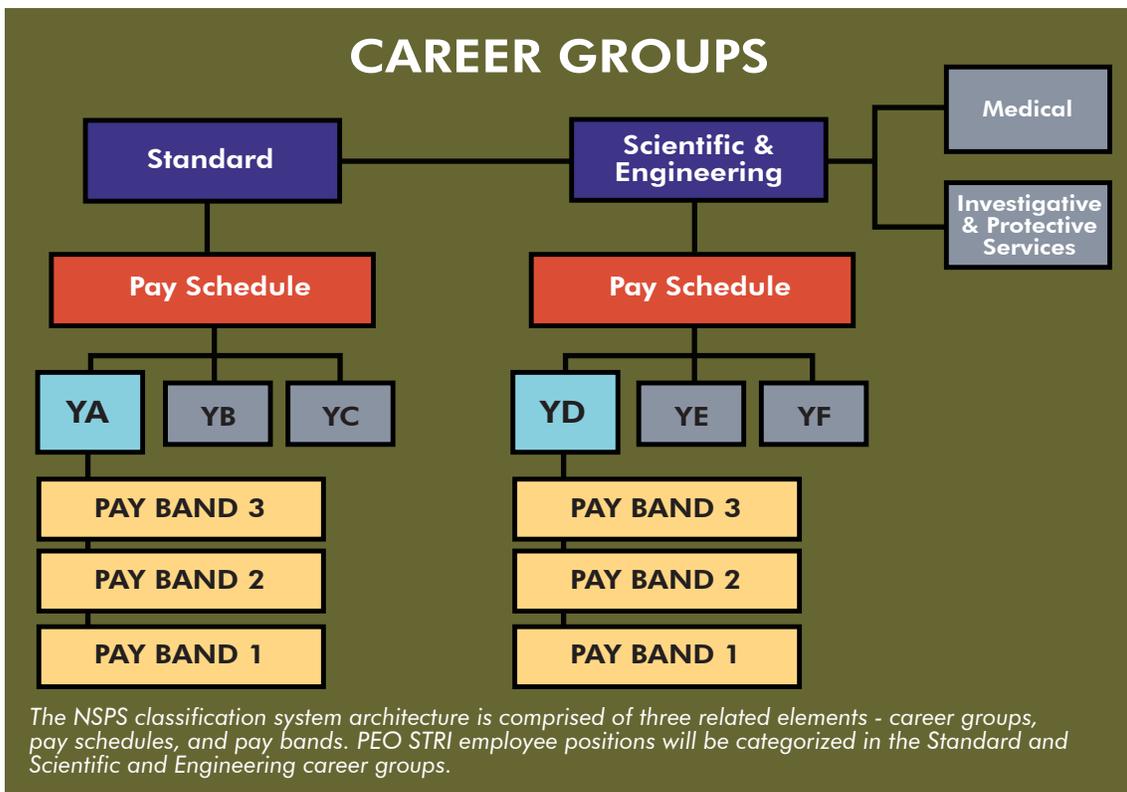
According to the NSPS website, when an employee's performance and work are aligned with organizational goals and the DOD's mission, his or her value to the organization is enhanced.

The performance of an employee is rewarded by an increase in salary, a bonus or a combination of both.

"I encourage all PEO STRI employees to take the NSPS online course," said Hazelton. "The transition management team will use appropriate venues – town hall meetings, brown-bag information sessions and a sharepoint site – to involve the workforce in planning and implementation guidance."

Employees have access to training materials, including the NSPS 101 course located on the NSPS website at www.cpmosd.mil/nsps/nsps101/nsps/index.htm.

"The concept is the same as our current system: people making a difference should be rewarded," said Blake. ■



The NSPS classification system architecture is comprised of three related elements - career groups, pay schedules, and pay bands. PEO STRI employee positions will be categorized in the Standard and Scientific and Engineering career groups.

September 17, 2006

Dear colleagues, coworkers and friends,

The few days I spent in the woods and marsh on the UCF campus was a life altering experience. In life we make so many casual decisions that can have severe consequences. My choice to take a short-cut on a path I had never traveled just to save a few minutes had ramifications I would have never believed.

While in there, I had several discussions with our Creator (I could not find out anyone else to talk to). In several of those discussions, I asked for guidance as to what direction I should go to get out of there. That plea was answered a little differently than I had anticipated. The direction I took did not get me out of the marsh, but it did position me in the exact place I was found by my rescuers. Knowing that people were still looking for me helped to keep me going. I am overwhelmed by the effort that was put forth by the people in this community. It is truly a miracle that I survived this; no one on this earth is more blessed than I am.

I can never repay all of the folks that were involved for the endless hours spent looking for me. The words I know in the English language seem so inadequate to express my appreciation. All I can do is thank everyone from the bottom of my heart. God has a very special place for each and every one of you. Again, thank you so very much.

Sincerely,

Eddie M. Meadows

of aircraft training.

To illustrate, the UH-60 Black Hawk consumes 600 liters of fuel per hour which equates to approximately \$314 per hour. The UH-60 Black Hawk simulator uses 144.7 kilo-volt-amps of electricity per hour which costs about \$10.

Dr. Roger Smith, chief scientist for PEO STRI, said the organization has recently deployed new UH-60 Black Hawk simulators that will reduce electricity consumption by nearly 30-percent. Cost-saving data has yet to be collected due to the newness of the deployment.

at \$75,000 each, the hydra rocket at \$5,500 each and the 30mm round at \$230 each.

Common Driver Trainer/Stryker Variant (CDT/SV)

The primary mission of the CDT/SV, a program under Product Manager Ground Combat Tactical Trainer (PM GCTT), is to provide driver training at operational institutions and training installations. The program, which simulates Army tactical vehicles, has resulted in more than \$28 million in cost savings over the past 10 years.

visual system, motion system and a computational system.

The instructor can select a visual scene, view the scene, introduce malfunctions and emergency control situations, monitor each trainee's performance and provide recorded AAR feedback.

"Re-host and upgrade costs are reduced based on a common interchangeable cab configuration and electric motion platform design," said Raisler. "For all common systems, software and hardware configurations are compatible and terrain databases are

Maj. William Brennan, assistant product manager for PM GCTT. "Within CGA compliant and interconnected training devices, crews of Abrams, Bradley, Stryker and FCS [Future Combat Systems] series vehicles will be able to interoperate in a standardized, realistic environment for training and mission rehearsal."

In August of 2004, a PEO STRI integrated product team validated the cost-benefit analysis of CGA. The analysis projected a cost savings of \$66.4 million over the next 10 years.

According to an Army Audit Agency report issued on July 20, 2006, the Army could achieve a cost avoidance of \$53.4 million between fiscal years 2008 and 2013 if it converts gunnery training devices to CGA-based software. Over a 15-year period, the Army could realize an additional \$111.8 million in savings.

"CGA provides timely training to Soldiers with flexible and adaptive gunnery solutions," said John Kirch, business manager for Project Manager Constructive Simulations (PM ConSim) who directs the One Semi-Automated Force Objective System. "It minimizes total lifecycle costs and risks, and bridges the gap with FCS but is not dependent upon the FCS fielding schedule."

Battlefield Effects Simulator (BES)

The BES system, a product of Project Manager Training Devices (PM TRADE), simulates the flash and bang of a weapon's discharge and imitates the impact of force-on-target, live-fire training. The BES, a five-year contract, will result in a cost avoidance of approximately 40-percent.

The simulator consists of three components – the Omega 60 simulator system, the M34 cartridge, and the M35 cartridge. The Omega 60 simulator system is a device that ignites pyrotechnic cartridges on command. The M34 cartridge produces the flash and sound of tank gunfire. The M35 cartridge produces the flash and sound of a round on an armor target.

"Significant cost avoidance shall be realized through lower prices of launchers, Omega 60, and cartridges, M34 and M35," said V. David Mize, BES project director. "Typically, launchers are a one time purchase and the cartridges are consumable, therefore the primary



U.S. Army Photo/Doug Shaub

The Common Driver Trainer/Stryker Variant (CDT/SV) provides initial and sustainment driver training at training institutions and operational installations.

Other simulated helicopters, including the AH-64A Apache, CH-47D Chinook, and the UH-1H Iroquois (Huey), save the Army a significant amount of money in relation to the cost of training in the actual aircraft. The simulators cost \$500 per hour whereas training in the real helicopter can cost as much as \$7,503 per hour.

In addition, military training exercises cut costs when using simulated aim, fire and guided weapons. The simulated weapons are cost-free as compared to real weapons – namely, the hellfire missile

"The CDT program was born of the necessity to save money in repetitive procurements of unique vehicle platform driver trainers," said Robert Raisler, deputy product manager for PM GCTT.

The simulated vehicle is significantly more cost effective than the actual means of transportation. A CDT/SV costs \$800,000 as compared to an actual Stryker, which can cost up to \$4.13 million per vehicle.

The simulator consists of a vehicle cab, instructor/operator station, After Action Review (AAR) station,

interchangeable."

Common Gunnery Architecture (CGA)

CGA, a Project Manager Combined Arms Tactical Trainer (PM CATT) initiative, is the standardization of all virtual gunnery training systems to a single baseline which allows for long-term growth potential in training capabilities.

"In the absence of CGA, the U.S. Army and U.S. Marine Corps will continue to pay redundant developmental and lifecycle support costs for four distinct baselines," said

cost avoidance is realized with the cartridges."

Live Training Transformation (LT2)

PM TRADE's Common Training Instrumentation Architecture (CTIA) provides a product-line architecture that will implement LT2, which is an Army-wide initiative to develop a live-training range product line.

"A preliminary analysis performed on software reusability of two LT2 main products shows a potential cost avoidance of approximately \$18 million," said Angel Matta, operations research systems analyst for PEO STRI.

Cost savings are achieved through reusable components, a common set of solutions and lifecycle sustainment for the LT2 family of training systems.

"The LT2 product line strategy is required to synergize training, instrumentation, targets and tactical engagement simulation systems to ensure the effectiveness of training during peacetime, mobilization, mission rehearsal in-theater and during deployed military operations," said Matta.

Contamination Avoidance Detector Suite (CADTS)

The Instrument Management Office within the Project Manager Instrumentation Targets and Threat Systems (PM ITTS) initiated CADTS. The project enhances the capability of the test and evaluation community to evaluate chemical and biological detector systems.

"The capabilities developed by the CADTS project not only provide more realistic environments in evaluating the detector systems, but also provide efficiencies that result in cost savings to the detector program managers," said Eddie Meadows, deputy product manager for CADTS.

The Biological Agent Irradiation Facility (BAIF) inactivates biological agents so they are not harmful and can be used in field testing. Before the installation of the facility at Dugway Proving Ground, Utah, the live agents had to be shipped out for irradiation and then back to the test site.

"After Sept. 11, the shipment of any weaponized agent had to be a secured shipment at a cost of \$35,000 per shipment," said Meadows. "There has been a cost avoidance to the customer of

\$7 million since the BAIF became functional in 2003."

Ground Targets

The Targets Management Office (TMO) within PM ITTS met the requirements of the Guided Multiple Launch Rocket System (GMLRS), a type of rocket artillery, and saved the Army \$2.15 million.

GMLRS required a combat vehicle (BM-21) and a 122mm gun that fires a range of ammunition, including D-30s. In addition, the GMLRS needed an SA-6 site, an air defense artillery

our sources, the TMO was able to obtain a surplus of U.S. M114A2 howitzers [medium-sized, towed artillery pieces] for use as surrogate targets," said Robbin Finley, project director of GMLRS. "The howitzers were modified with an extended tube to visually represent a threatening D-30."

Seven surrogate targets were purchased at \$12,000 each for a total cost of \$84,000. The cost of an actual D-30 is \$135,000, which saved \$861,000 in total.

The TMO modified existing

to the \$860,000 for actual threat assets, TMO saved the U.S. Army \$785,000.

As a result, the TMO saved more than \$2 million for 20 ground target vehicles.

"The TMO works consistently to provide targets to customers in the most cost effective way while still meeting all test requirements," said Finley.

Intelligence Modeling and Simulation for Evaluation (IMASE) Scenario Generation Tool (ISGT)

ISGT reduces the test-scenario development time from approximately 24 months to four-months, thus significantly reducing costs. Over the last year, ISGT has yielded a cost avoidance of more than \$1.2 million.

"ISGT will further reduce the scenario-generation time and cost through the reuse of scenarios already developed, a more enhanced automated capability, and more training and familiarization of the tool," said Paul Morley, project director for ISGT.

According to the U.S. Army Test and Evaluation Center, the average test-scenario is comprised of 150,000 entities and takes place over an 18-month to 24-month period.

The Threat Systems Management Office (TSMO) within PM ITTS developed a tool that provides enhanced planning and execution of scenarios for operational testing of Intelligence Electronic Warfare systems. The product automates threat scenario development capabilities to support operational testing. The ISGT reduces test preparation and execution costs through the automation.

"TSMO is using an evolutionary approach to provide automated capabilities to the war-gamer for scenario generation," said Morley.

Fielding Warfighters' Simulation (WARSIM)

WARSIM, a software simulation system acquired by PM ConSim, creates a realistic environment for command and staff training for the Army and Joint Commanders. The U.S. Army saved nearly \$500,000 in fielding the system.

"Initially, WARSIM software ran with the Solaris operating system and



U.S. Army Photo/Doug Shaub

The Biological Agent Irradiation Facility (BAIF) inactivates live biological agents to make them safe for field tests and open air release. The facility essentially kills the active organism so the agent is no longer harmful to humans.

threat location where information is communicated to allow long range defense from incoming air artillery.

Since the targets are used for destructive tests, the use of actual hardware was cost prohibitive; therefore the TMO modified and provided existing military trucks – ZIL 131, ZIL 157 and URAL 375.

"Working with the customer and

fleet trucks with fabricated launch assemblies to imitate a BM-21. These surrogates were developed for a cost of \$16,670 per vehicle, compared to \$100,000 for an actual BM-21. This resulted in a cost avoidance of \$500,000 for six vehicles.

The TMO used plastic targets to meet the needs of the SA-6 site which cost \$75,000. Compared

LEGAL CORNER



By Laura Cushler

What To Do If You Might Be a Victim of Identity Theft

Many of us have laughed at the television commercials where little old ladies sound like they are talking like bikers or a strong man lifting weights sounds like a young woman. The commercial wants you to believe that these fictional people have suffered identity theft and are talking like the people who perpetrated the crime. However, identity theft is not funny. Identity theft is actually one of the most frightening and least understood problems for many people today.

What is "identity theft"? Identity theft occurs when someone appropriates your personal information without your knowledge to commit fraud or theft. In plain terms, this means that someone gets your name, address, social security number and credit card or other information, and uses them to run up big bills, pretending they are actually you. Many times, you might not find out about the theft for months. By the time you discover the fraudulent charge or bill, you have ruined credit and the bill collectors are hounding you.

How does this type of

thing happen? ANYONE who has access to the basic information needed to apply for credit, or even telephone or cell phone service, could potentially use that information to steal your identity. This includes people like the clerk in the store where you applied for a credit card, your landlord, or the cashier you handed your credit card to.

What should you do if you suspect that this may have happened to you? The Fair Credit Reporting Act gives you specific rights when you suspect that your identity was stolen.

First, call one of the three nationwide consumer reporting agencies and request that they place a "fraud alert" in your file. A fraud alert is good for 90 days and makes it more difficult for someone to get credit in your name because it tells creditors to follow certain procedures to protect you. Once you notify one of the agencies, that agency must notify the other two regarding the fraud alert. The three agencies are: Equifax, Experian, and TransUnion.

You may also request an "extended alert" that lasts for seven years. If you ask for the extended alert, you must at least provide a copy

of an "identity theft report" that you have filed with a federal, state, or local law enforcement agency.

Second, once you file the initial fraud alert, you also have the right to a free copy of the information in your file from all three nationwide agencies. An extended alert entitles you to two free copies of your file in the following 12 months. The additional opportunity to obtain your credit file will help you to monitor your accounts

over time to help you see if someone opened a fraudulent account in your name or reported a change in your address. You are also entitled to a free copy of your file every year if you believe it has inaccurate information due to any kind of fraud, including identity theft.

Third, you have the right to a copy of any documents relating to fraudulent transactions made or accounts opened using your personal information. You also have the right to obtain information from a debt collector. For example, if you request it, a debt collector must provide you with certain information about a debt, if you believe was incurred in your name by

an identity thief. The types of information they must provide include the name of the creditor and the amount of the debt.

Fourth, if you believe information in your credit file resulted from identity theft, you have the right to ask that consumer reporting agencies block that information from your file. You might request a block, for example, if an identity thief runs bills up in your name and those outstanding debts appear on your credit report. Once a debt resulting from identity theft is blocked, a person or business with

notice of the block may not sell, transfer, or assign the debt to a collection agency.

You may also prevent businesses from reporting information about you to consumer reporting agencies if you believe

the information is a result of identity theft. In order to do so, you must send your request to the business address that specifically reports the information to the consumer reporting agency.

For more information on identity theft and your rights under the Fair Credit Reporting Act, see www.consumer.gov/idtheft and www.ftc.gov/credit.

Please contact Laura Cushler, Associate Counsel, PEO Legal Office x3509 ■

Consumer Reporting Agencies

Equifax:
1-800-525-6285
www.equifax.com

Experian:
1-888-397-3742
www.experian.com

TransUnion:
1-800-680-7289
www.transunion.com

Fujitsu/Sun servers, which were not cost effective," said Kirch. "Through an analysis to reduce hardware cost to field WARSIM, it was determined to port the WARSIM software from Solaris to the Linux operating system. By successfully completing this port, it gave the program flexibility to run on less expensive hardware servers."

Consolidated Oracle Buy

PM ConSim purchased 170 Oracle database enterprise processor licenses and in doing so,

saved more than \$5.5 million.

"The GSA [U.S. General Services Administration] schedule price was estimated to be approximately \$7 million," said Kirch. "PM ConSim went to the U.S. Army Small Computer Program to see if we could participate in a consolidated buy."

As part of a consolidated buy, PM ConSim's actions resulted in a 62.5-percent savings from the GSA schedule prices.

Saving through Simulation

"Training in simulators offers a virtually risk-free environment while still providing a

realistic experience for the user," said Raisler.

According to a 1997 publication by Jesse Orlansky, simulators offer a tremendous cost advantage over real world training noting that "researchers have found that simulator training costs one-tenth of the investment of actual field exercises."

"When dealing with potentially life threatening situations, the cost of simulator training is well worth the investment," said Raisler. ■

When dealing with potentially life threatening situations, the cost of simulator training is well worth the investment, said Raisler.

Protocol
Tip of the Month

By: Marge Hadbavny

When conducting business via e-mail, take the following points into consideration:

It is perfectly acceptable, and in fact preferable, to conduct business transactions by e-mail.

Highly important correspondences should not be sent online because e-mail is not reliable enough.

Humor can be misconstrued by the receiver, so use caution when making witty observations or remarks in an e-mail.

Reread e-mails multiple times before sending it because misspellings and incorrect grammar will reflect poorly on you.

Be careful when referencing sensitive subjects because you do not want to offend a colleague or give someone the wrong impression.

Reference: "The Fabulous Girl's Guide to Decorum," by Kim Izzo and Ceri Marsh (2001)



Business E-mail Etiquette



U P C O M I N G E V E N T S

- OCT 6** 1st Friday of every month Colors (All Military)
- OCT 9** Columbus Day
- OCT 18** Visitor Gen. Joseph L. Yakovac
- OCT 19** Townhall
- OCT 29** Day Light Savings
- OCT 31** Halloween

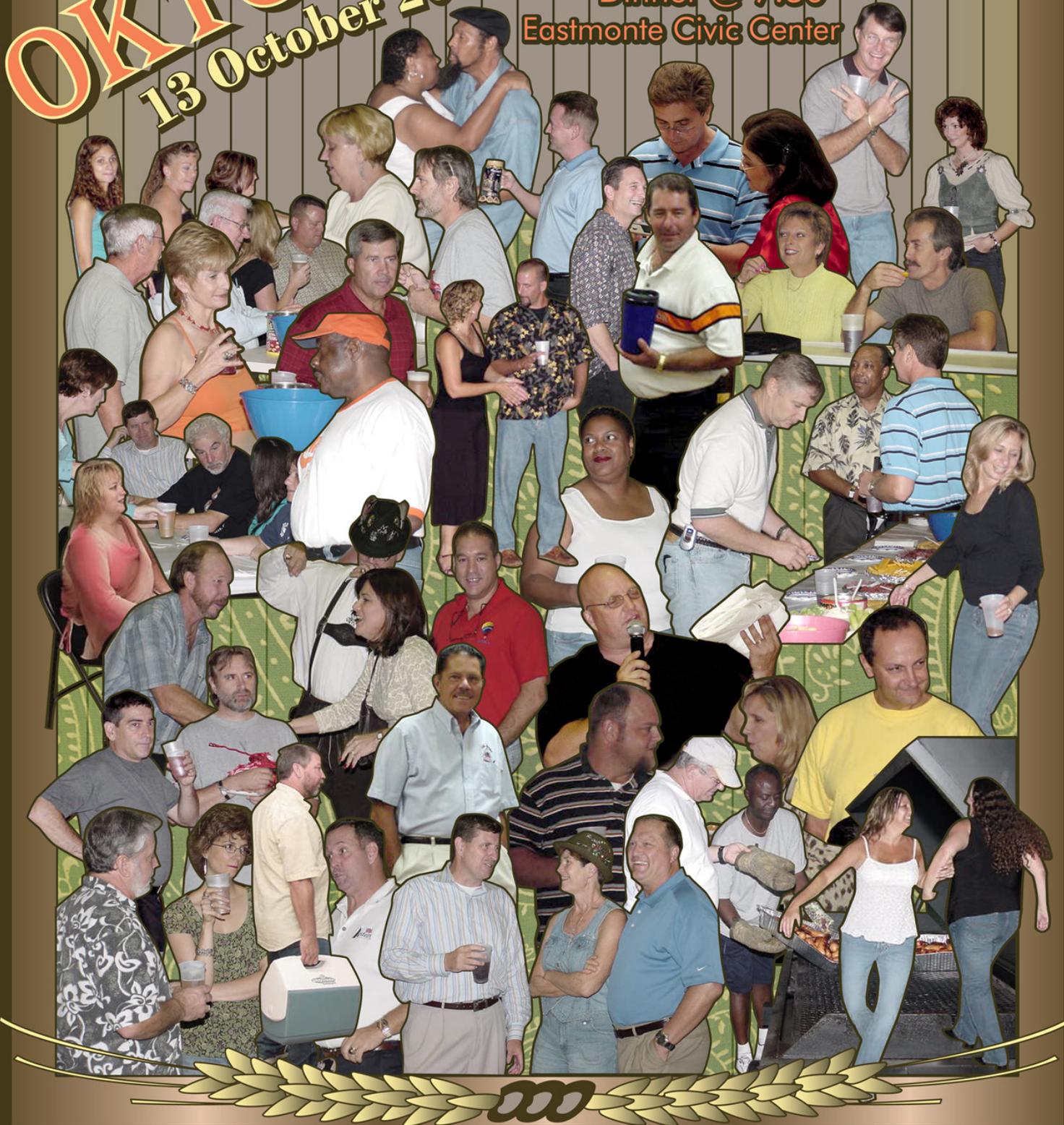


25th Annual OKTOBERFEST

13 October 2006



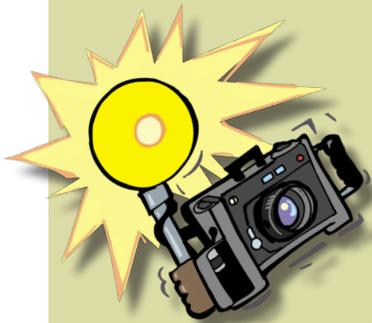
Cocktails @ 7:00
Dinner @ 7:30
Eastmonte Civic Center



Team Orlando in Pictures

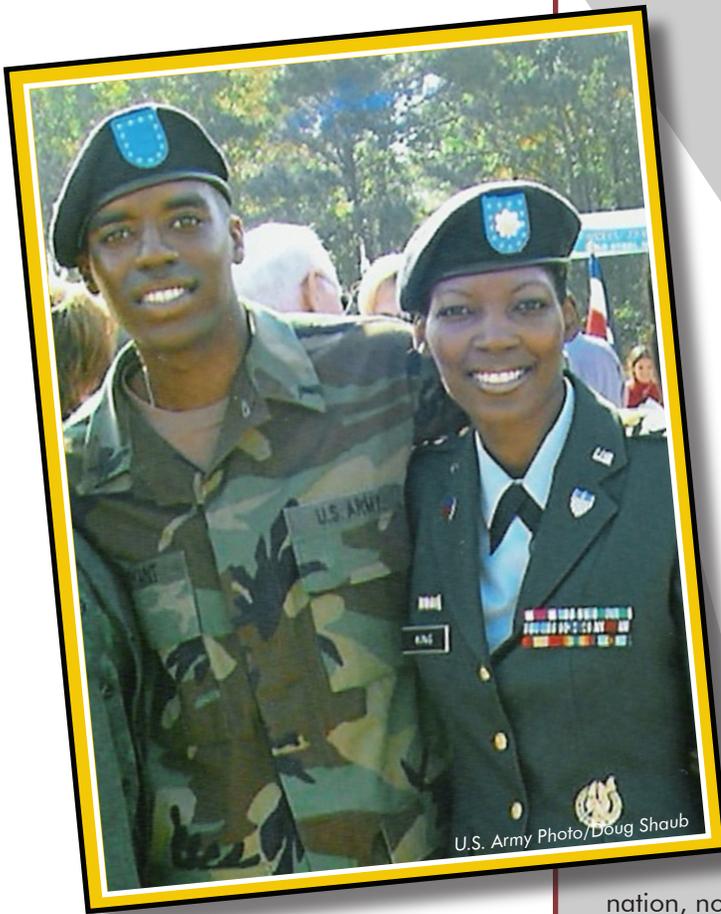


Officers from the Royal Thai Armed Forces visited the Program Executive Office for Simulation, Training and Instrumentation in September for an overview briefing on Military Operations on Urbanized Terrain. Pictured from left to right: Maj. Mike Snook, joint U.S. military advisory group for Thailand, and Thai officers -- Lt. Gen. Chaipat, Maj. Gen. Tarnchaiyan, Lt. Gen. Kanchanawat and Capt. Sanyalak.



The Joint Advanced Distributed Learning Co-Laboratory (JADL Co-Lab)

held their annual Implementation Fest at Disney's Yacht & Beach Club to highlight the quality of training and education provided to America's Warfighters. The three-day conference included presentations by distinguished military officers and Dan Gardner, director of Readiness and Training Policy and Programs for the Office of the Secretary of Defense. Many significant issues facing our military today were identified, such as problems with language barriers and cultural differences. Pictured left to right: Jean Burmester, director, JADL Co-Lab in Orlando, Fla., Paul Jesukiewicz, deputy director of ADL Initiative, Office of the Secretary of Defense, Joe Camacho, program manager for Joint Knowledge Development and Distribution Capability, Dan Gardner, and Robert Wisner, director of ADL Initiative, Office of the Secretary of Defense.



U.S. Army Photo/Doug Shaub

The PEO STRI



Employee Spotlight

Federica "Freddie" King

Family Makes the Army a Tradition

By Kristen Dooley

Maj. Federica "Freddie" King is neither the first in her family to serve the nation, nor is she the last.

"I am an Army brat," said King, who joined the Army in 1984 as an enlisted Soldier. "My father and oldest sister retired from the Army and my brother retired from the Navy. Service to the country became a family tradition."

King's son, Pfc. Kaitron S. Bryant, followed in his mother's footsteps and enlisted in the Army after a year at Central Florida Community College.

"I joined the Army because it was a great opportunity to receive money for college and get the training that I need to someday own my own dental practice," said Bryant who joined the military in 2005 and currently assists in providing dental care to Soldiers at Fort Campbell, Ky.

Bryant said King always reminded him that the Army is a great place to be, but also

allowed him to pursue his dreams.

"I advised my son to explore all of his options and then make his own decision. If he joined the military, I wanted it to be because that is what he wanted to do and not what he believed

I wanted him to do," said King. "He told me college was not where he wanted to be. He wanted to be a Soldier."

King said the best advice she offered her son was to work hard and put forth 110-percent every day.

"She is a great mother, role model, and Army officer,"

said Bryant about his mother. Bryant said he would like his children to follow the family tradition and serve in the military.

"It would be great for my kids to join the military because of the opportunities the Army provides," said Bryant. "However, whatever they decide to do in life, I just want my children to be happy with the decision they make."



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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:
Dwain Fletcher Company