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OCTOBER 2007

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WORTH REPEATING

“The health of our all-volunteer force, our Soldier-volunteers, our Family-volunteers, depends on the health of the Family. The readiness of our all-volunteer force depends on the health of the Families. I can assure you that your Army leadership understands the important contribution each and every one of you makes. We need to make sure we step up and provide the support Families need so the Army Family stays healthy and ready.”

— *Secretary of the Army Pete Geren, said during the signing of the Army Family Covenant at Fort Knox, Ky., Oct. 17.*

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Artwork/Debbie Lewis

Ballard Recognizes PEO STRI's Contracting Responsibility

By Kristen A. Dooley, PEO STRI Public Affairs Officer

Not only was Oct. 3, 2007, the fifth birthday for the Program Executive Office for Simulation Training and Instrumentation (PEO STRI), it also marked the ceremonial recognition of the organization's contracting authority.

“Receiving Army contracting authority is a significant step forward for the PEO as we continue along our strategic path for responsive support to our Soldiers and our nation,” said Dr. Jim Blake, program executive officer for PEO STRI. Blake is one of only 10 individuals with Army Head of Contracting Activity (HCA).

The ceremony included the designation of Blake as PEO STRI's HCA and the appointment of Kim Denver as the organization's principal assistant responsible for contracting. In addition, 12 contracting officers received warrants enabling them to execute Army acquisition and procurement functions.

“With the newly designated contracting authority, PEO STRI's Acquisition Center of Excellence enables us to provide an even higher level of responsive service to our nation and to our Warfighters,” said Rob Reyenga, PEO STRI business operations

officer, in his address to the workforce during the designation ceremony.

Additionally, 14 individuals were recognized for their work in successfully transitioning all of PEO STRI's contracts from the Naval Air Warfare Center Training Systems (NAWCTSD) to Army contracting.

“While PEO STRI will no longer have contracting authority under NAVAIR, we will continue to rely on and receive critical support from NAWCTSD in engineering, logistics, human resources, facilities

and other support areas. We are very thankful to NAVAIR for their past support, and appreciate the continued relationship,” Reyenga said.

“For years contracting officers have been, and continue to be, the only authorized representatives of the U.S. government who can obligate the government financially.”

— Ms. Tina Ballard, the deputy assistant secretary of the Army (policy and procurement)

OUT AND ABOUT IN THE COMMUNITY, HELPING WOUNDED WARFIGHTERS

By Kristen A. Dooley, PEO STRI Public Affairs Officer

The second annual "Ride for a Wounded Warrior" took place Sept. 23 from the American Legion Post #53 in Sanford, Fla. The fundraiser was started by two employees of the Program Executive Office for Simulation, Training and Instrumentation (PEO STRI), Dave and Danni Sellars. It is part of the Wounded Warrior Project, a charitable organization created to support severely wounded servicemen and women.

In addition to the motorcycle ride, the event included a poker tournament, live music and PEO STRI's Medical Simulation Training Center (MSTC).

"Big thanks go to STRI for having the MSTC personnel set up a display," said Danni Sellars. "The display received a lot of attention from the bikers showing why the Wounded Warrior Project is so important. With the advanced training our Soldiers are receiving, we have more wounded Soldiers leaving the battlefield and a much less loss of life."

The music was provided by the "Bearded Clam" in which PEO STRI's Lt. Col. Pat Connors is the band manager. Connors' wife is the lead singer.

"We couldn't have made it happen

without their help," said Danni Sellars. "Bikers love good music, and they did a wonderful job."

This year's event raised \$10,000 for the Wounded Warrior Project. Even though they doubled their donation from the last bikers' run, Danni Sellars would have liked to raised more. "Unfortunately, we had a bad rain day or we possibly could have made much more," said Danni Sellars. "There's always next year."

Last year, they raised \$4,800 and bought backpacks for wounded service members.

"We had a couple of veterans who were recipients of these backpacks [attend the event] and said they were a godsend. They stated that when they were in the hospital with no clothing or personal items and no way to get them, they received a backpack and thought it was the most awesome thing," Danni Sellars said.

"They told me that when they heard about this motorcycle poker run for the Wounded Warrior Project they had to support it so every wounded military person that finds themselves in the hospital will have everything they need to get by until they are able to get their personal belongings or cash to purchase them," she said. ■

HOLIDAY DEADLINES RAPIDLY APPROACHING FOR TROOP SUPPORT

While the holidays may still seem far away, Americans hoping to show their support to deployed troops must be aware of some rapidly approaching deadlines set by the Military Postal Service Agency. Mail going parcel post must be sent by Nov. 14 while first-class mail must be sent by Dec. 10 to arrive by Dec. 25.

In addition to deadlines, several other factors must be considered when sending mail downrange. For example, each country has customs regulations that apply to all incoming mail, pertaining to everything from food items to reading materials. Furthermore, military units may also have additional restrictions concerning incoming mail imposed by unit commanders relative to size and weight to ensure logistics support can handle the heavy mail load. Finally, all packages and mail must now be addressed to individual service members as required by U.S. Department of Defense regulations.

In order to help facilitate the mailing process and avoid many of the obstacles that come with the traditional care packages, the Army & Air Force Exchange Service created "Gifts from the Homefront," a campaign that allows anyone to make a direct and tangible contribution to military morale with a gift certificate that can be redeemed for nearly anything a specific servicemember wants.

"Gifts from the Homefront" can be sent to deployed troops by logging on to www.aafes.org or calling 877-770-4438. From there, the gift certificates are sent to individual service members (designated by the purchaser) or distributed to "any service member" through the Air Force Aid Society, American Red Cross, Coalition to Salute America's Heroes, Fisher House, Navy-Marine Corps Relief Society, Operation Homefront, Operation Interdependence® or USO. "Gifts From the Homefront" gift certificates can be redeemed at exchange facilities worldwide.

Recent reports indicate troops shopping at their contingency exchanges are reaching for beauty items, soft drinks, snacks, Military Exchange Global prepaid calling cards, magazines, movies and more.



Courtesy Photo/Danni Sellars

PEO STRI's Medical Simulation Training Center program drew much attention at the Sept. 23 Ride for a Wounded Warrior event held at the American Legion Post #53 in Sanford, Fla.

PM OneSAF Conducts First International Users Conference

By Brian Hunt, PM OneSAF Project Coordinator

The Product Manager for One Semi-Automated Forces (PM OneSAF) conducted the 2007 Users Conference Aug. 20 through Aug. 24 in Orlando, Fla. The conference provided users and developers of OneSAF software a forum to learn, share, and improve their knowledge of the Army's composable, next-generation, entity-level computer generated forces simulation designed for brigade and below combat and non-combat operations.

"This was a great conference. We had more than 140 OneSAF users and co-developers, representing both national and international military, government, academia and industry, all together for a week of positive interactions and information sharing," said Lt. Col. Rob Rasch, OneSAF product manager at PEO STRI.

The conference opened with a presentation on OneSAF and future training technologies

by Dr. Roger Smith, PEO STRI's chief technology officer. His presentation and follow-on discussion set the stage for guest presenters representing the U.S. Army Training and Doctrine Command (TRADOC) Program Office (TPO) for OneSAF, the National Simulation Center, the TRADOC Analysis Center at White Sands, N.M., and the U.S. Army Materiel Systems Analysis Activity.

The conference agenda was uniquely built around themed sessions that included user presentations, OneSAF Version 2.0 Planned Capabilities, Version 3.0 Requirements and Build Plans, Objective Force/Future Combat System Capabilities, International Updates by Canada, Slovakia and the United Kingdom, OneSAF Processes and Tools, and other in-depth technical presentations.

Throughout the week, conference attendees were openly encouraged to ask questions

and provide commentary from their own experiences using OneSAF software. The resulting exchanges generated several very productive breakout meetings paving the way for future collaboration and product growth.

Conference attendees were provided daily demonstrations of the key components of OneSAF Version 1.5, and also demonstrations by organizations that are part of the overall OneSAF product team. Conference attendees were issued a copy of OneSAF Version 1.5 at the conclusion of the conference to take home.

There was a significant turnout for this conference. To capitalize on this conference's success, PM OneSAF hopes to make it a semi-annual event. The next conference will be conducted in the March 2008 timeframe. PM OneSAF anticipates an even greater interest as Version 1.5 is fielded and used by an ever-growing user community. ■

AMERICA'S ARMY: MODERNIZATION MAINTAINS MOMENTUM

By J.D. Leipold, Army News Service

A panel of senior leaders discussed the objectives and way forward for "Army Modernization - Maintaining Momentum" at the Association of the United States Army annual meeting Oct. 8 through Oct. 10.

Lt. Gen. Stephen M. Speakes, G-8, kicked off the panel with an overview of how the Army intends to maintain current modernization momentum while implementing Future Combat Systems into the brigade combat team structure.

"We're part of a holistic effort which adapts everything about the Army; it involves modernizing the material side, but this is part of a broad-reaching effort that goes far beyond equipment," he said. "The Future Combat System is the core of Army transformation, but the centerpiece of Army transformation is the Soldier."

Lt. Gen. Speakes explained the four priorities of present Army transformation

are: to field the best new equipment possible to the current force; upgrade and modernize existing systems, such as tactical wheeled vehicles and armor systems; incorporate new technologies; and field the Future Combat Systems brigade combat team.

Lt. Gen. Jack Stultz, chief of the Army Reserve, next said all components of the Army have worked together to get the Reserve caught up on modernization.

"While we disagree and a lot of times we fight for resources, we're sitting down and coming to agreements on a lot of issues," he said. "From the Army Reserve perspective we're getting support like we've never got support before from the Army."

"We started this war \$54 billion in the hole because our Army was a tiered readiness Army; it wasn't designed, not structured, to fight a protracted war," he continued. "From the Army Reserve perspective we were a strategic force, but today we have almost

\$9 billion in resources for Army Reserve equipment to modernize."

Lt. Gen. Stultz went on to say the Army Reserve was no longer a strategic reserve and is authorized 205,000 Soldiers which accounts for about 20 percent of the Army force. At the same time he said, the reserves account for more than 50 percent of the logistics force.

"We are the combat support service structure for the Army, so we have all the transportation, the military police, medical, quartermaster, engineers, civil affairs; so this nation can't fight a protracted war without the Army Reserve," he said. "Since 9/11, we've mobilized 180,000 Soldiers from our force and we keep 30,000 mobilized on-going, but in order to continue to do that, we have to transform from the old strategic to operational mindset which means we have to train under the same conditions as our active counterparts."

Continued on page 5



Recycle at NSA Orlando

Here's how ...

- * "WHITE PAPER ONLY" and "ALUMINUM CANS" bins are located in areas adjacent to Xerox copier/fax/printers located throughout the Annex and de Florez buildings.
- * An "ALUMINUM CANS" bin is also located in the Nature's Table cafeteria.
- * Cardboard that is left in the hallway and marked "TRASH" will be collected for recycling.
- * A "CELL PHONES AND PRINTER CARTRIDGES" receptacle is located in the lobby area adjacent the Nature's Table cafeteria.



Proceeds from the turn-in of recycled waste goes to CMWRA. For further recycling questions or concerns, please contact Isabel Muñoz x4352



Florida Citrus Sports Announces Military Discounted Football Tickets

By Johnny Nelis, *Florida Citrus Sports*

Florida Citrus Sports is proud to salute the men and women who serve our country by offering discounted tickets for United States military personnel (active, reserve, guard and retirees) and their families to the Walt Disney World Florida Classic presented by State Farm, the Champs Sports Bowl and the Capital One Bowl.

The Walt Disney World Florida Classic presented by State Farm features Bethune-Cookman University and Florida A&M University. Kickoff is scheduled for Saturday, Nov. 17, 2007 at 3:15 p.m. at the Florida Citrus Bowl Stadium. Tickets are being offered this year at a discount for military personnel and their families at a cost of \$36, a savings of \$4. Seats are available in sections 302, 316, 324 and 338.

In the Champs Sports Bowl, teams from the Big Ten and Atlantic Coast Conference

face-off in the only bowl match-up between these two conferences. The game will take place Friday, Dec. 28, 2007 at 5:00 p.m. at the Florida Citrus Bowl Stadium. Tickets to this game are \$47, a savings of \$13 off the game day price. Seats are available in sections 112, 212, 128 and 228 on a first-come, first-serve basis.

The Capital One Bowl scheduled for Saturday, Jan. 1, 2008 at 1:00 p.m. matches highly-ranked teams from the Big Ten and the Southeastern Conferences. Military tickets are \$62, a savings of \$13 from the game day ticket price. Seats are available in sections 112, 212, 134, 234 while supplies last.

To purchase tickets using your military discount, please contact Gary Nelson at (407) 855-0116 or stop by the Information, Tickets and Travel (ITT) office at 8717 Tradeport Drive, at the BX next to the

Orlando International Airport. A valid military identification is required to obtain the discount. This discounted offer is not available on game day.

Florida Citrus Sports is a not-for-profit membership organization dedicated to increasing community spirit and pride, promoting tourism, stimulating economic development and ultimately benefiting charities, educational institutions and the quality of life in Central Florida through its four signature events: The Capital One Bowl, the Champs Sports Bowl, the Orlando Citrus Parade presented by Delta Air Lines and the OUC Half Marathon and 5K.

To learn about individual, military, and corporate membership opportunities with Florida Citrus Sports, contact Mr. Johnny Nelis at 407-423-2476 ext. 132 or jnelis@fcsports.com. ■

MODERNIZATION... *Continued from page 3*

Lt. Gen. Stultz said one of the Reserve's greatest challenges has been getting the same equipment to train with that his Soldiers use while deployed.

"We need to execute the Army force generation model and get the modernization and equipment down to the lowest level in a timely manner so we can train," he said. "These young Soldiers will not stick with us if they come home after operating the latest, greatest equipment in theater, then come back to the reserve center to operate old deuce-and-a-half trucks that offer no challenge."

Lt. Gen. Clyde Vaughn, director of the Army National Guard, added that modernization of National Guard was also imperative, citing the Guard owns 12,000 deuce-and-a-half trucks that average 36 years

old that must be replaced.

"We've got the greatest amount of money coming in, but we need \$23 billion to fully equip the National Guard," he said. "Are we all satisfied — not exactly, but I think we're on the path to getting better; it's just going to take time to do that though."

Lt. Gen. Ross Thompson, military deputy to the Assistant Secretary of the Army for Acquisition, Logistics and Technology, said that the Army's acquisition workforce has decreased by 40 percent from what it was 10 years ago, and that only 3 percent of that workforce is now military.

Lt. Gen. Michael Vane, director of the Army Capabilities Integration Center, discussed the role FCS has already played in the current modernization of the Army —

such as advanced armored kits, unmanned aerial vehicles and unmanned ground vehicles along with robots already serving in theater.

"Forces need to have these capabilities across the full spectrum of combat and optimized. No matter how we organize our force, we want to give the capabilities to the force commander to allow him to adapt to the enemy," he said.

"We're also looking at the human dimension," Lt. Gen. Vane said, adding that we need to "ensure that the technology being developed enhances the human characteristics, not just put the human on the equipment we've built; so we're undergoing a significant effort to look at the human dimension." ■



STRI's Simulators a Hit at Army Conference

By Kristen A. Dooley, PEO STRI Public Affairs Officer

A selection of training enablers that Soldiers currently use before they deploy to Iraq or Afghanistan were exhibited by the U.S. Army's Program Executive Office for Simulation, Training and Instrumentation (PEO STRI) at the Association of the United States Army (AUSA) Annual Meeting and Exposition Oct. 8 through Oct. 10 at the Washington Convention Center in Washington, D.C.

"Our 150,000 Soldiers in Iraq and Afghanistan are on the front line. They have urgent needs and expect urgent responses from the big Army to get them what they need when they need it to fight the wrath of the adaptive enemy," said Mr. Pete Geren, secretary of the Army, in his keynote address at AUSA. "This room is filled with partners in that effort. Civilians, contractors, and industry are working together for Soldiers."

PEO STRI displayed a number of devices that are currently meeting the urgent needs of U.S. Soldiers. These training enablers attracted the attention of many senior ranking officials including Geren, Gen. Richard Cody, the Army's vice chief of staff, Mr. Claude Bolton, assistant secretary of the Army for acquisition, logistics and technology, and retired Army Gen. Gordon Sullivan, AUSA president.

These visitors, along with many other attendees, experienced the Training-Improvised Explosive Device (T-IED), Vcommunicator Mobile, the Medical Simulation Training Center (MSTC), and



U.S. Army Photo/Beth Reece

Soldiers of the 3rd U.S. Infantry and the U.S. Army Band performed skits that brought to life 232 years of Army history during the Oct. 8 opening ceremony of the Association of the United States Army annual convention.

the Multiple Integrated Laser Engagement System Combat Vehicle System (MILES CVS).

Due to the major emphasis that the U.S. Army has placed on training Soldiers to detect, react to and safely disarm these homemade bombs, the T-IED drew a large crowd of spectators. The T-IED instructs Soldiers how to safely respond to the greatest risk U.S. forces face in the contemporary operating environment.

PEO STRI also displayed the Army's first iPod-based language and cultural trainer, the Vcommunicator Mobile. It proved to be a show-stopper. Warfighters from all over were drawn to this high-tech gadget that is currently enabling Soldiers from the 10th Mountain Division to more effectively engage with the local Iraqi population.

In addition, the Army's first and only Program of Record for medical simulation was on exhibit. MSTCs improve combat lifesaver skills in order to mitigate serious injury and death on the battlefield. PEO STRI just recently fielded six of the 12

training centers to Army installations worldwide.

MILES CVS was also demonstrated by PEO STRI at the exposition. The device replaced older MILES equipment and provides more realistic training for combat vehicle systems, namely the Abrams tank and the Bradley fighting vehicle. MILES CVS utilizes the One Tactical Engagement Simulation System technology to provide an advanced training capability, reduce lifecycle support costs and offer high-fidelity training for combat vehicle systems.

PEO STRI's booth was one of 500 industry and military exhibits. The conference also hosted a variety of professional development forums covering such topics as the noncommissioned officer education system, modernization, business transformation, support to wounded Soldiers and helping children cope with deployment.

The world's largest land power forum also included the unveiling of the Army's new theme—"America's Army: The Strength of the Nation." This replaces last year's theme of "Call to Duty: Boots on the Ground."

With the evolution of the "big" Army's message, PEO STRI did away with "Breaking in Boots on the Ground" and revealed its latest theme: "Mission First, People Always! Army Strong."

AUSA's winter symposium, a much smaller but similar exposition, will be held March 7 through March 9 at the Broward County Convention Center in Fort Lauderdale, Fla. ■



U.S. Army Photo/Staff Sgt. Christina O'Connell

Secretary of the Army, Mr. Pete Geren (left), and assistant secretary of the Army for acquisition, logistics and technology, Mr. Claude Bolton (center), visited the PEO STRI booth Oct. 10 during the AUSA conference. They were briefed by Maj. David Thompson (right) of PEO STRI on the medical simulation program.



PEO STRI's First Award under Army Contracting Supports Air Force Training

By Kristen A. Dooley, PEO STRI Public Affairs Officer

The U.S. Army's Program Executive Office for Simulation, Training and Instrumentation (PEO STRI) awarded the first contract under Army Head of Contracting Activity (HCA) Sept. 19 to General Dynamics Information Technology for support of the Air Force's Simulation, Training and Experimentation program.

"The award of this contract begins a new chapter in the history of PEO STRI. With the new HCA authority, we can ensure a streamlined acquisition process that expedites procurement thus increasing our

responsiveness to Warfighter readiness," said Dr. Jim Blake, program executive officer for PEO STRI. "I am pleased that the first contract awarded under the HCA illustrates our position to support all the services. I expect there will be many more collaborative efforts forged under this authority."

The Army's senior procurement executive, Mr. Claude Bolton, designated PEO STRI with HCA

authority Feb. 26. Since the designation, all contracting functions have transitioned from the Naval Air Warfare Center Training Systems Division to PEO STRI in which contract execution now adheres to the Army's acquisition and procurement policies and procedures.

The Air Force utilized PEO STRI's contracting capabilities in order to provide a services contract to support the air staff. "This customer apparently saw PEO STRI's omnibus contract as the most expeditious and efficient way to meet their contracting needs," said Cory

Youmans, director of

Acquisition Support for PEO STRI's Customer Support Group.

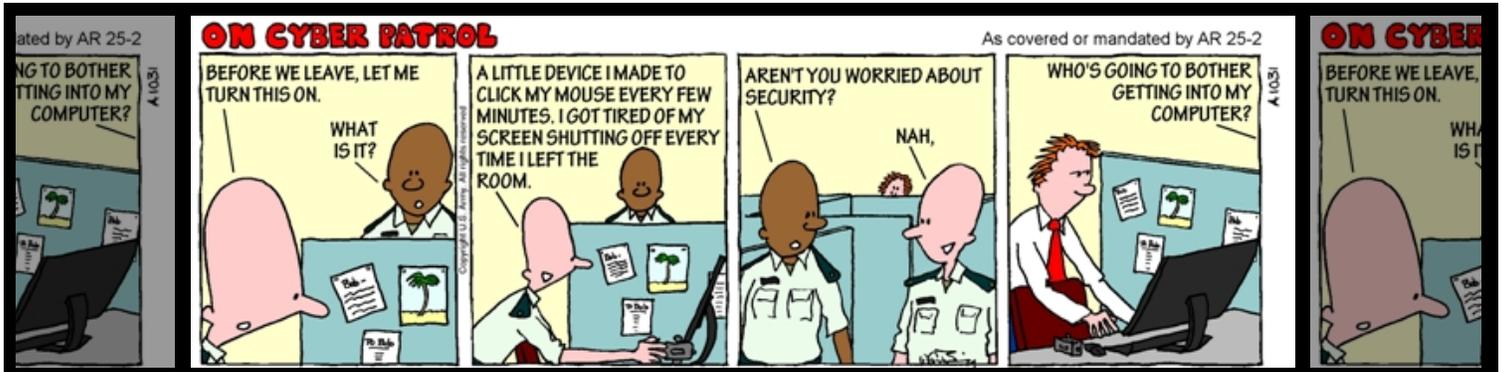
Under the contract, General Dynamics will provide wargaming and mobilization planning support for the air staff. This one-year services contract is valued at \$83 million with four one-year extension options and a ceiling value of \$146.5 million.

PEO STRI hosted a ceremonial signing Oct. 5 to mark the event in which Air Force Lt. Col. Frederick Shiner, III, chief of the Wargaming Branch for the Deputy Chief of Staff for Air and Space Operations, and Grover Lollar, section vice president for Air Force Mission Support from General Dynamics Information Technology, joined the PEO in recognizing this achievement. ■



U.S. Army Photo/Doug Schaub

To mark PEO STRI's first contract award with the Army's Head of Contracting Activity authority, Air Force Lt. Col. Frederick Shiner, III, and General Dynamics' section vice president for Air Force Mission Support, Grover Lollar, joined Dr. Jim Blake, program executive officer for PEO STRI, and Kim Denver, PEO STRI's principal assistant responsible for contracting, in a ceremonial signing Oct. 5 in the Marroletti Conference Room.



CITIZEN STRI

Are you superstitious?
If so, about what?



“ I would consider myself somewhat superstitious. I don't fear walking under ladders or crossing paths with black cats, however I must always use my lucky coin 'heads up' to mark my golf ball on the green.”

- Rodney Joyner, PSG

“ I don't believe I'm superstitious; however, I definitely believe in karma. What goes around, comes around.”

- Beth Thompson, Acq. Center



“ I'd classify myself as mildly superstitious. I feel uncomfortable walking under ladders and on cracks in the sidewalk.”

- Bryce Vollmer, PSG

“ I am not a superstitious person.”

- Tim Phan, PSG



U.S. Army Photos/Doug Schaub

Want your opinion heard? Answer November's Question!
“What is a traditional Thanksgiving meal or dish in your family?”
Send your response to kristen.dooley@us.army.mil and put Citizen STRI in the subject line.

HOLIDAYS Events



October 29 -31

MILCOM Conference

October 31

Halloween

November 4

Daylight Savings Ends

November 12

Veterans Day

Protocol TIP OF THE MONTH

By Marge Hadbavny, Protocol Officer

There are general guidelines when using a gym or fitness club, but always feel free to ask the gym coordinator for tips as well. Learn the proper use of equipment and follow the rules of the gym.

Here are 10 etiquette rules when using the gym:

1. Bring a towel with you and wipe off the equipment after use.
2. Share equipment in between sets.
3. Return equipment to its proper place.
4. If listening to music, use headphones so you do not disturb others.
5. Staying hydrated is important, but do not leave your water bottle laying around. Take it with you to the different stations.
6. Turn cell phones off.
7. Do not stare at others working out.
8. Do not grunt loudly and avoid clanging of equipment.
9. Wear clean workout clothes and have good personal hygiene.
10. Keep conversations to a minimum, but if you must talk, do so quietly and be polite.

Source: www.drdaveanddee.com/

LEGAL CORNER



10 of the Biggest Money Drains

By Laura Cushler, Associate Counsel

Before you take another sip of that \$5 mochachino, you need to read this. The average personal savings rate for Americans is at its lowest level since 2001. Even worse than that, the U.S. savings rate is projected to fall below one percent at the end of this year, which will qualify as the lowest savings rate since the Great Depression, reports the U.S. Commerce Department.

Financial experts attribute the average personal savings decline to the increase in impulse purchases. Advertisements pressuring consumers to spend and buy the newest things are everywhere. Everyone, especially younger consumers, expect instant gratification. If you cannot pay for it now, just put it on your credit card.

The big questions are: What are Americans spending most of their money on? Why is the savings rate so low?

Many people say that they just cannot figure out where the money goes. Here are 10 of the biggest money “drains” on your discretionary income. If you can do without some of these things, you can boost your savings:

- 1.) **Coffee:** The average price of coffee is \$1.38 (or more depending on the coffee vendor), reports the National Coffee Association. So, if you buy a cup of joe every morning for a year that could add up to at least \$360. That money could go into your retirement fund or savings account.
- 2.) **Cigarettes:** The average price for a pack of cigarettes in the United States is \$4.54. A pack day can cost you about \$1,660 a year. Note that Congress recently wanted to
- slap a one dollar per pack tax on cigarettes. Maybe it's time to quit!
- 3.) **Alcohol:** Drink prices vary based on your watering hole of choice; however, the average cost of one beer is \$5 including tip. Bankrate.com reports that if you buy two beers a day, it can add up to \$3,650 a year. It only gets more expensive if you buy a round of drinks for your friends. Being a big shot can add up!
- 4.) **Bottled Water:** A liter of bottled water will cost you \$1.50. Buying one bottle of water a day will cost you around about \$540 a year. This purchase will cost you and the environment in the long run.
- 5.) **Manicures:** Nothing is more relaxing than a languorous manicure. But, these types of “treats” are not economically feasible if you have them done frequently. For example, if you get a \$20 weekly manicure, you could rob your savings of \$1,068 a year. Doing your own manicure will only cost you about \$5 — the price of an emery board and a bottle of nail polish.
- 6.) **Car washes:** The average cost for basic auto detailing is about \$58. Not bad, if it's done sporadically. If you have your car detailed every two months it will cost you \$348 a year.
- 7.) **Buying Your Lunch Everyday:** It's hard to get out of the door with all of your belongings, and a sack lunch. But, if you have to buy your lunch everyday, you could be doing serious damage to your savings. For instance, buying your lunch daily will cost you about \$9 per day or \$2,350 a year. In short, it pays to spend time to make your lunch.
- 8.) **Vending Machine Snacks:** The average vending machine snack is about \$1. Buying a snack a day will cost you \$365 per year.
- 9.) **Interest Charges on Credit Card Bills:** The median credit card debt for most Americans is \$6,600. Rate tables on Bankrate.com indicate that fixed interest rates on a standard average is 13.44 percent. If you make the minimum payment each month it will take you 21 years — yes, that's years — to pay off that amount of debt.
- 10.) **Unused Memberships:** A gym membership that goes unused is probably \$40 a month which can add up to \$480 a year. Either use the membership or cut your losses (or you can go to the YMCA for free as a PEO STRI employee benefit).

If you are diligent and cut back on the extras, such as expensive coffee everyday, you will be able to contribute more money to your savings account than you expected. ■

**For more savings tips:
www.choosetosave.org**

Security Violations... A Scary Subject

By Bill Osborne and Donnette Hart, PEO STRI Security Office

With the Halloween season upon us, monsters and ghouls are all around. Even scarier than ghosts and witches is the topic of security violations.

A security violation or infraction is any breach of security regulations, requirements, procedures or guidelines, whether or not a compromise results. No matter how minor, any security infraction must be reported immediately to the security office so that the potential damage can be evaluated and appropriate action taken.

Some examples of security violations may include:

- Leaving classified material unsecured or unattended on desks, tables, cabinets, etc.
- Discussing classified information over an unsecured telephone.
- Failure to follow appropriate procedures

for destruction of classified material.

- Discussing classified information in lobbies, cafeterias, restrooms, hallways, or any other public area where the discussion may be overheard.
- Failure to follow proper procedures for mailing classified information.
- Granting a visitor access to classified information without first verifying the individual's clearance and need to know.
- Hand-carrying classified information without authorization.

Failure to report a security violation is also in and of itself a security violation and may be a very serious concern. It is human nature to not be the bad guy or to not want to get other people into trouble, however it is your duty as a cleared person to report all infractions of either classified or Controlled Unclassified Information.

In several high profile espionage cases, co-workers failed to report seemingly minor infractions that were indicators of more serious behaviors. Actions such as unauthorized copying of classified documents or prying into projects or activities to which an individual did not need access probably did not appear to be significant at the time. If these actions would have been reported immediately, however, the damage done by convicted spies such as Ames, Pollard and Hanson would have been significantly reduced.

Ability and willingness to follow the rules for protecting information is a prerequisite for maintaining your security clearance. Accidental or infrequent minor violations do happen, however repeated failure to follow rules may be a symptom of underlying problems that are a serious security concern.

The significance of a violation does not depend upon whether or not the information was actually compromised.

It depends upon the attitudes and intentions of the individual who committed the violation.

It is important to note that we are obligated to protect controlled unclassified information. This includes complying with document's distribution statements, obtaining approval prior to public release of information and limiting release of FOUO only within government channels.

While compliance with security regulations is expected year round, try and make this Halloween season less scary by remembering to follow the rules when handling classified or controlled unclassified information. ■

*Happy
Halloween!*

Think It Would Be Scary to Discover a Compromise of Classified or Sensitive Unclassified Information?

It Would Be Even Scarier If You Didn't Report It to Security.

That Would Be a Second Compromise!

Your Country and Your Coworkers Depend on You to Do the Right Thing!



Courtesy of <http://members.impulse.net/~sate/posters.html>

TEAM ORLANDO IN PICTURES



U.S. Army Photo/PM ITTS

The PEO STRI-Azerbaijan Ground Range Installation and Test Team passed the First Article Acceptance Test Oct. 19. PEO STRI is constructing a Precision Scoring Modified Record Range with 16 lanes and 144 radio-frequency controlled targets for the Azerbaijani Army under a Foreign Military Sales case. The stress testing was accomplished in coordination with the Azerbaijan military who provided the Soldiers and equipment. Upon completion of the acceptance testing, new equipment training will commence followed by 30 days of contractor on-site support.



U.S. Army Photo/LAARNG Public Affairs

Col. Jonathan Ball, commanding officer of the Louisiana Army National Guard's 256th Infantry Brigade Combat Team, presented an appreciation plaque and the Commander's Coin of Excellence to the Mobile Close Combat Tactical Trainer (M-CCTT) employees on Oct. 15 at Camp Beauregard, La. Ball thanked the team members for their invaluable assistance and dedication in training the brigade for their wartime mission and successful 18 month combat rotation in Iraq. Ball acknowledged the outstanding efforts of the behind-the-scene Orlando support infrastructure personnel who provided the resources necessary for M-CCTT training to occur.



ARMY ACQUISITION... Continued from front page

To mark the transition of authority, Ms. Tina Ballard, the deputy assistant secretary of the Army (policy and procurement), joined the PEO STRI workforce in the HCA designation ceremony.

"It's a great day to be in the Army and certainly a great day to be at PEO STRI to stand-up this organization with contracting authority," Ballard opened in her brief to the workforce. "This ceremony is to say thank you and recognize the large responsibility [contracting officers] have."

In her presentation, Ballard noted that there are approximately 5,200 contracting personnel within the Army. These individuals were responsible for obligating \$107 billion.

"This is no small responsibility," Ballard said. "For years contracting officers have been, and continue to be, the only authorized representatives of the U.S. government who can obligate the government financially. This is significant." ■



U.S. Army Photo/Doug Schaub

Ms. Tina Ballard recognizes Dr. Jim Blake as PEO STRI's Head of Contracting Activity by presenting him with the designation letter signed Feb 26, 2007, by Mr. Claude Bolton, senior procurement executive for the U.S. Army.



Hails and Farewells

Hails

Ceciliana Cruz	Acq. Center
Diana Erwin	PSG
Marnita Harris	Acq. Center
Rodney Joyner	CSG
Megan Lopez-Couto	Acq. Center
Brian Murphy	Acq. Center
Tim Phan	PSG
Beth Thompson	Acq. Center
Thomas Vayda	Acq. Center
Bryce Vollmer	PSG
Michelle Williams	Acq. Center

Farewells

Carolyn Burt	PSG
Leigh Kellstrom	Acq. Center
Michael Kochman	PSG
Flora Myers	Acq. Center
Sherry Tew	BOO
Roy Wall	PSG
Jacqueline Wolfe	Acq. Center
Sue Ellen Sahagun-Dorland	Acq. Ctr.

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AUSA SUNSHINE CHAPTER *Operation Holiday Cheer*

Taking Care of Central Florida's Deployed Soldiers

The AUSA Sunshine Chapter is holding its Operation Holiday Cheer to send holiday packages to deployed Soldiers from

Central Florida. Please bring your donated items to Lucia Mezzancello in the deFlorez Annex by Nov. 15.

Gift ideas: beef jerky, trail mix, nuts, energy bars, hot chocolate packets, baby wipes, lozenges and cough drops, hand sanitizer, sunblock (SPF 45), toothpaste and toothbrushes, nail clippers, cotton balls, fabric softener sheets, DVDs, CDs, Xbox games, PS2 games, prepaid phone cards.



INSIDE STRI

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