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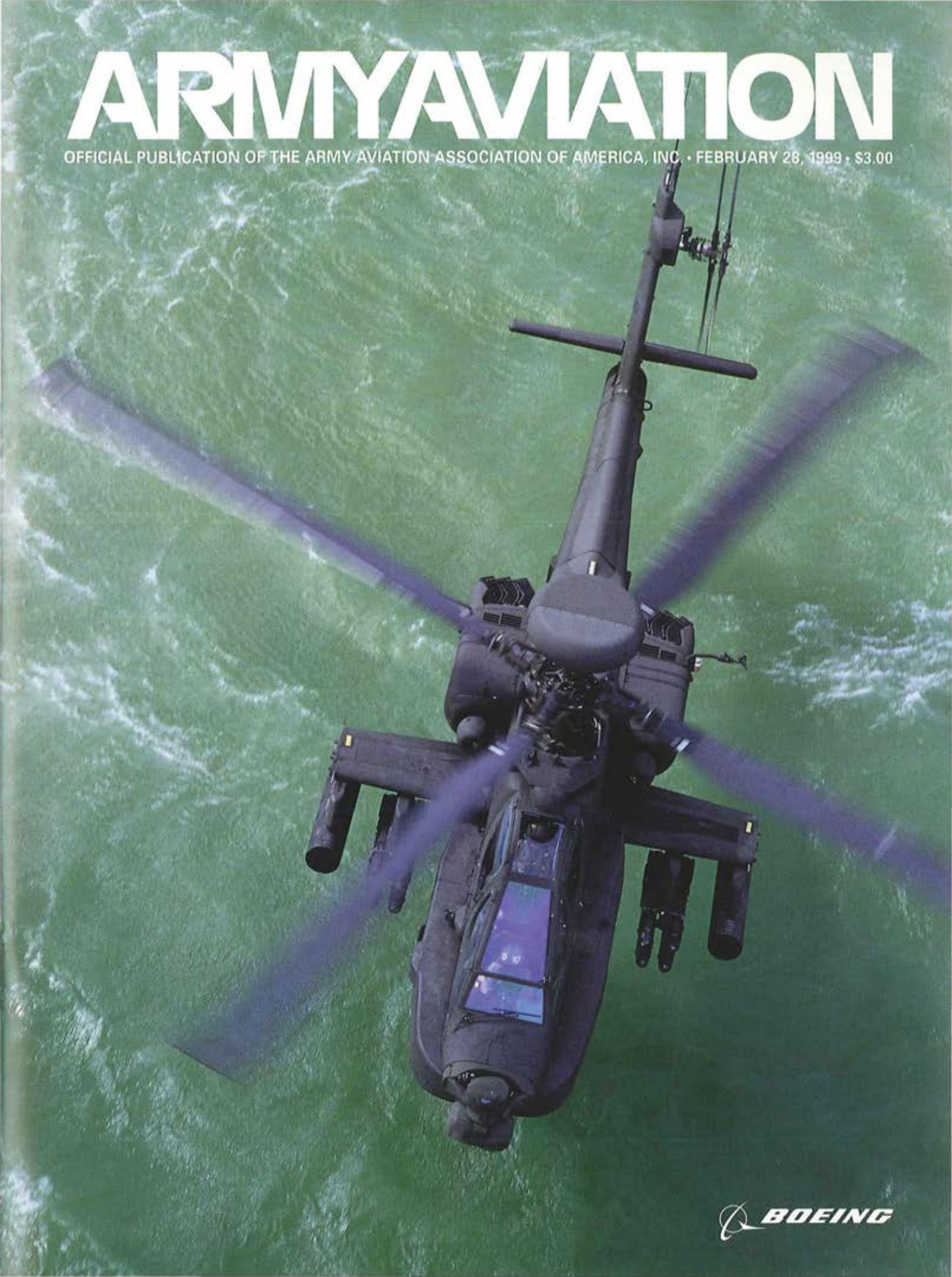

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briefings

Attention **Army Aviators Class 53C-L** (San Marcos AFB and Fort Sill, Okla.). We are Seeking members for a possible reunion in the fall of 1999. Contact Ed Preisendorfer, 701 Shadow Hills Drive, Grants Pass, Ore. 97526, (541) 955-1064 or Bill McPherson, 1029 Park Dr. #29, Indian Harbor Beach, FL. 32937, (407) 773-2578.

The U.S. Army Simulation, Training and Instrumentation Command has awarded **ECC International Corp.**, a designer and producer of military simulation systems, a $90 million contract for Engagement Skills Trainers. The EST uses modified weapons, projected 3D computer imagery and laser pointing devices to teach small-arms marksmanship and combat engagement skills. The contract includes options for more than 1,100 subsystems and 7,500 weapons, and also covers in-service support.

A Prowler II tactical unmanned aerial vehicle (UAV) built and operated by **General Atomics Aeronautical Systems, Inc.**, (GA-ASI) was successfully controlled by a tactical control system (TCS) during a recent test flight. This was the third GA-ASI UAV to successfully fly under TCS control. The Prowler II is a member of GA-ASI's family of UAVs, which also includes the Predator, I-GNAT, ALTUS and Prowler. The Prowler II was designed as a commercial off-the-shelf tactical surveillance system.

ITT Industries' Avionics Division recently delivered to the Army the second AN/ALQ-211 Suite of Integrated RF Countermeasures (SIRFC) Engineering and Manufacturing Development (EMD) system. The first system was delivered in August. The AN/ALQ-211 SIRFC is a fully integrated aircraft self-protection suite which includes radar-warning, situational-awareness and electronic-countermeasures capabilities. The system will give pilots the ability to evade or defeat modern radar-directed air defense threats, and can counter multiple, simultaneous pulse, pulse Doppler, continuous wave and monopulse radar threats.

Public television stations across the nation will broadcast the tenth-annual **National Memorial Day Concert** on Sunday, May 30. Airing live from the grounds of the U.S. Capitol building in Washington, D.C., the concert will be hosted by actor/veterans Ossie Davis and Charles Durning. They will be joined by Gen. Colin Powell (Ret.), former chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, and by the color guards from each of the military services.

Britain's Financial Times newspaper has named **General Electric Corp.** the "world's most respected company." The international financial publication undertook a worldwide survey of corporate reputations, in which GE received twice as many positive votes than any other company. The newspapers findings mirrored the results of a survey published in the Oct. 26, 1998, issue of Fortune magazine, which placed GE atop the list of the world's most-admired companies.

A recent demonstration at **White Sands Missile Range, N.M.**, has shown that the Y2K problem will not hamper the lethality of the Army's premier attack helicopters. Held in late October, the Year 2000 "sensor-to-shooter" demonstration proved, officials said, that the AH-64A, AH-64D and OH-58D will be able to designate, identify and attack targets with their missile systems, and will also be able to direct MLRS fire using the Advanced Field Artillery Tactical Data System.

The U.S. Army Technology Applications Contracting Office has awarded the **Honeywell Corporation's Space and Aviation Control Division** a contract for up to 55 Primus 700 color weather radar sets. The multimode, dual-function system — which combines high-resolution surface mapping with weather detection and display capabilities — could be installed in Army MH-60 and MH-47 special operations helicopters. The contract value for the 55 sets is $3.2 million.

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THE AVIATION WARFIGHTING CENTER'S Role in Stability Operations and Support Operations

by Maj. Gen. Anthony Jones

The United States Army Aviation Center (USAAVNC) recently hosted the fourth aviation training exercise (ATX IV) in support of the Stabilization Force (SFOR) in Bosnia. The highly successful warfighting exercise provided commanders, staff, and crews with a unique, predeployment training opportunity.

The target audience for the exercise included 1st Battalion, 4th Aviation, and 1st Bn., 159th Avn., commanders and staff personnel, company commanders, platoon leaders and instructor pilots. They arrived at Fort Rucker, Ala., on Dec. 5, 1998. On Dec. 6, they received briefings, set up their tactical operations centers (TOC), and received aircrew and radio communications training. Simulation exercise executions also began on Dec. 6 and continued through Dec. 11.

Background

The 4th Avn. Bde., 1st Cavalry Division, deployed to Bosnia in September 1998 in support of the SFOR mission. The maneuver elements that deployed with the 4th Avn. Bde. included Battalion Task Force (TF) Lobo (2nd Bn., 2-27th Avn.) and Battalion TF Angel (3rd Bn., 229th Avn). These units are due to rotate out of Bosnia within the next few months and will be replaced by the 1st Bn., 4th Avn., 4th Avn. Bde., 4th Inf. Div., Fort Hood, Texas, and the 1st Bn., 159th Avn., XVIII Airborne Corps, Fort Bragg, N.C. The 1st Cav. Div. will continue to serve as the Multi-National Defense (MND) North (N) Headquarters in Bosnia.

To support 1st. Bn., 4th Avn., and 1st Bn., 159th Avn. trainup in preparation for their deployment, the USAAVNC executed a simulation training exercise at Fort Rucker. The exercise was conducted utilizing the reconfigurable virtual simulators, Modular Semi-Automated Forces (ModSAF), and the new Bosnia digital terrain database in the Aviation Test Bed (AVTB). Additional reconfigurable virtual simulators were included in the exercise through use of the Aviation Combined Arms Tactical Trainer-Aviation Reconfigurable Manned Simulator (AVCATT-A). The Aviation Warfighting Simulation Center (AWSC) was utilized for the TOCs and the after action review (AAR) facility.

The purpose of the exercise was to provide 1st Bn., 4th Avn., and 1st Bn., 159th Avn. a warfighting exercise to train key leaders on SFOR theater specific battle command skills and MND (N) missions prior to their deployment. There were 14 Joint Readiness Training Center (JRTC) observer/controllers participating in the exercise. They provided 1st Battalion, 4th Aviation, and 1st Bn., 159th Avn., with feedback on staff functions, procedures, and mission planning and execution. All virtual simulation events were data logged, recorded, and transmitted to the AWSC for playback during the AARs.

The control cell/white cell represented the 4th Avn. Bde., 1st Cav. Div. It was manned by a combination of deployed 4th Avn. Bde. staff personnel returning from Bosnia for the exercise, rear detachment 4th Avn. Bde. staff personnel from Fort Hood and augmentee personnel from Fort Rucker. The primary control cell TOC was located in the AVTB with an alternate TOC in the AWSC for after hours operations.

Exercise Execution

1st Battalion, 4th Aviation and 1st Bn., 159th Avn., conducted full mission rehearsal training for six days in the Bosnia environment utilizing the Aviation Task Force in Stability Operations and Support Operations training support package (TSP). The exercise progressed from contingency plan development to a graduated response leading to use of lethal fires. SFOR mission related scenarios were executed which focus on aviation mission critical tasks and coordinated fire control exercises. Full interaction between ground, air, and entity armed forces in the entire theater to include all three Multi-National Defenses within the SFOR and their liaison officers were required. Bosnia/Combat Maneuver Training Center operational tempo and the entity armed forces order of battle were replicated.

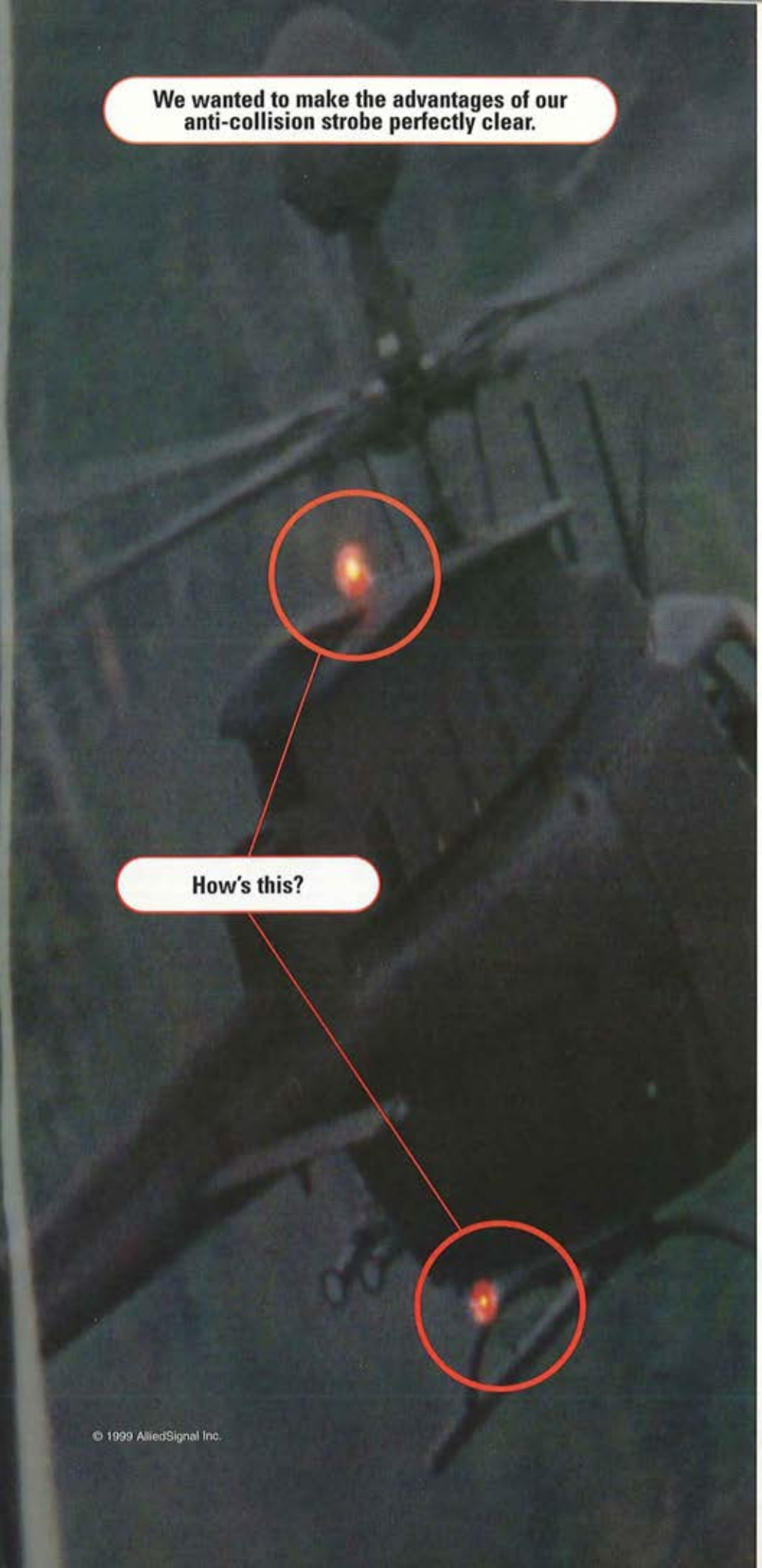
"The exercise progressed from contingency plan development to a graduated response leading to use of lethal fires."

USAAVNC Exercise Objectives

- Replicate the SFOR environment through virtual simulation on the Bosnia terrain database.
- Conduct interactive, multimedia AAR feedback on mission preparation and execution.
- Provide a limited mission rehearsal using stability operations and support operations TSP on a terrain database of the deployment area.
- Establish battle rhythm for commanders and staff in a SFOR environment.
- Provide an environment in which cohesive team building within the tactical units takes place.

Unit Exercise Objectives

- Execute the SFOR military decision making process.



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- Apply country-specific rules of engagement in accordance with the graduated response matrix.
- Conduct staff team building (battalion down to company commanders, platoon leaders and instructor pilots).
- Develop and exercise SFOR battlestaff standard operating procedures.
- Train with a C4I system which emulates the CRONIS system used in-country.
- Practice coordinated fire control exercises and Joint Air Attack Team (JAAT) procedures.

Technical Architecture

The AVTB, AWSC, and AVCATT-A facilities operated on a local area network via fiber optic cable. The tactical radio communications; reconfigurable simulators; ModSAF workstations; CRONIS command, control, communication, computers, and information (C4I) emulation workstations; ground vehicle workstation; and simulation data logging, recording, and playback capabilities all operated on the local area network. Tactical radio communications were provided utilizing the Advanced System Technology, Incorporated (ASTi) simulation radio system which emulates the Single Channel Ground and Airborne Radio System (SINCGARS). ASTi radios were allocated to unit and control cell TOCs and the AVTB battlemaster station, Stealth I and II rooms, ground vehicle workstation and reconfigurable simulators. Sixteen radio nets were available on each of the ASTi radio units. A separate, internal radio communications system is included in the AVCATT-A. Each AVCATT-A reconfigurable simulator has two SINCGARS emulator radios.

Six of the reconfigurable simulators in the AVTB and the three AVCATT-A reconfigurable simulators were configured to replicate a combination of AH-64 and UH-60 aircraft based on mission execution requirements. 1st Bn., 4th Avn., and 1st Bn., 159th Avn. company commanders, platoon leaders and instructor pilots operated these simulators. One of the reconfigurable simulators in the AVTB was configured as a fixed-wing aircraft and was operated by an Air Force liaison officer to provide close air support during specific exercise events.

For simulation exploration/experimentation purposes, three other technical initiatives were implemented during the exercise:

A digital suite of Army Tactical Command and Control Systems (ATCCS) were connected to the simulation via the local area network and a Tactical System Interface Unit (TSIU). The purpose of this excursion was to continue exploration of the technical considerations related to linking virtual simulation to digital TOCs for training and experimentation purposes. The digital suite included one Maneuver Control System, one All Source Analysis System, one Air Missile Defense Workstation and one Forward Area Air Defense Engagement Operations workstation. The TSIU monitors the virtual simulation data units on the network, extracts applicable situation awareness data units and converts them to the appropriate message format for display on the ATCCS.

A wide area network connection via the Defense Simulation Internet node was established between the United States Army Threat Simulation Management Office lab in Huntsville, Ala., and Fort Rucker. Their virtual man-in-the-loop threat simulator was utilized to provide threat air defense artillery for the exercise.

"Aviation Center's Stability/Support" ...continued on page 26

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Maintaining the Edge While Keeping the PEACE

by Maj. Robert Douthit

On Sept. 3, 1998, at 2028 local time in Bosnia-Herzegovina, 120mm mortar rounds under the control of Multinational Division Southwest (MND SW) began a suppression of enemy air defenses (SEAD) mission to cover the 2030 forward-line-of-own troops (FLOT) crossing by C Troop, 6th Squadron, 6th Cavalry.

The troop's objective was armored targets identified in a deep engagement area (EA) 24 minutes flight time away. From 2035 to 2050 British Harrier ground-attack aircraft, under the control a Norwegian tactical air control party (TACP) inserted earlier by U.S. Army UH-60s, made runs into the deep EA against targets laser-designated by the TACPs.

As C/6-6 approached its battle position, the TACPs updated the troop's commander, Capt. Jerry Hubbard, on the enemy dispositions in the EA. At 2054, C Trp. arrived with six AH-64s and immediately engaged the armored targets with missiles, rockets and 30mm cannon fire. Approximately 25 minutes later, with all targets within the EA destroyed, C Trp. egressed and headed for the nearest forward area refueling point (FARP).

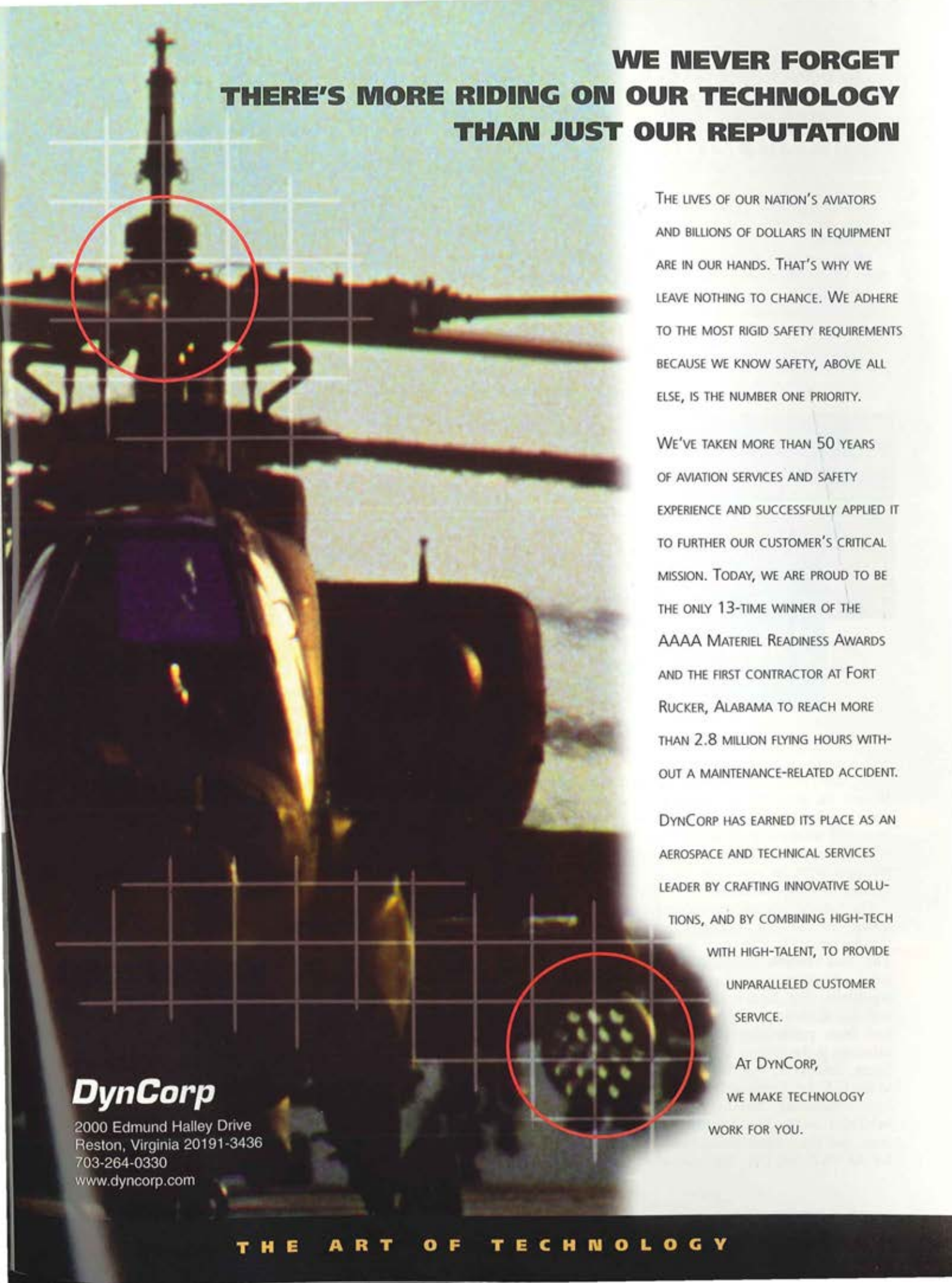
This large-scale operation in the MND (SW) sector came close on the heels of a smaller air assault conducted only four days earlier by the Royal Light Dragoons and UH-60s from Company D, 158th Aviation Regiment, commanded by Capt. Kevin Williams.

Now, if you did not read about this particular operation in the newspaper or hear about it on television, it may be because this was only a live-fire training event. However, the timing, all of the participants, their equipment and all of the ordnance (except that expended by the fixed-wing attack aircraft) was real. The live-fire event was the culmination of Task Force (TF) Sixshooter's four-month, in-country, high-intensity-conflict training program. The high-intensity training conducted by TF Sixshooter (6-6 Cav. and the attached Co. D, 158th Avn.) during its Bosnia deployment not only maintained the unit's proficiency in high-intensity conflict operations, but also improved the unit's readiness in many areas.

This article provides a brief overview of the training program conducted by TF Sixshooter, which overcame the decreased combat readiness suffered by most maneuver units deployed to a peacekeeping environment. This article is not a "hooray for us!" or "this is the only way to do it" story. It is a broad-brush description of the program undertaken by TF Sixshooter while deployed to Operation Joint Forge from May 27 to Sept. 29, 1998.

Task Organization

For deployment to Operation Joint Forge, 6-6 Cav. deployed its Headquarters and Hqs. Trp. and D Trp. in



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their entirety. The three organic line troops deployed a total of 18 AH-64s. Additionally, A/6-6 and C/6-6 each received an attached Dutch AH-64 aircrew and aircraft from the Royal Netherlands Air Force. Fifteen UH-60s of Co. D, 158th Avn., provided TF Sixshooter's air-assault capability.

Mission

TF Sixshooter officially formed on Apr. 15, 1998, and deployed to its Combined Maneuver Training Center (CMTC) validation exercise on April 29. Upon completion of the two-week exercise (which included multiple troop-level day live-fire JAATs, and a company-generated door gunnery), the TF's ADVON deployed to Bosnia on May 27. Over the next three weeks the entire task force of over 350 troops deployed into country and completed the right-seat ride program with the two units TF Sixshooter would be relieving.

"The American troop strength drawdown in Bosnia presented TF Sixshooter with a unique situation".

The American troop strength drawdown in Bosnia presented TF Sixshooter with a unique situation. The task force's mission was to relieve two battalions/squadrons (4th Squadron, 2nd Armored Cav. Regt. and 1st Battalion, 501st Avn.) that had been performing two separate missions in the Bosnia AOR. The 4th Sqdn., 2nd ACR, had been attached to the U.S. 1st Armored Division and had conducted missions in the MND(N) AOR. The 1st Bn., 501st Avn., was the organic attack battalion for the 1st Armd. Div., but conducted missions as the operational reserve unit for the commander of NATO's Stabilization Force (SFOR). Consequently, the battalion operated across the three MND boundaries (north, southwest and southeast). Together, the 4th Sqdn., 2nd ACR and 1st Bn., 501st Avn., had fielded more than 70 aircraft; TF Sixshooter deployed with 35.

The two separate missions performed by the relieved units actually dictated three requirements rather than two. One requirement was to provide attack and air mobility to the SFOR commander through the OPS Reserve mission. The MND (N) mission itself incorporated two requirements: One was to provide attack and air mobility support to MND (N), and the other was to provide an aviation quick reaction force (QRF) on very short notice 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

Simple mission analysis led the squadron to a metering approach that assigned each attack troop and a corresponding assault platoon to one of the three requirements for periods of approximately 30 days. One attack troop and assault platoon thus stood ready as the QRF; another attack troop and an assault platoon conducted MND (N) missions; and the third attack troop and assault platoon covered SFOR-directed OPS Reserve missions. Based on scheduled SFOR exercises, the troops then rotated to one of the other two mission requirements. This metering approach provided the basis for not only excellent mission support, but laid the ground work for the squadron TF's high-intensity training program.

Execution: Missions and Training

The externally generated mission OPTEMPO for TF Sixshooter, while comparative to that of previously deployed units, was not as demanding as it had been on earlier units. Consequently, the TF was able to conduct every mission to standard and still had adequate resources (aircrews, aircraft and ground-support troops) to conduct high-intensity training.

While force protection remained paramount, TF Sixshooter's commander, Lt. Col. George Bilafer, basically maintained two goals for the squadron TF: first, complete every single mission to standard; second, through initiative and creativity, maintain the unit's high-intensity combat skills. The second goal stemmed directly from the squadron commander's desire to maintain the unit's fighting skills and required that the unit maintain, if not improve, its night-fighting skills. The V Corps commander had also ordered the commander of TF Sixshooter's next higher headquarters, the 11th Avn. Regiment's Col. Oliver H. Hunter IV, to "not come back broken."

In pursuit of these goals, the squadron took a few notes from the 4th Sqdn., 2nd ACR, commander, Lt. Col. Dave Lawrence, and maximized individual aircrew training while pulling QRF duties. Also, when conducting missions, the squadron used doctrinal operational terms (i.e. reconnaissance, security) in its mission statements.

The Metering Approach

The squadron's metering approach permitted the units to operate from a training perspective similar to the three training cycles found in FM 25-101. As mentioned above, the unit pulling QRF managed its mission ready cycles to maximize both crew alertness and individual training time. This cycle permitted the individual aircrews to work on basic ATM, including NOE training, and sharpen their crew skills.

The unit conducting MND (N)

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missions was usually able to meet all mission requirements and still have some crews to conduct team-level training. As previously mentioned, the units also approached every mission using doctrinal terms and the standard operations order brief. Additionally, when mission requirements permitted, the unit conducted limited battle drills in the MND (N) sector. These drills included reconnaissance and security missions for the attack troop and air assaults for the assault platoon. Additionally, the squadron staff coordinated with scheduled Danish armored patrols [task-organized under MND (N)] to provide training opportunities for the attack troop.

The preponderance of troop-level attack and platoon-level assault training was conducted by the troop/platoon supporting SFOR. The unit in this cycle would routinely conduct attack troop/assault platoon collective training. The aircraft could operate across the three MND AORs (given the correct coordination had occurred with the neighboring MNDs) and fly doctrinal distances during their training operations.

It is important to note here that the squadron commander carefully assessed the risk of each of these missions based on the intelligence available within the AOR. Additionally, when SFOR approved or directed multinational training, TF Sixshooter routinely asked if the mission could be done at night. While the unit met with some success in this area, for operational reasons higher headquarters directed that a number of the missions be undertaken in daylight.

A significant advantage enjoyed by both the task force's attack and assault aircraft was the level of night proficiency prior to the deployment. The 6-6 Cav. entered Bosnia having flown (prior to Mountain Eagle VI) over 50 percent of its flying hour program under NVS conditions. Additionally, Table VIII gunnery completed in March and the JAATs conducted at Grafenwöhr just prior to deployment went a long way toward posturing the unit for success. Consequently, the first troop/platoon to conduct the OPS Reserve mission was reasonably proficient at the troop level when it assumed the mission.

Ground Support Personnel and Staff Training

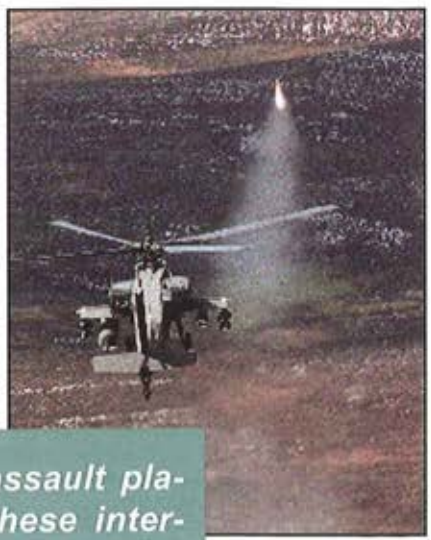
In terms of ground-support training, the enlisted troopers and NCOs of TF Sixshooter conducted mission support every day and night. The old adage that "maintenance is training" certainly held true. TF Sixshooter maintained an incredible OPTEMPO of approximately 35 hours per month on its AH-64s and in excess of 40 hours per month on its UH-60s.

In a continuing effort to maintain the TF's combat edge, the troop commanders maximized available small-arms range time for their troopers. Additionally, the HHT commander, Capt. Cory Mendenhall, routinely conducted convoy training in the MND(N) AOR. This training not only sustained the squadron's ground-movement capabilities, but also provided critical "rolling inspections" for TF Sixshooter's vehicles.

The staff procedures of the DMP for an attack helicopter squadron conducting an attack in a high-intensity scenario are similar to the procedures in a PKO environment. However, the considerations and the developed COAs are significantly different. In the PKO environment, and using the metering approach described earlier, the staffing process did not deal with massed or phased squadron attacks against a massed enemy. Consequently. it was difficult to train the staff on high-intensity scenarios with the breadth of missions the TF was conducting.

One area in which the TF staff did manage to refine its high-intensity conflict (HIC) skills was in the deployment of the squadron TF's TAC. Routinely, the TF deployed its TAC to coordinate with supported ground units in the MND(N) AOR, or to coordinated with MND(SW) division HQs. On three occasions TF Sixshooter UH-60s air-moved the TAC to the different MND headquarters (well over 100 kilometers away). Of particular note, the British forces were impressed with the TF's ability to rapidly deploy such a capable C3I node.

The TAC usually included, at a minimum, one secure TACSAT, two SINCGARS radios, one UHF/VHF radio with HAVE-QUICK, one FM/UHF/VHF radio with secure UHF (TACSAT capable) and GPS. These deployments served the TAC well as "shake outs." The deployed TAC team troopers learned a number of things (happily, none of the same lessons twice), each and every time the TAC deployed on a training mission. To this end, TF Sixshooter's TAC could not have asked for better opportunities.



"The attack troops and assault platoons conducted all of these internally generated missions at night".

The Capstone Exercise

Interestingly, higher headquarters did not direct the live-fire night deep attack training or the door gunnery that represented the culmination of the squadron TF's high-intensity training program. The squadron instead sought out range

time and ammunition to conduct live-fire training in hopes of sustaining the unit's HIC combat effectiveness. In the process of that search, two extremely capable captains in the TF S-3 section orchestrated some of the finest live-fire training, I believe, ever accomplished in Europe.

Captains Vinny Torza and Mark Piccone spent countless hours piecing together the scenario described in the opening paragraph. Operating at levels well above that expected of squadron staff officers, these two captains (along with a host of others on the staffs of TF Sixshooter, TF 11 and 1st Armd. Div.) pieced together an outstanding combined/joint live-fire, deep attack and air-assault training scenario. The squadron staff coordinated directly with the British Army's 1st Royal Horse Artillery (1 RHA), the TACPs and ALO from the Norwegian Army and Air Force and, for a while, with the crew of the aircraft carrier USS *Eisenhower* in pursuit of TF Sixshooter's training objectives. Additionally, the TF coordinated with the British Royal Light Dragoons to conduct the live-fire air assault from which the TF's UH-60s gained valuable experience.

The squadron TF owes a debt of gratitude to the 1 RHA's commander, Lt. Col. Andrew Gregory, who was gracious enough to mold his range time and training schedule to a U.S. cavalry squadron task force trying to bring all this firepower together. TF Sixshooter's plan for the training included a daylight rehearsal followed by a day live fire. The following night, the TF conducted these troop-level deep attacks at combat speed. The flexibility of 1 RHA permitted TF Sixshooter to conduct this training for each of its three attack troops over a six-day period. All the while, the TF met all of its mission requirements.

Based on the night deep-attack scenario developed, TF Sixshooter inserted the Norwegian TACPs, who acted as deep reconnaissance. The attack troops departed from Comanche Base, 150 km. from the Resolute Barbara Range Complex in the MND (SW) sector. The AH-64s flew just north of the impact area (representing the FLOT) as indirect fires landed representing the SEAD for FLOT crossing. The Apaches then continued in a 24-minute circuitous route just outside the range complex while night-capable ground-attack aircraft attacked targets in the impact area that were laser designated by the TACPs.

Just prior to occupation of the BP by the attack troop, the attack aircraft cleared the target area and indirect fire landed in the impact area (simulating an ATACM). Once in the BP, the attack troop engaged the armored hulks using missiles, rockets and 30mm cannon at ranges from 2,400 to 3,600 meters. It did not always go entirely as planned, but it was great training for the troops and the aviators learned a great deal from the post-mission after-action reviews (AARs).

The Resolute Barbara Range at Glamoc is sufficiently large to permit four aircraft to simultaneously occupy the firing line and conduct PTWS missile firing. The plentiful range space greatly added to the fidelity of TF Sixshooter's training. An additional contributing factor was the availability of ammunition — during the exercise TF Sixshooter fired 96 missiles, 350 2.75-inch rockets, 5,000 rounds of 30mm and 12,000 rounds of 7.62mm.

The availability of ammunition, adequate range resources — and, more importantly, the hard work of dedicated TF Sixshooter and TF 11 staff officers, aircrews and the TF leadership — made the training program a success. TF Sixshooter redeployed from Operation Joint Forge having met mission requirements, and also returned to Central Region more capable than when it arrived in Bosnia. To be sure, certain HIC skills could not be trained, and the squadron will have to focus on those areas after redeployment. It is also worth restating that our program is certainly not the only way to have done it. But, when it was all said and done, it was nice to know that the TF 11 commander could say to the V Corps commander: "Sir, we are back, and we ain't broken."

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Maj. Robert L. Douthit is S-3 of the 6-6 Cav.

Sixshooters

The Illesheim, Germany-based 6th Squadron, 6th Cavalry, commanded by Lt. Col. George M. Bilafer, is one of two AH-64 Apache squadrons in V Corps' 11th Aviation Regiment. During the summer of 1998 the 11th Avn. Regt. deployed the unit to Comanche Base, Bosnia, as the aviation "slice" of Task Force 11, in company with UH-60 Black Hawks of Company D, 158th Avn. The two units together formed TF Sixshooter. The photo (opposite page) shows a live-fire exercise conducted at Glamoc, Bosnia, during which the Sixshooters fired 96 live Hellfire missiles – a first for Bosnia.

Medical Evacuation Helicopter UH-60Q

by Lt. Col. Eugene H. Pfeiffer

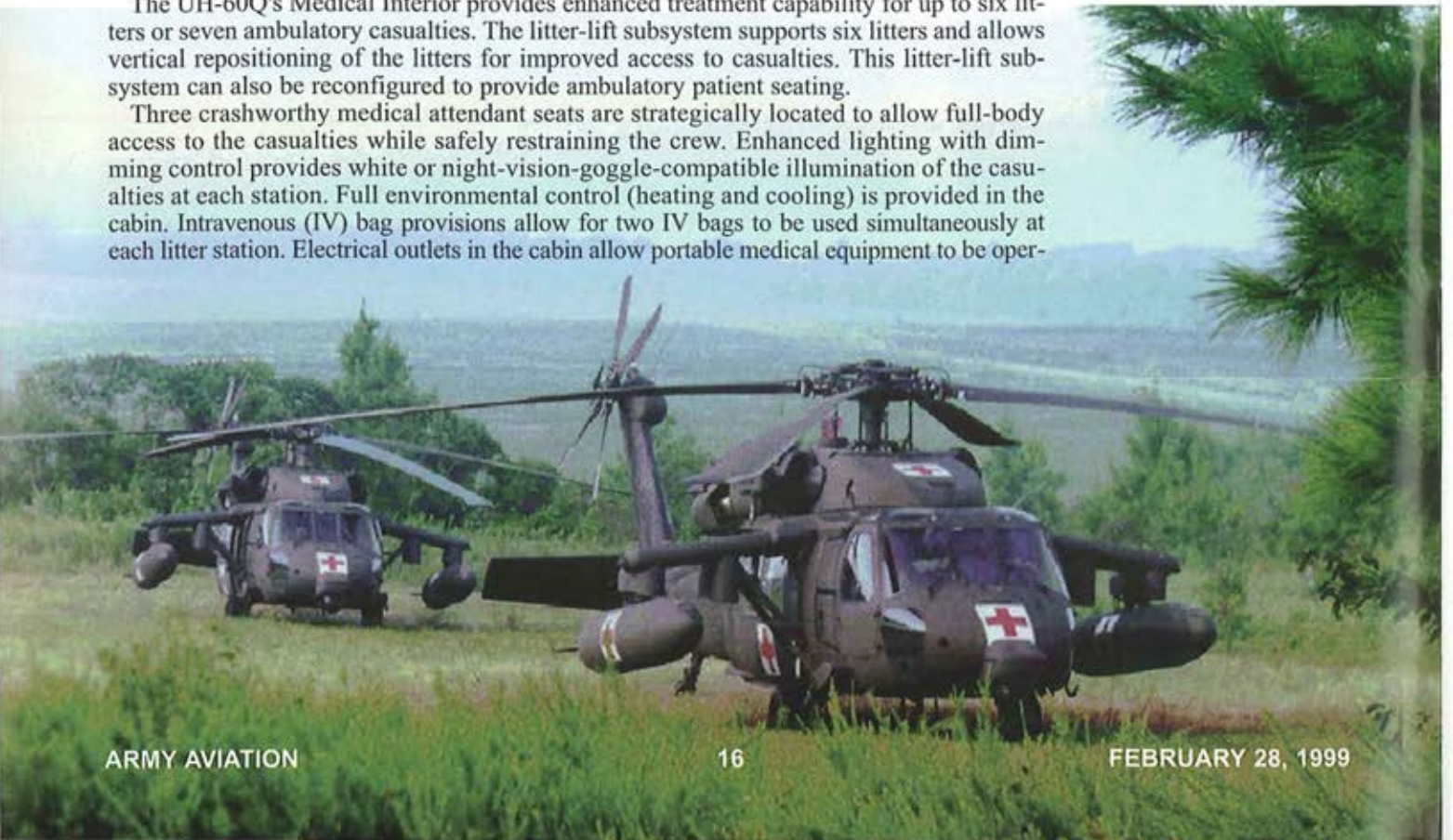
The UH-60Q program is based on requirements identified during combat in Grenada, Panama, Operation Desert Storm and in other operations worldwide, since the UH-60A was first fielded in 1978. The UH-60Q replaces the UH-60A with medical mission kits in medical evacuation units with a deployable, warfighting mission. Where the UH-60A provides little more than a carousel system that severely restricts access to casualties and prevents effective treatment, the UH-60Q provides modern medical, communications and navigation capabilities optimized to perform the medical mission in the military environment.

The UH-60Q Operational Requirements Document was approved in 1993 and updated in 1994 after user testing of a proof-of-principle UH-60Q. The Integration and Qualification Phase of the UH-60Q program began in February 1996 and is due to end in April 1999 with type classification of the UH-60Q. Since the last Army Aviation article on the UH-60Q a year ago, the program has progressed through the government verification of technical manuals, a logistic demonstration and an operational test. While the final System Evaluation Report is pending, it is anticipated that the UH-60Q will be found operationally suitable and effective without major changes in the configuration. In fact, four aircraft are now operating with the Tennessee Army National Guard in Chattanooga.

The UH-60Q digital cockpit integrates technologies needed to effectively communicate and navigate the Force XXI and Army-After-Next battlefields. The heart of the system is a Military Standard 1553 Data Bus that is controlled by two Computer Display Units (CDUs) located at the pilot stations. The CDUs display status and control the frequencies and settings of the navigation and communication radios. Flight plans and frequency information can be developed on the Aviation Mission Planning System (AMPS) in the tactical operations center, then loaded into the CDU as a mission load. Multifunctional Displays (MFDs) located at each pilot station portray the Forward Looking Infrared (FLIR) image, caution advisory and navigation information.

The UH-60Q's Medical Interior provides enhanced treatment capability for up to six litters or seven ambulatory casualties. The litter-lift subsystem supports six litters and allows vertical repositioning of the litters for improved access to casualties. This litter-lift subsystem can also be reconfigured to provide ambulatory patient seating.

Three crashworthy medical attendant seats are strategically located to allow full-body access to the casualties while safely restraining the crew. Enhanced lighting with dimming control provides white or night-vision-goggle-compatible illumination of the casualties at each station. Full environmental control (heating and cooling) is provided in the cabin. Intravenous (IV) bag provisions allow for two IV bags to be used simultaneously at each litter station. Electrical outlets in the cabin allow portable medical equipment to be oper-



ated on 115V ac power. A Medical Suction System provides an onboard capability for airway and gastric suction, and secure collection of waste. A medical cabinet provides organized storage for medical equipment and supplies. An improved intercommunications system allows hands-off and private-mode communications between the crew members in the back of the aircraft. The UH-60Q medical interior provides significantly improved capabilities to treat and evacuate casualties and, therefore, to save lives.

Other mission equipment provides important capabilities to the UH-60Q. An external rescue hoist is used for insertion of medics and extraction of casualties from unsuitable landing areas. The FLIR helps to locate casualty pickup points sooner to minimize loiter time in forward combat areas, which reduces the exposure to enemy ground fire. The FLIR enhances situational awareness during hoist operations, and improves night- and adverse-weather navigation capabilities. The FLIR provides for thermal imaging to penetrate darkness, smoke, fog and dust. The FLIR can use multiple fields of view, rotate 360 degrees, and has a stabilized look-down capability to assist the crew during hoist operations.

The UH-60Q program added the capabilities discussed above to the UH-60A Black Hawk specifically to improve its performance in the medical evacuation mission. Since the UH-60Q is primarily based on upgrades to UH-60A helicopters that are now up to 20 years old, a Service Life Extension Program (SLEP) appears in order to maximize return on investment. This effort promises to merge nicely with the emerging UH-60 Modernization Program, for which requirements are currently being developed.

While it is too early to define all of the capabilities involved in the Modernized UH-60 Black Hawk Program, it seems likely that a SLEP and a digital capability will be important. The UH-60Q provides a baseline for digital capabilities, which could be applied to the entire UH-60 fleet during a SLEP. The synergy gained will provide a common fleet of UH-60 helicopters that differ only in the specific mission equipment, beginning as early as fiscal year 2002.

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Lt. Col. Eugene H. Pfeiffer is the UH-60Q assistant project manager in the Utility Helicopters Project Manager's Office at Redstone Arsenal, Ala.

AVIATION PIONEERS: AVIATION MEDICINE

LT. COL. ROLLIE M. HARRISON
Army Aviation's First Flight Surgeon

by Dr. Jim Williams

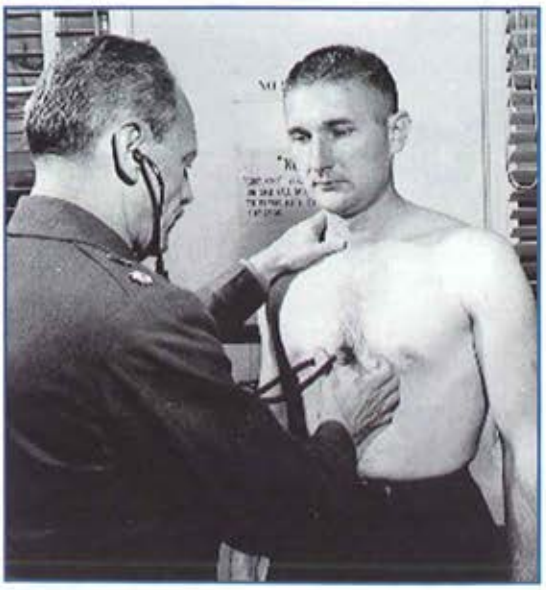
At the time of his death on March 2, 1976, Dr. Rollie M. Harrison, a retired Army Reserve lieutenant colonel, was an examining physician at the Armed Forces Entrance Examining Station at Fort Worth, Texas. His death ended a career that, with several twists and turns, let Harrison claim the title as Army aviation's first flight surgeon.

Born in Ramon, S.D., on Oct. 22, 1900, Harrison received his medical degree from Northwestern University in 1934. After establishing a private practice in a Chicago suburb he entered the Army Reserve, being commissioned a first lieutenant on Jan. 21, 1936. On July 23, 1937, he entered active duty as a general medical officer at Fort Sheridan, Ill., and later went to a similar assignment at Fort Custer, Mich.

Following America's entry into World War II Harrison was sent overseas to an Army Air Corps assignment in the Southwest Pacific Area. In 1943 he returned to Randolph Field, Texas, to take the Basic Aviation Medicine Course. After studying tropical medicine at Walter Reed Army Medical Center in Washington, D.C., he returned to the Pacific as a flight surgeon. He remained in the Pacific until May 1947, when he returned to private practice in Illinois. Harrison retained a reserve commission, and when the rest of the Army's flight surgeons transferred to the newly-created U.S. Air Force in September 1947, he alone remained with the Army.

The loss of all but one person with a background in aviation medicine left the Army overwhelmingly dependent on the Air Force to support its medical needs. By the time the Korean War broke out in June 1950, the growing importance of aviation to the Army was already evident. The number of aircraft in a division had grown from 10 to 18 since World War II, and in November 1950 the first Army helicopter company activated at Fort Sill, Okla. To meet the increased needs, the Army immediately began to expand flight training there. In conjunction with this expansion, Harrison returned to extended active duty. After a refresher course at the Air Force School of Aviation Medicine, Harrison became the sole flight surgeon at the Fort Sill dispensary. He continued in that role until the school moved to then-Camp Rucker in 1954.

Harrison became something of a legend for his zeal in promoting aviation medicine. He believed that a real flight surgeon had to be more than a doctor, he had to be a friend to the pilots. He enjoyed joking with the younger pilots, but they feared him when he flew with them on their final check rides. He was quick to act when someone was in danger and equally quick to correct the cause of the danger as soon as it was past. Harrison made it a point to know not only the pilots but also their families and what was happening with them. He was highly direct and personal in his approach to ensuring physical fitness, and was particularly strong in stressing the need for physical fitness in aviators over the age of 30.



Harrison at Fort Sill Dispensary, about 1950.

Harrison taught in the Department of Air Training at Fort Sill, which became the Aviation School on Jan 1, 1953. He formed the foundation for training in aviation medicine within the Army and developed the first Army aviation orientation course for Army medical officers graduating from the Air Force school of aviation medicine.

When the Aviation School moved from Fort Sill to Fort Rucker, Harrison went to Germany to command the 31st Surgical Hospital and serve briefly at the 97th General Hosp. From 1958 to 1960 he was the chief of the Medical Examination and Aviation Medicine Division, as well as the Aviation Medicine Advisor, at Fort Rucker. During this last tour, Harrison worked to prove the value of having flight surgeons participate in investigations of aircraft accidents and helped develop the techniques for such participation.

Harrison was a character and perhaps cultivated the image of an eccentric. It was ironic, though not necessarily surprising, that this vocal opponent of smoking among aviators died of respiratory conditions probably related to his own use of tobacco. His dedication to duty, however, was unquestioned. He was renowned for working seven days a week. While at Fort Sill, Harrison lived in quarters just a block from the dispensary and frequently interrupted or set aside hunting, fishing or golf to meet and treat sick aviators. When the time came for Harrison to depart his duties at Fort Rucker, some who were present at the time recall that it was clearly a difficult transition. Harrison relished the close, personal ownership of his role and the service he gave.

Harrison on Kwajalein Island, 1944.

Harrison's legacy lives on in Army aviation and particularly at Fort Rucker. Flight surgeons everywhere – and the Army School of Aviation Medicine at Fort Rucker that trains them - are essential elements in the welfare, safety and combat effectiveness of Army aviators. The School of Aviation Medicine has for many years been the home of Harrison's personal effects, including his original flight wings and photo albums. Today, more than 20 years after Harrison died, these personal items, a street name and the name of a clinic remain a tribute to a man who, in quiet but important ways, helped Army aviation become the force that dominates the battlefield and that promises to remain "Above the Best."

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Dr. Jim Williams is the Aviation Branch historian at Fort Rucker, Ala.

THE HUNTER UAV

A Solid Performer

by Col. Michael I. Howell

The National Training Center at Fort Irwin, Calif., was recently the scene of an impressive performance by the RQ-5A Hunter short-range unmanned aerial vehicle (UAV). Hunter UAVs flew 47 sorties totaling 167.7 flight hours during the NTC rotation by the 4th Infantry Division's 4th Brigade Combat Team (Aviation). The Hunters were flown by the soldiers of III Corps' Company A, 15th Military Intelligence Battalion, 504th MI Bde., from Fort Hood, Texas, during the August exercise, with support from a mobile team from TRW the prime contractor.

The Hunter provided the essential reconnaissance and communication support for live-fire exercises involving Multiple Launch Rocket System (MLRS) and AH-64 Apache attack helicopters.

Acronyms were also a big hit at NTC this year. The star players were ADR (Airborne Data Relay), CRP (Communications Relay Payload) and MILES (Multiple Integrated Laser Engagement System). These systems contributed some first-time UAV accomplishments at the Advance Warfighting Experiment (AWE).

One of the lessons learned last year during the task force XXI AWE was that, despite the UAV Army commander's goal to operate and fly Hunter regardless of any winds, the aircraft could indeed be grounded by excessive cross winds. Strong winds in the exercise area could gust to 45 mph without notice, grounding the UAV because of its crosswind limitations or forcing it to remain in the air waiting for the winds to die down before landing. In one instance a "dust devil" blew so strongly during maintenance activity that a Hunter UAV and the maintenance tent housing it were picked up and flipped, causing minor damage to the UAV.

The winds were not the biggest challenge with which the UAV pilots had to contend, however, for the dust the wind picked up off the floor of the dry lake bed at NTC was more of a problem. Any time the wind was stronger than about 15 knots, visibility dropped dramatically and, at times, down to a few feet. Everyone on the flight line was covered with dust that penetrated their clothes, mouth, eyes, hair and ears. According to the soldiers and their contractor support team, it was the dirtiest place in which they'd ever worked. While the conditions were miserable, they didn't let it hamper their superb operations.

All involved were quite impressed with the overall performance of the Hunter UAV. Col. James Thurman, the OPFOR commander, said the Hunters were the "biggest threat" to his forces, while Col. Craig K. Madden, the 4th BCT commander, pointed out that "all through the night we were firing artillery on targets the

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Hunter UAV spotted."

While the 504th MI Bde. was preparing to leave NTC, the 305th MI Bn. from Fort Huachuca, Ariz., was readying for a deployment to support the U.S. Air Force's Expeditionary Force Experiment '98 (EFX '98), the first in a series of experiments designed to upgrade the Air Force's fighting capabilities by exploring new operational concepts and integrating advanced technologies. The exercise was the first in a series of 18 experiments to integrate the Army's UAV technology into the Air Force's command-and-control plan.

Remote Video Terminal

The Hunter collected data as part of the 82nd Airborne Division's parachute drop into Duke Field, Fla. The UAV relayed information to a mobile command post on the ground. That information was relayed to a forward operating location, analyzed, and then sent to a Joint-STARS aircraft that prioritized it, made the necessary readjustment to the operational plan and retasked an appropriate aircraft. The concept, known as "sensor-to-shooter," gives the Air Force the ability to use its attack assets more effectively.

The first mission, on Sept. 15, was flown in part by Army SSgt. David Ellis, one of two Hunter mission commanders with more than 300 UAV flying hours. The former air-conditioning maintenance man said flying the unmanned plane is a treat and is easy to do. He also said the more difficult role belongs to the person watching the camera and collecting data.

Army SSgt. Gary Torre, Ellis' counterpart, agreed and emphasized the importance of what the army does and how it relates to what the Air Force is trying to accomplish during the experiment. He said that Hunter is "able to collect information without putting a pilot's life in harm's way."

Lt. Col. Mike Stockwell, the sensor-to-shooter systems project manager at the Electronic Systems Center at Hanscom Air Force Base, Mass., emphasized the importance of the experiment.

"In today's environment, everything is moving," Stockwell said. "If we can retarget B-1s to a different and better objective, then we can achieve a better product. A UAV is a forward asset for the commander to make decisions on what targets to hit. The bottom-line goal is to have a robust communications grid. We don't have the assets to go out and burn gas in the sky. The UAV that work helps that."

Other activities the Hunter system has supported include:

- Support for multiple exercises at Fort Hood as contributions to evolving concepts and doctrine.
- The loan of four air vehicles and associated operational hardware to the Navy for CONOPS development and payload demonstrations at Naval Air Station Fallon, Nev.
- Target acquisition for Army Tactical Missile System (ATACMS) and Navy Tomahawk operational test launches.
- Laser designation for several Kiowa/Hellfire live missile shots (all direct hits); and, at NAS Fallon, designation for three Paveway munitions (also all hits).
- Communication relay for units operating Beyond Line-Of-Sight (BLOS).

The Hunter UAV continues to be the platform that is being used by payload suppliers and vendors to demonstrate their payload capabilities and refine concepts for future warfighting requirements.

While the Joint Tactical Unmanned Aerial Vehicle (JTUAV) Project Office, which manages the Hunter UAV system, is under my leadership, the deputy project manager, Mr. John C. Sundberg, in Huntsville, Ala., reports to the Intelligence, Electronic Warfare and Sensors (IEW&S) Program Executive Office (PEO), commanded by Maj. Gen. David Gust, at Fort Monmouth, N.J.

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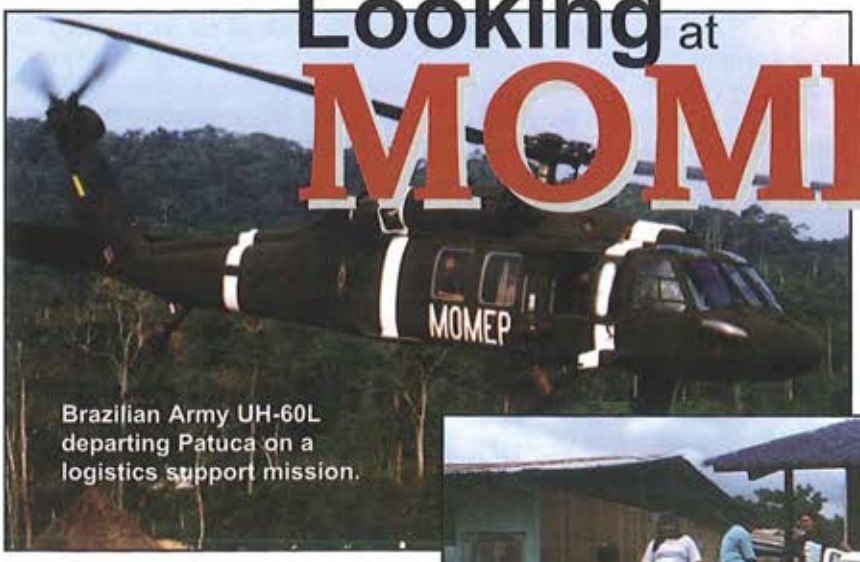
Col. Michael I. Howell is the PM, JTUAV, at Redstone Arsenal, Ala.

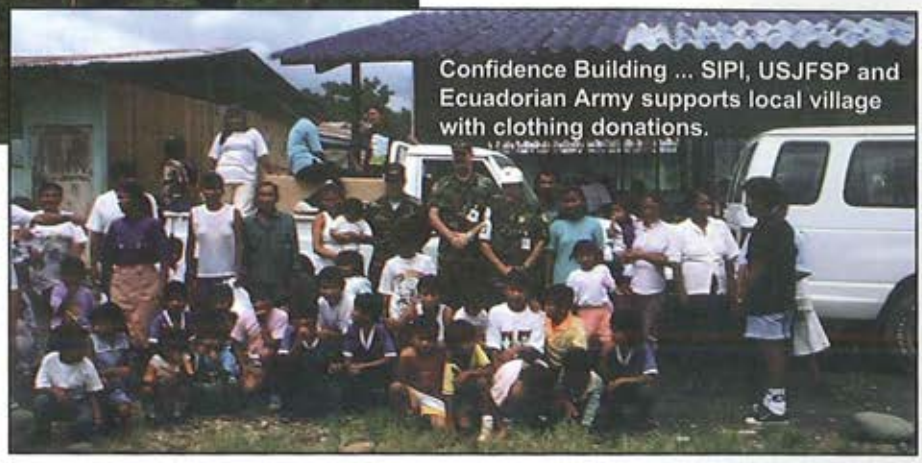
Looking at MOMEP

Military Observer Mission Ecuador and Peru

by Joseph L. Homza



Brazilian Army UH-60L departing Patuca on a logistics support mission.



Confidence Building ... SIPI, USJFSP and Ecuadorian Army supports local village with clothing donations.

We have all heard over the last few years how the Army is now deployed to more places and in more conflicts than during the entire history of the Cold War. As a defense contractor employed by Sikorsky International Products Inc. (SIPI), I recently had a unique opportunity to witness one of these current, real-world missions: the Military Observer Mission, Ecuador and Peru (MOMEP). I have seen for myself how this confidence-building measure has provided for conflict deterrence and resolution.

The history of this conflict dates from the time of the Inca empire. Initially, Ecuador and Peru were united geographically into one area. However, relations between two Incan princes fathered by the same chief polarized into a Quito (Ecuador) versus Lima (Peru) debate. By the time the Spanish conquistadors established viceroyalties, the separation between these two areas had become well rooted. After Napoleon's 1806 defeat of Spain, the viceroyalties took advantage of the weakened state of Spain's government and sought to establish independent states.

Military clashes between Peru and Ecuador have occurred periodically on their common border ever since. The latest events – in 1991 and 1995 – drew the attention of the guarantors of the Rio Treaty, who had established the Rio Protocol in 1942. This protocol required a separation of military forces until a border could be delineated. Unfortunately, due to the difficult terrain – rivers, mountains and jungle – and oil exploration in the area, the border was not defined.

The history of this conflict dates from the time of the Inca empire.

Since the most recent conflict was viewed as a threat to regional stability because of the scale of the military action and the weapons used, the guarantors formalized a cease-fire agreement in March of 1995 and established MOMEP as a peacekeeping operation intended to bring Ecuador and Peru to the peace table.

The MOMEP mission is headquartered at Patuca, Ecuador, 30 kilometers from the disputed border area in the Oriente region of the Condor mountains along the banks of the Upano river. Patuca is home to the Ecuadorian army's 21st Brigade, a force of approximately 2,500 personnel and their dependents. The surrounding area is part of the crucial headwaters of the Amazon River system and is covered double- and triple-canopy jungle, and mountains and volcanoes up to 20,000 feet. The local economy is agrarian and distinctly poor. Rain is frequent and humidity high. Patuca's 3,500-foot dirt runway is currently being upgraded to 8,500 feet to accommodate C-130 aircraft.

Although Brazil is the head guarantor nation, the lead role of the mission is supervised by the U.S. Department of State (DOS). U.S. Army, South (USARSO), provides for stability and security operations at Patuca for MOMEP. A portion of the 21st Bde.'s cantonment area is reserved for MOMEP. This support, provided

under the designation of Joint Task Force Safe Border (JTFSB), includes approximately 60 U.S. Army and Air Force personnel on-site, most of whom are on 90-day rotations. Soldiers include members of the 1st Battalion, 228th Aviation Regiment, from Fort Kobe, Panama; the 56th Signal Bn.; the 245th Support Bn.; and members of the 7th Special Forces Group from Fort Bragg, N.C.

Besides providing observers, the U.S. provides logistical support, airlift, messing facilities, resupply, medevac, clinic, communications and weather reporting. Until Nov. 1, 1997, USARSO provided four UH-60 Black Hawk aircraft to the observer mission. These were supported by a split-based logistics concept and provided the six member nations of MOMEP with a means to fly, by prescribed routes, to two Demilitarized Zones (DMZs); the DMZ and the Alpha Zone.

These DMZs are in the disputed border area, and are heavily and indiscriminately mined. Each guarantor nation, as well as Peru and Ecuador, provides for observers. Most are special forces officers, who fly air patrols, verify treaties and live in forward camps in the two DMZs to observe the military postures of Ecuador and Peru. The total complement of personnel assigned to MOMEP from the six nations involved is fewer than 100. This support has been in place since the 1995 cease-fire, with Peru and Ecuador financing the operations.

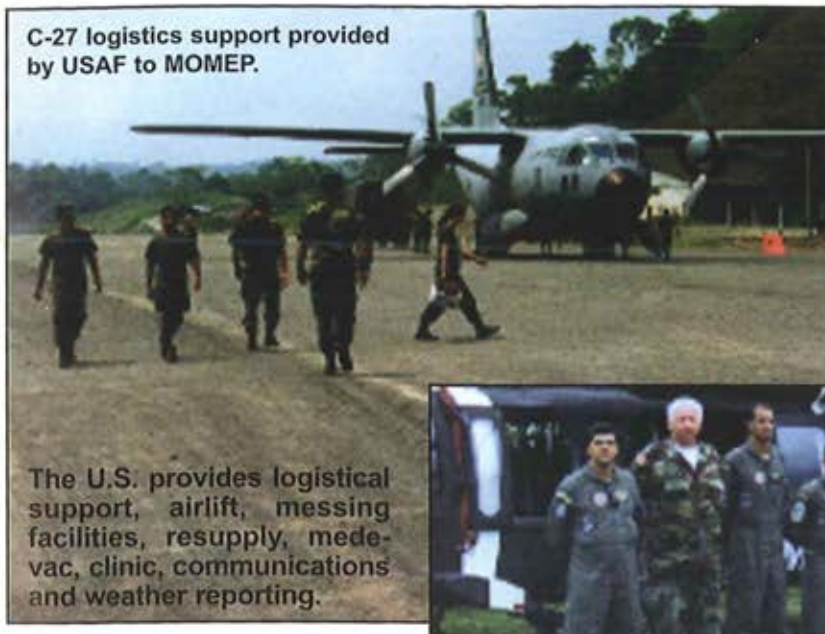
The MOMEP mission provides sufficient intelligence to both potential adversaries to convince them that neither side can gain their political and military objectives through force – except at an unacceptably high cost. Both Ecuador and Peru experience a form of deterrence by denial, since both nations experience a threat to their military postures, due to the implementation of MOMEP monitoring and reporting activities.

The United States gradually transitioned out of its lead operational role for MOMEP in December 1997 as Brazilian army personnel replaced the majority of American personnel and took over the aviation mission with Brazilian-owned Black Hawks maintained by Sikorsky Aircraft contractor personnel. Argentina and Chile gained also additional elements of the mission.

From the national security perspective, MOMEP takes on additional characteristics beyond those strictly spelled out in the various treaties and protocols. First, all parties involved in MOMEP are gathering significant intelligence through a variety of sources. Air missions into the disputed area often spark heated debates, fueled at times by an intense sense of national pride that is personified in the observers. Most issues are handled locally, but some are elevated to national levels of each nation's intelligence community. For example, when helicopters are tracked by Peruvian surface-to-air or when either side adds to its troop strength, the various national intelligence communities swiftly bring their assets to bear in an effort to de-escalate the treaty violations.

A concrete example of this type of deterrence-motivated communication occurred in August 1998 with the establishment of a third DMZ. This new DMZ was required by an increase in tensions and the introduction of additional troops and military equipment in the border area south of the DMZ. The Ecuadorian military, following the presidential elections in July 1998, showed it was more willing to take risks by strengthening its military posture in this southern border area. Peru responded by increasing its deployed forces in the frontier, and put its air force and navy on alert.

MOMEP observers were diverted from an air patrol in the DMZ for a search-and-rescue (SAR) mission for an Ecuadorian soldier, who fell victim to a land mine. During the SAR flight into this southern area, these relatively large scale military operations were noted. Intelligence sources estimated that hostilities were imminent. This intelligence allowed the guarantors to



C-27 logistics support provided by USAF to MOMEP.

The U.S. provides logistical support, airlift, messing facilities, resupply, medevac, clinic, communications and weather reporting.

MOMEP, a team effort: Brazil Army aviators. SIPI maintenance personnel, U.S. Army RTO and Chilean Army Observer.

analyze the threat, communicate the analysis, establish a separation-of-forces agreement necessary to create a new DMZ, effect a much publicized troop-verification process and allow for peace negotiations to continue. The new DMZ, referred to as Charlie Zone, is now routinely monitored by MOMEP via helicopters.

Second, there is a great emphasis on nation assistance and humanitarian efforts in the forward locales surrounding the DMZs and in the area near Patuca, predominantly in the town Mendez. Members of JTFSB have provided ongoing medical assistance to the local population, including immunizing the people against yellow fever and rabies. Housing and sewage-control projects have also been completed. Most importantly, MOMEP has provided jobs for many local people as day laborers for a number of such ongoing projects as landscaping, runway expansion, small-scale construction and mess hall services.

Third, there is an effort underway to increase the scope of the observer mission, especially with the transition to Brazilian leadership. Subtle yet significant power-projection efforts, such as the runway expansion at Patuca and the increase in the type and quantity of equipment shipped into Patuca, suggest a more committed and permanent nature of this peacekeeping effort. This development also makes Patuca a high-value target for those opposed to the JTFSB's efforts.

Local events are also feeding a feeling of distrust between the MOMEP nations. These include Peru's increasingly large purchases of such sophisticated weapons as MiG-29 fighters, turmoil within the Peruvian government, mortar attacks in one of the DMZs, and recently renewed psychological warfare pursued by Ecuador in the press and in local protests. Each event has increased border tension and made deterrence more difficult.

By way of appealing to the rationality of Ecuador and Peru as nation-state actors, MOMEP continues to meet bimonthly, alternating locations in Ecuador and Peru. The guarantors have established several "commissions." These are staffed with technical experts from MOMEP participant nations, and have developed alternatives pertaining to the integration of the border area, commerce and navigation access to the Amazon, additional security- and confidence-building efforts, and a definitive border line. Both nations involved in the conflict have agreed to most of the commissions' recommendations, though Ecuador refused to cede Peru the forward military posts it defended in 1995.

It is also important to note that the presidents of Ecuador and Peru have been personally meeting periodically since February 1998 to solve the border conflict. One of these meetings marked the first time this century that a Peruvian president has made an official visit to Ecuador. These efforts have helped to calm the chronic domestic instability on both sides of the border that periodically flare into crisis.

Changes impacting MOMEP, which come close to coercion in some instances, have led MOMEP to evolve into a confidence-building measure which helps Peru and Ecuador avoid war by sharing information and avoiding certain practices. The possibility of accidental war thus declines, and obstacles to premeditated conflict increase.

It is clear that the guarantors are sincere in their support of MOMEP. This support is based on the realization that the guarantor nations have embraced the fact that MOMEP is a confidence-building measure that reduces a threat and eliminates opportunities for aggression in ways which further their own – and others' – national security and geostrategic interests.

Not long ago, Peruvian President Alberto Fujimori stated his desire to solve the long-standing border dispute before the end of the century. He declared that he is "sure that over the border [Ecuador] they have the same desires as [Peru does]; to enter 2000 without hostilities." In short, the U.S. Army-supported MOMEP has succeeded in changing the behavior of states, and will insure both regional stability and the national security of its participants. In fact, a peace treaty was signed in October 1998. MOMEP is a prime example of how confidence-building measures deter aggression and promote regional stability.

The U.S. continues to provide airlift for logistical support, observers, food, communications and weather reporting to MOMEP, all of which clearly underscore the credibility and future of U.S. intentions to deter conflict along the border. As a result, there have been positive political and economic developments in this region. Democracy is prospering, and foreign direct investments and trade worldwide have increased significantly. Some challenges remain, however, as the local militaries work to redefine their roles under civilian-led governments that are preoccupied with the usual internal and economic struggles. In addition, narcotics trafficking and illegal border migration also threaten the fragile peace that now exists. But overall, on the brink of the 21st century, there is no doubt that America still has an important calling in Latin America and the Caribbean.

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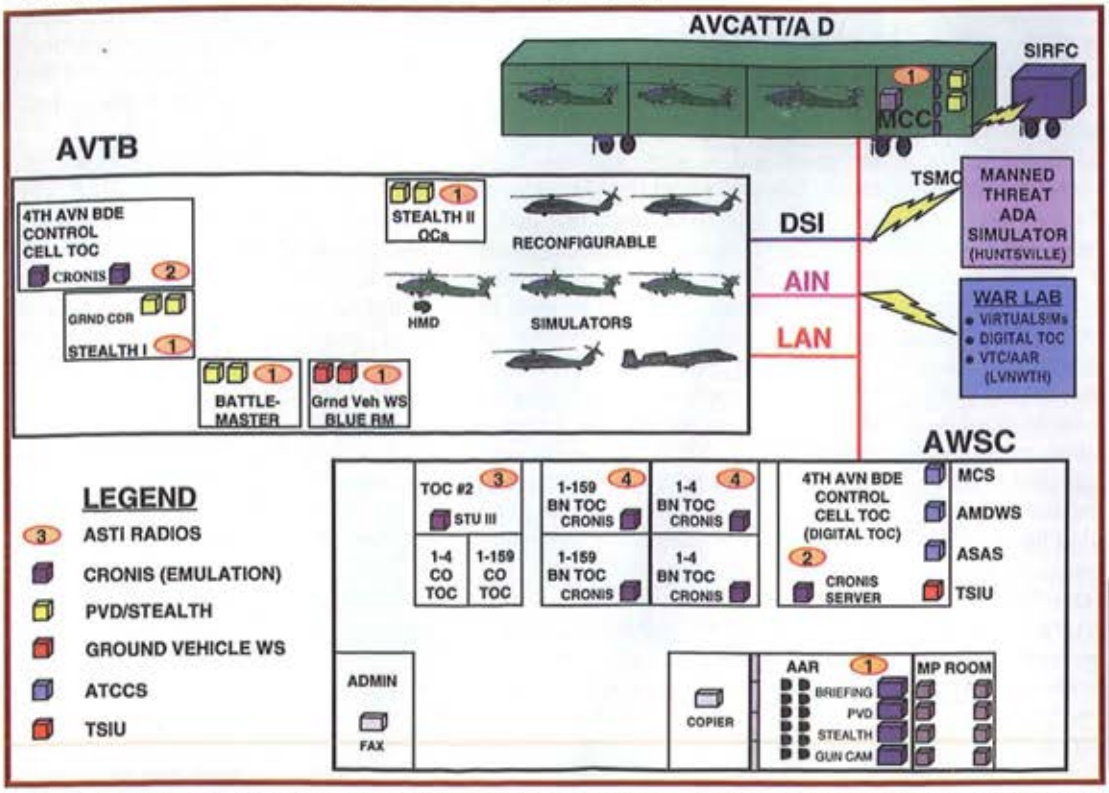
Joseph L. Homza is operations director, for Sikorsky International Products, Inc., in Stratford, Conn.

"Aviation Center's Stability/Support" ...continued from page 8



ATX IV Technical Architecture

A wide area network connection via the Army Intranet Network was also established between the War Lab at Fort Leavenworth, Kan. and Fort Rucker. The purpose of this initiative was to serve as a proof of principle for the linkage between Fort Rucker and Fort Leavenworth. This linkage supports exploration into the technical considerations related to linking multiple, remote virtual simulation and digital TOC locations for training and experimentation purposes.

Exercise Outcomes

The primary purpose of the exercise was to support 1st Bn., 4th Avn., and 1st Bn., 159th Avn. trainup in preparation for their deployment to Bosnia. This was successfully accomplished. All USAAVNC and unit exercise objectives were met, and ten aviation mission critical tasks were exercised during the training.

During this exercise, we were able to improve training effectiveness in several specific areas. Attack company commanders, platoon leaders, instructor pilots and flight leads were provided focused opportunities to improve JAAT skills. Battalion commanders and staff personnel were able to exercise risk management components of the military decision making process for stability operations and support operations to include examination of resulting consequences should appropriate factors not be considered. Additional realism and training effectiveness was achieved by the deployed brigade staff who returned from Bosnia to participate in the exercise as the higher headquarters control cell.

This exercise demonstrated for the first time the integration of the AVCATT-A with the AVTB and live TOCs in the AWSC to provide mission rehearsal for real world contingency operations. Another first, and a significant contributor to the real-world mission rehearsal, was the utilization of the actual Bosnia terrain database. The realism and fidelity of the database allowed some of the aircrew members to execute preliminary local area orientation flights.

Connectivity through local and wide area network connections among multiple virtual and constructive simulation systems, tactical C4I systems, and live TOCs located at the AVTB, AWSC, Fort Leavenworth War Lab, TSMO in Huntsville, and the AVCATT-A was successfully demonstrated. This connectivity will contribute significantly to our ability to not only provide effective training, but continue to explore the technical considerations related to linking live, constructive, and virtual simulation for application to Force XXI training, mission rehearsal, and tactics, techniques, and procedures development.

The aviation community has lacked a collective training device that allows battalion and brigade level commanders to exercise and evaluate their staffs and key executors (i.e., instructor pilots and platoon leaders) without conducting a major live training event at one of the combat training centers. AVCATT-A has successfully demonstrated the capability to provide this type of collective training.

The exercise was an overall success. Colonel Kowalczek, Commander, 4th Avn. Bde., 1st Cav. Div., commented at the AAR: "This is graduate-level training. This training will have you exceptionally prepared to begin your missions when you arrive in country." I thank Colonel Bill Powell and Col. Russ Forshag and their staffs at the Directorate of Training, Doctrine and Simulation, along with many others from Fort Rucker who made the exercise one of the most successful in USAAVNC history.

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Maj. Gen. Anthony Jones is commanding general of the U.S. Army Aviation Center at Fort Rucker, Ala., and chief of the aviation branch.

CAPTURING Aviation Lessons Learned

by Maj. James E. Hutton
& Capt. John C. White

Profiting from tactics, techniques and procedures from unit experience is the focus of this article. Aviation units worldwide conduct a wide variety of training missions, participate in major exercises and engage in current contingency operations. Because of the diversity of activity, soldiers in units continue to learn and improve operations for their units. By sharing knowledge gained, unit trainers can quickly assimilate and enhance the knowledge base for aviators everywhere. This article provides one tool to assist in collecting tactics, techniques, and procedures and preparing such information for use by the force.

Emerging developments in information-age technology have made the prospect of sharing lessons and ideas across a wide audience a reality. With easy access to e-mail and the Internet, soldiers can distribute documents, graphics and photographs rapidly and precisely. The purpose of this article is to provide aviation units with a tool for capturing lessons learned and an outlet for rapid dissemination of the lessons to the aviation force.

While After Action Reviews (AAR) benefit the unit executing the mission, many of the lessons learned can assist other units. With the introduction of the AH-64D Apache Longbow and the upcoming introduction of the RAH-66 Comanche, the aviation community needs a rapid means of disseminating lessons learned on the new equipment. Also, employment of the new equipment feeds tactics, techniques and procedures (TTP) on its use. Successful TTPs must be propagated to the force and used to feed and improve our doctrine.

The format for collecting lessons learned contained in this article applies to all types of aviation units currently in the force and gives units a format in which to present the lessons learned to other units. The initial focus of this article is to define and limit the scope of a lesson learned. It is important for aviation soldiers in the field to clearly understand the concept before proceeding to methodologies of collection. The next section focuses on areas in which aviation units can collect lessons learned. Once the issue is decided, the subsequent section describes the lessons-learned process.

Understanding the process for collecting data will assist units in collecting the lessons learned. Once data are collected, the ensuing section provides a structure for developing narrative products for publication by the Center for Army Lessons Learned (CALL) at Fort Leavenworth, Kan. The lessons-learned narrative or article is invaluable to the operational planner and provides effective training tools for the future.

Definition of Lessons Learned

Defining "lessons learned" is central to capturing meaningful observation-based lessons. The CALL definition provides a clear basis for establishing a collection effort: "A lesson learned is validated knowledge and experience derived from observations and historical study of military training, exercises and combat operations." When observing events or exercises, look for behaviors or actions to sustain or improve.

These are the lessons learned.

Although CALL regularly sends Combined Arms Assessment Teams (CAAT) to major exercises and actual operations to gather lessons learned, aviation units from all corners of the world can provide great insight by planning for the collection of lessons learned.

By using the structure and tools described below, units can provide useful lessons by establishing a collection effort as part of the originating operation order (OPORD), with almost no interference on normal

operations. You should plan to collect lessons learned throughout the entire operation. Task key individuals, commanders, platoon leaders, flight leads or pilots in command to capture observations before, during and following the execution of the mission. Designate an individual to collect the observations and capture the lessons learned during the planning, mission execution and AAR.

With the observations, notes from the planning, mission execution and AAR, soldiers can write the lessons-learned narratives. Use these narratives to improve unit operations or, if applicable, use them to disseminate the lessons to the total force. These tools will enhance planning for future training by incorporating the concept of lessons learned into the plan and more effectively capturing the lessons learned.

Areas to Collect Lessons Learned

Use the aviation-related topics listed below as a guide when creating a collection plan (tailor the plan for specific units needs):

Pre-Mission Planning
- Use of the Aviation Mission Planning System (AMPS)
- Planning Cells
- Rehearsals
- Route Planning
- Mission Planning Products

Mission Execution
- Deep Attacks
- Deliberate and Hasty Attacks
- Phased, Mass Destruction, Continuous Attack
- Air Assault
- Reconnaissance and Security
- Air Assault Security
- Quick Reaction Force (QRF) Mission
- Gunnery
- En-route Formations

Actions On The Objective:
- Integration of Fire Support
- Joint Air Attack Team (JAAT)
- Fire Control Measures
- Preparation of the Landing Zone (LZ)
- Battle Position Occupation
- Fire Distribution
- BDA Reporting

FARP Operations:
- FARP Occupation
- Rehearsals
- FARP Set up and Break Down
- FARP Security
- Jump FARP Operations

This list is not all-inclusive on areas to collect lessons learned on. Use the list as a guideline to promote further issues.

Lessons Learned Process

Once an issue is identified, units can contact CALL when developing plans for collecting lessons learned. CALL analysts can provide observer guidance, assist in delineating responsibilities of observers, identify documents or reference for use in developing a collection plan, and describe collection methodology.

Obtaining observations on the mission or training event is key to the lessons-learned process. Collect observations on areas that need improvement and on areas that the unit should sustain. These observations help feed the lesson-learned narrative.

Observations

Individual observations assist in providing the basis for the narrative document described below. An observation is a record or description of an event or a portion of that event. Use the form below to capture observations and develop a database for use in narrative development.

The observation form can be used for individual observations. The document contains key components that aid in the preparation of the lessons-learned narrative and also aid the researcher in preparing analyses:

- Observer Name

The observer's name is used administratively only. No observer's name will appear in a CALL product.

- Administrative Information

Like the observer's name, unit information is used administratively only. Unit names do not appear in CALL products.

- Observation Indicators – Check all the appropriate blocks.

- Interoperability Indicators – Check all the appropriate blocks.
- Environmental Indicators – Check the appropriate block.
- File Name

Employ a system that differentiates each observation. One method is for observers to use their initials combined with sequence number and date (for example, John Smith's first observation of May 5 would read jsmay0105). Other systems are acceptable if plainly explained.

- Observation Title

Give the observation a brief, distinct title. Example - Pre-Mission Planning

- Observation

Summarize the observation in one or two sentences. Tie the observation directly into the observation title. For example: During pre-mission planning the company commander divided his company into five planning cells. The use of the five cells enabled the company to rapidly plan for the mission.

- Discussion

Provide as much detail and background information as necessary to provide a clear picture to the analyst or future reader. Focus the discussion sharply on the observation and do not drift to other topics. If other topics need to be addressed, do so in another observation. The length of the discussion will vary.

- Lesson Learned

As previously described in the definition section, provide lesson(s) based on the observation.

- DTLOMS Implications

Describe how the observation impacts one or more areas in Doctrine, Training, Leadership Development, Organization, Materiel or Soldier Support (DTLOMS). Include such other material as SOP chapters, check lists and battle books to support the narrative text.

Lessons-Learned Narrative

Aviation soldiers at all levels can build upon the AAR process in the plan by producing a publishable document. In almost all exercises, units learn and consequently implement improvement measures. By employing the structure below, units can effectively share information throughout the force – not only from Combat Training Center (CTC) rotations, but also from home-station training and exercises away from the training centers.

Use the guidelines below to structure your paper for publication. Do not view the structure as rigid; it should serve as a point of departure for unit writers. Although quantitative material is useful for commanders and researchers, make this document narrative in format. Bring together data into a cohesive product that other units can readily use without resorting to sifting through large numbers of charts, lists and disjointed bullets. If observations are collected, use that material to assist in writing the narrative.

- Type of Unit

Describe the type of aviation unit.

- Task Organization

What was the task organization of the aviation unit? Was it adequate for the mission? [Note: Do not provide information that is classified under provisions of unit strength reporting (USR) regulations. Seek to provide a document that is free of classified material.]

- Mission

Summarize the unit's mission or training event.

- Commander's Intent

This information is available on the OPORD. Emphasize the purpose, method and endstate.

- Concept of the Operation

What was the plan for the mission? Summarize the information from the OPORD or mission brief.

- Execution of the Mission

How was the mission executed? How did the unit change its plan during the operation? How did the change(s) affect operations? The descriptions here will bridge the gap between the original plan and its actual implementation.

- TTPs

What TTPs, which are not described in doctrinal manuals, did the unit use? Describe the techniques employed. If your unit has a successful TTP that aids in mission

accomplishment, add it here. Describe the TTP in detail so other units can adapt it if needed.

- New Equipment Used

Was new equipment available and used in the operation? Describe the equipment. Was it useful? What were the additional training requirements for using the equipment?

- Lessons Learned

In bullet narrative, describe lessons learned in the operation. The bullets must contain sufficient detail for the reader to understand the situation and application possibilities for future operations. Support the bullets by providing the observations collected as an annex. The narrative in the base document must stand-alone, with the annex of individual observations providing additional detail.

Provide the narrative text, annexes and other material to CALL by e-mail to call@leav-emh1.army.mil, or by mail to:

Department of the Army
Center for Army Lessons Learned, CAC-CAT
10 Meade Avenue
Fort Leavenworth, KS 66027-1350.

CALL can then archive the lessons in its database or turn the information into an article or newsletter that is posted on the website and distributed Armywide.

CALL Products

In addition to maintaining and expanding a database of information, CALL publishes "News From the Front!" and a host of other publications for easy use by the force. "News From the Front!" is published six times per year and provides a forum for a wide variety of topics of interest to the field. Other publications, including newsletters, CTC Bulletins, special editions, handbooks and so on, all of which focus on specific topics. CALL also publishes the quarterly on-line magazine "Training Techniques." Many of the publications and articles originated from the field - from soldiers just like you. To view the CALL publications visit the website at http://call.army.mil/, post libraries or by contacting CALL. Various search engines are available on the website to assist researchers.

Conclusion

Planners, leaders and soldiers who comprehend the lessons learned process can build plans for the future in every OPORD. By incorporating a plan to collect data and produce a clean narrative product for use by the force, soldiers throughout the Army gain maximum benefit from the lessons learned by other units. With restrained budgets and fewer training opportunities, units cannot afford repeated mistakes. By using the lessons learned process within your own unit and providing the lessons learned to other units we can ensure continued success on the battlefield.

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Maj. James E. Hutton and Capt. John C. White are military analysts at the Center For Army Lessons Learned.

mailbox

Share your opinion on matters of interest to the Army aviation community. The publisher reserves the right to edit letters for style, accuracy or space limitations. All letters must be signed and authors identified. The publisher will withhold the author's name upon request. The opinions expressed are those of the authors, and do not reflect the opinion of ARMY AVIATION Magazine. Send letters to AAAA MAILBOX, 49 Richmondville Ave., Westport, CT 06880-2000, Tel: (203) 226-8184, FAX: (203) 222-9863, E-Mail: aaaa@quad-a.org.

Dear Editor,

I just wanted to personally thank you and the staff of AAAA for helping the Army warrant officer corps, and particularly those warrants in the Aviation Branch. With all the budget cuts and backstabbing going on in the military today, it sure is nice to know someone still cares about the Army's "tactical and technical professionals." We are the ones out there putting our butts on the line and in the air on a daily basis. The thought that we were overlooked in the recent flight-pay increase was very disturbing to many of us.

I originally joined AAAA because a close friend of mine needed the "cheese points" on his OER, and the fact that we needed to start up a chapter in the Sinai. But I soon realized that AAAA works for us in many ways. I recently became a life member of your organization, partly because I feel with the extra money you have helped me earn (ACIP), the membership will pay for itself in a couple of months. My Dad has been a member for many years, now I know why.

I have spread the word of your good deed to many of the warrant officers here at Fort Rucker, and have encouraged others to do so as well. I challenge warrant officers worldwide to jump on the band wagon and join up with a first-class organization called AAAA.

Thanks again from the bottom of my wallet.

CWO 3 Keith D. Genter, Fort Rucker, Ala.

Dear Editor:

The Maine Army National Guard is currently recruiting qualified UH-1 and UH-60 pilots. Our goal is to recruit 15 warrant officers and 6 lieutenants or junior captains. These positions are for traditional Guardsmen only.

The duty requirements for these positions are: one weekend a month, two weeks of annual training a year and 24 to 48 additional flight training periods per year. Aviation units are stationed at Bangor International Airport in Bangor, four hours northeast of Boston and one hour from Bar Harbor, Maine, along the coast.

Interested aviators should contact the state Army aviation officer at (207) 947-6593 or (DSN) 881-3450.

Lt. Col. Robert G. Carmichael, Jr.
State Army Aviation Officer, Maine Army National Guard

Aviation Branch Career News

The condensed lists presented below were extracted from PERSCOM's Web site. For up-to-the-minute news and the full text of the items extracted here, please refer to the PERSCOM Aviation Branch online newsletter at www-perscom.army.mil/ opmd/ avnews.htm and PERSCOM's "What's New" section at www-perscom.army.mil.

* = AAAA Members

FY 98 Command and Staff College Selection List

Name	Grade	Branch	FA
+ Almeida, Pedro G.*	CPT	AV	48
+ Baker, James E.	CPT	AV	41
Barker, James T.	CPT	AV	35
Barnwell, Patrick H.*	CPT	AV	54
Beck, John D.*	CPT	AV	46
Beltson, Steven D.*	CPT	AV	
Bird, James E.	CPT	AV	41
Bone, Jack W.*	CPT	AV	45
Bonnell, Brett L.*	CPT	AV	90
+ Borders, Nero Jr.*	MAJ	AV	35
+ Brewer, Michael L.	MAJ	AV	48
Bridgers, Donald E.*	CPT	AV	90
+ Brown, Robert S.	MAJ	AV	54
Brown, Shannon B.	CPT	AV	90
Brownlee, Emory W.*	MAJ	AV	54
Brunson, Kerry P.*	CPT	AV	53
Cannon, Kathleen A.*	CPT	AV	48
Carlile, Christopher*	CPT	AV	90
Cassella, Kent P.	CPT	AV	46
+ Cassidy, Robert M.	MAJ	AV	48
Chronis, Nicholas P.*	CPT	AV	54
Coffman, Carl R.*	CPT	AV	54
Connelly, James J.*	CPT	AV	39
Conyers, Todd Z.*	CPT	AV	41
+ Cooper, Curt S.*	CPT	AV	41
Corson, Michael E.	CPT	AV	35
Cowen, Carl W.	CPT	AV	41
Dickerson, Robert P.	CPT	AV	54
+ Drabik, Mark J.	MAJ	AV	54
Dreyer, Bradley K.*	CPT	AV	45
Dugan, James C.*	MAJ	AV	54
East, Michael O.	CPT	AV	45
+ Erker, Erich*	MAJ	AV	90
Evans, John R. Jr.*	CPT	AV	54
+ Evans, Mark A.	MAJ	AV	41
Fassl, Mark F.	CPT	AV	41
Fish, Charles A.*	CPT	AV	
Fleetwood, Michael*	MAJ	AV	39
Fox, Dennis A.*	CPT	AV	39
Gaede, Kinch P.*	MAJ	AV	90
+ Garcia, Xavier O.*	MAJ	AV	41
+ Grigsby, Robert E.*	CPT	AV	49
Hargrove, Angelia D.*	CPT	AV	35
+ Hastings, Robert T.*	MAJ	AV	46
Hibbard, Lonnie G.*	CPT	AV	49
+ Hinsdale, Adam R.	MAJ	AV	35
Hirschinger, Mark R.	CPT	AV	90
Horne, Jason R.*	CPT	AV	41
+ Hosack, Joseph R.	MAJ	AV	35
+ Huggins, George D.*	MAJ	AV	54
Hummel, Arlis D.	CPT	AV	90
Hunt, Robert J.*	MAJ	AV	54
James, Thomas L.*	CPT	AV	54
Jessen, Frederick H.*	CPT	AV	90
Jones, Barry L.	CPT	AV	45
Joslin, Christopher	MAJ	AV	39
Kiser, Robert R.	MAJ	AV	90
+ Koucheravy, Richard*	MAJ	AV	90
+ Ladd, Keith D.	MAJ	AV	41
Lindsay, John J.*	CPT	AV	41
+ Little, Manfred L.	CPT	AV	53
Lowery, James B.	CPT	AV	53
Lynch, John M.*	MAJ	AV	39
Madkins, Lawrence H.*	MAJ	AV	41
Matthews, Patrick L.*	CPT	AV	54
+ Maxwell, David J.	MAJ	AV	54
+ McIntosh, Kirk E.	MAJ	AV	35
+ Messitt, Todd A.*	MAJ	AV	49
Miller, Michael D.	MAJ	AV	54
+ Miller, William K.*	MAJ	AV	54
Murray, Paul J.	MAJ	AV	35
Neudecker, Rodney C.*	MAJ	AV	
Nitti, Donald R.*	CPT	AV	53
Novalis, John E.	CPT	AV	54
Odonnell, Vernon E.*	MAJ	AV	90
Palombo, Peter	MAJ	AV	48
+ Patterson, Mark C.*	MAJ	AV	49
Peavie, Barrett K.	CPT	AV	35
+ Pippin, Bradley W.*	CPT	AV	49
Price, Robert F.*	CPT	AV	45
+ Pyott, Michael D.*	CPT	AV	54
+ Quackenbush, Robert*	MAJ	AV	41
Reese, Frances V.*	CPT	AV	46
+ Reist, Paul K.*	MAJ	AV	49
Rooney, John C.*	CPT	AV	54
Satterlee, Steven K.	MAJ	AV	54
Sauer, John C.*	MAJ	AV	41
Sexton, John M.	CPT	AV	54
Shea, Daniel R.*	MAJ	AV	41
+ Shenk, Michael L.*	CPT	AV	49
Shirley, Robert G.	MAJ	AV	54
Smiley, Richard T.*	MAJ	AV	41
Snyder, Deborah L.*	CPT	AV	90
Solms, Timothy B.*	MAJ	AV	46
Sones, Bruce V.*	CPT	AV	54
Stote, Paul E.*	CPT	AV	54
Styer, John A.*	CPT	AV	45
Tate, Frank W.*	CPT	AV	41
+ Taylor, Mark C.*	MAJ	AV	46
+ Templin, Roy D.*	CPT	AV	90
Tetu, Michael T.*	CPT	AV	39
Tofani, Peter M.*	CPT	AV	53
+ Tolmachoff, Mark A.*	MAJ	AV	54
Tuttle, Bruce J.*	CPT	AV	53
+ Viola, James A.*	MAJ	AV	54
Walach, Christopher*	CPT	AV	54
Wellman, Frederick*	CPT	AV	54
+ Young, Lissa V.*	MAJ	AV	54

+Revalidated Officers

Aviation Acquisition Corps Selections

Name	Grade	Branch	FA
Ballew, Mark Ed.	MAJ	AV	51
+ Bosse, Scott P.*	MAJ	AV	51
Byers, Lynn K.	MAJ	AV	51
Capobianco, Joseph*	CPT	AV	51
+ Davis, Christopher	MAJ	AV	51
Dodge, Ronald C.*	CPT	AV	53
+ Halder, Michael K.*	MAJ	AV	51
Johnston, Robert J.*	CPT	AV	51
+ Kopra, Timothy L.*	MAJ	AV	51
+ Marion, Robert L.	CPT	AV	51
Meyer, David C.*	MAJ	AV	51
Moffatt, James A.*	CPT	AV	51
+ Smith, Christopher*	MAJ	AV	51
+ Smith, Todd L.	MAJ	AC	53

+ Revalidated Officers

Command Sergeant Major/Master Sergeant (E-9) Promotion Board Results

NAME	GRADE	PMOS
ALEXANDER ALFRED	SGM	67Z5
ALEXANDER GREGORY	MSGP	93P5
ALFRED ANTHONY L.	MSG	67Z5
BAKER WILLIAM J.	MSG	93P5
BANKS MICHAEL A.	MSG	67Z5
BARNETT KENNETH R.	SGM	67Z5
BENSON JAMES C.	MSG	67Z5
BROWN TERRY L.	MSG	93P5
BURNS SAMMY JR	MSG	67Z5
CAMACHOCOLON A.	MSG	67Z5
CLARK DAVID A.	MSG	67Z5
CLARKE JERRY A.	MSG	67Z5
CONLEY ELDRIGE	SGM	93P5
CRAFT PHILIP J.	MSG	93P5
CROSBY RICKY L.	MSG	93P5
DAMA JEFFREY E.	MSG	67Z5
DIAZRODRIGUEZ O.	MSG	67Z5
DOUGLAS CHARLES L.	MSG	67Z5
EADS RICHARD F.	SGM	67Z5
ELLIOTT VERNON S.	MSG	67Z5
ESCAMILLA FREDDY	SGM	67Z5
FAUCETTE VALERIE L.	MSG	93P5
FRYE RICHARD E.	MSG	67Z5
GARCIA JANETT	MSG	67Z5
GARCIA RAMIREZ	MSG	67Z5
GARRETT DALE W.	MSG	67Z5
GLIDEWELL TOD L.	MSG	67Z5
GRIMSLEY JAMES E.	MSG	93P5
HARRIS ERIC J.	MSG	67Z5
HAYNES JACQUELINE	MSG	93P5
HELSHAM NORMA J.	MSG	93P5
HENSON PATRICK L.	MSG	93P5
HIGH QUINTEN	MSG	67Z5
HUFFMAN MICHAEL W.	MSG	93P5
HUNTER MICHAEL M.	MSG	67Z5
JACOBS WINSTON L.	MSG	67Z5
JOHNSON MIRIAM C.	MSG	93P5
JONES JAMES E.	SGM	93P5
KRUM KEVIN R.	MSG	67Z5
LORD LONNY D.	MSG	67Z5
LUNN GREGORY	SGM	93P5
LUSK DARYL ROBERT	SGM	67Z5
MABROUK W.	MSG	67Z5
MAHONE CHARLIE L.	SGM	93P5
MARKS MICHAEL O.	MSG	67Z5
MARTIN JAMES W.	MSG	67Z5
MATTHEWS RALEIGH L.	SGM	67Z5
MCCONNELL JERRY H.	MSG	67Z5
MCCOY HERBERT W.	MSG	67Z5
MEDINA ISMAEL JR	MSG	67Z5
MELO FRANCISCO J.	MSG	67Z5
MOMON CHARLES A.	MSGP	93P5
MONAHAN MICHAEL A.	MSG	67Z5
MOTEN ALPHONSO	MSG	67Z5
MUNOZ JOSE	MSG	67Z5
MURRAY DOUGLAS L.	SGM	67Z5
NALOS RENATO T.	SGM	67Z5
ORDONIO EDWIN	MSG	67Z5
OWEN RAYMOND E.	MSG	67Z5
PARDUCHO ROLLIE R.	MSG	67Z5
PATTON KENNETH E.	MSG	93P5
PAYNE ROY A.	MSG	67Z5
PERRY WARREN L.	MSG	67Z5
PETERSON STEVEN L.	MSG	67Z5
PRITCHETT ROBERT M.	MSG	93P5
RIOS ERNESTO	MSG	67Z5
RIVERALOPEZ MARIAN	SGM	67Z5
RODERIQUES CLIFFORD	MSG	67Z5
RONSAIRO RONALDO	MSG	93P5
SANDERS DONALD R.	MSG	67Z5
SEIMER JERRY D.	SGM	93P5
SEYMOUR ALLEN W.	MSG	67Z5
SIMON LARRY ERNEST	SGM	67Z5
SLADE ELBERT J.	MSG	67Z5
SOUDERS STEWART R.	MSG	67Z5
TAINATONGO J.	SGM	67Z5
TIMAS EDUARDO G.	MSG	67Z5
TOMAZIEFSKI STEVEN	SGM	67Z5
TONKPHONTONG D.	MSG	67Z5
TWEEDY KENNETH L.	MSG	67Z5
VANDUSEN CLYDE R.	MSG	67Z5
VONGORTLER ROWENA	SGM	67Z5
WEBSTER WAYNE A.	MSG	67Z5
WIJETUNGA KUMARASI	MSG	67Z5
WILBUR KEITH D.	SGM	93P5
WILKINS RODERICK B.	MSG	67Z5
YATES RICKY P.	SGM	67Z5

arrivals/departures

LT. COLONELS

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Gerhardt, William P., 2538 W. Azalea Point Rd., Norfolk, VA 23518.
Hildreth, Bradford C., 6387B Camp Bowie Blvd., No. 157, Fort Worth, TX 76116.
Patton, Scott E., 7449 Shepherd Ridge Court, Springfield, VA 22153.
Stenkamp, Barney J., 200 Alpine Trail, Sparta, NJ 07871.
Story, Kurt S., 5606 Bazydlo Street, Fort Polk, LA 71459.
Ulsh, Gregory J., 229 Ardennes Circle, Seaside, CA 93955.

MAJORS

Brooks, John J., 140 5th Artillery Road, Fort Leavenworth, KS 66027.
Brucker, Duane E., G Co, 52nd Avn Regt, Box 303, APO AP 96297.
Cook, John P., 421st Medical Evac Bn, CMR 467, Box 3788, APO AE 09096.
Hackle, D. Lee, CMR 420, Box 2148, APO AE 09063.
Kyriss, Marxen W., 28 Pick Avenue, Fort Leavenworth, KS 66027.
Lamb, Morgan M., 58 Hunt Road, Fort Leavenworth, KS 66027.
Moquin, Marc D., 33 Hunt Road, Fort Leavenworth, KS 66027.
Rapavi, Michael J., 318 Donlphan Drive, Apt. 1, Fort Leavenworth, KS 66027.
Roberts, Joel E., 103 3d Infantry Road, Fort Leavenworth, KS 66027.EM: robertj2@bragg.army.mil
Rotte, Randolph R., HHC, 2-2 Avn, Unit 15427, Box 34, APO AP 96257.
Vallet, Gregory E., 184 5th Artillery, Fort Leavenworth, KS 66027.
Williams, David E., 1805 McGinnis Court, Harker Heights, TX 76548.
Wright, John S., 6273 Weathersfield Way, Williamsburg, VA 23188.

CAPTAINS

Dowling, Tracy, 3086 Achey Drive, Enterprise, AL 36330.
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George, David A., 295 Hopi Place, Boulder, CO 80303.
Graham, Philip E., 137 Commons Drive, Enterprise, AL 36330.
Huggins, Bret T., A Co, 127 ASB, CMR 477, Box 1351, APO AE 09165.
Johnson, Wade A., 1402 Hamstead Avenue, Fairbanks, AK 99701.
Jones, David A., 6228 Whileaway Drive, Loveland, OH 45140.
Schreiter, Lee W., C Troop, 1-6 Cav., Unit 15567, Box 734, APO AP 96297.
Snedden, Michael K., 71 AM Windham Drive, Daleville, AL 36322.EM: sneddenm@emh5.stewart.army.mil
Theiler, Hugh A., 10905 195th St. CT E, Graham, WA 98338.
Vannoy, John M., 3813 Rolling Pines, Enterprise, AL 36330.
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Wilson, Richard D., B Co. 7-159th Avn Regt, CMR 408, Box 635, APO AE 09182.

1ST LIEUTENANTS

Bellocchio, Andrew T., P.O. Box 472, Great Bend, NY 13643.
Brown, Jayson D., CMR 477, Box 1568, APO AE 09165.
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MacIver, Scott M., 2043 Ryan Way, Winter Haven, FL 33884.
Morrison, William J., 1102 Buckingham Road, Haslett, MI 48840.
Sullens, Jeffrey J., 542nd Med Co, Box 150, Unit 15705, APO AP 96208.
Waldron, Thomas J., CMR 477, Box 781, APO AE 09165.
Whittenberg, Geoffrey A., 9853-A Sandy Creek Road, Fort Drum, NY 13603.
Wideman, James G., 100 Golf Links Road, Apt. 101, Sierra Vista, AZ 85635.

2ND LIEUTENANTS

Cornett, Misty M., 101 Livingston St., No. 202, Daleville, AL 36322.
Howard, Ian M., 220 Grimes Road, Ozark, AL 36360.
Jakusz, Todd D., 170 Moates Drive, Enterprise, AL 36330.
Lark, Thomas S., 117 Candlebrook Drive, Enterprise, AL 36330.
Mask, John S., 1500 Shellfield Road, No. 608, Enterprise, AL 36330.
Milchanowski, Jeffry W., 102 Weeks Drive, No. 6, Enterprise, AL 36330.
Pruitt, Mark S., P.O. Box 620301, Fort Rucker, AL 36362.
Spoon, Ryan S., 201 Dixie Drive, No. 13, Enterprise, AL 36330.
Surrey, Nathan S., 440 County Road 270, Enterprise, AL 36330.
Tully, James E., 217 Apache Drive, Apt. 20-A4, Enterprise, AL 36330.
Zeidman, Troy E., 123 Pineridge Drive, Enterprise, AL 36330.

CW4S

Jacoby, Jeffrey L., 2004-A Werner Park, Fort Campbell, KY 42223.
Smith, Michael R., 307 Korrina Court, Peachtree City, GA 30269.EM: smithmr@forscom.army.mil

CW3S

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Freeman, Tyron J., 703 Wright Avenue, Wahiawa, HI 96786.EM: tyfreeman@aol.com
Fremming, Eric D., 5719 Friedman Street, Fort Hood, TX 76544.
Johanson, Arthur L., 421 Circleview Drive, Dothan, AL 36301.EM: artj@ix.netcom.com
Susag, Jeffry T., 6160 Emma Lane, Colorado Springs, CO 80922.

CW2S

Chance, Christopher, 3717-A McCornack Road, Wahiawa, HI 96786.EM: chrisc58d@aol.com
Faragallah, John, 16915 Wilkie Avenue, Torrance, CA 90504.EM: uh60ip@central.net

WO1S

Green, Casey M., 215 Parker Hills Drive, Ozark, AL 36360.
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Reed, Daryl J., D Troop, 1-4 Cav., CMR 464, Box 8, APO AE 09226.
Shin, Young S., 101 S. Twin Creek Drive, Apt. 1402, Killeen, TX 76543.EM: goonbari@awanet.com
Teichner, Aaron E., 8637 Peck Street, Evans Mills, NY 13637.
Ward, Graham, 416 Sierra Court, Clarksville, TN 37040.

ENLISTED SOLDIERS

Albee, Harold E. SGT, P.O. Box 393, Fort Drum, NY 13603.
Galeazzi, Scott A. SPC, 1213 Benton Street, Boone, IA 50036.
Minor, James D. SGM, 1116 Lakewood Drive, Macomb, IL 61455.

DACS

Halpern, Susan S. Ms., 6232 Rime Village Drive, Apt. 101, Huntsville, AL 35806.
Villiva, Gene P. Mr., 1st PERSCOM RMO, Unit 29058, APO AE 09081.

CIVILIAN

O'Neal, William R., 505 Moonfield Drive, Smithfield, VA 23430.

RETIRED/OTHER

Bumbar, Michael P. SSG, 7933 Webb Drive, Yucca Valley, CA 92284.
Mock, Windell R. CW5, 2303 Roses Run, Aiken, SC 29803.
Proctor, Steven V. CW5, 1921 Lexington Avenue, Great Lakes, IL 60088.
Wotkyns, Anthony L. MAJ, Visionquest, P.O. Box 109, Faxon, OK 73540.
Yates, Robert E. CW4, 7740 Castleton Lane, Columbia, SC 29223.

AAAA NEWS

NEW MEMBERS

AIR ASSAULT CHAPTER
FORT CAMPBELL, KY
CW4 James C. Hancock, Ret.
MSG Gary L. Huenink, Ret.
MSG Charles R. Mahoney
CW4 Robert K. Stephan, Ret.

ALOHA CHAPTER
HONOLULU, HI
CW2 Curtis P. Adams
SPC Jose Bonet
1SG Charles V. Meehan
SPC Jason C. Nichols
SPC Jacob P. Weidner
SPC Joseph L. Zurner

AMERICA'S FIRST COAST CHAP.
JACKSONVILLE, FL
CW4 William R. Halevy
SFC John T. Waler
SFC Chris T. Wolfla

ARMADILLO CHAPTER
CONROE, TX
CW4 Albert B. Wood

AVIATION CENTER CHAPTER
FORT RUCKER, AL
2LT Brandon P. Adams
2LT Justin O. Ahern
1LT Jeffrey S. Baltzell
CPT Alexander J. Basse
2LT Benjamin A. Bell
2LT Jarrod L. Blair
WO1 Kelly W. Blixt
2LT Keith M. Campbell
WO1 Maynard D. Campbell
WO1 Michael E. Cox
WO1 Cristopher J. Crooks
2LT Jonathan P. Deeter
2LT Bryan T. Donohue
2LT Paul B. Eberhardt
WO1 Brandon S. Eherenman
2LT Peter M. Emerson
2LT Raymond J. Fields, Jr.
WO1 Jerry L. Furlong
2LT Robert A. Geddie
2LT Michael J. Gutierrez
2LT Peter N. Hathaway
WO1 Abimael Hernandez
Dr. Jerry P. Higman
2LT John C. Hoffman
2LT William B. Howard
CPT Bret T. Huggins
WO1 Michael K. Hutto
CW3 Wesley A. Jones
2LT Frederick G. Keller
2LT Robert G. Klarenbach
2LT William G. Kraus
WO1 Shane R. Lane
WO1 Steven A. Lane
WO1 Jeremy P. Lupin
WO1 Michael A. McCray
WO1 Thomas E. Nowlin, Jr.
WO1 Jesse E. Oliver
2LT Daniel R. Ostrowski
2LT Gabriel Padilla
2LT Bryan E. Pardee
2LT Sarah Pierce
2LT Marc A. Roe
2LT James C. Schoonover
2LT Brian M. Smith
WO1 Aaron D. Southerland
2LT Gregory S. Tily
Mr. Ken Tuck
WO1 Carrell R. Whaley, Jr.
2LT Ryan A. Wiley
WO1 David T. Woodward

BIG RED ONE CHAPTER
ANSBACH, GERMANY
CW4 Richard L. Harmon

CEDAR RAPIDS CHAPTER
CEDAR RAPIDS, IOWA
Mr. Andy H. Alexander
Mr. Vincent P. Marzen

CHECKPOINT CHARLIE CHAP.
BERLIN, GERMANY
Mr. Peter Feil

COLONIAL VIRGINIA CHAPTER
FORT EUSTIS, VA
LTC Mark Bingaman

CONNECTICUT CHAPTER
STRATFORD, CT
CW4 Michael C. Karageanis,Ret
MAJ Michael R. Skaggs, Ret.

CORPUS CHRISTI CHAPTER
CORPUS CHRISTI, TX
Mr. Juan Cantu
Ms. San Juanita R. Cantu
Mr. Arnold C. Flores

DELAWARE VALLEY CHAPTER
PHILADELPHIA, PA
Mr. James McCabe
Mr. Luke J. McLaughlin

EDWIN A LINK MEMORIAL CHAP
BINGHAMTON NY AREA
Mr. Richard T. Evans
Mr. Mike C. Osgood

INDIANTOWN GAP CHAPTER
INDIANTOWN GAP, PA
1LT Jack E. Wallace

IRON EAGLE CHAPTER
HANAU, GERMANY
CW3 Arthur M. Blakemore
SGT Joe W. Czekaiski
CW3 David A. Ford
MAJ Natalie G. Lee
SGT Glenn Lopez-Cepero
CW3 Mike E. Mittlebeeler
CW3(P) Steven A. Morris
MAJ Roy E. Perkins
MAJ Jon J. Peterson
SSG Tina M. VanLith Tosten

IRON MIKE CHAPTER
FORT BRAGG, NC
SPC Matthew R. Lonnemann
Ms. Laura T. Matter
Ms. Adrienne N. Pahula

JIMMY DOOLITTLE CHAPTER
COLUMBIA, SC
SSG Jack R. Burns
LTC George E. McCall, Ret.
CPT Mark K. Shuford

LAND OF LINCOLN CHAPTER
PEORIA, IL
CW4 Mark A. Koenig

LEAVENWORTH CHAPTER
FORT LEAVENWORTH, KS
MAJ Craig A. Engel
MAJ John J. Eslinger
MAJ John F. Iampietro
CPT Leonel Nascimento

LINDBERGH CHAPTER
ST. LOUIS, MO
Mr. Michael D. Wilson

MONMOUTH CHAPTER
FORT MONMOUTH, NJ
SGT Michael A. Brown, Ret.
Mr. James F. Muldoon
MAJ Salvador P. Renteria
Mr. Jacques Wahide

NARRAGANSETT BAY CHAPTER
N. KINGSTOWN, RI
CPT Thomas F. Champion, Jr.

NILE DELTA CHAPTER
CAIRO, EGYPT
MG William E. Ward

NORTH COUNTRY CHAPTER
FORT DRUM, NY
MAJ James M. Ash
CW4 Bill J. Condon, Jr.
CPT Amy L. Corsello
MAJ Jon P. Goodsmith
CPT Demetrios J. Nicholson
CPT James Nugent, Jr.
CW4 Thomas Panza

NORTH TEXAS CHAPTER
DALLAS/FORT WORTH
Mr. Bennie Thurman

NORTHERN LIGHTS CHAPTER
FORT WAINWRIGHT/FAIRBANKS AK
SPC Andrew Adamczak
SPC Dion Boyd
SPC Amy C. Dixon
CW4 James G. Griner
SPC(SGT) Frederick Meyers
SPC(SGT) Brian Scott
SPC Andrew Stringer
SPC Tamara Williams
SPC Jame R. Yanowsky
SPC Kurt Zimmer

OREGON TRAIL CHAPTER
SALEM, OREGON
MAJ Charles L. Deibert, Ret.

PHANTOM CORPS CHAPTER
FORT HOOD, TX
CW2 Roger S. Hopkins
CW3 Tommy D. Starnes

PIKES PEAK CHAPTER
FORT CARSON, CO
CPL Brandon C. Childers
SPC Dena M. Currin
CPT Harold D. Hooks

TALON CHAPTER
ILLESHEIM, GERMANY
CPT Mark E. Arden
CPT Keriem Kvalevog
1SG Thomas Ralph
CH(CPT) David G. Snyder

TAUNUS CHAPTER
WIESBADEN, GERMANY
CW4 Noel C. Seale

TENNESSEE VALLEY CHAPTER
HUNTSVILLE, AL
Ms. Anita M. Baker-Lopez
Mr. Thomas A. Baumbach
Mr. George M. Behnen
Mr. Marc J. Bendickson
Mr. Michael H. Bond
Mr. James A. Dawson
Mr. Michael A. DeMaioribus
Ms. Linda K. Fetter
Mr. Stephen P. Golden
SPC James W. Henderson, Jr.
COL Michael I. Howell
Mr. Mark S. Miller
Ms. Linda K. Pettitt
Mr. James M. Stanfield
Mr. Allen R. Wooten
Mr. James Young, Jr.

VIRGINIA MILITARY INSTITUTE
LEXINGTON, VA
CDT Eric G. Schnabel

WASHINGTON-POTOMAC CHAPTER
WASHINGTON, DC
LTC David L. Byus, Ret.
LTG Joseph E. DeFrancisco,Ret
Ms. Jennifer C. McCormick

MEMBERS WITHOUT
CHAPTER AFFILIATION
1SG Michael W. Barber
CPT Nelson Mauricio Ceren
Mr. Jack B. DeVries
Mr. Douglas S. Hartman
CPT Somporn Pornananlerk
Mr. Steven A. Sarada
Mr. David L. Thomas
CPT M. Metin Turan
Mr. Alfred S. Weser
MAJ Eduardo Zaldumbide

AAAA National Executive Board Nominations

In accordance with the AAAA By-Laws, notice is hereby given that in addition to the nominations recommended by the Nominations Committee for those NEB offices in which vacanies occur at the time of the annual election, floor nominations may be made at the Annual Convention, provided that the name of the floor nominees appear on nomination petitions signed by 25 AAAA members and said petitions are provided to the Chairman of the Nominations Committee at the AAAA National Office at least 30 days prior to the conduct of the AAAA Annual Meeting.

AAAA NEWS

New Chapter Officers

Arizona:
Col. Robert V. Mitchell, Ret., President; Mr. Ronald A. Trejo, VP Military Affairs.

Colonial Virginia:
Sgm. Kenneth G. Rich, VP Membership Enrollment, Sgm. Esquire McCoy, VP Enlisted Affairs; Ms. Sheila I. Visconti, VP Chapter Awards

Corpus Christi:
Mr. Brian J. Samueli, VP for Benefits.

Jimmy Doolittle:
Cpt. Mark K. Shuford, Pres.; CWO 5 Lemuell E. Grant, Sr. Vice Pres.; Sgt. Ruppert G. Baird, Sec.; Sgt. Christopher L. Kempson, Treas.; Lt. Col. Lester D. Eisner, VP Membership Enrollment; CWO 4 James B. Robinson, VP Programs; CWO 2 Kent B. Puffenbarger, Historian.

Leavenworth:
Brig. Gen. John M. Curran, President; Col. Lawyn C. Edwards, Sr. Vice President; Lt. Col. Gregory A. Brockman, Secretary; Maj. James C. Pietsch, Treasurer; Lt. Col. Guy A. Rogers, II, VP Membership Enrollment; Maj. Donald G. Lisenbee, VP Activities; Lt. Col. Willis F. Jackson, Jr., VP Formal

Oregon Trail:
Maj Mathew J. Brady, VP Membership.

Pikes Peak:
Cpt. Harold D. Hooks, Sr. VP.; CWO 3 Christian J. O'Neil, Treas.

Ragin' Cajun:
Lt. Col. David L. Lawrence, Pres.; CWO 4 Christoper K. Dodd, Sr. Vice President; Maj. Christopher F. White, Treas.; CWO 3 Marc V. Elig, VP Membership Enrollment; Cpt. Dale E. Waston, VP Programs; Ssg. Richard H. Blair, VP Enlisted Affairs.

Tennessee Valley:
Lt. Col. James D. Pepper, Ret., VP Membership.

Western New York:
CWO 4 Bruce E. Shafer, Secretary, Cpt. Scott P. McConnell, VP Membership Enrollment; 1st Sgt. Gregory K. Bush, VP Programs.

AAAA Soldiers of the Month

A Chapter Program to Recognize Outstanding Aviation Soldiers on a Monthly Basis

Spc. Andrew Adamczak
February 1998
(Northern Lights Chapter)

Spc. Dion Boyd
December 1998
(Northern Lights Chapter)

Spc. Michael Burns
January 1999
(Pikes Peak Chapter)

Spc. Dena M. Currin
December 1998
(Pikes Peak Chapter)

Spc. Amy C. Dixon
June 1998
(Northern Lights Chapter)

Spc. James W. Henderson, Jr.
December 1998
(Tennessee Valley Chapter)

E4 Joseph L. Hill
September 1998
(Talon Chapter)

Spc. Daniel J. Laney
June 1998
(Talon Chapter)

Spc. Matthew R. Lonnemann
October 1998
(Iron Mike Chapter)

Spc. (Sgt.) Frederick Meyers
March 1998
(Northern Lights Chapter)

Cpl. Michael J. Muller
December 1998
(Talon Chapter)

Sgt. Jeremiah J. Oligario
August 1998
(Talon Chapter)

Sgt. Jason L. Perry
May 1998
(Talon Chapter)

Spc. (Sgt.) Brian Scott
April 1998
(Talon Chapter)

Spc. Jackie Smith
November 1998
(Iron Mike Chapter)

Spc. Andrew Stringer
May 1998
(Northern Lights Chapter)

E-4 Joseph T. Wayland
January 1999
(Talon Chapter)

Spc. Tamara Williams
July 1998
(Northern Lights Chapter)

Spc. Jame R. Yanowsky
November 1998
(Northern Lights Chapter)

Spc. Kurt Zimmer
October 1998
(Northern Lights Chapter)

AAAA NCO of the Month

A Chapter Program to Recognize Outstanding NCOs on a Monthly Basis

Cpl. Brandon C. Childers
December 1998
(Pikes Peak Chapter)

AAAA Instructor of the Quarter

A Chapter Program to Recognize Outstanding Instructors on a Quarterly Basis

Ssg. Karen R. Coleman
1st Quarter FY 99
(Colonial Virginia Chapter)

New AAAA Life Members

CWO 4 Milton L. Ford, Ret.
Col. William T. Harrison, Ret.
Capt. Dennis J. Iverson, Ret.
Sgm. Richard L. Jackson, Ret.
CWO 5 Steven V. Proctor, Ret.
CWO 4 Daniel L. W. Taylor, Ret.
Mr. James F. Vickery

New AAAA Order of St. Michael Recipients

Maj. Gen. Clyde A. Hennies (Gold)
Maj. Gen. Jacob Lestenkof (Bronze)
CH (Lt. Col.) Alvine M. Moore III (Bronze)
Lt. Col. Jeffrey C. Sugrue (Bronze)
CWO 4 Jimmy R. Sawyer (Bronze)
Sfc. Kathleen M. Vankuren (Bronze)
CWO 5 Reed M. Zellers (Bronze)
CSM Robert E. Curran (Bronze)
Cpt. Bruce W. Zartman (Bronze)
CWO 5 Robert B. Stitt (Bronze)
CWO 5 James D. Morgan (Bronze)

Aces

The following members have been recognized as Aces for their signing up five new members each.

Spc4 John G. Klubnick, Sr., Ret.

New AAAA Industry Members

Airfoil Technologies International

Army Aviation Center Chapter

Nearly 500 runners hit the ground running at Fort Rucker during the annual Chili 5K road race sponsored by AAAA Aviation Center Chapter on October 24, 1998. Photo by Lisa Eichhorn

Lt. Col. Pat Forrester, Army Astronaut, receives a AAAA coin from Col. R. Lee Gore, Army Aviation Center Chapter president. Forrester spoke at a recent AAAA membership meeting at Fort Rucker, Ala.

Tennessee Valley Chapter

Brig. Gen. Joseph Bergantz, President of the Tennessee Valley Chapter, presents cash awards from the chapter. The NCO of the 2nd Quarter FY99 is presented to Sgt. Carlos M. Varon (right).

The Soldier of the Month of November 1998 is awarded to Spec. Saffiatu K. Mansaray (below). These awards were presented during a monthly luncheon held at Redstone Arsenal.

1998 Membership Winners

The winners of the 1998 "Chapter membership Enrollment Competition" are:

MASTER CHAPTER CATEGORY
Tennessee Valley Chapter
Huntsville, Ala.
CY98 Net Member Gain of 165 members
Brig. Gen. Joseph L. Bergantz, Chapter President
Lt. Col. James D. Pepper, (Ret.,) V.P. Membership

SENIOR CHAPTER CATEGORY
Iron Mike Chapter
Hanau, Germany
CY 98 Net Member Gain of 140 members
Col. Christopher L. Sargent, Chapter President
Maj. Darryl T. Shamblin, V.P. Membership

AAAA CHAPTER CATEGORY
Big Red One Chapter
Ansbach, Germany
CY98 Net Member Gain of 36 members
Col. John R. Combs, Chapter President
1st Lt.. Kevin R. Card, V.P. Membership

AAAA "TOP GUN" INDIVIDUAL MEMBERSHIP RECRUITMENT
Mr. William J. Cannon, Aviation Center Chapter
enrolled 553 new members
Mr. John H. Bae, Morning Calm Chapter
enrolled 505 new members
Capt. Bradley D. Osterman, Iron Mike Chapter
enrolled 81 new members
Sgm. Kenneth G. Rich, Colonial Virginia Chapter
Enrolled 77 new members
lst Lt. Kevin R. Card, Big Red One Chapter
enrolled 42 new members

Monmouth Chapter

Ron Kurowsky, a longtime member and current president of AAAA's Monmouth Chapter, was awarded the Association's Order of Saint Michael for his significant contributions to the promotion of Army aviation. He was recognized for his vision and focus as leader of the Monmouth Chapter, which won AAAA's Top Chapter award in 1997. Kurowsky has served in a number of AAAA positions and is currently on the national AAAA Scholarship Foundation board of governors.

LEGISLATIVE REPORT

Col. Sylvester C. Berdux, Jr., Ret.
AAAA Representative to
The Military Coalition (TMC)

Senate Considering Special Retention/Readiness Bill

Senate Armed Services Committee Chairman John Warner (R-VA) has signaled he would not wait for the normal Defense Authorization Bill process to address pay raise and retirement enhancement proposals in the FY2000 President's Budget. Senate Majority Leader Trent Lott (R-MS) and Senators John McCain (R-AZ), Pat Roberts (R-KS), Wayne Allard (R-CO), John Warner (R-VA) and dozens of other senators introduced the Military Retirement and Pay Equity Act of 1999, aimed at reducing pay raise shortfalls for active duty personnel and repealing retirement cuts enacted 12 years ago for members whom entered service after July 31, 1986.

Earlier, the president announced plans to submit pay raise and retirement improvements in his FY2000 budget but the senators' plan would provide substantially greater increases.

Both plans are aimed at addressing what the joint chiefs of staff unanimously assert are their top readiness priorities to stem increasingly severe retention problems among career service members.

On the pay raise side, the president's plan would provide only a small fractional increase above private sector pay growth for FY2000, and match private sector pay growth for the next five years. Here's a comparison of the two proposals, through 2004:

	FY2000*	2001	2002	2003	2004
Pres. Bud.	4.4-9.9%	3.9%	3.9%	3.9%	3.9%
Sen. Ldrs	4.8-10.3%	4.4%	4.4%	4.4%	4.4%

*The president's plan would raise pay 4.4% on Jan 1, 2000, then provide an additional "targeted" raise (ranging from zero to 5.5%, depending on grade and years of service) on July 1, 2000. The Senate plan for FY2000 would be similar, except the Jan 1 raise would be 4.8%). For the out years, the president's plan would match private sector wage growth, while the Senate proposal would exceed that standard by 0.5% per year for the foreseeable future to help make up for past caps.

On the retirement side, the plans would repeal or modify the Military Retirement Reform Act of 1986 – now called REDUX – which reduced the retirement formula from 50% to 40% of a member's highest three years' average basic pay after 20 years of service and capped affected members' annual retired pay COLAs one percentage point below inflation (CPI-1%). (Again, these cuts apply only to members who first entered service after July 31, 1986.) Members affected by REDUX will have their retired pay recalculated on a one-time basis at age 62 to provide the amount retirees would have been receiving at that time had they not experienced the formula reduction and COLA caps, but subsequent annual COLAs will remain capped at CPI-1%.

The president's plan would repeal the formula cut, but make only minor adjustments to the COLA cap to ease it somewhat in years when inflation is less than 3%. The Senate plan would offer REDUX eligible a choice at the 15-year point: they could either (a) opt for the pre-REDUX retirement system (50% of high-three average basic pay at 20 years, with full-inflation COLAs); or (b) accept the REDUX retirement with its formula reductions and COLA caps and receive a $30,000 cash bonus, which could be rolled into a tax-free account if the Service member desired.

The Senate plan also would authorize service members to deposit up to 5% of their basic pay in a tax-deferred thrift savings plan (the Department of Defense would have authority, but would not be required, to match up to 5% of basic pay deposited in such accounts for members with critical skills).

Finally, it would pay a special allowance of $180 per month to food-stamp-eligible service members in grade E-5 or below (aimed at removing them from food stamp rolls).

Senate leaders intend to seek "fast track" action on the new pay and retirement bill instead of the normal route of including it in the FY2000 Defense Authorization Bill. That bill normally isn't completed until September or later, whereas leadership hopes to have the Senate complete action on the special pay and readiness bill by mid-March. AAAA and TMC agree that quick legislative approval would be a great signal of how important these "people issues" are to national security.

Well the 106th Congress has gotten off to a bang up start; it's completed organizing committees, has reintroduced a number of last year's bills of interest to the Military Readiness, started introducing new bills and has formulated the Congressional legislative agenda.

Pentagon Announces FEHBP-65 Test Sites

On January 13, the Department of Defense announced the eight sites to test enrolling Medicare-eligible uniformed services beneficiaries in the federal Employees Health Benefits Program (FEHBP-65), as authorized by the FY 1999 Defense Authorization Act. Up to 66,000 Medicare-eligible can enroll.

The sites were randomly selected, according to statutory guidelines, which specified a minimum of six and a maximum of ten sites. The law also required at least one Medicare subvention test site (TRICARE Senior Prime), at

least one medical treatment facility (MTF) catchment area, and at least one site outside any catchment area. There can be no more than one test site in any TRICARE region. DOD applied the following criteria in the sequence shown:

a. Medicare Subvention Site: Select 1 MTF with less than 25,000 eligible beneficiaries.

b. MTF Catchment Areas: Select 2 locations, one from a large (7,500+ beneficiaries) and one from a small (3,000 to 7,500 beneficiaries) catchment area.

c. Noncatchment Areas: Select 2 metropolitan areas with at least 3,000 beneficiaries each, plus 1 county not in a metropolitan area (if the county elected has less than 3,000 beneficiaries, the boundary will be expanded by ZIP code to surrounding counties as necessary to create a test site with a total of 3,000 beneficiaries).

d. Additional Sites, If Needed to Achieve Total of 66,000 Eligible Beneficiaries: Select, in sequence, one additional large MTF catchment area, one metropolitan area and two (if needed) randomly selected counties.

Military and veterans association representatives conducted the blind drawing, in which eight sites were selected before reaching the 66,000 limit. These are the sites, with the number of eligible beneficiaries at each location shown in parentheses:

-Dover, DE (3,998);
-Roosevelt Roads, Puerto Rico (9,423);
-Fort Knox, KY (7,084);
-Greensboro/Winston-Salem/High Point, NC (3,045);
-Dallas, Texas (9,539);
-Humboldt County, Calif. (395 - to be expanded to 3,000 by ZIP code);
-Camp Pendleton, Calif. (32,219- to be reduced to 25,000 by ZIP code);
-New Orleans, La. (4,775).

DOD and the Office of Personnel Management (which oversees FEHBP) will work with Insurers to negotiate premiums for the test. TMC anticipates premiums will approximate those for federal employees, but this is still under review. Informational materials will be prepared and sent to eligible beneficiaries in late summer (likely August) informing them of the plans in their area and their eligibility to enroll during the next federal employees' FEHBP open season period (which will be the last three weeks in November and first week in December). Insurance coverage for participants will begin Jan. 1, 2000.

Key Bills Reintroduced in House

House members started the ball rolling prior to the State of the Union Address including the reintroduction several bills of long-standing interest to service members by perennial champions of the uniformed services community, Reps Mike Bilirakis (R-FL) and Bob Stump (R-AZ). Please contact your legislators and ask them to cosponsor these bills:

H.R. 303 (Rep Bilirakis) – Would authorize full concurrent receipt of uniformed services longevity retired pay and VA disability compensation, without any offset. (Same bill number as 105th Congress) H.R. 65 (Rep Bilirakis) – Would authorize "inverse ratio" offset of retired pay by VA disability compensation, based on degree of disability: 100% disabled would have zero offset; 90% disabled would have 10% offset; 80% disabled, 20%offset, etc. (Same bill number as 105th Congress)

H.R. 44 (Rep Bilirakis) – Low-cost, "foot-in-the-door" bill to ease the concurrent receipt ban for those whose severe service-connected disabilities have precluded post-service employment. Covers retirees with 20 or more years of service who received VA disability ratings of at least 70% or rated as unemployable within 4 years of leaving service. Authorizes additional $300/mo for 100% disabled, $200/mo for 90% disabled, and $100/mo for 70-80% disabled (Same bill number as 105th Congress) H.R. 72 (Rep Stump) – Would restore a measure of equity to Uniformed Services Former Spouse Protection Act by terminating division of retired pay upon remarriage of former spouse; computing divisible retired pay based on member's grade and years of service at time of divorce vs. time of retirement; limiting applicability to court orders approved within two years of divorce; and reinforcing prohibition on division of disability compensation when retired pay has been waived. (Same as H.R. 2537 in 105th Congress)

H.R. 70 (Rep Stump) – Would codify existing eligibility criteria for burial at Arlington National Cemetery, with the addition of Gold Star wives (widows whose spouses died of service-connected causes). Other than the persons specifically allowed in the legislation, no other person could be buried at Arlington. (Similar to H.R. 3211 in 105th Congress, which passed the House by a vote of 412-to-0)

TRICARE Region 1 Contract Dispute Settled

Foundation Health Federal Services, Inc., which had successfully protested the award of the five-year, $1.2 billion Tricare Region 1 contract to Sierra Military Health Services, Inc. has agreed to an undisclosed settlement from Sierra that ends the dispute. For Region 1 beneficiaries, the settlement should be good news, since it should increase the stability of your health care providers through the year 2003. If the protest had resulted in the interim selection of a new contractor, many beneficiaries could have found themselves having to switch providers again.

Some Items of Interest On Veteran's Affairs Facilities and TRICARE:

There are now 131 Veteran Affairs (VA) facilities (of 172 total, or 76%) that have signed on as network providers under TRICARE agreements. It can be anticipated that the VA's share of the TRICARE market will continue to expand in the next few years. TRICARE fits VA's strategic objective of securing additional sources of revenue and an expanded patient base. Likewise, VA probably sees itself as a likely provider under any future expansion of TRICARE Senior Prime since VA has well-recognized expertise and research exposure in geriatric medicine. Should Congress endorse the Transition Commission's recommendation for dual beneficiary access to either the VHA or DOD health care systems, TRICARE partnering with VA could increase even more rapidly. Finally, according to the information received in response to a series of questions posed by DOD, the pharmacy benefit is not working for DOD for TRICARE beneficiaries who wish to access a VA pharmacy under TRICARE.

Fort Rucker Awards Banquet
February 3, 1999

The 1999 Aviation Center Chapter Awards Banquet was the venue for the presentation of a number of AAAA National Functional Awards. Occurring in the middle of the week of the Aviation Leaders Training Conference at Fort Rucker, Ala., the event was well attended not only by the local personnel but also the aviation brigade commanders and sergeants major from all over the world in town for the ALTC. In addition, the 1998 AAAA Top ROTC Cadet of the Year, 2nd Lt. Jennifer L. Eckert, (right) received her award at the event. Special thanks to Maj. David W. Phares and his crew from the Spanish Helicopter School who organized the outstanding event. Recognition of excellence is part of what AAAA is all about. Take the time to read about these top soldiers' achievements below.

Maj. Gen. John D. Robinson, Ret. (left) presents 2nd Lt. Jennifer L. Eckert with the Army Aviation ROTC Cadet of the Year Award for 1998

Maj. Gen. John D. Robinson, Ret. (left) and Lt. Col. Frank J. Stashak (right) present ATC Control Company of the Year Award. Capt. Albert Stiller, Commander (2nd from left) and 1st Sgt. Robert Pritchett, Senior NCO (3rd from left) accepted the award for B Co., 3-58th Avn. Regt. (ATS), Katterbach, Germany.

Air Traffic Control Company of the Year

The 1998 ATC Company of the Year Award has been presented to Co. B, 3rd Bn., 58th Avn. Regt., in recognition of its outstanding accomplishments during the award period.

Based in Katterbach, Germany, the unit provided the full range of tactical services in support of V Corps and U.S. Army, Europe, operations other than war, contingency operations and training exercises. The company was able to field two tactical ATC teams, a tactical ATC tower section, a tactical Ground-Controlled Approach radar facility and a tactical airman's information center. The unit also operates installation ATC facilities supporting the 4th Avn. Bde. in Katterbach and the 11th Avn. Regt. in Illesheim.

During the award period Co. B deployed one-third of its personnel to Bosnia, where they operated facilities at Comanche Base Camp, Eagle Base Camp, Camp Colt. The unit also operated facilities in Kaposujlak and Barcs, Hungary.

Maj. Gen. Robinson, Ret. and Lt. Col. Stashak present the ATC Control Facility of the Year Award to Capt. Albert Stiller (center) who accepted the award for 3rd Bn., 58th Avn. Regt. (ATS), Camp Colt, Bosnia.

Air Traffic Control Facility of the Year

The 1998 ATC Facility of the Year — Camp Colt, Bosnia — began the award period as a simple flight-following facility capable of providing radar traffic advisories to transient aircraft. Within months, however, the facility was also providing terminal tower services and IFR-certified PAR and NDB terminal equipment, providing flawless support to all Operation Joint Guard (OJG) aviation assets.

Located four hours by road from its company headquarters, the Camp Colt ATS facility – part of the Germany-based 3rd Bn., 58th Avn. Regt. — consisted of two ground-controlled radars, a tactical control tower, a flight-following shelter, three navigational beacons and associated vehicles and support equipment.

Camp Colt was the only aviation support facility north of Tuzla to serve all OJG aviation assets. By the time force reorganization initiatives within the OJG mission area brought about Camp Colt's closure in July 1998, the ATS facility had safely controlled more than 420 radar movements, 500 tower movements and more than 12,000 flight-following movements without incident or accident. The complex provided these high-quality, professional services while operating within an imminent-danger environment, in austere conditions and subject to uncommonly harsh weather conditions.

Sgt. Paul O. Williamson (center) accepts his ATC Maintenance Technician of the Year Award from Maj. Gen. Robinson and Lt. Col. Stashak.

Air Traffic Control Maintenance Technician of the Year

The 1998 ATC Maintenance Technician of the Year is Sgt. Paul O. Williamson of Co. E, 3rd Bn., 58th Avn. Regt. Though based at Grafenwöhr, Germany, during the award period Williamson also served in Croatia, Hungary and Bosnia.

In Croatia Williamson distinguished himself during his installation of a prototype VHF/UHF repeater on a mountain top. The device closed a "gap" between Hungary and Croatia and enabled flight-following to be conducted from Kaposujlak, Hungary, and reduced battalion manpower requirements by allowing the closure of another facility. The repeater also increased coverage within Croatian airspace by 65 percent, which greatly enhanced safety. The installation team completed its task in less than a week, despite arduous weather conditions.

In Hungary, Williamson served as C&E chief for Kaposujlak Airfield, where he single-handedly maintained the ATS tower and repeater site to near-perfect readiness levels. In Bosnia he maintained equipment at Camp Colt, assuming responsibility for the Balkans' only complete tactical, IFR-certified heliport. Following his July 1998 redeployment to Germany, Williamson undertook a variety of critical tasks, including becoming largely responsible for the commissioning flight check of a key tactical radar. Williamson's contributions to Army aviation and ATS are legion, and he remains an acknowledged subject matter expert on repeater operations.

Air Traffic Control Manager of the Year

SFC Keith Shykes of Co. E, 3rd Bn., 588th Avn. Regt., was selected as the 1998 ATC Manager of the Year because of his "exceptional leadership skills, ATS technical and tactical expertise, and mission-first attitude."

Shykes began the award period as a tactical terminal platoon sergeant at Camp Colt, Bosnia, a prestigious and critical position for which he was hand-picked by his battalion commander. Responsible for 19 soldiers and airmen, Shykes provided outstanding leadership during the expansion of Camp Colt and the implementation of terminal procedures that set the conditions for successful certification of all facilities to FAA standards. Shykes developed and obtained both Class D and E airspace, developed VFR reporting point procedures, developed procedures for special VFR and IFR operations, and ensured publication of these procedures in Department of Defense flight publications.

Maj. Gen. Robinson, Ret. (left) and Lt. Col. Stashak (right) present the ATC Control Manager of the Year Award to SFC Keith Shykes (center).

Upon his redeployment from Bosnia to Germany, Shykes assumed the duties of a deployed first sergeant in USAREUR's only COMMZ ATS company. During this assignment he managed ATS support to six facilities over a 150-mile radius and, upon the return of the deployed first sergeant, went on to assume responsibility for USAREUR's only fully tactical ATS platoon. His expertise and professionalism have led to his twice being personally selected to return to Bosnia to provide tactical and managerial guidance.

Air Traffic Controller of the Year

SSgt. Douglas K. Dahl, the Tactical Ground-Controlled Approach (GCA) radar facility chief for Co. B, 3rd Bn., 58th Avn. Regt., is the AAAA 1998 Air Traffic Controller of the Year.

Dedicating his on-duty time to training his soldiers in the basic tasks that are the foundation of ATC proficiency, Dahl spent his off-duty time learning the AN/TSQ-71B. That he earned a facility rating on the AN/TSQ-71B in just 21 training days is an indication of his professionalism and dedication to excellence. Upon completion of his own rating, Dahl went on to design and implement a training program intended to mold his soldiers into a trained, ready and motivated GCA team capable of performing to standard under any conditions. He trained his entire team in all aspects of GCA, including terminal approach procedures and complete airfield layout.

Sgt.(P) Douglas K. Dahl (center) accepts his Air Traffic Controller of the Year Award.

Dahl's battalion commander ultimately selected him, by name, to supervise the installation and development of the TERPs package at Camp McGovern, Bosnia. Both in garrison and in the field, Dahl's dedication, concern for soldiers, outstanding leadership and effective management skills have significantly contributed to his unit's mission accomplishment and continuing excellent performance.

Fixed-Wing Unit Award Sponsored by FlightSafety International

Renowned as the "Workhorse of the Balkans" for its outstanding work over the former Yugoslavia, the 1st Military Intelligence Bn. has been selected as the 1998 AAAA Fixed-Wing Unit of the Year. During the award period the aerial exploitation unit, which operates RC-12K Guardrail aircraft, was tasked primarily with providing indications and warning – as well as force protection – to Task Force Eagle (TFE) in support of Operation Joint Guard/Joint Forge.

Of particular note was the battalion's unprecedented nine-day performance before, during and just after the Bosnian national elections from Sept. 11 to 13, 1998. Working 14-hour days, the 1st MI Bn. provided non-stop intelligence support to TFE and NATO's Combined Air Operations Center in Vicenza, Italy. During this period the battalion produced a record 343 intelligence reports in one day – an unparalleled accomplishment since the first fielding of the Guardrail system 27 years ago.

Maj. Gen. Robinson, Ret. (left) and Mr. Pete Ryan representing the award sponsor FlightSafety International (right) present the Fixed Wing Unit of the Year Award to Lt. Col. Vernon L. Campbell (center), the Commander, 1st Military Intelligence Battalion (Aerial Exploitation), Weisbaden, Germany.

During the award period the 1st MI Bn. posted a mission success rate of 97.8 percent and which included 788 sorties. Other accomplishments include an unblemished safety record, the completion of a demanding mission schedule and a 4,800-hour flying program with nine aircraft and the maintenance of an operational readiness rate of 81 percent or better.

Army Aviation Air/Sea Rescue Award Sponsored by Lucas Aerospace

Just after 10:30 on the morning of Mar. 15, 1998, a hot-air balloon carrying five people crashed onto a cliff some 13,000 feet up a mountain northwest of Leadville, Colo. When local law enforcement and rescue personnel were unable to recover the stranded balloonists, the call went out to Army Aviation.

A UH-60A air ambulance crew – pilot in command CWO 2 Paul Waskosky, co-pilot CWO 2 David S. Anstett, crew chief SSgt. David A. Mussack and flight medic Spec. Steven R. Holguin – belonged to the 571st Medical Co., part of

Maj. Gen. Robinson, Ret. (left) and Mr. Bob Hopkins, representing the award sponsor Lucas Aerospace, present the Air/Sea Rescue of the Year Award. Accepting the award on behalf of the award winning crew CWO 2 Waskosky, CWO 2 Anstett and Ssg. Mussack are Maj. Robert A. Eaton, Commander (3rd from left), and 1st Sgt. Ronald M. Dean.

the 4th Squadron, 3rd Armored Cavalry Regt., at Fort Carson, Colo. The Black Hawk arrived at the accident scene at approximately 1640 and, after lengthy consultations with emergency personnel already there, the aviators decided to hoist all five balloonists off the mountain.

In fading light and with bad weather approaching, the Black Hawk headed for the balloonists' perilous perch, a 70-degree, snow-covered slope in a tight draw just below an ice chute. After burning off fuel, the aviators moved in. Rescue climbers who had managed to reach the scene secured the balloon wreckage and the victims and Holquin was lowered using the hoist.

The Black Hawk then moved off to prevent rotorwash from blowing ice and snow, but moved back in when Holguin had assessed the patients and prepared the first three for extraction. They were lifted with difficulty, and Waskosky and Anstett then backed the UH-60A off again while Holguin prepared the remaining two balloonists and himself for extraction. Oncoming darkness and rapidly dropping temperatures added extra urgency to the second lift attempt, which was successfully completed despite the fact that the wreckage of the balloon dislodged itself from the mountainside and plummeted down the slope past the helicopter.

All five patients were ferried to a nearby highway, where they were transferred to a waiting ambulance. The helicopter crew quickly refueled at a nearby airport and headed for Fort Carson under night-vision devices. Their adventure wasn't quite over, however, for they were soon engulfed by a rapidly moving snowstorm that lengthened the 40 minute flight to an hour and 20 minutes. By the time they landed, the aviators had spent more than 4.5 hours in the air to effect the spectacular rescue.

Army Aviation Medicine Award Sponsored by Gentex Corporation

Maj. Gen. Robinson, Ret. (left) and Mr. Johnson of the Gentex Corporation, the award's sponsor (right) present the Army Aviation Medicine Award. Col. Howard Yellen, CDR, 160th SOAR (center) accepted the award for Capt. Troy Johnson, HHC, 2nd Bn., 160th SOAR, who was deployed at the time of this ceremony.

Capt. Troy R. Johnson, the 1998 recipient of the Army Aviation Medicine Award, is the battalion surgeon for 2nd Bn., 160th Special Operations Avn. Regt. (SOAR), at Fort Campbell, Ky.

Johnson is the battalion's primary medial planner, hearing-conservation officer and special staff officer, and is responsible for the medical fitness and health care of 375 soldiers, approximately 250 of whom are on flight status. He is frequently placed on alert as the flight surgeon responsible for deploying within four hours as part of the Army's special operations aviation alert-force package.

During the award period Johnson deployed with the battalion to the National Training Center at Fort Irwin, Calif., to Operation Bright Star in Egypt and to Operation Desert Thunder in Kuwait. During the latter operation he was responsible for coordinating and allocating all Joint Special Operations Task Force medical assets. While in garrison he conducted daily sick call, performed flight physicals, contributed significantly to the regimental medic-training program and maintained battalion immunization statistics.

In order to remain familiar with the 160th's unique mission profile, Johnson has logged approximately 140 hours aboard Army and Air Force helicopters and fixed-wing aircraft. This experience has enabled him to modify the way in which the battalion performs its casualty-evacuation mission, and he developed a new MH-47E configuration plan which maximized the aircraft's medical care, aircraft space and mission capability.

Army Aviation Trainer of the Year Sponsored by Raytheon Training

Maj. Gen. Robinson, Ret. (left) BG Rodney Wolfe (Ret.) (3rd from left) and CWO 4 (R) Bob Monite (right) representing the award sponsor Raytheon training, present the Army Aviation Trainer of the Year Award to CWO 3 Craig S. Wheeler.

The 1998 AAAA Army Aviation Trainer of the Year is CWO 3 Craig S. Wheeler, the UH-60 standardization instructor pilot for U.S. Army, Europe's Company B, 2nd Battalion, 501st Aviation Regiment.

Wheeler's skills as aviator, manager and leader were particularly evident during his unit's two most recent deployments.

The first, to support Task Force Able Sentry in the former Yugoslav republic of Macedonia, prompted him to completely rewrite the Aviation Procedures Guide for Macedonia. He also improved aircraft dispatch procedures in support of the Task Force's Quick Reaction Force; ensured that all unit pilots were familiar with and could execute the approach to Skopje Hospital in the event of a medevac; planned and executed net/sling-load missions in support of troops stranded in remote checkpoints during bad weather; helped conduct the first live-fire door gunnery in Macedonia in order to maintain crewchief gunnery skills; and personally flew numerous successful VIP missions.

Wheeler also distinguished himself during his unit's subsequent deployment to Bosnia. His leadership and technical proficiency were especially valuable in assisting the Illinois National Guard's 1st Bn., 106th Avn., during its preparation for duty in Bosnia and after its arrival in-country. Wheeler also undertook a range of other vital tasks while in Bosnia, including the execution of air assault missions conducted in cooperation with the troops of such other nations as France, Britain, Canada, Morocco, Finland, Norway and Sweden. Most importantly, perhaps, with Wheeler at the helm Co. B earned the prestigious Army Award of Excellence in Safety for completing 36 months and three deployments without a Class A, B or C accident.

Colonial Virginia Chapter

On Dec. 11, 1998, Col. Louis A. Bonham, Assistant Commandant of the United States Army Aviation Logistics School (USAALS) presented the Order of St. Michael, Bronze Award to CWO 4 Bob Plomski. This award recognized his contributions to aviation safety.

On Nov. 18, 1998, Col. Bonham presented the Order of Saint Michael, Silver Award to CWO 5 Dennis Williams. This award recognized CWO 5 Williams for over 31 years of service to Army aviation.

North Texas Chapter

On Tuesday, October 20, 1998, a delegation from the North Texas Chapters (NTC) of AAAA and Association of U.S. Army (AUSA), were the guests of the 21st Cavalry Rgt. The purpose of the visit was to observe the operational fielding of the AH-64D Apache Longbow. The group traveled to Camp Shelby (Fort Hood's western training area) where they received a briefing on the Longbow weapons system and support equipment. Lt. Col (Ret.) Ray Swindell, senior vice president of the AAAA NTC and Maj. (Ret.) Jack Swinehart of the NTC AUSA were co-leaders of the group.

NTC members of AAAA and AUSA observe an AH-64D Apache Longbow during October 20th field trip to Fort Hood.

Presentation of "Old Aviator" statue to Lt. Col. McNeely in appreciation for the chapter's visit to the AH-64D Apache Longbow Training area. Pictured (left to right) are Jack Swinehart, president NTC AUSA, Lt. Col. McNeely, XO 1st Cav. Regt. and Bob Brady, president AAAA NTC.

March 30-April 1. Navy League Sea-Air-Space Expo, Washington, DC.

April 26-29. Cargo Helicopter Users Conference, Sparkman Center, Huntsville, Al. Lodging at Holiday Inn Research Park. Contact Patty Barron (256) 313-4409; e-mail: barronp @peoavn. redstone.army.mil.

May 9-12. AAAA Annual Convention, Opryland Hotel, Nashville, TN.

May 9. AAAA National Executive Board Meeting, Opryland Hotel, Nashville, TN.

May 10. AAAA Scholarship Foundation, Inc. Governors Meeting, Oryland Hotel, Nashville, TN.

May 25-27. American Helicopter Society Forum, Montreal, Canada.

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U.S. ARMY AIRCRAFT SINCE 1947

Since 1947 - An Illustrated Reference

Stephen Harding

U.S. Army Aircraft Since 1947 is the only comprehensive, up-to-date guide to the 124 types of helicopters, fixed-wing aircraft and experimental flying machines used by the U.S. Army since 1947. After a concise yet thorough introductory history of U.S. Army Aviation, the author discusses each aircraft type used by the Army's air arm, which is the largest, most technologically advanced and most combat experienced force of its kind in the world today. Within each chapter the author includes information on aircraft serials, markings, weapon systems, operational history and other technical data. Illustrated with more than 220 color and black and white photographs, *U.S. Army Aircraft Since 1947* is the definitive reference source on its subject and a must-have volume for all military aviation historians and enthusiasts. [Schiffer Publishing Ltd. Size: 8 1/2" x11", 264 pages, hard cover; ISBN: 9-7643-0190-X]

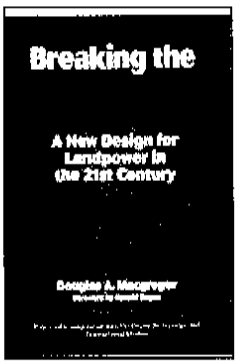
A CAVALRYMAN'S STORY

Memoirs of a Twentieth Century Army General Hamilton H. Howze

A Cavalryman's Story is the memoir of a professional soldier, born into the lineage of West Point and recognized today as the father of U.S. Army Airmobile tactics and doctrine. With understated charm and humor, GEN Howze writes of his polo-playing years in a 1930s Army that still relied on horses, and then of the sudden, almost remarkable transition to armored divisions, when the U.S. entered WWII. It was in the mid-1950s that GEN Howze emerged as one of a handful of perceptive Army officers who recognized the potential of a sky cavalry. As the first director of Army Aviation GEN Howze promoted the concept to industry, the government, and the public. His vision came to fruition in the 1960s when he presided over the U.S. Army Tactical Mobility Requirements Board, known as the Howze Board, which proved the viability of sky cavalry in combat. *A Cavalryman's Story* provides an authoritative look at the forging of the modern Army and a wry perspective on the perennial absurdities of military life, whether in peace or war. [Smithsonian Institution Press. Size: 6"x9", 316 pages, hard cover; ISBN: 1-56098-664-6].

BREAKING THE PHALANX

Douglas A. Macgregor



This work proposes the reorganization of America's ground forces on the strategic, operational and tactical levels. Central to the proposal is the simple thesis that the U.S. Army must take control of its future by exploiting the emerging revolution in military affairs. The analysis argues that a new Army warfighting organization will not only be more deployable and effective in joint operations; reorganized information age ground forces will be significantly less expensive to operate, maintain, and modernize than the Army's current Cold War division-based organizations. And while ground forces must be equipped with the newest Institute weapons, new technology will not fulfill its promise of shaping the battlefield to American advantage if new devices are merely grafted on to old organizations that are not specifically designed to exploit them. [Praeger Publishers. Size: 6"x9 1/8", paperback, 283 pages, ISBN: 0-275-957942]

YEAR OF THE HORSE: VIETNAM

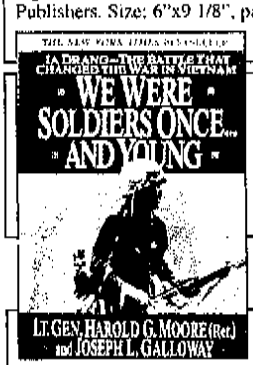
1st Cavalry in the Highland1965-1967

COL Kenneth D. Mertel (USA, Ret.)

Year of the Horse: Vietnam is the day-to-day story of the Jumping Mustangs - 1st Battalion, Airborne, 8th Cavalry, of the 1st Air Cavalry Division. After describing the activation of this then revolutionary airmobile division at Fort Benning, GA on 1 July 1965, COL Mertel gives a vivid picture of the building of his own Jumping Mustang Battalion, the rigorous training of officers and men, and, finally, the long voyage across the Pacific to Vietnam. Now the test. The answer came quickly and dramatically in a rapid succession of search and destroy operations. COL Mertel pays tribute to the many acts of heroism of his men, who lived, worked and fought together in some of the world's most inhospitable conditions. He also writes movingly of those who never came back. [Schiffer Publishing Ltd. Size: 6"x9", 384 pages, hard cover; 59 color photographs, 9 maps; ISBN: 0 7643-0190-X]

WE WERE SOLDIERS ONCE...AND YOUNG

Harold G. Moore and Joseph L. Galloway



We Were Soldiers Once ... And Young brings the war back home with unforgettable stories of those who lost family members to combat. This devastating account rises above the specific ordeal it chronicles to present a picture of men facing the ultimate challenge, dealing with it in ways they would have found unimaginable only a few hours earlier. It reveals to us, as rarely before, man's most heroic and horrendous endeavor. [Harper Collins Publishers, Size 5 1/2"x8", 483 pages, paperback, ISBN: 0-06-097576 8]

DANCING ROTORS

Harry E. (Ned) Gilliland, Jr.

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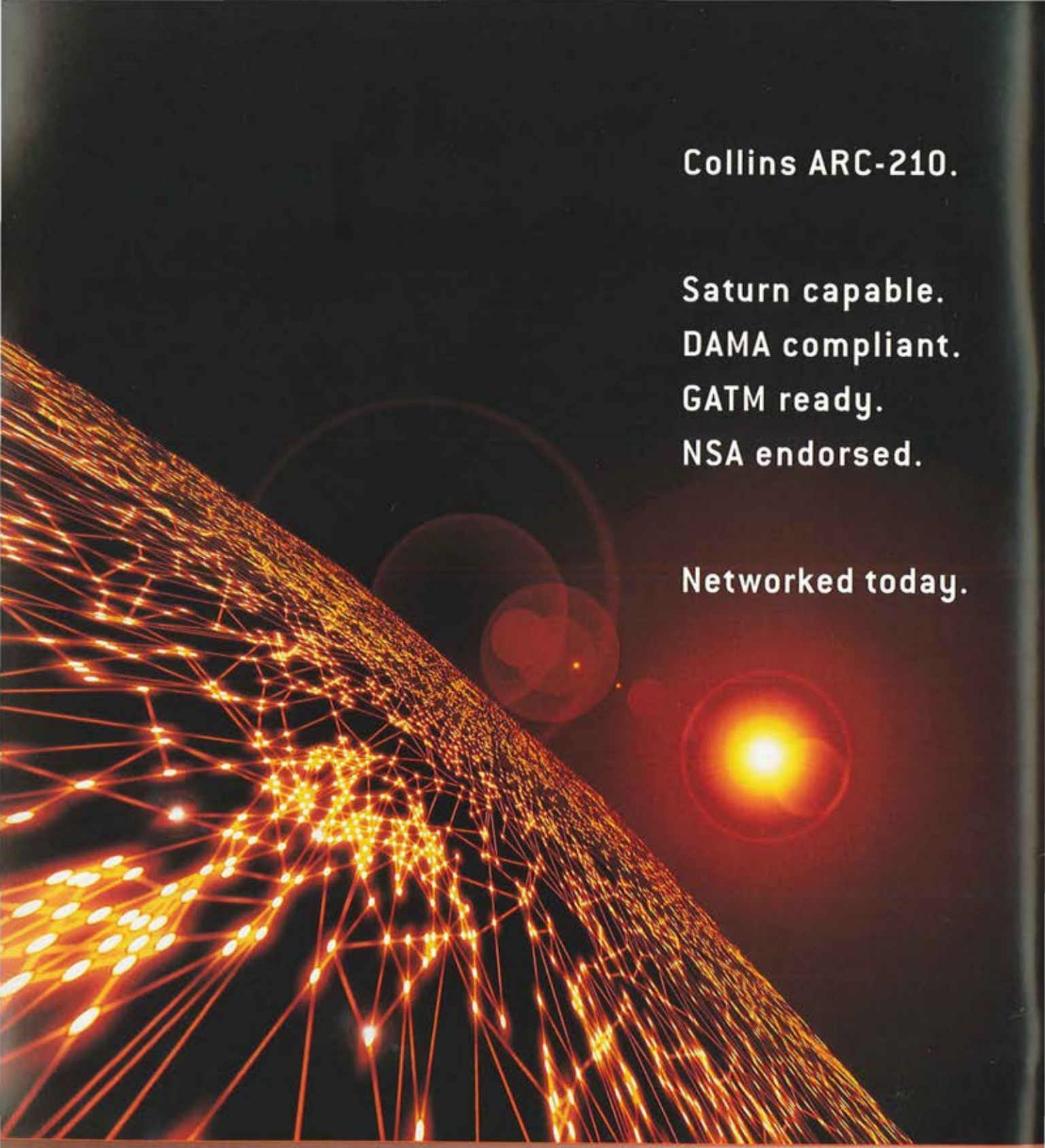

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