

# THE GLOBAL LINE

*Serving the U.S. Army Field Support Command*

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## President Bush receives BRAC recommendations *Four AFSC installations remain from May listings*

Rock Island, Ill. – Members of the 2005 Base Realignment and Closure commission presented President George W. Bush on September 8 with their recommendations for closing or realigning hundreds of military installations across the country.

The commission reversed its decision concerning one Army Field Support Command installation: Hawthorne Army Depot, Hawthorne, Nev.

The commission agreed with the Department of Defense in the proposed closures of four other AFSC installations:

- Kansas Army Ammunition Plant, Parsons, Kansas
- Lone Star Army Ammunition Plant, Texarkana, Texas

- Mississippi Army Ammunition Plant, tenant on Stennis Space Center Mississippi
- Riverbank Army Ammunition Plant, Riverbank, California

Several installations are still scheduled to gain workload from the plants that could be closing.

President Bush now has until September 23 to send the list to Congress. As on press time, Bush had not sent the list to Congress. If Bush rejects the list, the BRAC commission must submit a revised list to the President by October 20. Then President Bush would have until November 7 to send that list to Congress. The list becomes law in 45 legislative days unless Congress rejects the list.

## AFSC takes up Add-On Armor mission

*“...Now, why do we Soldiers have to dig through local landfills for pieces of scrap metal and compromised ballistic glass to up-armor our vehicles and why don't we have those resources readily available to us?” (December 8, 2004, Town Hall meeting with Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld, Camp Buehring, Kuwait)*

When Secretary of Defense Donald Rumsfeld was asked that question by Spec. Thomas Wilson in December during a trip to Iraq, he explained how the Army was trying its best to up-armor Army vehicles. He was widely quoted as saying, “As you know you go to war with the Army you have. They're not the Army you might want or wish to have at a later time.”

Less widely quoted was another part of that answer to Spec. Wilson. Specifically, he explained that the Army had been “pressing ahead to produce the armor necessary at a rate they believe could be accomplished...the goal is to have as many vehicles as is humanly possible with the appropriate level of armor for the troops.”



**The add-on mission includes reinforcing Heavy Expanded Mobility Tactical Trucks or HEMTTs.**

At the time the Army was already in a ramped up add-on armor production program here at the Ground Systems Industrial Enterprise (GSIE) on Rock Island Arsenal and other Army and Department of Defense installations across the country, as well as many private companies.

*Continued on page 4*

## On the Record: Maj. Gen. Jerome Johnson, CG AFSC

Last month, I had the honor of meeting with Keith and Carolyn Maupin of Batavia, Ohio. The Maupins are the parents of Sgt. Keith "Matt" Maupin, who has been missing in action in Iraq since April 9, 2004, when a convoy he was guarding was attacked by insurgents. As of the time I wrote this, Sgt. Maupin was the only Soldier serving in Operation Iraqi Freedom still listed as missing.

Keith and Carolyn Maupin told me that they had not given up on their son, and I am sure that they will never give up until he returns or until they learn exactly what happened to him. Although nearly 18 months had passed since the time Matt went missing, their determination to receive a full accounting of his fate was as strong as ever. I was truly inspired – and more than a little humbled – by the fortitude and the faith shown by the Maupins, and I promised them that I would do whatever I could to help as the search for their son continues.

Sept. 16 is POW-MIA Recognition Day, an annual event held since 1979 to honor all U.S. military servicemembers who have been held as prisoners of war, and to remind us of our solemn obligation to those who are still listed missing in action and to the



families who wait for them. On POW-MIA Recognition Day, I will spend some time thinking about the Maupins, and I will offer a prayer for them and for their son. My thoughts and prayers will also go out to all families who are still waiting, still hoping, and still yearning for information on their missing loved ones.

Having never experienced it myself, I simply cannot fathom what the Maupins, and other families in their situation, must be going through. Nor can I understand what it must be like to be held as a prisoner of war, and to experience unspeakable punishments and extreme privation simply because you answered the call to serve your nation.

Our nation's former POWs will always endure painful memo-

ries of their captivity, and the families and friends of our nation's MIAs will always endure the pain of loss and uncertainty. While we cannot comprehend the depth of their pain, nor fully relieve it, we can reach out to them and let them know that they will never be forgotten.

The work of accounting for MIAs can be slow, difficult, excruciating, and – all too often – frustrating. Yet it has produced results. Just two days before I met with the Maupins, the Department of Defense announced that the remains of 12 servicemembers who had been missing in Vietnam since May 1968 had just been recovered and identified.

The news brought closure to a dozen families who had spent over 37 years awaiting word of their loved ones. But it also reminded us that more than 1,800 servicemembers who served in the Vietnam War are still missing, and that thousands of their loved ones still wait for them.

Let us hope and pray that the waiting will end soon for all of them, for the Maupins, and for anyone else with a loved one who remains unaccounted for. Let us never give up, until all who are now missing finally find their way home.

### THE GLOBAL LINE

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## Congressional reps visit forward repair site



U.S. Army Photo by Chuck Sprague

**Congressional representatives talk with Brig. Gen. Kevin Leonard, commander of AMC SWA, during a visit to Camp Arifjan, Kuwait.**

CAMP ARIFJAN, Kuwait –Congressional Representatives, a lead House committee staffer and the principal deputy for the Assistant Secretary of the Army for Acquisition, toured the Tank Automotive and Armaments Command's (TACOM) Arifjan Forward Repair Activity (FRA) August 16, to see how tactical vehicles are repaired and up-armored to support the Soldier in South West Asia.

Representatives Steve King; 5<sup>th</sup> District, Iowa, Henry Cuellar, 28<sup>th</sup> District, Texas, Charles Dent; 15<sup>th</sup> District, Pennsylvania, Michael Burgess; 26<sup>th</sup> District, Texas, Mr. Bradley Knox; Principal Staff Member of the House Small Business Committee, and Mr. Dean Popps, the principal deputy, Assistant

*Continued on page 6*

## New explosive analysis technology in SWA

CAMP ARIFJAN, Kuwait—Military and civilian ammunition specialists are training on two state-of-the-art battlefield devices to analyze Army explosive material for ordnance workers in Southwest Asia.

The test units were developed by the Defense Ammunition Center (DAC) McAlester, Okla., with its partners, The Army Research and Development Engineering Command and Geo-Centers, Inc., providing another safety net to ammunition workers deployed in Iraq, Afghanistan and Kuwait, said Mr. Jim Medley, deployed to Camp Arifjan as a quality assurance specialist, ammunition surveillance (QASAS), from the McAlester headquarters.

“Instead of having to pull samples, send them back to labs in the states, and wait for the results, which can take up to six weeks, we know in a matter of just a few minutes whether the explosive stabilizer in our munitions meet safety requirements,” said Medley.

The other unit now operating in theater scans explosive material and determines the type of explosive by analyzing the “light spectrum foot print” of the chemicals within the explosive, said Medley. A probe is placed on the test material. “It will tell you if the material is explosive or not, and what kind, such as TNT or RDX,” he said.



U.S. Army Photo by Chuck Sprague

**Denise Batchelor, a civilian ammunition inspector deployed at Camp Arifjan, Kuwait, learns the testing steps as instructor Louis Kansas, Picatinny Arsenal, N.J., places the “wand” of the explosive scanner into a sample mortar round to detect explosive material.**

The field units are designed to test all Army and Coalition Forces munitions, identify old Iraqi munitions and assist ordnance disposal professionals to determine explosive hazards through the Army Materiel Command's Army Forward Support Brigade, Southwest Asia.

-- Chuck Sprague, AFSB-SWA Public Affairs

## Armor *Continued from page 1*

In partnership with the government are companies like VSE Corporation, Armor Holdings, Inc., Armor Works, Stewart & Stevenson Services, Textron, Simula Aerospace, and Radian, Inc.

The add-on armor was designed to protect Army vehicles from enemy fire such as Rocket Propelled Grenades (RPGs) and machine gun fire, but it also provides some protection against Improvised Explosive Devices (IEDs).

The add-on armor being installed was developed by Tank-Automotive Research, Development, and Engineering Center (TARDEC), in conjunction with the Army Research Lab (ARL), in response to requests from the field for ways to armor vehicles and protect the Soldiers inside them.

With the insurgency using anything to harm coalition troops, the need for added protection was apparent.

The ARL designed, engineered, and performed ballistic certification and provided the initial prototype, while TARDEC provided engineering assistance, additional prototypes, and initial installation.

The initial request came from the field in August 2003, and by October 2004, the add-on armor was in production. The first delivery to the field was made in December of that year.

The original requirement was to provide add-on armor for 12,000 Light Tactical Vehicles (LTVs), such as High Mobility Multipurpose Wheeled Tactical Vehicles or HMMWVs. Over the course of time, both Medium and Heavy Tactical Vehicle (M/HTV) fleets have been added to this mission, increasing the total requirements to over 39,000. This includes Heavy Equipment Transporters or HETs, Heavy Expanded Mobility Tactical Truck or HEMTTs, and Palletized Load Systems or PLS. The most recent statistics available put the number of completed installations at over 30,000, or nearly 80% of the total requirement.

The primary responsibility for the add-on armor program had originally belonged to the Tank-automotive and Armament Command-Rock Island (TACOM-RI). Since April, the add-on armor program's responsibility in Southwest Asia has been transitioning to the Army Field Support Command.

The program transitioned in two phases. The first phase entailed transfer of functions for all installation sites in Kuwait and Iraq. The funds were also transitioned at this time. The dollar amount budgeted for this mission is approximately \$138 million, but the obligated funds to date is only \$83 million.

The second phase entailed the start-up of installation capability at other sites in Iraq and in Afghani-



**One of the new add-on installations sites being built is Southwest Asia.**

stan.

The manufacturing and delivery responsibility remains with the Program Manager, Tactical Vehicles at TACOM, according to Jolene Hoffmann, Logistics Management Specialist, AFSC. Although commanders at the sites are responsible for the installation of the armor, and the Program Manager, Tactical Vehicles is responsible for the manufacture and delivery of the add-on armor kits, the AFSC now has the overall responsibility for the contract. This includes assuring the proper modifications are made to the vehicles, working the logistical angles, and tracking completed installs.

"One of the challenges in this program is getting the Soldiers to disengage from operations long enough to bring in their vehicles to be up-armored," said Brian Newman, Deputy for Logistics, AFSC.

Another logistical issue is location of the installation centers. Currently there are 10 installation sites within theater that fall under AFSC responsibility.

The add-on armor mission continues to be a great success story, according to Hoffmann. "To date, there are over 30,000 vehicles with the add-on armor, and that number grows every day."

AFSC is always looking for ways to accelerate the program, according to Newman. "Any delays could cost Soldiers' lives," he said. "Obviously, any acceleration could potentially save lives."

Family members are very concerned about their loved ones in harm's way, so it is heartening for them to know that the vehicles are being armored. One such family member, David Fullmer, sent an email to employees at the Rock Island Arsenal (*The Rock, February 2004*) that his brother received a truck with add-on armor a week before an IED attack. "God has put you to work protecting our brothers and sisters in arms."

-- Margaret Browne, AFSC Public Communications

# Journey to Leadership holds graduation

The Journey to Leadership (JTL) program at Army Field Support Command held a graduation ceremony for its Tier II participants July 15 in Bettendorf, Iowa.

The graduates included employees from the AFSC and subordinate organizations and Tank-Automotive and Armaments Command-Rock Island (TACOM-RI). They were Sherry Bowe, Linda DeLathower, Jeffrey Dufane, Daryl Freshman, Leonard Jefferson, Steven Lipes, Jay Lundberg, Patrick McCall, Deborah Newman, Brenda Simmons, Mary Soseman, Barb Zvonik-Siefker, all of AFSC and Cynthia Leonard, TACOM-RI.

The Journey to Leadership program is designed to develop future leaders, addressing the mission as well as current and future challenges, and various learning modules and experiences – all designed to enhance leadership skills and team-building.

The program was developed by AFSC Human Resources directorate and features a program director from Cortel Improvement Systems. The JTL program has two tiers or levels. Tier I is for employees graded GS 5-9 and lasts seven months. Tier II is for GS-10-13 and lasts 10 months. The basic requirements for both levels are similar but presented at different levels: an array of assessments, developmental exercises and learning modules.

The program was implemented in September 2004 and both Tiers I & II have graduated. The 2005-06 program was just announced in August.

Tracy Wyant is the JTL program manager and she believes very strongly in the program. "I feel that all of the learning modules and program requirements are very beneficial to the participants and helps to prepare them for future leadership positions," she said. "The individuals who go through this program go through a very broad range of experiences."

Linda DeLathower, Logistics Management Specialist, Joint Munitions Command agreed. "I thought it was an excellent experience," she said. "It's a good tool to benefit the individual because it forces you to look at yourself in a different situation," she added. "I learned a lot about myself and the type of employee I am."

Steve Lipes, Cost/Price Analyst, Financial Services Division, Contracting, AFSC, felt that the program broadens the perspective of the participants as it relates to their jobs. "Overall, we developed a



U.S. Army Photo by Tony Lopez

**The Journey to Leadership graduates include:**  
**back row - Sherry Bowe, Barb Zvonik-Siefker, Mary Soseman, Deborah Newman, Linda DeLathower, Cindy Leonard, Brenda Simmons.**  
**Front row - Daryl Freshman, Patrick McCall, Leonard Jefferson, Steve Lipes, Jay Lundberg, Jeff Dufrane**

better appreciation for how our particular function within AFSC fits into the overall mission," he said.

"On my two 30 day Developmental Assignments, I really developed a better understanding of the responsibilities the logistics field has and how the field of contracting which I am in, assists in supplying their needs. Ultimately the hope is to better serve the needs of the end customer, the warfighter," Lipes said.

The developmental exercises enabled people to talk to leaders at higher levels about their work and to gain insight into what others do. "These experiences force some of them to step out of their comfort zone, which gives them an entirely different perspective on the missions of the AFSC as well as their own personal potential," said Wyant.

One of the obvious benefits of the program is that it makes employees more promotable. "We have actually had people move up as a result of the program," said Wyant. "Several graduates have made significant changes in their career paths.

"We need managers to canvass the workforce to get good candidates," she said. "It's always a challenge to fill the classes."

The realization of personal and professional achievement is an important part of the program, said Wyant. "The participants realize there is more they can do to help accomplish the AFSC mission as well as fulfilling their own sense of purpose."

-- Margaret Browne, AFSC  
 Public Communications

## Mobile homes for Hurricane Katrina survivors located at Lone Star/Red River



**The first group of an anticipated 25,000 mobile homes are delivered to Lone Star Army Ammunition Plant at Texarkana, Texas. Of their 15,700 acres, LSAAP is providing 500 acres to store the mobile homes and recreational vehicles that will be delivered throughout Texas and Louisiana as temporary housing for Hurricane Katrina evacuees. (U.S. Army photo by Mark Hughes)**

Texarkana, Texas—Red River Army Depot (RRAD)/Lone Star Army Ammunition Plant (LSAAP) have been selected by the Federal Emergency Management Agency as a storage-distribution point for approximately 25,000 mobile homes that will provide temporary housing for hurricane evacuees in Texas and Louisiana, according to Kent Weather, public information officer for FEMA Region VI.

LSAAP/RRAD will not be a site to house evacuees.

### **Tour** *Continued from page 3*

Secretary of the Army for Acquisition, were shown where engines and transmissions are re-built and where Army tactical vehicles are up-armored by Army civilian employees.

Soldiers of the 7<sup>th</sup> Transportation Group, who drive armored convoy trucks into Iraq, were also at the forward repair site to visit briefly with the delegation.

Brig. Gen. Kevin Leonard, commander of the Army Materiel Command, South West Asia, conducted the tour at the Arifjan facility, one of several forward repair centers AMC oversees in Kuwait, Afghanistan, and Qatar.

The combined federal reservation of approximately 35,000 acres located in Texarkana, Texas, began receiving mobile homes and recreational vehicle trailers on Sept. 6. The housing will be a variety of sizes based upon family needs. The mobile homes could be distributed to evacuees as early as Sept. 10, according to a FEMA spokesperson.

RRAD belongs to the TACOM Life Cycle Management Command headquartered in Warren, Mich.

LSAAP is government owned and operated by contractor Day and Zimmermann, Inc. with headquarters in Philadelphia.

LSAAP is proud to assist FEMA during this national emergency and is providing about 500 acres for FEMA to store and distribute mobile homes, said Lieutenant Colonel Patrick Harris, commander of LSAAP.

RRAD is eager to offer the depot's services and resources to FEMA during this national emergency, said Col. Douglas J. Evans, commander of RRAD.

At LSAAP the government is providing direct access to the storage-distribution point. "Day and Zimmermann will be providing contractual support for the security and preparation of the storage sites as well as any additional tasks that may be required," said Elaine Kennedy, D&Z spokesperson.

Employees of the U.S. Department of Agriculture Forest Service, National Forest and Grasslands in Texas will provide administrative and logistical services to FEMA.

-- Mark Hughes, McAlester Public Affairs Officer

To date, the forward repair facility has repaired and up-armored more than 32,000 vehicles and rebuilt more than 800 engines on tactical vehicles. Army and Navy civilians, Soldiers, and contract civilians in theater have installed thousands of armor kits and air conditioners on tactical vehicles for use in Iraq and Afghanistan, returning more than \$32 million of serviceable major components to the Army's supply system here.

AMC has overall responsibility for all of the Army's pre-positioned equipment inventory and repair.

-- Chuck Sprague, AFSB-SWA Public Affairs