US Army Corps of Engineers

Vol. 28 Issue 6
June 2007

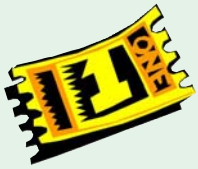
Huntsville Center
Bulletin

Mark your calendar now...

June 8

Classic Car Show
Center Parking Lot
8 - 10:30 a.m.

11 a.m. - 3 p.m.
Huntsville Center Organization Day and Engineer Awards
Carroll D. Hudson Recreation Area
Redstone Arsenal



Tickets can be purchased from Activities Association members Kim Everage, Kim Kirkland, Derek Beck, Bill Sargent, Keith Martin, Dawn Robinson, Quintessia Fuller, Molisa Glass, Carol Hermann or Dorothy Lewis.

Van Antwerp becomes 52nd Chief

WASHINGTON, D.C. — Lt. Gen. Robert L. Van Antwerp became the 52nd Chief of Engineers and Commander of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers May 18.

He assumed this position from Lt. Gen. Carl A. Strock who has retired after 36 years of military service.

Van Antwerp's previous assignment was as commanding general, U.S. Army Accessions Command and deputy commanding general for Initial Military Training at Fort Monroe, Va. The Army Accessions Command consists of U.S. Army Recruiting Command, Fort Knox, Ky.; U.S. Army Cadet Command, Fort Monroe, Va.; and the U.S. Army Training Center, Fort Jackson, S.C. Additionally, Van Antwerp exercised Department of the Army directed executive agent authority over the Military Entrance Processing Command.

Courtesy photo

Lt. Gen. Robert Van Antwerp is the new Chief of Engineers and U.S. Army Corps of Engineers commander.

Command assignments include the U.S. Army Maneuver Support Center and Fort Leonard Wood/ Commandant, U.S. Army Engineer School; U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Los Angeles District during the Northridge Earthquake of 1994; the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers South Atlantic Division, Atlanta, Ga.; and the 326th Engineer Battalion, 101st Airborne Division (Air Assault) during OPERATIONS

See *Van Antwerp* on page 6

Huntsville Center employee member of team awarded Outstanding Value Engineering Award

A U.S. Army Engineering and Support Center, Huntsville, employee received a 2006 Department of Defense Value Engineering Award at a ceremony May 16 at the Pentagon.

Joel Hoffman, an engineer with the Chemical Demilitarization Directorate at the Huntsville Center, served as the Standards and Criteria Military Construction Transformation team member on the MILCON Construction Transformation Development Team that received the Outstanding Value Engineering Team award.

Other team members were Howard Moy, program manager, Headquarters Program Integration Division, Headquarters, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers; Jeffery Hooghouse, deputy chief architect;

See *Value Award* on page 5

Commander's thoughts

Summer officially begins in June, but June is also a month that marks many milestones in military history. We celebrate several birthdays (the Army's and the Corps'), and we recognize Flag Day and D-Day (June 6, 1944) this month.

This year is the 232nd birthday of the U.S. Army. The Army Birthday is recognition of the Army's history, traditions and service to the nation. Since its establishment on June 14, 1775, the U.S. Army has played a vital role in the growth and development of our nation. American Soldiers have fought in 10 wars, from the American Revolution through the Cold War, the Gulf War and the current Global War on Terrorism.

Flag Day is also celebrated on June 14. In some ways, it is also a birthday because June 14, 1777, is the date the flag was authorized to symbolize the United States of America.

The proud heritage of the Engineer Regiment began when Col. Richard Gridley became the first Chief of Engineers on June 16, 1775. Since then, generations of Army engineers, both Soldiers and Civilians, have answered the call to duty.

The Corps' Organization Day is traditionally held in June to coincide with the Corps' birthday. Organization Day is also used to recognize those Soldiers and Civilians who have provided exceptional support and service to the Corps with the annual Commander's awards. We have an outstanding work force at Huntsville Center so the awards are extremely competitive. Award winners are not only a credit to themselves, but to the entire team here at Huntsville Center. Most of this year's award winners will be forwarded to Headquarters to compete at the command level. Our work force has done extremely well over the past several years, winning several of the highest level awards at the Corps, Army and Department of Defense levels.

Col. Larry D. McCallister

At this year's Organization Day on June 8, we will take time to honor those Soldiers and Civilians who are deployed in support of our missions and their Families back here on the home front. The Center has consistently provided among the highest percentage of Civilian employees to deploy (per total number of employees) of all Corps organizations. I am extremely proud of how the Civilian work force has "stepped up" when needed, and how Family members have unselfishly supported their decisions.

Huntsville Center will reach its 40th anniversary this October, and we will begin celebrating this important milestone on Organization Day. We will have a car show to start the day (all pre-80s vehicles) here at the Center, and the theme for this year's Organization Day is "1967". Vintage cars and vintage clothing are just part of the fun, as our directorate staff will be doing the cooking! Please take this opportunity to bring your Family and enjoy the food

See *Commander* on page 3

Hails and farewells

Welcome to new employees –
Michael Allen, Engineering Directorate; Carol Beane, Defense Contracting Audit Agency; Martha Cook, Executive Office; Jennifer Hanich, Contracting Directorate; Jonathan Pace, Engineering Directorate; Michelle Petty, Installation Support and Programs Directorate; Mary Stringer, Installation Support and Programs Directorate; Kathryn Wallace, Installation Support and Programs Directorate; and Wesley Watson, Chemical Demilitarization Directorate.

Farewell to Julie Kaiser, Ordnance and Explosives Directorate; Carlton Mason, Management Review Office; JoAnita Miley, Contracting Directorate; Kim O'Donnell, Internal Review Office; Ben Otey, Contracting Directorate; Sally Parsons, Installation Support and Programs Directorate; Carol Putnam, Installation Support and Programs Directorate; and Chasiti Scales, Installation Support and Programs Directorate.

US Army Corps of Engineers

The Huntsville Center Bulletin is printed by digital copier as an unofficial publication authorized under the provisions of AR 360-1. Opinions expressed are not necessarily those of the U.S. Army. Inquiries can be addressed to Public Affairs Office, U.S. Army Engineering and Support Center, Huntsville, Attn: CEHNC-PA, P.O. Box 1600, Huntsville, AL 35807-4301. Phone: DSN 760-1693 or commercial 256-895-1693. The Bulletin is also online at ***www.hnd.usace.army.mil.*** *Circulation: 1,000.*

BULLETIN

Commander..... *Col. Larry D. McCallister*
Chief, Public Affairs..... *Kim Gillespie*
Editor..... *Becky Proaps*

The Bulletin asks:

What is the best part and the hardest part about being a father?

George Foozer
Installation Support and Programs Directorate

The best part is when your children walk down the aisle to be married and start the cycle of a life in love all over again. The hardest part was recognizing how important it is to take the time to just play or talk with my children. If they have a problem that needs immediate attention, you have a problem that needs immediate attention.

Mitch Duke
Engineering Directorate

The best part about being a father is the love of my son. Also, watching my little boy explore and learn something new every day is exciting for me. The hardest part for me is raising a child in today's world that continues to lower its moral standards.

Mike Collum
Contracting Directorate

I am the father of a 4-year old girl and my wife and I have another girl on the way in September. The best part of being a father is the way they look up to you and at you and make you feel their whole world revolves around you. The hardest part is knowing that's going to end.

Father's Day history

The idea for creating a day for children to honor their fathers began in Spokane, Wash. Sonora Smart Dodd thought of the idea for Father's Day while listening to a Mother's Day sermon in 1909.

Having been raised by her father, William Jackson Smart, after her mother died, Sonora wanted her father to know how special he was to her. It was her father that made all the parental sacrifices and was, in the eyes of his daughter, a courageous, selfless and loving man. Sonora's father was born in June, so she chose to hold the first Father's Day celebration in Spokane on June 19, 1910.

In 1926, a National Father's Day Committee was formed in New York City. Father's Day was recognized by a Joint Resolution of Congress in 1956.

In 1966 President Lyndon Johnson signed a presidential proclamation declaring the third Sunday of June as Father's Day. President Richard Nixon signed the law which finally made it permanent in 1972.

Commander

continued from page 3

and activities at the Carroll D. Hudson Recreation Area on Redstone Arsenal.

At the end of this month we will say farewell to Deputy Commander, Lt. Col. David Diehl, who retires after 20 years of service. He successfully guided Huntsville Center through some of its biggest challenges. His leadership during our transition to the National Security Personnel System was exceptional. There will be several opportunities to say good-bye, including a dinner and a golf tournament prior to his retirement ceremony. He leaves us as a better organization and I wish him, his wife Gwen and their children the best as he retires.

Even though the first day of summer is not until the 21st, I know many of you will begin traveling and enjoying outdoor activities at the first of the month. Please remember to make safety your first priority, and take the necessary precautions when swimming and boating.

Innovative technologies provide vivid details of buried metals

By Andrea Takash
Public Affairs Office

Research scientists from around the world gathered in a field in Alabama with one thing in mind — determine the details of 2,000 items buried across 15 acres.

The team's mission is part of a larger study to decide what instruments work best for the discrimination of unexploded ordnance (UXO) — a technique that gives a more detailed picture of hidden metals below the surface.

Thanks to a congressional ad, the Environmental Security Technology Certification Program (ESTCP), a Department of Defense research and development program, funded the discrimination study at an active cleanup site. ESTCP picked former Camp Sibert, a formerly used defense site near Gadsden, Ala., because of the flat terrain, low vegetation and the fact that the 4.2-inch diameter mortar shell was the only munition used at the former training range.

Photo by Chris Gardner

Kevin Kingdom, left, and Stephen Billings from Sky Inc., test the ability of the EM63 to discriminate unexploded ordnance from other metals while still underground. They were one of many teams testing devices at former Camp Sibert near Gadsden, Ala.

"The DoD research and development community, which is responsible for developing new hardware, software and processes to help with munitions cleanup, sees the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers as a primary end-user of the tools they develop," said Roger Young, Innovative Technology manager for the Military Munitions Response Program at the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Engineering and Support Center, Huntsville. "In the case of Camp Sibert, Mobile District and Huntsville Center are teaming with the researchers to test some of their newest geophysical tools."

Photo by Chris Gardner

Crews from across the world visited former Camp Sibert near Gadsden, Ala., to test new methods of discriminating underground unexploded ordnance from other metals. Representatives from the Lawrence Berkley National Lab in California test the prototype of the Berkley UXO Discriminator at Camp Sibert.

ESTCP chose five of these newest tools for the study: EM61 MkII, EM63, GEM-3, Geometrics G822 Magnetometer and Berkley UXO Discriminator. These instruments performed well in both lab and test-site studies. Lawrence Berkley National Lab, Parsons, Sky Research Inc., Nova Research and NAEVA Geophysics Inc. demonstrated the instruments and will generate seven sets of data from their field work.

"This study at Camp Sibert will allow us to show that the science we can do in the lab will work at a real site," said Herb Nelson, a Naval Research Lab chemist who is overseeing the study for ESTCP. "By doing the study on an active site, the researchers get real interferences from normal farm operations in the background and scrap metal in the ground."

Before the discrimination study, a team conducted a detection study to indicate how many metal items were in the ground at the site.

"Even though we only flagged 2,000 items for the discrimination study, we had more than 6,000 hits during the detection, but we know few will actually fit in the parameters of military munitions," said Bob Selfridge, chief geophysicist at Huntsville Center. "They could be pieces of tractor, barb wire, or rock and soil with high magnetic contact."

It is up to the researchers using the discrimination instruments to distinguish between scrap metal and a 4.2 mortar.

"We have the process of detecting the location of metals down pat, but discrimination is tough," Selfridge said. "Detection just identifies where the metal is buried, but discrimination provides more details, like the shape of the metal.

See *Discrimination* on page 11

NSPS objectives, interim reviews due in PAA July 1

By Kim Gillespie
Public Affairs Office

Implementation of the National Security Personnel System continues.

All employees must have their performance objectives approved in the Performance Appraisal Application (PAA), and an interim review must be performed by the supervisor during June.

Any revisions to performance objectives must be finalized by July 1 in order to meet the 90-day requirement prior to the end of the appraisal period on Sept. 30, said Lt. Col. David Diehl, Huntsville Center deputy commander.

"The Performance Appraisal Application tool has a steep learning curve," Diehl said. "Every employee and supervisor needs to have already started sending the objectives back and forth for approval. Once you start exchanging the information, it does get easier — I promise!"

After the objectives are approved, the interim review must be performed before the objectives can be revised again.

The July 1 deadline for finalizing objectives is not a flexible date.

"The objectives you have in place on July 1 cannot be revised again," Diehl emphasized. "Every employee must have served 90 days under the finalized objectives in order for the final appraisal to be conducted so a performance payout can be determined prior to the January payout."

A mock pay pool was conducted in May. The mock pay pool served several purposes Diehl said.

"The mock pay pool allowed us to begin using the Performance Appraisal Application tool for the interim reviews on a limited basis. It also allowed the pay pools to 'practice' reviewing assessments on a limited basis," he said. "The mock pay pool was only performed for about 25 percent of the Center work force, but it may have seemed like more because this was first time anyone has used this system."

Following the mock pay pool, pay pool managers compiled lessons learned and recommendations that were presented to Col. Larry McCallister, Huntsville Center commander, and Diehl.

"We are using the lessons learned and recommendations to revise and finalize the draft Huntsville Center NSPS Pay Pool Business Rules policy this month," Diehl said.

Value Award

continued from page 1

Headquarters, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers; and Carole Lee Rankin, Louisville District Corps of Engineers Value Engineering/Management program manager.

Value engineering (VE) is a process of function analysis to identify actions that reduce cost, increase quality and improve mission capabilities.

The team used or participated in 13 value engineering workshops to help the Corps transform its Military Construction Delivery Process for needed execution. The VE work culminated in award of a pilot project at 100 percent scope, within budget, during a difficult construction bid climate due to Hurricane Katrina. Approximately $130 million in cost avoidance was documented on this work, and more than $120 million was documented on other projects using similar delivery, solidly documenting cost effective stewardship of taxpayer resources.

Louisville District also was recognized at the ceremony with a Special Award for support and use of the VE program. All parts of the district supported the Value Engineering Program as it transitioned from primary use as a technical improvement/cost reduction tool to broader use for management success.

Photo by John Hoffman, Headquarters, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

Pat Rivers, Chief, Military Programs Integration Division, Headquarters, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, congratulates Joel Hoffman, an engineer with the Chemical Demilitarization Directorate, Huntsville Center, for receiving the Outstanding Value Engineering award.

The district doubled its combined military and civil works cost savings and avoidance to $15.5 million in FY06, while providing management, technical and contracting support to help headquarters transform the Corps MILCON delivery process. Of those savings, $6 million came from a Civil Works Value Engineering Change Proposal.

DFAS adds new security measure to the myPay system

ARLINGTON, Va. — *myPay* officials announced in May another new security feature has been added to protect customers' data on the pay account system.

As part of our on-going commitment to strengthen password and account security to protect our customers' data, Defense Finance and Accounting Service has implemented the "virtual keyboard" to assist in protecting against malicious software such as spyware, trojans and keylogging.

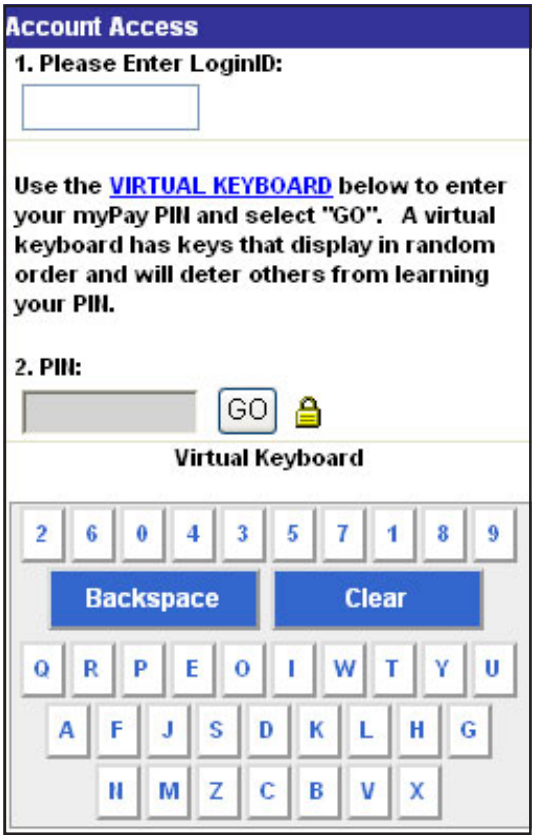
The virtual keyboard has been available since mid-May. Each time a user arrives at ***myPay*** to log on, the virtual keyboard will appear on the screen. The user will type in their LoginID and then the user will "press" the keys on the screen by clicking on them with their mouse to enter their Personal Identification Number (PIN) instead of typing the actual keys. The virtual keyboard is to be used only for the user's PIN.

To enhance security, the keyboard layout changes or keys are displayed randomly every time the page is refreshed.

"This is a significant move toward adding yet another layer of security to our ***myPay*** system," said Pat Shine, director of operations for DFAS. "We want to reassure our customers that we are proactively working to secure their pay account information."

DFAS uses a variety of security features to protect personal data on the ***myPay*** system, yet DFAS asks that customers do everything they can to protect data from being compromised or captured on home computers.

Under frequently asked question on the ***myPay*** home page (https://mypay.dfas.mil) customers can find more information on steps to secure their home computers.



The virtual keyboard is the latest security measure to be added to the *myPay* Web site.

To Login to ***myPay*** using the Virtual Keyboard:

1. Type LoginID under Account Access on the home page.

2. Next, click on the numbers and letters (if using a restricted access PIN) of your PIN using the mouse and virtual keyboard on the screen. (Each number and/or letter will appear as an asterisk in the textbox above the virtual keyboard.) When finished, click the "GO" button.

3. Once in ***myPay*** users will continue to navigate as usual.

Van Antwerp

continued from page 1

Desert Shield and Desert Storm in Saudi Arabia and Iraq.

Other assignments include chief of staff, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers; assistant chief of staff for Installation Management, Washington, D.C.; director, Office of Competitive Sourcing, Office of the Assistant Secretary of the Army (Research, Development and Acquisition), Washington, D.C.; executive assistant to the Vice Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, Washington, D.C.; executive officer, Office of the Chief of Engineers, Washington, D.C.; chief, Military Engineering and Construction Division, U.S. Army Western Command, Fort Shafter, Hawaii; executive officer, 84th Engineer Battalion, 45th General Support Group, Schofield Barracks, Hawaii; and instructor, Department of Mechanics, U.S. Military Academy, West Point, N.Y.

Van Antwerp graduated from the U.S. Military Academy in 1972. He completed Ranger, Airborne and Air Assault training, the Engineer Officer Basic Course and the Engineer Officer Advanced Course. He holds a master's degree in mechanical engineering from the University of Michigan and a master's degree in business administration from Long Island University in New York. He is a registered professional engineer.

New Business Management Office director named

HUNTSVILLE, Ala. — Richard M. Suever Jr. has been named the new program manager for the Business Management Office at the U.S. Army Engineering and Support Center, Huntsville. He will be the senior advisor to the commander and deputies and will be responsible for business management, providing overall direction and guiding the development of near and long-term Center strategies and methods for institutionalization and sustainment. He will also be responsible for business development, strategic planning human capital management and integration of quality process management.

Photo by Debra Valine

Richard Suever Jr.

Suever previously served as chief, Civil Structures Division in the Engineering Directorate.

In addition to his formal duties, Suever is currently serving as the chairperson for the Huntsville Center Leadership Development Program and as the administrator for the Product Delivery Team Team Awards process. He is also an instructor for the Engineering and Design Quality Management PROSPECT course.

Starting as a Co-op student with the South Atlantic Division laboratory, Suever has worked for the Corps of Engineers for more than 30 years. Suever holds bachelor's and master's degrees in civil engineering from the Georgia Institute of Technology, and a master's degree in engineering management from the University of Alabama, Huntsville (UAH). He is currently working on his dissertation for a doctorate of philosophy in engineering management at UAH. He is a registered professional engineer in the state of Alabama.

Employees return to familiar faces, pleasant surroundings

Grass greener in Huntsville Center pasture

By Chris Gardner
Public Affairs Office

After a while at any office, many employees decide it's time to go looking for something new, a change in their work routine.

Some Huntsville Center employees have left for "greener pastures" elsewhere only to find their way back to the Center. Lisa Gayman and Betty Neff did just that.

Gayman has been a paralegal specialist at the U.S. Army Engineering and Support Center, Huntsville, since spring 2001. Well, that is except for a brief fling on Redstone Arsenal in 2006. Gayman took a position working in an office in the Sparkman Center in July 2006. She was back in Huntsville Center's Office of Counsel by August.

"I left for a promotion, but it didn't end up being worth it," Gayman said.

Gayman said the new job had multiple unexpected drawbacks.

Since the office was on the arsenal, she said her commute time was about doubled because of both distance and getting through the gate.

She also said she didn't find her new office as warm as Huntsville Center's Office of Counsel and said some people didn't say anything at all to each other.

"Counsel is like a family," Gayman said. "We all talk to each other and are close knit."

Neff, planning and quality manager, Business Management Office, also took a job outside the Center only to ultimately find her way back when she got the chance.

Neff started working at Huntsville Center in 1984 and stayed until leaving for a promotion at a local major Army command in early 2002.

She came back to Huntsville Center in May 2003 for a variety of reasons.

She said one of the big reasons she came back was similar to one of Gayman's — the overall familiar atmosphere.

"You didn't develop the kind of network we have," Neff said. "Here you can know everyone and talk to everyone."

Neff said Huntsville Center's open atmosphere helps to get things done.

"It was harder to make connections like you can here where you can walk in and talk to (directors)," Neff said. "There's less formality. I think that's really important, that informal aspect of exchanging ideas."

She also said there was an overall different culture there because of the type of organization it was.

"They were a funded organization. We're reimbursable so that makes a different culture," Neff said. "We're more energetic, more customer-focused."

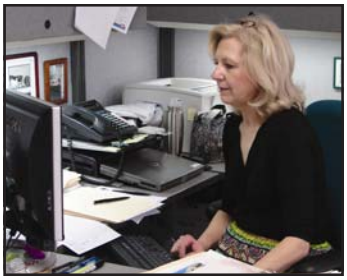


Photo by Chris Gardner

Betty Neff is the planning and quality manager with the Business Management Office at Huntsville Center.

Photo by Chris Gardner

Lisa Gayman is a paralegal specialist in the Office of Counsel at Huntsville Center.

Scrap broker helps get best price for recyclable steel for Lake City ammo plant removal project

By Debra Valine
Public Affairs Office

The Facilities Reduction Program is always looking for new ways to lower costs to the customer while diverting the largest percentage of demolition debris from the landfill.

Removing an outdated building at the U.S. Army Lake City Ammunition Plant in Independence, Mo., presented both challenges.

The Engineering and Support Center, Huntsville, is working with the installation, the Corps of Engineers' Kansas City District and Bhate Associates of Birmingham, Ala., to remove Bldg. 3A from the Lake City Army Ammunition Plant. Local fire departments have also helped with the project by keeping the building wet during certain phases of the demolition.

Bldg. 3A is 211,000 square feet. In addition to nearly 3 million pounds of structural steel and appurtenances like conveyors, the building contains some 3 million pounds of equipment — some large and weighing tons — which had been stored there for years.

And it all has to go as part of the demolition.

The project started April 16 with asbestos abatement and soft demolition — the removal of internal fixtures. Staging of the big equipment started in early May; serious demolition started May 14. As of May 15, the project was approximately 30 percent complete with an expected completion in mid-July.

"This will be the largest recycling effort that we have done on any demolition to date," said Kevin Healy, Huntsville Center's project engineer supporting the Installation Management Command's West Region. "When contractors go out to conduct the site visit, the contractor is required to solicit bids from local recyclers. They were offered $20 per ton. Through our experience with the Facilities Reduction Program, we knew the price at that time should have been in the $160-$210 range per ton."

To save the customer the most amount of money, Healy took the issue to a programmatic support contractor who recommended the contractor use a professional scrap broker. The scrap broker negotiates with scrap buyers in the area to get the best price.

"What we are talking about is an average of $175 per ton," Healy said.

Photo By Debra Valine

In addition to 3 million pounds of structural steel, Bldg. 3A contains about 3 million pounds of equipment that will be recycled.

Photo By Debra Valine

This is Bldg. 3A before the demolition began. It is at the U.S. Army Lake City Ammunition Plant in Independence, Mo.

"As of June 4, the contractor has submitted a proposal for approximately 1,900 tons. This will give us a net credit value of roughly $250,000. That amount is subject to change. The contractor will apply that credit to the total demolition and removal cost, thereby reducing the overall cost to the customer."

Not only will the project get the most money for the scrap, there will be strict accountability of all scrap leaving the site.

The broker provides the contractor a form that is used to record all of the scrap that goes off-site and the price that will ultimately be paid for it, Healy said. The final column gets filled in when the checks come in.

"You end up with a very good record of what was sent where at what price and we can then verify that the payments were made," Healy said.

"The unique thing is that, as with every other job where we are trying to meet the goal for minimum 50 percent diversion of waste from the landfill, we will not only meet the 50 percent, but we will also get back a large amount of money to help defray part of the project cost for the customer," Healy said.

Bhate Associates has a team of 10 on-site for the demolition.

"We are taking ferrous and non-ferrous metals, wood and bricks to get ready for recycling," said Robert Labadie, Bhate's site superintendent. "We are looking at 100 percent recycling of the steel. Anything that can be recycled, we are recycling it."

"The leadership is pleased with the progress of the demolition effort thus far," said Steve Brockman, the facilities manager. At this time, Army staff at Lake City is unaware of any plans to utilize the 3A area, he said.

The Lake City Army Ammunition Plant's Fire Department and the Independence, Mo., Fire Department have been helping with the project while getting valuable training time.

The Lake City Army Ammunition Plant is a 3,935-acre government owned-contractor operated facility that was established in 1941 to manufacture and test small caliber ammunition for the U.S. Army. The facility has remained in continuous operation except for one five-year period following World War II.

Photo By Debra Valine

Contractors with Bhate Associates, Birmingham, Ala., sort through metal and brick debris to get materials ready for recycling.

Photo By Debra Valine

Fred Kraft, Kansas City District; Oscar Hayes, Lake City Army Ammunition Plant; and Kevin Healy, U.S. Army Engineering and Support Center, Huntsville, meet to discuss the project to remove Bldg. 3A at Lake City.

Just do it

Clearing documents for public release keeps everybody out of trouble

By Debra Valine
Public Affairs Office

When getting ready for that upcoming conference, don't forget to send your briefing or speech through the Public Affairs Office.

It's one more thing to get ready for the conference, but it helps keep everyone out of trouble.

The process to clear information for public release is outlined in Work Instruction HNC-WI-55-02, available on Huntsville Center's Intranet Web site. The process includes the Clearance for Public Release Form.

"The key is on the word 'public'," said Kim Gillespie, chief of the Public Affairs Office. "If the information you are presenting is for an open forum or to be posted on a readily accessible Web site, the material should come through the process."

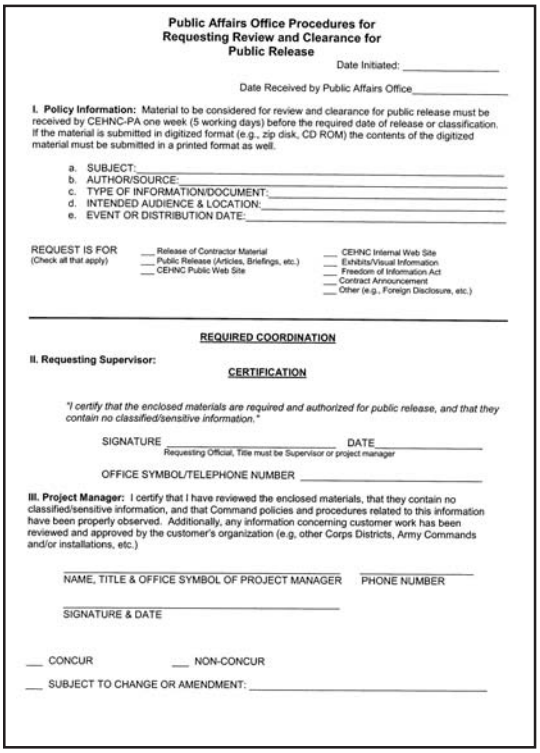
There are several reasons for getting approval for public release:

- Many conferences now require documentation showing material has been reviewed and released — these are security sensitive times.
- Some material may require review and coordination with Office of Counsel or other offices/agencies. Public Affairs will ensure this happens.
- It gives us a record of what material was presented and in what venue.

The policy of the Department of Defense is to authorize and encourage public release of information consistent with security requirements and other exemptions under the Freedom of Information Act.

This process is different from the Freedom of Information Act process in that a government employee is initiating the release of information, but the same types of rules apply. Generally, if the information is releasable under FOIA, it is OK to publicly release the information. FOIA requests are processed through Office of Counsel.

"FOIA requests can be made by any person who is looking for specific government information," said Lisa Gayman, the FOIA officer in Office of Counsel. "OC reviews all FOIA requests to determine whether or not information can be released based upon applicable laws and regulations on a case-by-case basis. OC must respond to all FOIA requests within the 20-day statutory deadline."



Public Affairs Office Procedures for Requesting Review and Clearance for Public Release

Date Initiated: _____

Date Received by Public Affairs Office_____

I. Policy Information: Material to be considered for review and clearance for public release must be received by CEHNC-PA one week (5 working days) before the required date of release or classification. If the material is submitted in digitized format (e.g., zip disk, CD ROM) the contents of the digitized material must be submitted in a printed format as well.

a. SUBJECT:_____
b. AUTHOR/SOURCE:_____
c. TYPE OF INFORMATION/DOCUMENT:_____
d. INTENDED AUDIENCE & LOCATION:_____
e. EVENT OR DISTRIBUTION DATE:_____

REQUEST IS FOR (Check all that apply)
___ Release of Contractor Material
___ Public Release (Articles, Briefings, etc.)
___ CEHNC Public Web Site
___ CEHNC Internal Web Site
___ Exhibits/Visual Information
___ Freedom of Information Act
___ Contract Announcement
___ Other (e.g., Foreign Disclosure, etc.)

REQUIRED COORDINATION

II. Requesting Supervisor:

CERTIFICATION

"I certify that the enclosed materials are required and authorized for public release, and that they contain no classified/sensitive information."

SIGNATURE _____ DATE_____
Requesting Official, Title must be Supervisor or project manager

OFFICE SYMBOL/TELEPHONE NUMBER _____

III. Project Manager: I certify that I have reviewed the enclosed materials, that they contain no classified/sensitive information, and that Command policies and procedures related to this information have been properly observed. Additionally, any information concerning customer work has been reviewed and approved by the customer's organization (e.g. other Corps Districts, Army Commands and/or installations, etc.)

_____ _____
NAME, TITLE & OFFICE SYMBOL OF PROJECT MANAGER PHONE NUMBER

_____
SIGNATURE & DATE

___ CONCUR ___ NON-CONCUR

___ SUBJECT TO CHANGE OR AMENDMENT: _____

This is an example of page 1 of the Clearance for Public Release form. The forms are available on the Center's Intranet Web site.

Clearance Process

The Clearance for Public Release process is not complicated and it usually doesn't take more than five working days.

First, the originator initiates a form, available from the Public Affairs Office, requesting review and clearance of information for public release. Information includes the subject, intended audience and location, and the event or distribution date.

Second, the author's supervisor signs the form certifying that the material is required and authorized for public release and that the information is not classified or sensitive.

The third step is a security review. This step indicates whether or not the material is cleared for public release and recommends appropriate distribution.

"I review the document for any operations security issues to see if it contains any information that should not be released," said Sue Baber, chief of Security and Law Enforcement. Applicable security regulations include DoD Regulation 5200.1R and AR 380-5.

Per DoD policy, AR 360-1 requires official information intended for public release to be cleared by Public Affairs offices. Following the security approval, the information is reviewed by a public affairs specialist. The packet is annotated on a database and a copy is filed in the Public Affairs Office. The original packet is returned to the author.

It's that simple. When planning to present material at a public conference or on an Internet Web site, just allow five days for the clearance process. If you have additional questions, call the Public Affairs Office at 895-1691.

LDP classes graduate

Congratulations to the latest graduating classes of the Leadership Development Program. Eight Huntsville Center employees graduated May 18 from Level II and 17 graduated from Level III. Col. Larry D. McCallister, commander, Huntsville Center, presented each graduate with a certificate during the ceremony. For more information about LDP go to the Huntsville Center Intranet. Look under Business Management Office; click on Human Capital Management System; scroll down to Leadership Development Program.

Graduates of LDP II on May 18 are from left to right, front row, Donna Ragucci, Lequita Byrd-Craig, Rebecca Terry and Kimberly Torrence; back row, Col. Larry D. McCallister, commander, Huntsville Center, Derek Beck and Angela Saville. Not pictured are Arnecia Bradley and Kimberly Meacham.

Photo by Chris Gardner

Col. Larry D. McCallister stands with LDP III graduates from left to right, front row, Raul Alonso, Frances Steel, Suzanne Wear, Doyce Haynes; back row, Lois Grey, Rex McLaury, Spencer O'Neal, Virginia Mitchell and Steven Willoughby. Not pictured are Jeffery Alford, William Craven, Michael Gooding, Betina Johnson, Julie Kaiser, Sherene Opichka and Rebecca Vaughn.

Photo by Chris Gardner

Discrimination

continued from page 4

Discrimination allows the project team to say with confidence that an item can't be military munitions."

The end result of the study may reap many benefits for both DoD and landowners at formerly used defense sites.

"Seventy percent of project funds at formerly used defense sites are spent on digging up empty holes," Selfridge said. "With the use of discrimination, we will be able to significantly reduce the number of holes dug on a site at the same time making sure we retrieved every potential ordnance item. This will reduce the cost and the amount of time on a landowner's property."

"The focus is on what we can safely leave in the ground with the goal of correctly leaving the most things," Nelson said.

After the team finishes the measurements at Camp Sibert, Duke University, Signal Innovations Group, Sky Research Inc, SAIC Inc. and Lawrence Berkley Lab will analyze the seven sets of data.

"The analysis groups will take one or multiple data sets and apply algorithms that have been developed with ESTCP support to rank the items from most likely to be able to be left in the ground (harmless) to most likely to need removal (hazardous)," Nelson said.

Once the analysis groups have ranked the detected anomalies, the Institute for Defense Analyses (IDA), a non-profit organization, will analyze the data.

"Our job is to provide ESTCP independent analyses of the data from the demonstrators," said Shelly Cazares, an analyst with IDA.

When ESTCP receives the analyses, they will determine what worked and didn't work using the procedures outlined in the study. ESTCP anticipates presenting the data in the fall.

"After we complete the intrusive investigation, we will know what the 2,000 items are that we flagged," Nelson said. "The key is to see if the instruments and demonstrators determined correctly what the items were."

Corps busy with construction projects throughout Iraq

Engineers provide reconstruction overview

By LuAnne Fantasia
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Gulf Region North

TIKRIT — In the Salah ad Din province of Iraq, the Iraq Reconstruction Program includes more than 300 infrastructure projects. There are 209 finished with 48 active and six planned to start to date. The remaining 45 projects are in the developmental stages.

Many of these projects are in remote locations. Some are high-capacity electrical distribution projects and large treatment facilities for water and sewage.

The following information provides a snapshot of projects in the Salah ad Din province with additional information on several projects.

Building, health and education projects:

• Of the 103 approved building, health and education projects for Salah ad Din, 92 are complete. The 84 completed schools provide an enhanced learning environment for more than 29,000 school children.

• Eight primary health care clinics are completed, and when fully operational, each will benefit 100 medical patients daily. Currently, one health care center is operational, while the others are preparing to open their doors.

• A school for deaf and mute children is planned. This new two-story structure will accommodate the special learning needs for about 150 students, with a dormitory area, as well as classrooms and administrative space. It is scheduled to be finished in December.

• A $750,000 project to upgrade and repair a vocation technical school started last November and is scheduled to be completed in July. The industrial school will be tied to the provincial employment offices and will support job postings which include the oil refinery, power plant, drug industry, fertilizer plant, textile mill and water bottling plant. The renovated school will accommodate about 200 students.

Oil Sector:

• Two oil refinery projects scheduled to begin this summer will protect the refinery, enhance operations and secure refinery output to increase fuel delivery to the Iraqi marketplace. Both projects, which have a combined total cost of $12.5 million, are scheduled for completion by the end of the year.

Photo by LuAnne Fantasia

Water from the Great Zab River makes its way through six clarifying tanks at the Erbil-Ifraz water project that provides more than 4,000 cubic meters of safe drinking water per hour to 300,000 citizens in the Erbil area.

Electrical Sector:

• Of the 47 electrical projects budgeted for the Salah ad Din, 20 are complete, four are still in developmental stages, and one is planned to start this month.

• One of the six electrical projects currently in progress will provide more reliable power to approximately 20,000 people in the city of Bayji and the surrounding villages. The project includes installation of four kilometers of 33kV overhead lines and steel towers from the substation.

Security and Justice:

• There are 21 budgeted projects in this sector. Sixteen of those projects are complete and four are still in developmental stages.

• One Iraqi Army project started in May will renovate an existing facility for an Iraqi Army battalion. The $2 million project is due to be completed in November.

Public works and water:

• Of the 24 water and/or sewage treatment projects financed, 11 are finished; two are planned to start in May and June; and one is still in developmental stages. Twelve projects are ongoing, with three being more than 90 percent finished — a water compact unit project; a landfill and incinerator project and one sewer network.

• A project to repair a drinking water treatment plant started last November is to be completed in August. When complete, the plant will supply cleaner drinking water for approximately 200,000 people in Salah ad Din. The scope of work consists of general repairs to the plant operations, a generator, new operator's facility and electrical maintenance work. The cost of this project is $417,000.

Transportation and communication:

• There are 28 transportation and communication projects budgeted

See *Corps projects* on page 13

El Salvadoran citizen participates in international exchange program with Huntsville Center

By Michelle Harlan
Public Affairs Office

When she came to the United States for three months in an international exchange program, one Latin American woman never imagined she would take more than just a valuable work experience home with her.

Alicia Urquilla of El Salvador, Central America, partnered with the United States' Department of Defense and her home country's Ministry of Economy to spend 11 weeks learning about business contractual relationships.

She attended a class at the Defense Acquisition University for two weeks before arriving at the Huntsville Center, where she spent nine weeks in on-the-job training.

Urquilla's program first placed her in the Internal Review Office with Sherry Masters, Chiquita Goodloe-Suggs and Kim O'Donnell. Masters and her team spent their time with Urquilla going over regulatory requirements, process maps and work instructions. They also explained a typical audit process from start to finish.

She moved to the Small Business Office to work with Delores Foster, learning about flow charts and other work processes. They even had an opportunity to attend a small business conference at the Von Braun Center where Urquilla experienced typical business interactions.

Eager to learn more, she rounded out her work experience in the Contracting Directorate with Donna Ragucci, where she learned about the stages involved in creating a contract package.

"She was especially interested in the process that I take before sending the package on to the contracting officer," Ragucci said. "She wanted to know how the price is determined to be fair and reasonable, and who determines which contractor is the best value."

Photo by Michelle Harlan

Delores Foster, Small Business Office, left, discusses some contracting issues with Alicia Urquilla and Donna Ragucci, Contracting Directorate.

"She's like a sponge – absorbing everything we do. She's very enthusiastic," Foster said. Goodloe-Suggs and O'Donnell agree, "She was very interested in everything."

"Alicia is willing to learn. It was obvious she is passionate about her work," Ragucci said.

"When I go home I am going to advise all the contractors about the different steps to making a contract with the U.S. government," Urquilla said. She will not only be able to advise contractors in El Salvador, but other Central American countries as well.

"I think she got a really good understanding of contracting business interfaces and of how we operate at the Huntsville Center," Masters said.

"Dealing with contractors is an integral part of how we operate," Masters said. "Alicia learned who's involved with getting a contract out and how to use the best business practices to do so."

Urquilla said she believes there are several opportunities available to extend contractual relationships between El Salvador and the United States, such as importing or exporting uniforms and food.

"Now that I understand there are certain states that specialize in certain types of products, I can contact them in the future to make arrangements for business opportunities," Urquilla said.

The training turned out to be more than just about learning to establish business contracts. Urquilla also learned about American social interactions and customs while she was here.

See *Urquilla* on page 15

Corps projects

continued from page 12

across the Salah ad Din Province; 23 are finished and the five under way are a bridge project; a train station renovation; an access road to a power plant; and two other road improvement and road paving projects. All of these projects enhance mobility and access for the Iraqi people of this province. These five ongoing projects alone total more than $9.6 million.

This is only a synopsis of progress in the Salah ad Din Province, one of 18 provinces in Iraq. Since the time of Iraq's sovereignty in 2004, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers has completed more than 3,000 of the original 3,786 projects in the Iraq Reconstruction Program, nationwide.

Huntsville interns gain experience on Arsenal

By Chris Gardner
Public Affairs Office

The U.S. Army Engineering and Support Center, Huntsville is not the only U.S. Army Corps of Engineers game in town, and Huntsville Center interns are benefiting.

Department of the Army engineering interns Amos "Mo" Bryant and Theresa McFarland are just two of the people the Huntsville Center has shared with the USACE Mobile District Redstone Resident Office so they can gain on-site construction experience that might not be readily available at the Center.

Photo by Chris Gardner

Department of the Army intern Amos "Mo" Bryant watches over the pouring of cement at a future camp site on Redstone Arsenal. Bryant is interning with the U.S. Army Engineering and Support Center, Huntsville, but cross trained with the Mobile District's Redstone Resident Office to get experience working on military construction sites.

Bryant is an intern who normally works in Huntsville Center's Structures Branch.

At the Arsenal, he is working as a quality assurance representative on behalf of the Mobile District. It is a military construction project, which doesn't fall into the scope of Huntsville Center's mission.

"My work in the Structures Branch at the Huntsville Center rarely includes job site visits," Bryant said as he watched over the placement of concrete at a future campground site on the Arsenal. "The Mobile District Corps oversees most new construction on the Arsenal. The guys who work for that office spend about 50 percent of their time in the field."

Wade Wooley, the resident engineer for the Redstone Resident Office, said the cooperation between the offices has been going on for years.

"The opportunity for young designers to see lines on paper come to life can be a tremendous aid in helping them learn to visualize what a design will look like once it is constructed," said Wooley. "They also get to experience construction problems along the way which will provide some lessons learned that can be incorporated into future projects. The typical vertical construction that goes on at Redstone is probably a little different from what the interns see on a day-to-day basis at the Center, but seeing the application of engineering principles put into practice will benefit them no matter what type of project they are involved with."

Bryant finished his six-week construction rotation at the Redstone Resident Office in May and said he shadowed several people throughout the Redstone Resident Office in that time.

He has been able to work on Arsenal construction sites for projects like the Von Braun Complex Phase II, which will house Missile Defense Agency employees, the Sensor Facility for the Redstone Technical Test Center and at the Systems Software Engineering Annex at the Aviation and Missile Research, Development and Engineering Research Center.

McFarland, an electrical engineer in the cost engineering branch, worked with the Redstone Resident Office in 2005 while she was still a DA engineering intern.

"The people in the Redstone Resident Office are a great group to work with." McFarland said. "They took time to answer my questions and find answers if they didn't know."

McFarland said she got the chance to do a variety of things working on the Arsenal like reviewing designs for constructability, assisting with the supervision of construction projects, working directly with electricians on projects, assisting with investigations into construction problems and learning about construction contracts and scheduling.

"I am not involved in the actual construction process here," McFarland said. "It is very interesting to see a facility grow as construction progresses from day to day."

She also said her experience on the Arsenal helps with her regular position here at the Center.

"It's very informative to see the earthwork, the concrete placement as well as the underground piping and conduit being installed," McFarland said. "It's easier to visualize a project and know what equipment might be associated with it and its system after seeing it live in the field."

Wooley said that kind of thing is the goal of the cross-training.

"Constructing buildings isn't rocket science, but every day is fast-paced and every project has its own unique challenges," Wooley said. "Hopefully, the experience the interns gain while here will better equip them to handle whatever challenges they may be faced with."

Land of midnight sun gains new medical facility

The recently completed new Bassett Army Community Hospital in Fort Wainwright, Alaska, hosted an open house May 31. U.S. Army Engineering and Support Center's Medical Center of Expertise provided support throughout both the design phase and the construction phases of the military construction project.

Courtesy photo

Urquilla

continued from page 13

This trip marked the longest time Urquilla has spent away from her home and her two teenage children. As a project manager for the Ministry of Economy, she is accustomed to traveling to foreign countries for training and other events, but this was the first time she was gone during important celebrations in her country.

For Mother's Day, which is celebrated on a different date in El Salvador, the Internal Review office surprised her with a gift.

"They called and said they had something very important to talk about," Urquilla said. "I didn't know what happened, but I went to their office. They gave me flowers and cheesecake — my favorite dessert. It made me feel at home. I was very conscious of knowing I was missing Mother's Day, but they made me feel like I was with a family.

She also was immersed into American traditions through the help of her new friends. O'Donnell invited Urquilla to spend Easter with her family, and she experienced an Easter egg hunt for the first time. She also attended a birthday party with Lori Bryd, Security Office. Fellow Latin Americans working for the Huntsville Center invited her to the Arts Festival, Panoply and a Cuban concert presented by the Huntsville Symphony Orchestra.

Being embraced by different offices and Huntsville Center employees helped make Urquilla's extended stay easier and left a positive lasting impression on her of the Center and Southern culture.

"I am going to tell everyone (at home) that the people of Alabama are very friendly," Urquilla said. "Central Americans might have the wrong idea about Americans, but I will tell them they must travel to Huntsville to know the best part of the United States."

Her plans upon returning to her home include giving a presentation of everything she learned, writing a guidebook to accompany her newfound knowledge and in the future open a contractor office.

"I don't want to keep all this knowledge to myself," Urquilla said. "I want to tell people and help them.

"When I arrived at the Center, I said I didn't know if I would have enough time to learn everything," Urquilla said. "I felt better when others told me it took them 20 years to learn everything about contracting!"

"This was a win-win situation," Masters said. "Alicia is going back with a positive respect for what we do and how we do it, and knowing that the Huntsville Center people are warm and caring. This was also a big opportunity for us to grow our international relationships. We learned about her country, culture, work and family. There are some things that don't change across the world, like family and work ethics."

"My objective in coming here was to learn about contracting, but my added value was learning about the beautiful people I met here," Urquilla said.

"I was treated with a lot of respect. The people that work here are very warm and friendly," she said. "The commander has a very professional team here at the Center."

Ethics Corner

Retirement – permanent paid vacation, or all-expense paid trip to the pen?

By Toby Harryman
Office of Counsel

Mr. Director has been preparing for months to retire. He is very excited about his transition to civilian life. One day he was discussing his pending retirement with one of his old office mates, a recently retired colleague of Huntsville Center (now a contractor). This friend states that his company could use a person of Mr. Director's stature, intellect and good looks, because they conduct business with Huntsville Center and need someone with insider contacts to grease the skids of upcoming procurements. The contractor explains he is particularly interested in someone who might have knowledge of Huntsville Center overhead rates, business structure and recent initiatives who can "speak the Huntsville Center lingo" during the anticipated negotiations on upcoming procurements.

Mr. Director accepts the job on the spot. And why wouldn't he? He was never a contracting officer, program manager or otherwise directly involved with procurements. The day after retirement, Mr. Director puts on a suit, and returns to his old office to represent the contractor on a current procurement. At the end of his presentation, as he walks out the door, the Huntsville Center Ethics Police make a "citizen's arrest" for violation of various post-employment restrictions. Will Mr. Director spend the rest of his life in procurement integrity jail?

18 U.S.C. 207(a)(2) generally states that if an employee had a matter under their official responsibility during their last year in the government, even though they did not work personally and substantially on the matter, they may not represent the contractor or anyone else to the federal government, regarding the matter for two years. In other words, the work of a subordinate can be imputed to a supervisor. In this case, Mr. Director might need to cut a deal with the federal prosecutors. So sad, because he could have avoided this situation entirely with a quick stop by the Office of Counsel on his way out the door.

So don't take a job with any contractor upon retiring without first checking with Office of Counsel regarding post-employment questions.

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
ENGINEERING AND SUPPORT CENTER, HUNTSVILLE
P.O. BOX 1600
HUNTSVILLE, AL 35807-4301

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED