



Tropic Times



U.S. Army photo by Sgt. Lori Davis

Taking aim

Soldiers from the 193rd Infantry Brigade assault an objective during a live-fire exercise Oct. 8. See story and photos on page 3.

USARSO soldier shot in Panama City club

FORT CLAYTON (USARSO PAO) - A U.S. Army South soldier was shot in Panama City Saturday.

The soldier, SFC Hernando White, assigned to Headquarters and Headquarters Company, U.S. Army Garrison, was shot while in a club in Panama City. A preliminary investigation indicated that shooting had erupted in the club and White was hit in the back while trying to reach the front door.

He was driven to Gorgas Army Community Hospital by a friend, where he underwent surgery to remove the bullet. The soldier is in stable condition, according to Gorgas officials.

The incident is under investigation.

AAFES auto store manager shoots self

FORT CLAYTON (USARSO PAO) - Jeffrey Weatherbee, manager of the Fort Clayton Automotive Store, Army and Air Force Exchange Service died Saturday as a result of a self-inflicted gunshot wound.

The incident is under investigation.

Joulwan recaps progress, SOUTHCOM's challenges

QUARRY HEIGHTS (Tropic Times) - Gen. George A. Joulwan, commander in chief, U.S. Southern Command, leaves Panama today to assume duties as Supreme Allied Commander Europe and Commander, U.S. Forces Europe.

Wednesday, during an interview with the *Tropic Times* and Southern Command Network, he provided his thoughts about the past three years and the progress made by the command in the vital areas of nation-building and counterdrug efforts.

"We set out some clear goals three years ago; we have met or exceeded all of those goals," Joulwan said during the interview. "What has impressed me the most is the troops. They have taken some of the most difficult missions that I have ever seen in my 33 years in the military."

The general assumed command of SOUTHCOM Nov. 21, 1990, less than a year after the completion of Operation Just Cause.



Gen. George A. Joulwan

Now, for the first time in decades, all of Central and South America are governed by democratic governments. And with the end of the war in El Salvador, peace is becoming more and more common.

That was one of his first priorities upon taking command — bringing about a resolution to the 12-year-old civil war in that country. It proved a success story very quickly, and then Joulwan instituted other initiatives that have brought SOUTHCOM and the region to where it is today.

Joulwan will be honored at 9 a.m. today at a farewell ceremony at Howard AFB. A replacement has not yet been named.

What follows are his comments during a 20-minute interview at Quarry Heights, the location of SOUTHCOM headquarters.

You came to Panama at a critical time. What were your views at the time about what needed to be done in the Southern Command?

I think it's very important that as I look back three years ago that it was one year after Operation Just Cause...one of the first things I did upon arriving here was to make an assessment. That assessment was sort of accelerated by the fact that within the first 10 days of my

Continued on page 8.

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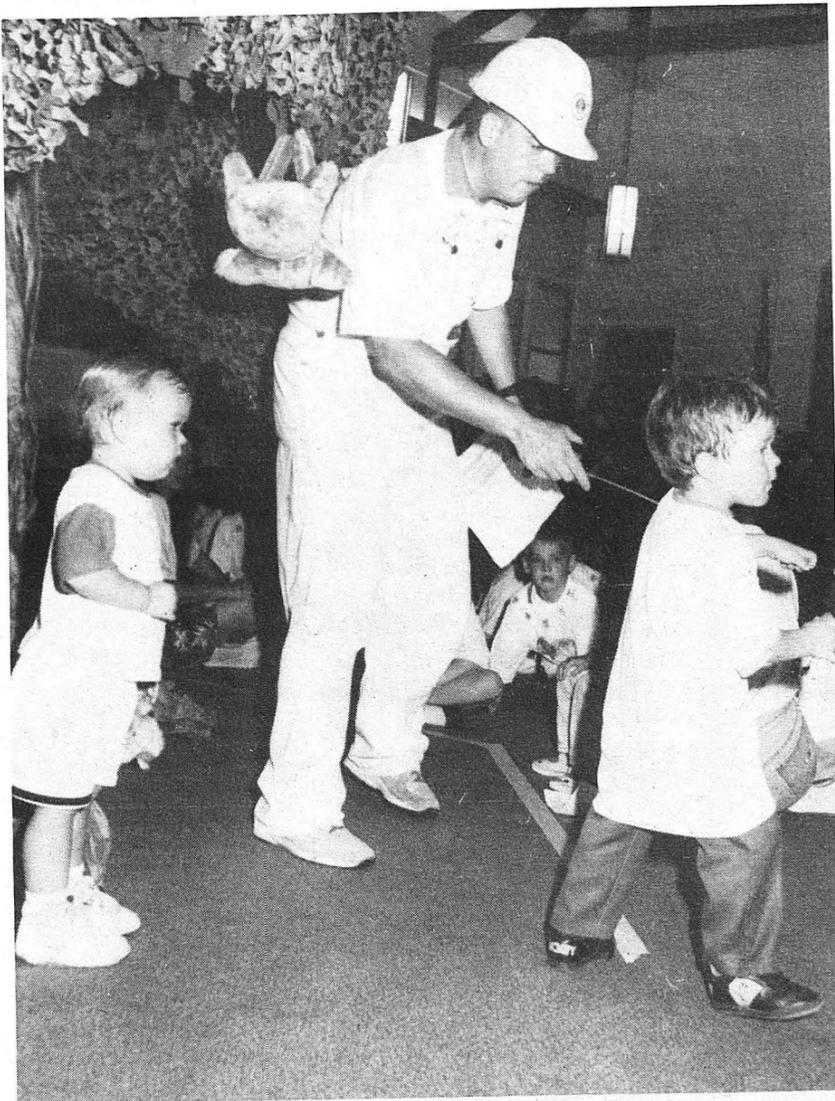
Army's 193rd Infantry Brigade leads more than a thousand soldiers into the field for a training exercise.

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Presidential special envoy arrives in Ethiopia to discuss conditions of possible cease-fire in Somalia.

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U.S. Navy photo by PH2 Roberto Taylor

Lt. William Wildhack, his son Evan (right) and Paul Eberenz play games during Bible school.

Bible school teaches children 'no fighting'

by Lt.j.g. Laura C. Moore
USNAVSTAPANCANAL PAO

RODMAN NS - Children at the Naval Station Chapel recently learned about applying Biblical concepts to today's world.

Almost 50 children and 20 parent volunteers of all denominations from the Rodman community participated in a four-week, all-denomination Bible school program, "Living in God's creation."

"The kids know about the rain forest here and they know about the pollution problem," said Sue Robbins, the program's musical director. "So, even though it was so long ago and in a different place, the creation story is relevant today here in Panama."

Participants in the Bible school also learned about how to treat other people.

"We learned about fighting. No fighting!" said Samantha Cooke, age three.

Her mother, Lt. Andrea George, said that even at such a young age, children learned a great deal from the Bible school program.

"Even at the age of three or four I think that they really internalized a lot of what was going on," George said. "After learn-

ing a scene about fighting, Samantha re-described the entire incident to us without any prompting and told us that fighting wasn't nice."

Lt. William Wildhack, the Naval Station's chaplain, said the program was a success.

"The continuing theme, 'Living in God's creation,' was about taking care of the earth and taking care of each other and learning about relationships with each other,"

Wildhack said. "Kids came away with a better idea about the earth, where it came from, where they came from, about their place in God's creation and about the beauty of the Creator's world."

This Bible school program was the sixth in the past year. Wildhack, who is transferring next

month to an aircraft carrier, said he'll miss the family environment at the Rodman chapel.

"It's a nice way to finish out three years in Panama to see so many kids having so much fun and learning important things about life and creation and God and Christ," Wildhack said. "I'm gonna miss the sense of family that the Bible school helped create here."

"It's a nice way to finish out three years in Panama to see so many kids having so much fun and learning important things about life and creation and God and Christ."

Lt. William Wildhack
Naval Station chaplain

Studies show domestic violence can be more than just physical

by SSgt. Rian Clawson
24th Wing Public Affairs

HOWARD AFB - October has been designated as Domestic Violence Prevention Month, said Melody Jones, family advocacy outreach manager for Howard's 24th Medical Squadron.

A major study of more than 900 children at shelters for battered women found that nearly half of the children were victims of physical or sexual abuse.

The study showed that, usually, the man who battered the woman also abused the child. In about a quarter of the cases, both parents abused the child, while, in a few isolated incidents, the mother was solely responsible for the abuse.

"We need to make people aware of the dangers of domestic violence, and let them know there are ways to deal with it," Jones said. "We want everybody to be able to recognize it and realize that violence does not have to be a part of a relationship."

Domestic violence in the home can be directed at anyone, man, woman or child, although it's usually the women and children who suffer the most, she said.

"Domestic violence in any form is terrible, but it is especially devastating when it affects the children," Jones said.

Countless studies have shown that child abuse and neglect are strongly linked to domestic violence, she added. Battered women are eight times more likely to abuse their children than women who are not exposed to violence.

Children in homes where domestic violence occurs can receive direct or indirect injuries, both physical and emotional in nature.

"The children can receive physical injuries when household items are thrown or when weapons are used or when one parent strikes or pushes the other and the abused spouse falls against the child," Jones said. "Older children are often injured when they try to protect the abused spouse."

Other injuries can be on the psychological, rather than the physical level. Maj. Cynthia Cain, family advocacy officer for Howard, quoted studies that describe some of the emotional effects domestic violence has on children.



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These include fear of abandonment, constant anxiety (that another attack will happen), feelings of responsibility for the abuse and feelings of guilt at being unable to stop it.

"Many of these children develop hearing or speech problems as a result of the abuse," Cain said. "They often get stress-related physical ailments like headaches, ulcers and rashes."

"Also, studies have shown that children who grow up witnessing domestic violence are more likely to continue the cycle as adults," she added. "Both grow up believing that violence is an acceptable part of relationships."

The Family Advocacy program has information available for people who have domestic violence in their homes, and for those who suspect it is present in a neighbor's or a friend's home.

Often people don't want to get involved, Jones said, "but that is a dangerous attitude to have. It's not only our right to report suspected domestic violence, but it is our responsibility — to ensure our community is a safer place to live."

For more information about domestic violence, call the Air Force's family advocacy program at 284-6410. For information about Army programs, call 282-5139, and for Navy programs, 283-4671.

Signal soldiers continue year-round Christmas

by Maritza Pearce
USARSO Public Affairs Office

LAS DELICIAS, PENONOME - Christmas has become a year-round-holiday for the soldiers assigned to the 154th Signal Battalion (Light).

The soldiers and family members frequently visit with Las Delicias school children to assess their needs and help them meet some of their most pressing necessities.

The year-long Christmas project turned out to be a family project for both the U.S. and Panamanians.

"For the soldiers, their family members and Las Delicias townspeople, it means developing friendship and exchanging gifts," CWO2 Fernando Perez said. "The people of Las Delicias will not allow us to come home empty handed. Bags of home-grown vegetables and fruits await the soldiers."

The arrival of Santa's helpers means games, gifts and refreshments for the parents and children of Las Delicias and their guests.

This year the visiting soldiers replaced the school's small, old refrigerator, put in a new roof and ceiling and hung a new door on the dining room. All the trips included bags of candy and school supplies for the children.

"The courtesy and generosity we have been blessed with is greatly appreciated," said Lelia Lombardo, school director. "The ceiling reduces the heat considerably and lowers the rain drop noise during the rainy season."

"The greatest gifts, as far as the children are concerned, are the radio/tape recorder and music and English lesson tapes," Lombardo said.

During lunch time the children gather in the school dining room and listen to music from the United States and Latin America. They have learned to identify the music of different countries. The children and teachers are learning to speak English from the tapes.

"The majority of the 30 school children come from families whose income is generated from subsistence farming," Lombardo said. "The school supplies, clothes and Christmas gifts come in handy for a family of three or more children."

Lombardo and Perez agree that the joint year-long Christmas program is a total success.

193rd Infantry leads way on field exercise

by MSgt. Joe Ferrare
USARSO Public Affairs Office

EMPIRE RANGE - Soldiers here are getting a rare opportunity to flex their combat muscle during a Field Training Exercise that has more than 1,500 soldiers from several different units spread out over more than 100 square kilometers of blooming pampa grass, muddy roads and tangled jungle.

The 193rd Infantry Brigade is leading the FTX, with the 1st Battalion, 228th Aviation Regiment and the 142nd Medical Battalion playing major supporting roles. Other Panama-based units supporting the 193rd Inf. Bde. include the 154th Signal Battalion and the 549th Military Police Company. Two stateside units are also taking part in the exercise. Soldiers from the 108th MP Co. (Air Assault), Fort Bragg, N.C., and the 408th Military Intelligence Company say they are getting a feel for operating in Panama while on temporary duty here.

Driving this force is a detailed exercise scenario that includes attacking insurgents and other threats to the canal. But many units are taking advantage of the field time to accomplish other missions. The 154th is testing the new Mobile Subscriber Equipment radios, while the 1-228th is undergoing an Army Training and Evaluation Program evaluation under the scrutiny of the 128th Aviation Brigade. Almost all the units are training at the squad, platoon or company level to show recently arrived soldiers how local units operate or test new mission strategies.

Some of the training is only possible in a large exercise like this, said 193rd Inf. Bde. officials, and everyone agreed training many units together makes it more realistic.

"We are exercising pretty much all our battlefield operating systems, with the exception of (Air Defense Artillery) and field artillery," said Capt. Tom Moxley, Assistant Operations Officer, 193rd Inf. Bde.

"This is where we take all the pieces and put them together," he added.

That means more than units putting together the different parts of their missions, said Capt. Edward Davis, 5th Battalion, 87th Infantry Regiment. It also means putting together people from different units.

"You get all the support agencies to interact with each other. Everybody gets to know each other and interact with the person they would interact with in the real world, so you get to practice before the real thing, and that's important," Davis noted.

The infantry soldiers got to practice the real thing several ways. Exercise planners put a slightly different spin on even mundane tasks, such as getting to the training area. Some soldiers used the 1097th Boat Company landing craft during their move while others flew in with 1-228th aviators. Even some of those who came in vehicles took an unusual route, convoying across the rarely used Miraflores Bridge, the swing bridge in front of Fort Clayton.

Once on the ground, the units spread out and began tackling their training missions. These too, were mixed up, so units would train as a squad one day, and a platoon or company the next. Soldiers cycled through the range's objectives, which are areas supposedly held by enemy soldiers. Sometimes the soldiers assaulted the objectives by air, sometimes on foot, shooting blanks against MP enemy soldiers on one mission, shooting live rounds the next.

Such diversity can lead to good training or confusion. Davis said skillful planning is what makes the difference.

"We plan on what we're going to do before we come out here, so we have a game plan," he said. "This is not the first time for a lot of us, so most of us know what to expect, and we know where we're going to be pulled to the wire and where we're going to have lulls in the action, so there are very few surprises once we get out here."

Making sure there are at least a few surprises is the province of brigade Intelligence Officer Capt. Roy Worrall. Worrall himself is rarely surprised by what happens next, however: he's working for both sides.

"We're trying to play the full game as far as intelligence is concerned," he explained. "Our job here (in the brigade intelligence section) is to drive the intelligence scenario. We do that by issuing out messages at certain points in time."

"On top of that, not only do we drive the intelligence picture, but I control the OPFOR, so I'm kind of dual-hatted here, for this particular exercise," Worrall said.

Worrall, with the help of 1st Lt. Susan Pena and other members of the 408th MI Company, is keeping everyone busy.

"Objective Bayonet is where we actually have the MPs playing the insurgents' role. They are also going out and doing things such as ambushing convoys and probing different (Tactical Operations Centers).

The MPs' harassment is another problem for the 193rd's infantrymen, who must already cope with the rigors of going to the field in Panama during the rainy season. Water



Spec. Jodi Herrera drives on to the rarely used Miraflores Bridge.

U.S. Army photo by MSgt. Joe Ferrare



Sgt. Jaime Tudor (left), Headquarters Company, 142nd Medical Battalion, reassures his "patient" Spec. Darren Heard, as fellow medic, Spec. Gregorio Quintero helps him to a field ambulance.

U.S. Army photo by SSgt. Jane Usero

— in the form of rain, sweat and heavy canteens — is the infantrymen's biggest concern, but far from their only one. Bugs, skin problems such as prickly heat, and vegetation like the thick pampa grass and sharp black palm all plague infantrymen who are routinely pushed to the limit to practice their wartime mission.

"You could be a world class athlete and get tired out there," said PFC William Schuler, B Company, 5-7th.

Some of the reasons are bad footing in muddy terrain,

a lack of sleep and the heat, which exacts a double penalty, said Spec. Paul Ham, a team leader with B Co. 5-87th.

"We start out with 11 quarts of water, (and) it's pretty heavy," Ham reported. "We carry enough to make it until they resupply us. If we were to go past that we've got (water) purification tablets."

"We're very safety oriented — drink the water, drink the water — but you can only drink so much water per hour," Ham said.

Ruben Blades: Ross Perot of Panama?

PANAMA CITY (Reuters) - Salsa star-turned-politician Ruben Blades, Panama's suave answer to Texas billionaire Ross Perot, hopes a wave of disenchantment with Panama's traditional politics will carry him straight to his country's presidency.

Blades, 45, a singer-actor who lived in the United States for the last 20 years, has led every serious opinion poll this year on who Panamanians would vote for in the 1994 presidential elections.

And the Papa Egoro movement he founded and named after a Panamanian Embera Indian term for Mother Earth is virtually certain to nominate him as their presidential candidate next month.

"I am going to be nominated most likely in November. I am going to accept the nomination," Blades told Reuters in an interview Thursday. "We (Papa Egoro) exist because people said 'we're going to give you life because we believe that you can come up with something different from these dinosaurs over here.'"

Most of the polls have given Blades about 20 percent support to win the presidency — double his closest rivals, who are all from Panama's traditional oligarchies.

"The Blades vote is undoubtedly a negative vote, a vote against the elite, but it's there all right and I think it could take him to the presidency," said political analyst Marco Gandasegui.

Panama's May 1994 elections are intended to seal its transition to democracy after the December 1989 U.S. invasion that ousted former dictator Manuel Noriega and installed the current government of President Guillermo Endara.

If Blades does not make any alliances, his main opposition is likely to come from the Democratic Revolutionary Party which backed Noriega's regime and the current ruling coalition.

Should he win, Blades would take office in the president's Palace of the Herons in the same poor neighborhood of Panama City where he grew up. But he has no romantic illusions about the job.

"I'm sorry to tell you that it's not as if, like, coming out of the ghetto I dreamt of the day that I would be walking and my footsteps would echo in the halls of the Palace of the Herons," said Blades, who left Panama City



Ruben Blades, Panamanian presidential candidate.

Courtesy photo

for New York "with \$100 in my pocket" in 1975.

He is buoyed by the opinion polls, but worried about raising expectations before mobilizing the funds and manpower needed for a successful election campaign.

"It's great to be on top," he said "(but) I don't want to elevate people's expectations and then drop them and then have somebody tell you that I'm a publicity seeker."

Blades said Papa Egoro had prepared a draft manifesto for the 1994 elections based on months of grassroots consultations with Panamanians. "I believe in consensus. I don't want to be sounding off my mouth like 'I think you should do this' and 'I think you should do that', I don't believe in that," he said.

On Panama's most controversial policy issues, Blades said he wanted less emphasis on repaying the nation's \$6 billion foreign debt and dismissed speculation of renegotiating the withdrawal of 10,000 U.S. troops by 1999 because "they are going to leave, they have been very clear about that."

He said Panama's priorities were to overhaul outdated and inadequate health, education, judicial and infrastructure systems.

Colombians investigate bombing

BOGOTA, Colombia (Reuters) - Police and army authorities started an investigation Oct. 9 into three bomb attacks in Bogota overnight that killed two policemen, injured 27 others and damaged buildings.

Commanders put security forces throughout this city of six million on maximum alert and reinforced patrols checking for suspicious objects or movements.

The most serious attack was in the residential Chapinero district, where three men in a parked car detonated a bomb by remote control Thursday night as a bus drove by carrying more than 30 policemen to a change of guard.

The blast wrecked the bus, killed two of the police traveling inside, injured another 27 officers and caused panic among nearby residents, a city police spokesman said Friday. On Thursday night, police had said three officers were killed in the blast.

Just over an hour later, bombers struck again in two different areas of the city. An explosion shook an empty registry office building near the center while in the

Teusaquillo district men in a passing car threw a bomb at an office used by the campaign of leading Liberal Party presidential candidate Ernesto Samper.

The later two blasts shattered windows in a wide area and alarmed residents of nearby buildings but did not hurt anyone seriously, police said.

Gen. Octavio Vargas Silva, deputy head of the national police, told reporters after the attacks that it was too soon to speculate about who might have planted the bombs. He added, however, that the evidence pointed to "organized crime," which local media interpreted as meaning either Marxist guerrillas or drug traffickers.

Medellin police Wednesday night shot dead Alfonso Leon Puerta, a close collaborator of cocaine king Pablo Escobar.

Local media speculated that Thursday night's bombings might have been ordered by Escobar in retaliation but police said that although not impossible, it was unlikely the Medellin cartel boss would have had sufficient time to organize the attacks.

Honduras seeks doctors to break medical strike

TEGUCIGALPA, Honduras (AP) - The Honduran government said Oct. 8 it is seeking doctors from Cuba, Guatemala, Nicaragua and Panama to break an 8-day-old strike by 2,200 public health physicians.

Public Health Minister Ramon Pereira said he had spoken by telephone with officials in nearby countries "to substitute professionals from those countries, at the opportune moment, for the striking doctors."

There was no word on the response he received.

The strike began Oct. 1 and has paralyzed work at the 26 government hospitals.

The doctors average about \$6,800 a year and are demanding a 55 percent increase. The government has offered 25 percent.

Melon-sized dinosaur egg found in northern Mexico

MEXICO CITY (AP) - A melon-sized dinosaur egg 75 million years old has been discovered near the northern state capital of Chihuahua, the daily *Excelsior* reported Friday.

Paleontologist Rodolfo Fierro Chavarria said the egg belonged to a critosaur, an amphibious dinosaur that once thrived in the region.

The egg went on display Friday in the Paleontological Museum of Chihuahua.

Ecuador government uses jungle for oil exploration

QUITO, Ecuador (AP) - The government will put up about 6 million acres of jungle and offshore territory for oil exploration starting Jan. 24, Energy Minister Francisco Acosta said Friday.

The tender is part of a plan to attract private investment in the oil industry to boost Ecuador's declining crude reserves.

Acosta told reporters the deadline for bids would be April 25, and that the contracts would be signed by next October.

Included are eight blocks comprising just under 4 million acres in the Lago Agrio jungle region, 110 miles northeast of Quito.

Four offshore blocks on Ecuador's Pacific Coast will also be tendered.

Honduran officials request U.S. aid for flooded region

TEGUCIGALPA, Honduras (Reuters) - Honduran Sunday requested logistical aid from the United States to transport food and medicine to the remote Mosquitia region, which has been devastated by floods.

"We have asked for, and it is almost certain it will be given, aid from the U.S. Embassy to transport emergency food supplies to Mosquitia," Honduran Vice President Roberto Martinez told reporters.

"We need helicopters to send the food supplies to areas that have lost their harvests due to heavy rains caused by Tropical Storm Bret and Tropical Depression Gert, which have affected the region in the past two months," he said.

Press Minister Olman Serrano said the airlifts would also carry agricultural tools and seed to replenish lands affected by the flooding.

Serrano said a ship with 100 tons of food and medicine donated by CARE International would arrive this week in Mosquitia, but that helicopters were needed elsewhere to distribute the supplies to the towns.

The jungle region of Mosquitia is inhabited by indigenous Misquitos and Sumos who live in remote areas accessible only by air because of treacherous mountain and river passes.

Since 1983, the United States has maintained some 1,200 soldiers equipped with helicopters and planes at the Palmerola base in the central department of Comayagua.



President Bill Clinton talks with Secretary of State Warren Christopher and Vice President Al Gore.

Special envoy in Ethiopia may arrange Somalia cease-fire

ADDIS ABABA, Ethiopia (Reuters) - President Clinton's special envoy to Somalia arrived in Ethiopia Oct. 9 to push attempts to arrange a cease-fire with fugitive Somali warlord Mohamed Farah Aideded.

Diplomats said Robert Oakley was carrying a message from Clinton for Ethiopian President Meles Zenawi requesting he take an active role in trying to mediate an end to the crisis in his Horn of Africa neighbor.

U.S. diplomats said Oakley was trying to negotiate a cease-fire in exchange for a U.S. commitment to suspend efforts to capture Aideded.

"There are discussions under way but it would be incorrect to say that any deal has been struck," one U.S. official told Reuters, adding: "I doubt if anything is likely on this before tomorrow (Saturday)."

"There would be a cease-fire and the United States would agree to suspend its efforts to apprehend Aideded," said the official, who spoke on condition of anonymity.

In a sharp reversal of policy, Oakley is expected to push Meles to set up an international inquiry into violence in Mogadishu blamed on Aideded.

The U.S. and U.N. have until now insisted Aideded be brought to justice to answer charges he organized the June 5 killing of 24 Pakistani peacekeepers.

Meles, who has already chaired several attempts to promote a peace accord between warring Somali factions, was mandated by the Organization of African Unity last May with trying to mediate a long-term solution to the country's crisis.

Last month, other Horn of African states urged him to step up his efforts and try to defuse growing tensions between U.N. forces and Aideded's gunmen.

Fighting between Aideded's militia and U.N. forces

effectively stalled a plan agreed to in Addis Ababa in March to try and set up a transitional council with representatives of the 15 main Somali factions.

Oct. 7 Clinton announced that he was sending an additional 5,300 U.S. troops and nine warships, including the aircraft carrier Abraham Lincoln, to Somalia under a get-tough plan to suppress guerrillas in Mogadishu while pressing for a political settlement.

He stressed a move away from violent confrontations with Aideded, whose guerrillas are blamed for most of the violence against U.N. forces first sent to Somalia last December to assure relief reached hundreds of thousands of starving Somalis.

Clinton instructed Oakley, who led diplomatic efforts for a political solution in Somalia earlier this year, to return to Mogadishu to resume his drive.

A Pentagon spokesman said the U.S. troops and warships heading for Somalia might be used to try to rescue a captured helicopter pilot "if the opportunity presents itself."

Elite U.S. Army Rangers might be used to try to rescue pilot Michael Durant, captured last Sunday in a battle with Aideded supporters that killed 15 U.S. troops and wounded more than 50.

The Pentagon official, who asked not to be identified, said U.S. troops would not try to start battles with Aideded's forces. But he refused to rule out the use of force, including bombing by Navy planes, if the Somalis picked a fight.

U.S. forces also knew where Aideded arms caches were located in other areas of Somalia. These could be destroyed by laser-guided bombs — there were about 250 on the Abraham Lincoln — if Aideded's followers started trouble, the official added.

Court rejects gay legislation

SAN FRANCISCO (Reuters) - An appeals court dealt a blow to the Clinton administration's policy on homosexuals in the military Friday, letting stand a lower court order barring discrimination against gays in uniform.

A three-judge panel of the U.S. 9th Circuit Appeals Court rejected a series of motions filed by the government in an attempt to block or overturn a far-reaching order by U.S. District Judge Terry Hatter barring discrimination against gays in the military.

The decision means that, unless the government takes further legal steps, Hatter's order will remain in effect at least until a full appeal of the case is heard by the 9th Circuit Appeals Court in December.

John McGuire, an attorney for a gay sailor at the center of the legal dispute, said that, for now, the Clinton's administration's new "don't ask, don't tell" policy on gays in the military is not in operation.

Clinton's policy, which says that no action will be taken against gays in the military provided they say nothing about their sexual orientation, was reached after months of debate.

"Finally, the Department of Defense will now be given an opportunity to implement a policy of non-discrimination and see that it works fine," McGuire told Reuters.

McGuire said he had spoken to Petty Officer Keith Meinhold, the gay sailor who challenged the government's ban, and said that both he and Meinhold were very happy at the court's decision.

Thousands of service members have been discharged over the last 50 years for homosexuality.

Hatter ruled in Los Angeles last week that the military cannot discriminate against gay or lesbian service members or recruits and threatened Pentagon officials with fines of up to \$10,000 a day if they violated his order. Hatter had earlier declared the ban on gays unconstitutional.

The government quickly asked the appeals court for an immediate stay of Hatter's order and for its scope to be limited to Meinhold and not applied to all service members.

The government said Hatter's order would bar implementation of Clinton's policy and seriously interfere with management of day-to-day military affairs.

But the appeals court threw out all of the government motions in a one-page order which gave no reasons for its decision. "The motions for an immediate stay and for summary reversal... are denied," the court said.

The Clinton administration has said it will comply with Hatter's order, pending appeal. It ordered the Pentagon last week not to take "based solely on a service member's homosexual orientation or statements of homosexuality."

It did not exclude action on the grounds of homosexual conduct. However, Hatter's order permits action by the government only in the case of sexual conduct that is proven to interfere with the military mission, McGuire said.

That conflicts with the "don't ask, don't tell" policy, which states that gays and lesbians in the military may be dismissed for saying openly they are gay.

Clinton faced with tricky foreign policy problem in Haiti

WASHINGTON (Reuters) - Already facing severe difficulties in Somalia, President Clinton is now grappling with another tricky foreign policy problem in Haiti.

A painfully negotiated political accord to restore deposed President Jean-Bertrand Aristide to power by the end of this month seemed in trouble Monday after Aristide's enemies staged a violent demonstration which prevented 200 U.S. military trainers from disembarking.

Clinton reacted by delaying the troops' landing, unwilling to plunge American soldiers into another unpredictable Third World conflict. The similarities to Somalia seemed all too obvious with the anti-American demonstrators themselves drawing the comparison in their chants.

Secretary of State Warren Christopher quickly warned Haiti's military leaders, who are due to leave the Caribbean country within days to allow Aristide's return, they could face renewed United Nations sanctions unless they are able

to put the peace plan back on track.

"We believe that the current situation does not justify docking the ship at this time," he said. "We insist that the Haitian military and police authorities create a permissive environment and permit the peaceful entry into Haiti of the military engineers, trainers and support staff that are there to help the people of Haiti."

Sanctions including an oil, financial and arms embargo were suspended Aug. 27 with the proviso they could be reinstated if the Haitian military failed to live up to an accord it signed on Governor's Island, New York, on July 3.

The plan always looked somewhat shaky since it essentially depends on Haiti's current leaders voluntarily giving up power and leaving the country.

Aristide was Haiti's first elected president in 1991. However, several months after his election, he was

deposed and forced into exile.

Clinton's political opponents were quick to seize on the issue as another weapon to hurt the president.

"This is a repeat of Somalia. We send in a very small force of very lightly armed Americans who may get shot at," said former assistant secretary of state Elliott Abrams.

"Are we sending in our soldiers to do nation building again? It will take 50 years... Reconciliation is the answer to this, not American troops."

But Rep. Charles Rangel (D-NY) said Clinton had to stick the course. He said the majority of Haitians supported the restoration of Aristide and the opposition consisted only of a few score thugs.

"We're the leader of the free world, it's the poorest country of the hemisphere and we have a moral obligation. We have an obligation to the United Nations," Rangel said.

Annoyed snack bar patron protests noise

Dear Mayors' Corner:

The video games in the snack bar at Albrook are extremely loud, repetitive and annoying. They preclude conversation or a nice enjoyable snack.

Why can't they either be moved to the outside porch area, or at least have the volume turned down.

This is another example of business establishments allowing a few (the video patrons) to dominate and infringe on the rights of everyone else.

Our family has stopped patronizing this snack bar because of this situation.

Disgusted former customer

Dear Disgusted:

Stanley G. Johnson of the Army and Air Force Exchange Service reports that the volume on the video games in the

Mayors' Corner

snack bar at Albrook AFS have been turned down as you requested.

Taking this a step further, they have decided that the video games will not be turned on before 9:30 a.m. in order that customers can enjoy a quiet time to have breakfast.

Johnson also said that they apologize for any inconvenience you may have experienced.

If you have further concerns please feel free to contact their office at 286-3640/3857.

Dear Mayors' Corner:

The Albrook package store requires me to sign for purchases of O'Doul's "non-

alcoholic brew" and charges it against my beverage entitlement as standard beer.

I have protested to the management and been told that regulations so require.

This procedure flies in the face of the DoD policy which encourages use of non-intoxicating beverages.

I resent, as a matter of principle, that my purchase of non-intoxicant is recorded as though I were purchasing an alcoholic beverage.

I strongly recommend that the Albrook procedure be promptly modified to conform to DoD policy and common sense.

**Respectfully,
C. Paul Ake**

Dear Mr. Ake:

Viola C. Rodriguez, retail manager Albrook Class Six, reported that you should not be required to sign for "non-alcoholic brew." The supervisor in charge has been informed of Department of Defense policy and appropriate changes have been made. Rodriguez apologized for any inconvenience you may have experienced and hopes this will not happen again.

Editor's note: This column allows community members to submit questions to the Mayoral Congress. Letters should be mailed to: Mayors' Corner, Publicity Chairperson, APO AA 34004 (MPS). Anonymity will be granted upon request. The *Tropic Times* reserves the right to edit letters and responses for brevity, clarity and propriety.

Thief nets \$120 from unsecured briefcase

Thief steals \$120

One-hundred-twenty dollars was stolen from a soldier's unsecured briefcase last week. Military police recommend securing all valuables. If a victim of crime, call the MPs at 287-4401.

Vagrant given 30 days in jail

A vagrant got 30 days in jail by a Panamanian judge for unlawfully entering the Balboa High School stadium. An investigation revealed the vagrant had been barred from all military installations. Report suspicious activities to the MPs at 287-4401.

Soldier writes bad checks

A Fort Davis soldier was arrested last week for writing 14 bad checks totalling more than \$2,200. The checks were written at an Army and Air Force Exchange Service facility. Writing bad checks is an offense punishable under the Uniform Code of Military Justice. Call the Army Community Services Office at 285-6517 for checkbook management help.

Halloween safety

Halloween trick-or-treating will be observed 5-8 p.m. Oct. 30. Officials recommend carrying flashlights, wear reflective clothing and take an adult along for the fun. For those wearing masks, be sure vision isn't hampered and have an adult check candy before eating it.

Unauthorized phone calls

More than \$700 in long distance telephone calls were made illegally using a soldier's calling card number. Report the loss of any credit card immediately.

Anonymous drug hotline

Call the Panama Jack Anonymous Hotline at 285-4185 with any information about drug smuggling.

The following crime statistics are for on-post housing areas Oct. 1-7.

Pacific

- Corozol housing area - one larceny of secured private property
- Cocoli housing area - one housebreaking and larceny of secured private property
- Curundu housing area - one larceny of secured private property

Atlantic

None to report

Provost Marshal's Corner



This authorized unofficial command information publication is for U.S. armed forces overseas. The *Tropic Times* is published in conjunction with the Armed Forces Information Program of the Department of Defense, under the supervision of the director of public affairs, U.S. Southern Command.

Contents of the *Tropic Times* are not necessarily the official view of the U.S. government, the Department of Defense or the U.S. Southern Command.

The address is: Unit 0936 APO AA 34002 Telephone 285-6612.

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Field shows how the other side 'hooches'

by MSgt. Joe Ferrare
USARSO Public Affairs Office

As a public service, I'd like to give everyone a little something to think about the next time they're standing next to the Old Sarge in front of the main exchange, waiting for the rain to stop so they can dash the 50 yards to their cars. There's no theme here, no moral and certainly no message (this ain't Western Union). Just a slice of somebody else's life that's food for thought:

Spec. Paul Ham isn't a big guy. Trim and spare, he has sharp features and a small moustache obscured by sweat-streaked face camouflage and helmet-matted hair.

Ham and the other infantrymen in his squad are sitting under a building's overhanging roof. The overhang offers a thin line of relief from the afternoon's blazing sun, but scant hope of shelter from the rain that's turning the approaching clouds that heavy, inevitable blue so familiar late in the rainy season.

Not that Ham and the others are worried about getting wet: they're still soaked from a live-fire assault they've just finished. Sweat and slick mud fight over every inch of their uniforms and exposed skin. The gear that sits in little piles around them is as filthy and ragged as they are, and after they clean and refit the next mission will get them and their gear filthy and ragged again.

These are not guys whose biggest uniform worries are holes burnt around their buttons at the cleaners. These guys are why the Army has a Tropic Test Site, why it spends millions on uniform design and testing.

I'm at Empire Range talking to Ham and the others about their day, trying to get a few colorful words for the article on page three. I've been out to (and, importantly, back from) the field a couple of times to cover the exercise, and what I've gotten in addition to some photos and pithy quotes is a sharp jog to the memory: this field duty is even tougher than I remember it.

But I've pretty much gotten over the memory jog, and I'm starting to take it for granted again. I ask the obligatory training questions and get the obligatory great-training answers. These guys appreciate the need for tough training, and they treat it matter-of-factly. To get to the objective of their live-fire exercise they had to go through what Ham calls "a couple of obstacles."

Those couple of obstacles are two different concertina wire barriers and a bunker. I'd seen other infantrymen cutting through concertina wire the day before, and it's a grueling, dangerous couple of minutes even when there aren't live rounds flying. Concertina wire, in case you don't know, is little razor blades strung along hoops of twisting wire like the devil's very own Christmas wreath. One soldier cuts his way through it with wire cutters while his buddies cover him.

Ham tells me how they cut through the strands and cleaned out the bunker, but he might as well have been talking about shoveling out the driveway before running to the store for milk and eggs. But by now I've gotten used to how they talk about what they do. A long string of events involving ankle-deep mud, a cloud of bugs, impassable pampa grass, live ammunition, split-second teamwork, limb-threatening maneuvers and more sweat and physical exertion than a whole company of soldiers would put out during an hour of physical training becomes a phrase these infantrymen toss off casually: "We just stayed in our lanes, cleared the barriers and took the objective."

I take all that in and, just to get something other than good-training quotes, I ask Ham about the living accommodations.

"So what have they got you sleeping in, tents?"

They all chuckle. The 193rd Infantry Brigade is a light infantry unit, and for Ham and the rest that means no tents on field training exercises like these.

"We put up poncho hooches," Ham explains.

"Hooch" is slang for any ramshackle dwelling, but for people familiar with a poncho, using one for more than a sun shower is a stroll down misery lane.

A poncho is essentially a big waterproof sheet with a hood and drawstrings, and a soldier wearing one looks like the ghost of dryness past, hovering like a mottled lump in the daily downpour. What ponchos lack in actual ability to keep the rain off they make up for by being aggravating and cumbersome.

And these guys string them up in the middle of the trees and blooming pampa grass so they can sleep in relative dryness after a long day of assaulting obstacles and marching up and down hills.

This too, Ham and the others toss off matter-of-factly: "We put up poncho hooches."

"Don't they give you guys shelter-halves?" I ask.

"Sure, we get all that stuff, but we don't use it," Ham says.

I'm sure it's nice to get up in the morning and roll your shelter into something the size of your forearm, but I don't know if I could stretch a poncho to cover all my hopes of a good night's sleep.

All this kind of takes my by surprise, because, while I've been around the infantry before, I've never been around light fighters. I've been around the mechanized infantry, with their Bradley fighting vehicles, and the infantry in Berlin, where they concentrated (naturally enough) on in-city fighting.

But in Panama they fight light. I'd visited the brigade's tactical operations center earlier in the day, and was struck with how small it was. Two yuppie

couples on a weekend camping trip would take up more space than the 193rd's staff was using to control the movements of more than a thousand people.

Among those people are Ham and his fellow squad members, who

break out their Meals, Ready to Eat while we're talking. They go through them as methodically as they do everything else, trading seemingly identical brown packages and spreading mystery condiments on crackers. They're in the middle of their meal when they get the call to head for the After-Action Review.

They don't complain or hesitate, because after the AAR they'll get their much coveted down time. As soon as they stand up it starts to rain. No one seems to notice much except me.

I catch a ride back to the base camp with the captain who's been taking me around and it's raining all the way back.

Driving away from the base camp, which is between the Pizza Hut at Rodman Naval Station and the Veterans of Foreign Wars post in Cocoli, the rain peters out and stops just down the road from where another soldier is getting wet standing guard. Behind me it's still raining, and clouds and pelting rain obscure the hills farther off, about where Ham and the others are.

Just ahead the sun is shining on Rodman NS and Howard AFB and I remember what my drill sergeant told us when we asked why soldiers can't use umbrellas.

"It doesn't rain in the Army," he explained. "It rains on the Army."

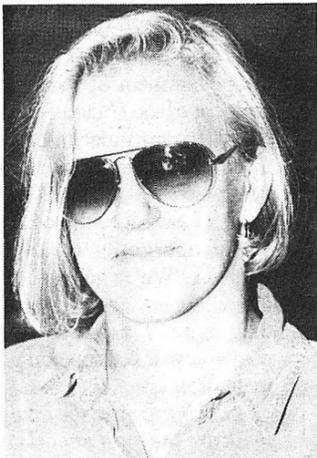
Quote

"The test of a vocation is the love of the drudgery it involves."

—Logan Pearsall Smith
Afterthoughts

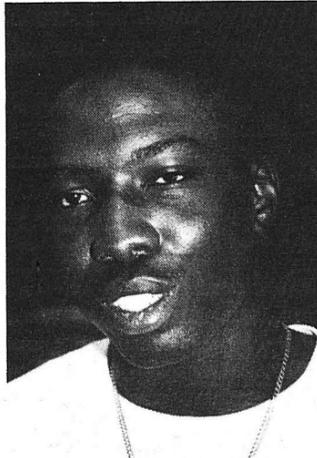
Direct Quotes

Do people appreciate the hardships military people suffer?



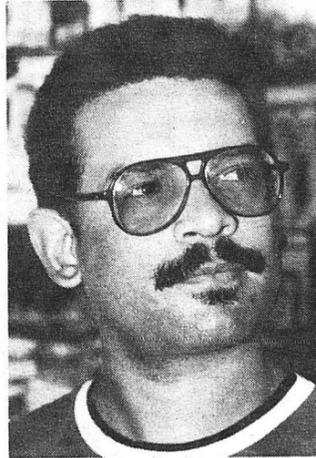
"Yes, they undergo a lot of trouble for our community and the American people."

Sabine Thompson
Army family member



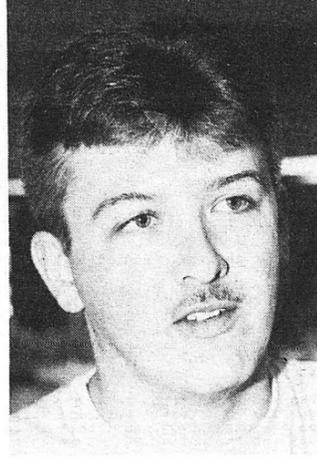
"Not as much anymore. They take a lot of things for granted and are quick to react to (the opinions of) television."

Pvt.2 Jarrett Logan
Army military policeman
194th MP Company



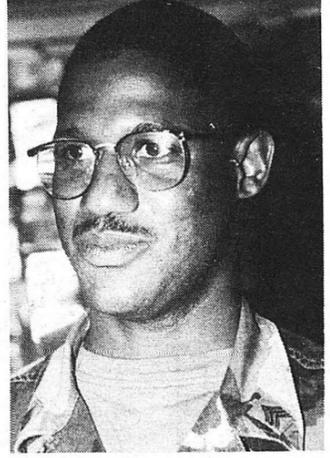
"I think so, people see they do the best they can do. Those guys work hard."

Orlando Del Vasto
Civilian employee
106th Signal Brigade



"They take for granted what we do. They have the idea that we will always be there."

Air Force SSgt. Kevin Brown
Electronic engineer
Southern Command Network



"No. They would rather have you in the field than in their house."

Sgt. Eric Troxler
Army Infantryman
Company A, 5/87th

The opinions expressed on this page are those of the commentary writers and Direct Quotes respondents only. They do not reflect the views of U.S. Southern Command, the Department of Defense or the U.S. government. Readers may submit commentaries — or responses to commentaries — to the *Tropic Times*. The staff reserves the right to edit for brevity, clarity and appropriateness. All submissions must be signed, but names will be withheld upon request.

Joulwan: Troops, families most important to SOUTHCOM mission

Continued from page 1.

arrival here in Panama, throughout the theater, we had three coups, an insurrection and a war occur.

This forced a re-evaluation of what our mission was all about. How do we go about assessing that mission? And what sort of strategy can we come up with to use the assets that we do have to the best advantage? And so, as we looked around the area, the 19 countries of the Southern Command, not only here in Panama, but from Guatemala to Chile, what I came up with was that there were some clear priorities that we had to adjust.

We had an on-going war in El Salvador that had been going on for 12 years, killing tens of thousands of El Salvadorans. How do we address that war? What is it that we're looking for? Is it a negotiated settlement? (If so, how can we bring that about? How can we assist other agencies that are involved?)

I was very concerned in this assessment with the Treaty Implementation Plan for Panama. Really, not much had been done since the treaties were signed and during those 12 years we had not made much progress in coming up with a plan to implement the treaty. So that was part of that assessment.

Equally important to me was the counterdrug effort. We had many, many agencies involved from our government, and host nation involvement. I really didn't see an operational plan on our part on how we can best support those agencies in what I considered to be this vital mission.

As I came into Panama three years ago these were the sort of challenges that faced us — that I thought needed to be addressed.

What sort of progress has been made since then?

What we ended up doing immediately was confront the war in El Salvador, the escalation by the communist insurgents of the fight there. They introduced very sophisticated surface-to-air missiles, SA-14s, and shot down three or four El Salvadoran helicopters and planes. This was a clear escalation of the fight, so we had to make some early-on decisions on how do we demonstrate the United States' commitment and resolve in El Salvador?

The command got directly involved in that. Trainers from the 24th Wing and from our other components provided assistance to the El Salvadoran armed forces and President Cristiani. We surged some logistical equipment, some planes and helicopters, into El Salvador in January of '91, even with the large flow of equipment going into Desert Shield. So the realization by Washington that this was an important mission for us was very clear.

This was the turning point in that war. It was a clear sign of our commitment — we were not going to abandon El Salvador. That led to very real successes on the battlefield for the El Salvadoran armed forces, to the human rights arena, and to a peace accord with the FLNM. Since then, there's been compliance with the peace accords and we've watched El Salvador and the El Salvadoran armed forces transition from war to peace.

I'm very pleased with that. It's been a great accomplishment for, I think, SOUTHCOM, the United States, but particularly the El Salvadoran people.

There seems to be an increased interest in mutual cooperation between SOUTHCOM and other militaries from the region? Why is that?

Part of this assessment I talk about said: How can we engage with the militaries of

Central and South American in a way that can assist in strengthening democratic institutions? How can we work with them as partners and allies, as members of a profession that has the goal of supporting democracy. And as I said so often, our role is not just equipment and training, but to impart ideals and values. What is the role of a military in a democratic political institution?

We are subservient to civilian control. We respect human rights. And I think we need to have that professional dialog with the militaries of Central and South America — and we have.

I think that dialog has been welcome by the military professionals and we have seen a substantial change in the relationship between the militaries and the civilian leadership in Central and South America.

Counterdrug efforts have become a big priority at SOUTHCOM. Why and what progress has been made in stopping the illicit flow of drugs?

We need to understand the dimensions of this threat. And I call it a threat because perhaps we confuse the drug dealers on the streets of New York or Washington or San Francisco as the drug threat. It's really much more than that. This is a huge criminal network that has its roots in our region down here, in the Andean region and particularly in Columbia. And they are pumping out hundreds of metric tons of a chemical called cocaine that is inflicting casualties on the United States, countries in this hemisphere, and indeed, if not the world.

Last year alone, we had in the United States 10,000 killed as a result of cocaine. Not Somalians, not Bosnians, but Americans. In the last three years, some 900,000 crack babies were born in the United States. Drug dependent at birth. We're not

really sure how they're going to develop, what problems this chemical dependency will cause them.

As a result of all that, the health care and other associated costs with illegal drugs, in the United States, according to Health and Human Services, was \$168 billion last year.

We're taking casualties. So I really made that a top priority because of the threat it has to our citizens, and also the threat it poses to the fragile democracies of Central and South America. It's like a cancer that's eating at these fragile democracies we're trying to strengthen. So the host nations have got to realize that it's their sovereignty that's being violated, it's their police and military and judges being corrupted, it's their children that are being addicted, and it's their democracy that's being threatened.

What I've tried to do is work with them in defending their sovereignty, their democracy, and I've asked for their demonstration of national will against this narco-trafficker.

And I think one of the things that's pleased me over the past three years is that we have seen this national will emerging, and not just from one country, but from the entire region, from the political leadership, from the military, from the police, from the people themselves who now understand the threat the narco-trafficker poses to their counties, to their citizens, and to their children.

Another initiative of yours was the Treaty Implementation Plan. What's the status of that plan?

Let me be very clear. My instructions are to implement the Panama Canal Treaty. That treaty calls for us to have all the military out of Panama by noon of 31 December 1999. We have developed a plan to do that, and it has already started. We will drawdown gradually...we are working very closely with the Panamanians in order to ensure success. We want them to be successful and we are working very hard in doing that.

I'm very optimistic that the Panamanian side will be successful. That's a very important part of the plan. But we need to be very clear about what my instructions are. There's been some talk about a presence after the year 2000. That is between the government of Panama and the government of the United States. Not with the CINC (commander in chief). And it's at those levels that those discussion have to take place.

But I owe it to the command here that we're not going to knee-jerk out of Panama. We're going to have an orderly transition out and we have a plan to do that, and my successor will inherit that plan and will continue on with that implementation.

Looking toward the future, what do you think are the most important challenges?

As we look to the future, the counterdrug effort needs to be regionalized. We need to develop this mutual trust and confidence between all the nations of the region. We are seeing that, by the way, between the Andean countries of Columbia, Ecuador, Peru, Bolivia. They are now working together, sharing information. They have found out they have much more in common than differences. What they do have in common is a clear threat to their people and their sovereignty from the narco trafficker. The regionalism, I think, needs to be developed and we see that developing in the Andean region. We also see that happening in Central America.

The challenge is how can we help these democracies to continue to transition in a way that provides freedom and justice and prosperity for their people and creates the conditions for stability without re-

From Gen. Colin L. Powell, from Gen. George A. Joulwan, to the people of SOUTHCOM...



Open Letter to the Troops and their Families:

I would like to share with you a letter from our most recent Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff. It is addressed to me, but it is meant for every man and woman in the SOUTHCOM family. I join a great soldier and leader, General Colin L. Powell, in saying thanks to you by expressing how grateful I am for your service to our country.

I am sharing this letter with you because it is about you. It is you who've done all the hard work, contributing so much of your energy and intellect to help further the goals of the United States in this vital part of the world.

As I leave the United States Southern Command and the great people who serve here, I want to say thank you for the countless sacrifices all of you have made for your country. I thank you for the hard work, numerous and long deployments, and family separations you have endured in making all this a reality.

Each of you -- military, civilian and your families -- gave equally to make our efforts fruitful. Mrs. Joulwan and I wish the best for every member of the SOUTHCOM team. Thanks troops!

ONE TEAM - ONE FIGHT!

Sincerely,

George A. Joulwan
General, U.S. Army
Commander in Chief



CHAIRMAN OF THE JOINT CHIEFS OF STAFF
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20318-9999
30 September 1993

General George A. Joulwan, USA
Commander in Chief
US Southern Command
Quarry Heights, Panama
APO AA 34003

Dear George,

As I depart the chairmanship and retire from our beloved Army, I want to let you know how much I have appreciated your support and counsel over the almost 3 years you have been the CINCOSOUTH. He could not have managed without you.

These have been truly historic times. We have seen the Berlin Wall come down, East Europe freed, and the Soviet Union fade into the history books. There has been a war in the Gulf and our men and women in uniform have been asked to respond to some 27 crises around the globe. In the meantime, the most fundamental restructuring and downsizing of our Armed Forces since World War II was begun.

Less heralded, but equally dramatic and historic have been the happenings in Latin America -- so many democracies formed; so many hopeful beginnings. Most important, however, were the thwarted attempts at derailing democracy. However fragile, we still have elected civilian leaders in countries where it was somewhat doubtful that civilian leadership could survive. You and the great men and women of the US Southern Command have played a major role in this success story, as well as in a host of other accomplishments in the region. I am very grateful, George, for all you've done.

Please pass on my deepest thanks to everyone in your command--military and civilian. Alma and I wish you and Karen all the best in the days ahead.

With warmest regards,

Sincerely,

COLIN L. POWELL
Chairman
of the
Joint Chiefs of Staff



Theater Support Element photo by Spec. Robert Meines

Sgt. Timothy Ruiz comforts a Honduran girl as she awaits medical care during Exercise Cabanas II - '93. Humanitarian and nation-building missions were a top priority for SOUTHCOM components while under the command of Gen. George A. Joulwan.

verting back to the old regimes.

The challenge is that the military, which in many cases is the strongest institution in the nation, feels a part of that process, that it's an institution within a democracy. And I must tell you that in my conversations with the leadership with most of the militaries in Central and South America that they want to play that role, that what they need to do is support democratically elected presidents. We're seeing that.

I'm optimistic that this trend will continue.

You will soon be Supreme Allied Commander Europe. What sort of challenges do you see for yourself.

Again, as I've told my staff here, I can only have my head in one game at a time. I am totally committed to the command of SOUTHCOM till the day I leave, which

will be Friday (Oct. 15). After that, I'll start thinking about duties as Supreme Allied Commander Europe.

What we are doing here is so very, very important. It's a new way of looking at the use of the military in supporting and strengthening democratic institutions. It's working with ambassadors, with other agencies of government, in working with the United Nations. I think we need to institutionalize that here. I'll look to my duties as Supreme Allied Commander Europe after Friday.

On a personal note, how do you feel about your job here, your tour here?

I must tell you that the last three years have exceeded all my expectations. We set some clear goals three years ago; we have met or exceeded all of those goals. What has impressed me the most is the troops. They have taken some of the most diffi-

cult missions that I have ever seen in my 33 years in the military. They've taken these difficult missions and have performed them superbly. We have forces deployed in just about every country in Central and South America today in some of the most difficult terrain, under some of the most difficult circumstances. These troops, Army, Air Force, Navy, Marines and dedicated civilians are doing those missions extremely well and representing our country extremely well.

The really important people in this command — that's the troops and their families. I'd just like to say to them how very much I've appreciated their support, their loyalty, their commitment, and their dedication to our mission here.

I particularly want to single out the families, the family members and the spouses, whose husband or wife or father

or mother deploys all over this theater in small groups many times each year. There are separations involved with this, but the quality of life that we try to provide here in Panama is, to me, very important.

I just want to say to those families and family members how very much I appreciate their commitment and their support.

And I also want to speak about the relationship between the American community and the Panamanian community. It is very important. I would hope that the members of the military who are here or who will come here will reach out to our Panamanian friends and get to know them and work with them. We're all Americans — North, Central and South. We share the same hemisphere.

There's no more important place to be right now in building and strengthening democracy than here in Panama.

Promotions

To Major - Maria Rivera, U.S. Army Medical Activity - Panama.

To Captain - John Cuellar, U.S. Army Medical Activity - Panama.

To Master Sergeant - Leroy Cantrell, U.S. Army Medical Activity - Panama

To Sergeant First Class - Alphonso Banks of U.S. Army Medical Activity - Panama. John Bertschy of Company A, 193rd Support Battalion.

To Sergeant - Chris Merida of U.S. Army Dental Activity - Panama. Reginald Johnson of Headquarters Company, 193rd Support Battalion. Thomas Stimac of Company A, 193rd Support Battalion.

To Private First Class - Christopher Glomboski of U.S. Army Dental Activity - Panama.

Military awards

Legion of Merit Medal - Sgt. Maj. Anthony Ford of 106th Signal Brigade.

Army Meritorious Service Medal - Spec. Walter Bell, U.S. Army Medical Activity - Panama.

Joint Service Commendation Medal - STM3 Donald R. Fisher of U.S. Navy Security Group Activity - Panama.

Army Commendation Medal - Spec. Charles Mims of U.S. Army Medical Activity - Panama. Sgt. Jack Bevel of Company C, 1st Battalion, 508th Infantry. SSgt. Jeffery Hatzenbuehler of Company A, 193rd Support Battalion.

Navy Commendation Medal - CTACM Franklin E. Henry of U.S. Navy Security Group Activity - Panama.

Joint Service Achievement Medal - CTI2 Robert B. West of U.S. Navy Security Group Activity - Panama.

Army Achievement Medal - Spec. Fred Lucas, Spec. Stanley Ryel and Spec. Quinn Haynes, all of 3rd Special Operations Support Command (Airborne). SFC Robert Barnett, SFC Keith Braxton, SSgt. Dwight Giles, Sgt. Kevin Ray and Spec. Keith Felts, all of Company B, 193rd Support Battalion. SSgt. Larry Dixon, Spec. Darrell Bourque, Spec. Thomas Irvin, Spec. David Parsons and Spec. Seth Vanover, all of 565th Ordnance Detachment, 193rd Support Battalion.

Navy Achievement Medal - GMN1 (SW) William S. Nichols of U.S. Navy Security Group Activity - Panama.

Employee of the Quarter - Maj. Carlos Parrado, Capt. Danny Devier, SFC Willie Cosby, SSgt. Washington Cevallos, Spec. Aron Partasafas of U.S. Army Medical Activity - Panama.

Army Good Conduct Medal - SFC Michael Czupryn, Sgt. Christopher Doucet, Sgt. David Cansler, SSgt. Frederick Watson, Spec. William Harris, Sgt. Darrin Pearceon, Spec. Trevor Wicks and Spec. Hector Gonzalez, all of Company C, 1st Battalion, 508th Infantry.

Navy Good Conduct Medal - CTRC Vernon A. Davison, LN1(AW) Krystal A. Jackson, CTM2 Noel E. Crowley, CTM2 Samantha D. Baldwin, CTM3 Steven R. Graham, CTM3 Timothy W. Lanham, all of U.S. Navy Security Group Activity - Panama.

Certificate of Achievement - SSgt. Richard Cardin, SSgt. Kourtney Lee, Sgt. Angel Burgos, Sgt. Andrew Brooks, Sgt. Ronald Hardman, Spec. Edwin Brown, Spec. Michael Frank, Spec. Richard Thomas, PFC Jose Diaz, PFC James Pierre, Pvt. 2 Andres Arredondo and Pvt. 2 Kenneth Diprete, all of Headquarters Company, 193rd Support Battalion. Spec. Scott Belson, Spec. Henry Dinapolis, Pvt. 2 Anette Houston and Spec. John Hooten, all of Company A, 193rd Support Battalion. Spec. Adrienne Johnson, SFC Christopher Hall, Sgt. Ronnie Kuhl, Sgt. Paul Lance, Sgt. Angela Richardson, Spec. Jean Bedquet, Spec. Russell Dilley, Spec. James Leep, Spec. Argelis Melendez, PFC Robert Baltz and PFC Jeffrey Welk, all of Company B, 193rd Support Battalion. Spec. Daniel Fagot, SSgt. William Kirkman, Sgt. James Brown, Spec. Christopher Bishop, Spec. Jeffrey Brown, Spec. Frank Valdez, PFC Jennifer Schalk, Spec. Everett Graham and PFC Christopher Rudy, all of 565th Ordnance Detachment, 193rd Support Battalion.



U.S. Army photo by Sgt. Lori Davis

Legion of Merit

Col. Steven R. Sawdey pins the Legion of Merit Medal on the chest of Lt. Col. Charles Lucia, 106th Signal Brigade Deputy Commander.

Special achievement

Primary Leadership Development Course Graduation Spec. Timothy Singo of 3rd Special Operations Support Command (Airborne).

Sgt. Alijah Brown of Headquarters Company was selected 193rd Support Battalion **Noncommissioned Officer of the Quarter**. Spec. Adrienne Johnson of Company B was selected 193rd Support Battalion **Soldier of the Quarter**.

Civilian awards

Performance Award - Cynthia Speed, Grace Waters, Vincent Tapia, Sara Busquets, Rosario Gil, Victoria Navarro, Angela Saez, Evelia Hinda, Elna Dawkins, R. Dias Jr., Elvira James of U.S. Medical Activity - Panama.

Length of Service - 25 years: Ruby Varcacia, Albert Nation. 20 years: Rafael Ipina, Elizabeth Goldstein. 15 years: Franklin Almengor. 10 years: Arian Garcia. 5 years: Julia Bamabas, Fernando Guerra, Gina Cuesta, Luis Morales of U.S. Army Medical Activity - Panama.

Promotions - Dahlia Minott, Elsa Bermudez, Judith Perkins of U.S. Army Medical Activity - Panama.

Employees of the Quarter - Barbara Yeider, Arana Guillermo, Susan Omlin, Eustace Matthews, Aracely Aguilera of U.S. Army Medical Activity - Panama.

Quality Step Increase - Cristina Beech, W. Kieswetter, Stella Unger, Niccole Erickson, Priscilla Alderete, M. Ave-Ballemand of U.S. Army Medical Activity - Panama.

New Sergeants Major use teamwork

COROZAL (USARSO PAO) - One is the head of operations and intelligence office, the other heads logistics operations for the 41st Area Support Group. One wears a drill sergeant's badge, the other Airborne wings. One seems quiet spoken and more reserved, the other has been labeled "the clown of the office."

These differences pale in comparison to what these new sergeants major have in common.

From sharing the same promotion date of Oct. 1, 1993, to closing in fast on 20 years service each, to the hyphenated last names, to sitting a stone's throw away from each other, Sergeants Major Maria Allsopp-Hansel and Mary Angelo-Roberts work together like a well-oiled machine.

With a playful punch in the shoulder, Roberts pulls her chair up to Allsopp's desk to compare stories of the past and plans for the future.

"From the very beginning of my career, I have always said I wanted to be Sergeant Major of the Army," Roberts said.

In total agreement, Allsopp added that they would not only be the first women but also the first co-Sergeants Major of the Army.

"When we make it, we'll make it as a team," Roberts added with a smile.

It was this type of enthusiasm that has carried both to this

Births

Danielle Andrea, to Lt. Col. David and Adriana Gruenbaum Sept. 7.

Sean Matthew, to SFC Paul and SSgt. Kim Danek Sept. 7.

Louis Abraham III, to Capt. Louis and Linda Wootton Sept. 9.

Dustin Robert, to PFC Gerald and Erynn Ditzenberger Sept. 10.

James Daniel, to Spec. Scott and Lisa Renaud Sept. 12.

Trevor James Jr., to SSgt. Trevor and Kathy Kearns Sept. 13.

Beau Nathaniel, to Sgt. Byron and Nicole Lane Sept. 14.

Brittany Dawn, to SSgt. Robert and Rosangela Fox Sept. 14.

Israel Orlando, to Jeffrey and Lia Farnham Sept. 14.

Eduardo Samuel, to SSgt. Jose and Consuelo Concepcion Sept. 14.

Keegan Michael, to Christopher and Misty Nelson Sept. 14.

Kendra Tianté, to Sgt. Joseph and Gwendolyn Ramos, Jr. Sept. 19.

Stephen Earl, to Spec. Stephen and Yandra Jackson Sept. 22.

Dylan Michael, to Sgt. Michael and Holly Reams Sept. 22.

Anna Lillian, to SSgt. Brian and Valerie Francois Sept. 25.

Amber Dawn, to Spec. Terry and Velkis Boss Sept. 26.

Timothy Ryan, to SSgt. Tim and Sherry Brown Sept. 26.

Brittney Fay, to EN2 Anthony and Sylvanne Sims Sept. 28.

Brennan Lee, to Spec. Brennan and Isabel Fox Sept. 28.

Katherine Carmela, to TSgt. William and Judith Ann Brasham Sept. 28.

Dmitri Joseph, to Spec. Frank and Antoinette Gatto Oct. 1.

Ariana Marie, Oct. 5 to Spec. Norman and Robin Johnson.

point in their careers. Though they took different paths, the drive was the same.

"If you don't cut yourself short, never think you'll never make it and take advantage of the options now open to you, you will make it," Allsopp said. "You have to accept the challenges. How are you going to move forward if you don't accept the challenges?" she added.

Roberts agreed 100 percent.

"There are so many more options available today," she said. "You have to take the initiative, go to the schools and don't be afraid to talk to those people you aspire to be like."

With the options now open in today's military, especially those for women, Roberts and Allsopp feel today's soldier has an advantage and should take it.

"Back in the early '70s when we came in, it was a constant fight against many barriers and stereotypes," Allsopp said.

Becoming airborne qualified was one such barrier Allsopp broke early in her career. Though she broke the barrier, no woman has broken her record of nearly 20 years, three of which were with the Golden Knights, close to 1,000 static line and 1,500 free fall jumps.

"It was difficult for men back then to accept a woman for her accomplishments," she said. "There was always some other reason other than you were good at your job."

Office closures

The Ammunition Supply Point One at Rodman Naval Station will be closed for inventory next week.

The Optometry Clinic at Howard AFB will be closed Wednesday and Oct. 27 and Nov. 1. Clinic personnel will be doing vision screenings at Diablo Elementary School.

Navy Ball buses

Two shuttle buses will be providing rides to the Navy Ball at the El Panama Hotel, Saturday. Buses will leave the Marine Exchange parking lot 5 and 5:30 p.m. Buses will return from the El Panama Hotel at 9, 10, 11 p.m., midnight and 1 a.m. For those living in housing, the bus will drop people off at their home.

Fall bazaar

The Albrook Officers'-Spouses' Club fall bazaar will be at Albrook Club Saturday 10 a.m.-3 p.m. Local wares, Christmas goods and other items of interest from all over the world will be offered. There will be a park and ride shuttle service from the Albrook post office to the club.

IG Office

The U.S. Army South Inspector General Office - Atlantic is located in Building 32, Room 1, Fort Davis. The hours are 9 a.m.-3 p.m. Monday and 9 a.m.-3 p.m. Tuesday if Monday is a holiday. The telephone number is 289-3966/3975.

Alcohol/drug course

An alcohol and drug coordinators' course will be held Monday-Friday. This course certifies active duty soldiers as ADCs for their units and prepares them to help commanders with the Alcohol and Drug Abuse Prevention and Control Program. For more information, call 285-5419/5913.

Red Cross courses

The American Red Cross will hold the following courses: community first aid and safety course 6-8:30 p.m. Tuesday-Thursday and Nov. 16-18; and community first aid and safety course for instructors 6-10 p.m. Oct. 25-28. To register or for more information, call 287-6306.

Chapel lecture

The Fort Clayton Protestant Women of the Chapel will sponsor a lecture series 9 a.m. the last Thursday of each month at the Fort Clayton Chapel sanctuary. There will be a country crafts fair and pie tasting.

Bible study is also offered for women and children 9 a.m. each Thursday in Building 156, Fort Clayton.

Bilingual seminar

The quarterly bilingual marriage preparation seminar, sponsored by the Family Life Chaplain, will be held 9 a.m.-3:30 p.m. Saturday in Building 156, Fort Clayton. To register, call 287-5877/3497.

Skate night

The Fort Clayton Elementary School will host a skate night 6:30-8:30 p.m. Saturday in the school's playshelter. Permission slips are required. Admission is free for Fort Clayton Elementary students and .25 cents for all others.

Shoppette hours

The Army and Air Force Exchange Service shoppette in Building 519, Fort Clayton, is now open 9 a.m.-10 p.m. daily. The shoppettes at Fort Clayton Plaza and the Curundu gas station are open until midnight daily.

Consumers Week

Army Community Services will celebrate National Consumers Week, Oct. 24-30. A seminar will take place 9-11:30 a.m. Oct. 27 at Directorate of Civilian Personnel Training Center, Building 6523, Corozal. There will be a special display at Fort Clayton Library, Oct. 24-30 and an Essay Contest at Balboa High School. A free drawing at the Corozal Main Exchange will be held 3-4 p.m. Oct. 29. Win a trip to Miami for two, local weekend trips and more. For more information, call 285-5556.

Orientation tour

There will be a "Welcome to Panama" orientation tour 7:45 a.m.-2:30 p.m. Thursday at Club Amador. The tour includes briefings, information tables set up at the club and a tour of Panama City. A bus will provide transportation from Valent Recreation Center, Fort Clayton. To register or for more information, call 285-6518.

OCS board

There will be an Officers' Candidate School board for Adjutant General Operations Branch 9 a.m. Oct. 22 in Building 128. Applications must be at AG Personnel, Room 51, Building 519, Fort Clayton, by today. For more information, call 287-6313.

Book sale

The Howard Library will hold a fall book sale 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Saturday on the landing outside the library. Proceeds will contribute to the purchase of audio compact discs to add to the library collection. For more information, call 284-6249.

Dog show

The Club Canino de Panama will hold an International and National Dog Show noon - 9 p.m. Saturday and Sunday at the ATLAPA Convention Center. Admission fee is \$2.50.

Weight management

A weight management class will be conducted 2-3 p.m. Tuesday at the Howard Education Center. Some of the class topics will be exercise, supermarket savvy, nutrition and dieting myths. For information, call Donna Giroux, 284-3014/6157.

Cholesterol class

The monthly cholesterol reduction class will be held 8-9 a.m. Wednesday at the Howard Clinic. To register, or for more information, call Donna Giroux, 284-3014/6157.

Free MARS grams

Free MARS grams are offered by the Howard Military Affiliated Radio Station. Messages may be sent 7 a.m.-4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, to family and friends in the continental United States or U.S. territories. For more information, call 284-5164/5264.

EFMP meeting

An Exceptional Family Member Program parent support group meeting will be held 7-8:30 p.m. Thursday at the Howard Enlisted Club. For reservations and more information, call 284-6410/6457.

Equipment rental

The Howard Morale Welfare and Recreations Services Sports and Recreation Rental Center is offering weekend specials that include: two board games and a frisbee for \$3; rent 2 or 3 gallons of water/beverage cooler, the center will provide the ice. For information, call 284-6107.

Job opportunity

The U.S. Army Garrison Safety Office is looking for a part-time contract motorcycle safety instructor. Candidates must be qualified by the U.S. Motorcycle Safety Foundation. For more information, call 287-4051.

Sacred Heart Chapel

The Sacred Heart Chapel is offering Sunday masses in three different languages: English 7:30 a.m.; Chinese 11:30 a.m. and Spanish 5:30 p.m. The chapel is located in Ancon. For more information, call 262-3076.

Flight schedule



Q. Why is there a \$16 fee for space available passengers on the Freedom Bird?

A. Stations overseas must collect a \$16 Federal Inspection Fee from all originating international space available passengers on Category B missions.

PP: Tourist Passport
TC: Tourist Card
V: Visa
PC: Proof of Citizenship
US: United States Passport Holders Only
CC: Country Clearance
RON: Remain Overnight

All flights on this schedule are subject to cancellation. For additional flight information, call the Passenger Service Section, 284-4306/3608/4857.

Saturday

1:55pm C5A Howard AFB, PN
Charleston AFB, SC
Dover AFB, Del. RON

Sunday
No scheduled departures

Monday

7:30am B727 Howard AFB, PN
Charleston, SC IAP
Commercial contract

1:55pm C5A Howard AFB, PN
Charleston AFB, SC
Dover AFB, Del. RON

Tuesday

4:40am C130 Howard AFB, PN
Tegucigalpa, Honduras
Soto Cano AB, Honduras
Howard AFB, PN

5:40am C141 Howard AFB, PN
Lima, Peru
Santiago, Chile
La Paz, Bolivia
Howard AFB, PN RON

Wednesday

5:40am C141 Howard AFB, PN
Brasilia, Brazil
Montevideo, Uruguay
Buenos Aires, Argentina
Brasilia, Brazil
Howard AFB, PN V
RON/V

6:45am C141 Howard AFB, PN Medevac
Kelly AFB, Texas
Charleston AFB, SC

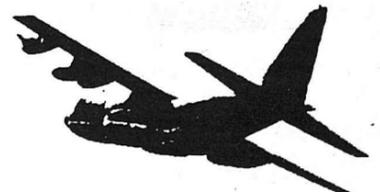
Thursday

7:55am C5A Howard AFB, PN
Soto Cano AB, Honduras
Charleston AFB, SC
Kelly AFB, Texas RON

9:55am C141 Howard AFB, PN
San Jose, Costa Rica
Guatemala City, Guatemala
Belize City, Belize
Howard AFB, PN RON

Oct. 22

4:55pm C141 Howard AFB, PN
Charleston AFB, SC



Employment

Hiring opportunities are limited because of budgetary constraints. How to apply: For temporary positions submit a SF-171, DD 214 if claiming veteran preference, a copy of college transcripts if claiming education and a copy of Clerical Administrative Support Position notice of rating if applicable. For permanent positions (only for current employees including leave without pay) submit a SF-171, a copy of latest SF-50, a copy of college transcripts, a copy of your last performance appraisal and a statement addressing the job related criteria contained in the announcement.

For more information regarding vacancy announcements (forms required, job related criteria, etc.), visit the Directorate of Civilian Personnel, Building 560, Room 306, Corozal, or call 285-5201.

VB# VACANCIES TITLE AND LOCATION OPEN: 10-15-94 CLOSE: 10-26-94

Pacific

001-94-JH Administrative Services Assistant (OA), NM-303-6. Sensitive. Permanent employees only

002-94-KF Budget Assistant (OA), NM-561-5.

003-94-NC Social Service Representative, NM-187-8. Selectee will be required to complete satisfactory background investigation.

004-94-VL Library Technician, NM-1411-6. Temp Nte: 3-31-94. Limited to

MEDDAC/DENTAC temporary/permanent employees and all veteran eligible candidates.

518A-93-LA Legal Clerk (OA), NM-986-5. Anyone who applied under VB#: 518-93-LA need not re-apply.

Atlantic

005-94-SS Guidance Counselor, NM-1704-9. Selectee must complete a satisfactory background investigation.

Note: VB# 592-93-JH, Employee Relations Specialist, NM-230-7/9/11, is not limited to permanent employees only.

The Directorate of Civilian Personnel is accepting applications on a continuous basis for the following positions. These announcements are used to establish registers for future vacancies.

- VB# 001 * General Clerical, NM-3/4 (Used to fill most clerical positions)
- VB# 002 * Sales Store Checker, NM-3 (Intermittent wk sch)
- VB# 003 Recreation Assistant, NM-4 (Lifeguard) Requires Cert + 6 mths recreation exp.
- VB# 004 Recreation Assistant, NM-4 (req 6 mths of recreation exp.)
- VB# 005 Secretary (Stenography), NM-5/6
- VB# 006 Secretary (Typing/Office Automation), NM-5/6
- VB# 007 Medical Officer, NE-12/13/14
- VB# 008 Clinical Nurse (RN license required), NM-9/10/11
- VB# 009 Practical Nurse (LPN license required), NM-5

* CASP Examination (CEO, notice of rating) is required.



Sports

24th SPS spotless in playoffs

By Sgt. James A. Rush
24th Wing Public Affairs

HOWARD AFB - After three days of playoffs, the top two intramural basketball teams fought their way to the winners' bracket finals.

The 24th Security Police and Supply squadrons faced off Oct. 12 at the gym here.

The security police have two post-season wins under their belt to extend their spotless record to 23-0.

The American League's best team didn't play the National League's Supply during the regular season.

Their first playoff win came at the expense of the 24th Communications Squadron Oct. 6, but it was far from an easy one.

Mike Owens led the security police with 22 points and teammate Junior Davis was half as good with 11.

Communications got a big boost from one of its big guys, Bill Evans. Rather than taking it into the key where Owens lay waiting, Evans launched shots from the perimeter. He finished with 18 points, half of these coming in bursts of three.

A strong defensive effort kept communications in the game. Halftime saw the cops holding onto a slim 17-16 lead. Owens proved to be too much of a tiger to hold by the tail as he came alive for 15 points in the second period to boost the final score to 40-35.

Game two for the cops failed to provide the same excitement. The 1/536th Engineering Battalion couldn't contain the powerful SPS offense. Once again, Owens led the way, this time with 21 points. Bernard Hodges added 12 more and Dale Carnell and Carlos O'Key each contributed 11.

The engineers tried a game plan uncharacteristic for the Army. Instead of battling in the trenches down low, they simply bombed Air Force style from three-point range.

Unfortunately for the soldiers, only Darrin Hardiman was on target.

Five of his six treys hit in the second half and he finished with 18.

Supply finished its regular season schedule only one game worse than the security police at 20-1.

It was the hot hand of Darryl "Dawg" Kimble that kept them from realizing their second loss of the season as they opened the playoffs against the 24th Air Intelligence/Operations Support squadrons' team.

The "Dawg" was rabid in the second half scoring all 12 of his team-high 12 points in the period leading his team to the 52-49 win.

Despite Kimble's hard work, AIS/OSS still outscored Supply in the period 35-26.

Johnny Taylor scored only three points in the opening 20 minutes, but he made up for lost time in the second. Taylor added 22 more to give supply a scare. J.B. Bryant added 10 more for the loser's.

Supply narrowly escaped their second playoff game as well. They were pitted against the National League's other divisional champ, the 310th Airlift Squadron led by Pat Piche.

Piche led all scorers with 16 points and played a big part in keeping the flying squadron within five as the halftime score reached 29-24.

Piche's teammate Rusty Mizour was another first-half hero earning 10 of his 13 points in the period.

Dan Boughton picked up the slack for the 310th in the second half pouring in 11 of his 12 points.

His team, however, could make up only one point on the Supply team resulting in a 55-51 loss.

Supply got by on a balanced attack. Its leading scorer, guard Paul Roby, had only 10 points.

The final score might have been in the 310th's favor had it not been for the second-half charge of Will Walden. Shut out in the first period, the guard came alive after halftime.

He hit from outside, inside and the free

throw line for nine points in the final 20 minutes.

Alive, but struggling for breath in the loser's bracket are communications and the 617th Airlift Support Squadron. The teams played Oct. 12 for the right to face the supply/security police game loser.

Communications has had an easy road after facing the cops in the first round. The second game, against the 1/228th Headquarters Company was won by forfeit. The Army team had to withdraw for field maneuvers.

The deployment fairy blessed them again for a game against the 310th. Half the flying squadron team, most notably Piche, was gone.

Forward Bill Evans led communications past the shorthanded 310th with 11 points. Patryck Buckley totalled 14 in a valiant effort to keep the airlift squadron going.

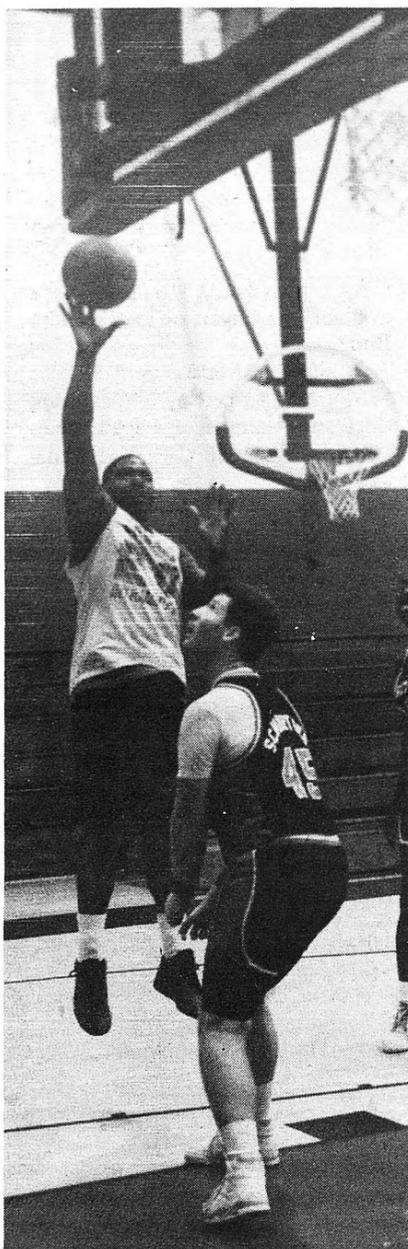
The 617th recovered from its first-round loss to take two close games from, first AIS/OSS, then the 1/536th.

Ken "Shotgun" Schortgen and Barry Dowell led the way for a 59-56 ALSS win over AIS/OSS. Their 16 and 12 points respectively placed them on the path to victory.

Once again, it was Taylor who kept the game close. The spirit of recently retired Michael Jordan took possession of the player who matched ALSS's top scorers point-for-point. Taylor scored 21 of his 38 points in the second half.

Schortgen rammed home nine of his 11 points in the first half against the 1/536th as ALSS shot out to a 32-25 lead. Most of his team followed his second half fade however; with airlift support faltering, the engineer's George Dudley and Vincent James poured on the heat racking up 16 and 10 points.

ALSS's Nathaniel Gagum came to the rescue though. With eight of his 14 points coming in the final period, Gagum ensured his team finished on top 48-47.



U.S. Air Force photo by Sgt. James A. Rush
Patrick Buckley of the 310th Airlift Squadron shoots over the 617th Airlift Support Squadron's Ken Schortgen.

Roadrunners win Intramural League, will play interservice

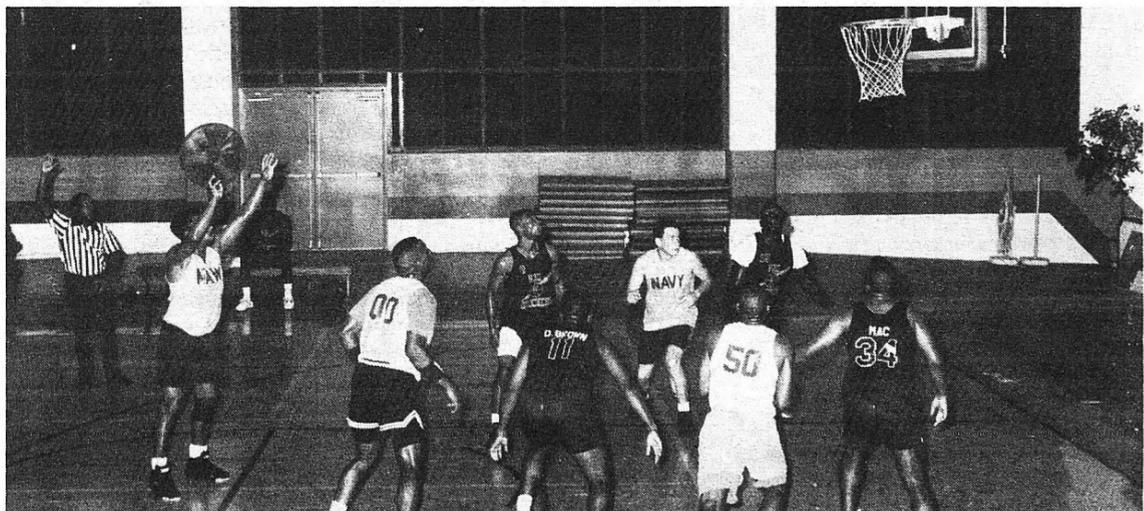
by Lt.j.g. Laura C. Moore
USNAVSTPANCANAL Public Affairs

RODMANNS — The Roadrunners bested seven other teams to win the Intramural League Championship at Rodman Oct 6. The team will represent the Navy in the Interservice Basketball Tournament this month.

The Roadrunners came from behind to beat the Naval Operations Center Shockers 62-56 in the final game, an exciting finale to the two-month season.

Coach Ken Simmons of the Military Sealift Command said, "Even though we were down by twelve points, I never lost faith in the team. I told the guys to keep their heads up, tighten up the defense and turn up the offense a notch, so then we can get back in the game."

"The second half started off with the Roadrunners causing turnovers and scoring easy baskets, which allowed the Roadrunners to get back into the game. The whole team deserves credit for their hard work and good hustle to win the best record in the League," said Simmons.



Manual Pinillo shoots a foul shot during the championship finals.

U.S. Navy photo by PH2 Roberto Taylor

Team captain Leondray Nance credited the team's performance to Coach Simmons. "He did a great job coaching us. It wasn't easy. It was the best season we had. We had to play each team like they could beat us. That's what got us to where we are."

Roadrunners team members included Leondray Nance, Eric Brown, Deron Pullins, and Julian Sanders of Naval Station Security Department, Jay Kelleher and Mark

Clegg of Marine Corps Security Force Company, Sherman Ward of the Naval Station Chapel, Rawle Barnwell of Naval Mobile Construction Battalion Five, Patricia Wallace of the Branch Dental Clinic at Rodman, Chris Watkins of the Medical Administrative Support Detachment at Rodman; Manuel Pinillo of Ocean Representative, and Oscar Reyes of Naval Small Craft Instruction and Technical Training School.

Football page 14-15

Bulldogs nearly lose their half of first place by squeaking past the Red Machine.

Stats Page 15

Tigers' Evans rushes for more than 200 yards and bumps competitors from the charts.

Shorts Page 13

- ◆Shriner Bowl coming.
- ◆Wanted: Cheerleaders.
- ◆Boxing tournament

Sports shorts**Shrine bowl**

The Shriners of the Abou Saad Temple will be hosting the annual Shrine Bowl at the Balboa High School Stadium Oct. 30.

The Junior All Stars will play at 4 p.m., followed by the Senior All Stars at 9 p.m.

Donations of \$3 for adults and \$1.50 for children will benefit crippled and burned children. For more information call Darryl Steiner at 252-5602.

Fishing tourney

The Shriners of the Abou Saad Temple will host a Peacock Bass Fishing Tournament Nov. 3 with several categories and three prizes for each category. All proceeds will be used for the Transportation Fund, which pays for the transportation of crippled and burned children to the Shriners Hospital in the United States. Call Terry Zittle at 261-8018 for more information.

Basketball tourneys

The Howard Sports and Fitness Center is hosting a Basketball tournament Oct. 23 & 24 that is open to the first 10 teams to sign up. Ages 19 and older are welcome to participate. For more information Call 284-3451.

Registration for unit level basketball is underway at the Fronius Fitness Center on Fort Davis. An organizational meeting is scheduled at noon Nov. 6 at the Sundial Recreation Center. Call 289-3108.

The registration deadline for the Pacific unit level competition Oct. 26. A clinic is scheduled for Thursday at the Director of Community Activities Sports Branch. Call 287-4050.

Youth Swim team

Howard/Albrook Youth Swim Team registration is underway for children ages 8-17. Meetings and practices are held at the Howard Pool Mondays, Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays at 4:30 p.m. and at the Albrook Pool Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays at 4:30 p.m. Monthly fees are \$25 without a pool pass and \$20 with a pool pass. For more information call the Zodiac Community Activities Center at 284-6109 or Lisa Nofi at 284-3569.

Curly Bates tourney

The annual Curly Bates Memorial Mixed Bowling Tournament will be held Saturday and Sunday at the Curundu Bowling Center.

Registration is \$15. Shifts are set for 1 and 4 p.m. on both days. Bowlers will bowl three games each day on the shift they sign up for. For information, call 286-3914.

SCN AM radio sports

The Southern Command Network's AM 790 Pacific and 1420 Atlantic will broadcast the following sports this weekend.

Saturday

College football: Virginia at Fla. State at 3 p.m.
World Series Game 1 at 7 p.m.

Sunday

Pro football: Philadelphia at N. Y. Giants at noon.
San Francisco at Dallas at 3 p.m.
World Series Game 2 at 7 p.m.

Columbus tourneys

A Columbus Day water basketball tournament is scheduled for 9 a.m. Saturday. Registration deadline is today. For information, call 289-3272.

Turkey Bowl

The Army Directorate of Community Activities Sports Branch is accepting resumes for Army Turkey Bowl team coaches. Call 287-4050.

Cheerleaders are needed for U.S. Army Turkey Bowl team. Participants must be between the ages of 17 and 25. Call Heidi Ratliff at 287-5021 or Daphne McWhorter at 287-4297. Cheerleaders are also needed for the Air Force Turkey Bowl team. Volunteers can be male or female, but must be at least 19 years old. Call MSgt. Donna Coleman at 284-3665.

No tap tournament

The Curundu Bowling Center will host its monthly no tap tournament 7:30 p.m. Saturday. Registration taken at the door. For information call 286-3194.



Services Squadron photo by Cheryl Mathison

Kiaah!

Manual Hernandez breaks a board held by Kenneth Larue and Tae Kwon Do instructor Mark Henderson during Hernandez's promotion test at the Zodiac Recreation Center Oct. 1.

Tee times

The Amador Golf Course is now using scheduled starting times for tee-off times on weekends and U.S. holidays.

Only groups of three or four may reserve tee times before 10 a.m.

Reservations are accepted beginning the Wednesday before the weekend. For reservations or more information call 282-4511.

Navy Turkey Bowl team

Anyone interested in joining the Navy Turkey Bowl team should contact Morise Conerly at 283-4061 or Matthew Hert at 283-4412. Practice is held Monday and Wednesday at 5 p.m. and Saturday at 10 a.m. at the Rodman soccer field.

Rodman boxing night

Rodman Naval Station is hosting a boxing night invitational 6 p.m. Nov. 6. It is open to all active duty military novice and sub-novice boxers.

For more information contact Navy, Michael Hogan, 284-5653 or George Foley, 283-6355; Air Force, Joe Epperson, 284-3811; Army, Directorate of Community Activities Sports Branch, 287-4050 or the Rodman Fitness Center, 283-4222/4061.

All participants must wear 16 oz. gloves, in accordance with Navy regulations.

Rugby tourney

The U.S. Southern Command Rugby Team will be playing in a tournament Oct. 30 in Quito, Ecuador. Any players interested in competing should contact Hank Cook at 289-4642. Leave name, unit and phone number.

Self-directed programs

The Howard/Albrook sports and fitness centers have started several new self-directed aerobics programs. "Row the Mississippi," "Ski the Appalachian Trail," and "Climb Mount Everest" are now available for prospective adventurers at the centers. For more information, call 284-3451.

Officials recruitment

The Panama Armed Forces Officials Association is recruiting officials on both sides of the isthmus.

Meetings are held 1 p.m. every second Saturday of the month at the Valent Recreation Center, Fort Clayton. Military, civilians and family members may join. Call 287-5572 or 247-0511 after 9 p.m.

The Howard/Albrook Officials Association is also looking for new officials. The association offers professional training, clinics and a pay check.

The meetings are 7:30 p.m. every third Thursday of the month at the Howard Youth Center.

Interested people must be fluent in English. Call 284-5371.

Bike Rentals

The Rodman Fitness Center rents bikes at hourly (\$1) and weekly (\$25) rates. Bicycles taken off Rodman require a \$25 deposit. Call 283-4222/4061 for more information.

AF swim team coaches

The Albrook and Howard swimming teams are looking for qualified coaches and youth swimmers for the 1993-94 swimming season.

All age groups and skill levels of children are welcome to participate.

Coaches will be paid according to the number of participants in the program.

Team workouts are approximately three days a week throughout the school year.

Anyone interested in coaching should contact Vince Duncan at the Albrook Youth Center, 286-3195. Parents or swimmers interested should call Duncan or Gary Hankins, 286-4571.

Rodman Youth Swim Team

Registration for Rodman Youth Swim Team at the Rodman Pool is open. Swim practices are held Mondays and Wednesdays at 4 p.m. at the Rodman Pool. New members are welcome. Monthly fees are \$20 without a pool pass and \$15 with a pool pass and includes a T-shirt. Call 283-4222.

Free weight training

Free weight training sessions and Nautilus training sessions are held at the Fronius Fitness Center, Fort Davis.

The weight training classes are held 3-4 p.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays.

The Nautilus sessions are held 3-4 p.m. Tuesdays. Registration is required. Call 289-3108 for more information.

Fitness, weightlifting classes

Registration for six-week fitness and weightlifting classes at the Rodman Fitness Center is under way. Classes are held every Monday, Wednesday and Friday from 4:30 to 6 p.m. Call 283-4222/4061.

Fishing tournament

An inter-club fishing tournament will be held in Atlantic waters until Nov. 30.

The event is sponsored by Club Nautico Caribe, the Panama Canal Tarpon Club and the Panama Canal Yacht Club.

The fishermen who land the largest barracuda, wahoo, kingfish, jack/tuna, marlin, sailfish and tarpon will win prizes. Prizes will be awarded for the top three catches in each category.

The entrance fee is \$20 per angler and may be paid at the bar of any of the clubs or to Francisco Lopez, 241-2025; Alberto Villa, 245-4379; Gabriel Kam, 241-0675; Helio D. Alves, 243-4146; Mike Bell, 243-5207; Alberto Alba, 245-0733; Gerry Laatz, 243-5652; Johnny Kirby, 241-5883; Fermin Pineda, 241-6003.

Swimming lessons

Registration for beginner and advanced swimming lessons at the Rodman and Farfan pool is underway.

Classes are held Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursdays from 3 p.m. to 4 p.m. and 4 p.m. to 5 p.m. There is a \$20 fee for the six week course. For more information call 283-4222/4061.



Green Devils' linebacker Lee Gibson tackles the Cougars' Joe Shaha by the legs.

Department of Defense photo by Sgt. E.J. Hersom

Muddy Friday

Bulldogs, Tigers tied with 4 wins

by Sgt. E.J. Hersom
Tropic Times Staff

BALBOA - The Cristobal Tigers and the Balboa Bulldogs remain tied for first in week five with 4 wins and 1 loss each.

The Bulldogs edged by the Red Machine (1-4) 7-2 Oct. 8 at Balboa High School Stadium here.

The Bulldog's Taiwan Hopkins scored the game's only touchdown with a 14 yard rush in the first quarter.

The Red Machine's special teams accounted for the team's two points when they nailed Bulldog quarterback Jerome Price in his end zone for a safety.

The remainder of the game was scoreless, but only because a 70-plus yard punt return for a touchdown by the Red Machine's Joe Gutierrez was called back in what could be the most unusual play of the season thus far.

The officials called the Red Machine touchdown back because they said the punt could not be advanced after it had bounced off the unaware and unknowing head of the Bulldog's Brent Smiley.

The officials made matters worse for the Red Machine by not calling the touchdown back before the extra point and kick off giving them the false hope of holding a 9-2 lead.

The league rules state they have three plays to make up their minds.

Bulldog coach Tom Ellis predicted correctly that the afternoon's rain would give him an advantage with the running game.

The Bulldog's Adam Beach, Hopkins and Price rushed



Cougars' Lance VonHollen cools off with a splash of water.

U.S. Army photo by Spec. Rob Owens

for more than 50 yards each while the Red Machine picked up 19 yards total rushing.

The Tiger's Marcus Evans rushed for 217 yards that same evening on the Atlantic side of the isthmus as the Tigers went on to crush the Kiwanis Koltz (0-5) 16-0.

Evans has carried the ball 49 times this season for a total of 408 yards giving him an 8.3 yard rushing average.

Tiger quarterback Ricky Alvarez completed three of seven for 29 yards during the evening and is the only quarterback in the league yet to throw an interception.

Rob Bernhardt kicked a field goal in the first quarter putting the Tigers up 3-0 only to be followed with touchdowns by Alvarez and Evans to cinch the game.

The Koltz... the Koltz... 0-5.

The Green Devil's Wilbert Reese - Tyler Quinn - Dan Ortiz scoring trio continued to take names and numbers in

the late game at Balboa Stadium as the Green Devils (3-2) beat the Curundu Cougars (2-3) 27 - 13.

Reese scored two touchdowns on the night and rushed for 142 yards with 21 carries. Ortiz scored one touchdown and rushed for 126 with only nine carries while Quinn rushed for 50 yards with nine carries.

Carlos Lampas ran for a 34 - yard touchdown, his first of the season, and kicked three extra points for the Green Devils.

But the Cougars didn't take the game lying down.

Cougars' quarterback Robert Garcia completed 9 of 18 for 150 yards on the evening and snuck in a touchdown for Donald Riviera to kick an extra point.

Robert Reyes was set back 12 yards during the evening by the Green Devils' defense, but nonetheless managed to pick up a nine-yard touchdown run.



Department of Defense photo by Sgt. E.J. Hersom.

Cougars' quarterback Robert Garcia fades back for a passing attempt. Garcia threw for 150 yards Oct. 8.

Evans' first chart appearance takes second in rushing

The following are the statistical leaders for the 1993 Panama Area Department of Defense Dependent's School's football season through the first five games. Team statistics as well as individual player numbers are included.

Team offense, rushing

1. 1308 Green Devils
2. 935 Tigers
3. 904 Bulldogs
4. 540 Cougars
5. 455 Red Machine
6. 256 Kolts

Team offense, passing

1. 458 Cougars
2. 259 Tigers
3. 248 Kolts
4. 229 Bulldogs
5. 183 Red Machine
6. 86 Green Devils

Team defense, rushing allowed

1. 377 Bulldogs
2. 577 Green Devils
3. 639 Tigers
4. 822 Red Machine
5. 959 Kolts
6. 1024 Cougars

Team defense, passing allowed

1. 116 Tigers
2. 126 Cougars
3. 190 Bulldogs
4. 281 Red Machine
5. 357 Green Devils
6. 422 Kolts

Total points

1. 126 Green Devils
2. 90 Cougars
3. 87 Bulldogs
4. 66 Tigers
5. 46 Red Machine
6. 18 Kolts

Total points, allowed

1. 14 Bulldogs
2. 41 Green Devils
3. 41 Tigers
4. 71 Red Machine
5. 92 Cougars
6. 136 Kolts

Scoring

1. 50 Reese, Green Devils
2. 42 Quinn, Green Devils
3. 36 Price, Bulldogs
4. 24 Townsend, Tigers; VonHollen, Cougars; Reyes, Cougars

Touchdowns

1. 8 Reese
2. 7 Quinn
3. 6 Price
4. 4 Townsend, VonHollen, and Reyes
5. 3 Acosta
6. 2 Hovan, Sanchez, Shaha
- 10 tied with one

Individual rushing yardage

1. 685 Reese
2. 408 Evans, Tigers
3. 407 Ortiz, Green Devils
4. 358 Beach, Bulldogs
5. 357 Townsend
6. 265 Shaha
7. 261 Price
8. 189 VonHollen

Indv. rushing average (min 28 carries)

1. 13.1 Ortiz
2. 8.3 Evans
3. 7.2 Reese

Touchdowns

4. 6.2 Beach
5. 5.6 Townsend
6. 5.43 Sanchez
7. 5.2 Goldini, Kiwanis
8. 4.8 Price
9. 4.6 Acosta

Passing yardage leaders

QB	Com	Att	TD	Int	Yd
Garcia	24	47	3	4	403
Alvarez	22	47	3	0	259
Corrigan	13	48	4	3	212
Price	5	21	1	1	190
Ford	6	30	1	2	175
Quinn	10	24	0	5	86

Individual receiving leaders

1. 184 Sanchez
2. 182 Rivera, Cougars
3. 154 Reyes
4. 149 Staton, Bulldogs
5. 116 Acosta
6. 106 Chanis, Kolts

Kickoff return leaders (min 4)

1. 20.5 Twohy, Red Machine
2. 18.2 Acosta
3. 17.75 Reyes
4. 17.6 Rivera
5. 12.5 Castellero, Kolts

Local sailors help with Project Handclasp

by Lt. j.g. Laura C. Moore
USNAVSTAPANCANAL PAO

RODMAN NS - Members of Rodman Naval Station banded together last week to bring much needed clothing and supplies to Teen Challenge, an organization in Panama which helps over 300 recovering drug and alcohol addicts.

Rodman sailors delivered four pallets of clothing, hygienic supplies, school books, and a sewing machine kit to the Teen Challenge Center on Via Espana. The sewing machine kit will help the people Teen Challenge serves learn a marketable skill.

Donated materials came from the Project Handclasp warehouse at Rodman. U.S. companies donate goods, which go to one of the three Project Handclasp warehouses worldwide.

The warehouse at Rodman holds goods for distribution here in Panama, or for deployed Navy ships to distribute in the region.

"I'm very happy that the Navy came here to help us. I don't feel alone in this work and I feel that someone else cares about the people here," said Pastor Luis C. Neito, who is the president and director of all 11 Teen Challenge centers in Panama.

The purpose of the centers is to teach former addicts skills so that they may support themselves and stay away from drugs, said Jose Fierro, who is in charge of the Teen Challenge center at Via Espana and who is a former drug addict himself. Fierro said the centers also teach former addicts to help others.



U.S. Navy photo by PH2 Delano J. Mays

Constructionman Robert E. Krause, Naval Station Seabee Division, hands a box of supplies to Jose Fierro, a Teen Challenge counselor.

"People in Teen Challenge know how it feels to be addicted, so they know how to approach people who are trying to get over addiction," Fierro said.

A Navy civilian who helped deliver the donated goods said she enjoyed the experience.

"I got the feeling that we were helping people in a

difficult time for them. Most of them are fighting addiction to drugs or alcohol," said Ilya Carrera, Facilities Support Contracts Director at Rodman. "As a Panamanian, it's amazing to me that companies in the U.S. care enough to donate these things to needy people here in Panama."

New Stars and Stripes bookstores keep quality of life emphasis going

COROZAL (USARSO PAO) - Pacific and Atlantic U.S. military community shoppers now have new Stars and Stripes Bookstores to browse through in the Corozal Mall and at Fort Davis.

In keeping with the command's emphasis on quality of life, the new bookstores have opened their doors in time for the 1993 Christmas shopping season.

The presence of the Stars and Stripes Bookstores, a separate and independent organization from the Army and Air Force Exchange Service, represents another milestone of Army excellence, said Jerry Carrillo, regional manager for Stars and Stripes.

"The Directorate of Engineering and Housing undertook the bookstores project as a Panama Army Communities of Excellence initiative with the intent of providing excellent quality services combined with world class facilities," said Lt. Col. John Lovo, DEH director. "The new Stars and Stripes Bookstores emerged as paragons of excellence that will serve to enhance the quality of life for the military community in Panama."

This enhanced quality of life has already been put to the test as the Corozal store opened its doors Oct. 2 and has seen an endless stream of custom-

ers, said the bookstore manager Virginia Beach.

"We have seen many of our regular customers but there have been many new faces since we opened here," she said.

The store includes more than \$250,000 worth of books in a wide variety of topics for all ages, Beach added. The stores also have magazines, newspapers, video cassettes and educational audio cassettes.

In addition to the top ten best sellers, shoppers can find books on such topics as languages, cooking, sports, medicine, parenting and computers, she said.

There are also books for coloring, crossword puzzles, comics, music, home improvements, cars, fashions and hairstyling. Though the stores are new and the merchandise expanded, customer service remains.

"The customer is first, second and third," Carrillo said. "We believe a good inventory is important, but a happy, satisfied customer is even more so."

The Corozal store is open 11 a.m.-7 p.m. Monday-Saturday and 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Sunday and will have their grand opening 10:30 a.m. Oct. 22. The Fort Davis store will open Oct. 23 with a grand opening to be held later in the month.

Howard's new teen center opens doors

by SSgt. Rian Clawson
24th Wing Public Affairs

Howard AFB - Work on the long-awaited Howard Hideout Teen Center is now complete and officials will celebrate by holding a teen dance from 7:30 to 11:30 p.m. Saturday, said Chris McIntire, teen center director.

The center is inviting all teenagers (13-19 years old) from military families in the area to the dance. Snacks will be available and a disc jockey will provide music.

The Howard Hideout is located on Farfan, next to the pool in Building 6302 — the old Don Lee restaurant.

The 24th Civil Engineering Squadron, civilian contractors and youth volunteers began its remodeling in July.

"This project was a consolidated effort by people from many separate organizations, especially budget, finance and contracting. CE worked really hard, moving walls, filling in doorways, and building a dance floor with risers and hand rails around it," McIntire said.

"They also built a computer center where we have three 386-computers with all the bells and whistles on which our teens can do homework, write a letter to a friend or play computer games."

Other additions include a sports bar where teens can get non-alcoholic drinks, hot dogs, popcorn, nachos and other food items.

There's also a wide-screen TV and a stereo VCR so teens can watch sports, movies and more.

"We're still waiting for some wall decorations and a few more pieces of furniture to arrive," McIntire said. "It should get here by the end of the month. When it does, we're going to have a grand opening extravaganza that will knock your socks off."

There have been several efforts in the past to get a center going for Howard's teen community, but they weren't very successful, he said.

"This time it's going to be different," he said.

Money is the main reason this time will be different, McIntire said.

"We got a \$50,000 grant from the Air Force Aid Society that enabled us to provide all these amenities. If not for the AFA, the Howard Hideout would not exist."

Another bonus has been the teen council's participation, primarily Alex Staton, Lance VonHollen, Nick Roberts and Paul Edwards.

"Our teen council has been involved in the center project since the beginning," McIntire said. "They helped select the design of the floor plans, the color schemes, even the carpeting and wall decorations."

"I liked the idea of teenagers having a say in what was going into the center," Staton said. "I figure we should be the ones to decide what kinds of things the center should have, since we're the ones who will be using it."

"I'm confident the Howard Hideout will see a lot of use by our teenagers," McIntire said. "We've all put a lot of time and effort into it, and I think they're really going to enjoy it."

Postal officials offer express mail service

HOWARD AFB (24th Wing PA) - Local military post offices offer Express Mail Military Service for people don't want their family in the states to wait for gifts, said 24th Air Postal Squadron officials.

Express Mail is given priority over all other classes of mail, officials said. Fees are \$9.95 for the first eight ounces and \$13.95 for up to two pounds. An average of \$2 is added for each additional pound.

Delivery normally takes two or three days from the time mail clears customs in Miami. Service includes insurance against loss, damage or rifling at no additional cost. Claims must be filed within 90 days of mailing. The girth plus the length of packages may not exceed 108 inches and they may not weigh more than 70 pounds.

For more information, visit or call your local military post office.

DCP benefits branch changes locations

COROZAL (USARSO PAO) - Directorate of Civilian Personnel Benefits Branch customers will find a new location and many improvements when they visit the office now in room 101 of Building 560, Corozal, DCP officials said.

The Benefits Branch only moved about 20 feet but it will mean a world of difference for the customers they serve, said Berta Lord, Benefits Branch chief.

The employees made the move on their own by coordinating the work needed with the Directorate of Engineering and Housing and personally doing much of the design, set up and interior decorating, she said.

"The end result of the Benefits Branch move was the creation of an appealing and customer-friendly office to better serve our employees," Lord said. "An office area was also set up for the NARFE Volunteer Retiree Assistance Center within the new Benefits Branch."

Those needing information or help with retirement, health and life insurance, Thrift Savings Plan, Panama Social Security, Living Quarters Allowance or Workers' Compensation benefits may call the Benefits Branch at 285-5745/5941/5284.

The office is open 7:15 a.m.-4:15 p.m. while the National Association of Retired Federal Employees Volunteer Retiree Assistance Center is open 8:30 a.m.-4 p.m. Wednesdays only. For information call 285-4325.