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Weather Forecast	Today	High:74 Low:46
	Saturday	High:77 Low:60
	Sunday	High:73 Low:49

**FRIDAY**

# Fort Riley Post



**Fort Riley celebrates**  
Fort Riley will celebrate its 150th birthday with Apple Day/Open House Oct. 4. Preview events and attractions and get a look at the event map.

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September 19, 2003

America's Warfighting Center

Vol. 46, No. 36



Pvt. Richard Roberts, a small emplacement excavation truck operator with Company A, 70th Engineer Battalion, 1st Armored Division, excavates a bunker located behind a girls' school in Baghdad.

## Engineers search for weapons at school

**By Chad D. Wilkerson**  
372nd MPAD

BAGHDAD, Iraq - Soldiers from Company A, 70th Engineer Battalion, 1st Armored Division, spent their day at a girls' school in Baghdad, filling in military fighting positions left over from the former regime and excavating underground bunkers Aug. 26.

The Iraqi military had used the school's backyard as an operations outpost during the conflict, according to residents, and the U.S. soldiers were there to investigate the presence of weapons on the premises.

"We are doing a dig here to find out if there are any weapons buried in the ground in order to make a safe environment for the children who will go to school here and for the families in the surrounding area," said 1st Lt. Michael Thomas, platoon leader with

Company A.

The team had suspicions that a weapons cache had been buried in a bunker behind the school, so excavation equipment was brought along to dig in the area.

"We brought a small emplacement excavation truck to dig," said Thomas, "and we brought an explosive ordnance disposal team to ensure that there were no booby traps or improvised explosive devices waiting for us inside the hole."

After about an hour of digging, the SEE truck's bucket broke through the top of the underground structure. One of the EOD soldiers, flashlight in hand, leaned into the newly created crevasse to observe the layout of the bunker. He emerged shaking his head. The bunker was empty.

"We did our job, and the mission is always a success if you have no injuries," said Thomas. "The bunker could have

housed weapons of mass destruction, explosives or small arms that could have been used to attack coalition forces. We found no weapons, but we did fill in the fighting-position holes and we accomplished our mission."

The presence of the U.S. Army soldiers at the school also helped the Iraqis to realize that the Americans are there to help them.

"We are helping out the people here," said Pvt. Richard Roberts, vertical engineer and SEE truck operator with Company A, 70th Eng. Bn. "When they see us out here searching hard for weapons, it helps them know that they are safer."

"We put a high importance on the safety of the Iraqi people, especially the children," said Thomas. "Searches like this have been done, and will continue to be done, all over Baghdad, sweeping for weapons and making Iraq a safer place."

## New travel system takes off in October

**By Ryan D. Wood**  
Staff Writer

Early in October, Fort Riley will take part in the rollout of a new, cutting-edge travel system implemented by the Army. It is described by Col. Alan Tomson, Defense Travel System director for transformation, as a... "state-of-the-art, 21st century e-commerce system."

According to Suzi Floberg, lead Defense Travel System administrator, Directorate of Resource Management Travel Cell, the post will hold three training classes scheduled, from Oct. 14 - 30, to prepare for the anticipated Dec. 8 "live" operation of the program.

The new DTS program is a web-based travel program with a commercial industry look and feel, which allows travelers to make arrangements from their work stations, according to DTS news at [www.defensetravel.osd.mil](http://www.defensetravel.osd.mil).

Today, when a soldier is required to go TDY, he has to request orders be prepared," said Floberg, explaining the new systems benefits.

"When DTS is fielded, a soldier or civilian will sit down at a computer and create their own travel authorization. Instead of having to hand carry your order from person to person to obtain signatures, DTS will get those peoples' signatures electronically. The soldier or civilian will be able to pick his own flights, rental cars and lodging -- just like they do today when they use (a commercial travel website). It will all be done via the Internet when DTS goes live. No more paper, no more walking an

order from person to person to person, no more calling your official travel office to arrange flights."

The biggest benefit of the new system, said Floberg, is the timeliness and ease of use.

"After the initial learning curve," Floberg said, "travelers and supervisors will like the timeliness of processing a travel authorization (formerly called a travel order) and they will love the fact that they will get reimbursed faster. The DTS is also set up to pay the government Bank of America travel card directly. I see monitoring delinquency rates for commanders and supervisors becoming a thing of the past."

According to DTS news, the DTS system offers many benefits beyond the travel arrangement functions. For example, the DTS provides built-in travel policy guidance and traveler entitlements. If the traveler makes a selection that is in conflict with the policy, the system flags the

entry and requires the traveler to justify the exception or change the selection to comply with DOD policy. The justifications are automatically forwarded to the appropriate officer for review and approval, saving time and future aggravation.

DTS also allows travelers to request payments every 30 days to cover costs such as hotel, meals and rental cars. The DTS also calculates the payment automatically and electronically pays the traveler's charge card.

"I initially was a 'doubting Thomas' when I heard about DTS," said Floberg. "Now that I have personally seen DTS and

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"Now that I have personally seen DTS and have test driven it, I can honestly say that it is cool."

—Suzi Floberg  
Lead Defense Travel System Administrator

## 1st Armored Division soldiers recall Sept. 11

**By John S. Wollaston**  
3rd Brigade PAO

BAGHDAD, Iraq - Where were you when Pearl Harbor was attacked? What were you doing when Kennedy was shot? Where were you when the Twin Towers fell? Events in America's history, in one form or another, that are forever seared in the memories of the people who experienced them. For two soldiers currently serving with the 1st Armored Division in Baghdad, there is no way they'll ever be able to forget the events of Sept. 11, no matter how hard they might try.

That's because they were on the receiving end of the attacks. During a memorial service to remember the Sept. 11 victims at the 2nd Battalion, 70th Armor Regiment dining facility, what started out as an ordinary reading of the timeline of events on that tragic day suddenly became riveting for those in attendance. That's because when Capt. Thane Thompson, 490th Civil Affairs Battalion, Texas, attached to the 3rd Brigade, came to the events on the timeline at 8:01 a.m., they became very personal to him.

"8:01 a.m., United Airlines

## Mail good to get, face to face better

### High tech video phones bring families together

**By Ryan D. Wood**  
Staff writer

For the first time since being deployed in April, soldiers of Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 3rd Brigade, were given the opportunity to see and talk with their loved ones over a video teleconference system Sept. 12. The soldiers are currently serving in Iraq.

Family members were each given five minutes, in a conference room set up in the Battle Simulation Center on Custer Hill, to speak with their loved ones face to face. A camera was used in each location to film the participants. That image was broadcast back to the other side of the world, along with sound. With only a small time lag, families could interact and see each other while they talked over the link.

This new form of communication has not been around very long and allows certain experiences that soldiers were unable to have before. One soldier got to see his daughter walk for the first time, something which would not have been possible without the



Shareeda Burns talks with her husband, Spc. Myrion Burns, Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 3rd Brigade, for the first time since April, along with their children Simeon and Lanaya, at the Battle Simulation Center.

VTC system.

"It's a little bit inconvenient for us, but it is the least that we can do," said George W. Eads, chief, Training Support Center. "We look at it as a force multiplier. It's a morale thing. I think that this is quite a bit better than just a regular phone call and the fact that they can see each other and talk and have some interaction is a good thing for the morale."

Many families came into the event not knowing what they were going to do or how the time would go, as they had never experienced a VTC before.

"I don't know what it's going to be like," said Sheila Holloway, who, along with her daughter Eva, was waiting for her turn to visit with her husband, Sgt. Germain Holloway, HHC, 3rd Brigade. "I think that there is going to be a lot

of crying on both sides. We haven't even gotten pictures of him. We have sent pictures of us, but we haven't really changed. I feel like he is going to look different than he did when he left. I feel like it is going to be emotional."

April Clark, Family Readiness Group leader for HHC, 3rd Brigade, had the best of both

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# Prayer breakfast honors fallen

By Ryan D. Wood  
Staff Writer

On Sept. 11, soldiers and civilians of Fort Riley and the surrounding communities joined together for a prayer breakfast to remember the attacks on America two years ago and to honor those who have died in defense of America and freedom since then.

After eating a breakfast provided free of charge by the Chaplains office, soldiers representing the different units on Fort Riley stood and offered prayers or scripture in remembrance of those who have fallen.

Brig. Gen. Dennis Hardy, commanding general, 24th Infantry Division and Fort Riley, offered the keynote address. Hardy began his address with a slide show of the attacks and America's actions since that time, set to the music of "Have You Forgotten" by Darryl Worley.

Hardy admonished the crowd not to forget the horrific events of that day two years ago and to remember what they were fighting for as soldiers and why. Hardy also spoke of his first reaction to the events of 9/11 and why the prayer breakfast was needed.

"Thank you for your prayers because that is what this prayer breakfast is all about," said Hardy. "It is about your prayers, my prayers and the prayers of the American people. We are not done praying yet, and we cannot be done praying yet because we can't forget what has occurred."

"When we stood in the Pentagon that day and asked ourselves, 'What do we do about this,' each of us had to come back into the center of our universe — who we are and what we believe. What do you believe in? And, it was prayers where most of us started."

Hardy memorialized the slain on that day and all those who have since given their lives in the pursuit of freedom and justice.

"Two years ago this day, more than 3,000 people — mothers, daughters, sons and siblings — were murdered," said Hardy. "Nearly 400 firefighters laid down their lives on behalf of this nation to rescue the fallen. In the Pentagon attacks alone, 184 military and civilian personnel were killed."



Post/Wood

**Soldiers and civilians gathered at King Field House for a prayer breakfast to remember the events of Sept. 11, 2003.**

"Just like the firefighters who sacrificed their lives to save the innocent from despair," he said, "our soldiers' service doesn't come without a price. More soldiers have died between Sept. 12 and today than did on that horrific day alone, and the battle is not over yet. Since that time, 246 soldiers have died, six of them from Fort Riley."

Many of the people who attended the prayer breakfast had similar feelings about the impor-

tance of the day and the memorial. Chap. (Maj.) Nicholas K. Catrow, Rear Detachment chaplain, 1st Brigade, hoped that the soldiers and civilians in attendance would leave with a renewed sense of commitment to serving the country and their fellow Americans.

"I think this observance is important because we, as a military community, need to be reminded about what happened to our country and why we are here — why we have a job. We are here to protect our country. Our country was attacked, and we are defending our country," said Catrow.

Staff Sgt. Claude Philippe, G3, 24th Inf. Div. (Mech) came to the breakfast to honor those who have fallen.

"I think that we should never forget what happened on Sept. 11," said Philippe. "It had such a broad impact on all our lives, and we are still seeing the effects of it today. With our soldiers deployed and this fight on terrorism, we should pay tribute to those who gave their lives to this cause and this incident. We definitely should pay tribute to these people, and never forget what happened."

As a parting remark, Hardy again asked the crowd not to forget the events of 9/11 and those since, and he made a promise to the American people.

"For 228 years, the Army has never failed the American people," said Hardy, "and it never will."

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# Symposium honors Fort Riley

By William Biles  
Staff Writer

The Institute for Military History and 20th Century Studies at Kansas State University, hosted a Fort Riley sesquicentennial symposium at Little Theater inside the K-State Union Sept. 11.

The two-day event, "A Celebration of Fort Riley," presented interpretations of the post's past, present and future as a military institution.

The symposium featured lectures on the post's history and the important place it had, and has, in American life and times. Internationally known scholars, experts on local and Kansas's history and Army general officers that served at Fort Riley, gave the lectures.

Jon Wefald, president, K-State, opened the symposium with a brief history of the post and the importance it has to its surrounding community, as well as the region of the country.

"I am very pleased to open this symposium marking Fort Riley's sesquicentennial," Wefald said.

The symposium offered "Perspectives on Fort Riley's place in U.S. national defense and American life and times," he said. "Fort Riley has been pivotal in the history of America and its national defense. Fort Riley is not just another post, or typical fort from frontier days. Early on in its existence, Fort Riley became an integral part of a national security establishment, not only famous for the military units and person-

alities, but also for its professional schools where military leaders are trained and the military strategies are developed into practicality and put into practice."

Wefald touched on the post's impact it has had on the region.

"Fort Riley has always been an integral part of north-central Kansas," said Wefald. "Indeed, there was a Fort Riley before there was a Manhattan or Junction City, and most of the other surrounding towns. Fort Riley not only made it possible for the Kansas we know to be born and evolve into what it is today, it is also a vibrant part of it," he said.

"The truth is that Fort Riley is not just a military base, it is a community. More specifically, Fort Riley is America - a slice of American society, past and present - with all of its strengths, weaknesses and values of the American people."

The keynote speaker for the symposium, Dr. Jeffrey Clarke, chief historian, Army Center of Military History, spoke about the post's past also. Clarke then touched on how Fort Riley has become one of America's power projection platforms.

"Currently, the Army is transforming itself from a forward deployed force to a power projection force based in the United States. For this purpose, the service has designated 15 of its continental United States installations as power projection platforms, and Fort Riley is one of these. It is a home base for two tactical units and commands - active and

Reserve - and able to deploy them directly and rapidly into an operational location anywhere in the world," said Clarke. "Certainly, the great expansion of the railroad at Fort Riley from 1994 to 1996 is evidence to this type of transformation. From being able to load 100 - 200 freight cars a day, it is now up to 400 cars a day," he said.

Attending the symposium was Brig. Gen. Dennis Hardy, commanding general, 24th Infantry Division (Mech) and Fort Riley.

"What I think is important, particularly today as we celebrate the 150th anniversary of Fort Riley, is to realize what an enduring installation - an institution really - that we have here," said Hardy. "For them (K-State) to host this symposium with world known scholars in the area of military history, and to have them review the progress, performance and the past of Fort Riley, will help set the stage for the future."

Hardy went on to say what he thought of the relationship between Fort Riley and its surrounding communities, and the support they show for the post.

"Our relationship with the surrounding communities is as tight as I have ever seen any place that I have ever been in my 30 years of service," he said. "This is a wonderful relationship that we have with K-State, and that we have with the people of Manhattan, Junction City and the entire surrounding area, and this (symposium) shows the ties and kind of support that we have from our public."

## Talk Around Town

### "How do you feel about the decline in media coverage in Iraq?"



*"It's better because it gives a little more security for what they are doing there."*

CWO2 Clayton Peyton  
3rd Bde., 75th Training Support Division



*"It's sad that now they don't say anything about us being over there, because we're doing the same thing as before."*

Robert Connor  
Shoppette Shift Manager



*"I think they should keep the news coverage up like they did before, because you have family members back here, as well as members of the unit who didn't deploy, who would all like to know what's going on over there."*

Pvt. Heather Mucicino  
101st Forward Support Battalion

## Travel continued from page 1

have test driven it, I can honestly say that it is cool. It is very easy to use. It is user friendly. It is flexible. It really does work."

With the large amount of travel that the DoD requires, the system will not be able to handle all of the requirements of the modern military right off the bat, said Floberg, but regular upgrades to the system should bring more and more of the military under the DTS umbrella as the program evolves.

"Each software enhance is named after a president," said Floberg. "The original software was called 'Adams,' we will be fielding 'enhanced Jefferson' at Fort Riley. These software changes will add more of what we need, like National Guard and Army Reserve Travel, MEPS (Military Entrance Processing Station), On-Post lodging interfaces, PCS Travel and more."

For more information on the DTS system, call the travel office, 239-2858.

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# Briefs

## Apple Day

It's that time of year. The Historical and Archeological Society of Fort Riley is preparing Apple Pies for this year's Apple Day on Oct. 4. Presale Pies are available until Sept. 26 for \$7. Pies will also be sold at Apple Day. Order forms may be picked up or dropped off at 22A Sheridan Ave. on Main Post. Volunteers are needed to help make the pies. To volunteer, call Joanne Gulotta at 784-4922

the district's official enrollment counting date. Parents are asked to complete, sign and return the forms to their child's school as soon as possible.

## 1st BCT Zoo Trip

Soldiers and family members of the 1st Brigade Combat Team are invited to Family Day at Sunset Zoo, Manhattan, Sept. 28, 1 - 5 p.m. Discounted admission is \$2 for adults; \$1 for children 3 - 12 and free for children under 3. RSVP to your company/battery Family Readiness Group Leader. If you don't know your FRG Leader, call the Soldier and Family Support Center, 239-9435. You are responsible for your own transportation to the zoo. Directions to the zoo can be obtained from your FRG Leader.

## Fishing Clinic

The Tuttle Creek Lake Association is having a Fishing Clinic today and tomorrow. Call 785-539-8153 for more information.

## Holiday Craft Fair

Bring your family to the Holiday House, Gifts and Things Fall Craft Fair for food, fun and entertainment Nov. 15 at Marshall Air Field, Hangar 817. If you are interested in a booth or need more information, contact Sherri Weber, 537-7781.

## School Surveys

Parents of student in Geary County USD 475 will receive a Federal Impact Aid Survey Form beginning Monday. The form is for students attending a public school in Junction City, Fort Riley, Milford or Grandview Plaza. Survey forms will be sent home with elementary students. Forms for high school and middle school students will be mailed to the parents.

The purpose of the survey is to provide official verification and record of all students whose parents are federally connected on

## Warrant Officer Recruiting

The U.S. Army is looking for highly motivated soldiers to fill its warrant officer ranks. Positions are open in all 45 specialties, if you qualify. Soldiers with less than 12 years active federal service are encouraged to apply. For more information, contact the Warrant Officer Recruiting Team, www.usarec.army.mil/warrant or DSN: 536-0484 or 536-0458.

## Positive Behaviors Workshop

Would you like to learn how to deal with acting out behaviors using positive redirection? Do you deal with challenging behaviors? Would you like to develop an understanding of Neurological Disorders? A workshop presented by Lee Stickle, M.S. Ed., Autism

Technical Assistance from the Neurological Disability Support Project, Department of Special Education in Kansas City, will be Oct. 2, 6:30-8:30 p.m. at the Morris Hill Elementary School. Child-care will be provided. Please RSVP to the EFMP office by Wednesday, 239-9435.

## Hispanic Heritage

The Division Equal Opportunity Office has rescheduled Fort Riley's celebration of Hispanic-American History Month Oct. 15, 11:45 a.m.-12:45 p.m., Morris Hill Chapel. The free program is open to all soldiers, their families and civilian employees. It will highlight and honor the struggles, accomplishments and ongoing essential contributions made by Hispanics in our country. For information, call 239-2928.

## Spouses of Deployed Soldiers

Is your spouse deployed? Do you need a break? Don't stay home alone. Come out and join other family members for a few hours of fun, support and sharing.

The Family Readiness Program sponsors a weekly activity day for spouses of deployed soldiers every Monday. The program is held at the Soldier and Family Support Center, building 7264, Noon - 3 p.m. There will be a different activity each week. Activities range from arts and crafts to workshops and guest speakers, games and open discussions to cooking classes. A support group lead by licensed social workers is held on the third Monday of each month. Lite refreshments will also be provided. Child and Youth Services

offers free childcare for parents attending the program. Childcare is available for children 6 weeks to 5-years-old. You must bring the child's shot records, but a snack is provided. Parent must stay in the center.

Volunteers are needed who would like to share their talents with a class. For additional information, contact Sonya Brown, Family Readiness Center coordinator, 239-9435

## Commissary Closure

The Fort Riley Commissary is scheduled for a store reset Tuesday. The reset will require the store to be closed for one day only, and the store will re-open for normal business Wednesday.

## OCSC Basket Auction

Please join OCSC for their October Dinner and Annual Basket Auction at the Holidome, Oct. 17, 6:30 pm. The theme is a birthday party to celebrate Fort Riley's 150th birthday and the 50th OCSC anniversary. A magician will provide entertainment and the menu will include mixed greens with toppings, penne pasta salad, Kansas roast beef, fried chicken, mashed potato and country gravy, corn O'Brien, and the desert will be birthday cake. Tea, coffee and water will also be included. The cost of the dinner is \$15. A selection of themed baskets put together by units and organizations across the post, as well as local businesses, will be on the auction block. Jay Brown will be the auctioneer.

Reservations are required for the dinner. You should RSVP to Connie Taylor, 784-5111 by Oct. 8. Childcare is available at

ASVMCA, Junction City. Availability is on a first come, first served basis. For information on childcare or to make a reservation, call Heather Spencer, 784-2245 by Oct. 8.

## FRG Meeting

There will be a Family Readiness Group Advisors and Leaders Business and Networking Meeting Oct. 8, 9 a.m. - noon.

The agenda includes: Effective FRG Leadership - Communication & Conflict Resolution, Money Matters - Fund Raising and Financial Management for the FRG, Networking - Good Ideas & Success Stories, FRG Checklist - Are we doing it Right and Family Advocacy Program - Strategies for Coping During Deployment - Helping yourself and your FRG members.

For additional information, Contact Sonya Brown, Family Readiness Center coordinator, 239-9435.

## Retirement

The retirement ceremony for Brig. Gen. David Gross will be conducted Sept. 30, 10 a.m. at a Victory Honor formation at Cavalry Parade Field. In case of inclement weather, the ceremony will be conducted at Hangar 817.

## Small Business Seminar

Fort Riley University Army Career and Alumni Program will sponsor a seminar for new and existing small businesses presented by the Small Business Administration. The seminar is Oct. 10, 9 a.m. - noon at the ACAP Center classroom, building 210, room 7

in the Personnel Processing Center, Main Post. This entire seminar is free. Reserve your seat by contacting the ACAP Center, 239-2278 or 239-2248, or e-mail acap@riley.army.mil

## Friendship Fair

There is a Friendship Fair planned Sunday, at the corner of 6th and Adams, Junction City, for families of deployed soldiers. There will be a free BBQ, ice cream and cake.

## Mail Training

An Official Mail training class will be offered Oct. 3, 9 a.m. - 2 p.m., building 319, CPAC. An Introduction to Unit Mailroom Operations class will be offered Oct. 1 and 15, 9 a.m. - 4:30 p.m., building 319, CPAC. Pre-enrollment is required. Call 239-5411 for enrollment.

## Heating/Air Conditioning

Weather permitting, the air conditioning will be turned off beginning Monday in the following order: administrative buildings, barracks, BEQ's and BOQ's with individual units, 8000 area, dining facilities and community buildings.

The heating systems are scheduled to be turned on starting Oct. 6, in the following order: barracks, BOQ's and BEQ's, 8000 area, community buildings, administrative buildings, dining facilities and motor pools. The heating and cooling systems in chapels, child development, medical and dental buildings will be maintained as appropriate. Family housing occupants con-

# Teleconference continued from page 1

words, with the ability to talk with her husband and also seeing the smiles and tears of those family members she cares for as they got to talk with their loved ones.

"Just seeing the smiles on their faces — usually when I get called, they are upset or there is something that is going wrong, but I get to see them and the kids be happy and see their smiling faces," she said. "It's a big deal to them to be able to see their spouse. Just to see their face and to hear their voice and to see their reactions is a big deal. Just to see them happy and to be here to support them so they

know they have a shoulder that is here for them when they need me is wonderful."

Even as the FRG leader, Clark felt a little uneasy about her time with her husband, which would be the final slot of the day.

"I'm excited and a little bit nervous," said Clark. "It's usually a normal thing to have a one-on-one conversation with your spouse, but knowing that the timer is going — and writing down ques-

tions and stuff. We have a 10 year old that we know is going to be a little emotional, and he was concerned with her being upset, but she is a strong trooper, so I think that she is going to be able to handle it well."

After her time with her husband, Lili Ann Capozzoli beamed while she explained that her goal for the call was just not to cry while she spoke to her husband. "I didn't cry. I thought I was

going to, but I didn't," Capozzoli said with tears in her eyes and a baby daughter squirming in her arms. "I thought that it would be emotional. It was different, but it was good. He got to see his daughter and that was neat when he got to see her walking and he

was waving and we were standing there waving. It was a good experience."

According to Clark, future VTC sessions are going to be scheduled on a monthly basis but may be limited by the number of systems that are currently available

on post.

A system is currently under construction in the Soldier and Family Support Center, according to Eads, and will handle the majority of future VTC sessions when it comes on line.

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# More Briefs

trol their own heat and air conditioning systems as desired. The authorized temperature for the heating season is 65-70 degrees.

Juli Kelly, 784-8333.

### Soldier Show

The Army Community and Family Support Center is currently seeking performers and technicians for the 2004 Army Soldier Show. All application packets must be submitted by Nov. 15. For more information about the application packet, call 239-8147 or 239-2179.

### CFC Campaign

The 2003 Fort Riley Area Combined Federal Campaign

Kickoff Ceremony will be conducted Oct. 2, 1:30 p.m., at Rally Point. This years campaign will run Oct. 6 - Nov. 14.

### Thrift Shop

The Fort Riley Thrift Shop has a large selection of previously owned articles, from clothing to house wares to furniture.

Come see the latest consignment and donation items to include fall décor and Halloween costumes.

Visit building 267, Stuart Avenue (next to the stables) Tuesday - Thursday, 9:30 a.m. - 2:30

p.m., and the first Saturday of each month, 10 a.m. - 1 p.m. Consignor-Customer Appreciation Day is Oct. 4.

Items for consignment are accepted on Tuesdays; donations are accepted everyday.

For more information on needed items or to schedule a pickup for large items, call 784-3874

### Enlisted Spouses Club

The ESC will have a general membership meeting Wednesday, 7 p.m. at the Armed Service YMCA in Junction City. Bring your favorite dish and copies of

the recipe to share, and help plan events and activities to do for the next year.

For more information, call 784-3191. Childcare reservations are due by tomorrow. Call 784-8306 for more info.

### Piano Lessons

Child and Youth Services is offering piano lessons for children ages 5-18 at the Fort Riley Teen Center beginning this month. Classes will run once a week for one half hour.

The instructor for this year's classes has a Bachelor's Degree in

Music and Education and has eight years of teaching experience in both public schools and private music lessons. For more information, contact CYS, 239-4847

### The Shoppe

The Shoppe has the gifts you need to say "Farewell" or "Thank You" to someone special. Come and see what The Shoppe has to offer!

The Shoppe is located in building 259, Stuart Ave., 239-2783. Hours of operation are 10 a.m. - 2 p.m., Tuesday - Saturday.

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Thompson said. "I knew it was time to get out."

Thompson and another man risked their safety to help a heavyset woman who was having trouble making it down the stairs. With each man supporting one of her arms, they began helping her down 61 floors to the outside. Seventeen minutes and 39 floors later, Thompson, the unknown man and the woman they were assisting were jolted by yet another explosion. This one was United Airlines flight 175 crashing into the 84th floor of the building they were in, World Trade #2.

"This was a very, very loud explosion. The building was shaking and people were screaming," Thompson said as he described the impact of the Boeing 767 60 floors above.

Thompson and the two other people with him safely exited the building and moved to a park a short distance away from the Twin Towers. But, instead of counting his blessings and calling it a day, Thompson decided to go back and see what he could do to help at ground zero.

"As an enlisted man, I was a medic," Thompson explained. "I figured I could be useful helping to carry stretchers and holding

1.V. bags. So, I went back."

Thompson made his way to the on-site command post and assisted where he could. He was helping paramedics from the New York City Fire Department when the first tower came down. Thompson and the firefighters saved themselves by taking shelter in an underground parking garage. They eventually escaped as the North Tower was coming down by jumping into an ambulance and leaving the scene.

At the same time Thompson was exiting the South Tower, 9:45 a.m., the 1st Armored Division assistant division commander for maneuver, Brig. Gen. Curtis Scaparrotti, was just beginning his escape from the terrorist attacks.

Scaparrotti, a colonel at the time, worked at the Pentagon in the National Military Command Center, the operations center for the U.S. Military, on the opposite side of the building from where American Airlines flight 77 crashed.

"We were watching what was happening in New York City on the television," Scaparrotti said.

"When we saw the second plane hit, we realized that this was no accident. It was a deliberate attack."

Almost immediately, Scaparrotti and his co-workers began preparing contingency plans and drawing up options for what was happening and how the military would respond to the situation.

"I knew we were about to get real busy, real fast, and we needed to be ready," Scaparrotti said.

When the order went out from the Federal Aviation Administration for all commercial flights to land immediately, the officers in the NMCC were monitoring every commercial flight that was in the air over the United States on a large video screen he said. "At about 8:30 that morning, I can tell you there were an awful lot of aircraft in the air," the general said.

But slowly, the flights began to disappear from the screen as they landed he said. All the aircraft eventually dropped from the screen. All that is, except two he said.

"We knew pretty quickly which flights were heading this way," Scaparrotti told the audience. "We alerted the air defense systems in the U.S., and there were already two aircraft in the air trying to intercept the two remaining airliners."

Those assembled in the NMCC were watching American flight 77 on the screen as it drew closer to the Capitol, and were actually trying to figure out what its target would be, when it slammed into the Pentagon.

"We were on the inner ring on the opposite side of the building, and it moved the floors up and down about an inch to one and a half inches when it impacted," Scaparrotti said. It didn't take long after the impact for those of us in the Ops Center to realize that it was going to be touch and go."

After a quick evacuation of the building and a head count of his people, Scaparrotti and the other

NMCC staff returned to work, despite the smoky, hazardous conditions inside. It was then, Scaparrotti said, he began to see the true professionalism of the soldiers around him come shining through. He described watching medics and emergency response personnel from all branches of service immediately go into action to help those trapped in the building and those who were outside and wounded. Often, the first responders were crawling in the

darkness, through thick smoke, jet fuel and fire, to get to the victims. "The warrior spirit that we see, alive and well, here on the battlefield in Iraq was on display from all four services that day at the Pentagon," he said.

Despite the tragedy and danger that was literally yards away from them, the NMCC staff quickly formed a "crisis action team" and began to draw up the military's response to what happened that day, Scaparrotti said.

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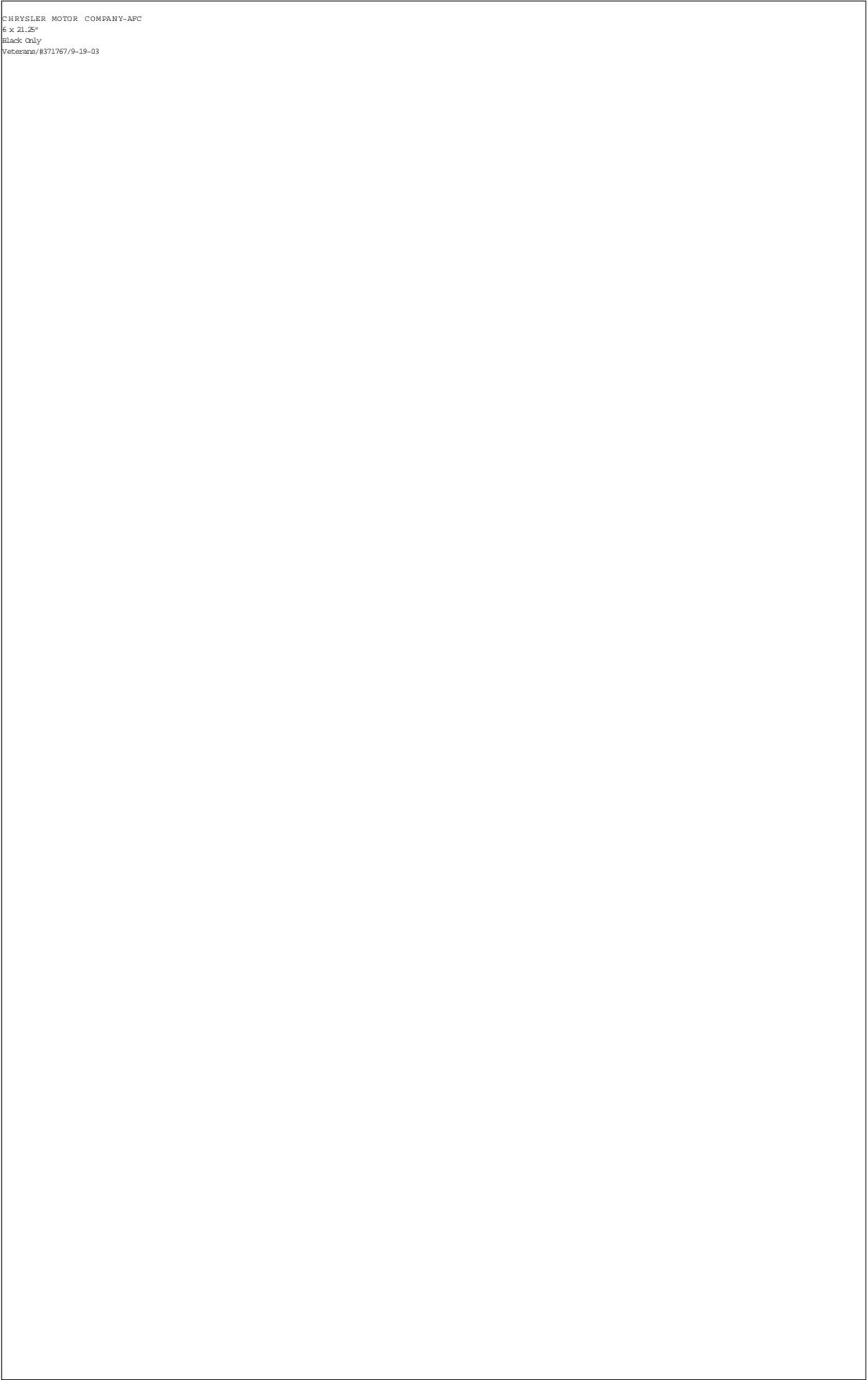
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# Letters from the Front

## Soldiers remember Sept. 11, commander proud of progress

NBC Evening News ran a number of stories describing the Hero's of 9/11 and the effect of the terrorist attack on those left behind. It was during that broadcast that my heart filled with pride upon the realization that we, The Dakotas, were America's instruments retaliating for that Tuesday morning terrorist attack. The broadcast help me bring into perspective the reason why we are in Baghdad, enduring the daily attacks, heat and constant "Street" frustrations. In my mind, there is no doubt we have and will continue to protect America by fighting terrorism here in Iraq, and at the same time, make a huge difference in the lives of the average Iraqi.

As you already know, I am not as eloquent as the Chap. Mark Nakazono. He has been the bedrock of counsel throughout our tour here and has greatly assisted numerous soldiers as they dealt with their individual problems. I truly admire a man that can carry so many issues on his back without giving in, asking for a break or just plain quitting. We are blessed to have Chap. Nakazono!

I asked him to prepare something to remember the victims of 9/11, and he organized a first-class event for our soldiers.

Chap. Nakazono conducted a Prayer Breakfast for Task Force Dakota to commemorate the tragic events of two years

ago in New York City and Washington DC. The breakfast was attended by 70 soldiers from throughout the task force. First Lt. John Hartsock, 1st Lt. Jonathan Bender, 1st Lt. Patrick Sullivan, 2nd Lt. Jerry Silvers and Sgt. Kevin Ross performed a dramatic reading of the chronology of Sept. 11, 2001. The reading was followed by a moment of silence and a beautiful rendition of "America, the Beautiful" by Spc. David Waring. Prayers for the nation, soldiers and their families, the families of 9/11 victims and scripture readings were presented by Sgt. 1st Class Chris Brown, Sgt. Bob Melius, Spc. David Mauldin and Spc. James Patterson. This event helped to strengthen

the spiritual fitness of soldiers in the task force and also strengthened the soldiers' resolve to stay committed to the mission of Operation Iraqi Freedom.

Again, the chaplain out did himself, and we appreciate his efforts.

As I travel around and speak with your loved ones, I get the feeling that we are finally turning the deployment corner and by mid-September we'll be over the six-month mark. Everything after that is downhill. Coupled with the cooler weather, the soldiers are beginning to see a light at the end of the tunnel. I remain amazed at their strength and ability to cope with daily stress, and my attitude always improves after spending a few

minutes with them. I just want you all to know that you, the families and friends of Dakota's, are our strength and I appreciate the endless support and assistance you have given each of us. I cannot thank you enough! Without your support we could not have accomplished our mission.

Please continue to keep us in your prayers. God Bless the United States of America. 13th Tank!

**Lt. Col. Frank V. Sherman**  
Commander  
Task Force 1 - 13

## Psychological Operations soldiers help commander communicate with locals

**By William Walski**  
1st Battalion, 13th Armor

Staff Sgt. Jay Hong, a 37-year old married father of three and a commercial banker back in the states, was doing what he did best - communicating with the people of Khadyimiya. Gathered around him were several shop owners listening to the information he had about what Coalition forces had been doing in the area to help the local residents. He was also asking them how effective they thought these measures had been. Suddenly, there was a dull thud as a child was struck by an automobile traveling down the wrong side of the road. Instantly, Hong's team of three went into action.

Hong energized the people

through his interpreter to get the child an immediate ride to the hospital and find the child's mother. His assistant, Cpl. Jose Rubio, instantly worked to separate the angry crowd from the driver of the vehicle while Spc. Byron Salvatierra worked to secure their military vehicles.

These are the individuals, who make up Task Force 1-13 Armor's tactical psychological operations (PSYOPs) team from the 315th Psychological Operation's Company, Lufkin, California.

The term "psychological operations" sometimes evokes connotations of brainwashing and mental tortures. Nothing could be further from the truth.

In the words of Salvatierra, a sophomore at Irvine Valley College studying International Relations,

the mission of the psychological operations team is to "convince the enemy not to fight." They do this through a variety of non-physical means — by acting as the liaison between the Coalition Forces and the Iraqi population of the district of Khadyimiya.

Lt. Col. Francis Sherman, Jr., commander, Task Force 1-13, uses the team as his mouthpiece to the people.

As Rubio, a senior from California State University, Northridge, studying Management Information Systems and newly married just before deploying, explained it, "We inform the local people of what the commander wants them to know." This information ranges from the status of local utilities to what the coalition is doing to remedy the local problems and other important data that it is imperative for the people to know. This is the information that the commander either needs to inform the local population about for their own security. For example, toy pistols are not allowed in the district because there is little way for a soldier to discriminate between a toy and real pistol and that puts the children at risk. The commander also needs to pass along information in order to help coalition forces locate and apprehend local criminals, Rubio said.

The PSYOP team's mission is two-fold, however. While their mission is based on getting the message of the commander out to the people, an even more important aspect of their mission is to provide feedback to Sherman as to how the activities of his military unit are affecting the people.

"In other words," Rubio continues, "we also serve as a communication channel for the Iraqi people to communicate their concerns to the command. The PSYOP team serves as a direct link to the commander of the Khadyimiya district to see if what his task force is doing is having the effects that he wants in order to help him make informed decisions on future said."

The key to these operations is the bond of trust, which the team must establish with the local population. Though they are trained in public relations, the entire team agrees that it takes approximately two years to understand how to be effective according to Salvatierra. That is because there is no doctrine in how to make friends, he informed decisions on future said."

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# Prototype goggles to give Army edge in thermal viewing technology

## Army News Service

FORT BENNING, Ga. — For years, the Army has used image intensification technology and thermal viewing technologies. Now, an experimental goggle may combine both technologies to give soldiers an edge on the battlefield.

The Army research lab has been experimenting with prototypes of goggles that combine image intensification technology and thermal viewing technology.

"There are three companies that have created prototypes, and all three are using the same technology, but in different ways," said Mark Bylan, project manager for sensors and lasers at the Army Research Lab.

The lab is using two existing goggle types as a comparison for the prototypes: the AN/PVS-7 Binocular and the AN/PVS-14 Monocular.

"Image intensification goggles are proliferated throughout the

world, and we are trying to top that technology," said Beth Redden, chief, Army Research Lab, Human Research Element Directorate, Field Element.

"The bottom line is to see first."

"We are looking at a trade-off and a combination of technology to provide the soldier with the best of both worlds," said Dutch Waldheim, controller, Dismounted Battlespace Battle Labs.

"This is very exciting," said

Maj. Greg Paul, assistant project manager, sensors and lasers, "because when you fuse this technology, it will really enhance the soldiers' fighting capability."

The research lab uses soldiers from several units throughout the Army to perform drills with the equipment and collect data that will be evaluated.

The experiment consists of five events determined to be vital skills for the infantry, Redden said, and each event is conducted

by a different set of soldiers.

The soldiers tested the equipment on its capabilities with target detection in an urban terrain environment, target detection in a woodland environment, target detection during a tunnel-clearing exercise with no light, target detection in an open field and how well the soldiers were able to negotiate obstacles while wearing the equipment.

"We are looking at the vision aspect (of the goggles), but we are

also looking at the configuration," Redden said.

The soldiers need to be able to perform individual movement techniques while wearing the equipment, she said.

The Army Research Lab will use the data collected to determine which device has the best overall rating, and they may combine some of the other devices' capabilities into a single system, Bylan said.

## Self-Help Job Info Center closing

### CPAC Release

The Civilian Personnel Advisory Center will realign under the Civilian Personnel Advisory Center Management Agency on Oct. 5.

Similar to regionalization, which established the CPACs and CPOCs, patrons should expect to experience changes as they transition from the current way of doing business to the new way said Human Resources Officer, Cindy Colson, Personnel Advisory Center, Fort Riley.

"One of the biggest changes that is scheduled to occur is the closure of the CPAC Self-Help Job Information Center on Sept. 1," she said.

After regionalization, CPAC continued to offer job information assistance as a courtesy to external customers, individuals not employed at Fort Riley. However, with the new and emerging roles, this is no longer a viable operating function since job information and assistance is provided by local workforce centers (Soldier and Family Support Center and Army Career and Alumni Program), she said.

"You will begin seeing notices in the Fort Riley Post, local area newspapers and on Channel 2 announcing the closure of the CPAC Self-Help Job Information Center. Fort Riley employees needing job information or RESUMIX assistance will continue to receive help from their activity's administrative points of contact," she said.

"My staff and I are currently developing a transitional plan that will assist us in ensuring the quality of service to our customers is not compromised," Colson said.

"Other CPAC functional and role changes will be communicated to you and phased in as we transition," she said. "I will also be informally soliciting feedback from managers and administrative POCs on the quality of services you receive from the CPAC, and suggestions on what we can do to improve our program."

"Throughout this change, we will continue to be a key player of the Garrison Team," concluded Colson.

## DeCA stops accepting home-printed coupons

### By Rick Brink

#### DeCA

FORT LEE, Va. - Commissaries are no longer accepting "home-printed" coupons as the grocery industry comes to terms with the fraudulent use of Internet coupons.

"We still gladly accept manufacturers coupons - the kind you clip out of newspapers or magazines or that you receive in the mail. What we're not accepting are coupons that have been downloaded from the Internet and printed with a home computer because it's too difficult for our cashiers to tell if they are valid," said Bob Vitkaes, the Defense Commissary Agency's director of operations and product support.

To protect against loss, DeCA officials decided to immediately suspend acceptance of home-printed, photocopied or facsimile-generated coupons - color and black-and-white.

"This is an interim measure we've adopted immediately to protect our customers and industry partners," Vitkaes said.

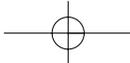


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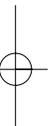
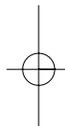
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# Procedures for soldier Sick Call appointments explained

By **Emilie Howe**  
MEDDAC PAO

Fort Riley has been the scene of numerous deployments in recent months. Many soldiers have departed from and returned to the power projection platform of "America's Warfighting Center." Many of these soldiers have been activated reservists and National Guardsmen who are new to the Fort Riley area and are unfamiliar with how to access medical treatment on a routine basis. For some soldiers, their only contact with medical professionals has been administrative, via Soldier Readiness Processing. Some have required evaluation and treatment at Sick Call in the Consolidated Troop Medical Clinic on Custer Hill. Others have needed care at Irwin Army Community Hospital. Fortunately, only a few have required urgent treatment via the Emergency Department at IACH or transfer to other medical facilities for care not available at IACH.

Recent deployments of military medical assets have had an impact on medical services for the

Fort Riley community. The method for access to routine Sick Call and emergency medical care, however, has not changed.

Sick Call services are divided between the CTMC on Custer Hill, next to the bowling alley and Dental Clinic #3, and the hospital. The basic rule of thumb is, those units located on Custer Hill go to the CTMC and those located on Main Post have Sick Call at one of the hospital's primary care clinics. Those soldiers who are unsure can always report for Sick Call at the CTMC.

Reporting hours are 6 - 7:30 a.m., Monday - Thursday. All soldiers who sign in for Sick Call need to bring an Individual Sick Slip (DD Form 689) and their medical record. There are no designated hours for Sick Call on Friday because of sergeant's time activities. However, urgent medical problems will be handled on an individual, walk-in basis.

"The CTMC offers many health care services to include a pharmacy, lab and x-ray," said 1st Lt. Matthew O'Connor, Army nurse and officer in charge, CTMC. Additional medical ser-

vices include physical therapy, physical exam section, well woman exams, electrocardiograms, minor surgical procedures and immunizations. Several Troop Medical Clinics were consolidated a few years ago to provide this broad range of services at a location close to where the majority of soldiers work. The CTMC also provides medical care for pregnant soldiers who have illnesses or injuries that are not related to their pregnancy. Pregnant soldiers do not need to go directly to the hospital for non-emergency conditions.

The CTMC staff is a blend of Fort Riley's tactical units and hospital personnel. Support personnel are staffed mainly by the hospital. Health care providers that see patients at the CTMC, such as the division and brigade surgeons and battalion physician assistants, are normally from the tactical units.

The units release their doctors and physician assistants to work at the CTMC whenever possible, usually for at least the first few hours of each duty day. When physicians and physician assis-

tants deploy or are engaged with unit training, the hospital details providers from its Department of Primary Care to see patients at the CTMC.

Soldiers can still go to the CTMC for their health care, even if they arrive outside of normal Sick Call hours.

"Soldiers who sign in outside of the normal Sick Call hours will be triaged by a medical specialist. A physician assistant will determine if the illness or injury needs same day treatment, should be referred to specialty medical care or can be seen during the next Sick Call period," said O'Connor.

Soldiers from units designated to have Sick Call at the hospital's primary care clinics should call the TRICARE Service Center, 784-1200, to make an appointment. Hours of operation are Monday - Friday, 7:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. Soldiers need to specify when they call that they need a Sick Call appointment for an acute medical condition.

"We have a lot of soldiers coming to the Emergency Room telling us it's for Sick Call," said Maj. Terence Flynn, head nurse,

Emergency Medical Services, IACH. "The Emergency Room is designed for treating emergencies and urgent medical problems. It is not designed or staffed to provide routine health care."

Even though no patient will be refused care at the Emergency Room, non-emergent patients will be triaged to a lower priority category and may have an extended wait.

Same-day urgent medical problems that occur on weekends and federal holidays can be seen at the Emergency Room. They will be triaged and treated by order of priority, emergencies first, more urgent conditions second and so on.

TRICARE also offers free medical advice via their TRICARE Line for Care, 1-888-887-4111, or via the Internet, [www.tricare.osd.mil](http://www.tricare.osd.mil). The CTMC can be reached at 239-4411; TRICARE appointments can be made at 784-1200 or 1-888-TRIWEST; the Emergency Room can be reached at 239-7777/7778 and to call an ambulance, dial 911.

## Barlow Theater

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**Rod Erickson, Public Works civilian employee, completes giving blood during the Red Cross Blood Drive on Fort Riley Tuesday.**

## New Human Resources Command to go online

*Army News Service*

Visitors to the U.S. Army Personnel Command and Army Reserve Personnel Command's Web pages will see a new look in October.

PERSCOM and AR-PERSCOM will merge to form the U.S. Army Human Resources Command on Oct. 2, in a Pentagon courtyard ceremony.

The new HRC Web page will go online that day, according to Col. Marshall Fite, PERSCOM chief information officer. The front page will link to active and Army Reserve promotion and school information lists, the 'My2xcitizen' portal, Army Knowledge online, Assignment Satisfaction Key and the Official Military Personnel File page.

"The initial change will just be the front page of the HRC Web site. As the new organization continues to evolve, the Web site will change to reflect the organization," said Fite. "No information will be lost in the transition."

The new page can be accessed at <https://www.hrc.army.mil> beginning Oct. 2.



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