



143rd Sustainment Command (Expeditionary)

# ESC Today

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### 143rd Sustainment

#### Command (Expeditionary)

##### **Commander**

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## Army Boat Supports Dive for Russian Sub

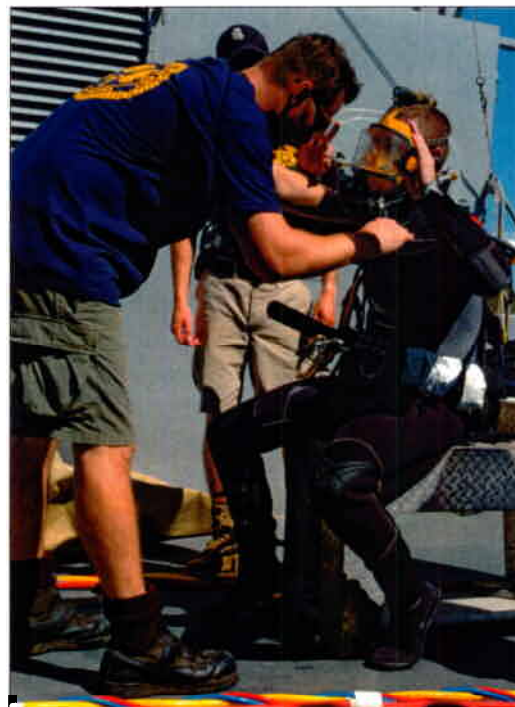
Story and Photos by Spc. Morrene E. Randell  
204th Public Affairs Detachment

PROVIDENCE, R.I. - Two divers sank below the dark water of Providence Harbor leaving behind a trail of air hoses leading to the U.S. Army Vessel New Orleans LCU-2031 (Landing Craft Utility). Normally a transport vessel, the New Orleans served as a diving platform for Army and Navy divers attempting to salvage a Russian submarine in the harbor.

The New Orleans is an Army Reserve vessel manned by the 824th Transportation Co., (Heavy Boats) of the 143rd ESC. It made its way from its home mooring in Tampa, Fla., to Rhode Island Aug. 15 to take part in the 40-day innovative readiness training mission, a program that allows Defense Department funding, personnel and equipment to support U.S. civilian projects that provide invaluable combat training commensurate with a unit's mission essential task list.

"It's nice because it's an opportunity to work together with people we don't normally work with, and understand and appreciate what they are doing," said Chief Warrant Officer 2 Anthony Tartaglia, New Orleans vessel master. The crew "gets training that they can carry on either in their civilian life or in their military career," he added.

The New Orleans is one of 35 LCU-



*Navy Diver 2<sup>nd</sup> Class William F. Stetson III confirms airflow aboard the New Orleans.*

2000 series in service. The LCU-2000 series serves the U.S. Army by transporting cargo and equipment all over the world and by supporting missions in harbors, inland waterways and the open ocean.

At the onset of Operation Iraqi Freedom, the 824th was dispatched to the Persian Gulf where it served as a diving platform for divers clearing oil platforms of explosives.

*(See Dive p. 2)*

# Commander's Column

## Do you live the Army Values?

By Brig. Gen. Daniel I. Schultz

Commander, 143rd Sustainment Command (Expeditionary)



As Warrior-Citizens, our responsibility to support the national security strategy of our nation and to improve the readiness of the Army Reserve to meet that strategy goes far beyond our monthly battle assemblies and annual training. By committing to living the Army Values and wholeheartedly supporting the Army Reserve, we improve not only our ranks and our units, but ourselves.

I challenge each of you to embrace and live our Army's Values; make them your own. This means one must do what's right even when it is often the harder choice. We must stay fit: ethically, morally, mentally, physically and spiritually. We should all strive daily to do something good for the Army by doing something good for ourselves, our Families, our units and for the Army Reserve. There are some things we simply can't put on a training calendar, but these are things we must do as individuals to make ourselves better people, better citizens and better Soldiers.

**LOYALTY:** Loyalty is earned and I intend to earn your loyalty. Know that you have the support of this Command's leadership and we will work hard to enable your success by providing the resources and support necessary to meet objectives. However in turn we need your loyalty to the Command, your unit, the mission and to the Army Reserve. Are you loyal?

**DUTY:** Duty performed right is challenging. Soldiers at all levels

must ensure training is realistic and prepares us tactically and technically to perform our combat mission. All Soldiers must hold themselves to the same standards—whether it's with the APFT, weight or working in a field environment. Shortcuts get noticed. Do you approach your duties with vigor and professionalism to make it challenging?

**RESPECT:** Respect is a two-way street, if you give it you will earn it. Do you render the proper respect to your fellow Soldiers?

**SELFLESS SERVICE:** Each of us, when we look in a mirror, should see a person who gives 110 percent. Demand more from yourselves and those around you will demand more from themselves. Success is contagious; work harder and raise the bar. Beyond that, if something is not in your lane, do you contribute and help your fellow Soldiers? Do you put the mission and others first before yourself?

**HONOR:** The day we raised our hands and swore to protect the people and the Constitution of the United States against all enemies we clearly became honorable people. But honor is often lost if we do not live by and maintain high principles. If scrutinized by those around you would they consider that you are honorable and live by high principles?

**INTEGRITY:** We've all heard it but it is worth repeating. Integrity is doing what's right when nobody is looking. We should strive to do

(See *Army Values* p. 4)

(From *Dive* p. 1)

In Providence Harbor, Army and Navy divers used the boat's ramp as a platform to survey the Juliet 484 Russian submarine which sank earlier this year.

"It sank this April after a particularly nasty nor'easter," explained Tartaglia. Because the submarine was modified to include hatches that allow tourists onto the vessel, it was no longer watertight, he said.

The teams of divers surveyed the sub to plan the safest and most practical way to raise it.

"We're in phase one of a two-part phase mission," said Navy Diver 2nd Class William F. Stetson III of Mobile Diving Salvage Unit 2 from Little Creek, Va.

"We've connected four wires and hydraulic cords to keep it stable and prevent it from going any further into the channel. [In the second phase], another team will come back and actually raise the sub," Stetson said.

"This is an excellent mission," said Sgt. Kristopher Stribbling, U.S. Army Diver. "To get the chance to come out here and dive on a Russian submarine is phenomenal." He said the uniqueness of the mission provides valuable knowledge for the divers to bring back to their unit."

For the historians involved in the sub's recovery, the mission is not just about salvage training.

"We need to preserve it for historical value," said Frank Lennon of the Russian Submarine Museum which owns the sub.

Museum officials aren't the only ones hoping for a successful recovery mission.

"When it comes up, I hope they find that they can restore it so I can come back and visit it while it's above the water," Stetson said.

# Army Reserve Recruiting Assistance Program begins

By Capt. Steve Alvarez  
143rd Sustainment Command (Expeditionary)

ORLANDO, Fla. - Never in the history of the Army Reserve have Warrior-Citizens been more empowered to help the Army Reserve than they are today. This year the Army Reserve introduced the Recruiting Assistance Program (AR-RAP) and Soldiers are quickly learning that they can earn money, while shaping the force.

AR-RAP, Army Reserve officials said, promotes strength from within by recognizing and rewarding those who help the Army Reserve achieve its goals. Recruiting Assistants (RAs) can earn money by identifying well-qualified men and women for service in the Army Reserve. RAs can earn \$2,000 for each new recruit who attends basic training or the basic officer leadership course, and for each prior service member who affiliates with a unit for four months and attends battle assembly in a 60 day-period.

"I know some people who might be interested, and money is never something I will turn down," Cpl. Jerimiah Richardson said. Richardson, a 143rd ESC Soldier from Tampa, Fla., signed up to be an RA last month and received a \$50 gift card for completing his RA online training. "My girlfriend teaches high school so there might be candidates there who are looking for a good opportunity," he added.

If an RA is successful, he/she will receive an initial payment of \$1,000 once a contract is validated. The second \$1,000 payment is paid when the non-prior service candidate ships to basic training or to the basic officer leadership course. If an RA finds a prior service ap-



*Brig. Gen. Daniel I. Schultz congratulates Cadet Passha Burns of the 207th Regional Support Group for recruiting a candidate via AR-RAP. Photo courtesy Command Sgt. Maj. Thomas Legare.*

plicant, the RA will receive the initial payment of \$1,000 when the candidate enters into a contract with the Army Reserve. The second \$1,000 payment is paid once the candidate successfully attends battle assemblies for 120 days in their unit and have attended a battle assembly in the last 60 days.

Army Reserve officials said they hope AR-RAP will transform the way the Army Reserve conducts recruiting and retention operations. The program's objective is to return to community-based recruiting and reduce the cost of recruiting new Soldiers while increasing the number of new Soldiers recruited.

Sgt. 1st Class Jorge Cantos, 143rd ESC career counselor, said that AR-RAP may be opened in the future to Active Guard Reserve and military technician personnel. In addition to receiving cash rewards, a point system may be implemented to allow RAs to earn gift rewards like polo shirts and other items.

For more information visit [ar-rap.com](http://ar-rap.com) or call 1-(866)-837-2541.

## AR-RAP At-a-Glance

### Who is eligible to participate in AR-RAP?

Off duty Soldiers, including those who are on active Troop Program Unit (TPU) status, as well as retirees of the Army Reserve with 20 or more years of service are currently able to participate in AR-RAP.

### Who is ineligible to participate in AR-RAP?

Soldiers who are AGR, IRR, IMA, currently mobilized or immediate family members of the full time recruiting and retention force are not authorized to participate in AR-RAP.

### How do I become a certified RA?

It takes two steps to become a certified RA.

First, visit [ar-rap.com](http://ar-rap.com) or call 1-866-837-2541. Complete the AR-RAP online application. It can be accessed from the AR-RAP homepage by clicking on "Apply Now!"

Second, log into your AR-RAP account and complete the online training. It only takes 30 minutes, and once completed, applicants will be certified RAs. Upon completion, RAs receive a promotional \$50 gift card.

### Is AR-RAP a mandatory program?

No, it is voluntary and applicants are selected by the contractor, Docupak, to become a RAs.

### What are the responsibilities of the Recruiting Assistant?

-Identify individuals within their sphere of influence to develop potential Soldiers.

-Promote the benefits of service in the Army Reserve.

-Input potential Soldier profile data into the AR-RAP Web site to

(See AR-RAP p. 4)

*(From Army Values p. 2)*

what is right all the time and not selectively employ our integrity. No one can destroy your integrity but you. Are you doing the right things so no one can question your integrity?

**PERSONAL COURAGE:** By virtue of the fact that you wear a uniform in this day and age means you already have personal courage. A majority of Army Reservists like many of you have deployed overseas in support of the global war on terror and continue to do so each day. However, courage is not just reserved for war. Each day we are presented with opportunities to show our courage. We can tackle a tough project, make hard decisions and hold people to standards. Do you face adversity and challenges head on or do you shy away from them?

In order to improve your unit, the Command and the Army Reserve, these are some of the things you can do as an individual, but there are plenty of things we can do collectively to improve our posture and professionalism.

We must man our force. The Army Reserve has empowered all of us to make the organization as great as we want by enabling us to recruit. A new program, the Army Reserve Recruiting Assistance Program (AR-RAP), pays citizen warriors \$2,000 for recruit-

ing Warrior-Citizens. In addition there are enlistment incentives available up to \$20,000 for those applicants who ship to training by the end of this month. You not only can make extra money, but you can also influence who will fill the ranks to the left and right of you. You can recruit quality people you know and trust.

I challenge all of you to recruit for our units, for our Army Reserve, for our nation. This is important to our Army Reserve and I am asking each of you to look around you and identify people you think would add value to our command and would benefit from Army Reserve membership. You are the Army Reserve's most valued asset in recruitment and you, having lived the Army Reserve experience, know best who will thrive and succeed amongst our rank and file.

I leave you all with one final thought. If there is something wrong in your unit, are you doing anything to remedy the problem? Are you waiting for someone else to fix something that is broken? Do you leverage solutions or are you a part of a problem?

We have an exceptional Command filled with incredibly gifted Soldiers however we can make it even better. It all comes back to one simple question: do you live the Army values?

**Sustaining Victory - Army Strong!**

*(From AR-RAP p. 3)*

begin the application process.

-Arrange meetings between the potential Soldier, the Army Reserve career counselor and the Army Reserve recruiter.

-Accompany the Army Reserve recruiter and the potential Soldier at a parental consent meeting for potential Soldiers under 17 years old.

-Work with the career counselors to prepare the potential Soldier for military entrance processing and ASVAB appointments.

**Does my participation in AR-RAP help me get promoted?**

No, your performance as an RA, whether successful or not, will not affect your performance evaluations as a Soldier in the Army Reserve.

**Can I perform the duties of the RA during drill weekend?**

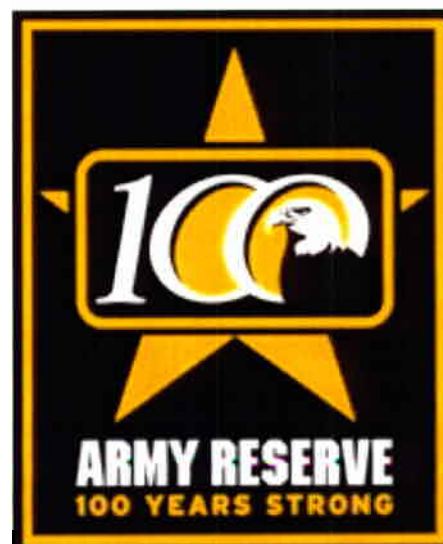
No, any Soldier in an on duty status such as AT, ADSW, ADT or IDT and/or

IMA or military technician positions can not perform the duties of an RA.

Your RA responsibilities must be met during your personal time, not on duty.

ESC Today is the monthly command information newsletter of the 143rd Sustainment Command (Expeditionary). This newsletter is an authorized publication for members of the Department of Defense, under the provisions of Army Regulation 360-1.

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# Volunteers show true colors

By Cpl. Jeremiah Richardson  
204th Public Affairs Detachment

ORLANDO, Fla. - They serve at parades, baseball games and at theme parks. They serve in uniform holding the nation's colors for all to see. They are volunteers, with no expected reward. They are the 143rd Sustainment Command's (Expeditionary) color guard, a five-man team with two alternates, and are always on stand-by for an event.

"I get a request anywhere from one week to two months away from the event," Sgt. First Class Felix Blanco said. Blanco is the guard's non-commissioned officer in charge. "My soldiers are very willing and ready to do it anytime I call them," he said.

The color guard is called upon every month to provide support at community events ranging from parades to private companies' events to show appreciation for civilian military workers.

"We then go out and practice the day before" color guard member Sgt. Ronald Andries said. He said that after working together for about three years the team is confident, but still get "pre-game jitters."

"I always get nervous at first when that music starts to play," Andries said. The members often have to stand at attention for a half hour or more. But to them, it's a small price to pay for the honor of representing the military.

"I've seen vets in wheelchairs stand up and salute the stripes ... seeing their reaction, that's what's most important to me," Blanco said.



*Soldiers from the 143rd ESC Color Guard provide color guard support during the command's transition ceremony Aug. 4 in Orlando, Fla. Photo by Staff Sgt. Christine Andreu-Wilson, 204th Public Affairs Detachment.*

## Postal team returns from tour in Iraq

By Capt. Steve Alvarez  
143rd Sustainment Command (Expeditionary)

FORT MCCOY, Wis. - Soldiers from the 834th Adjutant General Co. returned to the United States Aug. 19 after a 16-month deployment to Iraq. The 18 Soldiers of the third platoon provided postal support to 25,000 Soldiers stationed at Camp Taji, home to the second largest U.S. military post office in Iraq.

The unit was split into four groups when it first arrived in

country and served in four locations providing mail service and convoy mission support at Camp Taji, FOB Normandy, FOB Caldwell, and FOB Warhorse.

During its deployment, the 834th processed 1,243,575 pounds of mail and provided postal services to 40,595 servicemembers in theater. They processed 65,050 packages and helped deliver 409,295 pieces of mail.

The unit was greeted by Col. Larry Smith, 641st Regional Sup-

port Group commander. Capt. Keith Vandertholen, Master Sgt. Scott Ferry and Sgt. 1st Class Fredolf Johnson from the 332nd Transportation Battalion along with 1st Lt. John Valvo of the 834th AG Co. also welcomed the returning Soldiers.

The Soldiers received Welcome Home Warrior Citizen Awards during a ceremony held Aug. 21 at Fort McCoy. (Capt. Keith Vandertholen contributed to this report.)

## Army general visits Charleston aerial port

By Staff Sgt. April Quintanilla

437th Airlift Wing Public Affairs

CHARLESTON AIR FORCE BASE, S.C. — Charleston's 437th Aerial Port Squadron (APS) was visited by an Army Reserve general visiting his Soldiers and the facility Aug. 10.

Brig. Gen. Dan Schultz, 143rd Sustainment Command (Expeditionary) commander, and his reviewing team were escorted throughout the aerial port and briefed by 1st Lt. Christopher Jacobson, 437 APS operations officer, on the workload 437 APS handles, the Global Air Transportation Execution System used and the processing of shipments.

During the briefing, Gen. Schultz emphasized the importance of his Soldiers learning these tasks.

"They are now required to do similar roles in the deployed environment," said Gen. Schultz.

The first training class was coordinated back in early July by Army Sgt. 1st Class Clark Welcher, 841st BN. cargo operations NCO. The Soldiers learned about cargo processing, pallet build up, load planning, special handling and passenger movement.

"Allowing our Soldiers a chance to work hands-on does help them get a better understanding of what they will be doing while they're deployed," said Army Capt. Chris LeCron, 841st BN. cargo movement officer. "We plan to get them trained on the GATES program as well in future classes."

The next training class is scheduled to be held for soldiers out of Chicago, Ill. from Dec. 10 through Dec. 21.

"The Soldiers are cargo specialists; they are trained to prep cargo for all methods of logistics," said Sgt. 1st Class Welcher. "They are on their annual tour training at the Naval Weapons Station and I would suggest that all Reserve cargo specialists should come to Charleston AFB for training."

This training allows Soldiers to learn the standards enforced by 437 APS Airmen and enables the Army to improve cargo preparation.

"Our squadron takes great pride in providing this training because it ensures that our joint counterparts understand our mission," said Lt. Jacobson. "It also helps us emphasize the importance of the total force integration."

## ESC cooks taste Victory

By Capt. Steve Alvarez

143rd Sustainment Command (Expeditionary)

ORLANDO, Fla. - 143rd Transportation Command [now the 143rd Sustainment Command (Expeditionary)] food service personnel beat their Army Reserve counterparts in the first-round of the Army's Connelly Award competition last month. Of seven units, the 143rd placed in the top three.

The victory clears the path for the 143rd to compete for the coveted Connelly Award Cup in the Army Reserve Field Kitchen category in November. The command will compete against the 376th Personnel Support Battalion and the 352nd Combat Support Hospital.

The Phillip A. Connelly Award recognizes excellence in Army food service and was established in 1968. Teams compete for trophies, scholarships to culinary schools and attendance to the International Food Service Executives Association award ceremony. Winning Soldiers are recognized Army-wide.

The 143rd TRANSCOM won the award in the past. Winners of November's competition will be announced in 2008.



Capt. Ricky Wiggins, 641st Regional Support Group, assists Soldiers during a Soldier Readiness Program conducted Aug. 18-19. The 641st supported seven transportation units and more than 120 Soldiers during the SRP process. Photo Courtesy of Paola Huayamares.

# Soldiers Speak

## Officer says: Empower Soldiers

By Maj. Cheryl Caves

641st Regional Support Group, Operations Officer

TAMPA, Fla. - I consider myself lucky to have served with the Soldiers of the 641st Regional Support Group for the past two years. In the past 13 years as an Active Guard Reserve Soldier, this assignment reminds me who I work for: the Soldiers.

I am moving on to the Pentagon and have a much better perspective of how my decisions at the Department of the Army level will affect a detachment sergeant in Orlando. I have been reminded of the importance of delegation *with* empowerment.

We give great rhetoric to delegation, but do not allow full empowerment at the correct levels. I was fortunate to have very talented noncommissioned officers and civilians working with me at the 641st, but I had to ensure they were schooled and certified at the proper levels to empower them to do their jobs. We, as leaders, do not let go easily. Whether it is fear of failure, mistakes, or simple obsession of power, we micromanage and do not utilize the talented Soldiers surrounding us.

Throughout the transition of

the 641st RSG to the 143rd Sustainment Command (Expeditionary)'s command and control structure, many delegation lessons were learned. The old habits of directly contacting units without going through the battalion die hard. The same holds true in regards to a deploying unit.

Micromanagement is so hard to avoid because we think it is "easier to do it myself." The single points of failure we run into daily are a result of lack of delegation and fear of error. Mistakes happen, we are human beings.

A few months ago, one of the units subordinate to a battalion, subordinate to the RSG, was identified for a mission. The headquarters responsible for the tasking contacted the unit directly, without notifying the ESC, RSG, or battalion.

The unit naturally contacted their battalion for support to begin the process for orders and logistics. No one in the battalion, RSG or ESC knew what they were talking about. It was over two weeks before the ESC was formally notified (resourced) and the

rest of the chain of command was tasked to support this effort.

This mission was on very short notice and a great deal of confusion and additional work could have been avoided had the chain of command been followed. As a result, many Soldiers best suited for the mission were unable to go due to their civilian jobs inability to release them at such short notice. The orders were published late and everyone endured unnecessary stress over something that was completely avoidable.

Commanders are accountable for their unit; micromanagement and lack of delegation do not allow true ownership of processes belonging to those commanders. By inadvertently taking away the responsibilities, we are setting the commanders up for failure in deployment. The more we delegate, the more we educate. Teach tools, make an assistance team assist. Don't do the work for the unit.

You earn your reputation every day. How we send a unit forward earns our reputation every day as a command. What message do you want to send forward?

## \$20,000 bonus for quick-ship recruits

WASHINGTON, D.C. - The U.S. Army's Recruiting Command announced a \$20,000 "quick-ship" bonus for recruits. The bonus applies to new recruits with no prior military service who enlist for at least two years active duty. They must agree to report to basic training within 30 days of enlistment.

The \$20,000 quick-ship bonus can be combined

with the other cash enlistment bonuses, up to a maximum combination of \$40,000 if an enlistee signs up for at least four years. The quick-ship bonus contributes to the Army's efforts to grow the active force by over 34,000 Soldiers. The program ends Sept. 30.

Prospective recruits can learn more about the Army's opportunities at [www.goarmy.com](http://www.goarmy.com).

# Army Reserve plans role in hurricane response

By 2nd Lt. Byron Sears

143rd Sustainment Command (Expeditionary), G-3

ORLANDO, Fla. - Transformation is the new buzz word of the Army Reserve. As the entire force is transitioning into a lighter, more agile force, the Army Reserve's plan for hurricane response is no different. The lessons learned from Hurricane Katrina have been remembered in the new plan for hurricane response.

Because disaster response is mainly a local and state mission, the first responders to an event are to be local officials. Should the event be determined so disastrous that it requires aid on the federal level, then the Federal Emergency Management Agency would take control.

FEMA has divided the country into ten sections with the state of Florida falling into the fourth with the rest of the southeast region. This region used to be managed by the 81st Regional Readiness Command in Alabama - it is now managed by three different units: the 412th Engineer Command, the 325th Theater Support Command, and the 143rd Sustainment Command (Expeditionary). Since these units are deployable units, this system was created to ensure that there would always be someone available to manage in times of emergency.

At the time of an alert or event a task force manager, based in the

state of the event, would take command and control of reserve elements.

For example, if a hurricane were to strike Florida, the task force commander for the state of Florida would be called into action. The commander would act as the coordinator between FEMA and local officials, directing Army Reserve resources as necessary.

Prior to hurricane season, and in anticipation of any disaster that can be anticipated, the National Guard coordinates with the Reserve and analyzes any deficiencies that they might have in their equipment. These deficiencies are then given to the commanding units of the various regions, who are then tasked to rectify the deficiencies. Using assets from all of the units in the region, the commanding units fill the deficiencies and stand ready to use them.

The region four commander has surveyed the needs of this region and has found that the only thing needed from 143rd ESC is the provision of personnel to operate equipment provided by other units. Some 143rd Soldiers may have already been placed on notice that they could be called up to perform this duty should a natural disaster happen within our region.

## Critical gaps filled by transportation unit

By Capt. Steve Alvarez

143rd Sustainment Command  
(Expeditionary)

ORLANDO, Fla. - In January 2003 Soldiers from the 941st Transportation Company (POL) began to mobilize for the war on terror. More than four years later, the unit is still mobilizing personnel. Surprisingly, the unit has not deployed for four consecutive years. Instead, members of the unit have been plucked from its ranks, one by one, and sent to fill positions in other units deploying to Kuwait and Iraq.

"The unit mission is to mobilize and deploy and provide force protection and tactical line haul support distributing bulk petroleum in support of corps missions," Unit Administrator Kathy Andrews said.

Andrews said that most of the Soldiers deploy with heavy truck companies and some have served as convoy security and heavy truck transporters on some of the Iraq's most dangerous roadways.

According to Andrews, 90 percent of the unit's Soldiers between Jan. 2003 and 2005 were cross-leveled to other units. While the unit has not collectively served overseas, the Soldiers of the 941st have left their boot prints on the frontlines of the war on terror. Andrews said the unit is slated for deployment in Jan. 2008 where the bulk of their Soldiers will again be cross-leveled.

"As long as there is a global war on terrorism, transportation units like ours will be called upon to provide combat support activities in theater," Andrews said.

**Got News? It's not news unless others know about it! Submit your articles, photographs, opinions, editorials, and ideas to the public affairs office, or contact us for public affairs support, and we'll make sure your unit news makes it onto these pages.**

**Write: [steven.alvarez@usar.army.mil](mailto:steven.alvarez@usar.army.mil)**

# 143rd Heritage

**New Deputy Commanding  
Officer joins 143rd ESC**

Last month Col. Michael Mann joined the newly minted 143rd ESC as the command's deputy commanding officer. Mann was previously commander of the 300th Combat Sustainment Brigade headquartered in Pennsylvania, a brigade ranging in size from 1,000 to 2,000 Soldiers and spread across four states. Capt. Steve Alvarez, PAO for the 143rd, asked Col. Mann a few questions for this Q&A.

## **What brought you to the 143rd?**

The opportunity to serve in a challenging position where I will be able to contribute to missions that are important for ensuring our nation's freedom and the opportunity to join a great unit with a longstanding reputation for excellence. Also the opportunity to continue to contribute to the welfare and professional development of Soldiers and serve with a first-rate commander - Brig. Gen. Schultz. In addition, I have had a tough time finding someone to challenge me on the APFT in the northeast portion of the United States. I hope to find some competition in the Southeast.

## **Where do you reside and currently work as a civilian?**

I reside on Pennsylvania Avenue in Washington, D.C. I currently work as an economist for the United States Department of Commerce. I oversee the preparation of the U.S. trade figures.

## **Have you deployed, if so, when/where/what was your role?**

I have not deployed in support of OIF. I look forward to the opportunity to deploy.

## **Where'd you grow up?**

New York.

## **Source of commission? Branch?**

ROTC. My primary branch is Transportation. I am also branch qualified in Quartermaster, Civil Affairs and Ordnance, and I hold the 90A multi-functional logistical qualification.

## **Leadership philosophy?**

I have a pretty detailed leadership philosophy that I would like to share with all 143rd leaders at some point because you may be able to use it to fine tune your own philosophies. Mine contains a list of keys to leadership and management success that have served me well during my six previous command assignments. In summary, my leadership philosophy is based on the Soldier's creed, and guided by our seven Army Values: Loyalty, duty, respect, selfless service, honor, integrity, and personal courage.

## **Anything you want the 9,000 soldiers of the command to know about you or that you want to tell them?**

I love being a Soldier. The two biggest reasons I do not look forward to hanging up my uniform some day are as follows:

First, our nation needs our military more than ever to defend our freedom. We can not take our freedom and quality of life for granted. I have traveled a lot to many different countries. These travels always remind me how fortunate we are. I am very proud to serve to defend our freedom as our forefathers did before us. I would like to continue to contribute to the fight.

Second, I greatly enjoy working with Soldiers. There is nothing more rewarding than the brotherhood and sisterhood of Soldiering. The military is the greatest profession. I look forward to working with the Soldiers of the 143rd.

# USAR Soldiers needed for advertisements

By Command Sgt. Maj. Leon Caffie  
U.S. Army Reserve, CSM

Today's Army Reserve Soldiers are among the very best that we have ever had in our ranks and truly represent "The Next Greatest Generation." In order to attract and retain quality Soldiers, to garner the support of the American people and to ade-

quately resource the Army Reserve, we must ensure that our communities are aware of who our Soldiers are and how they contribute as Warrior Citizens to our defense and our communities.

The Army Reserve is continually searching for qualified Soldiers to feature in recruiting advertisements and events. Lt. Gen.

Stultz and I ask for your support in finding qualified enlisted Soldiers between the ages of 18-35 who are interested in being part of the Army Reserve's recruiting communications.

Army Reserve Soldiers who participated in last year's adver-

(See Advertisements p. 10)

# Benefit Programs focus on Veterans' Service Groups

By U.S. Army Human Resources Command Public Affairs Office

WASHINGTON, D.C. - The Combat-Related Special Compensation (CRSC) and Traumatic Service members' Group Life Insurance (TSGLI) Divisions of the U.S. Army are increasing their efforts to ensure eligible Service members and veterans receive entitled benefits.

The offices of CRSC and TSGLI are employing innovative outreach strategies to include working hand in hand with Veterans' Service Organizations (VSOs) and Retiree Service Offices (RSOs) around the world to reach and educate those who most need the programs. This new Affiliate program will extend the Army's reach through the hundreds of VSOs and RSOs as a grassroots effort to reach their millions of constituents worldwide.

"This program benefits both the organizations' members and our mission for CRSC and TSGLI," said Col. John F. Sackett, chief, CRSC and TSGLI. "They serve as an ideal way to reach our target audience and they offer information on valuable benefits for the members of these organizations."

Based upon the success of the Official CRSC Ambassador program that engages and educates the veterans in their communities, the Affiliate program expands this idea to incorporate the veteran organizations to which these Servicemembers belong. The Ambassador program has widened CRSC's reach throughout the nation; however, there are still thousands of Servicemembers and veterans who may be

unaware of the programs. VSOs play a crucial role in serving our nation's veterans with valuable programs, information and support, which is why CRSC and TSGLI are working together with these groups to spread the word about their offerings.

Michael Hayden, Col., USAF, ret., deputy director of government relations for the Military Officers Association of America (MOAA) said, "The Army CRSC Affiliate program has proven to be an unbelievable resource for our members. It has significantly opened the line of communications between the Army and MOAA staff and members."

VSOs and RSOs are a gateway to millions, reaching out to their members through media and other communication resources to keep their members informed and engaged. By working with CRSC and TSGLI, these organizations and the veterans they serve will now have greater resources available to them and veterans will benefit by learning how to properly apply for CRSC and TSGLI.

"In short, this program provides us with a tool kit to help our members," said Mr. Hayden. "They arm us with the information we need to help our nation's most vulnerable."

VSOs who sign on as an Affiliate will also have the added benefit of direct contact with programs' staff for up-to-date information to pass down to their members.

Choosing to become an Affiliate for the two programs has added benefits for these organizations.

(See *Benefits* p. 13)

(From *Advertisements* p. 9)

tisement campaign saw their ads premiered at such events as the Army/Navy football game and televised to millions of people around the world. Our Soldiers again have the opportunity to be featured in Army Reserve commercials, brochures, print advertisements, on the Web, and much more. Not only will they showcase the Army Reserve, but they will also highlight their service capabilities and their units. If you know a Soldier who is interested in sharing the story of their Army Reserve experiences, we'd like to hear from them.

Interested Soldiers should visit [www.armyreserve.army.mil/arweb](http://www.armyreserve.army.mil/arweb), click on the "For Soldiers" link, and then click on "Casting Call" for more details. Or call toll-free 1-800-411-6227. There are currently two opportunities for Soldiers to appear in national television advertisements.

I cannot over-emphasize the importance of candidate adherence to Army Standards for those who apply for this opportunity or whom you recommend to be a part of this program. All should demonstrate a commitment to uphold Army Values, meet height and weight standards, and be between 18-35 years old.

I want to point out that participation is voluntary. By opting to volunteer in this important program, our Soldiers will have the chance to be acknowledged by their peers and communities across America.

Thank you for your support in this extremely important mission. Recruiting is among Lt. Gen. Stultz and my top priorities in support of our Army and the global war on terrorism. Your help in identifying those Soldiers who are willing to share their great stories is both necessary and greatly appreciated.

# 100,000 claims processed in four years

By U.S. Army Human Resources Command  
Public Affairs Office

WASHINGTON, D.C. - Combat-Related Special Compensation (CRSC) Division celebrated a notable milestone this month—four years in operation and 100,000 claims received.

The U.S. Department of Defense (DoD) U.S. Army Physical Disabilities Agency (USAPDA) program that provides additional compensation for eligible military retirees has received more than 100,000 claims for the important benefit and has paid over 45,000 retired veterans, some with multiple claims, the compensation they deserve. In total, the program has approved about 55 percent of all claims for an estimated \$1.5 billion paid out to these honored men and women.

“When Congress passed CRSC into law restoring retired pay to hundreds of thousands of our nation’s veterans, we never dreamed that more than 6,000 claims would come through our doors the very first day,” said Col. John F. Sackett, chief of the U.S. Army CRSC Division. “They came, though, and CRSC gave each one, and the 94,000 that followed, the kind of care and attention that benefits those who have bravely served our country.”

To commemorate the occasion, the CRSC office held a celebration to honor four years of dedicated

service to the nation’s retired veterans. As one of these veterans, Lt. Col. Roger Simmons, Ret., CRSC claim was recognized as the 100,000 claim. “This occasion is just one more example of the United States Army taking care of those who served in defense of the Nation,” said Simmons, a retired intelligence officer for the Army.

Also in attendance at the event was Brig. Gen. Reuben Jones, the Human Recourses Command’s (HRC) Adjutant General.

“As we reflect on all of CRSC’s accomplishments from the last four years, we also take our lessons learned and look to the future,” said Brig. Gen. Jones. “We hope to ensure a stronger and more refined program to help the men and women who have served and sacrificed for our country.”

CRSC helps 20-year military retirees by providing a monthly tax-free compensation (full concurrent receipt option) that supplements Veterans Administration (VA) disability and military retired payments. The retired veteran has to have a 10 percent or greater VA disability rating, and must be able to prove that the disability is combat-related—i.e., training that simulates war, hazardous duty, an instrumentality of war, or armed conflict.

For more information regarding the CRSC Benefit, retired veterans and their families can visit [www.crsc.army.mil](http://www.crsc.army.mil) or call 1-866-281-3254.

## Click It or Ticket It campaign kicks off

By Bob Van Elsberg  
U.S. Army Combat Readiness Center

The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration’s 2007 “Click It or Ticket” Campaign ran this summer. During the campaign, law enforcement personnel closely monitored drivers and passengers for seat belt use. Although seat belt use is rising as a whole, NHTSA reports nearly 20 percent of Americans still fail to buckle up. Those unbelted drivers and occupants account for more than half of all vehicle fatalities.

Seat belt use within the Army isn’t optional. Army Regulation 385-55, *Prevention of Motor Vehicle Accidents*, requires military personnel to wear seat belts whenever they’re in a vehicle and wherever they might be driving. Seat belt use is also required by all Department of Defense civilians when they’re in duty status on or off post. Also, anyone riding in a DOD-owned or leased vehicle or traveling on a DOD installation must wear their seat belt at all times.

Buckling up is more than just obeying the law or Army regulation. Modern vehicles and seat

belts are designed to protect against the three impacts that are part of every collision.

The first impact is between a vehicle and the object it collides with. Included in the vehicle’s design are crumple zones that allow part of the structure to crush inward to reduce the impact. However, suddenly decelerating from the original speed to zero mph in the distance of a crumple zone, perhaps only 3 feet, puts tremendous force on the body. No amount of strength will keep a person from flying forward and being badly injured.

(See *Click It* p. 13)

# TSGLI review helps Soldiers, dispels myths

By U.S. Army Human Resources Command  
Public Affairs Office

WASHINGTON, DC - The U.S. Army along with the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs has completed their first review of Traumatic Servicemembers' Group Life Insurance (TSGLI) since its start in 2005. The Congressionally mandated insurance program has provided about \$250 million to traumatically-injured members of the Armed Services. about \$136 million of that was paid to Soldiers in the U.S. Army - more than twice the next highest service.

TSGLI was created to help servicemembers and their families get through tough financial times that often happen when a servicemember is severely injured. Approved TSGLI claimants receive a one-time payment of up to \$100,000, based on the type and severity of the injury.

From the Army's point of view, the program faces some interrelated challenges: ensuring that all Soldiers are aware of TSGLI, understand its purpose, and know how to file a correctly prepared claim; and decreasing the claim processing time.

According to Col John F. Sackett, who leads the TSGLI Division under the U.S. Army Physical Disability Agency (USAPDA), the average time to process a claim from receipt through payment is 30 days.

Col. Sackett believes both situations can be improved through outreach educating Soldiers, healthcare providers, counselors, and advocates. "Our main focus is determining which Soldiers are eligible to receive this payment, based on the claim they file, and then making sure eligible Soldiers receive payment as quickly as possible, so this money is available while they recover from their injury."

"One of our biggest barriers," said Col. Sackett, "is the lack of knowledge and general misconceptions that are out there regarding TSGLI. These barriers create situations where Soldiers who are not eligible file claims; or Soldiers who are eligible file claims without supplying the required documentation to allow us to adjudicate their claim quickly."

To reduce these barriers, the Army uses a robust outreach program including messaging, educational materials, media outreach, and a constantly updated dynamic web site, along with numerous in-person appearances and briefings at significant

military events and repeated visits to Military Treatment Facilities such as Walter Reed Army Medical Center in Washington, D.C. and Brooke Army Medical Center in San Antonio, TX. TSGLI Counselors will provide a full stance of claims assistance, medical staff and caseworker education, and extensive Soldier records procurement on behalf of the Soldier working through the Warrior Transition Units and Soldier Family Assistance Centers.

While the overall focus of the outreach program is educating claimants and their caregivers, there are five myths that the Army is trying to dispel:

## **Myth #1: TSGLI is just for combat injuries.**

Any qualifying injury incurred after Dec. 1, 2005 is eligible for TSGLI coverage—regardless of whether it was in combat or not. The only exception is the retroactive program, which covers Soldiers injured beginning October 7, 2001 through November 30, 2005, but only if they were injured in a Combat Zone Tax Exclusion (CZTE) area supporting Operation Enduring Freedom (OEF) or Operation Iraqi Freedom (OIF).

## **Myth #2: A healthcare provider's statement is all that is needed to verify a TSGLI claim.**

While TSGLI claims won't be approved without certification from a healthcare provider, additional documentation must be provided to substantiate the certification. The documentation may include medical reports and tests that establish the type of injury and the time of the resulting incapacity.

## **Myth #3: TSGLI replaces a traumatically injured Soldier's income.**

TSGLI provides one-time, tax-free payments that can help a Soldier and Family member get through short-term difficulties related to his or her injury and has no affect on regular pay.

## **Myth #4: TSGLI is an entitlement to Soldiers incurring any traumatic injuries.**

TSGLI provides an insurance benefit for one or more of a total of 44 scheduled physical losses due to external force or violence. These covered losses include amputation, burns, paralysis, brain injury, loss of senses, or temporary losses of two of six activities of daily living (ADLs) such as eating, bathing, dressing, continence, transferring, and toileting. It does not cover Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD).

## **Myth #5: TSGLI automatically denies the first claim attempt.**

*(See TSGLI p. 14)*

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Department News at:**  
<http://www.defenselink.mil/>

*(From Benefits p. 10)*

VSOs and RSOs will have increased web traffic to their sites and greater visibility on their programs, with a listing of their organization and web site on the Official Affiliate Page of both CRSC and TSGLI. These programs will also have access to communication tools, educational briefings and claim resources through the CRSC and TSGLI staff and web sites, as well as direct access with the Affiliate point of contact at the CRSC/TSGLI office. All of these benefits, and more, are now available through the Official CRSC/TSGLI Affiliate Program.

When a VSO agrees to partner with CRSC and TSGLI they choose between two Affiliate levels, Silver and Gold, to spread education to their members. Both Levels agree to reciprocal links on their web sites, and providing information regarding CRSC and TSGLI to their national chapters. The Gold Level of participation with the Affiliate program includes a number of other ways to promote CRSC and TSGLI, such as tips for publishing articles in the organizations' media outlets and newsletters and providing advertising space in these mediums. All of these efforts will better reach veterans that deserve these benefits.

For more information on this program, visit [www.crsc.army.mil](http://www.crsc.army.mil), [www.tsqli.army.mil](http://www.tsqli.army.mil), or call 1-866-281-3254 and speak with an Affiliate program representative.

**Get Army News at:**  
[www.army.mil/news](http://www.army.mil/news)

*(From Click It p. 11)*

The second impact is between the body and whatever stops it from moving inside the vehicle. If that's a seat belt, the occupant will likely be left with little more than a nasty bruise. If it's the steering wheel, dash or windshield because the occupant is unbelted, he or she will hit them at the same speed the vehicle was traveling. The front of the face, head and chest will become the occupant's personal crumple zone.

Finally, there's the impact of the organs slamming into each other and into bones. While these injuries might not be visible on the outside, they can be life-threatening. A severe impact to the chest can tear an aorta, causing a person to bleed to death internally. A severe impact to the head can cause disabling or fatal brain injuries.

While there's no way to com-

pletely eliminate all impact forces during a collision, seat belts direct that force to the parts of the body that can best handle it: the bones in the hips, shoulders and chest. Beyond that, seat belts keep occupants inside the car so they're not thrown into traffic or crushed by their own careening vehicle.

A person can't always avoid the bad choices others make while driving. However, they can always make the decision to buckle up.

According to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, "Traffic crashes are not only a grave public health problem for our nation, but also a significant economic burden. Traffic crashes cost our economy approximately \$230 billion in 2000. This translates to an annual average of \$820 for every person living in the United States."

For more information on traffic safety visit [www.nhtsa.gov](http://www.nhtsa.gov).

## 143rd by the Numbers

*This month's feature offers a slice of Guard and Reserve data compiled and provided by the Department of Defense and ESGR.*

Comprising 48.1 percent of the Army's total force, the Reserve Component reported more than 1.3 million members in July 2007. Of that, more than 750,000 were drilling Guardsmen and Reservists.

As of Aug. 29, more than 96,000 members of the National Guard or Reserve are serving on active duty. Since Sept. 11, 2001, more than 604,000 Guardsmen and Reservists have been mobilized.

Not including the self-employed, approximately 120,000 of the 7.4 million employers in the United States employ National Guard or Reserve Soldiers. Of these employers, 84 percent employ only one Guardsman or Reservist.

Small businesses, defined as businesses of 100 employees or less, employ 18 percent of Reserve Component members. Large businesses, with more than 500 employees, employ 26 percent of Reserve and National Guard Soldiers.

The public sector employs 36 percent of Reserve Component members, with 20 percent employed by the federal government. State governments employ 7 percent of Reserve Component Soldiers, and local governments employ 9 percent.

(From TSGLI p. 12)

Good documentation is the key to a quick award of TSGLI. Loss schedule one through 43 covers losses that have a defined and measurable loss. Loss # 44, the activities of daily living further requires medical provider documentation to substantiate the duration of two or more ADLs in which the Soldier was completely dependent (defined as 75-100% care by another person).

"As claimants become better educated about TSGLI, it can't help but speed up our processes, which allows us to better accomplish our objective of helping heroes in times of need," said Col. Sackett.

Col. Sackett said he and the outreach team rely heavily on the web site and web-based outreach e-tools to help in dispelling these myths and more.

"With a majority of the key information online, Soldiers or Family members trying to access the TSGLI programs benefits will better understand the eligibility and claims process. In addition, people who care for Soldiers, such as Family members, counselors and healthcare providers, will have information tailored specifically to their particular roles in the process," he said.

The TSGLI web site has an array of features including user-friendly graphics, detailed program information, outreach materials, program statistics that detail claims and dollars paid to date; and an online discussion forum, where users can log in, post questions or comments and interact with others to share best practices and answer common questions.

For more information about TSGLI, call 1-800-237-1336 or visit the TSGLI web site at [www.tsqli.army.mil](http://www.tsqli.army.mil).

## Classified Section

### Warrant Officer - Direct Commission Forum

Forum on benefits and opportunities for Warrant Officer or Direct Commission candidacy.

Assistance in application process.

RST available from unit.

Held Sept. 8, 2007 at 8 a.m. at

Taft Army Reserve Center,

2800 Dowden Road,

Orlando, FL 32827

For more information, contact  
386-947-4821 or 407-856-7849.

### Money Matters!

The G-8 will post current information, policies, and procedures on the 143rd ESC homepage and the AKO Knowledge Center.

Access the Comptroller page via the 143rd Main Page.

Find comprehensive list of financial management resources.

Access the 143rd G-8 folder under the AKO Knowledge Center via the 143rd main page or by logging into AKO.

### Army Reserve September Surge - Up to \$52,000!

Now through end of September, new enlistees will receive up to \$52,600 for a 6-year enlistment. Earn up to \$2,000 per enlistee through Army Reserve-Recruiting Assistance Program.

Visit [www.ar-rap.com](http://www.ar-rap.com) or [www.usarec.army.mil/smart](http://www.usarec.army.mil/smart) for more details.

### Pvt. Murphy's Law

Mark Baker

