

CECOMT DAY

SUMMER 2011

SUPPORTING THE WARFIGHTER

Before, During and After Deployment



From the
COMMANDER

HIGHLIGHTS

Faces to
THE FIELD

LINKAGES

Warrior
SUPPORT

ONE VISION, ONE MISSION. THE WARFIGHTER

from the **EDITOR...**



Hello and welcome to another informative issue of CECOM Today. Each quarter, the editorial staff tries to assemble an assortment of articles from across the command's various activities and from around the world, wherever CECOM's Soldiers and civilians are working for the Warfighter. This edition will not disappoint.

The CECOM commander, Maj. Gen. Randolph P. Strong, takes every opportunity he gets to tell the Army's senior leaders, congressional delegations, business groups, and anyone else he talks to about the world-class organization he has the honor of leading. One of the things he is very proud of is the fact that CECOM is second to none when it comes to sustaining and equipping America's Warfighters, regardless of the uniform they wear. He is also extremely proud of the way in which CECOM and its sub-organizations take care of Soldiers after they come home—not just by repairing equipment or assisting units through the ARFORGEN process—but through programs like Fisher House Foundation fund raisers, Ride 2 Recovery, and the Army Wounded Warriors Program.

This issue will highlight some activities that directly contribute to Warfighter success at the edge of the battle space. For example, Logistics Assistance Representatives, or LARs, go where the Warfighter goes. When equipment is prepared to go forward to our Soldiers or is returning from the field in need of maintenance, the LARs are right there at Victory Base Complex, Iraq, or Kabul, Afghanistan, 24/7, ensuring the quickest possible turnaround keeping our forces mission capable.

Then there are the partnerships with technicians from Tobyhanna Army Depot who inspire the workforce by sustaining long hours ensuring our Warfighters are safe.

Take for example the Fighting McGlamerys. This mother, father and son team of civilians has served a combined 36 months in Iraq organizing logistics, assisting service members repairing and installing counter-IED equipment all for one reason succinctly stated by young Matthew, "Their [Soldiers] survival is what drives me to do my job to the best of my ability."

We'll also draw attention to the Joint User Interoperability Exercise. This is an exercise that is in its 18th year and was not only successful by any measure, but included joint, multinational, civil authorities and numerous other stakeholders all focusing on communication interoperability and new and emerging technologies to give our Warfighters the decisive edge in an ever-changing battle space that has moved from one of kinetic warfare to one that is more information-centric. Although it may not always be at the top of our thoughts, someone is ensuring those phones, LANs, Counter IED Devices, SINCGARS, and so on, can all communicate in a secure environment.

We would love to hear your ideas and see your photos from the field. It is always a pleasure to tell the commanding general the feedback and stories we receive from our readers. Enjoy the issue and remember—this is your magazine.

One Vision, One Mission—**the Warfighter.**

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Kelly Luster', written over a light blue circular background.

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DISCLAIMER: CECOM Today is an authorized CECOM publication for members of the Department of Defense and interested entities. Contents of CECOM Today are not necessarily the official views of, or endorsed by, the U.S. Government, the Department of the Army, or CECOM. This publication aims to raise awareness about CECOM's services available to the Warfighter by informing readers about the CECOM mission; why our services are relevant and essential in today's transforming Army; communicate CECOM's impact made on the Warfighter; and update readers on the command's priorities and foci. The editorial content of this publication is the responsibility of the U.S. Army CECOM Chief of Public Affairs, Robert DiMichele. The magazine is published three times a year and distributed electronically and in print. Electronic versions of the publication are posted to the CECOM homepage at :

<http://cecom.army.mil>



About the Cover

Staff Sgt. Patrick Zeigler rides through one of the residential areas of Fort Hood on a 'trike' called Project Z, specially designed for him by Ride 2 Recovery. Zeigler sustained life-threatening wounds in the Nov. 5, 2009, shooting incident on Fort Hood that claimed the lives of 13 Soldiers and civilians and injured 33 others. Photo by David G. Landmann.



Change is inevitable, culture and heritage is enduring

By Maj. Gen. Randolph P. Strong

Greetings from the C4ISR Center of Excellence here at Aberdeen Proving Ground. It has been a challenging but rewarding year as the headquarters completed its move

from Fort Monmouth, N.J., to Aberdeen Proving Ground, Md.

Summer is the Army's traditional time for leadership changes and that was no different for CECOM this year. My deputy, Ed Thomas, retired after 37 years of federal service and after leading the move from Fort Monmouth to Aberdeen Proving Ground. His accomplishments both as my deputy and as the former director of the Software Engineering Center helped make CECOM the premier sustainment organization it is today. Command Sgt. Maj. Tyrone Johnson, the CECOM command sergeant major, left to take the command sergeant major position at the Army's Center for the U.S. Army Capabilities Integration Center at Fort Eustis, Va. His focus on support for the Warfighter never wavered and always guided the command to the right answers. Col. Steve Drake retired after serving as the director of the Central Technical Support Facility at Fort Hood, Texas, for the past two years. Col. Drake successfully oversaw the execution and timely completion of more than 80 Army interoperability certification tests during his tenure of leadership at CTSF. Col. Sylvester Cotton also transitioned from the Information System Engineering Command to FORSCOM at Fort Bragg, N.C. Under his watch, ISEC managed 535 Military Construction - Army projects that involved \$323 million in information technology investments. And finally, Dave Sharman, the director of the Logistics Readiness Center retired in the spring after more than 30 years of service and leading the split-based operations and reconstitution of the C4ISR mission at APG.

Although five of CECOM's eight senior leaders changed in a very short period of time, I am not concerned because of two key factors—I have confidence in the quality of the new leaders that are following in their footsteps, and I am fully confident in the world-class CECOM workforce that continues to excel no matter the challenge.

Please welcome to the command Col. John Matthews as the new director of CTSF. He comes to us from the Program Executive Office for Integration. And, welcome to Col. Kris Kramarich, the new commander of ISEC. Col. Kramarich came to Fort Huachuca from the Army's CIO/G6 Office. Also, please welcome Mr. Lane Collie who took over as the new director of the Logistics Readiness Center. Mr. Collie comes to the LRC from Headquarters AMC where he served as the principal deputy G3 for operations as well as the executive deputy for supply chain and industrial operations with the Army Materiel Command.

As you might imagine, filling the voids left by the departure of my senior enlisted advisor and deputy are vital decisions affecting the entire command. These are choices I do not take lightly. Until I select permanent replacements, I would like to thank Sgt. Maj. Jurgen H. Williams, our LRC sergeant major, who took on the role as my acting command sergeant major and Mr. Ned Keeler, Director of the Software Engineering Center, who is acting as my deputy. I have every confidence in their abilities to fulfill the needs of the command as their values are directly akin to mine and each believes strongly in supporting the Warfighter.

Summer is also a time for celebration of many of our own great traditions. As traditions begin and are sustained in our culture that is the "Army," we in CECOM and the C4ISR community sustain our own. For example, we celebrated the success of two C4ISR events that have found a new home here at APG. The Software Engineering Center's Joint User Interoperability Exercise, or JUICE, was hosted for the first time on the new campus and was an overwhelming success. This, the 18th year of the exercise, garnered a great deal of testing among joint, Army, Marine and Air Force nodes, and communications were established between all participants, including the NATO Partners for Peace and Joint Task Force nodes. JUICE 2011 lessons learned promise significant interoperability advances for our current and future operations. Event organizers John Caruso and Sally Wallschleger are to be commended on a job well done.

We also continued the wonderful tradition of the C4ISR Fisher House Foundation Benefit Ball. This event brings together

military and civilian communities to raise money for military families who need lodging when a service member or family member is hospitalized. Similar to the Ronald McDonald houses in the civilian community, no military family ever has to pay to stay at a Fisher House. Over the past seven years, the C4ISR community has raised \$1.2 million for the foundation. While many events have been fully integrated into the fabric of our new home at Aberdeen Proving Ground, this one remains a C4ISR event.

I believe we are an organization that not only takes care of our Warfighters before and during a deployment, but after they come home as well—just as we should. For when they are asked, without hesitation, they travel to wherever they are needed, for as long as they are needed. They will sleep in the rocks and dirt of the Afghan mountains, endure the scorching heat and sand of Iraq and bear the harsh conditions of the Horn of Africa for an ideal that is as old as the Army itself. If you ask one of these Soldiers why they serve, you will hear numerous answers. More often than not, they will humbly say—“This is my job. . . This is what I do.” In doing so, some have paid a great price that requires the continued attention of a grateful nation.

In keeping with the great traditions instilled in this organization by those who came before in defense of such great ideals and values, the CECOM headquarters and the C4ISR Center of Excellence will celebrate its one year anniversary at Aberdeen Proving Ground this fall. With these new beginnings, however, we will recognize and forever memorialize the great tradition of excellence and sacrifice through which CECOM finds its roots and foundations.

The buildings on the C4ISR Center of Excellence campus are being dedicated in recognition of the great patriots and accomplishments upon which our community is built. Doing so provides us an opportunity to ensure this organization retains its shared cultural heritage—one that moves with the organization rather than being forgotten as buildings are shuttered or transitioned from one existence to another.

I'd like to recognize these great patriots without whom our organization might not have been as successful as it is: the father of the Signal Corps, Brig. Gen. Albert James Myer; Col. Charles S. Wallace, who signed the first contract with the Wright Brothers for the first military airplane in 1908; Maj. Edwin Howard Armstrong who pioneered the FM radio;

Dr. Walter McAfee, the renowned physicist who helped put mankind's imprint on the Moon for the first time with RADAR; Dr. Rudolf Buser, a pioneer in night vision; Rear Adm. Grace Hopper, a pioneer in computer programming and co-inventor of COBOL, or Common Business Oriented Language; Lt. Gen. Alfred Mallette, CECOM Commander during the Gulf War; and finally, Col. William Blair, the father of RADAR.

Now I'd like to turn to something that will draw on our resources across the command, regardless of whether you work at APG, Fort Huachuca, Tobyhanna Army Depot, Fort Hood or if you are one of the many Soldiers or civilians deployed in direct support of the Warfighter. Earlier this year, our Command-in-Chief, President Barack Obama announced the organized withdrawal of troops from Afghanistan—more than 33,000 troops over the next 12 months. Additionally, troops continue to drawdown from missions in Iraq. As one of the key commands in the ARFORGEN process, the reduction of troops in both areas of operation will, without a doubt, increase our workload. As I have stated, I have no doubt in my mind of the skill and ability of this organization's capacity to not only rise to the challenge, but to set the bar higher for those who follow in your footsteps.

There is no reservation in recognizing the accomplishments of this great command I have the honor of leading. This world-class organization has a global presence in 28 states and more than 20 countries supporting our Warfighters. Whether it's Susan Langan and her team at Joint Base Balad north of Baghdad, Al Ware and his team in Kandahar, Afghanistan, or Buddy Hayslip and his team in Bagram, Afghanistan—we are making an impact and directly contributing to the success of the missions and I commend all of you.

The coming months are sure to be busy, but rewarding. I truly believe there is no greater reward than when I speak to Warfighters in the field and they tell me about the unmatched help our support has provided them ensuring mission success.

We have successfully transitioned not just the organization, but also the culture and heritage that have become ingrained since CECOM's inception. By any measure, we have left the gate and are striding past the competition in a world-class organization that is second to none. None of this could be accomplished without our most important asset—our people. Thank you for all of your excellent work.

One Vision, One Mission—the **Warfighter**.

My colleague's departure here has left a void I will not try to fill, but rather bridge the gap until a replacement is chosen. I was truly honored when Maj. Gen. Strong asked if I would serve as the acting Command Sergeant Major for CECOM until a final decision is made regarding Command Sgt. Maj. Johnson's replacement.

While I am here, I commit to you that my priorities are directly aligned with that of the commanding general. There is nothing I will work harder for than our Warfighter. Every senior noncommissioned officer has one phrase drilled into their heads throughout the noncommissioned officer education system—your job is to take care of Soldiers. Well, how do we do that?

Listening.

I believe a great place to start is by listening. Every Soldier and civilian has a story and they need someone to listen. Not just to hear it, but to truly listen. As NCOs, once you understand the issue, you and the Soldier can formulate a plan to resolve the issue. Notice I said "you and the Soldier." Formulating a plan for success is not simply a one-sided process. Both you and the individual need to work together determining realistic goals, obstacles, and deadlines.

Professionalism.

Each day, our workforce provides our customers with the quality service they deserve. I commend our workforce on maintaining the professionalism that contributes to the success of our nation's military. To me, professionalism entails not only meeting the standard, but surpassing it, and that's what I've witnessed here at CECOM.



Our Soldiers, civilians and contractors are dedicated to our support mission for the benefit of our nation's heroes. CECOM's professionalism

and embodiment of the Army's values is exemplified every day as the workforce continues to enhance their areas of expertise and sharpen their skills through workforce development training opportunities.

Follow-up.

Just as we are expected to follow-up in our day-to-day tasks; as a command, we must continue to follow-up with our Soldiers. If we as NCOs, as leaders, fail to follow-up with our Soldiers, then we have failed as leaders.

As I fill the position of CECOM's command sergeant major over the next few months, I take on that honor with humble pride.

I implore you all to continue to listen, maintain professionalism, follow-up and be proud of the roles each of you plays in our ongoing missions around the world. Take pride in the mission we accomplish with our partners every day. And most of all, take pride in your professionalism, as it directly impacts the Warfighter and the global perception of our nation's Armed Forces. Each success you experience behind the desk or in the field translates into improved quality support and customer service capabilities provided to our ultimate customer—the Warfighter.

One Vision, One Mission—the **Warfighter**.



Support via phone or e-mail...



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- DCG - Web Conferencing Tool

Announcements

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Smart Phones Post Security Threat
Tuesday, June 08, 2010
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Single Interface to the Field

The goal of the SIF initiative, through a web portal and Support Operations Center (SOC) infrastructure for supported C4ISR/Army hardware and software systems, is to provide improved and simplified 24/7/365 reach back support to the Warfighters and forward support personnel, whether in a test, exercise, or deployment/mobilization environment. SIF synchronizes the civilian community with the Warfighter they support through the Unit Set Fielding process in alignment with the Army Force Generation (ARFORGEN) model and unit equipping strategies.

<https://sif.kc.us.army.mil>

The SIF Functionality Includes

- Portal Enterprise Capabilities
- Flash Reports
- Fielding Management
- Field Personnel Management
- IT Service Management
- Logistics Management
- Training Management
- Software Management
- Support Operations Center
- Weapon Systems Management



Vietnam-era recordings reveal CECOM's history of supporting the Warfighter

By Chrissie Reilly, CECOM

The U.S. Army Communication-Electronics Command has a long history of supporting America's Warfighters through equipping and sustainment programs. During the Vietnam War, CECOM's predecessor organization—the Electronics Command, ECOM—was supplying the Army with the most advanced communications and electronics systems any Army had ever seen. ECOM managed signal research, development, and logistics support, and supplied combat troops with a number of technological commodities during the war. These included mortar locators, aerial reconnaissance equipment, sensors, air traffic control systems, night vision devices, and surveillance systems. However, to some who walked patrols through the dense, treacherous jungles of Vietnam, perhaps none was as significant as the AN/PPS-5 man-portable surveillance radar.

ECOM developed the AN/PPS-5 man-portable surveillance radar to replace the AN/PPS-4 and AN/TPS-33. The new, 95-pound set had a 360-degree scan capability and could detect personnel within five kilometers and vehicles within ten kilometers. ECOM awarded the production contract in April 1966 following evaluation of engineering development models in Southeast Asia. There were more than 350 sets in theater by the end of 1970. Though often 'dead-lined' for lack of repair parts, the set was popular with the troops because it reduced the need for hazardous surveillance patrols. According to historical documents, one officer said, "One AN/PPS-5 in operating condition is worth 500 men."

The high-technology commodities supported during the Vietnam conflict also included communications equipment. ECOM Commander, Maj. Gen. Frank W. Moorman, ordered the new, transistorized FM radios of the AN/VRC-12/PRC-25 families shipped to Vietnam in July 1965 in response to Gen. William C. Westmoreland's complaints about the AN/PRC-10.

The new FM radios soon became the mainstay of tactical communications in Southeast Asia. ECOM awarded competing production contracts to sustain the flow. ECOM's next commander, Maj. Gen. William B. Latta, took a personal interest to ensure timely delivery of this product. In three and a half years, ECOM delivered 20,000 VRC-12 and 33,000 PRC-25 radios to Southeast Asia.

But it was not just top brass that had an affinity for the AN/PRC-25 radio set. In interviews with service members who had tours in Vietnam, and in recorded oral histories from the CECOM Historical Office Archive, officers and enlisted men alike recalled the AN/PRC-25 radio.

Retired Army Major Frank Wynne spoke about the AN/PRC-25, which was on the helicopters he flew during two separate tours at Camp Eagle near Hue, Vietnam. A U.S. Army Chief Warrant Officer 2 (CW2) with the 101st Combat Aviation Brigade at the time, Wynne said, "the PRC-25 was the most used radio in the Vietnam War; every unit on the ground carried one and without it, we would have never found some ground units. If, for example, a unit was unsure of their location they could give us a short count and we had FM homers on all of our Hueys [that could help us find them]."

He said the United States Air Force used them as well. Wynne stated that occasionally, "you would find [the] PRC-25 on some Air Force cargo planes such as the C-130. The Air Force did not have FM radios so they used the AN/PRC-25 to check where the artillery was active so they would not fly into the gun target line."

In a series of interviews recorded by the U.S. Army Signal Corps during Vietnam, individuals recorded their thoughts about this equipment. These recordings were only recently transcribed.

From a November 1967 recording, Captain Robert Lee, the Signal Officer for the 101st Airborne Division, recorded his interview after spending approximately 9 months in theater, both as Signal Officer and earlier "with Brigade Headquarters as the communications center and signal maintenance platoon leader." Captain Lee wished that all equipment was made "with the same reliability and ruggedness that the AN/PRC-25 has."

Specialist Page with the 2nd of the 327 Infantry and the 1st Brigade, 101st Airborne Division, recorded his thoughts on Signal Equipment after being in Vietnam "a little over 8 months and I've experienced quite a bit with radios and communications equipment." His recording in January 1969 talked about the durability and staying power of the AN/PRC-25. Lee said, "as far as PRC-25 go, they hold up for a substantial period of time. Some pieces of equipment were in use for over a year!"

The impact of CECOM on the success in battle is still a vital mission, and one that has been a part of the organization's tradition for decades. CECOM is still supplying the Army with cutting-edge communications and providing support for equipment wherever it is fielded.





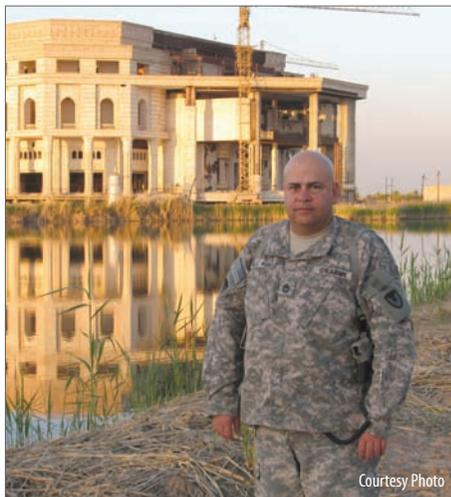
Louis Venturi

Louis Venturi, Tobyhanna Army Depot, serves as an electronics mechanic in the Depot's Command, Control and Computer (C3)/Avionics Directorate. During his five deployments to Iraq supporting the Logistics Information System, LIS, mission, Venturi managed shop operations and helped Soldiers work through various communications issues. He was responsible for troubleshooting and repairing computer and printer hardware, often replacing keyboards, motherboards, and power supplies. Venturi also ensured unserviceable equipment was properly disposed. At the depot, Venturi understands his role in C3/Avionics helps connect the Warfighter with modern technology to ensure their safety and success.

Roll Call, CECOM's *Faces to the Field*

Sgt. 1st Class Cesar Velez-Roman

Sgt. 1st Class Cesar Velez-Roman, a seventeen-year career Soldier, volunteered to deploy to Iraq in 2011 to assist with CECOM's ongoing support mission. He is the Assistant Contracting Officer Representative for BETSS-C, Raid and Aerostat Program, located north of Baghdad at Victory Base Complex. His typical day includes assisting and managing more than 438 U.S. contractor operators of Force Protection Systems, making sure they are provided with housing, transportation, security, and numerous other logistic sustainment needs according to their respective contracts. Velez-Roman also serves as the liaison between USF-I J-35 Force Protection and Companies providing contract personnel for the surveillance systems like CACI, Lockheed Martin, Mantech, and customers (military units) throughout the Iraq area of operation.



Highlights



Electronics Mechanic, John Kostiak, checks input and output voltages from the main amplifier of a Depth Detector Type 2 at Tobyhanna Army Depot.

Depot embarks on Navy overhaul mission Doing its part in digital warfare and interoperability...

By Jacqueline Boucher, TYAD

Tobyhanna Army Depot is now the Navy's source for overhaul of a sophisticated piece of equipment, the Depth Detector Type 2, DD2.

Employees are trained to maintain electronic components (non-airborne), fire control systems and components, radar and radio.

The DD2 provides primary depth readings to ship operators and computer systems.

"I think everyone did an outstanding job of preparing for this new workload [for certification]," said Jeff Morman, chief of Production Engineering Directorate's C3/Avionics Engineering Branch.

Lean initiatives were implemented to set up work space in the Transponder Branch to carry out parallel methods and processes [for repair of the equipment] that were performed at Seal Beach. Test equipment and spare parts were also transferred to Tobyhanna.

"In addition to the mechanical and electronics work employees will perform, components will be sent to other depot organizations for work," said Morman. "For instance, refinishing work will be accomplished by personnel in the Systems Integration and Support Directorate."

Morman also noted that personnel in engineering, production control and quality assisted with the certification process.

Depot capabilities extend to on-site repairs when necessary. Tobyhanna is certified to work on the asset and its two subassemblies—each with its own test procedures.

"The assets are disassembled and components are sent to other shops to undergo processes like welding and painting before finally being reassembled and tested," said Mike Flinn, mechanical engineering technician.

“There are dedicated Defense civilians from Tobyhanna [Army Depot], PA, working among us in places like Afghanistan and Iraq. Have to tell you - that makes your chest stand up a little when you point out a Tobyhanna vet from back home.”

~Lt. Gen. Francis J. Wiercinski, commander, U. S. Army Pacific

Firefinder Radar software taught at the edge of the battlespace

By Phillip S. Sperling, SEC

The Software Engineering Center has been fielding the newest version of Firefinder Radar software, version 2.01.04, in the Continental U.S., Korea and Germany for almost a year. As soon as the new software hit the ground, it was immediately popular with Warfighters due to its versatility and ease-of-use.

One of the most appreciated features of the upgrade was the incorporation of a common front end, CFE, providing users with an identical interface regardless of the radar platform (Q36, Q37, or Lightweight Counter Mortar Radar), thus simplifying training for radar users who commonly move between units and between varying platforms.

Units already deployed to Iraq before the latest release had to use the older software version, since they had not yet received or been trained on the new one. SEC had planned to upgrade these deployed units upon their return to CONUS during reset. However, as word spread about the popularity of the new version, the deployed units wanted to receive their upgrade as soon as possible.

To address the high demand, SEC pulled together a special, two-person team of Jesse Sorrell and Thomas Schoen to immediately field Firefinder Q36 and Q37 Version 2.01.04 and train the units. The team flew to Iraq in early March 2011 and completed their mission two months later with all operators trained and all radar platforms equipped with the new software.

Thomas Schoen, a Software Engineering Center instructor, provides instruction to Soldiers in Iraq.



Courtesy Photo

Jesse Sorrell, a Software Engineering Center instructor, works with a Soldier emplacing the new Q36 2.01.04 inside the shelter in Iraq.



Courtesy Photo

LRC optimizing effectiveness, efficiency and affordability

The CECOM Logistics and Readiness Center's Life Cycle Sustainment Initiatives, LCSi, are designed to tactically implement product support and life cycle management for optimizing effectiveness, efficiency and affordability throughout Army and joint service weapon system programs. Utilizing new guidance and policies on product support management as a baseline, the LRC is developing standard processes, optimized tools and applying it to our human capital across our Team C4ISR Materiel Enterprise. These processes and tools will support an enterprise driven environment throughout the PEOs, PMs, LRC, SEC, CERDEC, TYAD and other relevant organizations in life cycle sustainment planning and establishment of performance outcomes and monitor-able metrics that meet Warfighter combat sustainment and ARFORGEN requirements.

ISEC & SEC Provides critical direct communication link in times of emergency

by Delle C. Lambert, ISEC

In certain times during a world crisis, a direct communications link as a means of settling differences between countries can be invaluable.

The “hotline,” or direct communications link as it would later be called, for use in a time of emergency between the U.S. and U.S.S.R. was agreed upon in a Memorandum of Understanding on June 20, 1963, as a result of the Cuban Missile Crisis.

The purpose of the direct communications link is to avoid the possibility of a nuclear war and the potential loss of human lives. In 1979, Washington activated the hotline to protest the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan. More recently, Russian and American leaders conferred over stabilization issues during the Iraq War.

The hotline consists of two satellite circuits and one wire telegraph circuit. Terminals linked to the three circuits in each country are now equipped with e-mail and instant messaging. Instant messaging permits the heads of government to exchange messages far more rapidly than they could with the previously existing teletype system. They can also send detailed graphic material such as maps, charts, and drawings by e-mail.

The direct communications link is operated on the U.S. side from the Pentagon’s National Military Command Center and in Russia from the Moscow Kremlin Presidential Communications Directorate. The direct communications link is a critical Warfighter support program that furnishes the U.S. and Russia with the ability to quickly resolve differences before escalation.

Since 2000, Brad Snyder of the U.S. Army Information Systems Engineering Command’s, USAISEC, Transmission Systems Directorate, TSD, has provided the lead engineering for substantial modernization and technology insertion efforts on the direct communications link program. The effort moved the direct communications link from a legacy stovepipe system to a modern IP-based system providing e-mail and instant messaging capabilities. In 2009, support from Communications-Electronics Command’s Software Engineering Center, SEC, was combined with the ISEC effort to provide software system security maintenance.

Now a group leader for TSD, Brad Snyder said that ISEC’s role in the direct communications link project is to provide complete

engineering services to both terrestrial and satellite components and end user computer terminals for dedicated communications. “Thus far we’ve published the restoral procedures on how to bring the system up; the SEC’s role is to write the security evaluations using information assurance vulnerability alert software.”

Snyder and Robert Little, both electronics engineers, are presently the points of contact on the direct communications link project.

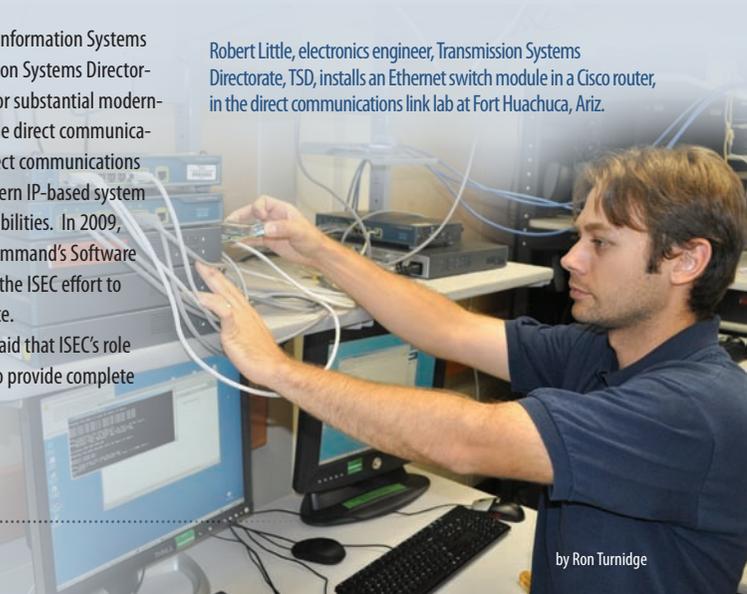
“I feel extremely honored to have had the privilege of working for such a great organization on a project that is so critical to our national security” said Snyder .

As the new direct communications link project leader, Little said he is up for the challenge.

“The DCL is one of the most complex and intriguing projects that [ISEC] is part of. I feel privileged that ISEC has chosen to bring me on the project,” said Little.

ISEC, in collaboration with the SEC, is currently developing a program for monitoring information assurance vulnerability alerts for end user equipment with a plan to implement patches when required. The end user computer terminals contain extensive software platforms to meet unique customer requirements. Although the two organizations have different missions under CECOM and are located almost 3,000 miles apart, they both share one common goal—support to the Warfighter!

Robert Little, electronics engineer, Transmission Systems Directorate, TSD, installs an Ethernet switch module in a Cisco router, in the direct communications link lab at Fort Huachuca, Ariz.



Successful Coalition Warrior Integration Demonstration connects to five countries

By David G. Landmann, CTSF

The Central Technical Support Facility, CTSF, was one of six sites in the United States, Canada and Poland that participated in the Coalition Warrior Integration Demonstration, CWID, event staged annually under the auspices of the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff.

It was the CTSF's pioneering efforts in the establishment of an Afghan Mission Network, AMN, laboratory on the facility's expansive test floor that drew CWID organizers to the Fort Hood-based complex. The AMN lab, now called the Coalition Interoperability Assessment and Validation, CIAV, lab became a focal point for the event.

According to CWID spokesperson, Luefras Robinson, CWID's objectives were designed to address information sharing shortfalls being experienced in Afghanistan and to test the ability of coalition forces to execute a joint fires mission among member entities.

The CTSF's CIAV lab allowed CWID participants to replicate the AMN and provided them with a "relevant operational backdrop" allowing the systems in the demonstration to undergo realistic stresses to determine their readiness for the battlefield, said Robinson.

"Overall, the event was successful," said Charles McMaster, who coordinated CWID events at the CTSF on behalf of Headquarters, Department of the Army, G6. "We identified some technology shortcomings, and enjoyed our technological successes."

McMaster was highly complementary of the Fort Hood Soldiers who participated as test operators in CWID. They reported for a week of training in late May and jumped into full-fledged interoperability testing, using the more than 30 Army tactical baseline systems on the CTSF test floor, he said.

"The Soldiers were out of their comfort area. They were doing things they aren't normally expected to do, but they adapted to the circumstances, and quickly learned the tasks before them," said McMaster. "They did a fantastic job for us."

A group of experienced CTSF test operators worked closely with the Soldiers for the duration of the CWID event.

"Our operators trained the Soldiers, assisted them during the event, and in some cases, did the actual operating," said Matt Meverden, CTSF Defense Information Systems Agency, DISA, liaison officer.

It was the expertise of the CTSF's operators, moreover, the depth of expertise the CTSF was able to bring to the CWID event, that got the facility involved, Robinson reiterated.

"The reputation we built with our Coalition Interoperability, Assurance and Validation, CIAV/Afghan Mission Network, AMN, lab had CWID knocking at our door," McMaster added.

For more than a year, the CTSF has been working software system interoperability issues with coalition partners in Europe and NATO in an effort to make the digital battlefield in Afghanistan visible to elements of all of the friendly forces engaged in the war there.

CWID used that experience, as well as the CIAV network available at the CTSF to conduct what a CWID spokesperson described as "technology trials" in operationally realistic scenarios.

"The ability to share a common classified network across coalition lines provides commanders a more precise operational picture, enabling timely decision-making," said McMaster. "That is one of the aspects of our CIAV facility that the CWID people found quite valuable. It is also a value we are proving and expanding for the Warfighter."

Not only was the CTSF able to conduct software trials with the participating facilities in Canada and Poland, but in Germany, France, and the Netherlands as well in an attempt to meet CWID's goal of defining an expanded command, control, communications, computer, intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance, C4ISR, baseline of capabilities.

Event organizers said its results will ultimately "positively impact Warfighters in Afghanistan as well as homeland security-homeland defense forces, and emergency responders."

A final assessment of the CWID activities will be published fall 2011, said Robinson.

"It should provide quality assessment data to support coalition, combatant command, service and agency acquisition processes," she said.



Staff Sgt. Contena Moriley-Mack gives instruction to her Soldiers as they work through the June 9 phase of the Coalition Warrior Interoperability Demonstration (CWID) event at the Central Technical Support Facility (CTSF) at Fort Hood, TX. Soldiers from Fort Hood's III Corps are working the CWID event that began June 6 in the CTSF's Afghan Mission Network laboratory.

Faces to the Field

Practice makes perfect at WMPRC-Korea

By Jim Hayes, SEC

What do D-Day, Seal Team Six's recent mission and getting to Carnegie Hall have in common? Practice, practice, practice. One of the critical steps to mission success in any military operation is the rehearsal — a time to run through your plan and make sure everyone knows their places, and what to do in the likely eventuality that real-world events don't follow your plan.

The Army has numerous facilities and methods for ensuring its Soldiers are kept fully trained and mission ready, from full-scale training areas capable of supporting division exercises to computer based training allowing Soldiers to practice individual common and specialty skills. One of the newest facilities in the inventory is the Warrior Mission Planning and Rehearsal Complex, WMPRC, a thirteen-building complex of upgraded simulation and gaming equipment and remodeled facilities located at Camp Casey Korea.

The WMPRC is dedicated to providing a single location for 2nd Infantry Division, 2ID, Soldiers to "train, practice, rehearse and execute" their operations. CECOM's Software Engineering Center Field Support Directorate, SEC FSD, is assisting 2ID with efforts to consolidate their live, virtual, constructive, and gaming mission requirements into a single operational Tactical Operations Center, TOC, operated and maintained on a 24/7 basis.

Included within the complex facilities are CECOM SEC FSD's and 8th Army, 8A, G3 Training Exercise Division's joint effort to provide a C4ISR integrated training classroom. By including Army Battle Command Systems in a collective training environment allowing units to come, train, integrate, and run battle drills within the classroom, the WMPRC provides a central location for 2ID soldiers to establish and maintain their system skills in a near real-world environment. "This is Korea's proof in concept for streamlined training gates leading to a 'fight tonight' level of readiness and may become a model for other theaters," said 8A, G3 TREX, TSAK TADSS/LVCG Program Manager, Wayne A. Mitchell.



Mission Command Training Center Instructor Jacob Garcia provides close up command post of the future training to an 8th Army Soldier.

On Feb. 16, 2011, 2ID held a ribbon cutting ceremony commemorating the WMPRC effort. This was a momentous event as it marked the first ever combined efforts of G3 TREX, Training Support Activity – Korea, Korea Battle Simulation Center, CECOM-SEC FSD, 2ID and 8A to bring the live, virtual, constructive, and gaming environments into one complex giving Warfighters a realistic crawl, walk, run training environment within an operational TOC.

One key piece of this combined effort is the C4ISR Training provided by CECOM SEC FSD. For the past two years, CECOM SEC FSD has been operating and supporting the Mission Command Training Center on behalf of the 8th Army G-3 Training and Exercise Division, providing support for a full suite of Army Battle Command System and other C4ISR systems in a collective training environment.

With eight permanent C4ISR instructors in position to teach Counter-IED, Blue Force Tracker, and Command Post of the Future, training is conducted at multiple locations including WMPRC, Camp Casey, Yongsan Digital Training Center, and Camp Humphreys Training Center.

As a part of the WMPRC effort, CECOM SEC FSD built the C4ISR Integrated Training and Engineering Classroom where instructors provide system of systems integration training, going beyond "stove-piped" single system training in a classroom environment. Once fully operational, CITE-C will provide instructors the ability to provide advanced integrated system of systems mentorship/training directly to the Warfighters. Classes will build on the single system

Did you know?

SEC's Tactical Logistics Directorate at Fort Lee became the first Army business mission area Federated NetCentric Site. FaNS is a federation of existing Army and Joint facilities networked together to execute horizontal integration, Army Interoperability Certification testing and Army information technology network security services across all mission area domains.

classroom training foundation previously given, but allow Warfighters to train and observe their input and resulting output of their operation or analysis. In doing so, it engages them across the system of systems with additional training benefits.

"One of the great benefits to the WMPRC and the CITE-C classroom is Warfighters gain ability to train on system of systems integration during non-exercise periods" said MCTC instructor, Jacob Garcia. "This also allows them to determine, refine and validate tactics, techniques, and procedures for developing the common operating picture, which will make them more effective during operations."

Although the CITE-C is still in its infancy, with facility build and re-modeling completed on April 30, 2011, CECOM SEC FSD is continuing to refine the usage of the facility and introducing more advanced trainers for the system of systems integrated training efforts. Plans for future efforts include capturing the training in multimedia content, creating CD materials and posting the material on the web servers, allowing Warfighters to conduct basic skills training from their computer desktop.

Throughout this effort, CECOM SEC FSD became a "go to" organization for both 8A and 2ID for most C4ISR support issues. With the planned transformation of 8th Army into a forward-deployed warfighting headquarters that would not only be responsible for directing Army operations in South Korea, but also be able to meet contingencies off the peninsula, having adequate training facilities available is critical. CECOM and the SEC FSD will continue to support the 2nd ID and 8th Army's C4ISR requirements, ensuring Warfighter superiority and information dominance.



Brig. Gen. David Conboy (incoming Deputy Commander 8A), Maj. Gen. John MacDonald, U.S. Forces Korea, J3, Maj. Gen. Michael Tucker, Commanding General, 2ID, cut the ribbon at the Warrior Mission Planning and Rehearsal Complex.



Tobyhanna family fights for the Warfighter—again and again

By Jacqueline Boucher, TYAD

Since 2007, three members of the same family have deployed multiple times to support the Warfighter in Southwest Asia, SWA. Together the father, mother and son team have served a combined 36 months at several locations in Iraq.

Steve, Jacqui and Matthew McGlamery are like hundreds of Tobyhanna Army Depot employees who willingly sacrifice the comforts of home for the austere environment of war to provide skills and expertise on a variety of military systems.

Depot personnel deploy around the world in support of Communications Security, Counter Radio Controlled Improvised Explosive Device Electronic Warfare, CREW, Base Expeditionary Targeting and Surveillance Sensors-Combined, Forward Repair Activities, Firefinder and Lightweight Counter Mortar radars, and Tactical Unmanned Aerial Vehicle.

Each of the McGlamerys performs duties to support the CREW mission. Jacqui works as a logistician, while Steve and Matthew work on a family of vehicle-mounted jamming systems as an electronics technician and field service representative,

respectively. Jacqui and Steve are assigned to the Intelligence, Surveillance and Reconnaissance, ISR, Directorate and Matthew works for the Field Logistics Support Directorate, FLS.

Matthew was on active duty in the Navy when Jacqui and Steve decided to toss their hat into the deployment ring for the first time, hoping to be assigned to the same location together. They were in Iraq for 11 months.



Jacqui McGlamery supported the CREW mission as a logistician during two deployments [17 months] to Southwest Asia.



Shortly after arriving in Southwest Asia, Steve McGlamery played a role in outfitting more than 150 Stryker vehicles with CREW equipment in 48 hours.

“We were very lucky to be assigned to the same place,” said Jacqui, explaining that they were told early on that there would be no guarantees. “While there we also spent three weeks together at a remote Marine base helping organize their property books and working on CREW equipment.”

Before stepping foot in Iraq, Steve was held over in Kuwait while Jacqui continued down range. In Kuwait, he and a cadre of technicians installed more than 150 jamming systems on as many vehicles within 48 hours.

“We strung the cabling, put in antennas, installed the systems and tested them,” he said, explaining that they worked two 12-hour shifts to complete the job. “What we accomplished there is incredible.”

Jacqui had hoped to work on CREW equipment while deployed, but her talents as a management analyst were soon put to good use. She explained that people who were proficient with computers, spreadsheets and reports were in high demand.

“A unit would come in and we would either issue or turn in CREW equipment,” Jacqui said. “We did the paperwork and updated the system that posted data on property books. No one could leave the theater until their property books were cleared and they couldn’t get a piece of equipment unless it was authorized.” The team was responsible for an inventory valued at nearly \$300 million.

Jacqui filled the role of logistician again when she returned to Iraq in 2010, this time as a team chief. She was there for six months.

“A Soldier once told me how “he knew the jamming system had saved his life.” ”

~Steve McGlamery, TYAD

The husband and wife team remembers the 100-plus degree temperatures, 12-hour days, and grueling operation tempo, but reminisces about the camaraderie among the workers and military members.

“We had a lot of face time with the Soldiers,” said Steve. “I repaired, programmed and installed jamming systems in a variety of military vehicles. The Soldiers would come in from the field, drop the vehicle off and we’d fix it up and send them on their way.”

A Soldier once told Steve how “he knew the jamming system had saved his life.” They had been on patrol, watching someone who was behaving suspiciously when an improvised explosive device, IED, went off behind their convoy, Steve said, recalling how those words sent chills up his spine.

Matthew said he couldn’t count the number of times Soldiers came up to tell him how the CREW systems saved their lives.

After separating from the Navy, Matthew joined Team Tobyhanna by accepting two separate assignments to Iraq to work on CREW systems. He recently returned from his second trip to Southwest Asia bringing his total time in harm’s way to 19 months.

“I truly enjoy my job,” said Matthew. “I honestly can’t imagine a job where you support the Warfighter more. Soldiers know that they can count on our support 24 hours a day, 365 days a year.” Matthew noted that he often responded in the middle of the night to troubleshoot and repair a system so the Soldiers could continue with their mission.

“I can’t say enough good things about them [the Soldiers],” Matthew said. “Their survival is what drives me to do my job to the best of my ability.”

Long-term or multiple deployments are nothing new to Tobyhanna Army Depot employees.

“Many COMSEC volunteers spend more than 365 days in country, returning only for the authorized rest and recuperation

period,” said Faye Pearson, logistics management specialist. She confirmed that at least 10 people have deployed up to three times and four individuals have deployed to several locations in Iraq and Afghanistan. In addition, two COMSEC technicians chose to stay in country for two years, while four others stayed for more than three years. And, one individual spent nearly five years in Iraq, she added.



Steve McGlamery repairs, programs and installs vehicle-mounted jamming systems in a variety of military vehicles.

“I know of one woman who has served in SWA for about six years supporting Forward Repair Activities,” said Richard Sokoloski, project officer, FLS Directorate. “Before that she was deployed to the Balkans.”

Once you realize the importance of what you’re doing, the job is easy, according to Steve.

“When you deploy, you’re there for the Soldier,” he said, adding that it seems deployments tend to bring out the best in Tobyhanna Army Depot employees. “You’d be surprised at the number of people who return from deployment only to look for their first opportunity to go back.”

Steve and Jacqui McGlamery would like to deploy again, maybe to Afghanistan. Matthew plans to start college in the fall.



LRC-TYAD a single face to the field

By Jason Bryant, LRC

By the beginning of 2010, the Logistics and Readiness Center, LRC, Drawdown Special Projects Office, DDSPPO, began searching for ways to flex its manning levels throughout Iraq, Kuwait and Afghanistan.

“As we looked forward to the major troop and equipment drawdown out of Iraq, we could see the need for specific workforce increases at multiple locations, for varying periods, with the ability to move personnel with relatively short notice,” said Pat Shaw, Director DDSPPO.

After weighing the options, the clear winner for CECOM was an internal collaboration between the LRC and Tobyhanna Army Depot, TYAD. Those first 9 volunteers out of TYAD quickly increased to 41 by April of 2010. And they continue that level of support today, representing 35 percent of the DDSPPO’s total strength in Southwest Asia, SWA.



Mine Resistant Ambush Protected (MRAP) vehicle staging area located near Bagram, Afghanistan. Vehicles are brought to this area prior to repair and reset.

By December 2010, TYAD stood up the provisional Field Logistics Support, FLS, Directorate to carry out worldwide and expeditionary field logistics support and services of C4ISR systems and equipment for the Warfighter. TYAD has deployed more than 2,400 personnel to SWA since 2001 and 20 percent of TYAD’s expeditionary logistics forces currently deployed in SWA are in direct support of Drawdown SPO activities.

“We are in contact with the TYAD folks almost daily discussing deployments, redeployments, UDC dates... you name it. The ease of working with the expeditionary division on these deployments is a great example of how collaboration is supposed to be,” said Rosemary Hayes of the DDSPPO.

Tony Vasser, Iraq Country Lead deployed to Balad for the DDSPPO, is an enthusiastic supporter of the LRC and TYAD collaboration. “I know that when I have a new TYAD volunteer coming to join one of my teams, we are adding a CECOM professional dedicated to supporting Soldiers,” said Vasser.

Many of the volunteers from TYAD request extensions or come back to support DDSPPO after a short stint back at TYAD. “We have asked some of these folks from TYAD that are extending or coming back to

take the site lead position at our [Redistribution Property Assistance Team] RPAT. . .” said Vasser. “Whether the DDSPO is picking Depot Level Recoverables in Kuwait, conducting inventories on an Air Defense and Air Space Management (ADAM Cell) in Iraq or conducting a Mobile RPAT mission in Afghanistan, every one of us knows that we are representing CECOM.”

DDSPO personnel are some of the first people and some of the last that the Warfighter sees in SWA. After units arrive in country, they will receive briefings from a number of activities ranging from the local chaplain to the military personnel office. The DDSPO briefs units during their in-processing to theater, 180 days prior to redeployment and again 60 to 30 days prior to redeployment on the reset process for CECOM managed items.

Once a unit knows who the ‘CECOM guys’ are though, those official briefings are just the tip of the iceberg. The DDSPO, as part of the AFSB RPAT teams, works closely with the units to identify reset equipment, ensure that (ARMT) plans are executed and disposition is provided within the prescribed timelines. Once a unit receives its redeployment date, DDSPO coordinates with the Amy Field Support Brigade and the unit to determine when and where that unit will turn in its reset equipment.

Turn in locations depend on a number of factors including the size of the unit, scope of the turn in (picture an engineer detachment versus a signal brigade) and their current location. The unit may travel to an established RPAT, the mobile RPAT may travel to the unit or both entities may travel to a forward operating base that can accommodate the reception and onward movement of the unit and equipment.

Once the equipment turn in begins, LRC and TYAD civilians stand side by side with the Soldier and execute the mission. The unit cleans the equipment, followed by an inventory to relieve the unit of accountability. In some cases the mission lasts 30 minutes, while others last more than 30 days. Each mission is unique and can present its own set of challenges. The DDSPO’s job is not finished until the equipment arrives back at the continental U.S. source of repair facility.

A lot of this equipment is going back to Tobyhanna

bringing the TYAD and LRC collaboration full circle. The integration of the TYAD and LRC DA civilians into a single face to the field for CECOM helps to facilitate seamless processes to the field.

Some of the TYAD DDSPO volunteers have deployed previously and are already familiar with the equipment and processes used by the DDSPO in SWA. Having an already trained and knowledgeable workforce with a vested interest in mission success is just two of the many reasons this is a successful collaboration. Thanks to the team attitude throughout the command, collaboration between the LRC and TYAD is truly a single face to the field, which provides the quality support Warfighters have come to expect.

The mission of the DDSPO is to receive, process, package and ship C4ISR Automatic Reset Management Items, Intensively Managed Items, Theater Provided Equipment and Double Level Recoverable equipment from units, from Supply Support Activities and from Defense Reutilization and Marketing Offices prior to their departure from Operation New Dawn/Operation Enduring Freedom and direct those items to appropriate CONUS sources of repair for reset or repair.

These missions require a number of varied skill sets but only one common denominator — the desire and drive to support the Warfighter when and where they need us. The level of professionalism coupled with the ability of the TYAD civilian volunteers to “fall in” on an RPAT site and immediately integrate themselves into the team is the face to the field that Soldiers have grown to expect from CECOM. “Our RPAT community is TEAM C4ISR at work,” said Pat Shaw, of TYAD’s ability to provide support wherever CECOM goes.



Battle damaged Mine Resistant Ambush Protected (MRAP) vehicle staging area located near Bagram, Afghanistan.

ISEC military construction team builds for the future

By Todd Pruden; Contributors: Tina Reed and Sydney Bryant, ISEC

Military Construction, Army, MCA, is the Army's construction program providing state-of-the-art facilities at Army installations worldwide. The program constructs a variety of structures that range from four-star headquarter commands to child care development centers.

MCA is a multibillion-dollar program and is a significant part of the defense budget. Each year, Congress authorizes and appropriates 100 to 150 projects, for the active Army, which will result in the construction of 200 to 300 buildings.

The U.S. Army Information Systems Engineering Command's (ISEC) MCA team out of Fort Detrick, Md., has a leading role in supporting MCA for all construction projects on U.S. Army installations.

According to Tina Reed, ISEC MCA Information Technology (IT) lead, each building has unique communication system requirements. "We make sure all required inside wiring and backbone voice and data connectivity is incorporated into the building design and ultimately constructed with those solutions. We do this not only for the active component but we also do this for all Army Reserve and Army National Guard MCA projects

as well. We ensure that every new building meets required standards and supports the user's mission. We then coordinate with all the Network Enterprise Centers, NECs, various Program Managers, PMs, mission users, and a host of others to provide for the appropriate electronics and end items that will be the final connection from user to the outside world," said Reed.

Communications are essential to today's modern Warfighters. The voice and data solutions ISEC provides to these new facilities is critical.

The criticality becomes apparent at Fort Bliss, Texas, where the Army is constructing approximately 600 new facilities all in support of the Army Transformation to a Modular Force. "The Warfighter is dependent upon us to get their communications installed in a timely manner," said Jeremy Mohr, ISEC IT synchronization lead at Fort Bliss. "Once they move into the building, our input to the project has a huge impact on the reliability and availability of their communications systems. Without sufficient communications, it's much more difficult to sustain operations, train, and prepare troops for deployment." Mohr has been instrumental in synchronizing the IT being provided throughout this massive undertaking as the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers has been turning over at least 1 to 3 facilities a week since late 2007. Work at Bliss alone will continue at this pace until the 2015-2016 timeframe and ISEC will be there making it happen.

Overall, MCA's mission is to provide the finest facilities for Soldiers around the world. According to Reed, MCA's goal is to ensure these facilities are equipped with the most technologically advanced capabilities to make them fully mission capable.

In addition to preparing state-of-the-art facilities for the Warfighter, ISEC is enhancing Soldier readiness through the implementation of the next-generation weapon ranges.



by Sgt. Samuel J. Phillips

A contractor installs an electrical junction box inside what will become Fort Bliss' newest fire and military police station June 21, 2011.



by Sgt. Samuel J. Phillips

A contractor installs cases that will house servers for the 1st Armored Division's headquarters building June 21, 2011, Fort Bliss, Texas.

ISEC's MCA team is responsible for providing the fiber optic infrastructure at many of the Army's weapon ranges. These next-generation ranges have the capability to relay information in real time from the ranges to organizational command centers located elsewhere.

The impact these new ranges will have on training is invaluable to senior leadership. According to Rickey Smith, ISEC IT Training Support Systems lead, who validates the IT support with the Army's G3/5/7, this new technology will instantaneously show Soldier readiness to leaders at all levels regardless of their location.

At the end of the day, the ISEC MCA team's goal is to provide Soldiers with the capabilities to meet advancing technological changes. With constant changes in operation tempo and the way modern warfare is conducted, these tools are essential to Soldiers, both for mission accomplishment and morale.

"Having been a Soldier, I understand what it's like if you can't pick up that phone or you can't send an e-mail or access a system," said Mohr. "To be on this side of things now, and to be able to provide Soldiers the communications systems and infrastructure they need to operate is a privilege and gives me a great sense of pride. I feel like I'm contributing to the Soldier and to the War on Terror."



by Sgt. Samuel J. Phillips

Fred Skroban, senior systems engineer for U.S. Army Information Systems Engineering Command, Fort Detrick Engineering Directorate, discusses the layout of the audio visual control room in the 1st Armored Divisions headquarters on Fort Bliss, Texas, with a contractor.

Did you know?

The U.S. Army Information Systems Engineering Command (USAISEC) provides engineering support for the implementation of the Military Health System (MHS) Cyberinfrastructure Services (MCIS) at pre-determined locations for all branches of service. MCIS is designed to improve interoperability across medical applications/agencies via network upgrades and state-of-the-art engineering solutions.

Congressman Bartlett visits CECOM hosted joint communications exercise at APG

By Andricka Thomas, CECOM

Congressman Roscoe Bartlett (R-MD) toured the 18th Annual Joint Users Interoperability Communications Exercise, or JUICE, June 21, 2011, at the new C4ISR Center of Excellence located on Aberdeen Proving Ground, Md.

JUICE is an annual worldwide Department of Defense exercise hosted by the U.S. Army Communications-Electronics Command, Army Program Executive Office Command, Control, Computers-Tactical, and the CECOM Software Engineering Center in concert with Strategic Command acting as both the supported and supporting Combatant Command. JUICE focuses on joint communications interoperability and architectures by incorporating new and emerging technologies in a Joint Task Force operational environment, according to John Caruso, chief executive agent for the Theater Joint Tactical Network and a JUICE organizer.

"JUICE serves as a forum where key stakeholders from the research and development, acquisition, testing, and technical communities collaborate to forge new joint interoperability



Marine Master Sgt. Fernando Hernandez briefs Congressman Roscoe Bartlett (R-MD) in the Joint On-demand Interoperability Network, or JOIN, during the 18th Annual Joint Users Interoperability Communications Exercise, or JUICE, June 21, at the new C4ISR Center of Excellence.



Congressman Roscoe Bartlett (R-MD) tours the U.S. Army Communications-Electronics Research, Development and Engineering Center's Crypto Modernization exhibit display during the 18th Annual Joint Users Interoperability Communications Exercise, or JUICE, June 21, at the new C4ISR Center of Excellence.

communications solutions to meet the dynamic conditions and environments of tomorrow's joint military operations," said Nelson Keeler, SEC director.

JUICE simulates a tactical Forward Operating Base, or FOB, encompassing the life-cycle of network and communications support from concept to combat, said Caruso. Bartlett was interested in the mission and purpose of such an exercise. He asked a series of technically specific questions regarding much of the technology to grasp an understanding of the entire life-cycle demonstrated at the exercise.

"From the development of systems in the lab; testing those systems in the field; to achieving interoperability and certification requirements, JUICE simulates real-world applications for Warfighters. JUICE supports joint, inter-agency, multi-national and urban operations," Caruso explained.

This year's theme, expeditionary communications, focuses on ways to increase Warfighter quick-reaction capabilities, said Caruso. During the three-week exercise, JUICE participants have the opportunity to leverage training opportunities on the latest fielded equipment prior to deployment in a real-world tactical environment without disturbing the operational tempo, he explained.

Did you know?

Did you know the JMAR, Joint Medical Asset Repository, designed and produced by SEC, is providing critical asset availability data for U.S. military forces supporting relief efforts in Japan. JMAR is being used to determine the location and availability of radiation detection devices, water purification tablets, potassium iodide and other critical assets, speeding the requisition and distribution process during earthquake and tsunami relief efforts.

“We have more than 600 participants representing more than 60 organizations spanning the globe,” said Keeler. “The Department of Homeland Security, National Guard Bureau, U.S. Armed Forces and our Coalition and international partners are just a few of the organizations working in concert to simulate a real-world Forward Operating Base tactical environment for this exercise.”

JUICE participants include a Joint Task Force FOB where the Joint Network Operations Coordination Center, JNCC, provides timely network services for JUICE locations worldwide. The JNCC is the heartbeat of JUICE and vital to the success of the mission. The JNCC has the critical support role of provisioning network services at JUICE’s worldwide locations. The JNCC staff roles include network monitoring and situational awareness; Joint Staff directed level of reporting; delivery of services throughout the network; communications security; battle rhythm; and critical updates to the supported commander.

The Joint On-demand Interoperability Network, or JOIN, is a dynamically configurable information network specific to operational, training, experiments, or assessment/validations that support the Warfighter, combat and materiel developers. JOIN is available free of charge to Department of Defense organizations and has served many critical missions such as pre-deployment staging of equipment, training, certification support, assessments, distributed testing, development of Tactics/Techniques/Procedures (TTP), and concept validation, said Caruso.

The Unified Capabilities Tactical Pilot was conducted during the exercise to nurture the evolution of testing tactical pieces of equipment in a tactical environment. JUICE provided communications capabilities to the Virginia National Guard as they participated in an Arkansas National Guard exercise to demonstrate their Joint Incident Site Communications Capability in direct support of the medical community.

The Marine Combat Operations Center provided secure cellular capabilities and other cutting-edge technologies to the exercise

activities. This effort is completely powered by renewable (photovoltaic cells and wind) energy, said Caruso.

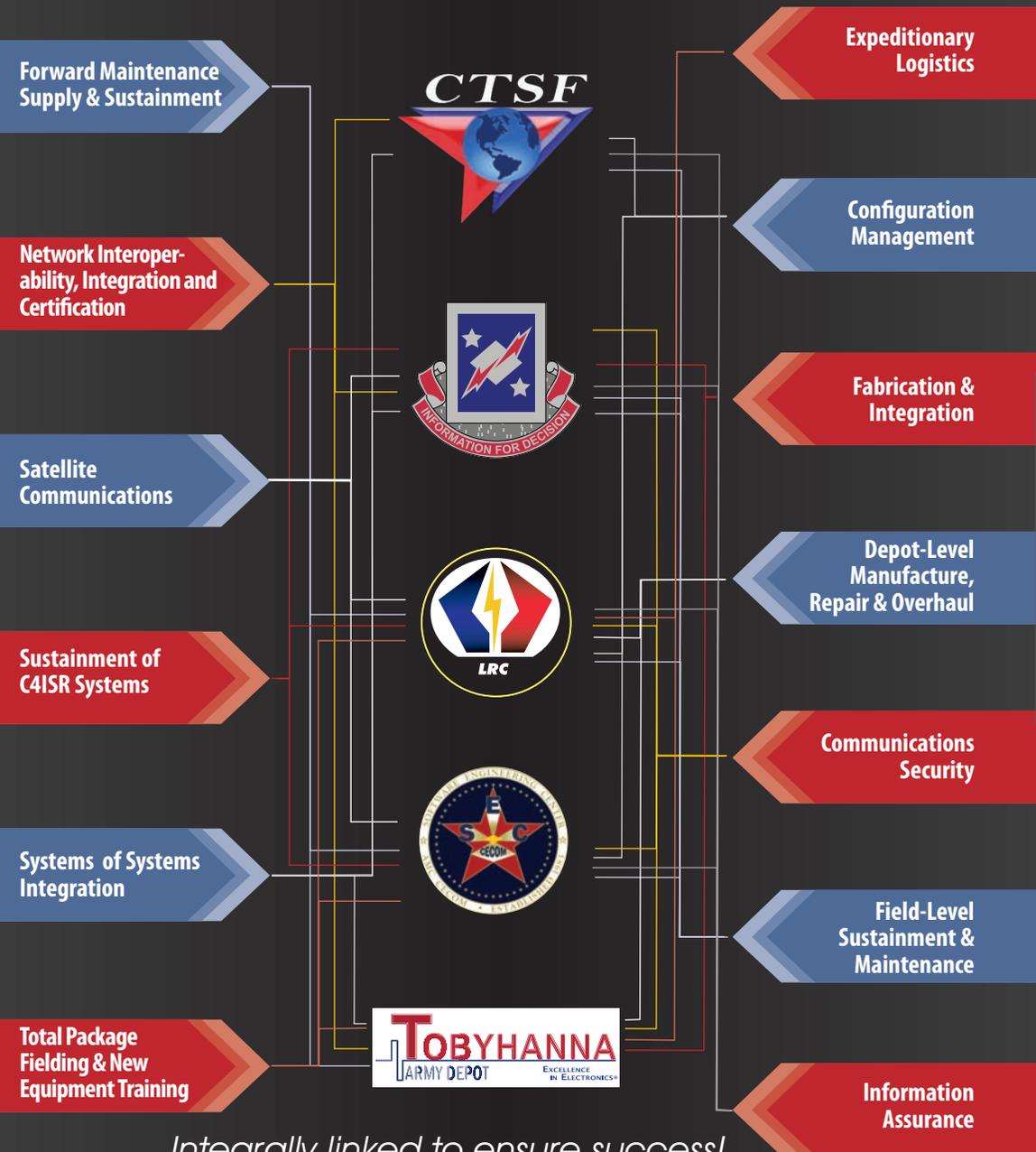
The DoD Support to Civil Authorities provides Warfighters with situational awareness through Incident Awareness and Assessment capabilities during an incident. This effort provides Warfighters with current situational awareness during an incident prior to and during response activities.

The FIRES Support Coordination Center showcased the military’s capability to direct a live fire mission from remote locations. All participating sites are communicating using DISN services being provisioned by the Joint On-demand Interoperability Network and the Air Force’s 42nd Combat Communications Squadron showcasing interoperability capabilities between U.S. Forces and Coalition partners, said Caruso.

“The lessons learned from JUICE will directly impact field operations and contribute to the enhancement of theater and global communications services in tactical environments,” said Keeler. “That’s our bottom line, equipping our Warfighters with the communications solutions they need, when they need it.”



Brian Bosely from Solar Stik, Inc., adjusts a solar panel supplying power to one of the shelters during the Joint Users Interoperability Exercise being hosted this year at the C4ISR Center of Excellence located on Aberdeen Proving Ground, Md., June 22, 2011.



Integrally linked to ensure success!

Linkages

TYAD and LRC

Tobyhanna Army Depot works with the Logistics Readiness Center and the Command Post Systems and Integration, CPS&I Program Office to support the CPS&I program by providing full-spectrum lifecycle support to the CPS&I fleet. Support includes design, fabrication, integration, training and sustainment. CPS&I provides standardized mobile Command Posts for Warfighters from Battalion to Corps with equal capabilities, common systems, seamless operation and standard training requirements, providing a fully integrated and digitized physical infrastructure to achieve information dominance on the net-centric battlefield.



SEC and CTSF

SEC recently worked with the CTSF to successfully test Forward Observer Systems software while taking a significant step forward in the joint testing environment. The test was the first use of data transmission over a secure defense research and engineering network connection, using collaborative tools provided by the Joint Mission Environment Testing Capability and the Air Force Command and Control Integration Center.



LRC and SEC

Headquarters, Logistics Readiness Center, recently stood up the Knowledge Operations and Innovations, KOIN, section. This section is working with all LRC directorates, SEC and the APG NEC to renew the LRC commitment to knowledge management internally and improve the manner that outside customers bring issues and gain answers to B16 logistics and maintenance questions throughout the Army. In July, the LRC launched an initial portal to promote knowledge sharing through the organization's operational business processes and systems by strengthening links between knowledge sharing and the information systems, and improving integration among information systems in the organization, and facilitating seamless exchange of information across systems. In October the LRC plans to roll out the Cyber Depot which will be a site dedicated to customer support within the Team C4ISR community as well as the other organizations in the Army. The site will be a one stop site to gain access to improve access to LARS, from the Directorate for Readiness; LEO - Logistics & Engineering Operations Directorate; P/E - Power & Environmental Directorate and R2 Rapid Response directorate.

ISEC and TYAD

The ISEC provides extensive baseband engineering and implementation for the Defense Satellite Communications System, DSCS, program. ISEC engineers work cohesively with CECOM's Tobyhanna Army Depot in this project area. The ISEC provides site-survey, system design planning, installation and engineering validation and Tobyhanna furnishes the equipment and prefabricated cables for the effort. Tobyhanna installs DSCS antennas; the ISEC provides the remaining key elements of antenna installation including installation and testing of antenna electronic suites. The testing includes on-site acceptance testing and certification testing.

PROFILE OF EXCELLENCE:

CECOM security specialists among first to pass new security certification test

By Andricka Thomas, CECOM



U.S. Army Photo

James T. Faust, Assistant Deputy Chief of Staff, G2, speaks to certification recipients at an awards ceremony at the Pentagon Hall of Heroes, June 15, 2011.

Security and Intelligence Specialists from the U.S. Army Communications-Electronics Command received their Security Fundamentals Professional Certification during a recent awards ceremony hosted by the Assistant Deputy Chief of Staff, G2, James T. Faust, at the Pentagon in the Hall of Heroes.

“The CECOM group made me proud in this historic first certification exam,” said Jim Lint, CECOM G2/Intelligence and Security director. “It shows the quality of the post BRAC [Base Realignment and Closure] workforce is up to the highest quality standards.”

The certification is earned after completion of the Security Professional Education Development, or SPeD, Certification Program, a program designed to provide Department of Defense security professionals with DoD-level credentials recognizing the knowledge, skills and abilities of qualified personnel and provides a clear pathway for security professionals to aim for in developing career milestones and outlines DoD expectations for security professionals in the future, according to program guidelines.

“This certification program has been in the works since 2004,” said Derrick Coleman, chief of the Security Branch, CECOM Intelligence and Security/G2. This was the first time Department of Defense personnel participated in the Beta assessment certification test. The Beta test is meant to provide a benchmark to measure the current state of the security workforce as it relates to security training and workforce development. The results of the assessment will help determine the final certification program requirements for security specialists DoD wide. The program is scheduled to be fully incorporated as a new requirement of security professionals in 2013.

“We encourage our personnel to strive for excellence in education and training,” said Coleman. “It serves our mission here

at CECOM and provides the Army with some of the most qualified security specialists in the Department of Defense.”

This professional development program dictates professional standards approved by the Defense Security Training Council and is aligned with Intelligence Community Directive security competency requirements. With four certification levels, certification prerequisites include successful completion of the Security Fundamentals exam.

“We’re proud of our personnel for volunteering to participate and take an active interest in the development of our security specialist career program,” said Coleman. He also stated this certification will eventually become a requirement for all security specialists across DoD. Training courses are offered to interested personnel in preparation for the certification exam.



U.S. Army Photo

Members of the CECOM Intelligence and Security/G2 team attend the Security Fundamentals Professional Certification awards ceremony at the Pentagon June 15, 2011 for meeting certification requirements. Pictured front row left to right – Renee Crouse, SEC; Derrick Coleman, CECOM G2 Security Branch chief; James Scroggins, CECOM G2; and Dan Santini, CECOM G2. Second row left to right - Patricia Stokes, senior security advisor, Defense Security Service; Jim Lint, CECOM G2 director; Dianna Stugen, CECOM G2; Kirk Adams, CECOM G2; and Brian Ferguson, CECOM G2.



U.S. ARMY

CECOM's

CUSTOMER SERVICE

"The [Communications Security] facilities at Tobyhanna Army Depot are second to none; as our maintenance partner, Tobyhanna demonstrates total commitment by providing high quality support to Warfighters. Their 'can-do' attitude and technical expertise consistently results in exceptional customer service and superior products. The Tobyhanna team is always part of the solution!"

*Christopher C. Ward, acting chief, Information Assurance Division,
Communications Security Logistics Activity*

"At SEC our customers count on our systematic approach to sustainment to ensure software development, implementation and maintenance will meet their cost, schedule and performance goals.

That is why we strive to be the Software Engineering Center of choice throughout the DoD."

Steve Kovacs, SEC Deputy Director

"Customers are not mandated to use the R2 contract, they elect to use our services to the extent we continuously provide exemplary technical and acquisition support."

*Dwayne Terry, CECOM, Logistics and Readiness Center,
Director, Rapid Response Program*

"ISEC is a highly responsive, experienced and professional organization. The expert teams at FDED make themselves available around the clock to ensure I am best prepared to address short and oftentimes complex issues. I can always count on outstanding professionalism, swift and concise feedback, and expert advice relating to the areas within which I operate."

*Curtis McCabe, Senior Systems Analyst, Army CIO/G-6 Installation
Infrastructure Integration Division*

Photo by photo by Senior Airman Christopher Gross

One Vision, One Mission – The Warfighter



by David G. Landmann

The CTSF's Bill Crain provides an extra set of eyes as he and Staff Sgt. Patrick Zeigler approach an intersection on Fort Hood. Zeigler, one of the more than 30 Soldiers and civilians wounded in the Nov. 5, 2009, shooting rampage on Fort Hood, was introduced to cycling during his recovery from his wounds.

CTSF-based program specialist helps Fort Hood shooting victim roll to recovery

By David G. Landmann, CTSF

Bill Crain, a program specialist with AAI Corporation, remembers the events of Nov. 5, 2009, pretty much like the rest of his co-workers on the campus of the Central Technical Support Facility—the sirens, the confusion, the shock at the news at what happened only a mile away, and the long wait for the all-clear signal.

Staff Sgt. Patrick Zeigler, 29, remembers an entirely different scenario. His memories are fraught with images of Fort Hood's Soldier Readiness Processing Center, a man shouting "Allahu Akbar!" gunfire, blinding flashes of pain, and blood—his own, and lots of it.

Ironically, the two men never would have met, had it not been for Zeigler's wounds and Crain's love of bicycling.

Crain, who will soon mark his sixth year at the CTSF, was directly involved in an effort—Project Z—to match up Zeigler, who is still recovering from wounds that probably should have killed him, with a specially-designed bicycle. His work with Project Z marked the beginning of Crain's continuing work on behalf of Soldiers recovering from sorties into harm's way.

Recently, Crain and two friends assembled 50 bicycles that are being used to help Soldiers recover from battlefield injuries and he volunteered to orchestrate a major cycling event aimed at raising funds for more bikes.

Crain took up cycling about a year prior to his arrival at the CTSF as a way of working off the weight he started to gain when he quit smoking. What was then a simple mode of exercise, has become a lifestyle for the retired command sergeant major.

During the past calendar year, Crain amassed more than 4,500 miles on his lightweight two-wheeler. Some 350 of those miles were racked up when he participated in the week-long Ride 2 Recovery, R2R, in which able-bodied cyclists participated with recovering wounded warriors in a fund-raising road trip between San Antonio and Arlington, Texas. He tacked on an additional 400 R2R miles this year.

Crain got to know John Worden, the man behind the R2R, and Worden got to know that Crain could be considered a reliable contact at Fort Hood.

"The first I knew about Patrick Zeigler," Crain recalled, "was when John Worden sent a message to me, Lt. Col. Pat Curran, and Lt. Col. Patty Collins that Patrick was here and R2R was building a special bike for him. He wanted us to help get Patrick going on the bike."

Because Curran and Collins are both active-duty battalion commanders, and because he had a little more time than they do, Crain took on many of the Project Z duties.

“John (Worden) first asked us to get Patrick fitted for bike shoes,” said Crain. “So I set up a date, went over and met him and took him to (a local bicycle shop) to get fitted.”

Ziegler, the Soldier Crain met that first time, had been through several near-death experiences since November, 2009. One of the first to be wounded in what has come to be called the “Fort Hood Massacre,” Ziegler sustained a massive head wound in addition to wounds in his left shoulder, arm, and leg. He still carries bullet fragments in his head.

In the months before he met Crain, doctors had removed nearly 20 percent of the right side of his brain, and had attempted, on several occasions, to repair his shattered skull with artificial plates. He has undergone—and continues to undergo—extensive rehabilitation but has lost the use of his left arm, and is slowly regaining the use of his left leg.

A key element of Project Z, Patrick’s bike, was constructed and paid for by the R2R community, taking into consideration Zeigler’s injuries.

“I went over to Patrick’s house when the bike was delivered, and stood around while technicians set the controls up. They taught me how to maintain that specific bike,” said Crain.

Zeigler’s bike—really a trike—is a three-wheeled, recumbent machine. It is designed so Zeigler can steer it and shift its high-tech, electronic gearing, with one hand. A long handle extends rearward so accompanying cyclists can assist Zeigler in climbing hills.

“I coordinated a ride schedule around my work schedule and Patrick’s rehab schedule,” Crain said.

A typical ride with Zeigler begins at home where he lives with his fiancée and caregiver, Jessica Hansen, in Fort Hood’s Wainwright Village. Crain assists Zeigler in donning a custom shoulder brace under his cycling jersey. Zeigler also wears knee and ankle braces to help him cope with the stresses of cycling.

Once on the Project Z bike, Zeigler’s left hand was encased in a special glove that is velcroed and then strapped to the left grip on the bike’s handlebars. While Zeigler clipped his right foot into the bike’s right pedal, Crain would help him clip in his weakened left foot.

And then they were off.

“The idea was to build up Patrick so he could ride the 14 miles required to ride the Run to Remember,” said Crain. The event, a half marathon—13 ½ miles—was conceived as a memorial to the 13 who died during the Fort Hood Massacre.

Zeigler’s first effort on the Project Z bike took him only seven miles, Crain said.

“But he had the right attitude. Sometimes, I had to coach him, to push a little harder, but he always wants to go further,” said Crain.

Zeigler hit the 14-mile mark well before the Nov. 6 event.

Zeigler’s next goal, according to Crain, was to ride a 23-mile favorite local club ride known as the River Road route.

“His ultimate goal though, is to ride in the R2R Texas Challenge in April. That’s 355 miles from San Antonio to Arlington. It is a goal Zeigler has yet to reach because of a series of setbacks due to the continuing serious nature of his wounds.

“Patrick was able to ride the first several miles of the Fort Hood segment of this year’s R2R,” Crain said.

“And, I wouldn’t be surprised if he managed the whole 350 miles next spring,” he added.



by David G. Landmann

The CTSF’s Bill Crain, right, on bicycle, escorts Patrick Zeigler on a ride through one of the residential areas of Fort Hood recently. Crain helped introduce the wounded warrior to cycling. Zeigler sustained life-threatening wounds in the Nov. 5, 2009, shooting rampage on Fort Hood that claimed the lives of 13 Soldiers and civilians.

AUTHORS NOTE:

In the months that have passed since Bill Crain started working with Patrick Zeigler, Patrick and Jessica were married—once on ABC’s Extreme Makeover and once “for real” in a family ceremony in held in Minnesota. Patrick and Jessica split their time between the home Extreme Makeover producers built for them in Salado, Texas, and San Antonio, where Patrick is still undergoing intense physical rehabilitation. Patrick continues to ride the Project Z. Maj. Nidal Hassan, who is alleged to have shot Patrick and 32 others in a Nov. 5, 2009, shooting incident on Fort Hood, and to have killed 13 Soldiers and civilians, was arraigned at Fort Hood July 20, 2011, in an article 32 hearing. At its conclusion, two colonels recommended Hassan stand trial for murder and face the death penalty.

C4ISR Center of Excellence hosts “Support Our Heroes” Ball

By Stephanie White, CECOM

The C4ISR Center of Excellence rolled out the red carpet June 25, 2011, in a grand ball and auction to support military families in need.

The C4ISR Center of Excellence became the new home to the “Support Our Heroes” ball as more than 500 people turned out to raise \$300,000 for the Fisher House Foundation, the foundation that provides free lodging for military families when family members are hospitalized.

The “Support Our Heroes” event began seven years ago when several organizations from Fort Monmouth, N.J., collaborated with local industry to find a way to help Soldiers and their families. They discovered the Fisher House Foundation, an organization established in 1990 by Zachary and Elizabeth Fisher, as a way to give back to military families for their extreme and selfless sacrifices. Similar to the Ronald McDonald House, the Fisher House Foundation provides “comfort homes” that are built on the grounds of major military and Veterans Administration medical centers here and abroad. These homes offer free shelter and support to military families during a medical crisis.

The effort to re-establish the C4ISR Ball on Aberdeen Proving Ground after the move from Fort Monmouth was a deliberate effort to keep some of this tradition of the closing installation alive at the new home on APG. Donations from the previous six years total more than \$900,000.

“The event not only created awareness of the needs of returning warriors, past warriors and their families, but also transferred a piece of the heart and soul of Fort Monmouth to Aberdeen,” said Ed Carnes, vice president of USfalcon and chair of the Fisher House Committee for the “Support Our Heroes” ball. The committee is comprised of government, industry and local organization participants who volunteer their time and efforts.



The 82nd Airborne Division’s All American Chorus from Fort Bragg, N.C. performs for the attendees of C4ISR Fisher House Ball at the C4ISR Center of Excellence on Aberdeen Proving Ground, Md., June 25, 2011.



Color Guard and attendees of C4ISR Fisher House Ball at the C4ISR Center of Excellence on Aberdeen Proving Ground, Md. June 25, 2011.

“For myself and many others, this was the final BRAC movement; a transition of love and hope from Fort Monmouth to Aberdeen Proving Ground. Some may not wear the uniform but support as they can. We call them the ‘Heart Corps.’”

After collaborating with committee members and installation leadership, the new C4ISR Center of Excellence campus courtyard served as the new home. Three temporary and air-conditioned tents were brought in by the private venture to host the venue. The event highlights included dinner and dancing, silent auction, and a performance by the 82nd Airborne Division’s All American Chorus from Fort Bragg, N.C.

“We knew as a committee we had to meet or surpass the expectations of our past six events, both esoterically and financially,” said Carnes. “Plus we had the full support of a new exciting group of APG volunteers, just chomping at the bit to jump in and help.”

According to Carnes, the support provided to Soldiers and their families is immeasurable. The beauty of this foundation is that no family member ever pays for their stay at a Fisher House. Today, there are 54 Fisher Houses located on 21 military installations and 17 VA medical centers. Currently, there are 12 more houses under construction or in design.

Organizational support for the C4ISR charitable event included the Fort Monmouth and Aberdeen Chapters of the Armed Forces Communications & Electronics Association; the Army Aviation Association of America Mid Atlantic Chapter; the Association of Old Crows Aberdeen and Garden State Chapters; and the Association of United States Army chapters from both Aberdeen and Fort Monmouth. Private sector sponsors included CSC, SAIC, General Dynamics C4 Systems, ITT, ManTech, USfalcon, Inc., Harris Corporation, CACI, Future Skies, Ryland Homes and BMW of Bel Air.



U.S. Army Wounded Warrior Program (AW2)

The U.S. Army Wounded Warrior Program (AW2)

is the official Army program that serves severely wounded, ill, and injured Soldiers, Veterans, and their Families, wherever they are located, for as long as it takes. AW2 supports the most severely wounded Soldiers since 9/11 who have, or are expected to receive, an Army disability rating of 30% or greater in one or more specific categories or a combined rating of 50% or greater for conditions that are the result of combat or are combat related.

AW2 assists and advocates for more than 8,400 severely wounded Soldiers, Veterans, and their Families. More than 170 AW2 Advocates are located throughout the country where there are large concentrations of AW2 Soldiers at VA Polytrauma Centers, VA facilities, Military Treatment Facilities, and most military installations. AW2 Advocates provide personalized, local support to Soldiers, Veterans, and their Families for as long as it takes, regardless of their location or military status.

"These men and women signed up to serve our nation and now they are wounded warriors. I am here to connect them with national, state, and local resources, whenever and wherever necessary, to ensure their long-term success."

—AW2 Advocate

Government/Military Assistance (Multi-functional)

Army Wounded Warrior Program (AW2)

AW2 assists and advocates for severely wounded, ill, and injured Soldiers, Veterans, and their Families for as long as they need assistance.

1-877-393-9058, www.WTC.army.mil/AW2

Department of Veterans Affairs

The VA administers benefits programs for Veterans, their Families, and survivors.

1-800-827-1000, www1.va.gov

Military Health System (MHS)

The MHS promotes a fit, healthy and protected force by reducing non-combat losses, optimizing healthy behavior and physical performance, and providing casualty care.

www.health.mil

TRICARE

TRICARE is the health care program for active and retired servicemembers and their Families.

www.tricare.mil

National Resource Directory (NRD)

NRD is an online tool for wounded, ill, and injured servicemembers, Veterans, their Families, and those who support them.

www.nationalresourcedirectory.gov



Combat Wounded Navy Corpsman begins new career with CECOM

By Kelly Luster, CECOM

No Warfighter ever thinks it will happen to them, and then . . . dazed, confused and in excruciating pain, the realization that two of your Marine buddies are shielding you from enemy fire some thirty feet from where you were sitting in a vehicle just moments ago while they call in a MEDEVAC. You can hardly believe it. One of the Improvised Explosive Devices, IEDs, you only heard about or saw in the distance, found your vehicle in its crosshairs today. That is precisely what happened to one young Navy Corpsman and abruptly ended his military career, but unknowingly opened another door in life.

When Larry Perry arrived in the states he was facing an uphill battle to recovery. The 24-year-old Navy Corpsman had survived the IED attack that ripped his vehicle nearly in half, but not without a toll on Perry. A broken back, arm, several broken ribs, a punctured left calf among the numerous burns, cuts and scrapes, left the young man wondering, "What next?"

While Perry received some of the top medical care in the country at the National Naval Medical Hospital in Bethesda, Md., that was only part of what he needed—with his military career coming to an end due to a pending medical retirement, Perry needed a job.

Perry, with a wife and child to support, returned home to the northeast part of Maryland and began searching for jobs and applying for anything and everything. "I probably applied for 10 positions with Veterans Affairs and about 80 different positions with APG [Aberdeen Proving Ground] and Edgewood without hearing back," he said.

Perry said he thought as a combat wounded veteran he might have an easier time finding a job and that his war service might garner him some favor with potential employers. However, that was not the case.

Eventually, through acquaintances in his church, Perry landed a job with a security firm that had the responsibility for providing security for Aberdeen Proving Ground and myriad buildings on the installation. During his days greeting people and checking identification at access points, Perry made several new friends, one of which was part of a Senior Leaders Cohort on the installation—James Lint. As the Director, G2/Intelligence and Security, CECOM, Lint and his colleagues on the SLC across the installation were already hard at work with the Army Wounded Warriors Program.

"The Aberdeen Proving Ground Senior Leader Cohort set out with a goal to raise the awareness of our community of Combat Wounded Veterans about the Wounded Warriors Program," Lint said. "Having spent seven years in the Marine Corps and another fourteen as a Soldier in the Army, I can relate to the struggles our veterans face when returning home. These young men and women ask so little, but give so much . . . the least we can do is help make their transition from military to civilian life as uncomplicated as possible," he said.

Since 2008, the Wounded Warriors program has worked to get disabled veterans from all military branches jobs within the federal government, said Cindy Sepulveda of the Army Civilian Human Resources Agency.



Courtesy Photo

U.S. Navy Corpsman, Larry Perry, studying during his first deployment to Afghanistan in 2006. Perry returned to the U.S. and volunteered to deploy to Iraq where his vehicle was hit by an Improvised Explosive Device, ultimately ending his military career.



by Andricka Thomas

Larry Perry at work in his office at CECOM, CIO, G6.

“These young men and women ask so little, but give so much...the least we can do is help make their transition from military to civilian life as uncomplicated as possible.”

~ James Lint, CECOM, Director, G2/Intelligence and Security

According to Sepulveda, veterans have to receive an Army Physical Disability Evaluation System rating of 30 percent or greater in one or more specific categories such as blindness, deafness, loss of limb, severe burns, paralysis or traumatic brain injury among other conditions in order to qualify for the program.

One of the keys to this program is the expedited referral process. Teresa Manganara, a recruiter for the C4ISR Materiel Enterprise, said the hiring process for Army positions typically takes between 4-6 months. Through this program, wounded veterans who meet all of the criteria of a typical position, have the potential of being hired in weeks rather than months.

Sepulveda explained this program leverages a veteran's resume with hiring managers in a specific geographic area. Through this expedited referral process, the program has been able to place 72 severely disabled veterans at installations worldwide with two at Aberdeen Proving Ground—one of them being Larry Perry.

After Perry spoke with Sepulveda in December, 2010, and the wheels of the program started moving in his favor, it was only a few short weeks until he received a call with an official job offer. “They actually offered it to me on Jan. 4, my birthday,” he said.

Perry's birthday present was one that has opened the door of employment with CECOM's G6. Perry said the opportunity provided by the Army Wounded Warriors program was invaluable and has definitely given him a new direction in life.

“The Wounded Warriors Program definitely opened a door of opportunity because I always wanted a Federal job,” said Perry.

Perry has sure footing and is heading in the right direction. Recently, he started school and is taking classes online at Liberty University. “I am going to school for Information Management,” said Perry. “If all goes according to plan, I should have my bachelor's degree complete by 2013. I plan to eventually get my master's degree as well. I see my future here at CECOM with a lot of potential to move up the ladder and eventually become a senior leader and I plan on staying here and making a career out of this. I want to eventually be the director of the G6 one day.”

Did you know?

The Army Wounded Warrior Program (AW2) is the official U.S. Army program that assists and advocates for severely wounded, ill, and injured Soldiers, Veterans, and their Families, wherever they are located, regardless of military status. More information is available at <http://wtc.army.mil/aw2/index.html>.

Logistics Assistance Division's half century dedicated to supporting the Warfighter

By Kenneth S. Hagie, Jr., LRC

The Logistics Assistance Division of the CECOM Logistics and Readiness Center is a proud organization of civilian professionals dating back to the 1950s who continue a long tradition of dedication, technical expertise, and Warfighter support.

Shortly after World War II, the Army began a program to encourage contractors to establish overseas offices and recruit highly skilled technicians to provide technical support to Soldiers. By 1959, there were 1,000 contractor technicians in the field working for RCA, NSL, Gilfillan, Motorola, Philco and other corporations. These contractors were called 'tech reps' and were scattered around the world in Germany, France, Italy, Austria, Guam, Okinawa, Japan, the Philippines, Taiwan and Thailand.

On December 1, 1962, the Department of the Army issued Electronics Materiel Support Agency General Order Number 13, authorizing 23 Department of the Army Civilian positions in Europe to begin replacing contractor tech reps. Although the modern-day Logistics Assistance Representative Program was then formally established, a large contingent of contractor reps remained. Over the next five years, the Army replaced more than 1,000 contracted tech reps with 620 Army civilians to fully establish the Technical Assistance Program, forerunner of today's Logistics Assistance Division.



Larry Eberhardt aligns the LHGX (light weight high gain X-band antennae) 16 Foot antennae's junction box.



Lonnie Whitaker assists a Soldier with the installation of an enhanced position locating reporting system, EPLRS.

The size of the workforce has varied from a high of 620 in 1967 to a low of 189 in the 1990s to the present day authorization of 376. There have also been several names for the technicians including Regional Maintenance Representatives, Electronic Maintenance Specialists, Electronics Command Equipment Representatives, Field Maintenance Technicians and finally the term Logistics Assistance Representative, LAR, that we have today. Through those same years, the average age of the workforce has fluctuated anywhere from 30- to 54-years-old. The current average age of a LAR is around 44-years-old.

Historically, LARs, by any name, have been deeply involved with units deploying for combat operations. The program exists to support Soldiers, and when Soldiers go to war — so do LARs. While providing essential and dedicated service, 343 LARs have given their lives in our nation's conflicts in Korea, Vietnam, and Operations Desert Shield and Storm in the Persian Gulf.

“On a daily basis, LARs are analyzing and sharing readiness trends, enhancing equipment availability, and resolving systemic C4ISR readiness issues.”

Fortunately, no LARs have paid the ultimate sacrifice during the War on Terrorism, but the dedication to service continues with more than 1,260 individual deployments since 2001.

Today the LAR program is assigned to the Logistics Assistance Division within the Logistics and Readiness Center's Directorate of Readiness. LARs are assigned throughout five regional branches and one Customer Support Branch residing at CECOM Headquarters, Aberdeen Proving Ground, Md. The five regional branches are strategically aligned with the Army Field Support Brigade, AFSB, field structure: 403rd AFSB - FAR East Branch, Taegu, Korea; 404th AFSB - Pacific Branch, Joint Base Lewis McCord, Wash.; 405th AFSB - Europe Branch Kaiserslautern, Germany; 406th AFSB - CONUS East Branch, Fort Bragg, N.C., and 407th AFSB - CONUS West Branch, Fort Hood, Texas.

Today, the primary LAR mission is to provide unit commanders with the technical guidance necessary to resolve weapon systems, equipment, and systemic logistics problems. To execute this mission, the LAR program provides skilled technicians in seven areas. LARs provide invaluable advice, maintenance and diagnostic training, and subject matter expertise to unit commanders and help solve unit level readiness issues through close work with Soldiers in garrison, the field, and deployments.

On a daily basis, LARs are analyzing and sharing readiness trends, enhancing equipment availability, and resolving systemic C4ISR readiness issues.



Larry Bivens, left, and Gary Dygert, right, cross trains with a Soldier on a 10 KW APU, auxiliary power unit, generator.

Courtesy Photo

Did you know?

Did you know that there is a permanent Communications Electronics Evaluation Repair Team, CEER-T, Reset facility located within the 407th Army Field Support Brigade, AFSB, footprint at Fort Hood Texas? The team handles the Reset of all 407th supported units? CEER-T is designated as the Department of Army's sole source of repair for Night Vision Devices and SINCGARS Radios.



BETSS-C proves vital to saving Warfighter lives

By Shayla S. McCullough, LRC

On a quiet road winding past the walls of a forward operating base north of Baghdad, a would-be terrorist pours kerosene into a puddle on the blacktopped road in the dark of night and walks away. Over the next day and as the temperature tops 130 degrees, the kerosene will soften the spot to a point where on the next night, someone returns to dig away the chunky, black tar-covered gravel creating a hole in which they place an Improvised Explosive Device, or IED. In just a few minutes the hole is refilled in and some sand is thrown on for concealment. Then, they wait—they wait for the next coalition convoy hauling supplies or an unsuspecting patrol to roll out.

Not long ago, scenarios similar to this played out over and over again causing countless injuries and deaths. But while terrorists continue to attack using somewhat low-tech, line-of-sight technologies such as garage door openers hard wired to explosives, U.S. Forces are achieving more hi-tech solutions taking the Warfighter out of harm's way.

One program receiving considerable attention and contributing to the diminished capacity for terrorists to inflict catastrophic injuries on coalition forces throughout Iraq and Afghanistan is the Base Expeditionary Targeting and Surveillance System-Combined Program, BETSS-C. The BETSS-C is Central Command's, CENTCOM, number two priority only behind Mine Resistant Ambush Protected vehicle, MRAP.

Selected as one of the Top Five Department of Defense Systems Engineering Awards in 2009, BETSS-C works by leveraging new and existing technologies then aggregating the data into a more complete picture for battlefield commanders. BETSS-C sensor operators serve the battle captain and commander in support of the RSTA and force protection missions by gaining and maintaining visual observation of potential threats, maintaining situational awareness, identifying and preempting enemy actions, and proactively using BETSS-C as a part of the integrated base defense.

Imagine, for example, as a commander you receive a situational report of an explosion and gunfire on the perimeter of your forward operating base. You need to make a decision to scramble a quick reaction force, call for support, etc. Now, imagine the same situation unfolding as streaming video is being transmitted from an unmanned aerial vehicle, UAV,

Did you know?

Tobyhanna Army Depot earned the top Army award for maintenance excellence in Warfighter support. Employees earned the 2010 Army Chief of Staff Combined Logistics Excellence Award (Depot Category) for "superior performance of duty in depot maintenance excellence resulting in improved combat readiness." Specifically, the award was given for the depot's worldwide support of the Command Post Systems and Integration program.



Courtesy Photo

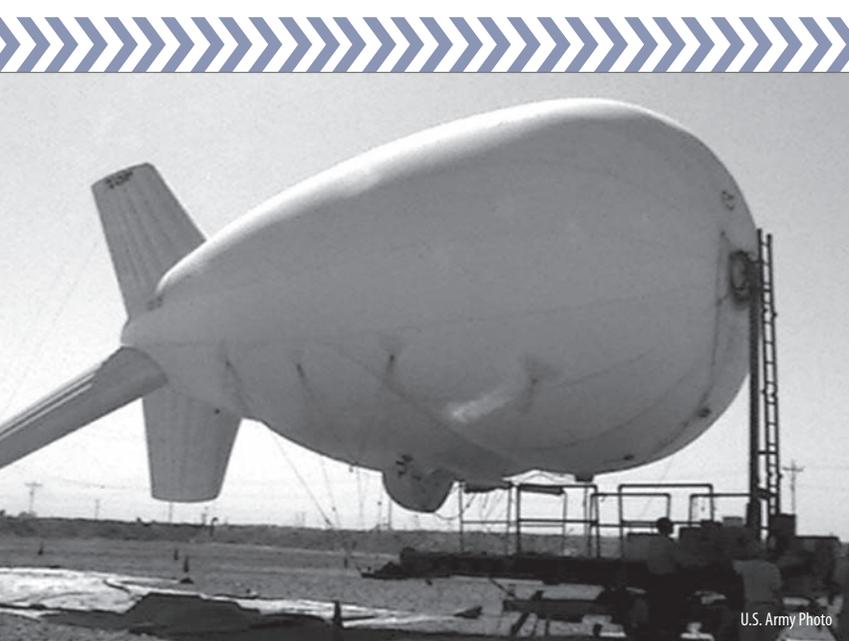
U.S. Joint Forces Command contractors and Navy Cmdr. Donald Lee use the Base Expeditionary Targeting and Surveillance System – Combined (BETSS-C) to look for suspicious activity on the range during Empire Challenge 10. EC10 is an annual USJFCOM-led, multinational intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance demonstration that showcases emerging capabilities and provides lessons learned to improve joint and combined interoperability.

Rapid Aerostat Initiation Deployment Tower, RAID, radar, thermal and infrared information are all being displayed on a monitor in front of you in one common and understandable picture. Additionally, the BETSS-C enables the battle captain or commander to identify a location within one meter and transmit a ten-digit grid coordinate to a reaction force, mortar or artillery battery or air assets to take out potential threats. Put into increasing use over the past two years, BETSS-C is doing just that and is truly a force protection multiplier allowing commanders to improve the accuracy and breadth of situational awareness in theater.

The BETSS-C was designed and fielded by Project Manager Night Vision/Reconnaissance Surveillance and Target Acquisition, PM-NV/RSTA, in the fall of 2007 with the IEWS

Directorate designated as the product support integrator for the BETSS-C Quick Reaction Capability, QRC. BETSS-C represents one of the first successful implementations of an integrated sensor technology—an integrated “system of sensor systems”—and is a proven force protection multiplier.

The IEWS Directorate provides support to the BETSS-C program by operating and maintaining these surveillance systems. There are currently more than 700 BETSS-C systems fielded in throughout Iraq and Afghanistan. In the past 24 months, the IEWS Directorate has consistently maintained operational availability and readiness of the BETSS-C in theater at 90 percent or more—numbers contributing directly to saving lives of Warfighters on the ground.



U.S. Army Photo



U.S. Army Photo

The Rapid Aerostat Initial Deployment (RAID) system uses a variety of platforms - including aerostat, tower and mast — and sensor suites to provide persistent surveillance in support of warfighter intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance requirements. Tobyhanna Army Depot personnel train service members on the system.

RAID training vital to perimeter defense

by Jacqueline Boucher, TYAD

Sometimes the only way to train Soldiers on the Army's state-of-the-art surveillance systems is to conduct classes on the front lines.

In Iraq and Afghanistan, two depot personnel teach the finer points of the Rapid Aerostat Initial Deployment, RAID, Tower to military members defending the perimeters of several forward operating bases.

John Yackiel and Aaron Kimble are also installing upgrades to the legacy system to support the newer Base Expeditionary Targeting Surveillance Systems-Combined, BETSS-C, Elevated Sensors Program.

RAID systems provide essential situational awareness for improved security and daily operations in and around the FOBs. Towers and aerostats are part of the Persistent Surveillance and Dissemination Systems, PSDS2; they first arrived in Afghanistan in 2003.

After completing a 12-week training course, both men volunteered to help protect U.S. and coalition forces by teaching service members what they need to know about the surveillance system.

"The tower is a very important asset for our infantry company," said 1st Sgt. Alexander Aguilastratt in a note to the depot. "The service that John and Aaron have been providing is first class."

Training was conducted so Soldiers working on all shifts were able to participate, according to the first sergeant. He wrote that everyone was trained in the system's capabilities as well as how to bring the device down safely for maintenance.

"Their [Kimble and Yackiel] attitude and service clearly reflect the principles of your organization in regard to supporting our Soldiers," he said. "We were lucky to have them."

Editor's note: Within the government sector, acronyms have become common place. The following is a fraction of the more common acronyms used within the CECOM organization.

ABCS- Army Battle Command System	CMMI- Capability Maturity Model Integration	LOC- Logistics Operations Center/Cell
ACRB- Acquisition Career Record Briefs	COTS-Commercial Off-The-Shelf	LRC- Logistics Readiness Center
AMC- Army Materiel Command	DACM- Director of Acquisition Career Management	PBUS-E- Property Book Unit Supply – Enhanced
APG NEC- Aberdeen Proving Ground Net Control Center	DD SPO- Drawdown Special Project Office	PED- Programmable/Platform Encryption Device
ARAT- Army Reprogramming Analysis Team	DMS- Defense Management System	PEOC3(S)T- Program Executive Office(r) Command Control and Communications (Systems) Tactical
ARFORGEN- Army Force Generation	FANS- Federated Army Net-Centric Sites	PM- Project Manager
ARI- Automatic Reset Item	FSE-Field Support Engineer	RDIT-Replication, Distribution, Installation and Training
ASMT- ARFORGREN Synchronization Management Team	FSS-Field Support Site	SAMS-E- Standard Army Maintenance System – Enhanced
BET- Building Entrance Terminals	IDIQ- Indefinite Delivery, Indefinite Quantity	SINGARS- Single Channel Ground and Airborne Radio System
BIC- Business Intelligence Center	IMI- Intensively Managed Item	SQA- Software Quality Assurance
C2- Command and Control	JCAL-Joint Computer-Aided Acquisition and Logistics	SWAL-Software Assurance Laboratory
CALM- Centralized Acquisition License Management	JNN- Joint Network Node	TOC-Tactical Operations Center
CBT-Computer Based Trainer	JOIN- Joint On-demand Interoperability Network	UC-Unified Capabilities
CEER-T- Communications Electronics Evaluation Repair Team	JTT- Joint Tactical Trainer	WIN-T- Warfighter Information Network – Tactical
CERDEC- Communications-Electronics Command Research, Development and Engineering Center	JUICE- Joint User Interoperability Communications Exercise	
	LAR- Logistics Assistance Representative	
	LEO- Logistics and Engineering Operations Directorate, p/o the LRC	



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