

The Desert Voice

Third Army/United States Army Central
"Ready Tonight ... Sustain The Fight ... Shape the Future"

September 16, 2009



Joint CBRN Training



DV

Table of Contents

Page 4

Prospective Chief Petty Officers retire an American Flag with full honors

Page 8

9/11 Remembrance Service held on Camp Arifjan, Kuwait



On the cover

Marines with the 22nd Marine Expeditionary Unit prepare to perform aid on a training mannequin during a joint Chemical Biological Radiological Nuclear training exercise at Camp Buehring, Kuwait, Sept. 3. For the full story see page 6. (Photo by Marine Cpl. Justin Martinez)

Contact us

Comments, questions, suggestions story ideas? Call the Desert Voice editor at 430-6334 or e-mail at desertvoice@arifjan.arcent.army.mil.

DV

The
Desert
Voice

Volume 30, Issue 61

The Desert Voice is an authorized publication for members of the Department of Defense. Contents of the Desert Voice are not necessarily the official views of, or endorsed by, the U.S. Government or Department of the Army. The editorial content of this publication is the responsibility of the U.S. Army Central Public Affairs Office. This magazine is published by Al-Qabandi United, a private firm, which is not affiliated with USARCENT. All copy will be edited. The Desert Voice is produced weekly by the 20th Public Affairs Detachment.

Find us online at www.arcent.army.mil.

Happy Birthday Air Force!



COMMANDING GENERAL
THIRD ARMY
UNITED STATES ARMY CENTRAL
CAMP ARIFJAN, KUWAIT
APO AE 09306

September 18, 2009

To the Third Army/USARCENT Team,

The National Security Act, signed by President Truman on 26 July 1947, united the War Department and the Navy Department into a single Department of Defense. This important piece of legislation also authorized an independent Air Force and a single chairman to oversee the three equal branches of the military. The act was formally implemented on 18 September that year, making this date the official birthday of the United States Air Force.

Although the Air Force has flown under many names since the Army established the Aeronautical Division of the US Signal Corps on 1 August 1907, the Air Force's **Mission** has not changed: to fight and win our Nation's wars as part of a joint and combined-arms Team. Today, **Airmen, Soldiers, Sailors, Marines, Coast Guardsmen**, civilians of the several military branches, and contractors continue to work together—as we always have—using the combat-multiplying effects of **Teamwork** to ensure success on the battlefield.

From our weather experts in the Combined Operations and Intelligence Centers in Atlanta and Kuwait, to the Combined Air and Space Operations Center in Qatar, to our future home at Shaw Air Force Base in South Carolina, we wish our current and future partners and lifelong Teammates of the Air Force a happy sixty-second birthday today. We are proud to stand with you, shoulder-to-shoulder.

Patton's Own!

John D. Fourhman

John D. Fourhman
Command Sergeant Major, US Army
Command Sergeant Major

William G. Webster

William G. Webster
Lieutenant General, US Army
Commanding General

Third Army Commanding General
Lt. Gen. William G. Webster
Third Army Command Sgt. Maj.
Command Sgt. Maj. John D. Fourhman
Third Army Public Affairs Officer
Col. Gerald O'Hara
Third Army Public Affairs Sgt. Maj.
Sgt. Maj. Brian Thomas
Third Army Deputy PAO (FWD)
Lt. Col. Martha Brooks

20th Public Affairs Detachment Commander
Maj. Jason Shropshire
20th Public Affairs Detachment Sergeant
Staff Sgt. Jarod Perkioniemi
20th Public Affairs Detachment
Sgt. Brooks Fletcher
Spc. Elayseah Woodard-Hinton
Spc. Alicia Torbush
Pvt. Howard Ketter

<http://www.youtube.com/user/dvidshub?blend=2&ob=1>



More fruit, less juice



Do you drink lots of juice? Maybe you have two bottles of cranberry juice with breakfast or some orange juice with lunch?

While juice provides more nutrition than soda or Gatorade, it might not be the best choice if you are trying to lose weight. Even if you are happy with your weight, lots of calories from juice should not replace other healthful foods in your diet. Drinking one 8 ounce cup of 100 percent juice per day is not a problem, but having several cups at more than one meal can be.

Fruit juice normally contains 100 percent of the daily value of Vitamin C. Orange juice is high in potassium and some varieties like pomegranate and grape juice are higher in antioxidants. Unfortunately, when fruit is processed to make juice, one of its best parts is lost – the dietary fiber.

Fiber helps with gastrointestinal health, cholesterol regulation, cancer prevention and helps you feel full so you do not overeat. Drinking juice will probably not fill you up and may cause you to consume too many calories.



Capt. Kate Schrumm R.D.
U.S. Army Central Surgeon's Office

Two bottles of cranberry juice has about 350 calories, no protein and no fiber. One cup of whole, fresh strawberries has 46 calories, 3 grams of fiber, 1 gram of protein and more than 100 percent of the daily value for Vitamin C. Two 10-ounce cups of apple juice has 233 calories and 0 grams fiber. A medium apple has 72 calories and 3 grams of fiber.

It is much easier to guzzle 2-3 cups of juice containing 230-350 calories than it is to eat 3-5 apples.

Though juices are not directly going to harm you, drinking calorie dense beverages makes it easy to consume excess calories without realizing it. The calories you save by switching from juice to whole fruit can help you lose weight or can be used towards other nutritious foods. Plus, you will get the benefits of fiber. Remember that you need 14 grams of fiber for every 1,000 calories you eat. To help with weight loss and for better health, choose more fresh fruit and less juice. **A**

Where there is smoke...

Although you may not consider your current dwelling as your “home,” it is your place for repose. Your actions should exhibit an outcome as if your life depends on it...and it does!

The National Fire Protection Association affirmed, if all homes had working smoke alarms, an estimated 890 lives could be saved annually, or just under one-third the annual fire death toll. Consequently, only you can ensure your home away from home will not become one of these statistics within this annual period.

Commonly, smoke detectors wake up adults that generally have an intensity of about 80 decibels. An ABC News affiliate WISN in Milwaukee conducted a test with eight children. The test revealed seven of the eight children

did not awake in a timely manner if at all. The eldest individual, fourteen years old, awoke five minutes after the alarm had sounded. The participating firefighters stated evacuation should take place within two minutes of hearing the alarm.

Although your age may exceed the study’s personnel age group, can you guarantee that the 80 decibel intensity is what you require to escape your dwelling within two minutes of the sound?

Furthermore, can you guarantee the smoke alarm will sound if you decided to utilize your smoke alarm as a cigarette holder? Respect and inspect the system that is designed to save your life; it is not designed to save your cigarette. **A**



Ready Tonight
Sustain the Fight
Shape the Future
Third Army/U.S. Army Central

PCPO pay tribute

Article by
Pvt. Howard Ketter
20th Public Affairs Detachment

When the flag is in such condition that it is no longer a fitting emblem for display, it should not be cast aside or used in any way that can be viewed as disrespectful. It should be buried or destroyed by fire.

Prospective Chief Petty Officers of several different Navy units around Kuwait retired an American Flag in such condition at a ceremony held on Camp Patriot, Kuwait Sept. 11.

“We retired a flag, paying respect for those who died before us,” said Petty Officer 1st Class Davon R. Copeland, Combined Task Group 56.5. “It was not only for 9/11 victims but for all of the Sailors, Soldiers, Airmen, and Marines that have served and died for this flag.”

The ceremony was held by Sailors selected to be promoted to the rank of Chief Petty Officer from Combined task Group 56.5, 823rd and 622nd Maritime Expeditionary Support Detachments, Navy Expeditionary Logis-

by laying flag to rest

tics Support Group and the 22nd Naval Construction Regiment.

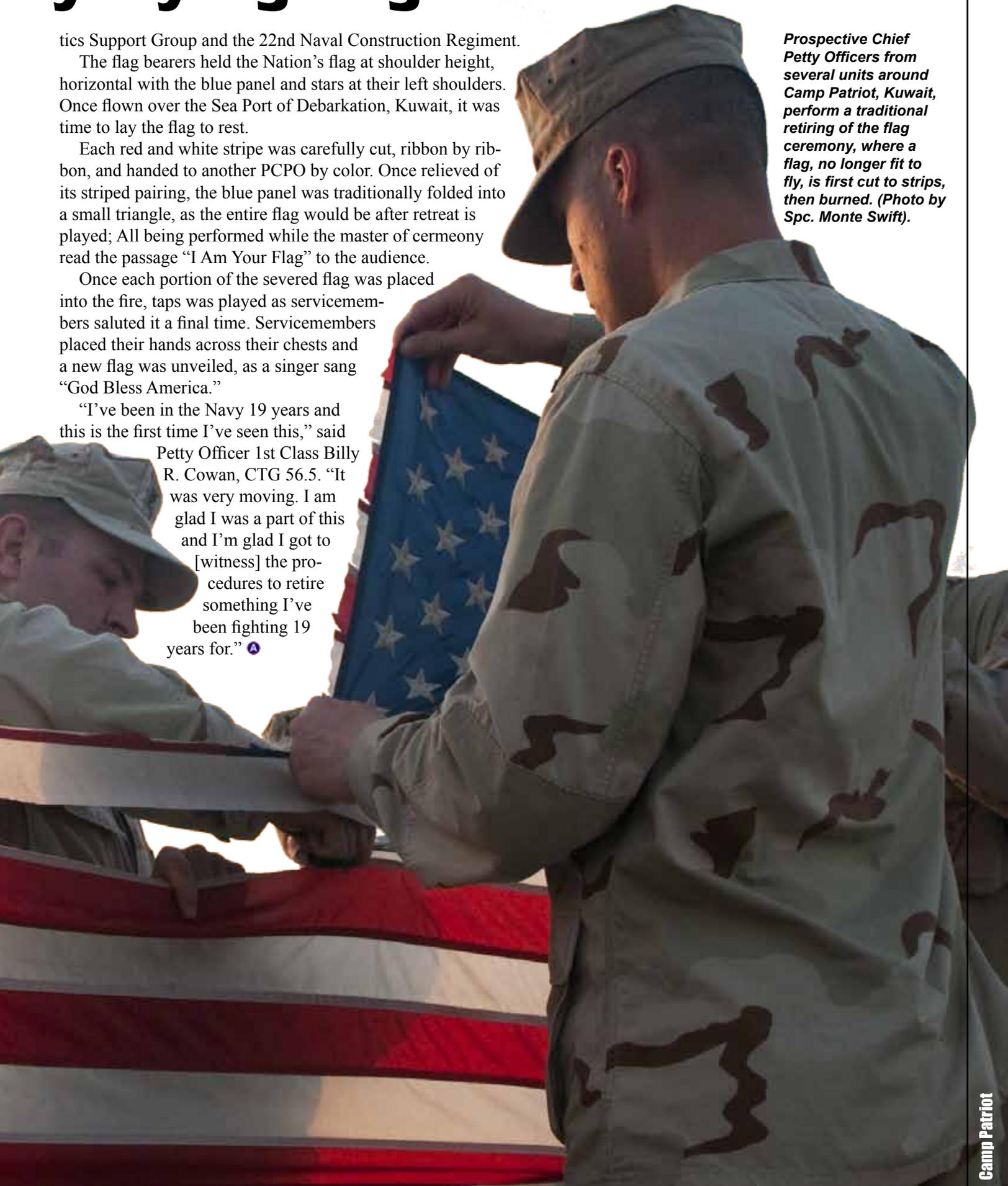
The flag bearers held the Nation's flag at shoulder height, horizontal with the blue panel and stars at their left shoulders. Once flown over the Sea Port of Debarkation, Kuwait, it was time to lay the flag to rest.

Each red and white stripe was carefully cut, ribbon by ribbon, and handed to another PCPO by color. Once relieved of its striped pairing, the blue panel was traditionally folded into a small triangle, as the entire flag would be after retreat is played; All being performed while the master of ceremony read the passage "I Am Your Flag" to the audience.

Once each portion of the severed flag was placed into the fire, taps was played as servicemembers saluted it a final time. Servicemembers placed their hands across their chests and a new flag was unveiled, as a singer sang "God Bless America."

"I've been in the Navy 19 years and this is the first time I've seen this," said Petty Officer 1st Class Billy R. Cowan, CTG 56.5. "It was very moving. I am glad I was a part of this and I'm glad I got to [witness] the procedures to retire something I've been fighting 19 years for." 

Prospective Chief Petty Officers from several units around Camp Patriot, Kuwait, perform a traditional retiring of the flag ceremony, where a flag, no longer fit to fly, is first cut to strips, then burned. (Photo by Spc. Monte Swift).



Marines, Army train with new CBRN equipment



Lance Cpl. Andrew M. Kurtzman, a chemical biological radiological nuclear specialist, Headquarters and Support Company, Battalion Landing Team, 3rd Battalion, 2nd Marine Regiment, 22nd Marine Expeditionary Unit and native of Buffalo, N.Y., locates a contamination source during a joint Chemical Biological Radiological Nuclear training exercise at Camp Buehring, Kuwait, Sept. 3.



Article and photos by
Marine Cpl. Justin M. Martinez
22nd MEU Public Affairs Office

Marines with the 22nd Marine Expeditionary Unit Chemical Biological Radiological Nuclear response team conducted a joint-service exercise with Soldiers at Camp Buehring, Kuwait, Sept. 3.

This joint training exercise gave the Soldiers a chance to experience and use new equipment for detecting and containing hazardous materials.

“This evening’s training was a joint exercise to get Marines and the Army working together in a chemical environment,” said Marine Chief Warrant Officer Steven Dancer, the Chemical Biological Radiological Nuclear defense officer for the MEU and native of New Egypt, N.J. “It’s a chance for the [servicemember] to see new gear that they have not been exposed to yet.”

The servicemembers worked as a five-man team, walking in green protective suits around a training area, scouting for faint chemical traces in cracks and corners of a suspected

contaminated building, with handheld devices.

“My team is part of the initial entry team,” said Lance Cpl. Jose D. Figueroa, communication technician, Headquarters and Support Company, Battalion Landing Team, 3rd Battalion, 2nd Marine Regiment, 22nd MEU and native of San Lorenzo, Puerto Rico. “We went downrange to do the initial site survey and analyzed certain points for the sampling team.”

Dancer said the training gives Marines a chance to interact with another service and to share experiences.

“Any hazardous material can be used as a weapon, and we need to be prepared to work with that material to eliminate the hazard to save lives,” said Dancer.

The different training teams went through the contamination scenario wearing a bulky suit. Many of the same qualities that make the suits impervious to chemicals, make them equally impervious to clear communication.

“You’re encapsulated, you have a mask on your face and you’re trying to get a thought through to someone else,”

said Dancer. “It can be frustrating when you’re talking through two layers of plastic.”

The muffled voices soon developed into slow annunciated words with hand and arm signals as they overcame the difficulties of communication.

“Communication was a little rough, but I think it was an adapt-and-overcome situation,” said Army Sgt. Erik S. Arnold, team leader, Security Force Area Reaction Force and native of Huntsville, Ala. “We would have to say things more than once and tap each other on the shoulder.”

At the end of the training the Marines and Soldiers had lessons to build upon, and experience they could take back to their commands to make them more effective at protecting fellow servicemembers. **A**

“This evening’s training was a joint exercise to get Marines and the Army working together in a chemical environment.”

Marine Chief Warrant Officer Steven Dancer
CBRN Defense Officer
22nd Marine Expeditionary Unit



Photo by Spc. Brandon Babbitt

Servicemembers pause for a moment of prayer during the 9/11 Remembrance Service held at the Zone 1 Chapel, Camp Arifjan, Kuwait, Sept. 11.

Lt. Gen. William G. Webster, commanding general, Third Army, shares his story of 9/11 with servicemembers. Webster was at the Pentagon when American Airline Flight 77 struck the building. His office was 40 yards from the site of impact.



Photo by Spc. Alicia Torbush

Third Army, Camp Arifjan remembers 9/11

Article by Spc. Alicia Torbush 20th Public Affairs Detachment

Servicemembers at Camp Arifjan, Kuwait marked the eighth anniversary of the terrorist attacks that occurred on Sept. 11, 2001 with a Remembrance Service held at the Zone 1 Chapel.

The service featured two guest speakers who were at the Pentagon when the attacks occurred and Soldiers read the stories of survivors of the World Trade Center attacks. All present observed a moment of silence at 8:45 a.m., Eastern Standard Time, to remember the moment American Airlines Flight 11 crashed into the North Tower, killing all on board and starting the chain of events that resulted in the loss of nearly 3,000 lives, including nationals of nearly 90 countries.

Lt. Gen. William G. Webster, commanding general, Third Army, and Chaplain (Col.) Philip Hill, senior Catholic priest, Area Support Group-Kuwait spoke about their experiences and reminded those present to never forget the lives that were lost that day.

Webster was 40 yards from where American Airlines Flight 77 struck the Pentagon. He was serving as the director of training of the U.S. Army and was in a meeting when he was told that the World Trade Center had been hit. During his meeting, he heard a loud explosion that knocked him out of his chair and he saw flames shoot past the windows and through the false ceiling of his office.

“Since my office was very close, that fireball went past the windows and through the ceiling at the same time,” said Webster. “The windows were made of Mylar and so they bent in and then recovered; otherwise I probably wouldn’t be standing here talking to you today.”

“Men and women went to various exits on that floor

and told people ‘Don’t go down this way; I’ve recon’d and it’s got fire and smoke in it’ or ‘Continue to go this way, there’s an open stairway down there,’” said Webster. “They manned these doors without anyone having to tell them to.”

Survivors were directed to run to an open field when they exited the building, but Webster and others spent the day assisting with the rescue efforts. He told the story of a nurse who started triage there and of a medic who ran two miles from Fort Meyers, Va., to provide aide to the wounded.

“At one point in time during the day, I was with no belt, I had lost my head gear, my shoes were burned, I had body fluids on me and I was holding the corner of a stretcher with a Sailor, an Airman and a Marine waiting to take the wounded out,” said Webster. “It just struck me then of how our men and women serve and do so selflessly.”

Hill also remembered the events of that day and shared with those present why we must never forget those lost on 9/11 as well as those who continue to make the sacrifices required of them.

“Created that day were deep and long-standing debts owed in blood to our country,” said Hill.

Hill urged servicemembers to remember the oath of enlistment they took to defend the nation.

“We [must] also make the irrevocable promise to be there when we are needed; to fight the good fight, to finish the race and to restore and keep the peace, so help us God,” added Hill.

The service ended with the singing of “God Bless America” and a benediction. 

NEWS IN BRIEF

ARMY VICE CHIEF OF STAFF DETAILS GROUND COMBAT VEHICLE PLANS

Sept. 10 the Army's vice chief of staff said that the service plans to begin replacing its M113 and Bradley armored vehicles with a new infantry carrier vehicle within the coming decade.

Gen. Peter Chiarelli laid out new details of the Army's new modernization strategy at an Association of the United States Army breakfast, focusing on the Ground Combat Vehicle effort. Army acquisition officials announced the GCV effort after Defense Secretary Robert Gates killed the 27-ton Manned Ground Vehicles portion of the Army's Future Combat Systems program in the fiscal 2010 defense budget, criticizing the design as ill-suited to survive current battlefield threats.

"The Ground Combat Vehicle represents one of the most important combat development and acquisition decisions we are going to make in a long time," said Chiarelli.

These futuristic vehicles, which the Army hopes to develop and begin fielding within seven years, will be designed to be flexible enough to fight in any environment and adaptable enough to be upgraded with technology that surfaces decades into the future, said Chiarelli.

The outdated M113 personnel carrier will be the first to go between now and 2018, according to a chart Chiarelli referred to in his talk. While he gave no specific date, the Bradley fighting vehicles will likely be retired as well.

"When it comes to the Bradley, we will reset the Bradley, but we know there is a point in time in the future where we will divest ourselves of the Bradley," said Chiarelli. "We want to develop the Ground Combat Vehicle which we see in its first iteration as an infantry fighting vehicle."

The Army plans to continue upgrading the M1 tank, the Stryker family of vehicles and the Paladin 155mm self-propelled howitzer, said Chiarelli.

AFGHAN REACTION TO STRIKE MUTED

When U.S. warplanes bombed two stolen fuel trucks in northern Afghanistan early, Sept. 11, causing an explosion that incinerated civilians as well as insurgent fighters, the incident could easily have turned into a propaganda opportunity for the Taliban.

Instead, popular and official reaction to the lethal airstrike has been far more tolerant than similar past incidents. There have been no angry demonstrations against

Western occupiers, and no blistering condemnation by President Hamid Karzai or local authorities. So far, not even the families of the dead have come forward to protest.

This time, according to human rights activists and foreign diplomats, rising Afghan anger toward the Taliban in the once-tranquil north, a swift public apology by U.S. military officials and national preoccupation with a troubled presidential election have combined to deflect popular outrage over the bombing.

"There has been a marked difference in the way the U.S. military dealt with this incident. Instead of arguing about the number of casualties, as has happened often in the past, they recognized the Afghan perception and addressed it," said a senior U.N. official. "This is very heartening, and it bodes well for the coming months as this conflict inevitably continues."

Within 24 hours, the senior U.S. military commander, Gen. Stanley A. McChrystal, visited the site of the bombed trucks in Kunduz province and then delivered a personal message on Afghan television, expressing his concern and promising a full investigation. "Just showing his face helped a lot," said Ahmad Nader Nadery, a member of the Afghan Independent Human Rights Commission.

ARMY CRAFTS BLUEPRINT FOR CYBERWARFARE

The Army is developing its blueprint for battling attackers in cyberspace, the latest writing of a major military playbook aimed at staying ahead of increasingly sophisticated enemies.

"It's just our drive to get better networked and better tied in, not with just the military but civilian societies at every level," said Col. Jeff Witsken, deputy director of Fort Leavenworth's Capability Development Integration Directorate.

Similar to its recently finished manual on the use of electronic warfare, the Army is crafting new concepts for a high-tech battlefield. The 86-page document, an early draft of which was obtained by The Associated Press, tries to account for everything from monitoring the passing of information between enemies to stopping computer hacks from taking on entire networks of machines.

The doctrine will be the Army's principles for battlefield commanders to use computers and information technology to identify enemies, inform Soldiers and notify other countries what the U.S. military is doing and why. The early draft is light on specifics but heavy on high concepts. The final version is to be released in October. **A**



Emergency Numbers

Camp Arifjan
DSN 430-3160/Cell 6682-2120

Camp Buerhing
DSN 438-3224 Cell 9720-5396

Camp Virginia
DSN 832-2559/Cell 6705-9470

LSA
DSN 442-0189/Cell 6682-2467

K-Crossing
DSN 823-1327/Cell 682-0095

KCIA/APOD
Cell 6706-0165

SPOD
DSN 825-1314/Cell 9720-5982

KNB
DSN 839-1334/Cell 6691-4967

NCO Spotlight

Staff Sgt. Jeremy Clinton
JVB Operations NCO, Third Army



"Always remain combat ready and stay focused. Never get complacent."

This Suffolk, Va. native said he joined the Army in September 2000 because he wanted to do something that could make his future better. He also wanted money to go to school. Staff Sgt. Jeremy Clinton plans to remain in the Army until he retires because of the benefits that are offered. He also plans to become an officer before he retires. Clinton has a wife, a daughter and a son at home and is currently on his second deployment.

Just One Question...

"What's the the first thing you plan on doing when you redeploy?"



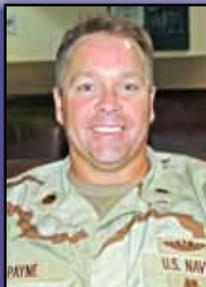
"I plan to have a big party to celebrate my birthday."

Petty Officer 3rd Class Robert Simpson
 Fire Controlman
 NAVELSG
 Knoxville, Tenn.



"I want to travel to and enjoy all of the beaches in Hawaii."

Staff Sgt. Kimberly Green
 Battalion UMO
 209th ASB
 Virginia Beach, Va.



"I'm probably going to my son's Far East wrestling tournament when I get back."

Lt. Cdr. Mike Payne
 Nurse Corps Officer
 EMF-Kuwait
 Highland, Ind.



"I'm going to watch my kids play football and then I'm going to take them to Busch Gardens."

Tech Sgt. Chance Reid
 Convoy Commander
 586th ELRS
 Eastland, Texas



"I want to go scuba diving."

2nd Lt. Jacob Sowell
 Platoon Leader
 2-6 Cavalry Regiment, 2nd Platoon
 Mobile, Ala.

What's happening around Third Army

New Generators at LSA

Area Support Group-Kuwait improved the quality of life for servicemembers by installing five new generators at the Life Support Area, Kuwait, that are quieter than their predecessors. "These new generators are a significant change from the old and outdated generators and help reduce the noise effects on base," said Cpl. Tom Stangle, Command Cell Engineering section, LSA.



Photo by MC2 Kim Harris



Photo by Marine Cpl. Theodore W. Ritchie

Marine Medical Training

Cpl. Andrew D. Oden, left, a San Jose, Calif. native, and an administrative clerk with the 22nd Marine Expeditionary Unit, checks the pulse of a realistic medical training mannequin while Cpl. Francis L. Lagoc, a native of Kaunakani, Hawaii, also an administrative clerk with the 22nd MEU, finishes applying a tourniquet during a Combat Life Saver evaluation at the Medical Simulation Training Center on Camp Buehring, Kuwait, Aug. 25. The 22nd MEU is conducting sustainment training in Kuwait while serving as the theater reserve force for U.S. Central Command.

Maritime Security

U.S. Navy Sailors and U.S. Coast Guardsmen personnel of Maritime Expeditionary Security Squadrons and Port Security Units, work together as a Combined Task Group 56.6 to provide port security operation. The Coast Guardsmen deployed as a part of the Maritime Expeditionary Squadron under Naval Expeditionary Combat Command in support of Operation Iraqi and Enduring Freedom. (Photo by MC2 Kim Harris)

