



# The Bullet'n



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"Supporting the Warfighter"

April 17, 2008

## Rogers selected for next assignment JMC commander at Joint Munitions Command since 2005



U.S. Army photo by Kathy Anderson

JMC Commander Brig. Gen. James E. Rogers during a tour of Tooele Army Depot.

Joint Munitions Command  
News Release

ROCK ISLAND ARSENAL, Ill. -- Employees of the Joint Munitions Command are preparing to say good-bye to Brig. Gen. James E. Rogers, who will leave the command for his next assignment this summer.

Army Chief of Staff Gen. George Casey announced April 1 that Rogers is being reassigned to the 1<sup>st</sup> Sustainment Command (Expeditionary), Fort Bragg, N.C., as commanding general.

Rogers will replace Brig. Gen. Kevin A. Leonard, who is being reassigned as Deputy Chief of Staff, logistics and Operations, Army Materiel Command, Fort Belvoir, Va.

Rogers has commanded JMC since September 2005. In that position, Rogers leads the organization that is responsible for the production, storage, issue and demilitarization of conventional ammunition for all U.S. military services. JMC headquarters is located at Rock Island, Ill., and the command operates a nationwide network of ammunition plants and maintains a global presence wherever U.S. combat units are stationed or deployed.

JMC's new commander will be Col. (promotable) Larry D. Wyche, who is currently assigned as the Director of Strategy and Integration, Office of the Army Deputy Chief of Staff, Logistics, at the Pentagon.

The change of command date has not been announced.

# Army News

## President Bush announces shorter deployments

By Fred W. Baker III  
Armed Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON -- President Bush directed Defense Secretary Robert M. Gates to shorten deployment lengths for Soldiers in Iraq from 15 to 12 months, starting in August.

Bush said he made the decision to reduce the strain on the force and because security improvements in Iraq have allowed for the withdrawal of all five surge combat brigades by the end of July.

He also said that officials would ensure troops have at least a year at home between deployments. The change goes into affect Aug. 1 and will not affect those already deployed there.

"Our nation owes a special thanks to the Soldiers and Families who've supported this extended deployment. We owe a special thanks to all who served in the cause for freedom in Iraq," Bush said.

He also directly addressed the troops, saying that the war in Iraq is not "endless," and that as conditions there improve, more troops could return home.

"The day will come when Iraq is a capable partner of the United States. The day will come when Iraq is a stable democracy that helps fight our common enemies and promote our common interests in the Middle East," Bush said. "And when that day



White House photo by Eric Draper

President George W. Bush meets with Gen. David Petraeus and U.S. Ambassador to Iraq Ryan Crocker April 10 at the White House.

arrives, you'll come home with pride in your success and the gratitude of your whole nation."

Bush heard positive reports on conditions in Iraq from Army Gen. David H. Petraeus and U.S. Ambassador to Iraq Ryan C. Crocker this week. He cited the success of the surge brigades as setting the conditions for the troop withdrawals.

Before the surge a little more than a year ago, al-Qaida was safe in bases across the country attacking coalition forces. Now, Bush said, they are on the defensive and forces are working to deliver a "crippling blow."

"Fifteen months ago, Americans

were worried about the prospect of failure in Iraq. Today, thanks to the surge, we've renewed and revived the prospect of success," Bush said.

After the withdrawal of the remaining surge combat brigades this summer, Petraeus has asked for 45 days to assess conditions on the ground and reposition troops.

"I've told him he'll have all the time he needs," Bush said. But the president warned against calling it a "pause," saying that description is misleading. "None of our operations in Iraq will be on hold," he said.

Bush said all U.S. efforts in the

"Bush" continued on page 11

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The editorial content of The Bullet'n is the responsibility of the Public Affairs Office at Joint Munitions Command headquarters. Contributions to The Bullet'n are welcome; contact information follows.

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# DA civilian by day . . .



U.S. Army Illustration by EL Hamm/  
photo by Darryl Howlett



Courtesy  
photo  
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Ryan  
McGivern

# champion fighter by night

By Angela Hamerlinck  
JMC Public Affairs

ROCK ISLAND ARSENAL, Ill. -- When Ryan McGivern walks into a meeting at the Joint Munitions Command headquarters with black eyes, fat lips, stitches and bruises, his coworkers don't think twice about what he's been up to... McGivern has just been in another fight.

But it's not the type of fight most people would think of if they saw him. McGivern, 28, is a mixed martial artist and the current International Fight League middleweight champion.

The International Fight League, as explained by McGivern, is an American mixed martial arts league, but instead of one-on-one matchups, each IFL card is a competition between two camps. Each camp is made up of at least three fighters who belong to one of six weight classes, ranging from 145 to 265 pounds. McGivern, at a weight of 185 pounds, belongs to Miletich's Fighting System, one of six camps located throughout the U.S.

MMA is a combat sport that combines fundamentals of several fighting styles into one all-inclusive sport. The fighting styles in MMA include wrestling, kickboxing, taekwondo, judo, jiu-jitsu and karate, said McGivern.

On Feb. 29 in a live-televised broadcast, McGivern won the middleweight championship in Las Vegas, Nev. With a record of 12 wins and five losses, McGivern will defend his title on May 16 at Mohegan Sun Arena in Uncasville, Conn.

When asked about his championship win, McGivern said, "I'm just happy I finished and never gave up. I was going to be happy no matter the outcome, but I am happy that I won the belt. I also feel it was an answered prayer that I was able to keep focused throughout all five rounds. The reason I was able to win was because I knew my family and teammates were watching from home. That filled me with the confidence I needed to focus on a positive outcome."

A championship win doesn't come easily. It takes a lot

of hard work and dedication.

Being born into a wrestling family, McGivern's career started at an early age. With 18 years of wrestling experience, including participation on his high school wrestling team and wrestling for the University of Iowa, McGivern used his prior knowledge and experience to become a mixed martial artist in October 2004.

During the six weeks prior to a fight, McGivern's schedule is very hectic. Starting each weekday at 5:30 a.m. in the gym, McGivern's workout lasts for an hour before he heads to work, but that is not the only workout he does each day. After putting in eight hours at work, McGivern returns to Pat Miletich's gym in Bettendorf, Iowa, and practices for at least two hours. When asked how he balances his life, McGivern says he owes a lot to his wife, Susan. "It is because of her that I am able to do what I love. She definitely helps me stay on top of my schedule and helps me get my mind straight leading up to the competition."

Between workouts, the JMC employee works as a general engineer in the industrial base division with the command's Munitions Logistics and Readiness Center. McGivern has been working at the Joint Munitions Command for four years as an action officer for mortars and artillery items. In this capacity he also works with Milan Army Ammunition Plant, located in Milan, Tenn., on various projects in support of the production facilities.

McGivern decided to work at JMC because it was a good opportunity and it felt like a good atmosphere. "I would like to stay here. I enjoy what I do and it works out nice for me because annual leave and a supportive supervisor allow me to continue to be a mixed martial artist," said McGivern. With one year left on his IFL contract, McGivern would like to continue on with his government and IFL careers. "I want to make a run and continue. I'm very blessed and thankful for what I have been given, what I have accomplished, and the encouragement and support I get from my team, family and coworkers," he said.

# *Ammunition plant firefighters rescue fellow employee from rising water*



*U.S. Army photo by Mark Hughes*

The van belonging to Ronnie McDonald, a McAlester Army Ammunition Plant electrician, is "parked" next to a clump of trees after McDonald drove into water flooding over Oklahoma State Highway 31 during a predawn drive to work. Firefighters from MCAAP rescued McDonald.

By Mark Hughes  
McAlester Army Ammunition Plant Public Affairs

McALESTER, Okla.-- When Ronnie McDonald, 70, left for work at 5:05 a.m. on March 19, he never thought he'd be spending the next couple of hours on top of his van watching water from Coal Creek fill it up.

An electrician at McAlester Army Ammunition Plant, McDonald didn't know he was in trouble as he traveled State Highway 31 from his home southwest of Stuart, Okla., until he hit a wall of water and his engine died.

"Then I knew I was in trouble," he said. "I had always heard you didn't want to wade into swift running water so the first thing I did was to call on my cell phone for help," he explained.

He intended to call his shop at work, however, he pushed the wrong speed dial button and got his nephew who contacted his shop who relayed the call for help to the plant's fire department.

The plant's fire department called him right back and

he gave them his location. Within 15 minutes a heavy rescue truck with four firefighters/emergency medical technicians were on site. The pitch dark was no problem as they set up a light tower that illuminated the area with 6,000 watts, turning night into day.

"The air temperature was about 40 degrees and I knew Ronnie was wet and had been on top of his van for at least an hour. I was concerned, from a medical viewpoint, about Ronnie's condition," said Tracy Allen, the firefighter/EMT who actually rescued McDonald.

"When we arrived, the van was braced against a clump of trees and Ronnie was laying on top of the van," said Izzy Pickens, acting captain, MCAAP Fire Department.

In situations like this, most people think of a rushing torrent of water sweeping the vehicle off the road. In McDonald's instance, this wasn't the case.

"The water was flowing about 3 mph and was three-to-five feet deep. Basically, it floated his van off the road," Allen explained.

As soon as the plant firefighters arrived, they thought they would need a boat. Volunteer firefighter Randy Crone, from Haywood-Arpellar, had a better idea. Having heard about the situation on the police scanner, he arrived with an old 5-ton military truck.

Crone picked up firefighters/EMT Allen and Lucas Mass and drove through the deep water keeping parallel to the van.

Allen and Mass donned life jackets and rescue rope. Allen volunteered to enter the neck-deep water and side-stepped 40 feet to the van. Lucas, with the rescue rope in hand, stood on the 5-ton's sideboard while Crone was the anchor. From the "shore" to the van was about 400 feet.

Allen, who is 6'2", said the water reached his neck, even though he was side-stepping on his "tippy toes." He reached the van, checked McDonald for injuries and,

# ARDEC, Iowa AAP recognized for environmental excellence

## Army News Service

Army programs making strides in endangered species protection, historic preservation, waste reduction, environmental cleanup and pollution prevention earned top level leadership recognition as the Secretary of the Army announced the winners of the Army's highest honor for environmental stewardship on Feb. 21.

The Army Research Development and Engineering Center's M115A2 and M116A1 Simulator Perchlorate Replacement Team from the office of Project Manager, Close Combat Systems, won in the category of Excellence in Weapon System Acquisition.

While first place awards were recognized, first runner ups were recognized as well, among them Iowa Army Ammunition Plant in the environmental restoration team and individual categories.

IAAAP's mission was to clean up environmental contamination caused by past industrial activity. IAAAP is a 19,000 acre facility built as the country entered WWII that continues to provide the warfighter with the ammunition needed to win any conflict today. The team's focus was releases that generally occurred before 1987.

IAAAP's waste stream development was not a focal point of environmental protection in early years. While manufacturing processes have changed to become environmentally friendly today, contaminants were released directly into the environment in past years. Leading contaminants included explosive compounds, metals,

and volatile organic compounds released through waterways and onto the soil.

Among the winners, five installations, three teams and one individual will receive a 2007 Secretary of the Army Environmental Award for their achievements. This year's winning accomplishments include: restoring and maintaining the habitat of over one thousand animal and plant species; conserving water and controlling erosion to reduce the harmful effect eroded sediment has on endangered species; conducting extensive community outreach to share the history of archeological sites located on Army property; and using technology to clean and re-use soil for military construction projects.

Tad Davis, Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Army for the Environment, Safety and Occupational Health, is confident that the hard work the Army dedicates to sustainability and environmental stewardship will reap benefits for generations to come.

"These Army environmental awardees are examples of how the Army is transforming its business and environmental practices to bridge today's requirements with tomorrow's needs.

"The awardees have improved installation efficiency and effectiveness, and therefore have helped assure operational capability for our Soldiers and an improved quality of life for their Families and surrounding communities.

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environmental practices to bridge today's requirements with tomorrow's needs. The awardees have improved installation efficiency and effectiveness, and therefore have helped assure operational capability for our Soldiers and an improved quality of life for their Families and surrounding communities."

The winners of the fiscal year 2007 Secretary of the Army Environmental Awards, other than PM CCS, were:

\*Pennsylvania Army National Guard - Natural Resources Conservation, Team

\*Redstone Arsenal, Ala. - Cultural Resources Management, Installation

\*Camp San Luis Obispo, California Army National Guard - Natural Resources Conservation, Small Installation

\*Aviation Classification Repair Activity Depot, Connecticut Army National Guard - Pollution Prevention, Industrial Installation

\*U.S. Army Garrison Daegu, Korea - Environmental Quality, Team

\*Fort Hood, Texas - Environmental Quality, Non-Industrial Installation

\*Fort Ruger, Hawaii Army National Guard - Environmental Restoration, Installation

\*James G. Arnold, Oregon Army National Guard - Environmental Restoration, Individual

The Secretary of the Army Environmental Awards represent the highest honor in the field of environmental science conferred by the Army.

*"Award" continued on page 11*

# Spotlight on Lean Six Sigma



## LSS Improves Quality of Work Life at Crane Army

By Tom Peske  
Crane Army Ammunition Activity  
Public Affairs

CRANE, Ind. -- As any organization strives for continuous improvement, there are changes made to improve efficiency and generate cost avoidance, and then there are changes made to improve the overall quality of life and work for employees. When a Lean Six Sigma project is able to do both, it is considered a big win for everyone involved.

The Crane Army Ammunition Activity employees working in the Ammunition Surveillance workshop were able to score that type of big win when their LSS Blackbelt project identified not only a more efficient way to do inspections, but developed a healthy way to do their work.

The project improved an inspection line designed to allow employees to inspect small arms ammunition before it goes to the customer and verify whether or not ammunition is safe to store at the activity. The linear method used to carry out the inspections contributed to schedule slippage.

"Some of the issues the Lean Six Sigma team identified in the reduce variation in small arms ammunition inspections project had to do with lifting and turning motions that inspectors and material handlers had to make while they were doing inspections on explosive materials," said Justin

Cowell, process improvement specialist.

Cowell explained there was an excessive variation in the small arms ammunition inspection process between the inspectors. This variation was leading to a backlog of periodic and receipt inspections, which resulted in constant schedule changes, a large number of priority last minute inspections, and excess overtime.

By focusing on how the inspections were physically carried out, the LSS team was able to suggest improvements that greatly improved inspection efficiency. Crane Army Logistics Management Specialist Mike Jewell said, "We were trying to improve the speed in which the inspection process is done. One of the problems we hit on was the line layout. We went from a linear to an oval shape. Instead of walking to the items, you were bringing the items to the inspector."

Another area of the process improved by the team included lifting and turning motions. Prior to the project, the inspector and/or material handlers were moving the material to be inspected from the "linear" inspection line onto an inspection table located behind them. The project implemented oval or racetrack design eliminated unnecessary movement. By adding roller ball transfer tables in front of the inspector, the team was able to eliminate the lifting and turning motion by allowing the inspector to pull the material

"LSS" continued on page 12



**Lead time:** The time from when a work item (product, order, etc.) enters a process until it exits.

# Charrette seeks to give new life to Crane Army building



U.S. Army photo by Tom Peske

By Tom Peske  
Crane Army Ammunition Activity Public Affairs

CRANE, Ind. -- Crane Army Ammunition Activity hosted a planning charrette here with engineers from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Louisville District.

The goal of the charrette was to determine the feasibility of isolating a building from a larger complex set to be "mothballed."

Placing a building into *mothball* is a process that is used to prevent progressive deterioration of a facility caused by exposure to the environment.

The project of isolating the building to make it a flexible manufacturing facility will entail installing the proper system for heating, cooling, and include any process considerations. It will also entail upgrading all utilities in the area, providing compressed air, upgrading explosive safety and safety devices, and refurbishing the facility itself.

According to CAAA Civil Engineer Travis Summers, "This project will allow us to isolate the facility from the entire complex, saving hundreds of thousands of dollars annually."

"In addition, the project will bring the building into compliance with current explosive safety standards, allowing CAAA to obtain site approval from the Naval Ordnance

Safety & Security Agency and the Department of Defense Explosive Safety Board and expand our manufacturing and demilitarization capabilities," said Summers.

Summers finished by saying the project renovates the facility making a safer and more efficient environment to perform the mission.

The remaining structures in the complex are slated to be placed into mothball, Summers said.

Crane Navy will obtain the explosive safety site approval through NOSSA and DDESB-- the host installation. Both will aid in the development of the design once the project is funded, and will be the execution agents for the project.

The funding for this project will be Military Construction Army funds. The project will be developed for consideration into the fiscal year 2013 budget.

CAAA was established in October 1977 and is a tenant of the Navy Region Midwest, Naval Support Activity Crane. The Army activity maintains ordnance professionals and infrastructure to receive, store, ship, produce, renovate and demilitarize conventional ammunition, missiles and related components.

Above Photo:

Cost engineer Luke Cooper (left) and master planner Mark Real (middle) of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Louisville District, discuss renovation plans with CAAA Civil Engineer Travis Summers during the recent charrette.

# Excalibur makes debut in Afghanistan

Picatinny Arsenal News Release

PICATINNY ARSENAL, N.J. -- For the first time in Afghanistan, U.S. Soldiers test-fired a 155 mm global-positioning-system-guided Excalibur artillery round from an M777A2 lightweight howitzer.

The firing took place in the Kunar Province Feb. 25 and was reported by the Army News Service.

The M777 Lightweight 155 mm Howitzer, which fires the Excalibur round, is designed to be a digitally programmed weapon. It is about 9,800 pounds lighter than the more commonly used M198 Howitzer and is reportedly more accurate.

Both Excalibur and the M777A2 howitzer were developed at Picatinny Arsenal. Excalibur is produced at the McAlester and Iowa Army Ammunition plants in McAlester, Okla., and Middletown, Iowa.

"The main purpose of the M777A2 is that it is more able to help the units ... by providing more timely and accurate fire," explained Capt. Ryan Berdiner, commander of C Battery, 3rd Battalion, 321st Field Artillery Regiment.

Army Staff Sgt. Darius Scott from that battery, added that the Excalibur round travels farther and hits targets that conventional ammunition does not always hit.

Scott also said that by using Excalibur, the Army is mitigating collateral damage that other rounds cause. During the firing, the GPS-guided Excalibur round receives the proper grid coordinate to seek out and destroy a target using the Enhanced Portable Inductive Artillery Fuse Setter, which works by placing the system on the tip of the round and sending a digital message cannon artillery can provide precision fires at extended ranges, Minus said.

PM Lightweight 155 and PM Excalibur have been working closely together for four years to bring this precision strike capability to towed artillery systems, echoed Jim Shields, joint program manager for the lightweight 155 mm.

"The firing of Excalibur from the lightweight 155 mm during combat operations in Operation Iraqi Freedom and Operation Enduring Freedom is the culmination of a lot of hard work by Picatinny and contractor personnel," he said.

"It adds a significant improvement in both lethality and logistics ... expanding the types of roles and missions that artillery systems can take on, which is exceedingly important in this (Global War on Terror) environment that we're fighting in," Shields said.



U.S. Army photo by Sgt. Henry Selzer

Pvt. Corey Rodriguez pulls the lanyard on the M-777A2 during the first firing of the Army's new GPS-guided Excalibur round Feb. 25 at Camp Blessing, Afghanistan.

# Mission impossible, not for Tooele



By Kathy Anderson  
Tooele Army Depot Public Affairs

Tooele Army Depot's mission is one of readiness. Through the safe handling and storage of ammunition, TEAD maintains the ability to support global shipments, anytime, anywhere. This level of readiness applies to the depot's internal capabilities and processes.

Efficiency enhancements and lean process applications have honed the depots' response times. These capabilities support engineering, prototyping and rapid development of safe ammunition products and modifications.

With more than 60-plus years of history as an ammunition management and development facility, TEAD has an established infrastructure, specialized workforce and proven safety and environmental procedures.

The installation is International Organization for Standardization certified in the conventional ammunition distribution and the development, design, manufacture and rebuild of ammunition peculiar equipment.

The unique bilateral structure of TEAD, with its dedicated ammunition and engineering group, is central to the broad base of expertise offered to both government and private industry organizations. The merging of the ammunition and engineering disciplines has created a powerful organization capable of delivering countless solutions.

Tooele's business development team has entered into numerous successful partnerships with both government and private industry.

One example is the joint venture among TEAD, Joint Munitions Command, Defense Ammunition Center, Eglin Air Force Base, and General Atomics in the development of new technology. This involves disposal of cartridge activated devices and propellant activated devices through the hydrolysis and super critical water oxidation process.

TEAD and Dyno Nobel have teamed together in the recycling of propellants generated from disassembly opera-

tions of 20 mm projectiles and 152 mm propellant charges.

Other partnerships include fabrication of fixture kits and sets in support of Corpus Christi Army Depot's Apache helicopter program. Using the same core skills and resources necessary to support mission operations, TEAD has also teamed with private industry partners in product development having applications for both the government and industry.

Tooele entered a dramatic support role in protecting our warfighters by fabricating add-on-armor kits for the M939 cargo truck and counter weight bumper kits for the M1078 2-1/2 ton cab-over truck.

Tooele possesses knowledge and expertise pertaining to all aspects of ammunition production, handling and engineering as well as other industry needs. TEAD stands ready to work to meet government and private industry needs.



U.S. Army photo by Kathy Anderson

Fixture kits and sets fabricated by TEAD's Pilot Model Shop support aircrafts such as the Apache helicopter.



U.S. Army photo by Kathy Anderson

The TEAD Hydrolysis System is semi-automated and capable of processing up to 1,625 pounds of cartridge activated devices and propellant activated devices in a 10 hour day.

## JMC employee receives Security Assistance Award

By Margaret Browne  
JMC Public Affairs

ROCK ISLAND ARSENAL, Ill. -- Susan Myers, a logistics management specialist, Security Assistance, has received the Security Assistance Executive Conference award.

The annual award is sponsored by the U.S. Army Security Assistance Command. Employees of the Army Materiel Command's four life cycle management commands and USASAC are eligible to receive the award. Myers is the second Joint Munitions Command employee to achieve this honor in the last three years.

According to Marcy Salmonson, staff action officer, Security Assistance office, the award is given to an outstanding individual who significantly demonstrates a commitment in furthering U.S. national security policies and objectives, and focuses on making the security assistance process more responsible to the customer.

USASAC provides total program management including planning, delivery, and life cycle support of equipment, services, and training to, and coproduction with U.S. allies and international partners.

The citation read, "This award recognizes your exceptional support towards achieving the U.S. strategic and political goals in training and equipping the Iraq and Afghanistan defense and police forces. Your professionalism, leadership and dedication to these programs resulted in

**Rescue** *continued from page 4*

finding none, suited up McDonald with an extra life jacket, attached the rope to the jacket and helped McDonald slide off the van into the water. Mass and Crone reeled them in.

Already McDonald was exhibiting symptoms of hypothermia with the loss of some feeling in his extremities, Allen said. McDonald needed assistance standing up once they got to shore.

A sheriff's patrol car was there and McDonald dried off and got in the warm vehicle where he insisted on being driven home. He took the rest of the day off. By the next day the water had receded and he had his van towed.

"I don't know if it's recoverable, but we're going to try," he said.

McDonald had nothing but praise for his rescuers. "I can't say enough about the fire department and Randy Crone. I'm proud of them all, they reacted well and did an excellent job."

For Allen and Mass, this was their first water rescue with the ammunition plant. "This rescue did show us that we needed more lifejackets, rescue rope and wet suits," said Allen.

They've been ordered and shipped. Hopefully, it will be a long time before they're ever used.



U.S. Army photo by Rhonda Brunning/EL Hamm  
JMC Commander Brig. Gen. James E. Rogers presents Susan Myers with her award.

timely and efficient letter of agreement development, execution and deliveries of standard and non-standard ammunition. Your contributions were significant and will have a long lasting impact on the future conduct of security assistance management within the U.S. Army."

"She dedicated her time and talent throughout the year to provide exceptional support to Iraq and Afghanistan's Security Assistance Foreign Military Sales programs. She is a hands-on professional, who has a respected reputation in the Security Assistance community," said Dan Stackwick, deputy for JMC's SA. "She consistently demonstrates the determination necessary to ensure professional and responsive efforts are provided to our customer. Her resourcefulness and initiative are an inspiration to others and make her a leader in every sense."



U.S. Army photo by Mark Hughes

Four firefighters from MCAAP rescued a fellow employee, Ronnie McDonald, from rising waters after he drove his van into flood waters during a pre-dawn drive to work. Standing in front their rescue truck are: Izzy Pickens, Tracy Allen, Lucas Mass and Caleb Pierce.

## Award

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IAAAP team members included Rodger Allison from the IAAAP, Andrew Maly from the Army Environmental Command, Scott Marquess from the Environmental Protection Agency, Dan Cook from the Iowa Dept. of Natural Resources, Michael Coffey from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and Rick Arnseth and Steve Muffler from Tetra Tech, Inc.

The team brought many scientific disciplines together to clean up the groundwater on and off post. They also improved on the means to centrally manage soils removed from various sites on IAAAP. So far, they have created a long term remedy

### 2007 Secretary of the Army Environmental Award Winners

*Natural Resources Conservation, Team  
Pennsylvania Army National Guard*

*Cultural Resources Management Installation  
Redstone Arsenal, Ala.*

*Project Manager Close Combat Systems (PM CSS),  
Armament Research Development and Engineering  
Center (ARDEC) – Excellence in Weapon System  
Acquisition*

*The M115A2 and M116A1 Simulator Perchlorate  
Replacement Team*

#### **Team Environmental Awards:**

*Natural Resources Conservation, Small Installation,  
Industrial Installation*

*Camp San Luis Obispo, California Army Natu-  
ral Guard*

*Pollution Prevention, Industrial Installation  
Aviation classification Repair Activity Depot,  
Connecticut Army National Guard*

*Environmental Quality  
U.S. Army Garrison Daegu, Korea*

*Environmental Quality, Non-Industrial Installation  
Fort Hood, Texas*

that has been well received by the public.

Lt. Col. Benjamin Nutt, commander of the IAAAP, says, "IAAAP's first runner-up selection at the Secretary of the Army level is an exceptional accomplishment."

Nutt continued, "The most impressive aspect of achieving the award is the level of cooperation among IAAAP team members."

Finally, Nutt recognized the overall impact of the project and recognition. "The result is one of the most professional and effective efforts I've seen in 24 years of service. I look forward to the next developments in the team's restoration activities."

## Bush

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country are aimed at a clear goal: a free Iraq that can protect its people, support itself economically, and take charge of its own political affairs.

Economically, Iraq is moving forward, Bush said. Its economy is growing, oil revenue is on the rise, and capital investment is expanding. This is changing the U.S. role, Bush said. Americans now are spending little on large-scale construction costs, and Iraqis are paying for most of the country's army and police, he said.

Politically, the country has seen "bottom-up" progress, as provincial and tribal leaders are turning to local political structures and taking charge of their own affairs. Provincial elections are planned this year, with national elections planned for next year.

On the diplomatic front, Bush is putting a full-court press on Iraq's neighbors to play a more supportive role in its stabilization and growth. The president has directed Crocker and Petraeus to stop in Saudi Arabia on their way back to Iraq.

He also is sending senior diplomats for talks in Jordan, the United Arab Emirates, Qatar, Kuwait and Egypt.

Each country will be encouraged to reopen their embassies in Baghdad and increase their support for Iraq, Bush said.

Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice will travel to the third Expanded Neighbors Conference in Kuwait City and the second International Compact with Iraq meeting in Stockholm.

"A stable, successful, independent Iraq is in the strategic interests of Arab nations, and all who want peace in the Middle East should support a stable, democratic Iraq. And we will urge all nations to increase their support this year," Bush said.

Bush also issued a clear warning to Iran to stop funding and training militias fighting in Iraq.

"If Iran makes the right choice, America will encourage a peaceful relationship between Iran and Iraq. If Iran makes the wrong choice, America

will act to protect our interests and our troops and our Iraqi partners," Bush said.

In the 15-minute speech, Bush defended the cost of the war and called on Congress to pass an emergency funding request that will be presented to the session soon.

The president called the war "a burden worth bearing" and said that national interests require success there.

"Iraq is the convergence point for two of the greatest threats to America in this new century: al-Qaida and Iran," Bush said. "If we fail there, al-Qaida would claim a propaganda victory of colossal proportions, and they could gain safe havens in Iraq from which to attack the United States, our friends and our allies. Iran would work to fill the vacuum in Iraq, and our failure would embolden its radical leaders and fuel their ambitions to dominate the region."

## Got contamination? Call ACERT

By Margaret Browne, JMC Public Affairs and JMC Safety/Rad Waste Directorate

The Joint Munitions Command fields the Army Contaminated Equipment Retrograde Team that provides a combat/non-combat team capable of responding to accidents and incidents involving the retrograde of radioactive contaminated equipment.

ACERT provides support to the Southwest Asia theater of operations through its collection point at Camp Arifjan, Kuwait.

The facility consolidates excessed radioactive materials from throughout the theater and is a safe haven and storage area.

Materials include battle damaged vehicles/equipment contaminated with depleted uranium or other radioactive materials and any equipment containing radioactive sources turned in by Soldiers or discovered in theater. It is a secure fenced area with restricted access. The collection point is very active in supporting Operation Enduring Freedom and Operation Iraqi Freedom Soldiers and commanders.

Michael Kurth, a health physicist with the JMC Safety/Rad Waste Directorate, is the currently deployed ACERT member at Camp Arifjan. He maintains the facility and performs radiation safety related duties for the

Army Materiel Command while attached to the 401<sup>st</sup> Army Field Support Brigade.

His duties may seem daunting to some because they relate to radiation and radioactive contamination. He conducts radiological surveys, looking for contamination, and does any required sampling analysis at the facility on-site laboratory.

"I am the point of contact for any logistics related radiation issue for all of Southwest Asia," said Kurth. "The ACERT facility serves as the repository for all radioactive materials that require disposal and I'm always available to respond."

ACERT has performed radiation surveys of 259 vehicles and aircraft last year alone. This included Bradley fighting vehicles, Abrams tanks and OH-58 Kiowa helicopters.

"ACERT identified and decontaminated several vehicles prior to retrograde," said Kurth. Retrograde is the process through which damaged vehicles go in for repair and after repair get sent back to units for use on the battlefield.

The facility has been staffed by volunteers from not only JMC, but also the U.S. Army Garrison Rock Island, Corps of Engineers, Army Medical Command, and even the Department of Army.

Other JMC ACERT health physicists who have deployed to Camp Arifjan facility include Frank Whitaker, Joe Hart and Bill Metcalf.

"The team supports all military services and allies and offers a one-stop shop for excessed radioactive items," said Whitaker. "Some of the radioactive elements that the yard handles are tritium contained in illumination items such as fire control azimuths; thorium for night vision items; americium and nickel contained in chemical agent detectors, strontium contained in calibrators, and many others."

Once they are collected, "they are shipped to our ACERT Field Services Facility located at Rock Island Arsenal, Ill., for sorting and segregating, then shipped for recycle or disposal," said Whitaker, health physicist, JMC Safety/Rad Waste Directorate.

Finally, the Arifjan facility serves as the eyes and ears in the SWA theater for much of the CONUS based Army radiation safety community.

"The ACERT members not only advise the local commander on all things radioactive, they also keep the various command radiation safety officers and item managers for the radioactive materials current on events and issues involving those items in theater," said Kelly Crooks, chief, JMC Rad Waste Operations Division.

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## LSS

*continued from page 6*

toward themselves onto the inspection table.

To further minimize the lifting and turning motions, the team examined how the 75-pound-plus boxes were being moved onto the line. The reverse of this would occur once the material had been inspected and was being re-palletized. By adding a portable jib crane to the work cell, the lifting function could be performed by a

pneumatic hoist and the material handler could move the material unassisted by another person.

The adjustments to the process were simple, but made a marked improvement in how well the line could perform its inspections. Cowell said the true benefit of the LSS event is not only in a dollar amount, but in the better ergonomics and improved work environment for those on the line. It

was an improvement that only could have occurred with the involvement of all the employees on the team.

Jewell said the team felt good that they were able to accomplish all they did on the inspection line. He said. "The wage grade, the (general schedule) and the (wage supervisors) all worked together very well and were very open. It was impressive that we were able to accomplish all that we did."

# JM&L LCMC's Safety Spot Check

## *Next Gen addresses root causes of Army accidents*

By Sam Reynolds  
U.S. Army Combat  
Readiness/Safety Center

FORT RUCKER, Ala.-- In an effort to provide Army Readiness Assessment Program users increased navigation capability and functionality, the Army announces an updated version of ARAP, called ARAP Next Generation or Next Gen.

For more than two years, the U.S. Army Combat Readiness/Safety Center compiled feedback and suggestions from ARAP users - battalion commanders, Soldiers, Department of the Army Civilians and contractors - on possible ways to improve the ARAP. Next Gen encompasses many of those recommendations.

The USACRC developed ARAP in October 2005 to communicate the Army's conviction that Composite Risk Management is the best way to defend against accidental losses experienced in the Army. In February 2006, the Army Chief of Staff directed ARAP as a mandatory program for all battalion commanders, completed in conjunction with the Command Inspection Program.

Designed as a battalion commander's tool addressing root causes of accidental loss by focusing on organizational safety climate and culture, ARAP is comprised of a 63-question online assessment, filled out by Soldiers anonymously, that captures unit posture on command and control, standards of performance, accountability and risk management.

"The assessment highlighted the fact that our leaders were not providing command guidance down to the lowest levels," said an Armor battalion commander. "Many Soldiers indicated they were not provided intelligence updates and were not being briefed on current operations. That made us dig deeper to determine what else was not making it all the way down the chain and we implemented checks to ensure this was corrected."

Once a battalion's assessment is complete, commanders receive one-on-one feedback in the key issues of command climate, safety culture, resource availability, workload, estimated success of certain safety intervention programs, and factors relating to the overall readiness of



their unit.

"Some of the improvements to ARAP are the incorporation of improved navigation and functionality, including multiple dropdown windows added to ARAP's registration process," said ARAP Team Chief Sam Reynolds.

"Additionally, Next Gen provides

quicker access to a battalion's summary and detailed roll-up reports, printable analysis charts and tables, and issues completion certificates," added Reynolds.

Brigade commanders and higher-level commanders are afforded the opportunity, with Next Gen, to receive a debriefing focusing on the aggregate data collected from all enrolled units in that command.

An additional feature of Next Gen is automated e-mails generated to commanders informing them of their ARAP status.

"An e-mail will be sent when the unit is registered and 90 and 120-day notifications sent as well, if the unit has not accomplished its survey requirements," said Reynolds. "Three weeks following a completed assessment, the commander receives an e-mail query asking them to share benefits, issues or concerns associated with the assessment."

"Overall, ARAP feedback from the last 28 months is extremely positive," said Reynolds. "Commanders value a tool that assists in putting their finger on the safety climate and culture's pulse in the organization.

Soldiers and employees appreciate ARAP because it affords them the freedom to share with their commander those issues and concerns that they believe are of utmost importance when dealing with safety issues and at the same time provide anonymity. Additionally, higher-level commanders agree that ARAP affords the opportunity to provide direction and resources to the battalion commanders as needed, to effectively reduce accidental losses and positively affect the unit's safety climate and culture."

For more information on ARAP Next Gen or to enroll, visit <https://unitready.army.mil>.