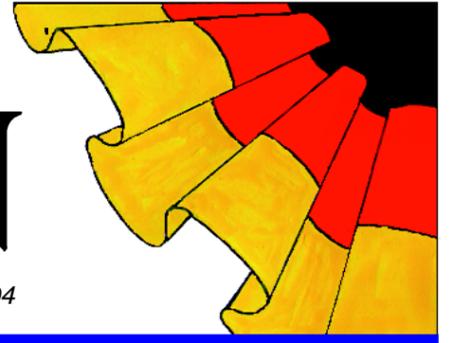


THE CITIZEN



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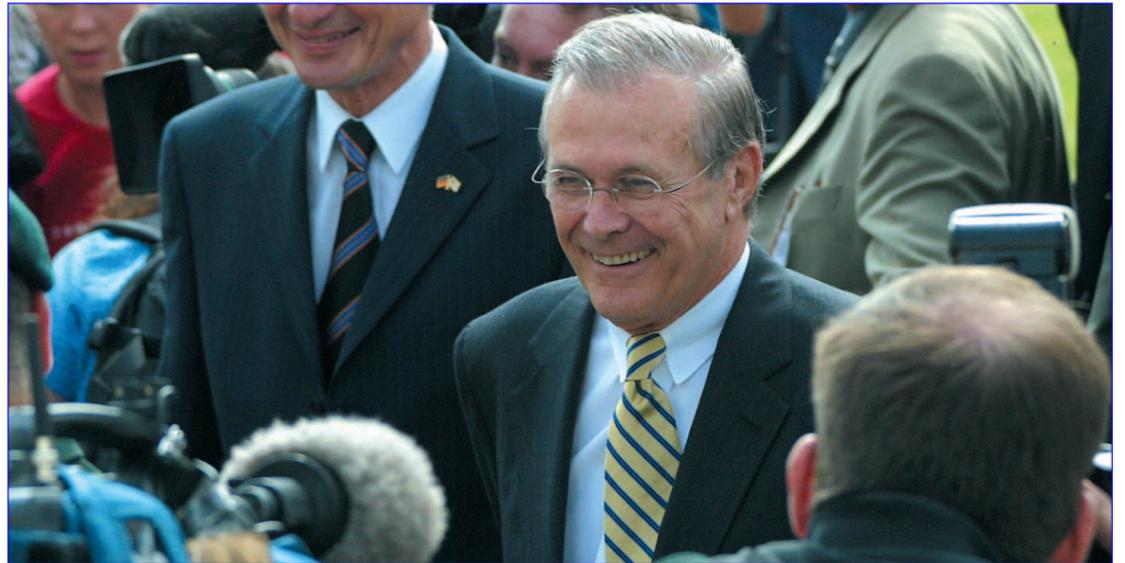
The 6th Area Support Group Newspaper

January 13, 2004

Stuttgart, Bad Aibling, Oberammergau and Garmisch, Germany

2003: Year in Review

For a look back at last year in the 6th ASG, see pages 7 to 10



photos by Hugh C. McBride

Clockwise from top left: 1) Korean War veterans salute the colors during a July 25 dedication ceremony for a Korean War memorial on Patch Barracks. 2) U.S. Secretary of Defense Donald Rumsfeld makes his way through a throng of reporters on Garmisch's Sheridan Kaserne before delivering a speech on the 10th anniversary of the George C. Marshall Center. 3) Staff Sgt. Guillermo Nieves Jr. of the 1st Battalion, 10th Special Forces Group (Airborne), plays "Taps" at the end of a POW/MIA Remembrance Day ceremony on Patch Barracks. 4) Patch High School's Sean Dowty locks up his Heidelberg opponent during a Jan. 18 match. 5) George C. Marshall Center Director Dr. John P. Rose ceremonially turns over installation security duties for Garmisch's Sheridan Kaserne to representatives of a German Bundeswehr unit. 6) Spc. Latasha Lee looks to her evaluator while being tested on emergency first aid during a daylong field training exercise for enlisted soldiers assigned to U.S. European Command. Center: Patch High School's June 7 graduation ceremony is a time of reflection and celebration.

Thorns 'n Roses

From community submissions



Roses to:

Dwayne, who was working in the AAFES Christmas tent on Patch Barracks, for spectacular customer service. Without being asked, Dwayne took extra time to locate packing materials for me so that all my holiday gifts survived their trip to the States and arrived intact.

Whoever is responsible for the new "doggie doo" containers along Montana Strasse on Patch Barracks. The new containers and baggies make it that much easier to pick up after our canine companions.

The Patch Library. The library's wide selection of books and movies – plus the Internet access offered there – is surpassed only by the friendly and knowledgeable staff members who work there. The Patch Library is one of the true treasures of the 6th ASG.

Thorns to:

The management of AFRC Europe's Haupsberg Lodge in Garmisch, for making the questionable decision to close the bar 30 minutes before the ski lifts close. While returning our rental equipment after an exhilarating day on the slopes, a snack and a beverage would have really hit the spot.

The video "organizers" at Stuttgart-area shoppettes. The stores offer a wide variety of selections, but haphazard categorization too often makes searching for a particular title an extremely frustrating endeavor.

E-mail comments to citizen@6asg.army.mil or fax them to 421-2570/civ. 0711-729-2570.

Rumsfeld congratulates 'People of Year'

By Donald H. Rumsfeld
Department of Defense

It gives me great pleasure to congratulate each man and woman in America's Armed Forces for the honor of being named this year's "Person of the Year" by Time magazine.

It is an honor you have earned not only this day, or this year, but throughout your volunteer service.

Ever since the Minutemen first mustered to America's defense in the early days of our nation, America's fighting forces have stood ready to defend the lives and liberties of our citizens whenever and however they were threatened.

Through two world wars, and dozens of smaller conflicts, the American Soldier has carried the light of liberty to millions who suffered under countless tyrants and dictators.

With this new century have come new battles in a new kind of war – the global war against terrorism. And again, America's fighting forces are at the front – taking the war to the terrorists and bringing freedom to millions who for decades had lived in fear.

What remarkable feats you have accomplished since this war began: two nations liberated from brutality and oppression; 50 million people freed to live

You represent America's heart and courage. You stand, as you have always done, on the front line between freedom and fear. And you are doing a magnificent job.

out their futures without fear; many senior al Qaeda operatives captured or killed; and terrorist cells dismantled.

Time magazine called you the "face of America, its might and good will," and that you are.

You are also the face of America's determination to stop the new tyranny of terrorism. And that you will do, because you bring to the fight the oldest of virtues: honor, integrity, courage, dignity, and discipline.

September 11, 2001, ushered in a new era, but the world still looks to America for leadership and strength. As President Bush said when this war began, "If America wavers, the world will lose heart. If America leads, the world will show courage."

I know that America will not waver. I know this because you represent America's heart and America's courage.

You stand, as you have always done, on the front line between freedom and

fear. And you are doing a magnificent job. The American people are properly proud of you.

There will likely come a day when terrorists can little threaten the world; when nations no longer harbor or support them, because the price for doing so has become too high.

And while we are not there yet, we are making giant steps forward – thanks to your determination and your courage.

Each of you has paid a personal price. Some of your comrades have made the ultimate sacrifice. For all you are and for all you do, you have the thanks of a nation, which is proud of your service and grateful for your sacrifice.

Congratulations on the well-deserved honor of being named Person of the Year. May God bless you and keep you safe, and may God bless America.

Rumsfeld is U.S. Secretary of Defense.

ON THE STREET

Who would you select to be the "Person of the Year" for 2003?

– Compiled by The Citizen staff

THE CITIZEN

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www.stuttgart.army.mil



Col. Steve Beatty
(Air Force)

My wife. She does so much to take care of our children and our home. She makes it easier for me to do my job.



Carolyn Morrison
(Civilian)

The American Soldier, because so many of them have made the ultimate sacrifice for our country.



David Josar
(Civilian)

Jimmy Carter, for his continuous work behind the scenes for peace, fair elections and human rights.



Staff Sgt. Walter Leeds
(Army)

My wife. She is a stay-at-home wife with two little kids and she does a lot in the background.



Stacie Mathis
(Civilian)

Vicki Edgerton from the Kelley Child Development Center. She does wonders with all of the children.



Sgt. Chad Burch
(Army)

I would chose Staff Sgt. Tina Pride. She is just an all-around good person.



Susanne Coax
(Civilian)

Author Bill Bryson. He brings difficult concepts across in a way everyone can understand.



Staci Trammell
(Civilian)

The American Soldier, because they are doing the best job they can while putting their lives at risk.



photos by Hugh C. McBride

Canterbury comes to Stuttgart

Patch High School seniors *Diana Drabek*, left, *Tim Phillips*, right, and *Jason Lindell*, center, help bring Geoffrey Chaucer's *Canterbury Tales* to life in *Claire Dickmeyer's* 12th-grade English class. In addition to appearing in period-appropriate costumes, the students also recited excerpts of Chaucer's work to demonstrate their mastery of the subject matter.

Got issues? Get AFAP!

Annual event addresses quality-of-life concerns on 6th ASG installations

By Hugh C. McBride

Caroline Orama is looking for a few good grippers. She's attached one crucial "catch," though: Interested individuals must accompany their grievances with suggestions on how to improve the situation for the betterment of the entire community.

Orama is the 6th Area Support Group's Army Family Action Plan coordinator. And with this year's AFAP conference just around the corner – the daylong event is slated for Jan. 29 in the Swabian Special Events Center on Patch Barracks – Orama is still on the lookout for concerned community members who would like to help make Stuttgart a better place to live and work.

"It's easy to complain, but this allows you to make a difference in the community," Orama said. "With AFAP you're not part of the problem, you're part of the solution."

Focus on community

AFAP conference attendees are organized into four working groups to focus on specific areas of interest within the community: Consumer Services, Medical and Dental Services, Relocation Services and Youth and Education Services.

The groups spend the morning of the conference compiling and prioritizing quality-of-life concerns within their area of focus. After lunch, the delegates work with subject-matter experts to propose concrete, measurable solutions to what they believe to be the three most pressing issues.

At the end of the Jan. 29 conference, each group will present their "top three" issues and proposed solutions to representatives of the 6th ASG command group.

Armywide impact

Issues that fall within the scope of authority of the 6th ASG Command Group will be assigned to the appropriate

How you can make a difference

Volunteer delegates are still needed for the 2004 Army Family Action Plan conference **Jan. 29, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.**, in Patch Barracks' Swabian Special Events Center.

For more information call 430-7176/civ. 0711-680-7176 or e-mail oramac@6asg.army.mil.

department for evaluation and follow-up, Orama said. "If it's a policy or regulation, we can change it. If it's a program or service, we can improve it. And if there's a low-cost solution, we can pursue it," she said.

Recommendations that exceed local authority will be forwarded to AFAP conferences on the U.S. Army, Europe, or Headquarters, Department of the Army, levels.

According to the Army News Service, the AFAP process has brought more than 542 issues to the attention of the Army's senior leadership since its inception in 1983.

This effort has resulted in 82 changes to legislation, 130 revised policies and 140 improved programs or services.

AFAP successes include the following:

- Military Thrift Savings Plan (which allows military members to participate in the Federal Thrift Savings Plan).
 - Tricare for Life, which extends Tricare eligibility to military Medicare-eligibles.
 - Tour stabilization for Soldiers with high school seniors.
 - Uniform DoD reserve-component family member ID cards.
- "Call me and register for this year's AFAP," Orama said. "You'll be glad you did – and the community will be a better place for it."

News & Notes

Planned power outage on Patch

A partial interruption of power is scheduled Jan. 16 and 17, 7 to 9 a.m. on Patch Barracks. For details call Josef Meschenmoser at 421-6271/civ. 0711-729-6271.

Patch Barracks Army Post Office will not open until 10 a.m. Jan. 16 due to the outage.

Retirees to meet Jan. 21

The next Retiree Council meeting is Jan. 21 in the Patch Barracks Community Club. Lunch begins at 11:30 a.m. and the meeting begins at 12:30 p.m. Widows and spouses are invited to attend.

For more information call 430-7208/civ. 0711-680-7208.

Veterinary clinic extends hours

The Stuttgart Veterinary Treatment Facility on Panzer Kaserne will be extending its Thursday hours of operation for a trial period Jan. 22 and 29 and Feb. 5 and 12. The clinic will be open until 6 p.m. these days.

For details call 431-2681/civ. 07031-15-681.

PHS presents night of one-acts

The Patch High School Drama class will perform "The Trial of Goldilocks," "My Two Loves: A Midsummer's Nightmare" and "Going to School" Jan. 15, 6:30 p.m. in the high school forum.

For more information call drama teacher Sarah Russell at 430-7191/civ. 0711-680-7191.

Cookie time is here again

Stuttgart-area Girl Scouts will be selling cookies Jan. 16 to 30 at the following on-post locations:

- Patch Barracks PX and Shoppette
- Robinson Barracks CX
- Kelley Barracks Shoppette

For more information about Girl Scout cookies call Tracy Truitt at 0711-674-7326. For details about becoming a Girl Scout call 0703-123-9459.

Spinning classes return to Patch

Spinning classes have returned to the Patch Fitness Center. Spin into 2004 Wednesdays, 5:15 to 6 p.m., and Tuesdays and Thursdays, 6:45 to 7:30 a.m. Classes are \$3 per session, and the first class is free.

Spinners should plan to arrive 15 minutes before class begins to set up the bikes.

Work mind, body, spirit with yoga

Experience Ashtanga-style (power) yoga Tuesdays and Thursdays, 6 to 7 p.m. in the Patch Fitness Center.

Classes are \$3 per session or \$30 for 12 sessions. The first class is free.

For details call Melanie at 0711-120-7638.

ACS offers STEP class

Parents who want to create more satisfying, productive relationships with their children should plan to attend an eight-week Systematic Training For Effective Parenting course on Patch Barracks.

The next course begins Jan. 26 and will be held Mondays, 6 to 8 p.m., in the Army Community Service classroom (building 2307, second floor).

To reserve a seat in this class call 430-7176/civ. 0711-680-7176. Instruction, workbooks and materials are free.

Seminar helps ease reunion stress

Stuttgart's Army Community Service is offering a reunion seminar Jan. 14, 6 to 8 p.m., in the ACS office on Patch Barracks (building 2307). The seminar will help participants identify common stressors experienced after a deployment.

For details call 430-7176/civ. 0711-680-7176, 07159-44991 or e-mail ckwilli@t-online.de.

Homeschoolers meet

The next Stuttgart Area Homeschoolers meeting is Jan. 27, 7 p.m., in the Washington Center conference room (Patch Barracks, building 2307, fourth floor).

For details call 0712-723-7088.

'Steak Night' at Slider's

Every Wednesday is Steak Night at Slider's Lounge starting Jan. 21. Enjoy a steak dinner complete with a baked potato and salad for only \$9, 5 to 9 p.m.

News & Notes

Medical Clinic staff to visit Garmisch

Staff members from the Landstuhl Army Medical Center will be in Oberammergau Jan. 20 and Garmisch Jan. 21 to 23 for well-baby check-ups, medication refills, health assessments, general check-ups and immunizations.

For details call 442-2825/civ. 08821-759-825.

UMUC representative comes to Garmisch

A field representative from the University of Maryland, Bad Aibling, will be in Garmisch Jan. 16, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., to provide information and registration services.

Registration for Term 3 distance education courses and classroom courses for Garmisch will be available. Classes begin Jan. 26.

For more information visit www.ed.umuc.edu or call 442-3804/civ. 08061-38-3902.

Upcoming Burke Lodge tours

- Prague and the Pubs of Bohemia – Jan. 16 to 19, \$225.
- Venice & Verona – Jan. 23 to 25. The cost is \$159 and includes two overnights, transportation to Vicenza and a chance to visit Venice and Verona.
- Munich: The Bright Tour – Feb. 1, \$20.
- Water Works – Jan. 31, \$37 to \$43. This train tour to Munich to visit the largest water-themed park in the area.

For more information or to sign up for a trip call 440-2461/civ. 08821-750-461.

Beginner's German classes available

German classes at the Pete Burke Center run for five weeks, Tuesdays and Thursdays, 7 to 9 p.m. The cost is \$75. Once eight people have signed up, the class will begin.

For details call Jessica at 440-2461/civ. 08821-750-461.

Morning yoga moves to Mondays

By popular demand, the morning yoga class is now Mondays, 9 to 10:30 a.m. The Wednesday afternoon class is 5:45 to 7:15 p.m.

The cost is \$39 for those who sign up for the whole session, or \$7.50 per class on a pay-as-you-go basis.

For more information call 440-2461/civ. 08821-750-461.

AFAP open to suggestions

Army Family Action Plan provides an opportunity for those in the military community to provide input about leadership and quality of life.

If you have issues you would like to see addressed, submit them via e-mail to AFAP@garmisch.army.mil or mail them to Army Community Service, AST Garmisch, Unit 24515, APOAE 099053-0415.

Middle School Teen Center happenings

- The **Film Club** meets Tuesdays, 4 to 6 p.m.
- Learn to **knit a scarf** Jan. 15 and 29.
- The **Middle School ski trip** is Jan. 23 to 25.

Teen Center hours are Mondays to Thursdays, 2:30 to 7 p.m., Fridays, 2:30 to 10 p.m., and school holidays, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. The center is closed Wednesdays.

For details call 440-2600/civ. 08821-750-600.

Car wash always open

The MWR Auto Skills Center Car Wash, building 257 on Artillery Kaserne, is open 24 hours a day and now takes euro coins as well as tokens.

Purchase tokens at the Auto Skills Center, the Crafts Tree or the AAFES Gas Station during regular hours.



photos by Master Sgt. Michael Meyer

Romanian Prime Minister Dr. Adrian Nastase, left, speaks with Romanian students enrolled in the George C. Marshall Center's Executive Program and Leaders of the 21st Century course. Nastase outlined his assessment of his nation's future during a Dec. 9 speech at the Marshall Center.

Romanian prime minister visits George C. Marshall Center Praises center, congratulates graduates

George C. Marshall Center Release

Dr. Adrian Nastase, prime minister of Romania, spoke about the history of the Marshall Center and the challenges faced by its graduates during a Dec. 9 graduation ceremony on Garmisch's Sheridan Kaserne.

"Graduations are unique among the milestones of our lives," Nastase told the international audience. "They celebrate past accomplishments, while also anticipating the future."

Nastase lauded the Marshall Center for assisting a number of formerly communist countries in Central and Eastern Europe by training the young generations – an extension of the effort begun by the center's namesake in the wake of World War II.

"Just imagine how the world would have looked 50 years later if the West had listened to the skeptics of the Marshall Plan," he said.

During his remarks, Nastase recognized the 13 Romanian students graduating from the current Executive Program and Leaders of the 21st Century course. He noted that the Marshall Center has provided Romania with 173 experts on security matters since 1994.

"I congratulate [the graduates] for your performance. I also express my congratulations for the anniversary of 10 years since the center was created," he said.

A very serious situation

"To quote George C. Marshall, 'I need not tell you, gentlemen, that the world situation is very serious. That must be apparent to all intelligent people.' The situation we face today is different from that faced by Marshall's generation, but the security scene looks once again very serious. It is true, for different reasons."

Nastase told his audience he believes "there is no certain road map to success, either for individuals or for generations. Ultimately, it is a matter of will and a question of choice."

A responsibility to history

"We have a responsibility not to be prisoners of history, but to shape history," he said. "A responsibility to build with others a global network of values and principles that will protect our citizens, defend our interests, and bequeath to future generations a legacy as proud as the one we honor today."

Nastase, who became prime minister in December 2000,



Marshall Center Director Dr. John P. Rose, left, and Romanian Prime Minister Dr. Adrian Nastase hold a joint press conference after Nastase's Dec. 9 speech.

‘Just imagine how the world would have looked 50 years later if the West had listened to the skeptics of the Marshall Plan.

Dr. Adrian Nastase
Prime Minister of Romania

is also a professor of international law. He previously served as Romania's minister of foreign affairs.

Following his presentation, Nastase fielded questions and offered his insights into several of the challenges Romania has faced in recent years.

For more information visit www.marshallcenter.org.

Commissary officials respond to “mad cow” concerns

By Bonnie Powell
Defense Commissary Agency

Officials at the Defense Commissary Agency are closely monitoring the evolving situation related to the Dec. 23 discovery of a case of bovine spongiform encephalopathy (BSE), also known as “mad cow” disease, in a cow in Washington state.

Since the discovery, the U.S. Department of Agriculture has conducted a limited recall of 10,000 pounds of beef that may have originated from the infected cow and from cows slaughtered at the same time and location.

“No beef in any of our 275 commissaries worldwide has been involved in a USDA recall,” said Col. Mark Wolken, chief of public health, safety and security for DeCA.

“The USDA has stated that the U.S. beef supply is safe and that the beef recall resulted from an abundance of caution, not fear that the meat is infected,” Wolken said. “Should the USDA [determine] that there is a danger, DeCA would be first to react to protect the health of our customers.”

Since the first U.S. case of BSE was identified, customers have raised questions about the safety of beef purchased at commissaries worldwide.

Wolken, an Army veterinarian, said DeCA’s beef supply is safe. “As is always the case, customers who wish to return commissary products for a full refund may do so without question. The brain, spinal cord and lower intestine – where the protein or ‘prion’ that is believed to cause BSE is found – is not generally used in food consumed by Americans. Those parts were removed from the infected cow before any of it could enter the meat supply.”

USDA investigators have determined that the recalled meat went to a few commercial markets in Alaska, Hawaii, Idaho, Montana and Guam as well as Washington state, Oregon, California and Nevada.

‘
No beef in any of our 275 commissaries worldwide has been involved in a recall.
Should the USDA [determine] that there is a danger, DeCA would be first to react to protect the health of our customers.
,

Col. Mark Wolken
Defense Commissary Agency

“No commissaries received any of those shipments,” Wolken emphasized. “But I can certainly understand customers having concerns and questions. We’re all affected by this – we’re all concerned.”

Mad cow is a fatal disease that destroys the brains of the infected animal. It is caused in cattle by misshapen proteins called prions and is thought to be spread from animal to animal through contaminated feed.

A rare form of the disease in humans – known as variant Creutzfeldt-Jakob Disease – has been linked to the consumption of contaminated beef products. About 140 deaths have been linked to “mad cow” since the mid-1990s, primarily in Great Britain.

For more information about the BSE situation, links to the USDA and other information on recalls and food safety, visit www.commissaries.com.

DeCA scholarship applications online

By Bonnie Powell
Defense Commissary Agency

Applications for and information about Defense Commissary Agency scholarships for military children are now available online at www.militaryscholar.org.

“Fisher House Foundation built the Web site just for this program,” said Edna Hoogewind, DeCA liaison for the program. “It’s great because [the site] contains all the latest information about the scholarship program and can be accessed any time students are looking for scholarship information.”

The Scholarships for Military Children program is administered by Fisher House Foundation and is funded by manufacturers and vendors that sell groceries and perform services in the commissary system.

Since 2001, the program has awarded nearly \$2.5 million in scholarships to nearly 1,500 children of active-duty, retired and Guard and Reserve families.

This year’s other “big news” is that the general public can now make donations online to help fund the scholarships.

“We’ve learned that individuals, as well as corporations, are interested in supporting the Scholarships for Military Children program,” said Jim Weiskopf, Fisher House Foundation vice president for communications.

“We provide a means to donate on the Internet through a secure credit card server, and there are no administrative fees involved.”

Applications for the 2004 scholarship program – which must be submitted by Feb. 18 – are also available at any commissary worldwide.

Defense Department puts transformation info online

Department of Defense Release

As part of the Defense Department's effort to continue to enhance its presence on the World Wide Web, DoD officials have announced the creation of a new Web site focused on transformation.

The new site, www.DoD.mil/transformation, has the same look and feel as the DoD home page, but concentrates on news in the transformation arena.

"This is another step in our effort to focus more attention on the Defense Department's priorities," said Chris Willcox, deputy assistant secretary of defense for public liaison.

"The first step occurred in October 2001 when DoD introduced its "DefendAmerica" Web site [www.defendamerica.mil] to detail U.S. efforts in the war on terrorism. The next step came in June 2003 when DoD revamped its home page [www.dod.mil]."

Willcox said transformation is so vital to DoD's efforts in the global war on terrorism – as well as the department's future in general – it is important to have a separate, focused site.

"There is a lot of transformation news out there right now, but it's scattered, and people interested in the topic have to surf many sites to get the total picture. Our goal is to provide that total picture and highlight specific areas in the transformation arena," he said.

Harold Heilsnis, DoD's interim director for Internet operations, explained that the transformation site will highlight the broad range of initiatives in the transformation arena, to include policy, equipment, training, people and programs.

"Visitors to the site will see the DoD perspec-

Transformation evident in ongoing operations

By Paul Stone

American Forces Press Service

If you want to see the face of transformation – if you want to see what it looks like in action – you need not look any further than Operations Enduring Freedom and Iraqi Freedom.

That's the view from the top by Retired Vice Adm. Arthur Cebrowski, chief of the Defense Department's Office of Force Transformation and one of the department's chief architects in the effort to transform the military.

Cebrowski cited the speed of operations, particularly in the mountains of Afghanistan.

"The war in Afghanistan was one for which we had not planned – never had an intention of going there with a military force," he said. "But the flexibility and adaptability of the military made it possible less than a month after the attacks of Sept. 11. That itself is a story of transformation."

tive, as well as what the individual services and service members are achieving," Heilsnis said.

"There are so many interesting stories to tell in the broad category of transformation. This effort gives us a new venue for getting those stories to both our internal military and civilian audience and to the general public."

DoD to increase military pay in 2004

Sgt. 1st Class Doug Sample

American Force Press Service

Military personnel will see their basic pay more in line with that of civilian counterparts in the private sector in 2004 thanks to an increased pay and benefits compensation package included in the 2004 Defense Authorization Act approved by Congress last year.

Col. Virginia S. Penrod, director of military compensation for the Defense Department, said the 2004 military pay and benefits plan provides for a 3.7-percent across-the-board pay increase and further targets pay increases for noncommissioned officers and warrant officers – some as high as 6.25 percent for senior enlisted service members.

Service members will also see increases in housing allowance pay and special incentive pay in 2004, Penrod said.

She said the average basic raise, which is equal to a little more than 4 percent, helps to close the gap between military pay and civilian pay.

"Everyone receives a 3.7-percent pay raise across the board – this is by law," she said, adding that the pay raise is a half percentage point more than the average private sector wage earner will receive.

"The NCOs E-5 through E-9 will receive targeted pay raises from 4.6 to 6.25 percent," she said. "And we're also paying a targeted raise to our warrant officer grades."

Part of the pay incentive, Penrod said, is designed to help with the retention of senior noncommissioned officers. The highest pay raises, 6.25 percent, will go to E-9s with 26 years or more service.

"This [raise] recognizes the contribution of our senior noncommissioned officers and our career enlisted force," Penrod explained. "All NCOs will receive some form of a targeted raise, and the pay increases as the grade increases."

Penrod said the Defense Department is targeting pay raises for its noncommissioned officers to recognize the contributions that career enlisted service members bring to the military.

A year of change & challenge

Organizations, individuals continued quest for excellence in 2003

By Hugh C. McBride

Those of us responsible for the bi-weekly production of The Citizen take great pride in ensuring that the news we bring you 25 times every year is both accurate and complete.

We are confident that the information in this special "Year in Review" section meets the former of those standards, but we have no doubt that it falls short of the latter. And we're pretty proud of that, too.

No, we're not boasting of the wholesale abandonment of our professional responsibilities. Instead, we're celebrating the fact that we live in a community in which three pages aren't nearly enough to enumerate the many accomplishments, achievements and other significant events of the previous 12 months.

From fifth-grader Dawn Anderson's triumph at the DoDDS-Europe Spelling Bee to the NATO School's celebration of its 50th year of service, individuals and organizations throughout the 6th Area Support Group made the pursuit – and achievement – of excellence an everyday endeavor in 2003.

Though attempting to list all of 2003's moments of significance would surely be an exercise in futility, we present this section's sampling of superior achievements as a reminder of what is done here on an almost daily basis.

Leading the way

Few would argue that essential to a military community of excellence is effective leadership. And as the U.S. Armed Forces continued their historic transformation – while simultaneously waging the global war on terrorism – four highly praised new commanders took the helm of high-profile Stuttgart-area organizations in 2003.

History was made Jan. 16 on Patch Barracks, as Gen. James L. Jones became the first Marine to serve as commander of U.S. European Command. Deputy Secretary of Defense Paul Wolfowitz said Jones' appointment continued a Defense Department practice of naming "only our very best" to lead EUCOM.

Wolfowitz also recognized the contributions of "the extraordinary men and women of U.S. European Command," noting that "because of you, tyrants and terrorists will not prevail."

Seven months later, Jones presided over another change-of-command ceremony on Patch, welcoming Brig. Gen. Thomas Csrnko to the top spot of Special Operations Command, Europe. Csrnko said it was a "supreme honor" to take command of an organization whose history "epitomizes ... the warrior ethos."

On Kelley Barracks, Col. Gwendolyn Bonéy-Harris replaced Col. Larry Stubblefield as commander of the 6th Area Support Group.

Installation Management Agency Europe Region Director Russell Hall said the transition from one excellent leader to another marked "a great day for the 6th Area Support Group."

While Stubblefield "epitomizes the word 'community,'" Hall said, Bonéy-Harris "exemplifies the quality officers we have commanding our communities."

Five days after the 6th ASG's July 25 change-of-command ceremony, Col. Michael Flynn took command of the Patch-based Defense Information Systems Agency, Europe.

Flynn, said DISA Vice Director Maj. Gen. J. David Bryan, was "a specially selected commander for a special time in history."

Championship performances

Stuttgart Stallions
1st Place, community-level
Tournament of Champions

Headquarters, Marine Corps Forces Europe
U.S. Army, Europe, unit-level
softball champions

Special Operations Command, Europe
6th Area Support Group unit-level
flag football champions

6th Area Support Group
6th Area Support Group unit-level
basketball champions

EUCOM J-6
6th Area Support Group unit-level
volleyball champions

Linn Weaver
Winner, Garmisch German-American
Friendship Shoot

Stuttgart senior league baseball team
IMA-E champions

Stuttgart Piranhas swim team
Rhineland Division champions

PHS girls' track team
DoDDS-Europe Division II champs

Josh Anderson & Joe Morrow
DoDDS-Europe Division II,
European wrestling champions

PHS girls' cross country team
DoDDS-Europe Division II,
European champions

PHS boys' golf team
DoDDS-Europe Division II champs

PHS girls' soccer team
DoDDS-Europe Division II,
European champions

The Stuttgart Stallions' Chad Searcy dunks during the final evening of Stuttgart's annual community-level "Tournament of Champions."



Hugh C. McBride



Gen. James L. Jones, Brig. Gen. Gary Jones and Brig. Gen. Thomas Csrnko

New leaders for area organizations

6th Area Support Group
Commander

Col. Gwendolyn Bonéy-Harris
Command Sergeant Major
Cmd. Sgt. Maj. Daniel Chavez

U.S. European Command
Commander

Gen. James L. Jones

Special Operations Command, Europe
Commander

Brig. Gen. Thomas Csrnko

Defense Information Systems Agency, Europe
Commander

Col. Michael Flynn

Achievements of Distinction

Courtney Allen
6th ASG Youth of the Year

Dawn Anderson
1st Place
DoDDS-Europe Spelling Bee

Lt. Col. Dave Beydler
Commandant's Writing Award

Sofia Bonano
Stuttgart Outstanding Teen
Volunteer
Raymond Patrick Desmond
Best Actor in a Comedy
USAREUR Tournament of Plays

Sherri Funk
6th ASG Volunteer of the Year

Lt. Col. Mary Gillam
National Defense University
Foundation's Class Writing Award

Isabel Olsen-Clancy
Best Actress in a Minor Role
USAREUR Tournament of Plays

Jennifer Ryan
Stuttgart Youth Volunteer of the Year

Dave Stahl
6th ASG Outstanding Volunteer



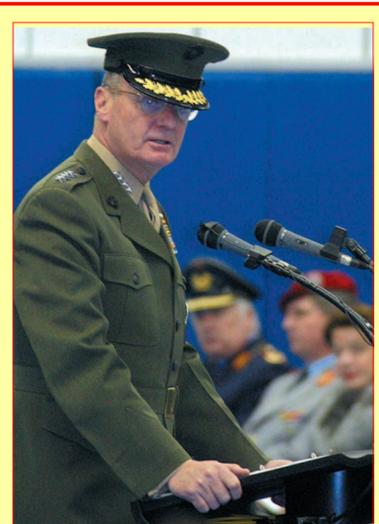
Anna Lindberg-Webb

Anna Lindberg-Webb
Best Actress in a Minor Role
USAREUR Tournament of Plays

Matthew Whitman
Winner, AAFES
'You Made the Grade!' contest

Sgt. Joseph Young
U.S. Army's
'Best of the Best' armorer

Timeline: A look back at 2003 in the 6th Area Support Group



Jan. 16

Gen. James L. Jones become the first Marine to serve as commander of U.S. European Command. Jones replaces Gen. Joseph Raiston during a Patch Barracks ceremony that features remarks from Deputy Secretary of State Paul Wolfowitz and Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff Gen. Richard Myers.

Jan. 17

Chief Master Sgt. of the Air Force Gerald Murray, his service branch's senior enlisted adviser, meets with Stuttgart-area service members during a breakfast event in Patch Barracks' Swabian Special Events Center.



April 26

An Opening Day ceremony on Patch Barracks marks the start of area baseball and softball seasons. More than 670 athletes and 140 volunteers participate in the local leagues.



July 25

Command of the 6th Area Support Group passes from Col. Larry Stubblefield to Col. Gwendolyn Bonéy-Harris during a ceremony on Kelley Barracks' Cooper Field. Installation Management Agency Europe Region Director Russell Hall says Bonéy-Harris "exemplifies the quality officers we have serving our communities."



Sept. 8-12

Enlisted service members assigned to Headquarters, U.S. European Command, exchange their offices for the great outdoors to participate in EUCOM's first "Commander's Prime Time Training" exercise. Designed by several of the command's senior noncommissioned officers, the five-day training battery is a way to both consolidate required annual instruction and increase esprit de corps among EUCOM's enlisted ranks. The training is "an excellent opportunity to reconnect our service members with basic military skills," says EUCOM Commandant Col. Mary Shanks.

March 29

An estimated 6,000 protesters briefly encircle Patch Barracks during a scheduled peace vigil held in response to U.S. military involvement in Iraq. The event is peaceful, and no arrests are made.

Feb. 6



Women, Infants and Children Overseas (a government-sponsored food and nutrition education program) opens its first office on Stuttgart's Patch Barracks.

April 29

More than 200 students discuss issues and concerns at the 6th Area Support Group's first Teen Townhall in the Patch High School gymnasium.

May 27



Work officially begins on a project to renovate the Panzer Bowling Center. The \$6.2 million, 15-month project will result in a smoke-free, air-conditioned facility that will feature 24 lanes and a new children's play area.

June 11

U.S. Secretary of Defense Donald Rumsfeld and German Federal Minister of Defense Peter Struck spend the day in Garmisch to help the George C. Marshall European Center for Security Studies mark its 10th anniversary.



Sept. 29-30

U.S. European Command brings six former deputy commanders back to Patch Barracks. The former deputies share their expertise with current personnel and get a first-hand look at the state of the command they once led.

Jan. 6

Hartmut Sufeida, chief of the 6th ASG Fire and Emergency Services Division, dies of a brain tumor.

Jan. 13

An Army Career and Alumni Program office (open to members of all service branches) opens on Panzer Kaserne.

Jan. 26

The Pennsylvania National Guard's Task Force Keystone departs the 6th ASG after a six-month deployment to provide force protection on area installations.

April 19



Patch Elementary School fifth-grader Dawn Anderson wins the DoDDS-Europe spelling bee, earning a trip to the national bee in Washington, D.C.

July 16

Lamar "Andy" Anderson, the 6th Area Support Group Youth Services sports director, dies from injuries suffered in an automobile accident near Heidelberg.

July 25

Two days before the 50th anniversary of the conclusion of the Korean War, Stuttgart community members gather on Patch Barracks to dedicate a memorial to the "forgotten war."



Oct. 7

Professional tennis player Alexandra Stevenson makes good on a year-old promise by returning to Patch High School. For the second straight year, Stevenson visits PHS during an off-day from competition in nearby Filderstadt.

Oct. 15



A ribbon-cutting and "christening" officially open the new EUCOM Planning and Operations Center on Patch Barracks.

Nov. 1-2



A weekend of intense competition ends with Special Operations Command, Europe, claiming the title of top unit-level flag football team in the 6th ASG. SOCEUR defeats the USAFE Mission Support Squadron in the title contest.

March 8 & 22



Ingenuity and imagination mingle with drama and desire in the Stuttgart area as Pinewood Derbies (and one "Rain Gutter Regatta") are hotly contested on Patch Barracks, Panzer Kaserne and Robinson Barracks over two March weekends. The Derbies test Scouts' abilities to craft and race wooden cars down a 32-foot track. One highlight of the March 8 RB Derby is a dedication ceremony for a new track donated by Sgt. Michael Elovecky in honor of his late father, Bill, who was an Eagle Scout.



April 8



Twenty-two members of the Stuttgart-based 554th Military Police Company (affectionately known as the "Wardawgs") depart Panzer Kaserne for service in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom. The 554th has a history of deployments for peacekeeping missions in Kosovo and Bosnia and Herzegovina. 554th Commander Capt. Mirko Crnkovich says the deploying members of the company's 3rd Platoon are prepared for whatever challenges come their way. "The soldiers are ready," he says. "They know they're going to do a job that needs to be done."

Sept. 13



Linn Weaver, AST Garmisch's antiterrorism and security officer, captures first place in the area's annual German-American Friendship Shoot.

Dec. 2

Area service members stage a mock raid to mark the official opening of Stuttgart's new Military Operations in Urbanized Terrain training area in Böblingen.



Dec. 13



Stuttgart's Better Opportunities for Single Servicemembers, the Stuttgart Clan of Motorcycle Enthusiasts and the Veterans' Motorcycle Club deliver Christmas presents to hospitalized and disadvantaged children.

2003 News Quiz

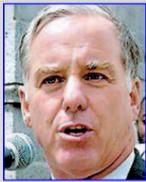
How closely were you paying attention during the past 12 months?

Section I: Local

- Which area military community announced an installation closure in 2003?
a) Stuttgart b) Garmisch c) Bad Aibling d) Oberammergau
- What is Democrat presidential candidate Wesley Clark's connection to Stuttgart?
a) Former SOCEUR commander c) Former DISA commander
b) Former EUCOM commander d) Former 6th ASG commander
- Match the following officials (all of whom visited the area in 2003) with their titles:
a)  b)  c)  d) 
i. Secretary of Defense iii. Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff
ii. Deputy Secretary of Defense iv. Supreme Allied Commander, Europe
- Which area organization did not get a new commander in 2003?
a) EUCOM b) SOCEUR c) 6th ASG d) USAREUR
- A massive renovation is underway on the bowling center on which area installation?
a) Patch Barracks c) Artillery Kaserne
b) Robinson Barracks d) Panzer Kaserne
- Garmisch's George C. Marshall Center celebrated its ____ anniversary in 2003.
a) 5th b) 10th c) 20th d) 25th
- Which area organization celebrated its 50th anniversary in 2003?
a) U.S. European Command c) Marine Corps Forces, Europe
b) The NATO School d) Defense Information Systems Agency, Europe
- A memorial to veterans of which war was dedicated in Stuttgart in 2003?
a) W.W. II b) Korea c) Vietnam d) Gulf War
- The new AFRC hotel and resort in Garmisch will be named ...
a) Edelweiss b) Tannenbaum c) Garmisch Haus d) George C. Marshall Inn
- (T/F) Bad Aibling, Garmisch, Oberammergau and Stuttgart are all part of the 6th Area Support Group.

** Bonus: Who did Col. Gwendolyn Bonéy-Harris replace as 6th ASG commander?*

Section II: National

- Democrat presidential candidate Howard Dean is a former governor of:
a) Vermont b) Massachusetts c) Maine d) New Hampshire
- Basketball star Kobe Bryant has been accused of committing a crime in which state?
a) California b) Nevada c) Colorado d) New York
- Identify the following Democrat presidential candidates:
a)  b)  c)  d) 
i. Howard Dean ii. Dick Gephardt iii. John Kerry iv. Joe Lieberman
- The winner of the 2003 Academy Award for Best Picture was _____.
a) Lord of the Rings: The Two Towers c) Moulin Rouge
b) A Beautiful Mind d) Chicago
- Sandra Diaz-Twine, winner of 2003's *Survivor: Pearl Island*, is employed by _____.
a) AAFES b) G.E. c) IBM d) NATO
- Published in 2003, the acclaimed memoir *Jarhead* recounts author Anthony Swofford's experiences as a Marine in _____.
a) Vietnam b) World War II c) Gulf War d) Somalia
- Disgraced journalist Jayson Blair was discovered to have lied in stories he wrote for _____.
a) New York Times c) Washington Post
b) Wall Street Journal d) USA Today
- Which beloved cartoon character recently reappeared in a new Sunday-only strip?
a) Calvin b) Pogo c) Opus d) Charlie Brown
- Roy Moore, chief justice of the supreme court of _____, was removed from office for ignoring a U.S. Supreme Court decision to remove a sculpture of the Ten Commandments.
a) Alabama b) Arkansas c) Florida d) Louisiana
- (T/F) "Beltway snipers" John Allen Muhammad and Lee Boyd Malvo have both been sentenced to death for their infamous crime spree.

** Bonus: Who did Arnold Schwarzenegger replace as governor of California?*

Section III: International

- Pope John Paul II celebrated the ____ anniversary of his papacy in 2003.
a) 15th b) 20th c) 25th d) 30th
- Queen Elizabeth II of England celebrated the ____ anniversary of her ascension to the throne in 2003.
a) 25th b) 50th c) 75th d) 100th
- Identify each of the following world leaders:
a)  b)  c)  d) 
i. British Prime Minister Tony Blair iii. Italian Premier Silvio Berlusconi
ii. Russian President Vladimir Putin iv. German President Gerhard Schroeder
- Saddam Hussein was captured near his ancestral homeland of _____.
a) Tikrit b) Kirkuk c) Umm Qasr d) Kandahar
- German basketball star Dirk Nowitzki plays for which NBA team?
a) N.Y. Knicks b) L.A. Lakers c) N.J. Nets d) Dallas Mavericks
- Terrorism concerns prompted the cancellation of Christmas Eve flights between which two cities?
a) New York to London c) Moscow to Beijing
b) Mexico City to Vancouver d) Paris to Los Angeles
- To promote tourism in the wake of the SARS epidemic, the Rolling Stones headlined a benefit concert some termed "SARStock" in _____.
a) Beijing b) London c) Seoul d) Toronto
- The president of Afghanistan is _____.
a) Hamid Karzai b) Kofi Annan c) Adnan Chalabi d) Zacharias Moussaoui
- The crew of the doomed space shuttle Columbia included a(n) ____ astronaut.
a) Russian b) Israeli c) Chinese d) Iranian
- (T/F) The American Soldier was named Newsweek's 2003 "Person of the Year."

** Bonus: Who was Jaap de Hoop Scheffer selected to replace as Secretary General of NATO?*

Section I Answers: 1: c 2: d 3: b 4: a 5: b 6: c 7: a 8: d 9: a 10: F
Section II Answers: 1: c 2: d 3: a 4: a 5: b 6: d 7: b 8: a 9: c 10: T
Section III Answers: 1: c 2: d 3: a 4: b 5: c 6: d 7: a 8: b 9: a 10: F

Score
30-33: Nothing got by you in 2003!
26-29: Nice job - and room to improve in 2004.
25 & below: Did you read a paper last year?

Bonus Answers
I: Col. Larry Subbelfield
II: Gray Davis
III: Lord George Robertson

Bonus Answers
1: c 2: b 3: a 4: a 5: d 6: d 7: d 8: a 9: b 10: F

Bonus Answers
1: a 2: c 3: a 4: d 5: a 6: c 7: a 8: c 9: a 10: F

Bonus Answers
1: c 2: b 3: a 4: d 5: a 6: b 7: b 8: b 9: a 10: T



Though construction zones like this one on Patch Barracks have become common sights in Stuttgart, the disruptions are paying dividends, housing officials say. The 6th ASG is in the midst of a decade-long project to significantly upgrade every on-post family housing unit in the Stuttgart area.

Renovation project improving quality of life in Stuttgart

Story & photos by Hugh C. McBride

The home of tomorrow is here. Fifty years after their construction began, family housing units on Stuttgart-area installations are in the midst of a comprehensive renovation project.

The upgrade effort not only incorporates five decades of progress in design and technology, but also reflects input from current and former residents.

"We want to give the people a place they'll be proud to call home," said Nathan Thomas, housing director for the 6th Area Support Group's Directorate of Public Works.

In addition to improving the inside of every on-post family housing unit in Stuttgart, Thomas said the Whole Neighborhood Renovation Project also includes such "community enhancements" as landscaping, common picnic areas and playgrounds.

"When we're done, we will look better than a lot of other installations," he said.

A decade of improvement

The local housing upgrade effort is part of an Armywide initiative to improve the quality of on-post housing, Thomas said. And though the Sept. 11 terror attacks on the United States and the increased operational tempo of the resultant global war on terrorism have affected planning and projects throughout the service, "the plan is still in effect," he said.

Since renovation work began in 1999, 23 housing buildings on Patch Barracks and Panzer Kaserne have undergone top-to-bottom upgrades. Eight buildings are currently undergoing renovations, with work slated to start on an additional 12 in the near future.

Housing officials expect the Patch and Panzer portions of the renovation project to be completed by 2006, when work will begin on Kelley Barracks, and then Robinson Barracks. As it stands now, all renovation work should be completed by 2010, though Thomas cautions that a number of issues could impact this completion target.

Into the Technology Age

In addition to approving the appearance of on-post quarters, the renovation project is also upgrading the



Housing official Arno Duchstein points out dual 110/220 outlets in the kitchen area of a renovated housing unit on Patch Barracks. Electricity upgrades are just one facet of comprehensive facelifts being given to all family housing units.

"user-friendliness" of the housing units.

For example, where pre-renovated units are equipped with only one telephone jack (apparently no one in the 1950s foresaw the Internet boom), upgraded quarters offer phone hook-ups in every room.

Renovated quarters also feature the following:

- Washer and dryer in each unit.
- Dual 110/220-volt outlets in every room (to accommodate both German and American-standard appliances).
- Basement storage cages (where laundry rooms used to be).
- Improved plumbing, lighting and heating system.
- Expanded storage space.
- Fire suppression system.
- One additional bathroom in three- and four-bedroom units.

Also, one apartment on each installation is being adapted to accommodate a handicapped resident.

A customer-focused approach

From the new kitchen appliances to the color of paint on the walls, all renovation decisions reflect advice from those who stand to benefit most from the improvements, said Arno Duchstein, housing management specialist.

"Everything that has gone on has involved customer input," Duchstein said.

For more information about housing in the 6th ASG call 430-5533/civ. 0711-680-5533.

Panzer, RB housing getting security film for windows

6th ASG Directorate of Public Works

Since the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks on the United States, the 6th Area Support Group Directorate of Public Works has taken a number of steps to bolster security in and around on-post housing units in Stuttgart.

One of these initiatives has been to have a contractor add a Profilon (Mylar) security film to windows of housing units and other buildings that face major public German (off-post) roads.

This measure is designed to prevent more vulnerable windows from shattering and potentially spraying glass shards throughout a room should an explosion occur near the window.

The work does not make the windows "bomb-proof," but will prevent the glass from shattering in fragments.

Housing units on Robinson Barracks and Panzer Kaserne are the most recent to be scheduled to receive this film.

Notification process

Four weeks before a building is to have the film installed, residents will receive a notice including a tentative schedule providing a day and time range for their installation.

Residents of each unit – or a neighbor with their authorization – must be present during installation to provide access to the contractor's personnel.

It is very important that residents keep their appointments. Because the contractor expends resources to have personnel and equipment at the scheduled time and place, last-minute "no shows" waste both time and money.

Such individuals may be reported to their commands.

Points of contact

Residents who cannot have someone present during the time their quarters are scheduled for the Profilon installation must contact Phillip Pickett, project engineer with the Corps of Engineers, at 421-6893/civ. 0711-729-6893.

Residents who will be unavailable may also e-mail their information to mylarwindows@6asg.army.mil.

E-mail messages should include the resident's name, quarters address and date and time he or she can be available for rescheduling.

Community members without e-mail access may also contact the following individuals:

■ **Robinson Barracks** – Anja Ruoff, housing engineering technician (430-5504/civ. 0701- 680-5504) or Lance Keller, RB installation coordinator (421-6165/civ. 0160-9082-8924).

■ **Böblingen Housing Area** – William Metcalf, Panzer installation coordinator (431-2683/civ. 0703-115-683) or Master Sgt. Mac Hopkins, assistant installation coordinator (431-2806/civ. 0160-90822-8923).

Installation

The work to install the film on the windows takes approximately three hours per apartment.

Residents are required to clear all windowsills, remove any stick-ons from the windows and move all furniture three to five feet back from windows to allow contractor access.

The installation is not dangerous work, but the DPW recommends keeping small children and pets out of way of the contract personnel.

The detergent used to clean the window surface (to allow proper adhesion of the film) has a very strong odor, but it is not toxic. Residents will need to keep their windows open for about an hour to allow the smell to dissipate.

Feedback

The 6th ASG DPW would appreciate the community's assistance in identifying any problems – or forwarding any compliments – associated with the Profilon installation process.

Comments regarding the professionalism of the contract personnel, glitches in the scheduling system or any other areas of concern may be submitted to the individuals listed in the "Points of Contact" section above or via e-mail.

Many reasons to roll up sleeves for flu vaccine

Europe Army Regional
Medical Command
Public Affairs Office

For more about
the flu vaccine

It is more important than ever for people to roll up their sleeves and say "yes" to the flu shot, said Col. Loren Erickson, commander of the U.S. Army Center for Health Promotion and Preventive Medicine, Europe.

U.S. military medical treatment facilities offer the vaccine to all beneficiaries.

"The influenza vaccine is available in Europe free of charge for all military health care beneficiaries, including active-duty service members and their family members, retirees and their family members, and DoD personnel and their families," he said. "This year we are also making the vaccine available to host-nation employees who work for the U.S. military."

Recommendations

Adults and children at highest risk for the flu include those with chronic medical conditions such as immune deficiencies, asthma or other lung problems, kidney or heart disease and diabetes. The vaccine is also recommended for people over 65 years old and for children 6 to 23 months.

Erickson said the vaccine is also encouraged for household members of people in these high risk groups as an added level of prevention.

However, individuals who have had a serious allergic reaction to eggs – or people who have a history of Guillain-Barré Syndrome – should consult with a doctor before getting the vaccine.

Misconceptions

"A common misconception is that the flu and the common cold are the same disease. They're not. About 40,000 people die as a result of influenza complications each year in the United States," Erickson said.

"While a cold might give you a stuffy head and runny nose, a true case of influenza will put you in bed with a high fever, muscle aches and respiratory symptoms such as a cough. It will cause you to lose time away from work, your friends and your family. It's debilitating," he said.

Erickson said another common misconception is that the vaccine will cause the flu. It can't, he said, because the vaccine does not contain a live virus.

A question of readiness

Protection against influenza is not just a family or personal issue, said Col. Allen Kraft, force health protection director, Europe Regional Medical Command and U.S. Army, Europe.

"Protecting active-duty service members against influenza is critical to military medical readiness," Kraft said. "We must insure that each Soldier is medically ready to complete his or her mission. A flu outbreak can be devastating to a unit. The flu vaccination is our protection against that type of devastation."

Kraft said medical officials expect to meet their goal of having at least 95 percent of active-duty service members in U.S. Army, Europe, vaccinated against the flu by the end of January.

■ **Stuttgart Health Clinic:** 430-8610/civ. 0711-680-8610.

■ **Garmisch Health Benefits Office:** 442-2816/civ.08821-759-816.

■ **Bad Aibling Health Clinic:** 441-3841/civ. 08061-80-3841.



Rebecca Morrow, a college student home for the holidays, continues her fitness regimen during her break by working out at the Patch Fitness Center. For community members who need a motivational boost to their exercise efforts, the 6th ASG's Fit for Life program may be just the thing.

Get 'Fit for Life' in 2004

New Year brings new workout challenge to 6th ASG

Story & photo by Mildred Green

Just in time to get a jump start on some of those New Year's resolutions, the 6th Area Support Group Sports and Fitness office has introduced Fit for Life, a cardiovascular training program for the Stuttgart community.

Fit for Life is a 45-week program in which participants track the number of minutes or miles of aerobic exercise they complete each day. Exercises include running, walking, biking, stair-stepping, swimming, kickboxing, step aerobics and even skiing.

Participants begin the program by setting a goal for the number of miles they hope to reach by their 45th week of participation.

Awards for miles

For non-running activities, mileage is calculated by the minutes exercised. For example, 10 minutes of step aerobics equals 1 mile and an entire day of skiing equals 6 miles.

Each participant must keep track of the miles or minutes they complete on a tracker card that is provided at registration.

Points are then tallied at the end of each month, and awards are given to participants who reach their goals.

When participants reach 1,000 miles, 1,500 miles and 2,000 miles, they are eligible for raffle drawings and could win prizes.

"We hope Fit for Life will get people fit, increase overall cardio health and promote competitive spirit between units," said Cory Doubek, fitness coordinator, 6th ASG Sports and Fitness.

A competition for units

Military units that take part in Fit for Life compete against other units, and the points they earn go toward the Commander's

Cup (a yearlong unit-level sport competition).

Civilian organizations can also enter Fit for Life, with teams made up of high school students or Department of Defense teachers, for example.

In order for the competition to be fair, the number of participants is divided by the total number of people in each unit. This means that members of each unit must enroll individually. The top three units with the highest points will receive awards at the completion of the program.

Doubek stressed the importance of having the most people in the unit to participate. "Every point helps," she said.

There is also an opportunity for all participants to earn extra points each month through bonus events sponsored by the Stuttgart Wellness Center.

How to register

Registration for Fit for Life is free and will continue through the end of January. Registration is open to all active-duty personnel, DoD civilians, contractors and family members.

Eligible participants can register at the Panzer Kaserne, Patch, Kelley or Robinson barracks fitness centers.

"Fit for Life allows participants to work at their own pace," Doubek said. "It is good for people who are new to exercising as well as for those who work out on a regular basis," she added.

Doubek said fitness newcomers are welcome to meet with her in the Patch Fitness Center so they can design an individual exercise program together.

For more about Fit for Life call 430-5386/civ. 0711-680-5386 or e-mail doubekc@6asg.army.mil.

Group fitness classes in Stuttgart

Jazzercize

- ◆ Mondays, Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays, 9 to 10 a.m., Patch.
- ◆ Mondays through Thursdays, 6 to 7 p.m., Kelley.
- ◆ Tuesdays and Thursdays, noon to 1 p.m., Panzer.

Yoga

- ◆ Tuesdays and Thursdays, 6 to 7 p.m., Patch.

Spinning

- ◆ Tuesdays and Thursdays, 6:45 to 7:30 a.m., Patch.
- ◆ Wednesdays, 5:15 to 6 p.m., Patch.

Kickboxing

- ◆ Mondays, 5:30 to 6:30 p.m., Patch.
- ◆ Wednesdays, 6 to 7 a.m., Patch.
- ◆ Thursdays, 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., Patch.

Belly dancing

- ◆ Wednesdays, 7 to 9 p.m., Patch.

Step Extreme

- ◆ Mondays, 6 to 7 a.m., Patch.

Cardio/Sculpt

- ◆ Tuesdays, 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., Patch.
- ◆ Fridays, 6 to 7 a.m., Patch.

For more information call your local fitness center.



Hugh C. McBride

Christine Pugh of Pandora's Box accompanies 3-year-old Megan Pfeil during a Dec. 19 holiday sing-along in the Panzer Child Development Center.

CDC sponsors sing-alongs



Siouxie Foley

Barry P. Foley visits with a group of new fans at the Panzer CDC Dec. 17.

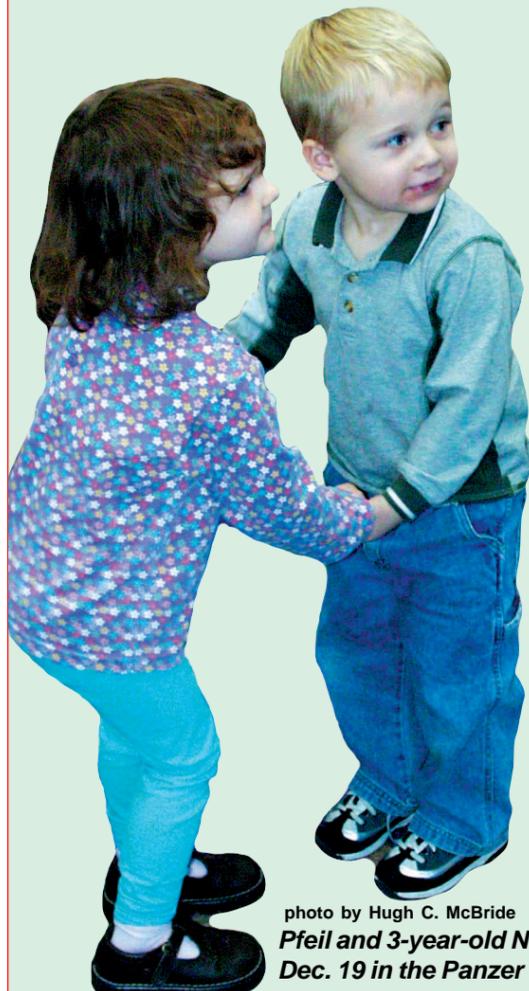


photo by Hugh C. McBride

Pfeil and 3-year-old Nolan Somer and dance Dec. 19 in the Panzer CDC.

By Hugh C. McBride

The children of the Panzer Child Development Center rang (and sang) in the 2003 holiday season with a little help from two of the Stuttgart military community's professional musicians.

Country crooner Barry P. Foley made his third annual holiday appearance at the CDC Dec. 17, while folk-rock singer Christine Pugh of Pandora's Box made her debut there Dec. 19.

Mixing holiday favorites with selections from their regular repertoires, the singers helped set a festive tone at the CDC while also helping the children along their developmental path.

"Music provides an opportunity for children to listen, create, sing and produce rhythmic responses with their bodies and [other] instruments," said the CDC's Siouxie Foley.

"By dancing, the children become more aware of their bodies and how they can move," she said.

From the looks of the swaying, dancing and sing-alongs that accompanied Pugh and Foley's visits, these seemed to be lessons learned well.

For more about 6th ASG Child Development Centers call 430-7458/civ. 0711-680-7458.



Dressed as St. Nick, Holger Flattlich of the Stuttgart Clan of Motorcycle Enthusiasts gives a Christmas present to a young patient in the Böblingen Kinderklinik Dec. 13.

BOSS, bikers brighten holidays for Stuttgart-area youth

Story & photos by Hugh C. McBride

Rudolph may want to polish up his resume. On Dec. 13, Santa came to Stuttgart on a "hog."

The Harley-riding elf was part of the Stuttgart Clan of Motorcycle Enthusiasts' annual effort to brighten the holidays for hospitalized children in the Stuttgart area.

For the fifth straight year, German and American members of the SCMC joined with Stuttgart's Better Opportunities for Single Servicemembers and the Stuttgart United Services Organization to deliver donated presents and a healthy dose of holiday cheer to children in need.

The groups were joined in their efforts this year by the Veteran's Motorcycle Club.

"We really couldn't do anything without the USO," said SCMC member Rob Saylor. "Every year they help us with advertising and provide a place to meet and wrap the presents."

The SCMC delivered gifts to the Böblingen Kinderklinik, while VMC and BOSS members visited area organizations that serve orphans and refugees.

"We just wanted to give something back to the community," said SCMC Chieftan Henry Freude, who has participated in all five "toy runs."

In addition to brightening the holidays for area children, the annual gift-giving project is also a way of strengthening German-American bonds, Saylor said.

"This is an American tradition that we've exported to Germany," Saylor said. "[Holiday toy runs] are what bikers do in the States."

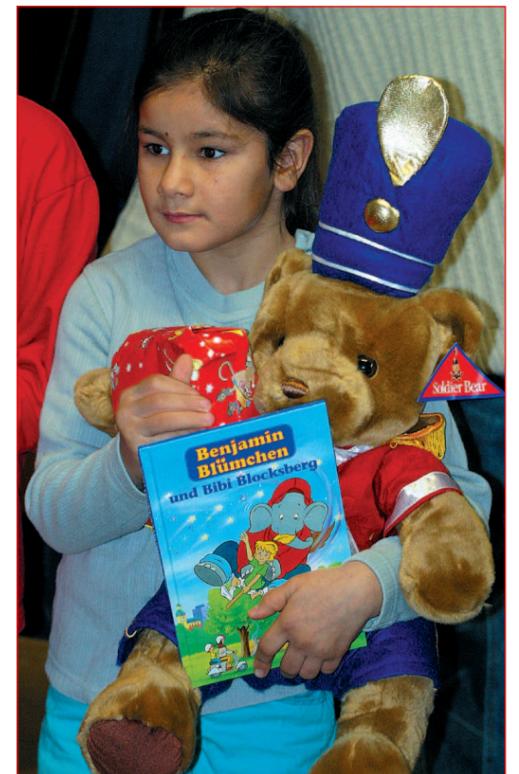
After a morning gift-wrapping session in the USO's Patch Barracks office, SCMC, BOSS and VMC members dispersed throughout the Stuttgart area to deliver the goods.

For the SCMC, this meant escorting Santa (group member Holger Flattlich) to the Kinderklinik, where he brought presents to children in their rooms before attending a reception in the facility's recreation area.

"Since it was our fifth year, they decided to invite us in for refreshments," Saylor said.

Two carloads of BOSS members began their gift-giving in Vaihingen, where they spent an hour at an Arbeiter Wohlfahrt (Workers' Welfare Organization) facility that serves refugee families from such war-torn areas as Kosovo, Afghanistan and Iran.

"You can hardly imagine what excitement



A resident of a Vaihingen facility that serves refugees holds tight to Christmas gifts provided by members of Stuttgart's Better Opportunities for Single Servicemembers.

[the BOSS visit] caused for our youngsters," said AWO volunteer Günter Hesselschwerdt. "The children who live here don't have much ... for themselves."

The AWO residents greeted their American guests with coffee, cookies and a spirited rendition of "We Wish You a Merry Christmas."

After ensuring that each child had received a wrapped present, a book and some Christmas candy, the BOSS members posed for photos with the children, swapped stories and even participated in an impromptu rap.

For more information about Better Opportunities for Single Servicemembers e-mail thompsond@6asg.army.mil.

For details about the SCME call Saylor at 430-5987/civ. 0711-680-5987.

For the Veterans' Motorcycle Club e-mail Bruce Davidson at shootin35@yahoo.com.

From *Lauch Wald* to Headquarters, U.S. European Command

The continuing evolution of Patch Barracks

By Melanie Casey

Many of us working or living on Patch Barracks come and go without a second thought. We drive or walk right past monuments (both German and American) without realizing their significance.

We walk our dogs near a now-dilapidated fence that is nearly all that's left of the original border of our home-away-from-home, yet we don't stop to think what that fence represents.

When construction began on *Kurmärker Kaserne* (what we now know as Patch Barracks) in 1936, the world was a much different place. Adolph Hitler was chancellor of Germany, and the world was on the brink of a war that would change it forever.

In the beginning

Work on the new installation began in 1936 in the middle of the densely-wooded *Lauch Wald*. The base was designed and built for the German 7th Panzer Regiment (not to be confused with the 7th Panzer Division headed by Field Marshal Erwin Rommel), which occupied the new base from 1938 until 1940.

During this time, German tank crews practiced shooting in the installation's indoor ranges — one where the Patch Theater now stands, one in what is now the Patch Community Club and one near what is now Weicht Village.

The 21st and 715th Panzer regiments also both occupied Patch briefly. One of the last German tenants of the base was DaimlerBenz, which used building 2337 to make small parts after its Sindelfingen plant was bombed.

The "Stuttgart Incident"

Allied troops entering Stuttgart near the end of World War II met little resistance. However, an event took place shortly thereafter that challenged Allied authority in Germany.

French and U.S. forces disagreed on where their boundaries should lie. Originally, Stuttgart was in the zone of the French Army's 2nd Corps. However, Allied 6th Group Commander Gen. Jacob Devers ordered that Stuttgart fall within the zone of the 7th Army instead.

According to the European Command's "History of Kurmärker Kaserne and Patch Barracks," French President Charles de Gaulle "directed his commander to ignore Gen. Devers' orders and remain in Stuttgart until the Allies had agreed upon a suitable occupation zone in Germany for France."

Several weeks later, after the involvement of Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower and U.S. President Harry S. Truman, French forces left.

Who was Alexander Patch?

Patch Barracks is named in honor of Lt. Gen. Alexander McCarrell Patch Jr. Patch was born in Arizona in 1889 and graduated from the United States Military Academy in 1913.

During World War II, he formed the Americal Division, which served in Guadalcanal. Under his command, the 14th Corps led the final offensive against Japanese forces there.

In 1944, Patch was transferred to Europe and assumed command of the 7th Army, which, under his leadership, participated in Operation Dragoon. He briefly served as commander of the 4th Army.

Patch died of pneumonia Nov. 21, 1945.

Kurmärker Kaserne was renamed Patch Barracks Aug. 20, 1951.

source: www.patch-es.eu.odedodea.edu



Lt. Gen. Patch

U.S. occupation

The first U.S. unit stationed on Patch was the 373rd Field Artillery Battalion of the 100th Infantry Division. Troops moved July 7, 1945 — the same day French forces left.

The U.S. troops arrived to find a base that had been battered by years of war: There were broken windows, burned out vehicles, debris and bomb craters scattered throughout. Prisoners of war did much of the cleanup work.

The 373rd returned to the U.S. in Dec., 1945. Shortly thereafter, the 15th Cavalry Reconnaissance Squadron (renamed the 15th Constabulary Squadron) took up residence; they stayed until 1950.

U.S. forces return

In 1950, with the Cold War looming, U.S. combat troops returned to Europe to help quell the threat of communist expansion.

In November, Headquarters, 7th Army, was reactivated and moved to Stuttgart.

Patch becomes Patch

Kurmärker Kaserne officially became Patch Barracks Aug. 20, 1951. It was named in honor of Lt. Gen. Alexander Patch Jr. (see box).

Of Patch's 44 original buildings, 37 remain; most have undergone extensive renovations.

In 1953, building 2337 was converted from an ordnance shop into a gym and a bowling alley. Between 1950 and 54, the "exercise platz" (what we know as Husky Field), was converted into an athletic field.

Housing added

Housing construction was one of the largest projects on Patch during the 1950s. Work began on the Old Craig housing area (named in honor of 2nd Lt. Robert Craig of the 3rd Infantry Division, who was killed in action in Sicily in 1943) and Kefurt Village (named in honor of Staff Sgt.

Gus Kefurt, a 3rd ID soldier killed in France in 1944) in 1950.

In 1954, construction began on Weicht Village (named in honor of Sgt. Ellis Weicht, a 36th Infantry Division Soldier killed in France in 1944). Work began on New Craig Village in 1955, and the individual homes along Florida Strasse were built in 1961.

EUCOM moves in

The EUCOM as we know it today was 'officially' born Aug. 1, 1952, when the three European commands in place at the time (U.S. Naval Forces, Eastern Atlantic and Mediterranean, U.S. Air Forces in Europe and the European Command — redesignated U.S. Army, Europe) were combined under a new joint command with headquarters in Frankfurt.

In 1954, EUCOM moved to Camp-de-Loges on the outskirts of Paris and remained there until 1966, when de Gaulle requested the "fast relocation" of U.S. forces from France.

When Headquarters, 7th U.S. Army, merged with U.S. Army, Europe, in Heidelberg in 1967, Headquarters, EUCOM moved permanently to Patch.

Patch today

Patch Barracks is now home not only to EUCOM, but several other units including Special Operations Command, Europe; Detachment C, 510th Personnel Service Battalion; U.S. Air Forces in Europe Mission Support Squadron; Navy Personnel Support Detachment and Defense Information Systems Agency, Europe.

Sources:

■ Gugeler, Russell. "History of Kurmärker Kaserne and Patch Barracks." 1999. Courtesy European Command.

■ www.eucom.mil.

Reminders set in stone:

Patch Monuments

The large stone monument sitting near the south end of building 2307 in Washington Square was erected by the Germans in memory of the Soldiers from the 715th Infantry Division who died in World War II.

The inscription reads "Den Toten den 715 I.D." (To the dead of the 715 th I.D.)



photos by Melanie Casey

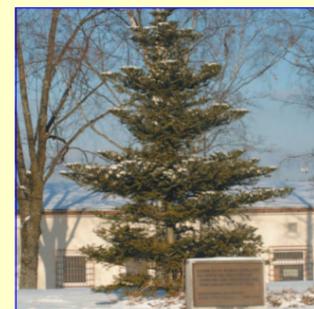


A slab of the Berlin Wall was installed on EUCOM's J-Mall in the early 1990s, a reminder of what once was.

The Berlin Wall went up in 1961 and separated East and West Germany until it fell on Nov. 9, 1989.

The solemn black marble Prisoner of War/Missing in Action monument just off of Washington Square commemorates the thousands of missing U.S. Soldiers.

It was dedicated Sept. 20, 2002, after the efforts of the Stuttgart Clan of Motorcycle Enthusiasts.



In 1960, a tree was planted and a plaque was installed across from the flag poles on Washington Square.

They were dedicated by Minister-President Kurt Georg Kiesinger of Baden Württemberg in recognition of German/American friendship.

The newest monument on Patch Barracks is the Korean War Memorial, which was unveiled July 25, 2003.

The effort to build this memorial was led by American Legion Stuttgart Post 6; funds came from donations and various fund-raising activities.



"We learn from history that we never learn anything from history."

— Georg Hegel
German philosopher

This article is the first installment in a series about the history of life in the 6th Area Support Group.

Martin Luther King Jr. Day: Jan. 19

History of MLK Day

By David Johnson
www.infoplease.com

It took 15 years to create the federal Martin Luther King Jr. holiday.

Congressman John Conyers first introduced legislation for a commemorative holiday four days after King was assassinated in 1968.

After the bill stalled, petitions containing six million names were submitted to Congress in support of the holiday's creation.

Conyers and Rep. Shirley Chisholm resubmitted King holiday legislation each subsequent legislative session. Public pressure for the holiday mounted dur-

ing the 1982 and 1983 civil rights marches in Washington.

Congress passed the holiday legislation in 1983, and President Ronald Reagan signed it into law.

A compromise moved the holiday from King's Jan. 15 birthday – which was considered too close to Christmas and New Year's Day – to the third Monday in January.

A number of states resisted celebrating the holiday. Some opponents contended that the entire civil rights movement should be honored rather than one individual, however instrumental.

For more information visit www.infoplease.com/spot/mlkhistory1.html.



courtesy

In his own words:

Selections from the speeches and writings of Martin Luther King Jr.

"Darkness cannot drive out darkness; only light can do that. Hate cannot drive out hate; only love can do that." (*Strength to Love*, 1963)

"Human salvation lies in the hands of the creatively maladjusted." (*Strength to Love*, 1963)

"If a man hasn't discovered something that he will die for, he isn't fit to live." (Speech in Detroit, Mich., June 23, 1963)

"It may be true that the law cannot make a man love me, but it can keep him from lynching me, and I think that's pretty important." (*Wall Street Journal*, Nov. 13, 1962)

"The curse of poverty has no justification in our age. It is socially as cruel and blind as the practice of cannibalism at the dawn of civilization." (*Where Do We Go from Here: Chaos or Community?*, 1967)

sources: www.mlkonline.com, www.quotationspage.com

MLK resources on the Web

The King Center for Nonviolent Social Change

www.thekingcenter.org

Founded by Coretta Scott King, The King Center's mission statement describes the center as "the living memorial and institutional guardian of Dr. King's legacy."

The Martin Luther King Jr. Papers Project

www.stanford.edu/group/King

The project's Web site describes itself as "a major research effort to assemble and disseminate historical information concerning Martin Luther King Jr."

MLK Online

www.mlkonline.com

Begun as a school project by a high school sophomore, MLK Online offers a wealth of King-related information, including complete texts of many speeches, sound, photo and video clips and a collection of quotes.

Nobel Peace Prize 1964

www.nobel.se/peace/laureates/1964/

In addition to a brief biography, the Nobel site also includes the text of King's 1964 Nobel lecture and the presentation speech given by Gunnar Jahn, then-chairman of the Nobel Committee.

Read the Jan. 27 edition of *The Citizen* for coverage of Martin Luther King Jr. Day events in the 6th Area Support Group.