

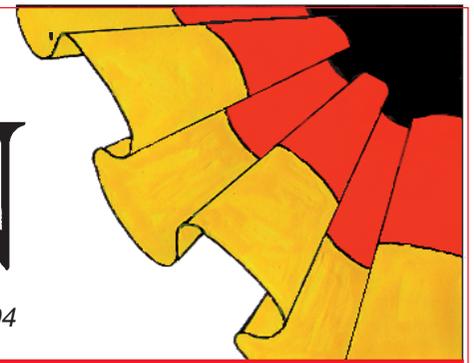


# THE CITIZEN

Vol. 33, No. 5

The 6th Area Support Group Newspaper

March 9, 2004



Stuttgart, Bad Aibling, Oberammergau and Garmisch, Germany

## An afternoon of food, fun, fashion Stuttgart celebrates African-American heritage

Story & photo by Hugh C. McBride

**S**tuttgart residents filled the Patch Barracks Community Club Feb. 21 for an afternoon of music, literature, fashion and food.

Co-sponsored by the 6th Area Support Group and the Stuttgart chapter of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, the local African-American History Month celebration was designed to “not only excite you and entertain you, but also educate you,” said the event’s master of ceremonies, Capt. Wendy Rivers of the 52nd Signal Battalion.

“It seems especially appropriate to me to be celebrating this month with members of the U.S. military family,” said 6th ASG Commander Col. Gwendolyn Bonéy-Harris.

“Though America’s armed forces have unfortunately not always been immune to the evils of racial inequality, our military has often served as a beacon of hope for a nation struggling through the darkness of discrimination,” she said.

### Music and literature

After the opening remarks, the event began with a celebration of music.

First, two members of Stuttgart’s Nigerian community performed a traditional dance from their country.

Following this performance, Pfc. Adrian Royster brought a bilingual and multicultural note to the afternoon with a rendition of an Italian opera song about a man’s thoughts upon first seeing the Ganges River.

Next, two groups of Patch High School students drew attention to the literary and academic legacy of the African-American community.

Students from Mary Roper’s class shared personal

‘  
*Our military has often served as a beacon of hope for a nation struggling through the darkness of discrimination.*

**Col. Gwendolyn Bonéy-Harris**  
*6th Area Support Group Commander*

reflections inspired by Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., and students from Carol Zank-Rehwaltd’s English class read selections from what their teacher termed “some of the most important voices in American literature,” (including Gwendolyn Brooks, Mari Evans and Langston Hughes).

Patch freshman Darren Fitzgearld also read his award-winning biography of African-American chemist Percy L. Jones. Fitzgearld’s effort earned him a \$100 prize from the Stuttgart NAACP.

Patch students Dylan Gaines and Max Mills were also recognized and rewarded by the NAACP, earning \$75 and \$25, respectively, for their 2nd- and 3rd-place essays.

6th ASG Equal Opportunity Advisor Sgt. 1st Class Carey Williams said the student’s involvement was an important part of the cultural celebration.

“It’s always good that we can pass on educational opportunities to our youth,” he said.

See **Heritage** on page 15

*Eucharía Onwuyali models a traditional skirt, blouse and headwrap made from African sari material during Stuttgart’s Feb. 21 African-American Heritage Month celebration on Patch Barracks.*



## INSIDE THIS EDITION

Page 3

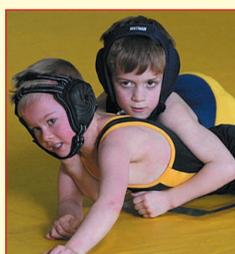
### GAWC distributes ‘Pfennig’ funds

Members and friends of Stuttgart’s German-American Women’s Club gather in the city’s interim Rathaus Feb. 18 to distribute more than 80,000 euro in profits from last year’s Pfennig Bazaar. Twenty-four U.S.-affiliated organizations benefitted from last year’s GAWC fundraiser.

Pages 8-9

### YS wrestlers host daylong tournament

Several of Stuttgart’s young grapplers take to the mat to test their skills against U.S. military-affiliated competitors from throughout Germany Feb. 28 in the Patch Barracks Fitness Center. The daylong meet was the only home competition for Stuttgart’s YS wrestling team this year.



# EUCOM names headquarters-level service members of year

## *Two Soldiers, one Airman honored for excellence*

By Melanie Casey

Three area service members were awarded the title of Headquarters, U.S. European Command, Service Member of the Year in their respective categories at a Feb. 19 ceremony in the Swabian Special Events Center on Patch Barracks.

The winners were selected from ten nominees, who in turn had been culled from nearly 1,900 eligible service members assigned to Headquarters, EUCOM.

### *Difficult choices*

"Picking three out of 1,900 in Headquarters [was] difficult," said Lt. General John B. Sylvester, EUCOM chief of staff, "There's a lot of talent here. They're doing wonderful things on behalf of our nation."

The winners were as follows:

- **Junior Enlisted (E-1 to E-4):** Army Spc. Thomas Harmon, an administrative specialist from the Survey Division, (J-2), at Supreme Headquarters, Allied Powers Europe in Belgium.

- **Junior Noncommissioned Officer (E-5 to E-6):** Army Staff Sgt. Troy Johnson, a military policeman who works as the Operations and Training Noncommissioned Officer for the Protective Services Detachment on Patch Barracks.

- **Senior Noncommissioned Officer (E-7 to E-8):** Air Force Master Sgt. Peter Bryan, chief of the Signals Intelligence and Alternate Naval Activities Control Office, Intelligence Directorate, Sensor Operations Branch on Patch Barracks.

Along with bragging rights, the winners also received a surprise Joint Service Achievement medal.



Harmon



Johnson



photos by Troy Langenburg  
Bryan

Other rewards included a United Services Organization gift certificate and "goodie bag," a one-year membership in the Association of the United States Army, and gift certificates from AAFES, area restaurants and the S.I. Centrum and Dorint Fontana hotels.

"I was surprised and honored when [Lt. Gen. Sylvester] presented each of the winners with a Joint Service Achievement Medal," Harmon said.

The competition's other nominees were Army Spc. Douglas Morse, Army Sgt. Christopher Glass, Navy Petty Officer First Class Samuel Sharwarko, Air Force Staff Sgt. Allison Cademartori, Air Force Master Sgt. Lance Waring, Air Force Senior Master Sgt. Steven Beffort and Air Force Master Sgt. Rudolfo Morales. All nominees received a certificate and commander's coin.

### *Thinking on their feet*

The nominees went before a five-member board the day prior to the awards ceremony and were rated not only on their personal appearance, military presentation and general

military knowledge, but also on their "ability to think clearly and effectively express themselves and answer all questions," according to information provided by EUCOM.

"It's all about them thinking on their feet," said Senior Master Sgt. David Gouin, EUCOM command staff superintendent.

The nominees "were under the microscope from the moment they entered the board room until the time they left," said Chief Master Sgt. John Nash, who served as the board president.

### *The next step*

Bryan will represent Headquarters, EUCOM in the commandwide Service Member of the Year competition in April.

He will compete in the Senior Enlisted (E-6 to E-9) category. Because the categories in the commandwide competition do not correspond exactly to those of the Headquarters-level contest, Sgt. Christopher Glass will compete in the Junior Enlisted (E-1 to E-5) category.

“There’s a lot of talent here. They’re doing wonderful things on behalf of our nation.”

Lt. Gen. John B. Sylvester  
U. S. European Command

## DoD introduces medals for service in war on terror

American Forces Press Service

Military members serving at home and abroad in the war on terrorism will now be recognized for that service.

Individuals who have deployed to operations Enduring Freedom or Iraqi Freedom will be awarded the Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary Medal.

The Global War on Terrorism Service Medal will be awarded to those who served in airport security operations in the United States following the Sept. 11, 2001, attacks, or who supported operations Enduring Freedom, Noble Eagle or Iraqi Freedom.

Individuals can receive both medals if they meet the individual criteria, officials said.

Individuals engaged in actual combat may be eligible for battle stars on the expeditionary medal. Only a combatant commander can initiate a request for a battle star, which the chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff must approve.

Personnel eligible to receive the Global War on Terrorism Service Medal must have participated or supported operations on or after Sept. 11, 2001.

Service medal eligibility dates run from Sept. 27, 2001, to May 31, 2002, for individuals who served in airport security operations.



Expeditionary medal  
(front)



Service medal  
(front)

The full text of this article can be read online at [www.defenselink.mil](http://www.defenselink.mil).

# Relief act clarifies tax benefits for military families

## Internal Revenue Service Release

On Nov. 11, 2003, President George W. Bush signed into law the Military Family Tax Relief Act of 2003. Among its provisions are these tax breaks related to military personnel:

### Death benefits

- The death gratuity paid to survivors of deceased armed forces members rises to \$12,000 – and is not taxable (the gratuity was \$6,000, with \$3,000 tax-free).

- This is effective for deaths occurring after Sept. 10, 2001.

- Taxpayers who amend a return to use this provision should put “Military Family Tax Relief Act” in red in the top margin of Form 1040X.

### Sale of principal residence

- A taxpayer in the U.S. armed services or the foreign service who is on qualified official extended duty may suspend (for up to ten years of such duty time) the running of the 5-year ownership-and-use period before the sale of a residence.

- This applies when the individual’s duty station is at least 50 miles from his or her residence – or while the person is residing under orders in government housing – for a period of more than 90 days or for an indefinite period. This election, which is an option for the taxpayer, applies to only one property at a time, and is retroactive for all home sales completed after May 6, 1997.

- Although taxpayers normally have only three years to file an amended return, qualifying taxpayers who sold a residence before 2001 have until Nov. 10, 2004, to amend their returns for this purpose. Taxpayers amending a return to use this provision should put “Military Family Tax Relief Act” in red in the top margin of Form 1040X.

### Deduction for overnight travel expenses

- Reservists and National Guard troops who stay overnight more than 100 miles away from home while in service (for example, for a drill or meeting) may deduct unreimbursed travel expenses (transportation, meals and lodging) as an above-the-line deduction.

- The deduction is limited to the rates for such expenses authorized for federal employees – including per diem in lieu of subsistence – and is effective for tax years after 2002.

- For 2003, taxpayers will use Form 2106 or 2106-EZ to figure the deduction amount and carry it as a “write-in” to Form 1040, line 33. They should write the letters “RC” and the deduction amount on the dotted line and include this subtraction in the entry for line 33.

### DoD Homeowners Assistance Program

- Payments made after Nov. 11, 2003, under this program to offset the adverse effects on housing values of military base realignments or closures will be excludable from income as a fringe benefit.

### Expansion of combat zone extensions

- The various extensions granted to combat zone participants to file returns or pay taxes will also apply to those serving in contingency operations as designated by the secretary of defense.

- This change in extension status is effective for any acts whose deadline did not expire before Nov. 11, 2003.

### Dependent care assistance programs

- The act clarifies that dependent care assistance programs for military personnel are excludable benefits.

- This provision is effective for tax years after 2002.

### Military academy attendees

- The 10-percent tax on payments from a qualified tuition program or Coverdell Education Savings Account that are not used for educational expenses does not apply to attendees of the U.S. Military, Naval, Air Force, Coast Guard or Merchant Marine academies – to the extent the payments do not exceed the costs of advanced education.

- This is effective for tax years after 2002.

## DFAS alters statements, checks to combat identify theft

### Defense Finance and Accounting Service

Leave and Earning Statements for all service members and Defense Department civilians – and paychecks for military retirees – will soon have more protection against identity theft.

Over the next several weeks, the Defense Finance and Accounting Service will drop the first five digits of a person’s social security number from statements and checks.

The Social Security Administration also has taken a similar step on checks it issues.

“The changes apply to everyone,” said Patrick T. Shine, acting director of the DFAS. The proposal “originated internally and will be phased in over the next couple of pay periods,” Shine said.

This change applies to all hard-copy leave and earning statements. It does not affect electronic copies of statements found on myPay, the online sys-

*DFAS will drop the first five digits of a person’s Social Security number from statements and checks.*

tem for access and control of customers’ personal pay information.

Reports of identity theft have substantially increased in recent years, according to the Federal Trade Commission, which monitors the issue.

Five years ago, the number of identity-theft complaints filed with the FTC was about 23,400.

In 2003, about 215,000 complaints of identity theft were filed.

*For more information visit [www.dfas.mil](http://www.dfas.mil).*

# Army study dispels Lariam, suicide link

## Service's surgeon general testifies on testing of anti-malarial drug

Story & photo by Sgt. 1st Class Marcia Triggs  
Army News Service

The surgeon general of the Army told Congress that there is no correlation between the anti-malaria drug Lariam and recent suicides in combat zones.

There have been 21 confirmed suicides in the Iraq theater, but only four of the Soldiers were in units that were taking Lariam – and only one had traces of the drug in his system – Lt. Gen. James Peake, the Army's surgeon general, told members of the House Armed Services Total Force Subcommittee Feb. 25.

"We do know the documented side effects of this medicine, but the key causes of the suicides were failed intimate relationships, legal and financial problems," Peake said.

"The same kind of issues that you see back home related to suicides seem to be the predominant triggers in theater as well," he said.

Lariam has been approved by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration, and it is used to protect Soldiers from a deadly form of malaria, Peake said.

### Field analysis

A 12-person mental health advisory team went to Kuwait and Iraq from August to October to assess mental health issues and behavioral health care for Soldiers serving in Op-



Surgeon General of the Army Lt. Gen. James Peake testifies before Congress on the Army's testing of the anti-malaria drug Lariam

eration Iraqi Freedom. This action followed a report of an annual rate of 15.8 suicides per 100,000 Soldiers, an increase from the 9.1 to 14.8 annual Armywide rates between 1995 and 2002.

The team advised placing more emphasis on adapting

Chloroquine may be given to Soldiers in Iraq this summer, or there may not be a need for any anti-malarial medicine there, said officials from Office of the Surgeon General.

The Central Command surgeon will make the decision after area mosquitoes are tested for malaria, officials said.

For more information about issues related to suicide in the military call the Stuttgart Wellness Center at 430-4073/civ. 0711-680-4073.

current garrison-based Army suicide prevention initiatives in the deployed regions.

"We're seeking to elevate suicide awareness beyond the medical field," said Dr. William Winkenwerder, assistant secretary of defense for Health Affairs. "We want everyone to know about the impact of stress and anxiety and how it can lead to depression and suicide."

### Side effects, substitution

Suicide, depression and paranoia are some of the reported side effects of Lariam. But Peake said that if a Soldier has a history of depression, then an alternate anti-malaria drug is given.

Chloroquine is a daily anti-malaria drug, but the weekly dose of Lariam is preferred, Peake added.

## Military survey says sexual assault cases reduced by 50 percent

By Gerry J. Gilmore  
American Forces Press Service

Incidences of sexual assault within the active-duty military dropped by half between 1995 and 2002, according to a Department of Defense sexual harassment survey released Feb. 25.

The congressionally mandated survey was taken in 2002 and polled 60,000 service members – from private to colonel, Dr. David S.C. Chu, the undersecretary of defense for personnel and readiness, told reporters at a Pentagon press briefing.

About 20,000 service members responded to the survey, Chu said. The next sexual harassment survey, he said, is slated for 2006.

### A seven-year decline

Rachel Lipari from the Defense Manpower Data Center, who accompanied Chu to the briefing, said the survey shows a decline from 6 percent to 3 percent since 1995 in the incidence of sexual assault in the armed services.

Also, she said, the survey demonstrates a 22-percent decline in sexual harassment incident rates across the services between 1995 and 2002.

The majority of survey respondents – 79 percent of men and 77 percent of women – said they'd received anti-sexual harassment training in the past year, said the DMDC's Timothy Elig.

And at least 75 percent of both male and female respondents reported that their service's training conveyed "a good understanding of what sexual harassment was, an understanding of what behaviors were offensive and could not be tolerated, that sexual harassment makes it difficult for service members to perform their duties," Elig said.

### 'A good news story'

Chu said that the 2002 survey demonstrates that the majority of service members polled see their anti-sexual harassment training as effective.

"And that's a good news story, because we've been investing heavily for some years now ... in training as one of the ways to change behaviors," Chu said.

During Senate testimony, Chu also said the survey shows that most service members have faith that commanders are willing to take appropriate action on issues of sexual harassment and more serious forms of sexual misconduct.



Patch High School's "Harmony Express" performs in Stuttgart's interim Rathaus during the German-American Women's Club's Feb. 18 ceremony to distribute funds raised during the 2003 Pfennig Bazaar.

## GAWC distributes 'Pfennig' funds

### 20 U.S.-affiliated organizations benefit from cash raised during club's annual bazaar

Story & photos by Hugh C. McBride

Their signature event may focus on the second-hand, but the results of the German-American Women's Club's annual Pfennig Bazaar can only be described as first-rate.

Continuing a 35-year tradition of multi-cultural generosity, members and friends of the GAWC gathered in Stuttgart's interim Rathaus Feb. 18 to distribute proceeds generated by the 2003 edition of the bazaar to a variety of German, American and joint organizations.

The club handed out checks totaling 80,000 euros at the Feb. 18 event. Thirty-two thousand euros went to joint organizations, with the remaining 48,000 euros split evenly between German groups and their American counterparts.

#### 'A wonderful tradition'

Praising the bazaar as "a wonderful tradition in our city," Stuttgart Lord Mayor Wolfgang Schuster said that the effort is tangible evidence that "this idea of German-American friendship is in the hearts and minds of the people."

Noting recent international tension between the two nations – and rumors of the eventual withdrawal of U.S. personnel from Germany – Schuster said he hoped to celebrate the bazaar's 50th anniversary with his "good guests and friends" from across the ocean. "We are very proud that [the American military] is in Stuttgart," he said.

Echoing Schuster's reaffirmation of the historic German-American alliance, 6th Area Support Group Chief of Staff Joseph Moscone said the members of Stuttgart's U.S. military community are "extremely proud" of the close relations between the two nations and dedicated to the continued success of the bazaar.

"It was an absolute pleasure for the 6th ASG to be a part of the Pfennig Bazaar from start to finish," Moscone said. "What is most impressive is the number of individuals and families who will benefit."

#### Long list of beneficiaries

After a performance by Patch High School's "Harmony Express" music group, the following U.S. military-affiliated organizations received donation checks during the Feb. 18 ceremony:

- Air Force Sergeants' Association
- American Red Cross
- Army Community Service New Parent Education and Support Program
- Boy Scout Troop 324
- Educational & Developmental Intervention Services
- Kelley Barracks Youth Services
- La Leche League, Deutschland
- Panzer Kaserne Youth Services



Representing the Stuttgart Piranhas swim club, John Kellner accepts a donation check from the German-American Women's Club's Colleen Kohler.

- Patch Barracks Library
- Patch Barracks Youth Services
- Patch Elementary School Parent-Teacher Association
- Patch High School Boys' Soccer Team
- PHS Model United Nations
- PHS Music Booster Club
- PHS Nurse's Office
- Robinson Barracks Youth Services
- Stuttgart Piranhas Swim Team
- Stuttgart Wellness Center
- United Services Organization Stuttgart
- Veterans of Foreign Wars, Stuttgart Post 10810

For more information about the German-American Women's Club visit [www.stuttgart.army.mil](http://www.stuttgart.army.mil) and select "Pfennig Bazaar" from the "Community" drop-down menu.

## News & Notes

### Civilians: Get paid to exercise

Department of the Army civilians and local national employees may be authorized up to three hours work time per week for six months to work out, with supervisory approval.

Enrollments/assessments for spring 2004 are March 12, 15, 25 and 29 in the Stuttgart Wellness Center, Patch Barracks building 2307, second floor.

For appointment or enrollment information call 430-4073/civ. 0711-680-4073 or e-mail [saylorm@6asg.army.mil](mailto:saylorm@6asg.army.mil).

### Kelley barber has new hours

The Kelley Barracks Barber Shop has temporarily expanded its operating hours. New hours are Mondays to Fridays, 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. and Saturdays 8 a.m. to noon.

### Patch car wash lowers prices

Patch Car Wash prices have been lowered. Save \$1 on the "Shiner," \$2 on the "Off Road" and \$4 on "The Works."

### ACS holds teen resume class

Stuttgart's Army Community Service is sponsoring a teen resume class March 11 and 12, 4 to 5 p.m. in the Patch Youth Services computer lab. Area experts will help teens get their resumes together for the summer hire program and help them surf the CHRMA Web site.

### ACS needs English teacher

Army Community Service needs a volunteer to teach an English as a Second Language class for two hours, one evening a week. For more information call Heidi Magnuson at 430-7176/civ. 0711-680-7176.

### Spring savings at Käthe Wohlfahrt

The Käthe Wohlfahrt store on Patch Barracks is having a Spring Bazaar sale March 18 to 21. All nutcrackers are 10 percent off.

### Attention deficit group meets

Stuttgart's next ADD/ADHD support group meeting is March 17, noon to 1:30 p.m., in the Army Community Service classroom (Patch Barracks, building 2307).

This month's topic is "Anger Management." For more information or to register call 430-7176/civ. 0711-680-7176.

### Be a super babysitter

Super babysitting training takes place March 15, 17, 22 and 24, 3:30 to 6:30 p.m., in the Patch Child Development Center classroom. Students will learn basic child care, general safety, safe ways to play with children, basic first aid and infant and child CPR. The cost is \$35.

For more information or to register call the American Red Cross at 431-2818/civ. 07031-15-818.

### Support for asthma sufferers

Asthma sufferers can learn coping skills from Stuttgart Health Clinic nurse Cheryl Schmitt at the "Living with Asthma" meeting March 18, noon to 12:45 p.m., in the Army Community Service classroom (Patch Barracks, building 2307). For details call Toma Garst at 430-7176/civ. 0711-680-7176.

### Patch YS holds flea market

Patch Youth Services is holding a flea market March 13, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., in front of Patch building 2337. The cost is \$10 per table.

For details or to reserve a table call 430-5378/civ. 0711-680-5378.

### Patch Thrift Shop sells by the bag

The Patch Thrift Shop bag sale continues through March 22, when it begins to consign spring and summer clothing.

The shop will be closed March 15 to 18 for the Stuttgart Community Spouses' Club Spring Bazaar.

The Stuttgart Community Spouses' Club presents

## Spring Bazaar 2004

Location: Patch Barracks

March 19 and 20 – 10 a.m. to 7 p.m.

March 21 – 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.

All proceeds directly benefit the Stuttgart military community.

## Thorns 'n Roses

From community submissions



### Roses to:

The 6th ASG Directorate of Community Activities, for lowering the prices at the Patch Car Wash. (And a "rose within a rose" to the car wash employees, who never fail to demonstrate their commitment to superior customer service.)

**Sheree Beauchamp**, for her dedicated service to the 6th Area Support Group. Your effort and talent will be missed on Kelley Barracks, and we wish you nothing but the best in your future endeavors!

**Martha Povich** of Stuttgart's Army Community Service, for never failing to help a community member in need. Martha's outstanding customer service skills, positive upbeat attitude and we-can-do-it commitment are great assets to our community. Martha, you are truly an angel and a gift to Stuttgart.

### Thorns to:

Community members who have trouble differentiating area installations from the Autobahn.

If 30 kilometers per hour is just too slow for you, why don't you spare yourself the frustration and the rest of us the risk and just take the bus?

Stunning as it may be to you, the on-post speed limit was designed not to inconvenience you, but to protect the area's pedestrians (you know, those blurry figures you may occasionally notice as you blaze to wherever it is you've got to be right now!)

E-mail comments to [citizen@6asg.army.mil](mailto:citizen@6asg.army.mil) or fax them to 421-2570/civ. 0711-729-2570.

# Security success depends upon concerted community effort

By Hugh C. McBride

I had no way of knowing exactly what awaited me, but I had heard the rumors – and I was prepared to survive whatever came my way:

- I had bottled water and granola bars to stave off dehydration and hunger.

- I had worn sensible shoes and dressed in comfortable layers – all the better to deal with the vagaries of temperature and terrain.

- And I had packed both reading material (to keep my senses sharp) and writing material (should I desire to record my experience for posterity's sake).

And 17 minutes later it was all over. The clerk at the Patch Barracks Pass and I.D. office handed me my newly minted Common Access Card, and with stunning rapidity I was a force-protection-compliant member of the Stuttgart military community.

### A high-tech tool

The CAC card, as it is commonly called, is a relatively new component of the 6th Area Support Group's force protection effort.

A multi-use access control tool, the CAC card's capabilities extend from the physical world to the realm of cyberspace.

When U.S. Army, Europe's, Installation Access Control System goes into

*Your efforts will not only make our community safer, but will also bring you into compliance with USAREUR regulations.*

effect in the Stuttgart area in April, gate guards will be equipped with handheld readers that will grant (or deny) entry based upon information contained in the computer chip embedded in an individual's CAC card.

And in offices throughout the 6th Area Support Group, CAC cards will add a level of security to the area's computer network – for example, enabling employees to send and receive digitally signed and encrypted e-mails.

But none of this can happen until everyone makes the trek to Pass and I.D. on Patch Barracks in building 2307 (Washington Center).

### Ignore the rumors

As evidenced by the preparatory steps I took before going to Patch for my card, I was not immune to the "war stories" I had heard: interminable waits, repeated trips and malfunctioning hardware and software.

I'm sure there are grains of truth in the accounts I had heard – and I'm not

about to guarantee that everyone's trip to Washington Center will be as smooth as mine was. But as one who has "been there, done that," I feel I am qualified to offer the following pearls o' wisdom:

- Verify that you are required to get a CAC card.

- Coordinate with your command to ensure that you have all necessary paperwork before you go.

- Plan on more time than you think you'll need, and bring something to occupy your time should there be a line.

- When it's your turn at the counter, be prepared to deal with some of the friendliest, most customer-centric individuals in the community.

- Know that your efforts will not only make our community safer, but will also bring you into compliance with USAREUR regulations.

And be sure to smile for your photo.

*For more about CAC card compliance in Stuttgart see page 12.*

# THE CITIZEN

Col. Gwendolyn Bonéy-Harris  
6th Area Support Group Commander

Public Affairs Officer

Jennifer Sanders  
pao@6asg.army.mil

Editor

Hugh C. McBride  
citizen@6asg.army.mil

Reporters

Melanie Casey  
caseym@6asg.army.mil

Mildred Green  
greenm@6asg.army.mil

Terri Alejandro  
alejandrot@6asg.army.mil

Stuttgart Essentials

Christie Lawler  
lawlerc@6asg.army.mil

Contact Information

Office Location: Building 3307-W, Kelley Barracks  
U.S. Army Address: Unit 30401, APO AE 09107  
German Address: Gebäude 3307-W, Kelley Barracks,  
Plieningerstrasse, 70567 Stuttgart  
Telephone: 421-2046/civ. 0711-729-2046  
Fax: 421-2570/civ. 0711-729-2570

Advertising Information

For advertising information call 349-8443/civ. 06155-601443. For classifieds call 349-8447/civ. 06155-601447.

This newspaper is an authorized publication for members of the Department of Defense. Contents of The Citizen are not necessarily the official views of, or endorsed by, the U.S. Government or the Department of the Army.

The editorial content of this publication is the responsibility of the 6th Area Support Group public affairs officer.

Private organizations noted in this publication are not part of the Dept. of Defense.

The Citizen is printed by the Stars and Stripes under written agreement. The European Stars and Stripes is responsible for commercial advertising.

The appearance of advertising in this publication, including inserts or supplements, does not constitute endorsement of the products or services advertised by the U.S. Army or the European Stars and Stripes.

Everything advertised in this publication shall be made available for purchase, use or patronage without regard to race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, marital status, physical handicap, political affiliation or any other nonmerit factor of the purchaser, user or patron. If a violation or rejection of this equal opportunity policy by an advertiser is confirmed, the printer shall refuse to print advertising from that source until the violation is corrected.

The Citizen is an offset press publication printed in 6,500 copies every two weeks.

[www.stuttgart.army.mil](http://www.stuttgart.army.mil)

## ON THE STREET

# What is your best force protection tip?

– Compiled by Mildred Green and Janna Warburg



**Pfc. Phillip Littlejohn**  
(Army)

Watch what you say and who may be around when you say it. You never know who may be listening.



**Tammy Dress**  
(Civilian)

Be aware of your surroundings in the housing area and don't leave your doors open.



**Pfc. Francis Brylski**  
(Army)

Watch AFN television, because it often offers very helpful information.



**Brandi Cathey**  
(Civilian)

Don't stand out. You can just tell by the way someone is dressed that they're American.



**Tricia Boatner**  
(Civilian)

The simple act of using the buddy system is perhaps the best force protection.



**Spc. Russell Barnum**  
(Army)

Don't come and go to work dressed in your BDUs.



**Lt. Col. John Zazworsky**  
(Air Force)

Pay attention to warnings about demonstrations.



**Capt. Charles Lockwood**  
(Army)

Do not be the typical boisterous American.



Open House attendees check out one of the prize baskets raffled off by USO Stuttgart.

## Open House shows USO 'more than just tours'

Story & photos by Mildred Green

Not even the blustery weather stopped 6th Area Support Group community members from attending the United Services Organization Stuttgart's Open House Feb. 19 on Patch Barracks.

Attendees had the opportunity to meet the USO guides and staff, sign up for newly-announced trips, sample hors d'oeuvres prepared by award-winning Chef Bambi McGibbon, learn more about services that the USO provides and register for raffle drawings.

The USO gave away six baskets filled with a variety of prizes including calling cards, gift certificates and disposable cameras.

One of the grand prize baskets included a trip to Poland for two; the other included a mobile phone.

Two of the USO's local area sponsors, First Command Financial Planning and Volvo, set up tables to provide information and answer questions.

First Command Financial Planning also held its own raffle drawings and gave away a trip for two to the Black Forest, a free dinner for two to an area restaurant and a fruit basket.

Throughout the event, jazz tunes played from the USO Mobile Canteen in front of the building.

USO staff members also handed out goodie bags to all visitors, and the first 25 children who arrived received a free Color-Me Beanie Baby.

Attendee Juliza Kane said that though she didn't hear her name announced as one of the raffle drawing winners, she and her daughters were having a great time. "Everything and everyone has been exceptionally nice," she said.

### Taking care of troops

The event gave the USO staff an opportunity to inform attendees about other services that it provides for the community, which extend well beyond trips.

"The USO would like to make people aware that we are more than just tours," said Frank Dunn, USO Stuttgart director.

For instance, the USO puts together care packages – with help from sponsor donations – and sends them to units from the Stuttgart area as well as units from other American installations in southern Germany.

"If I find out that a unit needs support, [the USO] will find a way to help them," Dunn said.

Displayed along the decorated hallway was a care package much like those that the USO sends to troops who are deploying or have deployed.



Liza Kane enjoys a sweet treat at USO Stuttgart's Feb. 19 Open House.

The USO sent care packages to the troops of the 554th Military Police Company that deployed to Iraq last year, and they have more packages just waiting for the community's requests.

Anyone can request that a care package be sent to a deployed Soldier, Dunn said. All the USO needs is a name and address; it takes care of the rest, Dunn added.

### Supporting the cause

Since the USO is a non-profit organization, it relies on earnings from tours and donations from sponsors to be able to serve area service members.

Funds are also raised through sponsored events like the annual golf tournament.

Community member Deborah Kaufman said she appreciates the USO tour programs. "It's been a great way to see things when we weren't too comfortable seeing them on our own," she said. "We love the USO."

For more information about USO Stuttgart call 430-5559/civ. 0711-680-5559.

## Upcoming USO tours

March 12

King Ludwig's Castles

March 17

Rothenburg City Tour

March 20

Salzburg "Sound of Music" and Hohensalzburg Fortress

March 26

Poland Shopping Express

March 30

Heidelberg City and Castle Tour

To sign up for a trip, visit the USO in Patch Barracks building 2307 (Washington Square).

For more information call 430-5559/civ. 0711-680-5559.



YS coaches Kevin Shackelford, left, and Todd Waldemar encourage their wrestlers during the Feb. 28 tournament on Patch.

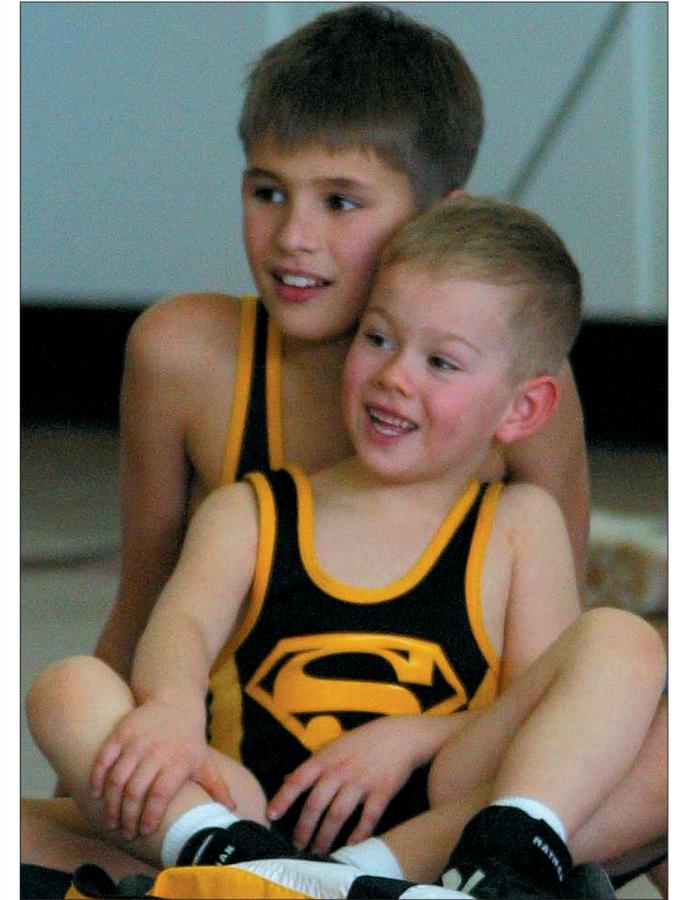
**Youth Services needs volunteer coaches**

- Stuttgart's YS sports programs are always looking for volunteers.
- Head- and assistant-coaching positions are available in a number of YS sports (including the upcoming baseball and softball seasons).
- Experience is a bonus, but not a requirement – training is available.

For more information about serving the youth of Stuttgart, call 431-2616/civ. 07031-15-616



One of the younger wrestlers in the Stuttgart YS program, Kyle Cathey (bottom) looks to his coach for instruction and inspiration while attempting to escape from his Heidelberg opponent during an afternoon match Feb. 28 in the Patch Fitness Center.



Stuttgart YS wrestlers Bryce Robbins and Kyle Cathey enjoy being spectators for a moment between their turns on the mat during the Feb. 28 tournament in the Patch Fitness Center.

# Young wrestlers hit the mats on Patch

## Intensity, sportsmanship on display at YS-sponsored tournament

Story & photos by Hugh C. McBride

Tired of overpaid, overhyped and overpampered athletes who don't seem to be willing to get out of bed unless there's a paycheck or a medal in it for them?

If so, then you should've been on Patch Barracks Feb. 28.

The Patch Fitness Center was the site of a daylong refresher course in the purity of sports on February's final weekend, as the Stuttgart Youth Services wrestling team hosted grapplers from four other U.S. military communities in Germany for a round-robin tournament.

**Safety and sportsmanship**

"The purpose [of YS wrestling] is to teach the fundamentals, to promote safety and – most importantly – to emphasize good sportsmanship," said Kevin Shackelford, an active-duty service member who volunteers his time to coach the Stuttgart team.

The Stuttgart squad practices twice each week and competes on Saturdays throughout the season.

In the weekly tournaments, the wrestlers are grouped according to age, weight and experience level, Shackelford explained, emphasizing the attention coaches pay to ensure that the athletes are competing against appropriately matched opponents.

"We [coaches] all get together before the meets

*The purpose is to teach the fundamentals, to promote safety and – most importantly – to emphasize good sportsmanship*

**Kevin Shackelford**  
Stuttgart YS Wrestling Coach

to make sure the kids are matched up right," he said.

**Performance, not victory**

Though the wrestlers – and their coaches and parents – brought ample intensity to the Feb. 28 tournament, Shackelford noted that the emphasis is on competing and learning, not just winning.

At the Stuttgart event, the wrestlers were grouped into pools of four, with each competitor guaranteed three matches (in round-robin format).

Though the matches were scored and the results recorded, final standings were not posted, nor were awards presented.

The reason for this, the coach explained, is to put the focus on competition and improvement, not the pursuit of a trinket.

With nearly 40 percent of the Stuttgart team composed of first-year wrestlers, the meets function as another means of teaching the sport and

preparing team members for a season-ending European-wide tournament.

**A community effort**

Both the Feb. 28 tournament and the YS sports program in general are evidence of the community's active interest in the area's youth, YS officials noted.

"The referees, the scorekeepers, the coaches – look at all the volunteers out here today," Shackelford said. In addition to parents and other adult participants, members of the Patch High School wrestling team also donated their time, serving as referees.

When the PHS students were asked to participate, Shackelford said, "they jumped at the chance to help out the kids."

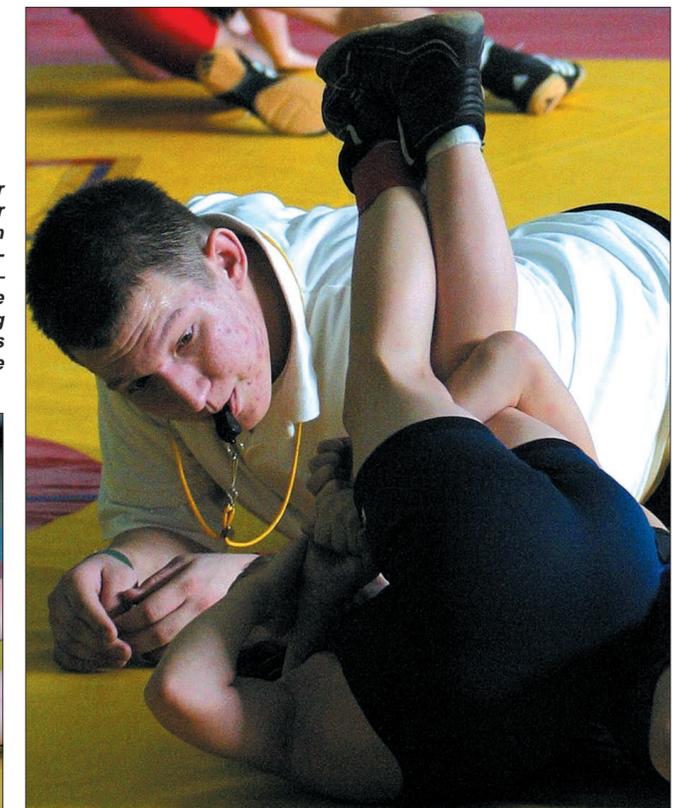
YS Sports Director Bob Gridley said one other volunteer deserved special recognition. "Coach Shackelford has done a great job," Gridley said. "The program has really grown since he's been involved."



[Right] Volunteer referee Walter Moore – a Patch High School student-athlete – keeps a close eye on the young wrestlers under his control during the YS tournament.



Though friends and teammates Kiel Hicks and Kyle Trumble started their match with a handshake (above), they didn't let their friendship put a damper on the intensity of their match (right). Youth Services volunteer wrestling coach Kevin Shackelford said the development of sportsmanship (including a policy of starting and ending every match with a handshake) is one of the main components of the program, which is open to area athletes ages 5 to 14.



# High school hoop squads end seasons at Division II tournament

*Three Panthers, one Lady Panther honored on divisional level for individual excellence*

Story & photos by  
Hugh C. McBride

Patch High School's boys and girls basketball teams both ended their seasons a bit sooner than they would have liked, but four PHS players were selected to represent their school on Department of Defense Dependents Schools, Europe, Division II All-Tournament and All-Conference teams.

The Patch boys squad ended their 2003-04 campaign in the Division II tournament semifinal round Feb. 20 with a heartbreaking two-point overtime loss to eventual champion Hanau.

Finishing with a 13-5 overall record, the Panthers placed three players on the All-Conference and All-Tournament teams: DeAndre Tryon, Neal Griffin and Gene Simpson.

## **PHS basketball honorees**

### **DeAndre Tryon**

*Division II All-Conference Team  
Division II All-Tournament Team*

### **Brianne Gemeinhardt**

*Division II All-Conference Team*

### **Neal Griffin**

*Division II All-Conference Team*

### **Gene Simpson**

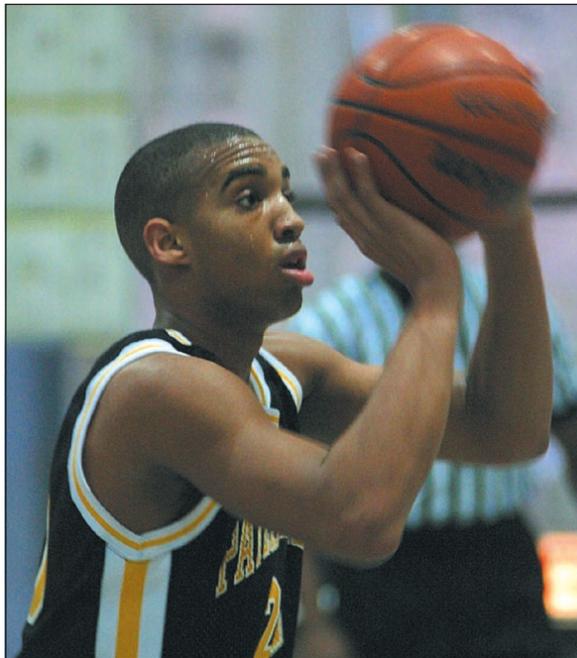
*Division II All-Conference Team  
(Honorable Mention)*

The Patch girls also played their final game Feb. 20, dropping a 42-28 decision to eventual Division II runner-up Vilseck.

Brianne Gemeinhardt was the lone Lady Panther selected for divisionwide honors.

The girls' team finished 4-13.

*Coming March 23: Read about history-making PHS wrestler Josh Anderson.*



**Patch High School basketball standouts DeAndre Tryon (above) and Brianne Gemeinhardt (shooting, right) were among four PHS players honored for individual excellence in the 2003-2004 season. Both photos are from Feb. 7 regular-season games against Vilseck.**





Jayme Loppnow

**Deployed Soldiers from the 320th Engineer Company use yoga as a substitute for physical training. The stretching and conditioning aspects of yoga make it an excellent component of a service member's physical fitness regimen.**

## Area health expert offers tips for training smart, safe

By Capt. Donald Lee Goss  
Stuttgart Army Health Clinic

As the weather improves and Army Physical Fitness Test time draws near, many of us want to get out there and work off those winter pounds or inches.

Here are some exercise tips from the Stuttgart Physical Therapy Sports Medicine team to help you maximize your fitness and stay healthy:

### Two mile run

Run every other day (not every day). Running twice a day leads to overuse injuries, not improved APFT scores. Use alternate forms of training (bike, stair stepper, cross country ski machine, swim) instead of running.

Increase the intensity and duration of exercise gradually. Avoid hill running – especially downhill – if you have not been running outside for a few months.

Warm up before each exercise session, and stretch both before and after.

### Sit-ups

Perform abdominal crunches, side bridges and hip raises year round and train with sit-ups six weeks prior to the APFT.

Avoid doing these exercises on pavement, concrete or gravel.

### Pushups

Do set numbers of pushups instead of working out until muscle failure.

Stretch frequently and rest your wrists between sets.

Alternate between close hand (not diamond), standard and wide-arm pushups.

Try knuckle (fisted) pushups to give your wrists a break.

If needed, tape your wrists or use wrist supports to provide extra support.

Remember, a workout is 25 percent perspiration and 75 percent determination.

Capt. Donald Goss  
Stuttgart Health Clinic

### The Kersey Method

For a specific training program to increase sit-up or pushup performance, try the Modified Kersey Method for muscular fitness training:

- Initially, perform three sets at 50 percent of your pre-training score.
- Once the third set becomes easy for you to complete, add a fourth set.
- Once the fourth set becomes easy to complete, return to performing three sets, but increase each set to 75 percent of your pre-training score.
- Again, once the third set becomes easy to complete, add a fourth set.
- Once the fourth set becomes easy to complete, return to performing three sets, but increase each set to 90 percent of your pre-training score.

Keep in mind the goals you have for your particular exercise plan. Every exercise session should have a goal in mind and the exercises should be designed to meet those goals.

Remember, a workout is 25 percent perspiration and 75 percent determination.

Working out not only strengthens the body, it also relaxes the mind and toughens the spirit.

Walk-in hours at the SAHC Physical Therapy Clinic for new injuries are 7:30 a.m. to 8:30 a.m. Mondays through Fridays.

For more information call 430-6149/civ. 0711-680-6149.

## Army's new exercise regimen designed to improve performance, reduce injuries

By Sgt. Trinace Johnson  
Army News Service

A team from the U.S. Army Physical Fitness School is visiting Army installations to teach a new exercise regimen that includes pull-ups, the shuttle sprint, squat bender, rower and forward lunge.

There are no immediate plans to change the Army's physical fitness test, just how Soldiers prepare for it.

The school's commandant, Lt. Col. William Rieger, visited Fort Bliss in September 2003 to teach physical training instructors the exercises designed to improve muscle strength, endurance and mobility, while focusing on everyday fitness.

### Military appearance

Rieger and Deputy Commandant Frank Palkoska both said that the new PT would be standardized, disciplined and have a more military appearance.

They also said that the program would be designed more for the individual Soldier's needs and ability, not just a "mass one" level of participation.

Key points in the program include the following:

- Improve physical fitness while controlling injuries
- Progressively condition and toughen Soldiers
- Develop Soldiers' self-confidence and discipline

### Injury prevention

"With these exercises we will be able to better control injuries," said Staff Sgt. Emerson Hazzard, 6th Brigade operations noncommissioned officer and a student in the new PT demonstration class. "We'll never be able to get rid of injuries [but] the Army had to come up with a plan to get the max amount out of a Soldier without breaking him."

When he teaches Soldiers in the field, Palkoska said, he wants to make sure they understand why they are being taught the particular way of doing the exercises and why they could endure longer if they use the USAPFS program.

### Improved performance

Part of the program was designed to train the muscles to respond anaerobically (using less oxygen) as well as aerobically (using more oxygen), Rieger said. "You have to stress the body in different ways with a combination of activities to improve."

Staff Sgt. Steven Saenz, an instructor at the fitness school, said that a new Army Field Manual 21-20 (Physical Fitness) is currently in the works, but will not be out for a few years.

This article originally appeared online at [www.army.mil/arnews](http://www.army.mil/arnews).

# DPW offers tips to protect against mold, mildew

6th Area Support Group  
Directorate of Public Works

**C**old weather and the heating season are upon us, and this is the time to air out your home daily to prevent the growth of molds and mildew.

With windows closed tightly and the heat turned on, moisture can quickly accumulate – which can promote the growth of molds and mildew.

Cooking, washing dishes, bathing and washing the clothes all put moisture into the air.

This is especially true of recently renovated apartments in on-post housing, which have a second bathroom and a laundry room.

Renovated quarters also have added insulation on the outside walls and in the attics and doors, which helps trap moist air inside.

## Ounce of prevention

Don't wait until you see mildew on the surface of exterior walls or moisture beading up on windows to start airing out an apartment; quarters should be aired out every day.

Excess moisture promotes the growth of mildew and other molds that can be a health risk and also damages the finish and surface of walls and ceilings.

If mildew growth has started on the surfaces of ceilings and walls, submit a service order right away. Don't wait until the mildew becomes a major problem.

If caught early, mildew can be treated and controlled.

If mildew growth continues and gets into the surfaces of walls and ceilings, the resulting repairs can be both extensive and expensive.

## Ventilation is key

If an apartment has ventilation fans in the bathrooms and laundry rooms, ensure they are operating properly. If they aren't, submit a service order.

*Don't wait until you see mildew: Quarters should be aired out every day.*

If the vent fan is on a separate switch, turn it on when you take a shower or do the laundry. If the vent fan and light are on the same switch, ensure the fan is in working order. If it isn't, submit a service order.

Individuals living in renovated quarters should ensure that their clothes dryer vent hose is clear. A blocked vent hose could be forcing even more damp air inside.

## Additional resources

Additional guidance regarding the control of household mold and mildew is available online at [www.stuttgart.army.mil](http://www.stuttgart.army.mil). (Select "Housing" from the "Services drop-down menu, then click "Documents" and "Resident's Handbook").

The handbook advises residents to air their homes out daily, especially if any moisture appears on the interior walls of the home.

Opening the windows, allowing a draft through the quarters will help decrease interior moisture significantly.

Remember: Damages that occur as a result of allowing mildew and moisture to accumulate are a resident's responsibility.

*To place a DPW service order call 430-HELP (4357)/civ. 0711-680-HELP(4357).*

# PKI compliance key component of FP plan

By Terri Alejandro

**P**ublic Key Infrastructure is a means by which individuals can digitally sign and encrypt unclassified email.

Department of Defense regulation requires all DoD employees and contractors with network access to be PKI compliant. (If you are not sure if this applies to you, contact your information management officer or system administrator).

The following steps are critical to achieving compliance:

- I have an AKO account.**
  - If not, go to [www.us.army.mil](http://www.us.army.mil) and click "New User" to register. Once you are registered, set up your AKO e-mail to forward to your primary e-mail account.
- I know my AKO user name and login password.**
  - Can't remember your login password? Visit [www.us.army.mil](http://www.us.army.mil) and select "Forget your Password?" Your password will be sent to the primary e-mail address you used during AKO registration.
- I have a Common Access Card.**
  - The CAC is the white photo identification card with an embedded data chip. (If you have a dependent ID, you must get a CAC issued for PKI purposes.)
  - To get a CAC, first visit the Civilian Personnel Advisory Center on Kelley Barracks to complete a DD 1172-2 form (call 421-2831/civ. 0711-729-2831 for an appointment).
  - Then, take the completed form to Pass and ID (Patch Barracks, building 2307). Note: You will be asked for an e-mail address when your CAC is programmed. Your AKO e-mail address must be embedded for you to encrypt e-mail messages.
- I know the PIN for my CAC.**
  - If you cannot remember, you must take your card to Pass and ID and select a new PIN.
- A card reader and related software have been installed on my government computer.**
  - If not, 6th Area Support Group employees should submit a work order to the information technology support desk online at [https://www.6asgdol.stuttgart.army.mil/itc/WO\\_Request\\_form.asp](https://www.6asgdol.stuttgart.army.mil/itc/WO_Request_form.asp).
  - If you are not a 6th ASG customer, contact your technical support personnel or the call the Network Operations Support Center Help Desk at 421-2471/civ. 0711-729-2471.
- An information technology employee has tested my government computer to ensure proper set up.**
  - This is being done on a departmental basis. Please ensure all steps listed above are completed so you are prepared for the check.
  - The process should take no more than 15 minutes if you are ready; however, you must be present to log in and enter your CAC PIN.
- I registered my digital signature via the iASSURE PKI registration page.**
  - Insert your card, chip end first, until the reader's green indicator light is blinking.
  - Then log onto the Web and access the following site: <https://iassure.usareur.army.mil/pki/register/Default.aspx>.
  - Registration takes only a minute or two.

## Important note

This checklist is **not** an official document, but is rather a reminder of the necessity of becoming compliant with DoD PKI regulations compliant and a tool to help computer users.

To ensure that you have met all necessary requirements, it is essential that you contact your information management officer or system administrator. Remember: The responsibility for compliance rests with **you**.

# Marshall Center hosts NATO, EU enlargement conference in Estonia

By Laura DeFrancisco

George C. Marshall Center Public Affairs Office

More than 70 senior-level officials from ministries of defense and foreign affairs attended a Marshall Center-sponsored conference in Tallinn, Estonia, Feb. 11 to 13 to discuss the enlargement of NATO and the European Union within the Baltic region.

Marshall Center Director Dr. John P. Rose welcomed the conference participants by observing that the dual enlargement of NATO and the EU would "change the face and scope of Europe."

Estonian President Arnold Rüütel, who opened and closed the conference, said the gathering was marked by "three days filled with earnest discussion."

Rüütel initiated the idea for the conference while attending the annual Partnership for Peace meeting in Berlin in June 2003. Eight months later, the Marshall Center responded with a conference to address the impact of NATO and EU enlargement in the Baltic states.

The Marshall Center organized the conference in cooperation with the Estonian Foreign Policy Institute; Office of the President of Estonia; St. Petersburg State University and the Lithuanian Defense Academy.

## Historic expansion of alliances

Seven countries were invited to join NATO during the alliance's November 2002 summit in Prague. Ambassadors from the invited nations – Bulgaria, Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, Romania, Slovakia and Slovenia – signed accession protocols four months later.

The European Union will grow larger by three nations May 1 when Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania become members.

The focus of the Feb. 11 to 13 conference was the impact of these enlargements on the security relationships between the Baltic region and its neighbors – primarily Russia and the former Russian republics.

Other countries in attendance included Poland, Finland, Norway, Denmark and Sweden.

## Commitment and cooperation

Addressing security policy implications, U.S. Ambassador to Estonia Joseph Michael DeThomas compared today's Europe to the Europe following World War II.

DeThomas said he believes that George C. Marshall – whose namesake plan was responsible for the rebuilding of the continent after the war – would not be surprised at the development of Europe, as his vision was that democracy would take hold and flourish here.

DeThomas added that "the health of the United States and the EU partnership is vital" to this effort, and that the "Baltic States will have a voice" in this enlargement.

Deputy Chief of Mission Gerald Wolf of the German Embassy in Tallinn reiterated this international commitment, telling attendees that the Baltic states are "part of Germany's overall security agenda."

Wolf also emphasized that "regional cooperation is key to regional stability."

At the end of three intense days of panel discussions, working groups and question-and-answer sessions, the Marshall Center's director said he was "very happy with the outcome of this conference."

Rose added that he was "impressed with the scope and depth of the presentations ... I wanted to challenge the competitive spirit of the participants. I think we were very successful in doing that."



courtesy Marshall Center

**Estonian President Arnold Rüütel addresses attendees of a Marshall Center-sponsored conference on the enlargement of NATO and the European Union Feb. 11 to 13 in Estonia.**

## Estonian alumni form association, reunite friends

Members of the Marshall Center graduate support office held an Estonian alumni event in February, bringing together 30 of Estonia's 69 in-country alumni (80 Estonians have graduated from Marshall Center programs).

On Feb. 12, Marshall Center graduate Peeter Lorents announced the official formation of an Estonian alumni association, joining 14 other countries who regularly participate in Marshall Center programs.

With this association, Estonian alumni will be able to share ideas with fellow graduates and help put these ideas to work in their country.

### A friendship rekindled

A friendship that was torn apart by war more than 10 years ago was rekindled courtesy of the Marshall Center's alumni network.

While attending the Estonian alumni event, Lt. Col. Zoran Stojanovic from Serbia-Montenegro and Maj. Alija Kozljak from Bosnia-Herzegovina told a story of how their friendship – between military members from countries in conflict – had endured for more than a decade.

The friendship began when both attended the then-Yugoslavian military academy in the late 1980s. A few years later when war broke out and their country was divided, the men were forced to go their separate ways.

Though both attended the Marshall Center's Leaders Program, they were in Garmisch at different times – Stojanovic in 2002 and Kozljak in 2001.

They were reunited in September when they registered in Tartu for the Baltic Defense College.

Both men cited their Marshall Center experience as helping to open their minds toward new ways of thinking. – Laura DeFrancisco

## NEWS & NOTES

### Women's conference planned

A one-day Women's Conference is planned for March 18 at the Pete Burke Center. The conference will include a series of mini-workshops on topics such as helping children deal with stress, couples communication, diet and nutrition. Registration is required.

For details call Patricia Howe at 442-2777/civ. 08821-759-777.

### GCSC offers scholarships

Scholarship funds are available for Garmisch-area high school seniors who plan to attend college in the fall.

Contact Kelly Knoll for a Garmisch Community and Spouses Club Scholarship information packet at 442-641/civ. 08821-759-641, or e-mail knollk@marshallcenter.org.

### Garmisch Players perform

The Crafts and Entertainment Branch presents the comedy "Three Bags Full" March 12, 13, 19 and 20, 8 p.m. each night, in the Garmisch Community Theater, building 262 on Artillery Kaserne.

The box office opens at 7:30 p.m. Tickets are \$8. This play will be Garmisch's entry in the annual Tournament of Plays competition.

To make a reservation call Michele Schneider at 442-2475/civ. 08821-759-475 or e-mail michele.schneider@garmisch.army.mil.

### Burke Center tours and trips

- **Venice and Verona**, March 12 to 14. Two overnights and transportation to Vicenza. The cost is \$159.

- **Amsterdam**, April 14 to 18. Includes three overnights and train transportation. The cost is \$315.

- **Water Works**, Munich, March 20. Visit the largest water-themed park in the area. The cost is \$40 to \$46.

For more information call 440-2641/civ. 08821-750-461.

### Family child care providers needed

The Child Development services staff is looking for Family Child Care providers. Training in child growth and development, discipline, CPR and more is provided. For details call Ellen Harris at 440-2684/civ. 08821-750-684.

### Lenten luncheons have begun

Come enjoy a light lunch of homemade soup and bread and hear Chaplain Benzing share stories about the life of Jesus and the truths of Easter. The informal Lenten lunches are held Tuesdays, 12:15 to 1 p.m., in the Chapel Fellowship Hall and are open to all.

For more information call the chapel at 08821-750-819 or e-mail ronald.benzing@garmisch.army.mil.

### Baseball registration continues

Baseball season is just around the corner, and registration continues through April 16. Coaches can register their first child for free and the second for half price.

For more information call Drew Benson at 440-2654/civ. 08821-750-654 or e-mail drew.benson@garmisch.army.mil.

For more information visit the following:

- Marshall Center – [www.marshallcenter.org](http://www.marshallcenter.org)
- NATO – [www.nato.int](http://www.nato.int)
- European Union – <http://europa.eu.int/>

# History of Panzer Kaserne

## Once an 'endless forest,' base has served as home to German, U.S. military units

By Melanie Casey

(Editor's note: This is the second in a yearlong series on the history of life in what is now the 6th Area Support Group).

It was once described as an "endless forest area with tall trees and impenetrable thickets and the joy of wanderers."

But all that changed — to some degree — on May 13, 1936 when Böblingen was selected as the site of a garrison that would house an armored regiment.

Half of the city's forest (620 hectares) was sacrificed for what would become *Panzer Kaserne* ("tank base").

The city received a paltry 9 Reichspfennig (about 5 cents) per square meter (including the wood) as compensation, but the construction site and Kaserne itself were released free of charge, according to information from the Böblingen city archives compiled and translated by Carola Welch.

### 'Bush construction'

Constructing the base was a monumental task. When work began, "there was absolutely nothing: No access road, no water lines and no electricity," according to Welch. For this reason, the site was nicknamed "bush construction."

The first step was to build an access road. The 1.5 kilometer long road (the present Panzerstrasse) was begun in August 1936 and completed in September.

The forest was cleared shortly thereafter, and in January 1937, construction on "Section B" (Panzer Kaserne) began.

A labor shortage due to construction of an airfield at the same time meant that many workers on the kaserne were bussed in, some coming from as far as 100 kilometers away, according to Welch.



courtesy U.S. European Command

A parade of panzers prepares for inspection at the grand opening of Panzer Kaserne in 1938.

With a planned move-in date of April 1, 1938, construction workers in late 1937 "had no free time and had to work on weekends; day and night was the rule," according to Welch. Workers were not even allowed to take leave for the Christmas holiday.

### A grand opening

The city of Böblingen welcomed Panzer Regiment 8 (of the 10th Panzer Division) with open arms, and citizens decorated their homes with flowers and flags and waited in "happy expectation" on the streets for the tanks to roll in, according to Welch.

The tanks rolled in via Panzerstrasse and Stuttgarterstrasse. They headed down Liststrasse (then Hermann-Goering-Strasse), Sindelfingerstrasse, Tallstrasse and past the train station on Bahnhofstrasse (then known as Adolf-Hitler-Strasse).

Representatives from the National Socialists Worker's (Nazi) Party were also on hand.

The county leader for the NSDAP expressed in his speech how pleased he was that Böblingen was again a garrison town (it served as such during World War I; Fieldmarshal Goering served there as a lieutenant), according to Welch.

After all, "[The Germans] lived in the Third Reich and a public event would have been unthinkable without them," Welch said.

The Postplatz was the hub of the day's celebrations. In front of the Dinkelacker restaurant, dignitaries watched the procession.

When the convoy of tanks finally arrived at the new kaserne, Panzer Regiment 8 Commander Col. Hans Haarde was presented an ornamental key to the kaserne gate (which had yet to be installed).

The kaserne was then open for the day and residents swarmed in (nearly 12,000 of them) to eat and watch performances by the 18th Cavalry Regiment from Bad Cannstatt

and motorcycle stunt drivers.

For half a Reichsmark, visitors could sample meals from the field kitchen.

### World War II

Many buildings on Panzer were destroyed or damaged during the course of World War II.

French troops began reconstruction in 1945, and U.S. troops continued rebuilding during the U.S. occupation.

### A home base

Since the end of the war, several U.S. units have occupied the base, including the 54th Engineer Battalion (1948-51) 160th Signal Group (1955-74) and 175th Military Police battalion.

In 1978, 1st Battalion, 16th Infantry Regiment and 4th Battalion, 73rd Armored Regiment (both of 1st Infantry Division, Forward) were stationed on Panzer. Elements from these units saw action against the German troops from Panzer Regiment 8, the original tenants of Panzer Kaserne.

In 1983, 2nd Battalion, 37th Armor was assigned to the 1st Infantry Division (Forward) and moved to Panzer from Erlangen (Germany). They left for Vilseck in 1987.

### Panzer today

Current units on Panzer include 1st Battalion, 10th Special Forces Group (Airborne), which moved from Flint Kaserne in Bad Tölz in September 1991; Headquarters, Marine Forces, Europe, which moved to Panzer from London (where it was known as Headquarters, Fleet Marine Force) in November 1993, and the 554th Military Police Company.

Sources: Funk, Erwin. *Böblingen, Aviation and Garrison Town*. Carola Welch, Trans., 1995.

[www.achtungpanzer.com](http://www.achtungpanzer.com)  
[www.globalsecurity.org](http://www.globalsecurity.org)

“If you would understand anything, observe its beginning and its development.”

Aristotle

4th Century B.C. Greek philosopher

## The historical names of Panzer

### Kummel Weg

Named for Lt. Col. Johannes Kummel for his courage during the Capuzzo (Libya) campaign. He was nicknamed "The Lion of Capuzzo."

### Cramer Weg

Named for Lt. Col. Hans Cramer, Panzer 8 Regiment commander and last commanding general of the German Afrika Corps.

### Long Square

Named for Sgt. Donald Long of the 4th Cavalry, who was awarded the Medal of Honor for his actions during Vietnam.

### Pinder Street

Named for Tech. 5 John Pinder, of the 1st Battalion, 16th Infantry Division, who was awarded the Medal of Honor (posthumously) for action at Omaha Beach.

source: Funk, Erwin. *Böblingen, Aviation and Garrison Town*. Carola Welch, Trans., 1995.



photos by Hugh C. McBride

**[Above] Maj. Wendy Rivers of the 52nd Signal Battalion serves as master of ceremonies for Stuttgart's Feb. 21 African-American Heritage celebration.**



**[Left] Edward Azeta takes a bow at the end of the fashion show.**

**[Far left] Princess Dreher-Adenuga models a flared lace skirt and blouse, which are accessorized by a starched organza scarf and drape.**

# Heritage event mixes modern flair with traditional celebration

Heritage from page 1

## Food and fashion

After the "academic" portion of the event, attendees were treated to a buffet of traditional cuisine and a look at fashions from as far away as Nigeria and as close as the post exchange.

The lunch offerings included such Nigerian culinary enticements as egussi soup (made with melon seeds and palm oil) with fufu, fried plantains with beans, and yam pottage with fish.

As the attendees enjoyed their meal, Caroline Aigbe of the 6th ASG Inspector General's office took to the podium to narrate a show of Nigerian fashions.

Following her, Rivers introduced a showing of modern African-American clothing from such popular lines as FUBU and Sean John.

Underscoring the cross-cultural connections embodied by the event, the opening dance, buffet and Nigerian fashion show were made possible by 43 members of Bad Canstatt's World Faith Mission, International.

"They did it with love in their hearts," Aigbe said.

*Stuttgart's next cultural event is the Women's History Luncheon March 26 in the Patch Community Club.*

*For more information call 6th ASG Equal Employment Opportunity Officer Vicki Crow @ 421-2649/civ. 0711-729-2649 or e-mail crowv@6asg.army.mil.*

*For information about Nigerian fashion and culture call Aigbe at 0711-75-60-349 or e-mail carolineaigbe@yahoo.de.*