



Astro News

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"Forging the shape of military space for the 21st century"

Los Angeles Air Force Base, Calif., June 15, 2001

On Your Marks, Get Set...

Local Fun Run draws hundreds of runners for kids



Photo by Lou Hernandez

Nearly 520 people can out to take part in the Annual Southbay Fun Run June 2 that began at Fort MacArthur. This year the Company Grade Officers Association partnered with Camp Del Corazon to put on the early Saturday morning event which drew runners and walkers from throughout the Southbay area. Participants of all ages had the opportunity to run or walk a 5k or 10k event. Registration began weeks in advance and event coordinators anticipated a large gathering of people. Camp Del Corazon is a childrens charity that raises money to send kids with different forms of hear disease to summer camp on Catalina Island. The cost to send one child to camp is approximately \$1000. \$9000 was the total amount donated from this event.

SBIRS ground segment in final test phase

Lt. Col. Kelly Hazel
Deputy Program Manager, SBIRS
High Ground Architecture

SBIRS ground segment enters final phase of testing
Lt. Col. Kelly Hazel
Deputy Program Manager,
SBIRS High Ground Architec-
ture

Another significant milestone for the Space-Based Infrared System was reached June 4 as Brig. Gen. Craig Cooning, Air Force Program Executive Officer for Space, issued a letter requesting the start of the next phase of testing for the SBIRS consolidated ground segment.

This consolidated ground segment entry into operations will mark the first major milestone of the SBIRS program and begin a new era in space-based infrared capability.

"This is a great reflection on the hard work and dedication the 2nd Space Warning Squadron, the Air Force Space Command requirements office,

Lockheed Martin, The Aerospace Corporation and program office all put forward," Lt. Col. Tom Clay, the SBIRS ground segment's program manager, said.

Lt. Gen. Roger DeKok, vice commander Air Force Space Command, expressed confidence in a successful test and wished both parties "good luck" after receiving detailed briefings on the the readiness of the system in this run for the goal line.

The Air Force Operational Test and Evaluation Center started the 90-day initial operational test and evaluation effort June 5.

"The first major IOT&E effort (a Worldwide Theater Test) went so smoothly, the Air Force Operational Test and Evaluation Center's Test Director completed the test two days early. The accolades are still rolling in from forward

See SBIRS, Page 3

Air Force chief of staff outlines top priorities

By Martine Ramos
Air Warfare Center Public Affairs

Families, a balanced civilian workforce and military construction funding are high-priority issues that senior Air Force leaders continue to address, said Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. Michael Ryan. "We are a family Air Force," Ryan said during a visit here. "This is a recurring theme I encounter from airmen stationed around the world. Most of our folks when they finish their first tour have families."

Ryan said that the Air Force is an expeditionary force, in the business of deploying. But when members deploy, they want to know that their families are stable, safe and secure. "We, as a family Air Force, must make sure they are taken care of, particularly those who live on the installations," Ryan said. "Approximately half of the military family housing needs rebuilding; we are working very hard to take care of that. There is a plan in place to make this happen by the end of the next decade."

"We are expanding facilities on base, such as child care, Ryan said. "When we focus on the families, we can be sure that airmen are focusing on the mission."

In the last few years Air Force people have received many much-needed pay and quality-of-life improvements, such as across-the-board pay increases, and just recently, the Family Subsistence Supplement Allowance. Ryan expects this trend to continue.

"The service chiefs came altogether and worked very hard

with the administration and Congress to try and turn around the trend of paying our folks less as we ask them to do more," he said. "We think it is imperative that we compensate our folks sufficient to the task that we ask them to do." Ryan acknowledged the great demand for Air Force people in the civilian workforce.

"They are excellent workers, they are disciplined, they are drug-free," Ryan said. "They are family people who know how to lead and how to follow and industry wants them. What

we have to do is make sure we provide the quality of service and the quality of life to keep them here."

Most Air Force members love what they do, Ryan said. They love the camaraderie and appreciate the challenge of the mission. "But their ultimate concern is for their families. Families always have 51 percent of the vote," he said.

"That's why we have to continue to work on driving the equitability of pay with the

See PRIORITIES, Page 3

Partnership allows command to improve mission

By Gen. Lester Lyles
AFMC Commander
and Scott Blanch
President AFGE Council 214

Partnerships have been a mainstay of American society since the birth of our nation. Our founding fathers formed one of the greatest partnerships of all time when they came together to forge the Declaration of Independence and later, the Constitution.

Partnerships are also vital to our military history. The Allies of World War II and the more recent Persian Gulf War pooled resources to further a common goal. And today, our national defense strategy is based on a military doctrine that calls for all the Armed Services to work together as partners for the strongest defense possible.

Air Force Materiel Command and the American Federation of Government Employees Council 214, AFL-CIO, which is the union representing the vast majority of the command's civilian employees, share that

objective, too. We have formed a partnership that is enabling the people of our command to better carry out our mission.

The partnership is based on a simple, but important vision - labor and management working together, creating and sustaining an environment to take care of our people so they can take care of the mission.

There was a time when our union and management debated how best to serve the command workforce. But today, our relationship is built on such principles as respect for all workers, common interests and shared problems, an open sharing of information, trust in each other as equals and a commitment to sustaining a partnership process. We adhere to these principles with respect and appreciation for each other's roles and responsibilities. Our partnership process kicked off some 18 months ago with the formation of a command-level Partnership Council and local councils at most

AFMC bases. These councils are made up of representatives from the command and AFGE.

They are working together on a number of initiatives with an ultimate goal of operationalizing the partnership concept across the command, from the headquarters to the smallest AFMC unit. We want to instill management-union partnerships as part of our day-to-day routine - a routine with a people-first philosophy.

Key elements to operationalizing this partnership include establishing partnership agreements at all AFMC centers and operating locations, redefining the roles of AFMC and the union by giving the union a greater role as an advisor to commanders, requiring partnership training for all AFMC people, developing measurements to track the partnership efforts, implementing a communication plan that will help all members of the workforce to be better informed and last, but perhaps most important,

undertaking meaningful initiatives.

Some of the initiatives already being worked by our Partnership Council include:

Developing a plan to establish Alternative Dispute Resolution processes at each base. ADR allows our people a way to resolve workplace disputes without filing a formal grievance or unfair labor complaint. It allows our people to meet, discuss and reach agreements. It has been a big success at the bases where it's already in place.

Working to come to an agreement on 105 Air Force Instructions previously were converted from Air Force regulations. The command and AFGE have reached agreement on 63 of the AFIs and are making progress on the majority of the remaining instructions.

Moving closer to reaching an agreement on whether the command should implement the new "pass-fail" civilian appraisal program.

Working with the AFMC

Surgeon General's office to develop a command-wide policy for workers compensation and return-to-work issues.

As the Air Force command with the largest number of civilian employees, we are committed to maintaining a climate in which management and union work together. Whether it be on a shop floor at one of our depots or around the table in a conference room, we must work together as partners.

Our Partnership Councils, both at the HQ AFMC/AFGE Council 214 level and at our centers, are making great strides as we establish partnerships as the standard for how we operate. We call on everyone in AFMC, military and civilian, to work as a team and embrace the efforts of their local Partnership Councils.

It will make a difference in your quality of life on the job and become an important part of AFMC's own history of success in meeting our nation's national security objectives.

OTS selections

The Air Force is giving 153 enlisted members the chance to trade in their stripes for gold bars after being chosen to attend Officer Training School.

Officials at Air Force Recruiting Service headquarters here conducted OTS Selection Board 0106, which met in May. The board considered 479 applications, selecting 311 for a 65-percent selection rate. The list of those selected can be found on the OTS selection Web site <http://www.af.mil/news/Jun2001>.

For more information concerning OTS and the application process, active-duty members should contact their local education services office while civilians should talk to a recruiter.

Action Line 363-2255

The Action Line is your direct link to Col. Phil Parker, 61st Air Base Group commander. Its purpose is to make Los Angeles AFB a better place to live and work. If you have an issue that needs to be resolved, discuss it first with your supervisor or First Sergeant. Call the Action Line at 363-2255 if you can't find a solution through

your chain of command. Your call will be recorded and, if you leave your name and number, you will get an answer to your question.



- Base Exchange - David Clore 640-0129
- Base IG - Lt. Col. John Woodcock 363-0802
- Chaplain - Lt. Col. Gary Garvey 363-1956
- Civil Engineering - Capt. Bo Bloomer 363-5126
- Commissary - Al Cherry 363-6140
- Comm. Sqd. - Lt. Col. Lori South 363-0798
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Astro News

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Call 363-0303 for more
information.

Clinic news

The Fort MacArthur clinic will change its hours of operation starting July 1. The clinic will be open Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. until 6 p.m. and Saturdays from 8 a.m. until noon.

In addition, Maj. (Dr.) Richard Allen will transfer from the El Segundo clinic to the Fort MacArthur clinic. He will see patients along with current Ft. MacArthur Capt. (Dr.) Samuel Cloud. Allen received his degree in biochemistry from the Air Force Academy and subsequently graduated medical school at the University of Texas Health Science Center in San Antonio.

Both doctors have vast knowledge about the health care needs of the Los Angeles AFB family.

Scouts Wanted

Fort MacArthur Cub Scout Pack 665 is looking for boys in 1st through 5th grade interested in joining our pack.

The next round-up is scheduled for June 21 at 7 p.m. in Building 37 downstairs from the billeting office. Come out and see what Scouts have to offer and join them in upcoming summer activities. For more information, call Greg Schiller at 831-9265.

Energy exercise

Los Angeles AFB participated in the California Energy Emergency Exercise conducted by the California Energy Commission May 24. The commission measured load reduction levels possible within federal agencies in the state.

"Building managers did a great job in getting the word out and making things happen," base energy manager Ed Wilson said. The inspection teams noted that building lighting was substantially reduced.

"Los Angeles AFB is doing a good job in conserving energy," Wilson said.

SBIRS from Page 1

users and theater CINCs about the proficiency of the crews and the quality of the information," Clay said.

"This is great news for the program office," Clay added. "Assuming the testing continues on this path, Increment 1 (the

New secretary outlines top three goals

By Staff Sgt. Amy Parr
Air Force Print News

WASHINGTON (AFPN) —

He began his military career with the Navy and after 23 years retired as a captain. Now, as he starts his journey with the Air Force, Dr. James G. Roche said his military time brings advantages and disadvantages to his job as Air Force secretary. "The culture I come from is a naval culture, with its traditions," he said. "It's not the culture of the Army or the Army Air Corps that led to the Air Force.

"On the other hand, I bring knowledge of another service," he said. "I've worked in business around the Air Force for the last 17 years. What I do bring to the job is the understanding of a military warrior culture and the business world."

The former aerospace executive and Harvard Business School graduate said he brings to the job "the understanding of dependence all of us have on our technicians, our enlisted base. I bring an understanding of national policy, ... of what it means to be an officer and a gentleman, and what it means to be a dedicated

Priorities from Page 1

civilian counterparts. People should not be penalized for serving their country."

Ryan is not only concerned with the men and women in uniform who make up the Air Force.

Civil servants have been a vital part of the Air Force since its beginning.

With more than 40 percent of the civilian work force eligible to retire in the next few years, the Air Force could face a shortage of experience and skills.

Ryan does not believe this will have a great effect on the force.

consolidated ground segment) should declare initial operational capability ahead of the November 19, 2001 projected date."

The SBIRS Program will provide the nation with critical missile defense and warning capability well into the 21st



airman and a sailor."

As he takes office, Roche said he has three goals in the areas of strategy, careers and equipment, respectively.

"My first goal is clearly to work with the Air Force leadership to develop a strategy that is consistent with that of Secretary (of Defense Donald) Rumsfeld and President Bush for this era," he said.

"We're in a new century, a new millennium, and it's appropriate to step back and take a look at what we're doing, where we're going and what our role is combined with the other forces."

"We can never win a war

"Even though a great number will be eligible, not all will choose to leave when they reach that point. Many will

'We are a family Air Force and need to take care of our own'

— Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. Michael Ryan.

stay on with us," Ryan said.

"We have asked Congress for help in trying to shape the force.

That is, to bring in more younger people to balance our experience levels, and to be able to give incentives to our

century. SBIRS is one of the Air Force's highest priority space systems. It is designed to incrementally upgrade and eventually replace the Defense Support Program. SBIRS is an integrated "system of systems" with multiple space constellations and an evolving ground

solely as an air force. We can work with the other services — Army, Navy and Marines — to jointly win a war," he said. "We have a key role to play, and understanding what that role is and making sure our colleagues in other services can depend upon us is terribly important."

His second goal focuses on careers. "There are airmen, both officer and enlisted, who are leaving (the Air Force) about the middle point of their careers," he said. "So, that means there's something about our career development program we can work on to make better. We want service in the Air Force to be fulfilling for people throughout their whole career, not just for part of it."

The challenge is to make sure the Air Force has the talent it will need in the future, he said.

"We have to make sure a career as an airman is a wonderful career, something that someone wants to do, not a series of jobs they have to do," he said.

"Secondly, we've got to recognize the value of our longer-term airmen, our senior enlisted and our middle-grade officers and realize they have a wealth

folks who want to retire."

"We have a wonderfully dedicated civilian workforce," Ryan said. "They are part of

our team; they are Air Force.

But we have to ensure that we are balanced so that it is a stable career for our civilians.

That's why we are currently working on incentives for those who want to retire early, opening the way for a younger

element.

The first step toward a more robust infrared capability in space is the consolidation of command and control and data processing elements on the ground. As the consolidated ground segment is fielded, the older DSP ground stations will

of corporate memory that we're going to have to retain and tap." He also said the Air Force must ensure its high-caliber people get the kind of equipment — and support for the equipment — that they deserve. To better equip the Air Force, Roche said his third goal is to look at ways to be more efficient with staffs and overhead functions. He said he would

also like to see more money moved to combat arms, making more funds available to repair materials and provide more spare parts. However, "that's just not a matter of asking Congress for more money, it's also a matter of looking to see how we can improve our processes and be more efficient," he said.

Roche looks forward to meeting and working with the men and women of the Air Force and to the challenge ahead, he said.

"This is something I never thought I would do or be asked to do," he said. "This is going to be the high point of my career — and I've had a very rich, fascinating career to date. But boy, this is something I wanted to do, and it's going to be great!"

workforce.

"Relief is in sight for military construction, he said. "For the past four years we have underfunded MILCON and modernization to take care of families and readiness," Ryan said.

"Budget caps have prevented us from increasing MILCON projects in any significant way, and we've had to defer modernization of our infrastructure so we could take care of families and quality of life.

We hope very soon to be able to turn that around.

We believe that will be a priority of this administration and Congress.

be phased out and their capabilities assumed by the SBIRS software and facilities. Increment 1 is designed to streamline current software capabilities with an open architecture that will accommodate both SBIRS High and Low components as they are fielded.

Air Force selects local airmen for promotion



Photo by Joe Juarez

Space and Missile Systems Center commander Lt. Gen. Brian Arnold, left, stands with several newly promoted airmen at a ceremony June 1. SMC Command Chief Master Sgt. Don Cleveland is at far right.

The following Los Angeles AFB personnel have been selected for promotion to Technical Sergeant: Edward G. Barrington, Deborah L. Barron, Paul L. Becker, Kimberly Bradshaw, Scott A. Bandy, Anthony J. Calderon, Carlos Chavez, Erik Christensen II, Christopher A. Denz, Stacy L. Feth, Andrea M. Fisher, George D. Fritts, Eric E. Gundy, Cedric Hawkins, Michael L. Jensen, George S. Maurer, Daniel R.

Parker, Sean B. Pettit, Ronnell B. Ramos, James A. Revord, Glenn D. Rorrer Jr., Norman O. Sibley, Carlos E. Siggers, Ferdinand B. Toledo, James Toth, Bruce M. Webb, Linda L. Welch, Timothy R. White, Stephen M. Withey, Daniel E. Zerbest

The following personnel have been selected for promotion to Master Sergeant: Regino A. Aceret, Christopher Beckwith, Victor J. Black, Lisa

Y. Brookfield, Abel P. Castillo, Michael S. Coalson, Charlie I. Cruz, Anne M. Dewitt, Dennis Eltringham, James A. Ford III, Johnny D. Ford, James R. Freeman Stephanie E. Gill, Sharon E. Hart, Edward A. Hayes, Michael L. Head Jr, Dean E. Hickman, Oren K. Lizana, Peter J. Rivera, Diosdado Sanpedro, Tawnya F. Schemmel, Craig Walker, Jon K. Williams, Kathie L. Wood

Security Forces gets new top cop



Photo by Joe Juarez

In a change of command ceremony, Col. Phil Parker presents new 61st Security Forces squadron commander Maj. Donald Wahonick the unit guidon. Wahonick takes over for Maj. Lyle Cary who has transferred to Peterson AFB, Colo.

Leading LA SSgt Oliver Greve

Staff. Sgt. Oliver Greve has been in the United States Air Force for 13 years. He is currently assigned as the Executive Assistant to the Command Chief Master Sgt.

Prior to assuming his present duties, He was the NCOIC, personnel and programs in Systems Acquisition. Greve has been stationed at Los Angeles AFB since 1999.

As Executive Assistant, Greve's primary duties are managing Quality of Life funds prepare official correspondence, coordinate visits and maintain the CCM's schedule.

His current position allows him to become involved in activities like the Base Enlisted Association and the Air Force Sergeant's Association.



Before coming to Los Angeles AFB in 1999, Greve was stationed at what is now March Air Reserve Base, Calif.

He lives in Moreno Valley where he enjoys spending

quality time with his family.

He enjoys camping, hiking and other family activities.

His hobbies include surfing and jetski riding.

Los Angeles AFB positive on conserving energy

By Dan Dickerson
Environmental Technician

Los Angeles AFB participated in the California Energy Emergency Exercise May 24th.

The exercise was conducted by the California Energy Commission. The Commission measured the load reduction levels possible within the federal sector throughout the state.

"Though quantitative results are not yet available our base walk-through estimated that 60 percent of the base population aggressively participated in this comprehensive exercise," Ed Wilson, Energy Program Manager said.

The inspection teams noted

that building lighting was substantially reduced, unattended office equipment was shut down, and a very positive attitude.

"The building managers did a great job in getting the word out and making things happen" says Wilson, "In some areas it was too dark, though we appreciate the effort we must also consider safety".

Los Angeles AFB has been energy conservation stewards long before a crisis existed and has reduced as much 40 percent consumption as compared to our 1985 baseline year.

Compared to last year the base has reduced consumption 7.5 percent on average each month.

SMC TODAY

Got a good story? The staff of the video program, 'SMC Today', would love to hear about it. To submit story ideas for 'SMC Today', call John Brazelton at 363-6897

Summer fun in the water; Practice good water safety habits

Tech. Sgt. Mark Garner
NCOIC, Ground Safety

When we think about drowning, we often imagine a rough ocean, large lake, or fast-moving river with a hopelessly fatigued person stranded in the middle. Swimming pools and water sports such as water skiing, water polo, surfing, bodysurfing, windsurfing, sailing, diving, or even fishing have their dangers.

The point is that drowning can occur almost anyplace at any time even in a shallow puddle. Of course, the more water involved and the more water movement, the greater the risk.

Anything that can collect a few inches of water poses a potential hazard because small children don't have the strength or good sense to throw their weight backward to free themselves or push or pull themselves out. At other times they may slip, fall or hit their head and drown.

Once children reach school age—although many of them know how to swim or float—

they still drown in pools and lakes. Often adults feel that children are old enough to take care of themselves in water or that they have the common sense to stay out of dangerous situations.

Teens are natural risk takers—and so are many adults. They tend to drown in oceans, lakes, and rivers. Teenagers have the highest death rate for drowning—even though they're only the second largest age group involved in swimming accidents.

They're often involved in a variety of water sports. Drowning can happen as the result of injury—usually head or neck injury—which paralyzes a person or knocks him or her unconscious.

In swimming pools, many teens drown after diving into an area too shallow. And, of course, many teens and adults drown because they've been drinking alcohol.

To protect your child and yourself during the summer months, here are some swimming pool safety rules:

- * Ensure children are watched

at all times; even in backyard pools.

- * Never leave kids unattended around the pool; designate a swimming adult to watch over children in the pool.

- * Teach your children to swim. Enroll them in swimming classes as soon as they're ready.

- * Teach good water safety habits.

- * Do not rely on inflatable toys/rings to keep your child afloat.

- * Remove toys from the pool area when not in use; toys left nearby can attract unsupervised children.

- * Teach children about the dangers of deep and shallow ends of the pool.

- * Don't let your kids jump or dive into the shallow end of the pool.

- * Never take glass containers into pool area.

- * Adults should invest time in learning proper CPR techniques.

- * Swim only at pools or beaches where lifeguards are on duty or where others are present.

- * Always check the depth of



Photo by Joe Juarez

David DeLong of Services Staff gives the base pool a "clean sweep" in preparation for swimming activities.

the water before you go into it.

- * Wait at least an hour before swimming after having eating.

- * Don't swim if you've consumed alcohol or taken medications that may make you feel disoriented or drowsy.

- * Avoid swimming when you're cold, overheated, or tired.

- * Don't swim after dark unless there's really good lighting available.

- * Don't swim in areas prone to strong currents or undertows.

- * If you find yourself in a strong current, swim diagonally across the current.

Learn to swim beforehand. Know the rules and regulations before going on any boat.

Always keep approved flotation devices readily available. Check your equipment before engaging in any water sport to be sure it is in good operating condition.

Finally, use your common sense and avoid unnecessary risks.

Drowning accidents are tragedies that can, in most cases, be prevented.

Aerospace science fair encourages teen participation

By Christine Thumser
Public Affairs Intern

The Aerospace Corporation hosted the 24th annual Robert H. Herndon Memorial Science Competition for junior high and high school students on June 1 at the Aerospace Corporation Paulikas Mall.

The science fair bears the name of a prominent Aerospace scientist who directed the Advanced Mission Analysis Performing Studies for the National Aeronautics and Space Administration. Due to Herndon's emphasis on science, all projects submitted in the competition were required to fulfill the obligation of scientific method utilization as well as fall within the realm of engineering science.

Eleven schools submitted projects of various topics in this year's competition. Scientific exhibits displayed at the competition ranged from solar-powered robots to comparisons of alcohol and gas mixtures to magnetic forces and their applications. Aerospace views this event as an extraordinary

opportunity to heighten science interest among middle and high school students while simultaneously encouraging and discussing the job opportunities within the Aerospace Corporation. Stephen E. Burrin, Vice President of Space Program Operations, sparked the students' interest in their future during the opening remarks by saying, "You are the future. Apply yourselves and you may end up here" said Burrin.

High school winners in the competition receive summer internships as a portion of their award which offers support and enthusiasm for the students as they learn even more about the engineering and scientific domain.

Judging the projects demanded a majority of the morning hours and was the responsibility of Patricia Kirk-McAlpine, Space and Missiles Systems Center Director of Contracting; Col. Giblin, SMC Director of Systems Engineering; Mike Daugherty, Executive Vice President of Aerospace; Dr. Larry Greenberg, Vice President of Laboratory Opera-

tions Aerospace; John Parsons, Senior Vice President of Engineering and Technical Group Aerospace; and Dr. Joe Straus, Vice President of Space Systems Group Aerospace.

After evaluating the eleven projects exhibited, the judges announced the overall winners for both middle and high school categories. In the middle school division El Segundo took first place with their "Magnets on the Move" project, followed by runners-up Enterprise Middle School with their project "Capturing the Wind" and Frank D. Parent Middle School and their project (place title here). In the high school division, Palos Verdes Peninsula grabbed first place with their Calcium Chloride Filter aiding in the Reduction of Phosphate in water.

The students from Palos Verdes said their project was initiated in September beginning with the research aspect while the actual experimenting lasted only two weeks. Taking second place was El Segundo High School with "Contaminants: A Growing Epidemic"



Photo by Joe Juarez

Winners of the Aerospace Science Fair from left to right: Kevin Peng, Senior Age 15, Vicky Hsu, Senior Age 17, Leslie Kao, Senior Age 17 and Vijay Yanamadala, Junior Age 15 and Eva Stamper, Group Advisor.

followed by Banning High School and their "Comparing Gas and Alcohol Mixtures".

Immediately following the awards ceremony the grand prize winners from Palos Verdes Peninsula High School were given application packets for summer employment.

Each student has to be at least 16 years of age. Two of the winners, Vicky Hsu and Leslie Kao, both seniors and 17 years

old, plan on working at Aerospace over their summer vacation.

When reflecting upon the importance of this science fair, speaker Lt. Col. Kenneth Robinson of AD described the essentials of fostering leadership in adolescents, "Successful people have vision beyond those of most. Determination and teamwork are necessary to uphold the vision," he said.

Compact satellites end up as big hit on space shuttle

By Capt. Don Hill

DoD Shuttle/ISS Payloads Integration

When NASA engineers began the task of developing requirements for what would become America's Space Transportation System in the late 1960s, they did so using then state-of-the-art Department of Defense satellites as the basis for its cargo bay design.

Capable of carrying 60-foot long, 55,000-pound payloads into low earth orbit, the shuttle certainly fulfilled its designers' intentions. How ironic, then, that 30 years later, a large majority of the DoD payloads now flying or requesting flight aboard the shuttle are now measured in terms of inches and pounds, rather than feet and tons.

The DoD Space Test Program office at the National Aeronautic and Space Administration's Johnson Space Center in Houston is currently pursuing the integration of NanoSats I and II, FalconSat-II and the Micro Electro Mechanical-based Systems Pico Satellite Inspector.

Classified by NASA as secondary payloads, this latest wave of DoD satellites is pushing the technological envelope in both capabilities and compact size.

Under development since 1999 by the Air Force Research Laboratory and slated for flight in spring 2003, the NanoSat program is composed of nine different nano class satellites developed at eight different universities.

Each nanosat will weigh approximately 60 pounds and will be ejected out of the shuttle's cargo bay on two separate missions with three

satellites planned for deployment on the first mission with six satellites on the second mission.

The goal of the program is to use state-of-the-art miniaturized electronics to fly formation in space without receiving direction from the ground. To make this happen, the program will use SMC's own Global Positioning System, an inter-satellite communications network, small imaging cameras, and micro thrusters.

Half the size of a NanoSat spacecraft at about 25 lbs, FalconSat-II will be the second in a series of simple, low-cost modular satellite buses under development by the Air Force Academy for use by the cadets and faculty as a spacecraft testbed.

Once ejected from the shuttle via a Pallet Ejection System, FalconSat-II will investigate disturbances in the upper atmosphere using the Miniaturized Electrostatic Analyzer, a new sensor developed by the Academy's physics department.

Capt. Tom Hoge, DoD Manned Spaceflight Payloads Manager looks towards the long term benefits of this program. "If successful, the FalconSat program may open up previously unavailable opportunities for the spaceflight of small, low-cost research and development efforts within the DoD community," Hoge said.

Also under development by the Air Force Research Laboratory, the MEPSI program represents a growing class of even smaller satellites characterized by spacecraft mass on the order of about two pounds or less.

Classified as a "PicoSat," the purpose of MEPSI will be



Courtesy art

An artist's conception of a satellite 'garage' that would store tiny satellites until ready to deploy.

twofold. First, the MEPSI will demonstrate the functionality of MEMS in a space environment, second, it will demonstrate the concept of independent on-orbit visual inspection.

As currently envisioned, a pico-satellite inspection vehicle will ride piggyback on-board a host satellite where it will remain dormant inside a "garage" until a release command is sent.

Once released from the host, the inspector will assume full control, maneuver to a predetermined distance, acquire the host and collect image data of the host while orbiting around it.

The collected data will then be sent to a ground station, where it will be processed and analyzed to help determine the status of the host satellite.

Since the proposed goals of MEPSI represent a significant challenge, a series of three risk-mitigation missions will be

flown using the shuttle as the launch platform. These flights will systematically validate and demonstrate individual MEM-based subsystems targeted for MEPSI and then allow for them to be integrated into successive flights leading to the fully operational MEPSI.

Due to its unusually small size and mass, STP is investigating the possibility of mounting the MEPSI launcher assembly along the edge of the cargo bay in space previously considered unusable. If successful, the integration effort will provide a win-win scenario for both DoD and NASA – DoD will get a promising technology integrated and flown in a short amount of time – 18 months compared to a typical 2-year cycle or more – while NASA will demonstrate a cost-effective new payload capability for the shuttle which doesn't require modifications to the existing shuttle design..

Whether they be "microsats," "nanosats," or even "picosats," today's emerging satellite technologies represent quantum leaps in performance over past satellite developments.

While the technologies contained in the satellites are impressive, possibly their greatest contribution to DoD is what they don't have – mass and volume.

Getting hardware into space is an expensive business, so the less, the better said Maj. Tony Smith, deputy director for DoD Shuttle Payloads. "Space access is still pound-for-pound more costly than our most precious metals," Smith said.

"Perhaps the day will come when the space shuttle carries a full constellation of payloads – tens or hundreds of tiny satellites – each one autonomously operated yet working together to perform a single mission," he said.

South Bay Fun Run makes \$9,000 for summer camp



Photos by Lou Hernandez

Capt. Deborah Schueren from the Health and Wellness Center checks a runner's blood pressure at the health and fitness fair following the South Bay Fun Run June 2.



The children were allowed to clown around at the fun run.



Camp Del Corazon treasurer Glenn Knight, 1st Lt. Kevin Montovani, Capt. Janet Haug, 1st Lt. Dustin Blank, 1st Lt. Mike McPherson and executive director Lisa Knight are all smiles as they pose with check representing money raised at fun run.

Astro News deadlines

The Los Angeles AFB paper, the *Astro News*, is published every other week on Friday. The editorial office is located within the Space and Missile Systems Center Public Affairs Office in Building 105, Room 4049, in Area A. The telephone number is 363-0303.

Deadline for article submissions is Friday at noon the week before the publication date. Articles should be sent via e-mail to the editor at:

SMC.PA.Astronews@losangeles.af.mil

Photos can be mailed to the following address:

SMC/PA – Astro News editor
2420 Vela Way, Suite 1467
El Segundo, Calif. 90245-4659

Publication date

Submission dates

June 15	June 8
June 29	June 22
July 13	July 6
July 27	July 20
Aug. 10	Aug. 3
Aug. 24.....	Aug. 17

Space-A destinations for June

June 2001 departures				
Date	Flight #	Space-A showtime	Departure Time	Destinations
3,10,17, 24	MC71	6:35 p.m.	9:35 p.m.	Seattle, Osan, Kadena
4, 18,25	MC87	8:50 p.m.	11:50 p.m.	Seattle, Yokota, Iwakuni, Misawa
7, 14 21, 28	MC79	8:30 p.m.	11:30 p.m.	Seattle, Yokota, Kadena
11	MC87	8:30 p.m.	11:30 p.m.	Misawa
June 2001 arrivals				
Date	Flight #	Arrival time	Arriving from	
20,27	MC88	15:15 p.m.	Seattle, Yokota, Iwakuni, Misawa	
13	MC88	13:40 p.m.	Seattle, Yokota, Iwakuni	
16, 23, 30	MC80	16:00 p.m.	Seattle, Yokota, Kadena	

Notes: Space-available travel is available for active-duty, reserve and retirees. For more information, contact the Air Mobility Command Customer Service Branch at 363-0714. You can sign up for Space-A travel in person at Terminal 2 at the Los Angeles International Airport, by fax at 363-2790 or on the Internet at www.travis.af.mil.

Celebrate freedom on 'Juneteenth'

By Norma Jackson
Black Employment Program

It's a holiday with the eager anticipation of Christmas, the bountiful offerings of Thanksgiving, the solemnity of Easter and the fireworks of the Fourth of July, It's Juneteenth! an original Texas holiday and folk festival commemorating freedom for all in America.

The establishment of Juneteenth was June 19, 1865, as slaves in Galveston, Texas, reacted to the delayed news of the Emancipation Proclamation. The Emancipation Proclamation and General Order Number 3 are the two documents that heralded freedom, releasing the grip of slavery on African-Americans.

On Jan. 1, 1863, President Abraham Lincoln's Executive Order, known as the Emancipation Proclamation, granted freedom for slaves in the states of the Confederacy. However, slave owners in those states did not obey Lincoln's order.

Therefore, at the end of the Civil War, April 9, 1865, the Union Army had to be dispatched to the Confederate

states, including Texas, to restore order and ensure that the Emancipation Proclamation was enforced.

Union General Granger read General Order Number 3 in the Gulf Coast town of Galveston. The reactions of the jubilant African-Americans included singing, dancing, shouting and

'Free at last, free at last, thank God almighty I'm free at last' – Anonymous

silent prayer.

It is believed that the spiritual saying "Free at last, free at last, thank God almighty I'm free at last" has its origins from an anonymous author in Texas during the Emancipation Day celebrations.

In many parts of Texas, former slaves purchased land known as Emancipation Grounds for the annual Juneteenth celebrations. Those sites include Emancipation Park in Houston, Booker T. Washington Park in Mexia and Emancipation Park in East Austin.

Today Juneteenth has evolved into a time for revival meetings, family reunions and

celebrations that always include delicious food. June 19th can serve as the beginning or the finale for celebrations that have lasted for days, weeks or the entire month.

Some cities observe Juneteenth activities in museums and parks where the Emancipation Proclamation is often read aloud.

Juneteenth has been a legal holiday in Texas since 1980 after Representative Al Edwards helped to pass a bill in the

Texas state legislature. The holiday is about commemorating the history of African-Americans in Texas and stimulating cultural awareness.

Juneteenth is a milestone to measure the distance African-Americans have traveled in Texas and in America. Texans, black and white celebrate Juneteenth because on that day, America lived up to her ideals as stated in her most famous documents, such as the Declaration of Independence and Bill of Rights.

At celebrations across the state, revelers will hear gospel, and soul sung side-by-side with "America the Beautiful" and "The Star Spangled Banner."

Billy Blanks appears at Ft. Mac



Photo by Shaad Madison

TaeBo creator Billy Blanks, right, shows Melvin Henry, from 61 Air Base Group Services, proper TaeBo form during Spouse's Appreciation Day last month at the Fort MacArthur Community Center.

Family Child Care

Los Angeles AFB is striving to expand Family Child Care Services in homes of military and retired military members. If you are a spouse who lives either on or off base and are interested in becoming a licensed family child care provider, contact Hyechong Froschl at 363-8334 or stop by the Child Development Center at Fort MacArthur, Building 31.

Current providers: **Amy Gonzalez** can provide child care from 7 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, for children ages 3 and up on a full, part-time and drop-in basis. For more information, call 514-1938. **Johvon Tidwell** can provide child care from 6 a.m. to 5 p.m., Mondays through Fridays for children ages 2 and up on a full, part-time and drop-in basis. For more information, call 547-9762. **Ann Hall** has an opening for a child two years or older. Call 832-5673 for more

information. **Kimberly McClure** has an opening for a child two years or older. Call 833-8188 for more information. **Kellie Heironimus** provides hourly care for children of all ages. Call 833-5751 for more information. **Tina Alejandro** has an opening for a child two years or older. Call 832-2620 to speak to Tina. **Joan Smith** has two openings for children two years and older. Call 241-1422 for more information.

The above providers are the only individuals authorized to provide child care in the Fort MacArthur, Pacific Heights and Pacific Crest areas.

In accordance with Air Force Instruction 34-276, persons wishing to provide child care for more than 10 hours per week on a regular basis in base housing must be trained, certified and granted a license by the base commander.

The Seal Beach Naval Weapons Station has openings in their Navy-licensed family

home day care homes. Call **Kathy Richards** at 562-626-7899 for more information.

RV storage

Los Angeles AFB offers two recreational vehicle storage facilities located next to the FamCamp in Lawndale and at Fort MacArthur.

Storage fees are between \$20 and \$30 per month

The Fitness Center

The Fitness Center offers one-on-one free individualized fitness programming.

Personal trainers provide the following services: fitness assessments, personal fitness planning, fitness goal setting, programs to lower cholesterol, strength training, cardiovascular training, proper use of equipment and proper lifting techniques.

Individual appointments can be made by calling 363-6815, or you can ask at the front desk for a trainer.

Gymnastics offered

Gymnastics classes are being offered at the Fort MacArthur Fitness Center at 3:30 p.m. on Tuesdays and Thursdays.

Worship schedule

Roman Catholic: Sacrament of Reconciliation Saturdays at 4 p.m., Mass at 4:30 p.m.

Mass at 9 a.m. Sundays. Continuing Christian Development is held in Building 37 at 10:15 a.m.

Protestant: Sunday School at 9 a.m. in Building 37. General Protestant worship at 10:30 a.m. Contact Chaplain (Maj.) Jim Walker at 363-6433 for info.

Extended child care

The Child Development Center will implement a new child care initiative to extend the hours of child care to accommodate for extended duty hours. Extended duty is defined as temporary shift change, unplanned weekend duty, short-

term temporary additional duty if no other parent available, dual military or single parent deployment. For more information, contact Iris Alexander at 363-5950.

Golf tournament

The Directorate of Contracting invites you to participate in the 21st Annual SMC/PK Golf Tournament on Wednesday at the Los Alamitos Navy Golf Course. The tournament format will be best ball and team scramble. Fees are \$45 for E-5 and below; \$50 for E-6 and above; \$55 for Department of Defense civilians; and \$70 for civilian guests. Registration will be from 11:30 a.m. to 12:45 p.m. with a shotgun start for 1 p.m. An awards ceremony and dinner will begin at 6 p.m. To sign up or get more information, please contact Judy Parnock at 363-4214 or Brian Reiver at 363-6819. Sign up soon as the tournament will fill up fast.

