



# THE GLOBAL LINE

## ASC preparing to lead new materiel mission

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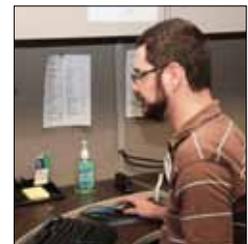
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# Fontaine Sends...

## Memorial Day one of remembrance, reflection, renewal

Maj. Gen. Yves J. Fontaine  
U.S. Army Sustainment Command



This year marks the 150th anniversary of the beginning of the Civil War, a conflict so bloody and divisive that many who lived through it simply wished to forget about it once it finally was over. But, in the years immediately following the end of the war, communities and individuals throughout the North and South decided that those who had died in battle could not and should not be forgotten, and so they decorated the graves of the fallen with the fresh-cut flowers of spring.

These simple gestures led to the establishment of Memorial Day, a holiday set aside to honor all Americans who paid the ultimate price while serving this great nation.

Memorial Day now marks the unofficial start of summer, and has become a long holiday weekend packed with picnics, parades and parties. Yet this should also be a time of remembrance, reflection



and renewal – remembering those who served on our behalf, reflecting on the sacrifices they made, and renewing our commitment to the principles and values they fought for, and died to defend.

You can show that you understand and care about the true meaning of Memorial Day by attending an observance or ceremony. I also ask that you take part in the National Moment of Remembrance, which occurs at 3 p.m. local time on Memorial Day – no matter

where in the world you are. At that moment, please pause what you are doing and spend one minute in silence, in honor of all the heroes who silently lie in eternal rest.

Gestures as simple but meaningful as standing in silence, or placing flowers upon the graves of our honored dead, remind us of the cost of our freedom, and so help keep freedom alive and well. That's why we observe Memorial Day, and why this holiday which pays tribute to those who've passed should mean so much to those of us who now enjoy the blessings of liberty and prosperity.

*Airborne!*



# THE GLOBAL LINE



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*Focus on the Future . . .***ASC preparing to lead new materiel mission**

Based on article published in Army "Stand-To!"  
April 13, 2011

**What is it?**

The Army Materiel Command's (AMC) designation as Lead Materiel Integrator (LMI) heralds a new method of executing the Army's materiel distribution and redistribution processes by appointing a single manager to ensure that Soldiers have the right equipment at the right time to accomplish their missions.

**What has the Army done?**

The Secretary of the Army designated AMC as LMI with Army Directive 2011-06, on March 22. AMC, as the Army's LMI, coordinates and integrates timely and cost-effective, Army-wide materiel distribution and redistribution solutions with all Army commands and the reserve components in accordance with Department of Defense and Army directives and priorities, the Army equipping strategy, and ARFORGEN and generating force demand signals.

**What continued efforts does the Army have planned for the future?**

AMC will look to the Army Sustainment Command (ASC) to serve as the executing agent for the materiel distribution mission. ASC becomes the Army's single materiel readiness synchronization point, working with Army forces to stateholders Army materiel re-

quirements. Employing its Distribution Management Center, Army Field Support Brigades, and Directorates of Logistics, ASC will ensure the right materiel is provided in the right quantity and condition, delivered to the right place at the right time.

A key element of LMI entered its proof-of-principle stage during an ASC pilot project held in mid-May. The Decision Support Tool, a new materiel distribution automation tool, was put to the test and proved its ability to manage transactions on the scale and scope of the total Army.

**Why is this important to the Army?**

A comprehensive enterprise approach to materiel distribution fosters open communication and is the most effective, most efficient way to generate equipped forces. It will optimize equipment usage throughout its life cycle in an efficient and cost effective method. For the first time, the LMI will integrate the "S" (equipment on hand) and the "R" (maintenance availability) of readiness reporting in a single organization. It will provide single authoritative sourcing solutions to equip ARFORGEN rotational units, non-rotational units, generating force units, and ensure the equipment is delivered in combat ready status, when needed, to meet unit mission requirements. In the end, a single integrator with visibility across the Army enterprise and throughout the life cycle of equipment will produce better readiness at best value in support of the nation.

### **ASC leaders discuss resiliency**

*Command Sgt. Maj. Stephen D. Blake hosted an Army Sustainment Command resiliency briefing March 31. The briefing allowed senior leaders to discuss and provide feedback about the current resiliency training program and how ASC can improve these efforts. Topics of discussion included suicide prevention, how to build stronger work teams and future leaders, and overcoming communication barriers. ASC resiliency training is offered to both Soldiers and civilians and is ongoing.*

Photo by Megan McIntyre, ASC Public Affairs



## Focus on the Future . . .

# EAGLE continues to analyze ‘sources-sought’ data

The EAGLE team is currently analyzing the “sources-sought” synopsis and incorporating this information into the Cost Benefit Analysis being performed in accordance with Department of the Army policy.

In the past, many installations placed separate contracts for maintenance, supply, and transportation support services. The current EAGLE acquisition strategy under consideration by the Army Sustainment Command intends to centralize all functional responsibilities, eliminate redundancy, and maximize efficiency by combining these three functions under one contract. A single contractor at each Directorate of Logistics installation will be responsible for providing all three services.



The initial purpose of the synopsis was to clarify that the contracts awarded under the EAGLE program will require prime contractors to provide services in all three of the functional areas: Materiel Maintenance, Retail/Wholesale Supply, and Transportation Support.

The EAGLE team is also assessing whether or not the resulting consolidation provides suitable opportunities for small businesses. Data collected will help to determine the capability and capacity of small businesses to perform as prime contractors providing services in all three functional areas. This information is being used to determine the best method to maximize small business participation in the future.

## ASC Command Sergeant Major addresses Eagle Scouts

Story and photo by Tony Lopez  
ASC Public Affairs

Army Sustainment Command’s Command Sgt. Maj. Stephen D. Blake was the keynote speaker at the 2011 Illowa Council Eagle Scout recognition dinner held April 20 at the Rock Island Arsenal Heritage Hall.

Blake delivered a captivating speech at “A Gathering of Eagles” dinner that honored 87 new Eagle Scouts.

Blake’s remarks recognized “some great Americans, some individual achievements, and a great community outreach.” He noted how “there is an enormous amount of pride in this room.”

“My message tonight is about the importance of traditions and the commitment and how these traditions, that may seem so simple, are actually so important,” said Blake.

“The duty of the command sergeant major is to uphold the traditions of the Army. Traditions start from something good, things that are held true in life, so true that people commit to it and refuse to let it fade. They make it their legacy. They live up to its meaning and purpose and never trade it or ever give it away,” he said.

“This applies to every Eagle Scout in this room, the young and the old. What an incredible opportunity to live a life of character, tradition and service,” Blake said. “It’s all about trust and being committed to something bigger in your life. As you



**Army Sustainment Command’s Command Sgt. Maj. Stephen D. Blake addresses guests at the 2011 Illowa Council Eagle Scout recognition dinner.**

go out into society, to be these Eagle Scouts for life, there’s a commitment, there’s a tradition and there’s sacrifice. You will and must be prepared.”

After a roll call of the new Eagle Scouts, 14 scouts in attendance were recognized with coins presented by Blake and Col. James Fly, commander of the RIA Joint Manufacturing and Technology Center.

Eagle Scouts Blake Andrews and Derek Crooks were also recognized for their accomplishments in the projects of the year competition. Eagle Scouts in attendance ranged from the newest members to a scout who held the greatest tenure that dated back to 1936.

The dinner event concluded with all Eagle Scouts pledging their allegiance to the Eagle Oath and a benediction by scout Michael Goodyear.

## *Focus on the Future . . .*

### **ASC hosts ROC drill to streamline HazMat, POL practices**

**Story and photo by Megan McIntyre  
ASC Public Affairs**

Army Sustainment Command (ASC) leaders hosted a rehearsal of concept (ROC) drill April 5-7, reviewing bulk petroleum, oils and lubricants and the Hazardous Material Management Program (HMMP).

Senior leaders from Army Materiel Command, Installation Management Command, Army Field Support Brigades and subject matter experts from Defense Logistics Agency and the Army Petroleum Center joined their ASC hosts for a Directorate of Logistics (DOL) Bulk POL and HMMP ROC drill.

"The intended outcome was to bring together key players and subject matter experts to discuss the DOL functional areas of Bulk Fuel and the HMMP," said Laurie Lartz, DOL Transformation Team supply and services lead and subject matter expert.

During the ROC drill, participants were able to develop a chart that lays out tasks and responsibilities.

"This document identifies who is responsible, accountable, supportive, consulted and informed for each task," said Lartz. "This will provide the basis for process mapping."

The objectives of the ROC drill included developing a common understanding of tasks, roles and responsibilities, and interaction from the tactical to strategic levels; developing input for mission execution; developing and agreeing on metrics; identifying management tactics, techniques and procedures; friction points and policy; and doctrinal changes to be made upon full operational control to ASC.

Some issues were identified and discussed, and initial resolutions were agreed upon. Resolving most issues, however, will require further study, said Lartz.



***Participants of the rehearsal of concepts drill discuss working matters.***

Team members are scheduled to travel to Joint Base Lewis-McChord, Wash., to map the various processes at that site with the intent of developing a standard way of doing business.

"A concern arose regarding the unique processes for handling bulk fuel and hazardous material at each DOL," said Lartz. "Our hope is that other DOLs will be able to capitalize on this analysis and implement these best practices."

Currently, the DOL realignment is in its final stages. Operational control of the DOLs in the continental United States, Hawaii, Alaska, and Puerto Rico became the responsibility of the Army Field Support Brigades and Battalions Oct. 1, 2010. Operational control of Korea and Japan DOLs was complete Jan. 1, and April 1 for Europe DOLs. Complete realignment and full operational control is planned for October 2012.

The ROC drills are part of a series intended to keep the alignment on track and running smoothly.

"The ROC drill was a success," she said. "Having face-to-face discussions and meeting the key players were instrumental in that success."



## Arsenal program provides students with 'real world' experience



*Raquel Mena, Minority College Relations Program intern from the University of Texas at El Paso, browses books at the library located in the Army Sustainment Command History Office. She is currently working for the office and is researching medals and ribbons earned by a WWII general.*

### Story and photos by Megan McIntyre ASC Public Affairs

Students and recent graduates from colleges across the United States are gaining real world experience through the Minority College Relations Program.

There are 15 participants in MCRP's spring 2011 internship program here at Rock Island Arsenal, Ill. The 15-week program in place at nine Army installations runs from January through May, focuses on getting students integrated into the federal work place and shows them many different ways to serve the nation, aside from military service.

"MCRP's mission is to develop collaborative programs within the Army Sustainment Command and Joint Munitions Command that will allow minority institutions to participate in Federal programs," said Carmen Ausborn, ASC Minority College Relations Program coordinator.

Ausborn said many of the interns who have participated in this program have become permanent government employees, which has enhanced the commands' future readiness.

"I've had the privilege of serving as the MCRP coordinator for the past year and it's been a rewarding experience to be a part of such a great program," said Ausborn.

"Continuous learning has been the best part of this experience," said Amanda Morales, student at the University of Texas at El Paso studying accounting and finance. "I have learned so much about contracting, and I have become interested in a future career in contracting."

Morales became involved with MCRP through an internship with Vista Sciences Corporation. She currently works in Army Contracting Command-Rock Island, reconciling contracts and entering them into paperless contract files, among other duties.

MCRP is not just a one-time opportunity. Interns are eligible to apply again and come back to the program to get more hands-on experience.

Donovan Williams, a 2010 graduate from the University of Arkansas at Pine Bluff, did just that.

"This is my second session in the program," he said. Williams was introduced to MCRP while

***See Real World, page 7***

## Real World

*continued from page 6*

serving as a student liaison during a three-day conference that was held at his university during the 2009-2010 school year.

“The best part of this experience has been gaining more knowledge of how the government operates,” Williams said.

Arthur Stith is a business administration major at the University of Arkansas at Pine Bluff.

“Before I applied for this internship opportunity, I had never heard of the program,” he said. “My career services advisor suggested that I consider applying, because it would give me some hands-on experience, and it was an avenue I had not considered before.”

Stith works in the program integration division of human resources, which focuses on collecting and compiling statistical data from other divisions of human resources in order to create comprehensive plans for ASC.

“I have always been an advocate for diversity and inclusion in the workplace, so I jumped at the opportunity to be involved with a program that actively solicits and encourages minority students to gain hands on experience,” said Stith.

Raquel Mena, who received a bachelor’s degree in history from the University of Texas at El Paso, also learned about the program through her school’s career center.

“I was informed of the program in 2009 and I returned this spring to utilize newer skills,” she said.

Mena works in the ASC History Office and spends her time researching information requests, writing articles to contribute to the office’s newsletter and editing.

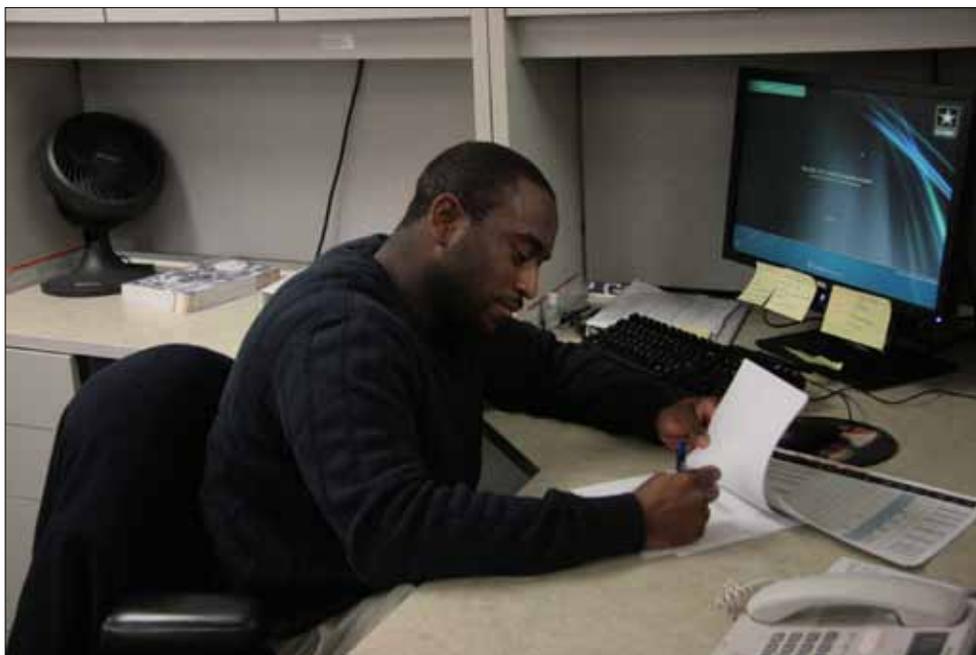
“People tend to forget that teaching isn’t the only career field you can go into with a history degree. The best part for me has been applying research and writing skills outside of a classroom,” she said.

To be eligible for the program, an intern must be a junior, senior or recent graduate of a four-year college or university that is historically an African-American, Hispanic, tribal or other minority institution. Students and recent graduates must be U.S. citizens and pass a background check.

To complete their internship, the participants from all nine installations will have to brief their commander, explaining the scope of their assignments and what they learned from their experience.

Other interns in the ASC MCRP program include: Ericka Amador, University of Texas at El Paso, studying environmental science; Sharon Dobbs, University of Arkansas at Pine Bluff, studying computer science and mathematics; Marcus Payne, Alcorn State University, studying business administration; William (Devin) McKnight, A & T State University, studying computer engineering; Carla Torres, University of Texas at El Paso,

studying communication studies and legal reasoning; Ravi Gupta, Florida International University, studying accounting; Bryan Gonzalez, University of Texas at El Paso, studying history and Latin American and border studies; John Graesser, University of Texas at El Paso, studying business management; Jennifer Spacek, New Mexico State University, studying engineering in information communication technology; Jeremiah Haley, Alabama A&M University, studying electrical engineering computing option and biology; and Avery Wheeler, University of Arkansas at Pine Bluff, studying industrial technology.



**Donovan Williams, Minority College Relations Program intern from the University of Arkansas at Pine Bluff, looks over paperwork in the Army Sustainment Command’s Field Support and Business Management directorate where he assists with preparing documentation for current and ongoing financial actions.**

## Internship offers permanent positions to disabled students

Story and photos by Megan McIntyre  
ASC Public Affairs

Thanks to the Workforce Recruitment Program for College Students with Disabilities, the Army Sustainment Command now has several full-time employees.

According to program managers, college students with a disability have an opportunity to gain valuable experience and get a great job. The Army Sustainment Command participates in WRP, a federally funded program that focuses on the recruiting and hiring of students with disabilities.

The Rock Island Arsenal has several students who have transitioned from the program into full-time employment. Kelly Kruse, Jason Ramirez, Jayson Saylor and Brendan Sullivan were all ASC interns who currently work full-time on the Rock Island Arsenal.

“WRP is a resource to connect public and private sector employers nationwide with highly motivated students and recent graduates with disabilities,” said Gayla Pacheco, Workforce Recruitment Program liaison and ASC’s Equal Employment Opportunity specialist.

“Students can market their abilities, sharpen their interviewing skills, gain valuable skills, experience, contacts on the job and, most important, prove that people with disabilities can be excellent employees,” said Pacheco.

Jason Ramirez became involved with the program through an interview at Black Hawk College,



*Jayson Saylor works from his desk in the Information Management Division of the Army Sustainment Command.*

Moline, Ill. “I was attending Black Hawk at the time, and now I am a student at Western Illinois University here in the Quad Cities.”

The initial program Ramirez was hired for only lasted five months, but he applied for an opportunity at the Army Contracting Command - Rock Island, which was looking to hire two college students. Ramirez became one of the successful applicants.

“I’m currently working in Contracting for the pricing division, and I’ve gained a lot of financial information pertaining to cost and price analysis through this opportunity,” said Ramirez.

Jayson Saylor learned of the program from the Black Hawk College disabilities coordinator.

“Once you enter and then interview for WRP, they place your information in a database and you start to receive calls from all over the United States,” Saylor said. “I received calls from Virginia, Kentucky, Colorado, Illinois and Missouri, but I selected the offer from the Army Sustainment Command, primarily because I grew up in the area.”

Saylor currently works for the ASC Information Management Division. He has helped implement and develop SharePoint for ASC, which launched globally. On a regular basis, he works with property management, analysis, and requirements of applications to be developed for various customers.

“When given a chance, no matter how difficult

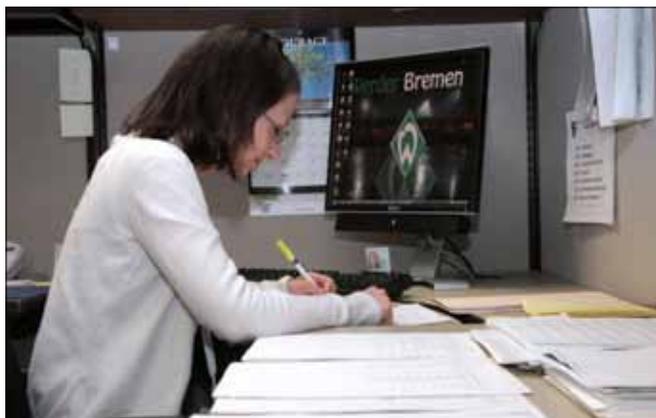
**See Internship, page 9**



*Jason Ramirez is a full-time employee hired through the Workforce Recruitment Program for College Students with Disabilities.*

# Internship

*continued from page 8*



**Kelly Kruse is an ASC employee who was hired through the Workforce Recruitment Program for College Students with Disabilities.**

a task may be, with hard work and determination you can accomplish more than you could ever dream,” said Saylor.

Kelly Kruse is a May 2010 graduate of the University of Wisconsin – Whitewater and currently works in the Resource Management Division of ASC.

“My first internship, in 2009, lasted three months,” she said. “I came back the next summer and my supervisor helped me get a two-year appointment as a Department of the Army intern.”

Kruse said in her current position she manages money to make sure Soldiers get supplies needed to do their jobs, while ensuring compliance with applicable fiscal laws.

“A big part of my job is making sure that whenever anyone needs something, whether it is a big complicated piece of equipment or just a toner

cartridge for the office, funds are available and match the timing and purpose of the requirement,” she said.

The Department of Labor and the Department of Defense co-sponsor the program. The funding guarantees interns 14 weeks of work. After graduation, there’s always the possibility that a student may be hired full time or in a temporary status by the organization where the internship took place.

To apply for the program, certain criteria must be met.

Students must have a substantial disability, hold U.S. citizenship and must be enrolled in school full-time. Graduates may also apply to the program as long as they are within one year of completing their education.

“I have worked with the WRP program for 11 years and I have witnessed some of the brightest and most talented students throughout the years,” said Pacheco. “Many were my mentees and my friends and seeing them flourish is extremely satisfying.”

Saylor said involvement with this program has changed the way he and others view individuals with disabilities and what they are capable of doing.

“Many times when someone is faced with adversity, like a disability, you hear reasons why they will never be able to accomplish certain tasks,” he said. “But working for ASC has shown that I am capable of more than I ever thought, and you can’t put a price on that experience.”

For more information on the WRP program or other programs available for individuals with disabilities, visit the Office of Disability Employment Policy website at [www.dol.gov/odep](http://www.dol.gov/odep).



Photo by Sgt. 1<sup>st</sup> Class Sean Riley, ASC Public Affairs

## ASC Soldier recognized for volunteer work with local youth

Army Sustainment Command Soldiers, Sgts. 1<sup>st</sup> Class Warren Feaster and Will Jordan (first and second from left), accept a check for \$500 from Greg Chip (third from left), manager of Lujack Auto. Jordan received the money for his volunteer work in Lincoln Academy of Integrated Arts’ youth group, “Future Leaders of Tomorrow,” April 6 in Davenport, Iowa. Jordan was nominated for the award by Principal Mary McMeekin (fourth from left). Lujack’s Extra Mile program recognizes those in the community that have gone “above and beyond” to help others in need. Jordan acts as a mentor and role model to the youngsters to instill a sense of leadership, respect for themselves and others, and discipline by leading them in “doing the right thing all the time.” Jordan said the money will go into the program for the kids.

## 403rd AFSB provides support to Japan

By Mark Weiman  
ASC Public Affairs

Army Sustainment Command's 403rd Army Field Support Brigade is providing support to the Japanese tsunami relief efforts.

Since mid-March, the 403rd has been issuing Army Prepositioned Stocks-4 equipment from its warehouses at Sagami Depot, south of Tokyo.

The equipment was requested by United States Army-Japan and approved by Headquarters, Department of the Army, for use in the relief efforts.

Among the APS-4 materiel requested and issued are: generators, heaters, forklifts, a food sanitation center, floodlights, cargo bags, cords, webbing, tie-down straps, skid boards, pallets, and a number of trucks to haul the equipment and supplies.

According to Robert Foster, logistics management specialist from ASC's Field Support Directorate, the materiel was signed over and picked up by the 35th Combat Sustainment Support Battalion, located at Sagami, and transported north to an operating base near the vicinity of Sendai.

"There are a number of units up there – Army, Navy, Marine Corps, and Air Force – it is a real joint effort," said Foster. "The folks operating up there are outside the 50-mile radius that the U.S. State Department has warned of radiation from the Fukushima Reactor."

Providing command and control over APS operations at Sagami Depot for ASC is Lt. Col. Douglas Pietrowski, commander of Army Field Support Battalion-Northeast Asia, who traveled to Japan from Korea.

Foster emphasized that once the APS-4 equipment is signed over, it can be used in any



Courtesy Photo

**Personnel from AFSBn-NEA, Sagami Depot, Japan, ready APS-4 equipment for release to support tsunami relief efforts.**

number of ways.

"We are not sending personnel, just loaning equipment," said Foster. "Once there, it can be used for a variety of requirements."

Besides heavier equipment, Sagami has also issued sling-loading equipment for helicopters to deliver supplies to villages in northern Japan. It has also issued more than 93,000 cases of meals-ready-to-eat to feed tsunami-stricken victims.

Some dependents of ASC personnel have been voluntarily evacuated back to the United States from Sagami Depot as well as the nearby Yokohama North Dock in Tokyo Bay.

If the need arises to evacuate more personnel, 8th Army-Korea has requested and been approved to draw APS-4 inventory such as cots, sleeping bags, blankets, and generators to set up evacuation centers in Korea.

### ASC supports Japan relief

*A forklift, issued by Army Field Support Battalion-Northeast Asia, cleans debris from Sendai Airport in northeast Japan as a part of tsunami relief efforts. AFSBn-NEA, subordinate to Army Sustainment Command's 403rd Army Field Support Brigade in South Korea, issued Army Prepositioned Stocks-4 inventory from Sagami Depot, south of Tokyo. The equipment was issued to the 35th Combat Sustainment Support Battalion, which transported it north to support Logistics Task Force 35 near Sendai.*



Photo by Jesse Iglesias Jr., 35th CSSB

*Today's Focus . . .***Pre-Deployment Training Equipment (PDTE)****What is it?**

PDTE is defined as a limited pool of standard and non-standard equipment that is low density, high demand and required to supplement the Mission Table of Organization and Equipment. PDTE is authorized by the HQs Department of the Army's requirements and resourcing board to be prepositioned at selected installations to support pre-deployment training for equipment that would otherwise not be available and replicates the equipment units will use in theater. The PDTE pool is not designed or sized to satisfy all equipment requirements. Its purpose is to augment unit shortages where there is a disparity between the deploying unit's MTOE and Mission Essential Equipment List. The PDTE pool may also provide the entire training equipment requirement where a small unit or team has no organic MTOE equipment.

**What has the Army done?**

In 2005, United States Army Forces Command in coordination with First Army developed an operational need statement for equipment needed to support Army National Guard and Army Reserve component pre-mobilization training in support of the 2006 mobilization plans for Component, ARNG (COMPO) 2/3 units. This equipment set was tailored to support ARNG and USAR units mobilized to support operations in lieu of security forces, transportation support units, and Military Police missions to fill

shortfalls between unit MTOE and MEEL.

**What continuing efforts support PDTE mission requirements?**

In 2009, the United States Pacific Command's operational need statement was approved establishing PDTE requirements in the Pacific. To date there are 17 PDTE sites, more than 16,000 line items on Table of Distribution and Allowances such as Mine Resistant Ambush Protected, Up-Armored Humvees, communication equipment and weapons. There are 14 FORSCOM and First Army sites across the continental U.S. located at Fort Bliss and Fort Hood, Texas; Fort Bragg, N.C.; Fort Campbell, Ky.; Fort Carson, Colo.; Fort Drum, N.Y.; Fort Riley, Kan.; Fort Sill, Okla.; Fort Stewart, Ga.; Camp Atterbury, Ind.; Camp Shelby, Miss.; Fort Dix, N.J.; Fort McCoy, Wis.; and Joint Base Lewis-McChord, Wash. USARPAC PDTE sites are located at Schofield Barracks, Hawaii; and Fort Wainwright and Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson, Alaska. PDTE program requirements are managed by ASC with the day-to-day execution and contracted support and government oversight by the Army Field Support Brigades and Battalions.

**Who can train on PDTE?**

Deploying units who are on orders with a Latest Arrival Date for combat operations in a Title X status are authorized to train on PDTE.

**Rock Island Arsenal host strategic planning luncheon**

By Tony Lopez  
ASC Public Affairs

The Rock Island Arsenal hosted a strategic planning luncheon April 1 including Quad City area mayors, as well as business and education leaders striving to synchronize and promote regional growth and workforce development.

D. Scott Welker, U.S. Army Sustainment Command deputy to the commander, facilitated the meeting with the goal of maintaining the Rock Island Arsenal as a national treasure.

Communication was established to meet the future needs of the Quad Cities region and the Rock Island Arsenal.

"What do we want to look like five to ten years from now?" asked Maj. Gen. Yves J. Fontaine, ASC commanding general. "The intent today is to discuss four strategic objectives to tie the community together so we can all benefit from the growth of the arsenal."

The strategic objectives discussed were:

- Enhancing the Joint Manufacturing and Technology Center as a critical asset for the nation's industrial base.
- Developing a Human Capital Investment Plan to recruit and retain a diverse workforce with the skills needed for the RIA and the Quad City area.
- Synchronizing efforts in promoting Quad Cities regional growth.
- Reviewing the RIA Installation Master Plan to identify future key military construction improvements.

Many ideas were discussed, including expanding educational partnerships, improving the RIA infrastructure, pursuing private sector industrial partnerships with the JMTC, and marketing the RIA as a military-industrial complex that is located in an affordable cost of living area with a high-quality workforce.

## 402nd donates RPG launcher to Museum

Story and photo by Galen Putnam  
402nd AFSB Public Affairs

**JOINT BASE BALAD, Iraq** - A historical artifact has joined the Army's premier small arms collection, thanks to a chance encounter and the determination of one man.

The item, a Russian-made, Iraqi-used, rocket-propelled grenade launcher, is headed to the museum at Rock Island Arsenal, Ill. The museum plans to host a ceremony at which the Army Sustainment Command will present the weapon on behalf of the 402nd Army Field Support Brigade, headquartered at Joint Base Balad, Iraq.

It all started when Wilfredo Villalba, a supply specialist with the 402nd AFSB, ran into an old friend from Airborne School at a dining facility at Joint Base Balad in February 2009. The two had attended jump school together as Soldiers in 1997, and had been in touch only occasionally over the years.

Running into one another in Iraq came as a complete surprise to both of them. After catching up on things, Villalba's friend, Agustin Quinones, who is now a captain at Fort Hood, Texas, explained that he had been presented with an RPG launcher from an Iraqi Army officer as a gift. Unfortunately, his unit was preparing to leave Iraq and he was unable to take it back with him.

Recognizing the historical value of the item, Villalba took possession of the weapon, hoping it could be put on exhibit somewhere back home as a remembrance of those who have served in Iraq.

"He [Quinones] did not have the time to submit all of the documents to request permission to ship the RPG home, so that is why I stepped forward to continue the mission," said Villalba, who served in Iraq with the 402nd AFSB for six years. "It is very important to me that this RPG launcher goes somewhere where it can be appreciated and can represent the 402nd Army Field Support Brigade, and all of the servicemembers and civilians who have served in Iraq. It will remind people about the dedication and sacrifice of all of the people who have stepped forward to serve their country in Iraq."

Villalba, who hails from a small town in Puerto

Rico, wanted to donate the launcher to his adopted hometown of Bethlehem, Pa., so he contacted Galen Putnam, 402nd AFSB Public Affairs officer, for assistance. Initial contacts with the city appeared positive, but things gradually fizzled out.

After hitting that roadblock, Putnam, who is deployed from the ASC Public Affairs Office, suggested they try the museum at Rock Island Arsenal, Ill. Besides complementing the museum's expansive small-arms collection, the Arsenal is also home to Army Sustainment Command, the 402nd AFSB's parent command.

"I am familiar with the Rock Island Arsenal Museum's collection, so I

thought this would be a good fit," Putnam said. "In addition, it is appropriate to have an item representing the 402nd AFSB at the Rock Island Arsenal Museum since our higher headquarters, the Army Sustainment Command, is also located at the Arsenal."

Rick Murphy, 402nd AFSB legal advisor who also deployed from ASC, stepped in to assist with negotiating the extensive paperwork trail. After getting things started, Murphy handed things off to his replacement, Lou Aldini, yet another 402nd AFSB member from ASC, who doggedly fought his way through the bureaucratic maze.

"It took seven months, but it's finally on its way," he said. "[Villalba] really deserves credit for making this happen. He was bound and determined to get this weapon to a collection where it can be enjoyed by others and represent the 402nd AFSB and those who have served in Iraq."

Villalba was elated when notified by e-mail that the artifact is on its way to the RIA Museum. "OMG - I will be very happy to fly there to be part of that ceremony. It is very important to me," he responded.

The U.S. Army Garrison - Rock Island Arsenal Public Affairs Office will announce details regarding the presentation ceremony at a later date. You can visit the Rock Island Arsenal Museum, the Army's second oldest museum, at: <http://riamwr.com/museum.htm>



**Wilfredo Villalba, 402nd AFSB, poses with the Iraqi rocket-propelled grenade launcher donated to the museum at Rock Island Arsenal, Ill.**