



The I GUANA



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Air Force secretary to take over Army

By Staff Sgt. Marcia Triggs
Army News Service

WASHINGTON – A farewell ceremony marked the end of Thomas White's term as the 18th secretary of the Army May 9 at Fort Myer, Va.

The Department of Defense announced April 25 that White submitted his resignation to Secretary of Defense Donald Rumsfeld. The reason for White's sudden decision to step down was not given.



Thomas White

The White House announced May 7 that James Roche, who is currently the secretary of the Air Force, was nominated as White's replacement. Roche now must be confirmed by the U.S. Senate to be the 19th Secretary of the Army.

It was Spring 2001 when White made his first speech as the secretary of the Army. In front of a group of senior non-commissioned officers, he first introduced the Army to his ideas of transformation and better business practices.



James Roche

As a former Enron executive who specialized in getting companies to out-source services, one of White's goals was to get the Army out of non-war-related business.

"The last two years have been a period of enormous importance for our Army and the country. The Installation Management Agency, Network Enterprise Technology Command and the Army Contracting Agency are examples of improvements to our business practices," White said during an intimate ceremony that was hosted by Army Chief of Staff Gen. Eric K. Shinseki.

When White came on board, the Army was in the process of transforming under the vision of Shinseki. But the chief told the audience members that White reinforced his efforts to bridge the operational gap between the rapidly deployable lighter forces and the later arriving heavier forces.



Sgt. Frederick Cowans, left, and Spc. James McBain ARFOR live-fire training May 8 at Tamara airfield. See story and photos on page 4.

Photo by Martin Chahin

Medical team surveys kids' health

By Spc. Chuck Wagner
Editor

On first impression, they could've been Hansel and Gretel's worst nightmare. Carrying scales on their backs, they trudged through the mountains around Santa Elena in search of children.

They measured, weighed and tested the blood of those they could find, taking special interest in the meatiness of their arms.

A group of military pediatricians and resident doctors spent a week in Honduras on a medical readiness training exercise organized by staff from Soto Cano's medical element.

Their unusual interest in the children's meatiness is part of a five-year study on malnutrition. This particular survey followed an earlier visit when families were given fortified foods. The team checked if the foods had filled previously-determined nutrition deficiencies among children.

"They get first-hand experience in recognizing the signs and symptoms of malnutrition, and they learn the

skills to do a rapid population assessment for malnutrition," said Dr. (Maj.) Bonnie Hartstein, staff pediatrician at Wilford Hall and Brook Army Medical Center, San Antonio, Texas.

The study is in its second year and involves three surveys annually into mostly rural and remote areas of Honduras.

The survey results will be given to Honduras' Ministry of Health, said MEDEL 1st Lt. Jennifer Cooper, officer in charge of the exercise.

Most team members are doctors in residency on their way to taking staff positions on military installations around the globe. They benefit from seeing medical cases uncommon in the United States. These skills are especially valuable in today's era of strategic warfare aimed at preventing widespread social disruption.

"The largest casualties of war are children – and not by bullets. They die of malnutrition because of a breakdown in the infrastructure, in their



Capt. Allison Woodward measures and marks a young girl at the La Paz hospital.

Photo by Spc. Chuck Wagner

See Survey page 7





Educating and enforcing proper uniform wear

By Chief Master Sgt. Dennis A. Desilet
AFFOR First Sergeant/ Senior Enlisted Advisor

As proud military professionals, we have all been carefully instructed on the proper wear of our uniform. Because of the tradition of service and excellence our uniform represents, we must strive to meet and exceed all Army and Air Force standards of dress and appearance every time we put on our uniform.

Most of the people I see everyday look super sharp and act professionally while in uniform. However, occasionally I see people who need to be reminded on how to wear our uniform correctly. Sounds simple, right? Most times all it takes is a quick reminder.

Sometimes, it is not so easy. There is a right way and a wrong way to inform someone they are not in compliance with AFI 36-2903, Dress and Personal Appearance of Air Force Personnel or AR 670-1, Wear and Appearance of the Military Uniform. Before acting on a uniform violation, ask yourself these questions:

- Is what I see a violation of AFI 36-2903 or AR 670-1?

Am I absolutely sure? Must I act now?

- Am I acting on the right information for the right reason?
- Can I make the correction safely, tactfully and professionally without undue commotion or embarrassment to the member?
- Is my uniform and appearance in compliance with the uniform standard?

If you've answered yes to all four questions, then act. Do it with a strong sense of purpose, confidence and pride, but do not avoid carrying out your responsibilities as a military member. If you are a non-commissioned officer, then you are guided by clear instructions to possess a thorough understanding of personal appearance standards and to be alert to correct personnel who violate military standards.

As an NCO correcting uniform violations or violations of any Air Force or Army standard is your duty and is non-negotiable. You must act. Don't wait until you see a violation to learn what the rules say about dress and personal appearance.



If you need help in solving uniform questions, see your supervisor, platoon sergeant or anyone in your chain of command.

Meeting the standards and maintaining a sharp, professional appearance sends a strong message that we are well trained, motivated and ready to carry out our mission. It also shows your personal pride and ability to follow orders and be a positive, contributing member of the team. Serving far from home

and missing friends and family is tough. But, we must never forget that we get to wear the uniform of our nation and that we are all serving by choice. It does not matter whether it says U.S. Army or U.S. Air Force on our uniform. We all serve the same flag and defend the same Constitution. The simple truth is many of our friends and fellow patriots have died wearing our uniform. They gave the last full measure of devotion in their ultimate sacrifice for freedom. We owe it to their memory to always wear our uniform with pride, honor and distinction and to never forget why we wear it.

Are you living a life of integrity?

By Maj. Tracey Meck
Joint Security Force commander

The first core value for the U.S. Air Force is "Integrity First."

Integrity is also a U.S. Army value.

In their article titled "Core Values," published in the Air War College course book, then Secretary of the Air Force Sheila Widnall and Air Force Chief of Staff General Ronald Fogleman discussed integrity this way:

Integrity is essential. It's the inner voice, the source of self-control, that is the basis for the trust that is imperative in today's military. It is doing the right thing when nobody is looking. In this world of 'me first' and relative ethics, honesty is still the hallmark of the military professional. Service members must know the right thing to do and must have the moral fortitude to do it.

Though many service members have internalized this value, many others on Soto Cano have not.

Directive One and other local directives, as well as our service regulations provide us rules we need to abide by in order to maintain good order and discipline.

We are all responsible for knowing and following the rules outlined in these documents.

However, as we walk around the base, frequent and deliberate violations of these rules are obvious.

Here are some examples of the more common ones:

1. Not wearing cover or saluting around the dining facility

Commanders' Corner

2. Passing personnel without making the effort to determine if they are an officer and therefore not saluting when you should
3. Riding bicycles on sidewalks that are not marked as bike paths (there is only one of these and it runs through the Echo area in front of the ATM machine)
4. Walking around the base with open containers of alcohol (the biggest problem is people leaving the clubs before they finish their drink, yet they take it with them)
5. Disguising the fact that you are carrying alcohol by putting it in a plastic cup



6. Parking in grassy areas or on the side of the road where parking is not authorized. We've even seen people parking in front of no-parking signs.
7. Buying items from the BX/PX for personnel who are not authorized to use the facility
8. Riding bikes and jogging on roads while wearing headphones
9. Using government vehicles and golf carts for unofficial business
10. Males not wearing their shirts around the billeting areas (only allowed if walking directly to or from the shower)

This list is far from complete, but you get the point.

Each of us should examine our conduct and actions and ask ourselves if we are living a life of integrity as our service values require of us.

In a different article in the Air War College text, Gen. Fogleman stated "integrity is the cement that binds organizations together, the cornerstone of mission accomplishment."

He goes on to say that he's "never found a more effective way of developing personal integrity than by applying it to everything you do, every day of your life – no matter how small or seemingly inconsequential the matter at hand."

I ask you – are you living a life of integrity?

SUBMISSIONS

The Iguana is always looking for submissions. Any articles, photos or letters to be submitted to *The Iguana* should be sent to the PAO at charles.wagner@jtfb.southcom.mil or delivered to the Public Affairs Office, Bldg. D-06. If you have questions about possible submissions call ext. 4150 or 4676 to talk to the editor.

The IGUANA

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Mothers' Day dance

Photo by Spc. Chuck Wagner

Honduran Air Force cadets dance in traditional Honduran fashion during a Mother's Day social at Club de Oficiales on Soto Cano Air Base May 9.

Cadets invited their families, especially mothers, for the festivities. Several hundred people attended.

Tax scams targeting deployed personnel

ST. LOUIS – Although the federal tax filing season ended April 15, the Internal Revenue Service continues to see isolated instances of new tax scams.

Two new schemes target families of those serving in the armed forces and e-mail users. In both schemes, people represent themselves as being from the IRS.

The IRS warns consumers to beware of any variation of a scenario in which a telephone caller posing as an IRS employee tells a family member he is entitled to a \$4,000 refund because his relative is in the armed forces and then requests a credit card number to cover a \$42 fee for postage. The scammer provides an actual IRS toll-free number as the call-back number to make the call seem legitimate. However, the scammer then charges unauthorized purchases with the victim's card.

Genuine IRS employees who call taxpayers do not ask for credit card numbers or request fees for payment of a refund.

In another scheme, victims receive an

e-mail that appears to be from the IRS. The e-mail contains links to a non-IRS Internet Web page that asks for personal and financial information. Such information could be used to steal the respondent's identity and get access to sensitive financial data or accounts.

The IRS does not request sensitive personal or financial data by e-mail.

The IRS wants to get word of these scams to military families before more damage is done, according to IRS spokesman Bill Barksdale.

"The calls may not be worded exactly the same, but it's a good chance the predator will do or say something to entice the military member or spouse to give up their credit card information, which they will then use to commit identity theft," he said.

People who believe they are victims of one of these scams can contact the Treasury Inspector General for Tax Administration at www.ustreas.gov/tigta. (Courtesy of Air Mobility Command News Service)

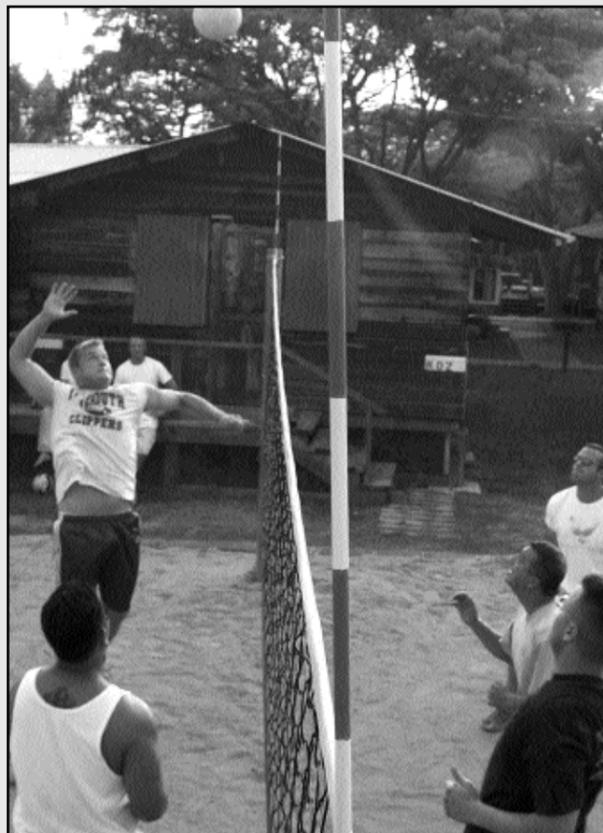
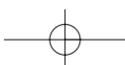


Photo by Tech. Sgt. Tom Mullican

Dayroom a big hit!

AFFOR personnel play a game of volleyball after re-opening their dayroom May 9. The dayroom was closed for two months while AF-FOR, PAE and base civil engineer members renovated the building. The renovations included a new floor, counter tops, sinks, curtains, furniture, ceiling fans, two stoves, two refrigerators, pool table, dart board, big screen T.V. and sound system. The re-opening started with a ribbon cutting ceremony followed by a barbecue and sports.





Capt. K
just fire

Headquarters and Support Company soldiers form an armed perimeter to defend the ambushed convoy during live-fire exercises May 8 at Tamara airfield's firing range.

ARFOR practices defending the delivery

By Spc. Chuck Wagner
Editor

The Iraqi ambush and capture of a U.S. Army maintenance unit proved the importance of teaching pencil-pushers and water luggers how to fight.

Soto Cano soldiers pushed away from their desks last week to make sure they're not a weak link in the Army's supply chain. Over several days, 14 ARFOR Headquarters and Support Company soldiers practiced at the Honduran Army's Tamara airfield repelling an enemy ambush of their supply convoy. The live-fire exercise put dust, sweat and smiles under Kevlars.

"I never got this kind of experience before. It's the most valuable training I've seen after five years in the Army," said Spc. Rafael Rodriguez, who works with ARFOR's fuel supply.

"You never know when we might go to war. I learned to defend myself, take care of my buddy

and complete the mission."

The exercise was set up near the firing range. The vehicles rolled in over bumpy roads to a small clearing, where organizers spread barbed wire across the path, tossed smoke grenades and set up silhouettes. Each silhouette had several balloons attached to represent enemy personnel.

The soldiers leapt from the vehicles, established a perimeter, fired on the enemy and removed the obstacles from the convoy's path. The convoy then sped out to complete its supply mission.

"We had this training planned before the events in Iraq with the maintenance folks," explained ARFOR battalion commander Lt. Col. William Sternhagen. "This just reinforces the importance of what we are trying to teach here. Lots of sol-



Supply Sgt.
Dexter Nelams

diers in a convoy have the tendency to get pinned down, because they don't know how to react."

The soldiers improved with each repetition. They ran through the exercise with no rounds, then with blanks, and finally with live rounds, Sternhagen said.

"I'm very proud of the soldiers. They are doing what combat infantry does and doing it well," said Capt. Kimberly Jenson, officer in charge of the training. "They are working their butts off."

Over four live-fire exercises, the shooters improved their patience and accuracy against the enemy silhouettes. The teams also improved communication between the shooters, those breaching the barrier and those protecting the perimeter. After the first live-fire trial, the team shortened the time needed to get the convoy rolling again.

"We started at a crawl. Today it's really come

together. It isn't just technical skills, it's putting them together as a unit, talking to each other, clearing the ground they are supposed to defend. Headquarters and Support Company did it," said Stone.

This lesson wasn't lost on the soldiers. "We worked as a team. A team can't go wrong," said Sgt. Jenson.

Although critical in a host of situations, the skills are also meant to apply in other situations. Bravo.

"Here in Honduras, our primary mission is humanitarian support during natural disasters," said company commander Capt. Moore. "We could be called upon to deliver humanitarian supplies get to in situations like the Red Cross. There are times in which criminals might target our convoys. Our job is to make sure





Photos by Spc. Chuck Wagner

Timberly Jensen instructs Private 1st Class John O'Neal how to add on balloon targets on the firing range.



Photo by Spc. Chuck Wagner

Left, 1st Sgt. Jonny Stone attaches balloons to range silhouettes. Each balloon represented an enemy target, and the goal was to hit nearly 20 targets. Below, Staff Sgt. Patrick Clark assists Cpl. Joshua McAlpin put on an armored flak vest before the live-fire training.



Photo by Spc. Chuck Wagner

very

cal training – it brings ing together, and cov- posed to cover,” said t Co. 1st Sgt. Jonny

n the soldiers. Anything you do as a Staff Sgt. Wadie Good-

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primary mission is hu- times of natural disas- nander Capt. Stacey d on to make sure hu- ternational organiza- at includes situations y to intercept the de- sure they get through.”

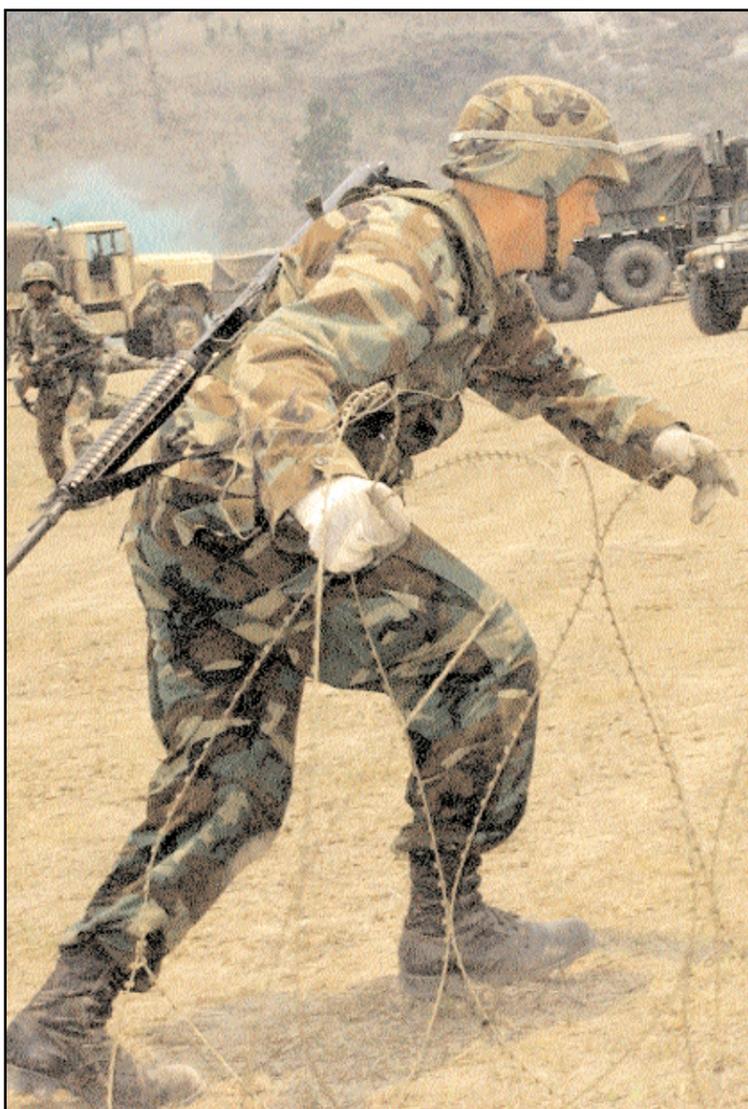


Photo by Spc. Chuck Wagner

Spc. James McBain moves barbed wire from the convoy's path while other soldiers form a defensive circle.

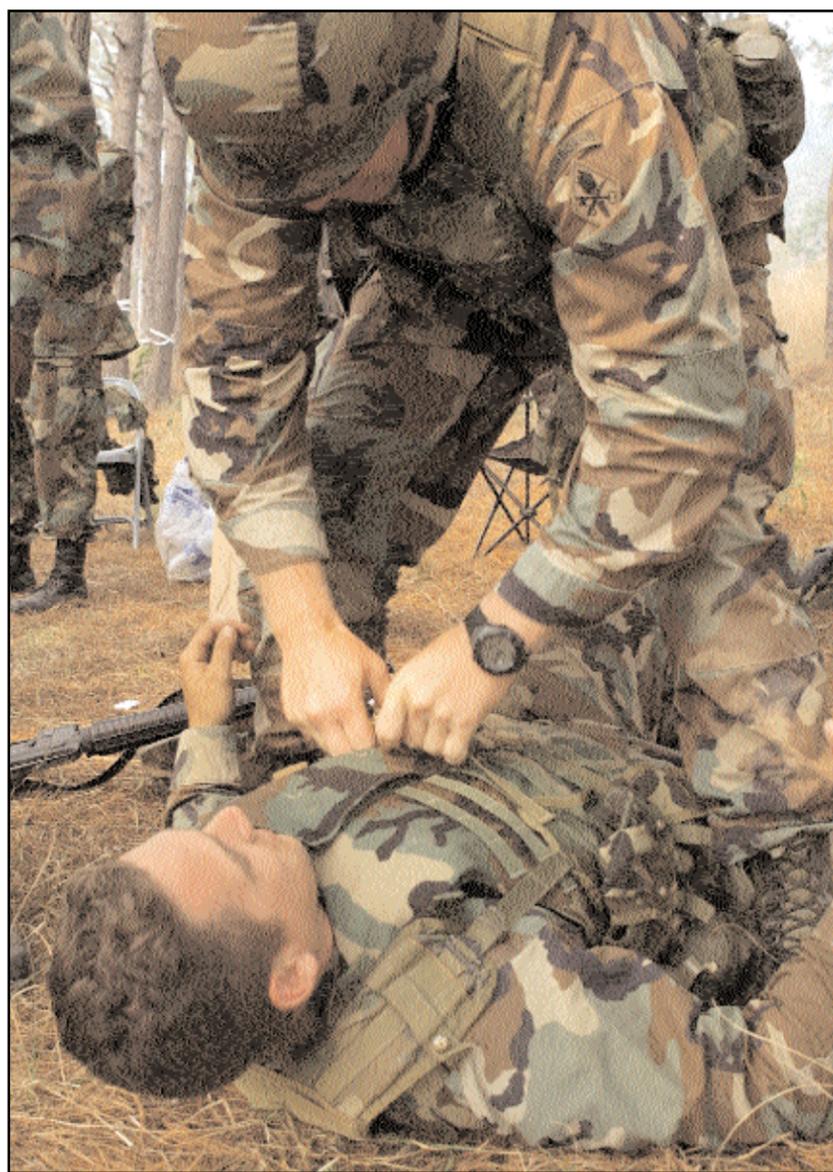
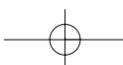
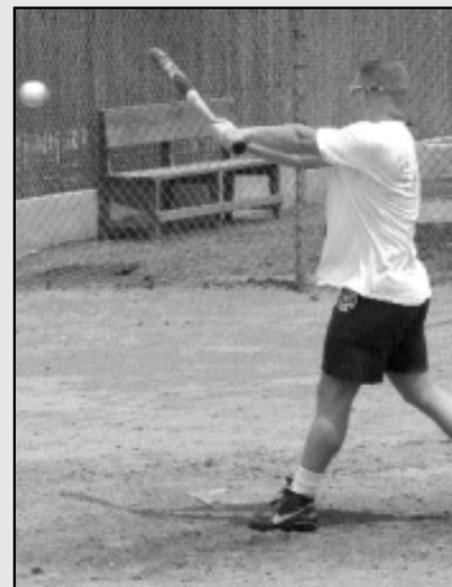


Photo by Martin Chahin





Airman 1st Class Nate Sprague connects while at bat against Tegucigalpa fire fighters May 4.



AFFOR Staff Sgt. Paul Barker greets the ball in a game with mixed pitching.

Photos by Spc. Chuck Wagner

Mixing it up for fun

By Spc. Chuck Wagner
Editor

The Soto Cano Fire Dawgs played several goodwill games of softball against members of the Tegucigalpa Fire Department May 4.

Soto Cano Fire Chief Senior Master Sgt. Gerrodd Stevenson and Master Sgt. Nick Campbell organized the event on the base diamond after an invitation to play from the Honduran Fire Chief.

They received the invite a month ago while touring the Honduran fire training facility and main fire station in Tegucigalpa.

The camaraderie-fostering event had one hitch – the Fire Dawgs play slow-pitch softball, the Hondurans

play fast-pitch softball. They compromised by allowing each team to pitch to its advantage.

“It seemed to work out and we had a blast,” said Campbell.

“The feedback that we got from the Hondurans is they had a great time and they asked us to come back to Teguc in the near future to play again.”

The Fire Dawgs played well enough that the Hondurans invited several team members to join them next month for tournament play in El Salvador, said Campbell.

The two teams enjoyed a barbecued meal together after the games.

Majs. M. Shannon Averill and Kent Sylvester volunteered their umpire skills for the two match-ups. Campbell said a re-match is in the works.



Honduran fire fighters from Tegucigalpa chase down a high-flying hit.

Wolfowitz salutes women's military professionalism

By Gerry J. Gilmore
American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON – Today's military women are dedicated professionals who play key roles across America's armed services, U.S. Deputy Defense Secretary Paul D. Wolfowitz told members of DoD's military women's advisory group May 9.

America's military women, have provided important contributions – often while in harm's way – in support of recent military operations, Wolfowitz today told members of the Defense Advisory Committee on Women in the Services. The panel was in Washington for business meetings.

“We've had so many women involved so integrally in our armed forces,” Wolfowitz said, pointing out U.S. service

women's “spectacular display of military professionalism” during Operation Iraqi Freedom.

For example, Wolfowitz cited the bravery of former prisoner of war Army Pfc. Jessica Lynch, still recuperating from her injuries at Walter Reed Army Medical Center.

He also praised the skill and tenacity of a female A-10 “Warthog” pilot who brought back her badly shot-up warplane on manual control. She was so proficient at destroying enemy troops and equipment in Iraq, he added, that some of her flying mates claimed her real-name initials, K.C., instead stood for “Killer Chick.”

Wolfowitz also commented on the May 8 launch he attended at the military Women's Memorial in Arlington, Va., of the publication of DoD's “A Day in the

Life of the U.S. Armed Forces” book of photographs that depicts service members performing their missions worldwide.

The deputy secretary said 125 of the best American men and women photographers – including military – deployed around the world Oct. 22, 2002, to capture the U.S. military's story that day as shown through the actions of its troops.

He said 250,000 total photos had been shot and a couple of hundred of these were selected to appear in the book, which he called “fantastic.”

Recalling “Day in the Life” photographs he saw at the book launch, Wolfowitz told the committee that many of the “most captivating scenes” taken by the photographers “involved women in the armed forces.”

Wolfowitz said he was especially im-

pressed with a photo taken of a determined young female Marine in training at Parris Island, S.C.

That military women are greatly represented in the book is only natural, the deputy defense secretary pointed out, since military women today perform “such integral roles in the armed forces ... there's no hiding it.”

The DACOWITS chairwoman, retired Marine Corps Lt. Gen. Carol G. Mutter, told Wolfowitz that the advisory committee had recently visited some stateside military installations, with overseas trips planned as well.

This year, Mutter noted, DACOWITS is focused to examine three areas: women's health care, particularly obstetrics-gynecology; military women's retention issues; and military deployment issues.





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Survey From front page

home situation, in food supplies. The (team members) learn how to monitor and deal with that," said Hartstein.

Organizers divided the team into five groups with about five to seven members, said Staff Sgt. Joe Flores, non-commissioned officer in charge of the exercise. Although the survey itself was easy enough, the trudge between remote homes in the mountains was arduous.

"Sometimes we had to walk an hour to an hour and a half to get to one home. A group might only see four families in a day," said Flores. Each group covered five to ten miles on foot each day. "And that means through dense vegetation, barbed wire and up and down steep hills."

The team organized a health clinic at a school in Santa Elena April 30.

A day later, they visited Hospital Roberto Suazo Cordova in La Paz to learn more about how local medical facilities treat malnutrition. They then visited the Hospital Esquela in Tegucigalpa.

Arriving from the states in several large planes, the team came with boxes full of brightly colored quilts to donate to the hospital in La Paz. They also donated a glucose monitor, and a "Bili-Light," a specialized lamp used as therapy for jaundiced infants. Staff members in the neonatal wing staff were so thrilled to receive the lamp worth \$7,000, that within minutes they had an infant under the bulbs' bluish rays.



Photos by Spc. Chuck Wagner

Members of the medical team discuss a child's condition in the La Paz hospital during a tour of the facility May 1.



A child in La Paz hospital eats watermelon while watching the medical team go through the hospital.



Neonatal staff in the La Paz hospital immediately put an infant under the bluish "Bili-Light" donated to the hospital by the visiting survey team. The light, worth about \$7,000, helps treat jaundiced newborns. The hospital has never owned a Bili-Light.

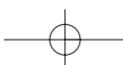


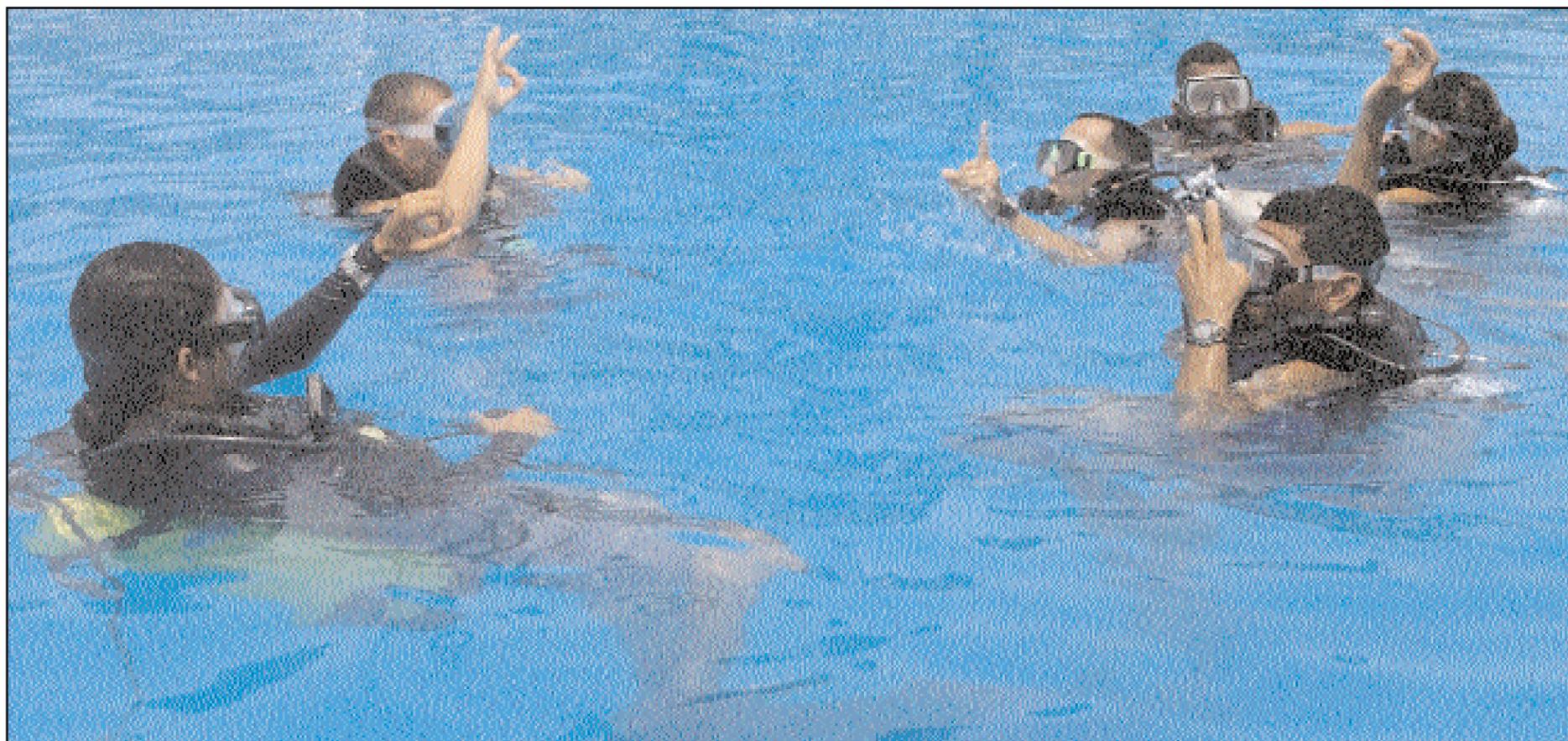
Courtesy photo

Capt. Allison Woodward and Senior Airman Jesus Antillon from the 59th Medical Wing, Wilford Hall, San Antonio, Texas measure a child near Santa Elena.



Capt. Allison Woodward and Maj. Bonnie Hartstein, right, look over a patient's X-ray at La Paz Hospital. The medical team toured the hospital and observed local procedures for treating malnourished children as part of a five-year survey in Honduras.





Photos by Spc. Chuck Wagner

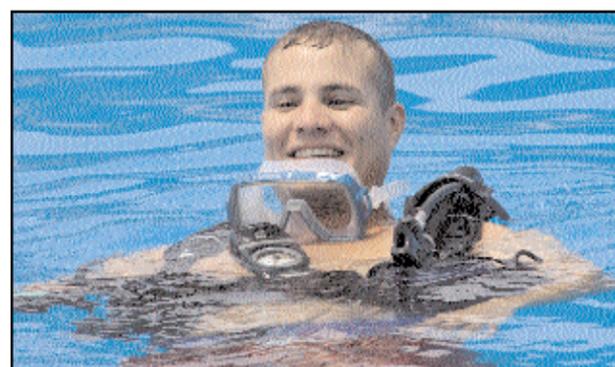
Soto Cano personnel signal during open water scuba lessons in the base pool May 4. Students start lessons on base, and later complete them in Roatan.



Spc. Lizette Salas steps into the pool for lessons.

Ready for Roatan

Classes immerse students in open water diving before leaving Soto Cano



Sgt. Edrik Torres waits for further instruction.



Sgt. 1st Class Rafael Martinez dons scuba equipment helped by instructor Balto Pinto of Pura Vida Diving, Roatan. The Morale, Welfare and Recreation office sponsors the scuba certification twice monthly. At a cost of \$130, the course has a waiting list for attendees.

