

Inside out

Pages 2-3

CINC's farewell message to the command

Pages 8-10

New DCINC outlines his priorities

Pages 22-23

Shoppette delivers on request

50th anniversary of Korean War



See pages 4-6

Command honors Korean War veterans

The **Command**  **Run**

Vol. 1 No. 8 ■ Miami ■ Aug. 25, 2000

Command Run

is an authorized publication for members of the Department of Defense. Contents of the *Command Run* are not necessarily the official views of, or endorsed by, the U.S. Government or DoD. The editorial content is edited, prepared and provided by the U.S. Southern Command Public Affairs Office. Deadline for submissions is 5 p.m. Friday, a week before publication (the last Friday of each month). The public affairs staff reserves the right to edit all submissions to journalistic standards. All photos are official photos unless otherwise noted. Acceptance of input by the public affairs staff does not guarantee publication.

* * * * *

Marine Gen. Charles E. Wilhelm.....*Commander in Chief*
Army Col. Ronald B. Williams.....*Director of Public Affairs*

Editorial Staff

Air Force Tech. Sgt. Lee Roberts.....*Editor*
Navy Petty Officer 1st Class Gabe Puello.....*Assistant editor*
Army Spc. Lucy J. Pabon.....*CINC photographer*

'Thank you for all you've done'

By Gen. Charles E. Wilhelm
U.S. Southern Command
commander in chief

As I conclude my tenure at U.S. Southern Command and prepare to retire from active duty, I recall my years of military service with gratitude and pride. During peacetime and in combat, I served under many great

leaders and had the privilege of commanding many exceptional men and women who were willing to make many personal sacrifices to preserve freedom and democracy.

I am especially proud of the dedication, professionalism, and commitment of the men and women of

See **Thanks**
Page 3

Thanks

from Page 2

U.S. Southern Command. When the command moved from Panama to Miami in 1997, our Area of Responsibility (AOR) expanded to encompass the Caribbean Sea and island nations, the Gulf of Mexico, and portions of the Atlantic and Pacific Oceans. This expansion increased the number of countries in our AOR from 19 to 32 and nearly doubled the geographic area from 6.9 to 12.1 million square miles. Whether you worked in the headquarters, onboard a ship, or in a remote location, each of



you accepted the challenge of your expanded role in preserving and defending America's interests and commitments.

I recognize the difficult tasks each of you faced during this period and want you to know that your efforts have made a significant contribution toward preserving peace and prosperity in

"I am especially proud of the dedication, professionalism, and commitment of the men and women of U.S. Southern Command."

Gen. Charles E. Wilhelm

our hemisphere. You've assisted nations during crises; built schools, roads, and bridges; provided medical assistance; saved lives, and helped stem the flow of illegal drugs. United States Southern Command's soldiers, sailors, airmen, Marines, Coast Guardsmen, and civilians have served our nation with

distinction, and I am extremely proud of your efforts. I am also especially grateful to your families who have helped us establish roots in Miami and maintained the homefront while our servicemembers have worked many long hours and weekends to accomplish the mission.

Valerie joins me in sending warmest and best wishes to each of you and your family members. Our thoughts and prayers go with you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "C. E. Wilhelm".

C. E. WILHELM
General, U.S. Marine Corps
Commander in Chief, U.S.
Southern Command

Command honors local Korean War heroes

By Navy Petty Officer 1st Class
Gabe Puello
Command Run Assistant Editor

The perception of the Korean War today by many Americans conjures up images of Hawkeye Pierce, Trapper John, and Radar O'Reilly, all characters of the television comedy, MASH that ran for so many years, showing a far less brutal, far less savage struggle than veterans of the war recall. These real veterans were recognized and presented with a 50th anniversary of the Korean War coin, by Gen. Charles Wilhelm, U.S. Southern Command, commander in

Miami area Korean War veterans were guests of Gen. Charles E. Wilhelm at the command's monthly award ceremony July 31. They received a 50th anniversary of the Korean War coin from the general.



Wilhelm personally thanked the Korean War veterans for their service to the nation and the general also gave each veteran a personalized coin. (Photos by Army Spc. Lucy J. Pabon)

chief, during the command's award ceremony July 31.

Over 30 members of the Korean War Veterans chapter 110 and the Eddie

Lyons chapter were invited to the event along with their spouses who were presented a commemorative pin also by Wilhelm in recognition of their husband's sacrifices.

Immediately following the ceremony, the vet's were guest's to a special reception hosted by the command in their honor, where a Korean War display featured images and historical documentation of the war.

The Korean War veterans at the ceremony represented all branches of the service and many had par-

See **Heroes**
Page 5

Heroes
from Page 4

ticularly interesting and harrowing assignments. Combat Infantrymen such as A.J. Camoesas, Kenneth Cutler, Harry Reifenberg and Clarke Warne were some of the vets present who saw action in nearly forgotten battles such as the "punchbowl", "Chorwon", hill-1062 "Pork Chop", and "Heartbreak Ridge." Some of these men were called upon to pass on their combat knowledge to a younger generation

of soldiers who would experience combat in another war in Vietnam. There, they would continue to serve conspicuously earning medals for valor and bravery.

The office of the Deputy Under Secretary of the Army (International Affairs), International Commemoration, has provided special commemorative coins to be presented to the veterans, pins for spouses, and a Korean War Commemorative flag, in keeping with this year's marking of the 50th Anniversary of the Korean War.

One Korean War soldier's story

By Navy Petty Officer
1st Class Gabe Puello
Command Run Assistant
Editor

MIAMI -- Alfonso "A.J." Camoesas, 7th Infantry Division, 32nd Infantry Regiment, was one of the first to "combat jump," while serving with the 2nd Airborne Ranger Co., into Korea's Kimpo Airport, Seoul, Korea. "When we took Seoul back, we invaded by air and

"I was evacuating from Seoul and boarding a ship, when wouldn't you know it, a sniper shot me in the back of the head."

A. J. Camoesas

sea," Camoesas said. Later he was to be part of the U.N. offensive, which landed him in the Chosin

Reservoir, where he earned the Navy Cross and the Silver Star in two separate incidents two hours apart. "We were very busy there," chuckled Camoesas. I didn't even know about the awards until a month later when the paperwork was sent into headquarters by two separate officers."

See **Camoesas**
Page 6

Nation-wide events beginning June 25, 2000

through November 11, 2003 are planned to honor and thank

Korean War veterans for their sacrifice in service to the nation.

Camoesas

from Page 5

Camoesas received two purple hearts while in Korea. He recalls when he received his first wound; "I was evacuating from Seoul and boarding a ship, when wouldn't you know it, a sniper shot me in the back of the head." He would spend the next three months convalescing in a hospital before returning to the front. "I'm a front line soldier," added Camoesas.

Nine month's later, the front lines had moved south towards Seoul. During the U.N. counteroffensive above Seoul, Camoesas was wounded a second time by shrapnel from an incoming mortar round.



He survived Korea and served in the Republic of Vietnam from 1967 through 69, with the 5th Group, Special Forces, Studies and Observation Group (SOG),

Saigon. There, he received another Silver Star Medal, three Bronze Stars, and the Soldier's Medal, Army Commendation Medal with "V" device, Croix de

Gen. Charles E. Wilhelm presents A. J. Camoesas his personalized coin and recognizes him for his distinguished service in combat during the Korean War 50 years ago.

Camoesas served in the 7th Infantry Division, 32nd Infantry Regiment, and was one of the first to "combat jump," while serving with the 2nd Airborne Ranger Co., into Korea's Kimpo Airport, Seoul, Korea. (Photo by Army Spc. Lucy J. Pabon)

Guerre, South Vietnam Medal of Honor, several purple hearts, two more combat jumps, and the Combat Infantry Badge with two stars.



Director retires

Army Col. Kenneth C. Gongaware (left), J-6 Command, Control, Communications, and Computer Systems Directorate director, receives the Defense Distinguished Service Medal Aug. 14 from Gen. Charles E. Wilhelm, U.S. Southern Command commander in chief, during a retirement ceremony at the Main Conference Room. Gongaware culminated 29 years of service to the nation. (Photo by Army Spc. Lucy J. Pabon)

New DCINC observes command, expresses pleasure



Army Brig. Gen. Gary D. Speer
U.S. Southern Command
deputy commander in chief

By Tech. Sgt. Lee Roberts, USAF
Command Run Editor

MIAMI – It’s been one month since Army Brig. Gen. Gary D. Speer became the U.S. Southern Command’s deputy commander in chief. Since then, he has carefully observed day-to-day operations at the headquarters, and recently he expressed his pleasure.

“We have got some great people. I’ve got absolutely no complaints about my reception, my indoctrination, or with the quality of support being given by hard-working, dedicated people carrying out the CINC’s vision for our area of responsibility,” Speer reported during a recent *Command Run* interview.

The new DCINC, who has been nominated for promotion to major general, said Aug. 18 that he’s com-

mitted to supporting the commander in chief and taking care of service members and their families.

Speer said he’s pleased so far with the status of operations and quality of life at the headquarters. Still, he said he doesn’t want the command to become complacent.

“We should do everything we can in terms of supporting the CINC and the execution of his vision and the execution of SOUTHCOM as a whole in terms of our mission,” he said. “In terms of quality of life... we should do everything we can for the care and welfare of our service members and their families, recognizing the unique challenges that exist with living in a metropolitan area.”

To support the CINC and to ex-

See **Speer**
Page 9

Speer

from Page 8

ecute the command's missions, Speer will be able to draw from his wealth of experience in dealing with Latin American affairs. He previously served as the deputy commander of U.S. Army South in Panama from 1996 to 1998. While there, he learned some Spanish with a lunchtime tutor. Earlier in his career, he served as a security assistance action officer for Latin America on the Army Staff at the Pentagon.

During Operation Uphold Democracy, Speer commanded a multi-national brigade responsible for security in the northern



Photo by Air Force Tech. Sgt. Lee Roberts

Brig. Gen. Gary D. Speer said during a recent interview that he is committed to supporting the commander in chief and taking care of service members and families.

half of Haiti. One battalion was from Guatemala and one battalion was

made up of troops from the self-defense forces of the Caribbean Island nations.

“I guess every one of these assignments have contributed a little bit to the expertise that I may bring to the table,” Speer noted during the interview.

With quality of life, Speer commended the work Mike Rhodes has done as the quality of life coordinator. The general said the positive improvements that have been made since the command's arrival in Miami three years ago demonstrate the CINC and the command are committed to doing everything to enhance quality of life of personnel and their families. “We will never have all the support facilities in

See **Speer**
Page 10

Speer

from Page 9

Miami that you may have at a large Air Force or Army base,” Speer said, “but we will take care of families the best we can.”

Speer said he understands that quality of life issues in Miami are unique, and he is willing to address issues that warrant his attention. He just asks everyone to first approach their first-line supervisors with concerns, complaints or suggestions where the problems and circumstances may be better understood.

“I’m going to encourage people to utilize the chain of command. In most cases the solution or assistance that is needed lies right with the first-line supervisor – the noncommissioned officer or officer,” Speer said.

The general, who entered the Army in 1972 after graduating from the U.S. Military Academy at West Point, N.Y., returns to the U.S. Southern Command after serving as assistant division commander of the 10th Mountain Division (Light Infantry), Fort Drum, N.Y. He said



“I’m going to encourage people to utilize the chain of command. In most cases the solution or assistance that is needed lies right with the first-line supervisor – the noncommissioned officer or officer.”

Army Brig. Gen. Gary D. Speer
*U.S. Southern Command
deputy commander in chief*

he’s excited about returning to SOUTHCOM and looks forward to the challenges he’ll engage as DCINC.

“I am firmly com-

mitted and believe in the role that we play in executing the big picture – our national security strategy,” he said. “And I promise to do everything in

my power to support the CINC, to make the command successful, and to take care of our service members and our families.”

Command says farewell to political advisor



Charles H. Brayshaw is awarded the Outstanding Civilian Service Medal by General Charles E. Wilhelm during a farewell ceremony Aug. 21 at the Main Conference Room. The general said Brayshaw was “indispensable” in expanding Mil-to Mil relations, formulating effective policy and executing strategies for the command’s theater engagement and counterdrug operations. In addition, Wilhelm said Brayshaw’s diplomatic skills were pivotal in accomplishing \$1.3 billion “Plan Colombia” package. Brayshaw’s next assignment will be as Charge’ de Affaire, Riyadh, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. (Photo by Navy Petty Officer 1st Class Gabe Puello)

Miami mayor Corollo visits headquarters

Story and photos by Navy Petty Officer 1st Class Gabe Puello
Command Run Assistant Editor

Mayor Joe Carroyo, and the heads of the city of Miami fire and police departments, along with city manager Carlos Gimenez, visited the headquarters recently and were briefed on latest developments in the U.S. Southern Command's counterdrug, theater engagement and quality of life issues.

The mayor and his senior staff were given briefings on the command's missions and goals in the area of responsibility by Marine Brig.



(Left) Marine Brig. Gen. Jerry C. McAbee, chief of staff, makes a presentation to Miami Mayor Joe Carroyo. (Right) The chief of staff responds to questions posed by the mayor and his contingent.

Gen. Jerry C. McAbee, chief of staff, and senior representatives of the command's directorates and quality of life office.

During a portion of the briefing given by Mike Rhodes, quality of life coordinator, Carroyo and his staff asked the senior representatives of the directorates "what the City of Miami could do in regards to lowering rents and provide services of need

to the command." Although the City of Miami does not house any significant portion of the command, it does encompass the area surrounding the airport and businesses involved in the day to day functions of the headquarters. Some pertinent questions in regards to Cuban involvement in the AOR's affairs were also addressed by the commands representatives in response to the city leaders.



Photo by Army Spc. Lucy J. Pabon

Counterdrug conference

Senior military, police and civilian drug enforcement representatives from eight “source zone” countries, along with senior Drug Enforcement Agency and U.S. Southern Command representatives, stand in front of the Bitmore Hotel in Miami. The group discussed counterdrug issues at the DEA Regional Source Zone Counterdrug Conference Aug. 14-15.

Armed Forces Service Center joins local CFC

The Armed Forces Service Center at Miami International Airport has joined the local Combined Federal Campaign.

Edna S. Sardella, volunteer director, reported this week that the campaign number for people wishing to pledge donations during the CFC campaign is No. 5205.

The center provides service members and their families a safe place to rest, a snack and drink, a magazine to read and movies to watch while they wait for their next flight -- all free of charge.

Women's equality speaker highlights the 'right to vote'

By Navy Petty Officer 1st Class Gabe Puello

Command Run Assistant Editor

The 79th Anniversary of the passing of the 19th amendment to the constitution allowing women the precious right to vote, was celebrated by the command Monday. Guest speaker Rosa Sugrañes gave a dynamic oratory, which caused the audience to resound in a standing ovation and subsequent applause.

"I felt like the guy who asked for a ride and got the keys to a Rolls Royce," said Gen. Charles E. Wilhelm, U.S. Southern Command, commander in chief.

The women who struggled during the latter part of the 19th century were remembered for their accomplishments during a National Women's Equality day ceremony con-

ducted in the command's main conference room, followed by a reception in the lobby.

A slide presentation depicting some of the early pioneers of the women's suffrage movement provided the audience with insight into the history and backgrounds of some of the behind-the-scenes players in the women's right to vote movement, pivotal in the passing of the 19th amendment.

Following the pictorial journey to the past, Sugrañes approached the podium after a brief introduction by Wilhelm, and spoke of today and tomorrow's women. Sugrañes used as a baseline for her oration her diverse background as CEO and founder of Iberia Tiles Corp., in Mi-



Photo by Air Force Tech. Sgt. Lee Roberts
Rosa Sugrañes, CEO and founder of Iberia Tiles Corp., speaks Monday at the command's National Women's Equality Day Ceremony.

See **Equality**

Page 15

Equality

from Page 14

ami, with businesses in Central America, the Caribbean and Georgia. She also touched upon extraordinary civic activism with seats on several major advisory boards, while managing to raise two children assisted by her husband.

“This is a very serious and important challenge for our society and for our businesses and institutions. Society needs women involved in the labor at all levels, but society also needs women to become mothers and dedicate themselves to raise functional children,” said Sugañes. “Today we may



Photo by Air Force Tech. Sgt. Lee Roberts
Gen. Charles E. Wilhelm, U.S. Southern Command commander in chief, presents a token of appreciation to Rosa Sugañes, the guest speaker of the command's National Women's Equality day ceremony at the Thurman Building's Main Conference Room Monday.

not be facing those momentous challenges, but our obligation to exercise our

are cynical and corrupt but I truly believe that the majority of them are decent public servants trying to do their best for the country. It is incumbent upon us to liberate the good, honest, conscientious politicians from the grasp of the special interest and the campaign contributors, and to vote the bad ones unceremoniously out of office,” she added.

Sugañes urged that all military personnel “by God, go out and vote,” and thanked the command for the opportunity to allow her to speak about a much beloved subject. Gen. Wilhelm presented Sugañes with a small gift, in appreciation of her visit to SOUTHCOM.

right to vote is as important as ever. It might be true that some of our politicians

Appropriation Act signed, pay to rise 3.7 percent

By **Jim Garamone**
American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON, Aug. 22, 2000 — President Clinton signed the fiscal 2001 Defense Appropriations Act, paving the way for a 3.7 percent pay raise for service members Jan. 1.

The budget of \$288 billion is an increase of \$18 billion over fiscal 2000 and about \$3.5 billion more than the president requested.

The act provides \$75.8 billion to pay a total of 1.382 million active duty personnel and 866,934 members of the reserve components. The act also provides money

for DoD to begin eliminating out-of-pocket housing costs. Currently, the Basic Allowance for Housing covers only about 81 percent of service members' housing costs if they live off base. DoD seeks to cut this 19 percent out-of-pocket expense to 15 percent in fiscal 2001 and to zero by 2005.

The Defense Health Program is funded at \$12.1 billion. That share includes money Congress added to support changes to the military pharmacy benefit. Members of Congress said the legislation also would provide a blueprint for implementing permanent health care for retirees.

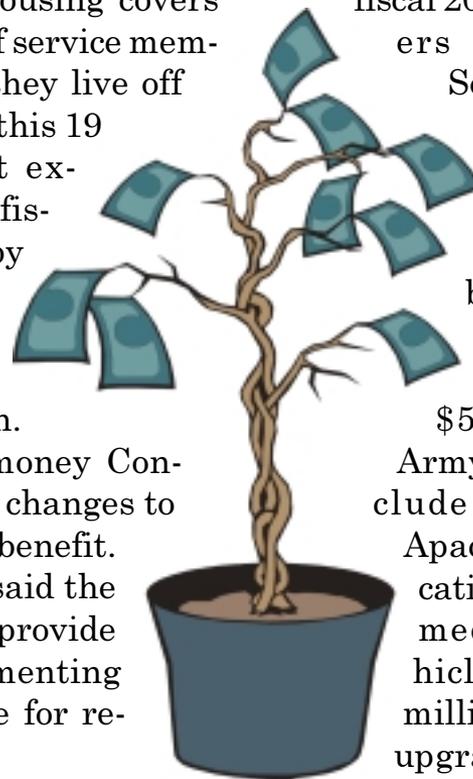
Congress matched the administration in funding operations and maintenance. O&M funding is

set at \$96.9 billion in fiscal 2001.

This is up from \$92.2 billion in fiscal 2000. The funding covers contingencies in Southwest Asia and in Bosnia and Kosovo.

Military modernization also got a boost from the act.

Procurement for fiscal 2001 is set at \$59.2 billion. Major Army projects funded include \$729 million for Apache Longbow modifications, \$637 million for medium armored vehicle family and \$294 million for Abrams tank upgrades.



See **Pay raise**

Page 17

Pay raise
from Page 16

In addition, the Army will receive \$1.6 billion to transform itself. Army Chief of Staff Gen. Eric Shinseki called for the creation of 4,000-member quick strike brigades that can be deployed anywhere in the world in 96 hours. The appropriations act fully funds one such brigade and will equip a second brigade in 2001. The Army also received money to develop a light-weight vehicle.

Navy and Marine Corps procurement actions include \$4.2 billion for 42 F/A-18E/F fighters,

\$1.1 billion for V-22 Osprey tilt-rotor aircraft, \$4 billion for the CVN-77 aircraft carrier and \$2.7 billion for three DDG-51 destroyers.

Air Force procurement includes \$2.1 billion for 10 F-22 fighters, \$400 million for five F-15 fighters, \$2.8 billion for C-17 airlifters and \$380 million for C-135 modifications.

The Fiscal 2001 Defense Authorization Bill is still being worked on. The authorization bill allows DoD to spend money. The appropriation act actually provides the funds. DoD officials said they expect work to finish on this bill when Congress meets in September.

Air Force Ball Sept. 23

The Air Force's annual Air Force Ball is Sept. 23 at the Miami Radisson Mart Hotel.

Social hour begins at 6 p.m. and dinner, which is surf and turf, begins at 7:30 p.m.

Officials note that civilian dress is black tie and military dress is mess dress or Class A.

The cost for a ticket varies on rank of individuals (a breakdown on exact amounts are listed below). Call Senior Master Sgt. Jesse Streets at (305) 437-1606 and Chief Master Sgt. Bill Hoerman at (305) 437-1113 about buying tickets or for more information about the event.

- | | |
|--|------------------|
| E7-above/all WS/ GS10-above | \$60 each |
| E5-E6/WG8-13/GS6-9 | \$50 each |
| E1-4/WG7-below | \$40 each |
| Squadron/unit/comany top tables | \$500 |
- Make checks payable to "Air Force Ball"**
All general-seating arrangements are on a first-come, first-serve basis. Cut off for ticket sales is close of business Sept. 9.

Fair a conduit to higher education

By Navy Petty Officer 1st Class Gabe Puello
Command Run Assistant
Editor

The Joint Education Service Center hosted an Education Fair Aug. 4 at the Thurman Building. Local university and college officials were invited here once a year to let all the recently recruited applicants interested in attending Fall-semester classes.

“The schools, some four year institutions like FIU (Florida Interna-

tional University), FAU (Florida Atlantic University), American Intercontinental University, Embry Riddle Aeronautical and two year colleges such as Miami Dade Community College, are invited here once a year to let all the recently arrived Southcom members know what courses they have to offer,” said Michelle Rosales, a U.S.

See **Fair**
Page 19



Photo by Navy Petty Officer 1st Class Gabe Puello
Air Force Staff Sgt. Bridget Plifka (Right), Protocol Office, asks questions and looks at information pamphlets Aug. 4 at the Thurman Building during the command’s Education Fair sponsored by the Joint Service Education Center.

Fair

from Page 18

Southern Command education center representative.

Additional information was available at the event on what services are available through the command's education center.

The education center offers CLEP, language testing and DANTES programs for those interested in earning extra college credits. They also offer assistance with correspondence courses and "troops to teachers" program's as well as G.I. Bill and assistance with acquiring tuition assistance information.



Local university and college officials recruit U.S. Southern Command applicants interested in attending Fall-semester classes. (Photo by Navy Petty Officer 1st Class Gabe Puello)

Officials said they were pleased with the event and with the high turnout of people. "A lot of folks walked away with informa-

tion the didn't previously know," said Rosales.

The Education office is located in the Codina building, 8300 NW 33rd Street,

Suite 110. Their hours of operation are 7:30 a.m. to 4:20 p.m. For more information, call the education center at (305) 437-1141.

News briefs

Miami area tour

The Family Support Center is sponsoring its monthly Miami area tour 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Sep. 29. The tour is free to military personnel and their families. The tour begins and ends at the **Codina Building**. For more information or to sign up for the tour, call **(305) 437-2665**.

Newcomers brief

The Family Support Center is sponsoring a newcomers briefing 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Aug. 25 at the Base Operations Education Center located at the Codina Building, 8300 NW 33 Street, Suite 110. The

briefing is the first Tuesday of every month.

The briefing includes presentations from the TRICARE representative; SOUTHCOM Health Clinic; Housing Office; Traffic Management Office; Education Office; Legal Office; Quality of Life Office; Morale, Welfare, and Recreation; DoD Police; and the chaplain. For more information or to reserve your seat at the briefing, call **(305) 437-2667 or 2665**, or toll free at **(888) 547-4025**.

Smooth move

The Family Support Center is sponsoring a

Smooth Move briefing Sep. 19 from 9 to 11 a.m. at the U.S. Southern Command Headquarters Conference Room 1401. Call **(305) 437-2639** for more information or to sign up.

Legal Assistance

Call Army Staff Sgt. Brigitte Romain at **(305) 437-1303** or Suzanne Estes at **(305) 437-1304** to schedule legal assistance appointments.

TAP workshop

The next transition assistance workshop will be in October. The days, time and location are yet to be determined. For more in-

formation or to sign up call **(305) 437-2671 or 2665**.

Financial planning

The Family Support Center is sponsoring a financial planning workshop 10 a.m. to noon Sep. 15 at PBA Hall located at 10680 NW 25th Street. Call **(305) 437-2665** to sign up or for more information.

Pre-separation

There are pre-separation briefings scheduled Sep. 8 and 22 from 2:30 to 4 p.m. at the Codina Building, 8300 NW 33 Street,

See Briefs

Page 21

Briefs

from Page 20

Suite 110. The pre-separation briefing is a prerequisite for the transition assistance program briefing. Call the Family Support Center at (305) 437-2665 to sign up or for more information.

Resumes

The Family Support Center is sponsoring a Resume Writing/Cover Letter Workshop Sept. 13 from 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 a.m. at the Codina Building. Call (305) 437-2665 to sign up or for more information.

Command donors replenish blood bank



Marelina Diaz-Pimienta, a donor services specialist with the South Florida Blood Bank, holds up a T-shirt that was given to every donor.



Photos by Air Force Tech. Sgt. Lee Roberts

Sgt. Manuel Padilla, J-2 Intelligence Directorate, donates the gift of life Aug. 15 to Lydia Gutierrez, a phobotomic technician, in the South Florida Blood Bank Bloodmobile located outside the Thurman Building. U.S. Southern Command donors gave more than 60 pints to help replenish South Florida's blood supply.

Base Exchange items a 'delivery' away from SOUTHCOM

By Air Force Tech. Sgt. Lisa Luse

Command Run Stringer

Every week, the employees at the Base Exchange Mart, Homestead Air Reserve Station, Fla., face the challenge of stocking the shelves with thousands of items – many of which can also be found in SOUTHCOM's shoppette. What can't be found at the shoppette, however, can now be delivered.

"The little base that can," as it is known, is determined to provide SOUTHCOM with any product found in the BX and some items from the



Photo by Navy Petty Officer 1st Class Gabe Puello
U.S. Southern Command Shoppette shoppers can now have items delivered four days a week from the Homestead Air Reserve Station, Fla., Base Exchange Mart.

Clothing Sales store, said Kelli Hackett, manager of the BX Mart,

SOUTHCOM shoppette, and Military Clothing Sales store.

Delivery drivers used to make the deliveries to the shoppette once a week. Now, they drive four days a week, Monday through Thursday. The van is on the road by 9 a.m., stocked with a variety of deli foods, snacks, sodas and many other items.

By simply asking, Southern Command personnel can have anything delivered to the shoppette that is found at the main BX. "When SOUTHCOM calls and needs something, they become a priority," said Hackett.

See **Exchange**

Page 23

Exchange

from Page 22

Special orders for food, household goods, and even stereo equipment can be placed by fax and delivered the next morning. It is possible to get anything from the military clothing store, except issued items. "With present space constraints at the shoppette, we can't carry military clothing items now, but that is not something that won't be tackled in the future," said Hackett.

The process is easy, she said. Just stop by the shoppette and describe the desired product to Elke Flores, the shoppette manager. Flores will fax delivery orders to the Homestead BX and call shoppers when deliveries are made to the shoppette.



Eric Mosley delivers products from Homestead Air Reserve Station Base Exchange Mart to the U.S. Southern Command Shoppette.

SOUTHCOM personnel can now have items delivered daily Monday through Friday. (Photo by Navy Petty Officer 1st Class Gabe Puello)



Volunteers throw Hawaian luau at VA Medical Center

By Air Force Tech. Sgt. Lisa D. Luse
Command Run Stringer

Palm trees swaying, and the sound of trickling water created the perfect atmosphere for veterans gathered at the Miami VA Medical Center Aug. 18 for a Hawaian Luau. The event was a fantasy trip to Hawaii, part of a week-long study of different countries and cultures by the residents living at the

Photo by Air Force Tech. Sgt. Lisa Luse

Kelley J. Spellman, J-5 Strategy, Policy and Plans Directorate, plays the guitar and sings during the “Hawaian luau at the Miami VA Medical Center Aug. 18.

See **Luau**
Page 25

Luau

from Page 24

hospital. Volunteers from SOUTHCOM, friends and family members joined the nursing home patients as they recreated Hawaii's tropical paradise in the hospital's recreation center. They decorated the room with traditional island palm trees, pineapples and coconuts to set the mood for the imaginary getaway.

As the smell of fresh pineapple filled the room with a tropical scent, the veter-

ans and their guests enjoyed ice cream pina coladas. They sipped their drinks awaiting the results of a cooking contest that determined the best pineapple desert. It was the pineapple cheesecake that won first place according to the panel of judges who were Traci Peterson, J-2 Intelligence Directorate, Coast Guard Lt. j.g. Orlando Sanchez and Army Staff Sgt. Elisabeth Jenkins of J-5 Strategy, Policy, and Plans Directorate.

Meanwhile, Kelley J. Spellman of

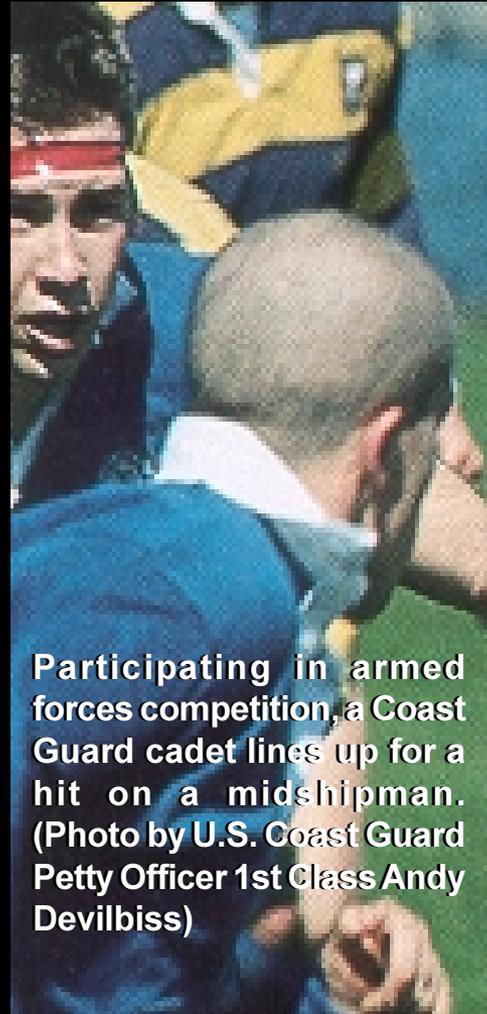
J-5, played the guitar and sang 'Tiny Bubbles' and other popular songs. The volunteers handed out small bottles of bubbles and soon the room was filled with tiny bubbles. Then, some of the guests picked up hula hoops and danced through the clouds of bubbles.

As the sun set on the Hawaiian luau, the volunteers went back to SOUTHCOM with fond memories of the luau. "I enjoyed talking to the vets and their family members and watching them enjoy the activities," said Peterson.



Photo by Air Force Tech. Sgt. Lisa Luse

Geraldine Ellis, a caretaker at the Miami VA Medical Center, helps Dr. Francis Ciochon, a nursing home resident and Korean War veteran, with the "hula hoop." Volunteers from the U.S. Southern Command and the VA hospital staff threw a Hawaiian luau Aug. 18 for the residents. The volunteers set the mood for a tropical getaway and served the residents drinks and cheesecake.



Participating in armed forces competition, a Coast Guard cadet lines up for a hit on a midshipman. (Photo by U.S. Coast Guard Petty Officer 1st Class Andy Devilbiss)

Armed forces rugby gains recognition

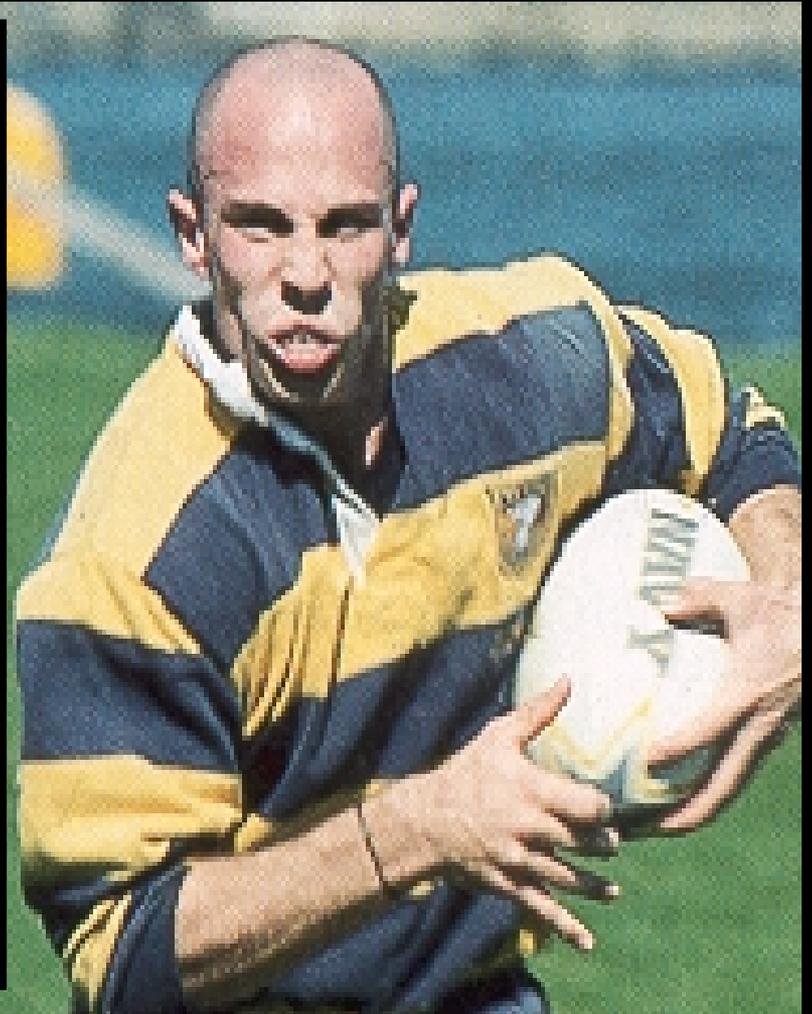
By Marcia L. Klein

ALEXANDRIA, Va. - Soldiers have been playing rugby for years on their own, but now the rough-and-tumble sport has been added to the Army and Armed Forces Sports calendars.

"This is the first year rugby is recognized as an official armed forces championship," said Maj. Suba Saty, the Armed Forces Sports chief. "We are proud to welcome the sport to the Armed Forces

See **Rugby**

Page 27



Rugby
from Page 26

Sports family. By recognizing and funding rugby as part of our program, we will be able to build the program within the military and enhance the existing strong competition at the national level.”

Active-duty soldiers on permanent duty status are eligible to apply, as are members of the Army Reserve and National Guard.

Application forms - DA forms 4762-R and 4763-R - are available at installation sports offices and require the signature/ approval of the soldier’s commander. Applications can also be downloaded

from the Army Morale, Welfare and Recreation Web site, www.armymwr.com. Click on Army Sports, under the Sports listing on the home page, then click on the “athlete application and info” button.

At the camp, 30 players will be selected for the All-Army team. Those players, along with two coaches, will participate in the Armed Forces Championships, Oct. 9-15, at Naval Air Station, Pensacola, Fla.

The best players from each service will be chosen for the Armed Forces Rugby Team, which will play in the U.S.A. National Rugby Tournament in Tampa, Fla., Dec. 1-3.

Command ruggers take the heat

The Miami area is a hotbed for American football’s parent, rugby, and civilian and military members of the command actively participate in local rugby football clubs.

The Miami Rugby Football Club, established in 1969, is temporary home to Southcom’s ruggers. Lt.Cdr. Michael Scully, All Coast Guard team, played several years with the local area club while attending graduate school at the University of Miami. Now, attached to the command, he remains involved with the sport as an alumni and “Old Boys” (over 35), player with both the Miami team and the Coast Guard Academy rugby team.

See **Heat**
Page 28

Applications from soldiers in stateside locations may be sent directly to Army Sports at **All-Army Sports, 4th Floor, 4700 King St., Alexan-**

dria, Va., 22302-4416 or faxed to (703) 681-1548. (Editor’s note: Marcia Klein is a member of the CFSC Public Affairs Office.)

Heat

from Page 27

Staff Sgt. Joseph Guttierrez, All Army rugby team, and Gary Helfeldt, All Air Force rugby team, both are former select side players for their respective services, keeping in touch with the sport here in Miami. Florida International

For further information on this no pads, lifetime contact sport while assigned to Southern Command, call Miami's rugby hotline (305) 667-0422, which provides information on the clubs scheduled practices and games in South Florida.

University and University of Miami both possess rugby teams competing in the Florida Rugby Union versus the likes of Florida

Atlantic University in Broward, University of Florida in Gainesville, University of South Florida, Tampa and University of Central

Florida, Orlando.

Rugby football, unlike American football offers varying levels of play for



Staff Sgt. Joseph Guttierrez, J-2 Intelligence Directorate, shown here after competing in the European military rugby championships with the Armed Forces Europe Select side Team. (Courtesy photo)

individuals of all ages. Whether playing colt's rugby (under 17), division one, rugby's highest and most competitive level, or old boys and old boys senior's (over-45), a level exists for all ages and skills, for this internationally popular sport played on every continent of the

world, yet hardly recognized in the U.S. Along with international Soccer, rugby enjoys a world cup championship every four years and almost every country participates. Currently the U.S. National team is ranked 16 to 19 worldwide in varying polls.

Teams compete, have fun in J-1 golf tourney



(Above) Maj. Dean Finley, J-1 Personnel Directorate, tees off at the first hole at Calusa Country Club in Kendall, Fla. (Left) Col. Charles Bowker, J-1 director, shows off his “lucky” golf pants during the tournament. (Photos by Air Force Tech. Sgt. Lee Roberts)

Tournament results

*J-1 Golf Tourney
July 27, 2000
Calusa Country Club
Kendall, Fla.*

First place team

Maj. Kevin Altman
Capt. Brian England
Retired Col. Cathy Rhodes
Tech. Sgt. Lee Roberts

Second place team

Col. Charles Bowker
Cori Bowker
Maj. Dean Finley
Chief Master Sgt. Bill Hoerman

Commentary: Appreciate the liberties of being a citizen

By Senior Master Sgt. Allen Nicksich
388th Maintenance Squadron

HILL AIR FORCE BASE, Utah — June 22 is a day I won't soon forget, because I was late for a court date — I had received my first parking ticket. It cost me \$20.

On the other hand, that's also a day Senior Airman Monica Gomez-Arenas will never forget. That's the day she became an American citizen.

You would think Airman Gomez-Arenas' day was much better than mine, but allow me to tell you why that 20 bucks

was worth losing. In Salt Lake City Federal Court, during a swearing-in ceremony for new U.S. citizens, I heard testimony from 95 people who told a judge and a packed court room who they were and where they were from, and then talked about becoming American citizens.

I listened as a man from Iraq stood and talked about his difficult journey to cross the Iraqi border and his willingness to fight and die for his new country. We heard two women (one from France, the other from Canada) speak of their excitement to vote for

American leadership. To the enjoyment of all present, the lady from France explained her disappointment when her husband voted for Ross Perot.



Senior Airman Monica Gomez-Arenas

One after another, they told their stories. Ecuador, Japan, Iran, Mexico, Russia and Bosnia were all represented, as was Ghana, where the oldest, an 85-year-old woman, shed tears as she accepted her

new status.

Common statements involved opportunity, freedom, liberties, and the chance to be accepted by their neighbors and communities. They spoke of the desire to vote and devote themselves to the country that opened its arms to their families when their own country did not. They came from Samoa, Nigeria, Chile, China, Ukraine and Bolivia.

A man from India probably said it better than any American-born citizen: "No matter where

See **Citizen**

Page 31

Citizen

from Page 30

we came from, we all came to a better place.” His son is starting law school at Georgetown University this fall.

Then the microphone was passed to Airman Gomez-Arenas, a member of the 388th Maintenance Squadron. Sharply suited in her service dress uniform, she stood and said, “My name is Monica Gomez-Arenas and I am from Colombia. I am in the United States Air Force and I’m

very proud of that.”

The courtroom erupted in applause. Standing in the back of the courtroom in my military uniform, I thought to myself, “I’m proud of you, too, Senior Airman Gomez-Arenas.”

Finally, all were sworn in as new citizens with the following oath of allegiance: “I hereby declare, on oath, that I absolutely and entirely renounce and abjure all allegiance and fidelity to any foreign prince, potentate, state or sovereignty, of whom or

which I have heretofore been a subject or citizen; that I will support and defend the Constitution and laws of the United States of America against all enemies, foreign and domestic; that I will bear true faith and allegiance to the same; that I will bear arms on behalf of the United States when required by the law; that I will perform noncombatant service in the armed forces of the United States when required by law; that I will perform work of national importance under

civilian direction when required by the law; and that I take this obligation freely without any mental reservation or purpose of evasion: So help me God.”

Following the oath, they were called to the bench to receive their certificates announcing they were citizens of the United States of America, and court was adjourned.

I can only hope that, from time to time, we all take time to appreciate the freedom, liberties and opportuni-

ties to which we, as American citizens, are entitled. It’s hard to appreciate what we’ve always had, but we need to educate ourselves on how different our lives could be in another country under a different government. I know my opportunity June 22 made me feel prouder to wear the uniform I’ve worn for 22 years to serve and protect American citizens.

Congratulations, Airman Gomez-Arenas, and thank you for serving your country. (AFPN)

**S
u
g
g
e
s
t
i
o
n
s**

Questions or problems which can't be resolved through normal channels may be presented to the Suggestion Program's managers on the command's Intranet or by putting a hard copy in the suggestion box located Thurman Building break area.

The Suggestion Program gives people an avenue for improving the overall work environment and quality of life for assigned military and civilian personnel and their families.

All suggestions are reviewed by the Office of Secretary Joint Staff and forwarded to the appropriate office for action. Responses are provided to the suggester. The Suggestion Program section in the *Command Run* contains suggestions and responses of general interest from U.S. Southern Command subject matter experts.

Suggestion: I have an idea that should save the U.S. government cost to \$500,000 the next calendar year, and over \$4.7 million in 10 years.

The low-side E-mail network is currently used for mass-spam E-mail. There is no need to send everyone in the directorate an E-mail about pizza sales, colonel promotion lists, personal parties, barbecues or birth announcements. We have a "bulletin board" location for that purpose.

On any given day, my coworkers and I spend approximately 10-15 minutes a day reviewing and deleting non-work related E-mail from our personal work accounts. Additionally, we receive repetitive E-mail from the system administrators that our "E-mail accounts are too large."

Not only do we have to delete the spam coming in, but we also must delete it from our "deleted file folder."

We in essence have to look at the same spam E-mail twice. Once to identify that we don't need it and delete it, and again to highlight it and delete it from the trash file. This is a waste of time.

Lets look at these numbers. Even conservatively, the amount of money spent is outrageous. Lets assume that it takes each person 10 minutes a day to clean their E-mail. Times that by 800 people and that equals 8,000 minutes per day, or 133 hours. Assume that the average salary per person is \$15 per hour (very conservative). Times 133 hours by \$15 and the government pays \$1,995 per day, \$9,975 per week, \$478,800 per year, and \$4.7 million over a period of 10 years. Using this example 31,920 hours of production time is

See Suggestions

Suggestions

from Page 32

lost per year reviewing and deleting garbage E-mail. This is almost half of a million dollars per year in this building alone. There has to be a Department of Defense policy that forbids this type of unofficial use of computers.

My suggestion is to send one more SOUTHCOM-wide E-mail explaining the rules. Make the "E-mail sanitizing" officials enforce the policy, and enforce posting of wide-dissemination E-mail on the bulletin board.

The benefits of enforcement: people can work instead of wasting time, more attention can be given to the tasks at hand, and more space will be available on the computer servers.

Answer: The commander in chief has asked that I respond to your recent SOUTHCOM Suggestion Program inquiry since it is a matter within my staff responsibilities.

Broadcast electronic E-mail serves a very valid purpose and acts as an excellent communications vehicle to announce specific events within the command. Policy on E-mail broadcasts is very clear and guidelines for broadcasters are repeatedly reinforced. Only designated personnel are given the authority to broadcast E-mails to U.S. Southern Command members. These designated personnel are listed in the Global Address List and are the only members of the staff authorized to perform these broadcasts. Broadcasting of attachments is strictly prohibited and should be posted only in the Public Folders, and we need to take stronger mea-

asures to enforce this policy.

Additionally, under "Tools" and "Rules Wizard" in Microsoft Outlook you can predetermine and automatically delete incoming broadcast E-mails by identifying specific words of your choosing. Thus, relieving you of the burden of reviewing and moving these types of E-mails to "Deleted Folders." The Help Desk can also assist you in filtering or eliminating specific broadcast E-mails.

Where it is difficult to assign a dollar value to the time expended in reviewing broadcast E-mails, I am certain when the policy is properly adhered to we will all benefit.

Your comments are important and I encourage you to continue to use the suggestion program.

Army Col. Kenneth C. Gongaware
J-6 Command, Control, Communications, and Computer Systems Directorate director

Spc. Lucy J. Pabon



Service:
U.S. Army
Organization:
Army Signal Activity
Duty title:
CINC photographer
Time in service: 3 years
Hometown: Miami, Fla.
Hobbies: Salsa dancing,
fitness activities
Favorite duty station:
Manheim, Germany
Career Highlights: Being

able to travel throughout Germany during assignment at Manheim, Germany. Especially enjoyed time spent in Spain.

Lt. Col. Robert Caudle



Service:
U.S. Army
Organization: J-8
Programs and Re-
sources Directorate
Duty title:
Theater Engagement
Division chief
Time in service:
19 years
Hometown:
Alameda, Calif.
Hobbies: Fishing, golf,

and riding my roadhog

Favorite duty station: U.S. Southern Command
Career Highlights: Assignment to SOUTHCOM and the J-8.



Photo by Navy Petty Officer 1st Class Gabe Puello

New colonel

Gen. Charles E. Wilhelm (left), U.S. Southern Command commander in chief, promotes Army Lt. Col. Emilio T. Gonzalez, special assistant to the CINC, to the rank of colonel during a ceremony Aug. 3 in the general's office. Gonzalez' wife Gloria (second from left) and his daughter Gigi assists the general with pinning on the new rank insignias.



Photo by Air Force Tech. Sgt. Lee Roberts

A new chief

Air Force Senior Master Sgt. Bill Hoerman, J-1 Manpower and Personnel Directorate, gets promoted July 31 to the rank of chief master sergeant by his wife HweiLing, and father from North Bergen, N.J. Air Force Col. Charles Bowker (Right), J-1 director, officiated the ceremony. Hoerman's mother, son Paul and daughter Michelle also attended the promotion ceremony.

New Army majors

The following Army captains were recently selected for promotion to the rank of major:

- **Angela M. Larsen, J-8**
- **John K. Snyder, SCRA**
- **Nestor R. Tobar, J-2**
- **Robert R. Schmidt, J-3**
- **Jose L. Muniz, Bolivia**
- **Diego J. Fernandez, J-2**
- **Samuel A. Sblendorio, JIATF-E**
- **Mario A. Arzeno, BASOPS**

J-3 new arrivals

The U.S. Southern command welcomes the new arrivals of the J-3 Operations Directorate:

- **Army Lt. Col. Jeffrey Rarig**
- **Army Maj. John Newsome**
- **Army Spc. Mia Guzman**
- **Navy Petty Officer 3rd Class Remick Bailey**



News Releases

If you are recognized for an award, a promotion, an impending transfer, education and training achievements, or participation in military exercises, fill out a **Hometown News Release**. Your friends and family back home will appreciate reading about your accomplishments. All active-duty and civilian workers are eligible and the process is easy. Army and Air Force members can fill out a HNR by obtaining a copy of DD Form 2266 or using the computer generated version of Delrina Form Flow. Also, Navy members can fill out a NAVSO 5724/1 form. Participants should send the accomplished and signed form to Public Affairs with attached copy of any award citation.

J-3 departures

Farewell to the following J-3 Operations Directorate personnel who recently departed the U.S. Southern Command:

- **Army Lt. Col. John Stauffer**
- **Army Sgt. Janell Travis**

- **Navy Petty Officer 2nd Class Richard George**
- **Navy Petty Officer 1st Class William Coan**

Recent promotion

Congratulations to Air Force Maj. Mike Bauer, J-3 Operations Directorate, on his recent promotion.



Sprucing it up

Air Force Staff Sgt. Terence Ford (front kneeling), Navy Petty Officer 2nd Class Jennifer Flees and Navy Petty Officer 2nd Class Christopher McNeely give a facelift to Allapattah Elementary School Aug. 17 in Miami. They were part of a group of U.S. Southern Command volunteers that spent the day painting the school's exterior and interior, landscaping the grounds, laying sod, and installing playground equipment, basketball courts and benches.

(Photo by Navy Petty Officer 1st Class Gabe Puello)