

ST. LOUIS ARMY ENGINEER DISTRICT

ESPRIT

Vol. 30 No. 5

Winner 1991-92 Army Communities of Excellence Award

May 1993

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Earth Day Activities



Cathy Mueller, ED-E (left), and Ida Morris, CT, bag trash along Poplar Street southeast of the RAY Building. Their efforts were part of the St. Louis District Earth Day activities.

On April 22 the planet earth was celebrated all over the country. It was the 23rd Earth Day. Nowhere was our planet lauded with more enthusiasm than in the 27,000 square miles that make up the Corps of Engineers, St. Louis District. Along rivers and lakes people turned out to clean and plant and learn. It was definitely a special day.

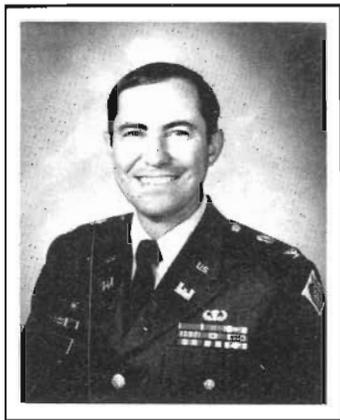
At the Riverlands Area Office more than 600 students from area schools came to help raise environmental awareness on public lands. The activities included tree and prairie forb planting in the Environmental Demonstration Area and trash cleanup around the Riverlands Area. There was a hands-on Earth Day Fair with more than 20 information stations staffed by volunteers from a local high school who presented environmental interpretive activities to 300 kindergarten and first graders. A local Jack In The Box restaurant and Coca Cola Bottling Company donated 600 lunches.

At the District's lakes the day was filled with activity. Mark Twain Lake's shores and waters were cleaned of trash by scout groups and local citizens. Wildflowers, native plants and trees were planted. The Thunderbird Society, a

(Continued on page 12)



Commander's Perspective



COL James D. Craig

the work done through teamwork could not be done... as well... by individuals.

Time seems to be flying. Spring seems to have suddenly arrived, and with it the Spring flood. Although the river is high, it has not done the damage previous high river levels have. I credit a lot of this to the work of the District in the past with various flood control projects, work with various levee districts to improve their structures over time, and the recent fine efforts of the Emergency Operations Center and our flood fighting teams. All of your efforts have helped save incalculable amounts of damage and suffering. **WAY TO GO!**

It is time again for our Team of the Quarter Award. Since the winner has not been announced, I cannot disclose it. By the time you read this, though, it will have been announced. I can tell you that all five team nominees deserve the award, and the voting was exceptionally close. I am very proud of the work they all have done. To me, this is the most important award in the District. I am convinced that the work done through teamwork could not be done as fast, as well, or as efficiently by individuals.

After some effort, we now have a District coin. This coin will be given to members of the District for efforts above and beyond the norm. Only I will determine who gets them, so if you know someone who deserves one, come and see me. Everyone who receives one will receive a set of rules that go along with being the owner, and we will have a record of who receives one.

This is the busy season for the lakes and the Riverlands. For each of you out there at one of those projects, I would ask that you put your best foot forward with the public. For much of the public, you are the Corps, the Army, and the Federal Government. The impression you give will be the public's view of us. Take pride in what you do, and don't make your efforts second rate. See you in the field!

Finally, what would one of my articles be without a comment about reorganization. I promise nothing, but the latest word is that the Chief is pushing the Secretary of Defense for a decision by 4 May. If he does not get a decision by then, the Chief may make a decision on his own. Stay tuned. I think we are nearing a decision.

Enjoy the summer, the outdoors, and **THINK SAFETY!**



US Army Corps of Engineers
St. Louis District

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Wings of Spring Helping Hands

Annual volunteer report

This year's Wings of Spring was a success with more than 2,500 visitors attending on a sunny by windy April day. The day's activities included three programs by the World Bird Sanctuary, tours of the Environmental Demonstration Area, a program by the Illinois Natural History Survey on monitoring the Mississippi River and a program by the Missouri Botanical Garden on attracting wildlife to your backyard.

Volunteers from the Illinois and St. Louis Audubon Societies manned spotting scopes in the EDA. More than 25 exhibitors from area conservation organizations and agencies were there to answer questions and distribute information. The Riverlands Association set up a kids activity area with hands-on learning and the Kids for Saving Earth made bird bottles and distributed them.

Pickard is back

Park Ranger Andrea Pickard is back at Carlyle Lake after three months in HQUSACE. Andrea was selected for an assignment through a nation-wide request for natural resources management personnel to assist in Corps headquarters activities.

She was responsible for consolidating the Corps input to the North American Waterfowl Management Plan data base and for preparing the Corps Cooperative Agreement Report. The data base consists of a collection of input from Corps projects nation-wide which inventory the number of wetlands under Corps ownership used by waterfowl. The report summarizes the status of the Corps input and measures the potential for waterfowl habitat improvements on Corps lands.

Each year the St. Louis District benefits greatly from volunteers. Whether it be assisting with any of the various activities such as Earth Day or a handicapped hunt, volunteers help us accomplish many tasks that otherwise would not be realized.

Wappapello Lake has several individuals and groups that annually give generously of their time. The 4-H Teens, a group of young people from a local 4-H club, has adopted the Pine Ridge Nature Trail including all the maintenance and upkeep involved with the trail.

At Rend Lake the efforts of over 800 volunteers taking part in a Take Pride in America (TPIA) cleanup resulted in Rend Lake winning the State of Illinois Take Pride in America award.

These are only two of the many examples of the work volunteers do around the District. In 1992, 2541 individuals volunteered almost 30,000 hours to the District. The value of this service is more than \$250,000 with minimal costs (less than \$1.50 per volunteer) to the District.

An updated draft version of the Volunteer Handbook is available to assist in implementing and/or improving a volunteer program from the District Volunteer Coordinator, Rachel Garren, in CELMS-CO-N at 331-8624.

Pathfinder to the rescue

The M/V Pathfinder was at the right place at the right time again. This time they rescued a tow that had lost power. The M/V Bryan was drifting toward the Union Electric Power Plant Dock with three barges loaded with more than two and a half million gallons of gasoline, a potential disaster about to happen. Captain Steve Jones and his crew of Jerry



Congratulations to Bill Jones, RO-L, and Dave Harley, HR, for their suggestions that earned them cash awards during the second quarter, and to Dave Rahubka who received a letter of appreciation.

Suggestion campaign

Back by popular demand, our next Suggestion Campaign will begin May 1 and end May 31. Be sure to send us a suggestion and receive one of our bright red vinyl cushions featuring the Corps logo. It's 14 inches square and 2 inches thick. It's fun and useful. You can use it just about anyplace - at home, on picnics (how about the Corps picnic?), fishing, camping, the ball games, the Muny, concerts in the park, Riverport (a "cushioned" lawn seat), and maybe even at the office.

Send your suggestions to CELMS-RM-M right away. This is one gift everybody will want.

Promotions error

The list of women who earned promotions during FY92 that appeared in last month's ESPRIT was incomplete. Ms. Susan Janota-Summers, CELMS-RD, should have been included in that list. Sorry Sue.

Schaperclaus, Howard Fields, Terry Helming and Mike Morgan got a line on the crippled tow and held it in place until its crew were able to restore power to their engines.

Earlier this year the Pathfinder kept a tow loaded with jet fuel from colliding with a dock. It also rescued the Alton Belle Casino when it lost power.



\$ – Promotions & Incentive Awards – \$

EXCEPTIONAL RATINGS:

Henry Harris, CASU
 Jay Fowler, CD
 Donna Adams, CO
 John Hipes, CO
 Harlan Lamb, CO
 Sherman Mezo, CO
 William Newton, CO
 Terry Oltman, CO
 Kenneth Strong, CO
 Stephen Summers, CO
 Raymond Zoanetti, CO
 Dolores Ebert, DE
 Donald Coleman, ED
 Sharon McGee, ED
 John Poullain, ED
 Charles Rhoads, ED
 Dawayne Sanders, ED
 Dennis Stephens, ED
 Frances Wachter, ED
 Linda Wichlan, ED
 Maureen Wagner, LM
 Phillip Eydmann, PM
 Anne Woodrome, HR
 Margaret Hurst, RM
 Helen Schleipman, RM

PERFORMANCE AWARDS:

Gloria Miles, CASU
 Phyllis Thomas, CASU
 Oneta Welch, CASU
 Gloria Aubuchon, CD
 Billy Finley, CD
 Karen Bautsch, CO
 Leanne Crouch, CO
 Kenneth Gregory, CO
 Ted Hayn, CO
 Edward Henne, CO
 Gary Stilts, CO
 Stephen Summers, CO
 Cynthia Ward, CT
 Dolores Ebert, DE
 Patrick Conroy, ED
 Michael Hamm, ED
 Thomas Niedernhofer, ED
 Dawayne Sanders, ED
 Dennis Stephens, ED
 Maureen Wagner, LM
 Phillip Eydmann, PM
 Margaret Hurst, RM
 Helen Schleipman, RM
 Joann Will, RM

QUALITY STEP INCREASES:

Frances Wachter, ED

John Perulfi, PD

SPECIAL ACT AWARDS:

Michael Brazier, CO
 Walter Feld, CO
 Donald Fendler, CO
 Dennis Fenske, CO
 Lawrence Hamilton, CO
 Paul Kornberger, CO
 Alvin Lookofsky, CO
 Pam Reed, CO
 Mark Roderick, CO
 Robert Wilkins, CO
 Victor Behrmann, ED
 Alexander Bienkowski, ED
 Richard Hagan, ED
 Gregory Hempen, ED
 Joseph, Kissane, ED
 Ronald Messerli, ED
 Calvin Mooney, ED
 David O'Connell, ED
 James Reed, ED
 Richard Reiter, ED
 Gary Schmidt, ED
 Walter Wagner, ED
 Ronald Bockhorst, IM
 Rozann Heining, OC
 Francis Walton, PD

Clarksville Open House

May 16th begins the second year of operation of the Clarksville Visitor Center under management by the Riverlands Association. An Open House is scheduled from 12 to 4 p.m. on Sunday, May 16th. All District team members are invited to attend.

Several new exhibits on the natural and cultural history of the river will be completed prior to the Open House. A new exhibit on the history and restoration of Clarksville will also be open by the 16th.

The Open House is a perfect opportunity for Corps employees to meet members of the Riverlands Association Board of Directors and visit Lock and Dam 24. The Visitor Center is owned by the city of Clarksville and leased to the Riverlands Association to operate and maintain. The center is located on Highway 79, about 90 minutes from downtown St. Louis and overlooks Lock and Dam 24 and the Mississippi.

For further information, contact Anne Vieira at the Riverlands Area-Clarksville Office at 314-242-3724.

Thank you

Thank you all for your cards, donations to cancer and words of comfort after the loss of my father.

Three years ago you all helped me through a very rough time when I had my surgery and now you've done it again! You have proven again to me and my family that the "Corps Cares."

Thanks again.

Joan Schick



GSA vehicles

The District has started leasing vehicles from the Interagency Fleet Management System, which is operated by GSA. Presently, these vehicles

will only be assigned to the lake projects.

GSA vehicles come in a multitude of colors and can be identified as government vehicles by the license plate or the U.S. Government sticker on the window.

L M staff

In case you have not heard, Debbie Pickerign, your friendly Stock Record Officer, leaves in May to join her husband at his new Air Force assignment. The hiring freeze has again put us in the position of punting, giving even more meaning to the term "do more with less."

Vivian Ratliff will be appointed Stock Record Officer, assuming the accountable property responsibili-

ties until the vacant position is finally filled. Shirley Harvey has agreed to perform many of the duties previously done by Debbie - for the next 120 days. Maureen Wagner is learning Shirley's duties; Sharon and Renee are doing most of Maureen's secretarial duties. Meanwhile, everyone is still performing or at least watching over their former duties.

Confused? So are they. But we will all muddle through somehow. If you are really brave, ask Jim Gerth how he has been covering travel/transportation, maintenance management and facilities/space management for the past six months!

Regulatory News

Briefings on wetlands

By Dennis Gilmore

In a continuing effort to increase the public's awareness of the Corps regulatory program, the enforcement team of Karon Marzec and Dennis Gilmore have been travelling the District, briefing county agencies on the applicability, and more importantly, the prohibitions of the statutes which provides the Corps authorities.

Recent briefings have been presented to the Bollinger County (Mo.) Board of Commissioners and the Madison County (Ill.) Building, Environmental, Zoning Department's Land Use Committee. The briefings covered such topics as what is a wetland, the permit evaluation process and the process of enforcement for unauthorized work.

Future briefings will be conducted at each of the District's lake projects, as well as for other government agencies. How familiar are you with our (yours

and mine) program? After all, by regulation, in administering Section 404 of the Clean Water Act, the District Engineer is charged to "make the best use of all available resources... to include Corps employees" to detect unauthorized activities. Simply stated, you are asked to be alert to and to report the performance of any activity suspected to be in violation. So What constitutes a violation?

A violation is an unpermitted (unauthorized) discharge of dredged or fill materials into the waters of the United States. Waters of the U.S. can be rivers, streams, lakes and, of course, WETLANDS.

What is a wetland you ask? Well, it's one of those things where I know one when I see it. The current legal definition is as follows:

Those areas that are inundated or saturated by surface of groundwater at a frequency and duration sufficient to support, and that under normal circumstances do

support, a prevalence of vegetation typically adapted for life in saturated soil conditions. Wetlands generally include swamps, marshes, bogs and similar areas. Basically, if it looks like a wetland, it probably is. Good examples of wetlands are found along I-55/70 between Hwy 203 and I-255 (although I've been told that a particular parcel of land along there is not a wetland, and the individual was gracious enough to provide a boat for me to inspect it).

A couple of UNOFFICIAL methods for identifying wetlands:

Hansen's Hypothesis: If it's native vegetation and surrounded by cultivated fields, it's probably too wet to farm and therefore, probably a wetland. (Degree of accuracy, 99%).

Wingtipped Method of Delineation: The point at which the high priced lawyer stops advancing closely approximates the boundary of the wetland. (Degree of accuracy, 100%).



On The Soapbox

Around the District

Claude Strauser, Chief, Potamology Section and Norm Stuckey, Biologist, Missouri Department of Conservation, teamed up to present a lecture to the Rivers and Harbors class at the University of Missouri at Rolla. Claude and Norm discussed the conflicts they have experienced over the past two decades while trying to achieve a safe and dependable navigation channel in an environmentally sensitive manner. Problem identification and problem resolution were the themes of this lecture.

Claude was also a speaker at the Fourth Missouri River Constituency Conference sponsored by the Missouri Department of Natural Resources. He spoke to about 100 attendees about "The Impacts of Missouri River Flows on Middle Mississippi Navigation."

Randy Curtis, ED-GI, spoke to the student chapter of ASCE at Washington University about the Corps of Engineers and St. Louis District in general and about the Lake Wappapello Seismic Automation Project.

Bill Busch and Charlie Grogean, RO-SL, spoke to the Missouri Society of Professional Engineers, Southeast Chapter, about Cape La Croix-Walker Creek Flood Control project.

Riverlands Office

The Riverlands Area Office conducted 20 tours/programs on Melvin Price Locks and Dam and the Environmental Demonstration Area during April.

Riverlands Association employee Sherry Droste spoke to the Gravois Trail Boy Scouts about

wetland educational opportunities at Riverlands.

The Riverlands Area Office and the Riverlands Visitor Orientation Facility had 5,000 visitors during April. The spring migration has attracted many birders to the area.

Wappapello Lake

Assistant Park Manager Gary Stilts was interviewed by Bob Todd of the Riverhills Traveler on eagle nests, fishing and the Ozark Trail. Gary also walked a portion of the Ozark Trail with Bob Todd explaining primitive camping policy, traditional access and methods of resource management.

Park Ranger Andrew Jefferson was interviewed by the Daily American Republic about the 15th Annual Old Greenville Rendezvous and special history programs being presented for area school children.

Park Rangers Andrew Jefferson and Rebecca Hays participated in a live "Sonny Skidmore Talk Show" on radio stations KLID and KSIM. They talked about the Blackpowder Rendezvous, spring roadside cleanup, other special events and ATV use at the lake.

Park Ranger Doug Nichols presented a slide program on the lake to the Dexter, Missouri, Kiwanis Club.

Park Ranger Rebecca Hays conducted three guided tours of the Old Greenville National Historic Place for children from area schools.

Park Ranger Timothy Bischoff conducted tours of the living history area of the 15th Annual Old Greenville Blackpowder Rendezvous for area school children.

Park Rangers Diane Stratton and Andrew Jefferson staffed a booth during an Ecology Day at Mingo Wildlife Refuge. They tried

to educate 215 Stoddard County fifth graders about soil erosion, river channels and various types of soils, rocks and minerals.

Rend Lake

Rend Lake rangers staffed an exhibit at the Wild, Wild Midwest Tourism Expo at the University Mall in Carbondale. The display included wildlife mounts and photos as well as literature about Rend Lake and water safety.

Water safety programs were presented to 3rd grade students by Rend Lake rangers. Then students designed posters pertaining to water safety. More than 200 students participated in the Water Safety Coloring Contest.

Park Ranger Jason Thrash joined a group of visitors for part of a bus tour of the lake area. The group visited the Rend Lake Resort, the Southern Illinois Arts and Crafts Marketplace and the Rend Lake Visitor Center.

Lake rangers, along with Department of Conservation Police Officers, discussed a variety of hunting related topics with more than 40 students at a Hunter Safety Class at the Visitor Center.

Park Rangers Mark Roderick and Jackie Brachear staffed an exhibit at a health fair at Rend Lake College. The exhibit focused on the importance of water safety and included a variety of water safety brochures, personal flotation devices and water safety videos.

Here's to ESPOOF

From the editor of ESPRIT to the editor of ESPOOF... Thanks for the fun. I'm already looking forward to next year's issue. It's always good to poke fun at ourselves.



News Briefs

Kite Festival

Kids of all ages weathered the elements to participate in the First Annual Kite Flying Festival at Mark Twain Lake. "Flying High with Charon," a kite club from St. Louis, demonstrated the challenge of flying various types of kites.

Fishin' Hole

Lake Shelbyville was named "Fishin' Hole of the Month" in the April edition of the *Jonboat Journal*. An in-depth article covered everything from the history of the lake to the species of fish in the lake.

Cleanup

The 1993 Missouri Beautification Association spring roadside cleanup was conducted at Wappapello Lake on April 24. Overall, 54 volunteers filled 247 bags with trash from a 10.6 mile area.

BP Rendezvous

The 15th Annual Old Greenville Blackpowder Rendezvous was held at Wappapello Lake on April 3 and 4. More than 14,000 visitors disregarded the cool temperatures to travel back to the early 1800s for

two days. They saw people in authentic period dress at primitive campsites and watched blackpowder shooting competitions, tomahawk and knife throwing and fire-starting.

Dressed up beach

The Dam West Beach at Lake Shelbyville has been dressed up with 200 tons of new sand. Three large sand "dunes" have also been added to the beach. There will be plenty of sand for your shoes, your swim suits and your car seats, now.

New ACOE award for District

The St. Louis District, has been selected as a runner up in the 1993 Army Communities of Excellence (ACOE) competition in the special category of installations with less than 3,500 employees. The District placed first in 1992. Runners up receive a trophy, ACOE flag and, most important of all, a check for \$50,000 to be used to improve working conditions and quality of life in the work environment.

Last year's award money purchased exercise equipment, TVs, VCRs and other amenities for the field offices, plus personal items like jackets, soft-sided attaches and gym bags for all permanent employees. All items have ACOE commemorative identifiers on them.

The mission of the Army Communities of Excellence program is to improve the environment, services and facilities and

overall working and living conditions of Army personnel and their families and civilian employees. It encourages new ideas and initiatives for getting the job done.

The winner of this year's competition is the U.S. Army Reserve Personnel Center, also in St. Louis. Others in the runner up category are all Corps of Engineer districts. They are the Galveston Engineer District, the Savannah Engineer District and the Sacramento Engineer District.

In August 1992 the St. Louis District submitted their nomination package which described the District, its missions, facilities and people programs. On the strength of that submission the District became one of the finalists.

In January a Department of the Army team inspected the St. Louis District and the other finalists looking at the ways those organiza-

tions had improved their mission execution and working conditions for their employees. Some of the things they looked at were family support services, employee services, medical and wellness services, safety programs, local community relations, information management services and several more. The St. Louis District showed the team it was, again, one of the best.

The District has a permanent working ACOE committee that constantly looks for ways to improve working conditions. The committee carries the philosophy of Colonel James Craig, the District's commander. According to Colonel Craig, "our first priority continues to be maintaining employee commitment by continually working to improve their quality of life. The spirit of our team contin-

(Continued on page 8)



Coming Events at the lakes

Carlyle Lake

- May 15 Armed Forces Day
- June 26 Kaskaskia Duck Race
- July 3 Fireworks Spectacular
- August 8 Tirathlon
- Sept. 25 National Hunting & Fishing Day
- Oct. 22-23 Haunted Trail
- Dec. 3 Christmas Tree Lighting

Lake Shelbyville

- June 5 National Trails Day with Smokey Bear
- June 6-12 National Safe Boating Week
- June 7-13 National Fishing Days
- June 11-14 Free Fishing Days
- June 19 Lake Shelbyville Craft Show
- July 4-10 Environmental Conservation Week
- July 10-11 Woodsy Owl Weekend.
- July 17-18 Lithia Springs Chautauqua Tours
- July 24-25 Smokey Bear Weekend
- July 30 - Aug. 1 Aquafest '93
- August 21 Okaw Indian Festival
- Oct. 7 ECO-Meet

Rend Lake

- May 29-30 Festival of Arts and Crafts
- June 5-6 Rend Lake Water Ski Show
- June 12 Family Fishing Derby
- July 1-4 Rend Lake Fireworks Festival
- July 11-17 6th Annual Youth Conservation Educational Camp
- July 24 Fun in the Sun Water Safety Carnival
- Sept. 11 Take Pride in America Lake Cleanup
- Oct. 2-3 Children's Art Festival
- Summer Sunset Series of Concerts: Saturday night

programs June 19 to Sept. 4, 7:30 p.m., Visitor Center Environmental Science Series Workshops and Outdoors Skills Clinics, Saturdays 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., Visitor Center

Wappapello Lake

- May 22-23 5th Annual Silver Bullet National Drag Boat Race
- July 3-4 Waterfest '93
- Aug. 21-22 2nd Annual Old Greenville Days
- Sept. 25 3rd Annual Disabled Persons Fishing Day

Mark Twain Lake

- May 15 Armed Forces Day & All Veterans Reunion
- May 22-23 Woodsy's World Day Camp
- June 12 Sandcastle Contest
- June 19-20 Craft Show
- June 27 Storytelling Festival
- July 2,3,4 Mark Twain Lake Rodeo
- July 24-25 Indian Artifacts Weekend
- Aug. 6,7,8 Native American POW WOW
- Aug. 14-15 Salt River Folklife Festival
- Aug. 28-29 Rock & Mineral Show
- Sept. 25 Outdoor Sport & Recreation Festival
- Oct. 16 Evening with the Stars

Riverlands Area Office

Riverlands hosts a variety of environmental workshops on weekends at the Visitor Orientation Facility throughout the coming months.

Tours of Melvin Price Locks and Dam for persons 13 years old and older started April 1 and will continue until Labor Day.

ACOE, continued

ues to shine through as we... demonstrate our commitment in doing the right thing for our District family."

The District's theme for the recent competition, "Getting To Know Each Other," came from Chris Morgan, the Lockmaster at Lock and Dam 24 on the Mississippi River. According to Gene Degenhardt, the District's ACOE

Committee Chairman, "Chris stressed the importance of a communication bond between the District headquarters and its many field sites. This idea sparked new activities that have developed a more effective working relationship in the District and helped make us winners again."

Colonel Craig will receive the award in ceremonies at the Pentagon on May 20.

Stair-climber sales rise

More working people want to get fit, but don't have time to go to the gym. Many are investing in elaborate home gyms and turning basements and recreation rooms into fitness centers. Sales of treadmills increased 19 percent in 1991, the last year for which figures are available. Sales of stairclimber increased by 44 percent, while sales of rowing machines decreased by 85 percent.



The "A" list update

ITEM

DELIVERABLE

MILESTONE

a. The following "deliverables" were completed since the April PRB.

Valley Park	FDM - Cost estimate	5-Apr-93
All Lakes	Fee Collection (2) Contracts	9-Apr-93
Rend Lake	Refuse Removal (Trash) Contract	30-Apr-93
St. Peters Continuing Authority	DPR	30-Apr-93
East St. Louis Cahokia Low Dam	P&S to Tech. Review	30-Apr-93

b. Pending Project Deliverables.

East St. Louis North & Venice Pump Station	Award Construction Contract	30-Apr-93
Miscellaneous ADAS	Award A/E Contract	1-May-93
Miscellaneous Engineering Planning	Award A/E Contract	1-May-93
Miscellaneous Design & CADD #1	Award A/E Contract	1-May-93
Valley Park - Road Closure	P&S to CT	3-May-93
Rend Lake	Vegetative Control (Mowing) Contract	12-May-93
Mapping for SLD	Award A/E Contract	12-May-93
Miscellaneous Geotech Engineering	Award A/E Contract	15-May-93
Surveying for SLD	Award A/E Contract	15-May-93
Surveying for Others - Region I, II, III	Award A/E Contract	27-May-93
Surveying for Others - Region IV, V	Award A/E Contract	27-May-93
EMP Stump Lake (Item 1)	Award Construction Contract	31-May-93
Locks 27 lift gate	Award Construction Contract	16-Jun-93
EMP Stump Lake (Item 2)	P&S to CT	24-Jun-93
Mel Price Admin / Maint. Building	P&S to Tech. Rev.	Jul-93
Surveying for Others - Region VI, VII	Award A/E Contract	1-Jul-93
East St. Louis Cahokia Low Dam	P&S to CT	1-Jul-93
Cape Girardeau Walker Branch #1	Award Construction Contract	9-Jul-93
Mapping for Others - Region VIII, IX, X	Award A/E Contract	15-Jul-93
Valley Park	Award Construction Contract	26-Jul-93
Mapping for Others - Region I, II, III	Award A/E Contract	1-Aug-93
Surveying for Others - Region VIII, IX, X	Award A/E Contract	15-Aug-93
Riverlands	Draft Master Plan to Tech. Rev.	Sep-93
Mapping for Others - Region VI, VII	Award A/E Contract	1-Sep-93
Mapping for Others - Region IV, V	Award A/E Contract	1-Sep-93
EMP Stump Lake (Item 3)	P&S to CT	Sep-93
EMP Cuivre Island	DPR	Sep-93
Wapappello Roads	FDM	30-Sep-93
Upper Miss. Illinois River Nav. Study	Flume Construction at WES	Jan-94
Middle Mississippi River (StL Harbor)	Congestion Study Recon. Report	Mar-94
Bois Brule	Draft DPR	Mar-94
Mel Price Guardrail	Letter Report	TBD

c. Processes.

Budget	Maintenance Management Program
COB	OEW Program
DAWIA Implementation	Property Accountability
IRM	Regulatory
Legacy	

ACOE BARGE TRIP SURVEY

This survey is to assist the ACOE committee in providing the type of Barge Trip you prefer to take this year. Please pick one choice in each category. Each employee will be allowed 3 guests but no children under 10. Each person/family will bring their own meals, drinks, and chairs.

WHICH MONTH DO YOU PREFER:

June _____
July _____
August _____
September _____
October _____ For Viewing Fall Colors

WHICH DAY DO YOU PREFER FOR A DAYTIME TRIP:

Monday _____
Tuesday _____
Wednesday _____
Thursday _____
Friday _____
Saturday _____

WHICH DAY DO YOU PREFER FOR AN EVENING TRIP:

Friday _____
Saturday _____

WHICH ROUTE DO YOU PREFER FOR A DAY TRIP:

Grafton to Downtown St. Louis _____
L&D 24 to L&D 25 _____
Grafton to Locks 27 _____
L&D 25 to Alton _____
Other (please specify) _____

WHICH ROUTE DO YOU PREFER FOR AN EVENING TRIP:

(This trip is for adults only)

L&D 25 to Grafton _____
Alton to Locks 27 _____
Grafton to Alton _____
Locks 27 to Downtown St. Louis _____
Alton to Downtown St. Louis _____
Other (please specify) _____

COMMENTS OR SUGGESTIONS:

Please return this survey slip to Janet Ulivi, ED-DC, x8288, by 27 May 1993.



Federal study urges more work at home

By Evelyn D. Harris
American Forces Information
Service

DoD is taking part in a demonstration project that allows certain workers to work at home or in a center near their home. Now, a task force study on the project is recommending expansion to certain employees with proven performance records.

The President's Council on Management Improvement, a panel of federal executives studying management improvements, introduced the Flexiplace program in January 1990. The council wanted to see if Flexiplace would "improve the government's ability to recruit and retain capable employees, improve employee quality of life and reduce federal operating costs." If the project expands, officials hope it will also reduce traffic congestion, air pollution, energy use and wear and tear on roads.

The program also accommodates workers with disabilities.

The Office of Personnel Management and the General Services Administration co-directed the project for the president's council. Wendall Joice, a research director at OPM, headed the program's team with GSA's Maxcine Sterling. The team's final report on the work-at-home concept has been released.

The report is based on participation of some 700 workers from 13 federal agencies, including DoD. Joice said the workers were volunteers, and most (84 percent) had performance ratings of either "exceeds fully successful" or "outstanding" before Flexiplace. Also, 70 percent held professional positions, and 84 percent had 11 or

more years of work experience.

The group's racial composition was similar to that of the rest of the nonpostal civilian federal work force. However, said Joice, proportionally more females and more people with outstanding performance ratings participated than are in the federal workplace. Joice cautioned that the group's general positive findings may not apply to younger, lower-grade employees, very few of whom participated in the study.

More than 90 percent of the supervisors and 95 percent of the participants judged Flexiplace job performance as unchanged or improved compared with pre-Flexiplace performance.

More than 90 percent of the workers said their quality of life in both the work and personal arenas improved. They also used less sick leave and drove in rush-hour traffic less. More than 43 percent found the option allowed them to work at their most productive time periods - sometimes outside normal business hours.

The only downside, reported by 25 percent of the participants, was that their home office did not have equipment as good as their regular office. But after a year in the project, the number of people complaining dropped to 17 percent. Joice attributes some initial problems to low funding and procedural difficulties typical in new programs.

Overall, after one year in the program, 80 percent of supervisors and 100 percent of employees judged Flexiplace to be a desirable option requiring only minimal refinement.

The program options include working at home or in a multiagency satellite work center

equipped with computers and modems. The work centers are placed in geographically convenient locations.

The team recommended that the President's Council on Management Improvement endorse the Flexiplace concept and affirm that agencies have the authority to use it. But the team warns Flexiplace is not appropriate for all circumstances. It is also requesting legislation to repeal the law prohibiting federal agencies from purchasing telephone equipment for employee residences.

The team's report said GSA should publish guidance in federal information resource management regulations on the use of computers and telephones for employees working in alternative worksites. It also recommended OPM provide guidance in the Federal Personnel Manual.

The Council on Management Improvement will study the report before announcing any decision.

Most hectic months

Sociologists at Whimam College in Walla Walla, Washington, have done a study of social events to discover which months carried more stress because of events like marriages, births, deaths, divorces, hospital admissions, job changes, mortgages closed, and money spent on liquor. They graphed 30 such categories and concluded:

The most eventful months are: June, September, January and July, in that order; followed by May and August, then November, December, April, October and February. March was the least-eventful month.



Memorial Day, a time to pay tribute



We wonder as we pass their graves today, did they know we would remember?

Did your great-great grandfather, young man that he was then, think of you before he fell? Could

he have known in 1863 that he was saving a great nation? We honor him, from north or south, on Memorial Day.

Or what of grandfathers who gave their lives in the trenches of France, in World War I, the "war to end all wars?" We honor them now.

Fifty years ago during World War II our men were preparing for the great invasion of Europe. The war in the Pacific was being fought at sea as American submarines decimated the Japanese navy. The submarine war was successful that year, 22 warships and 296 enemy merchant ships destroyed. Still, by war's end, one of four American submarines and the brave men

who manned them, were lost.

At the same time in 1943, General Patton's 11th Division was fighting its way through North Africa. We remember these brave patriots and honor them.

On Memorial Day, 1953, an armistice was about to be signed, ending the Korean War, three years of hostility that claimed the lives of thousands of brave service men and women. We pay tribute to them.

The war in Vietnam still lives in the minds of many who served there, many who saw their comrades fall. We honor them and every service person who fought to preserve our way of life. We remember.

The story of Mother's Day

The year was 1907. Henry Ford was putting the finishing touch on his Model T. Orville and Wilbur Wright had just made the first flight in their airplane, and a lady named Anna Reeves Jarvis had a great idea.

Jarvis, a Philadelphia school teacher, was inspired by her hard-working West Virginia mother. She wanted to honor her beloved

mother who died in 1905, and thought it was an excellent idea for other people to honor their mothers on the same day.

The first Mother's Day was observed in Grafton, West Virginia, where her mother had lived.

Within two years Mother's Day was declared statewide by Governor William Glassman, and by 1914 a Joint Congressional Resolution was passed making Mother's Day a

national observance. It was signed by President Woodrow Wilson.

Jarvis's effort was not the first toward setting a mother's day observation. After the Franco-Prussian War of 1870-71, Harriet Beecher Ward organized a mother's day movement dedicated to preventing future wars, but the world was not quite ready, and the movement did not grow.

District has new commemorative coin

The District has acquired bronze commemorative coins as shown here. These handsome coins, to be used as an incentive award, were die-cast with an antique bronze finish and military brown trim.

One side of the coin shows a sculptured gateway arch with the Corps contemporary castle between the legs. Three of the Corps values, INTEGRITY, PROFES-

SIONALISM and QUALITY, encircle the top half of the coin,

with the agency name at the bottom. The reverse side shows some

symbols of the St. Louis District, a towboat and barges, a mighty eagle head and some wetland plants. This side bears the inscription, ENGINEERING ENVIRONMENTALLY SOUND SOLUTIONS - OUR COMMITMENT TO THE FUTURE.

These coins will be given to deserving team members at the discretion of the District commander.





Earth Day, cont.

group of Native Americans, conducted a ceremony called "Blessing of a Tree" which was joined by the scouts.

At Rend Lake 800 students from area schools were educated about the importance of environmental awareness. Each student participated in hands-on bottomland hardwood forest/wetland restoration activities. Presentations on birds of prey, wolves, snakes and recycling were made.

More than 300 turned out to clean up Carlyle Lake. The Chief of Forest Resources from the Illinois Department of Conservation, Stewart Paquignot, spoke to the group. Trees were planted and demonstrations and displays about birds, wolves, snakes and fish were available.

At Lake Shelbyville 100 visitors planted trees and prairie grasses and picked up litter around the lake. Businesses donated breakfast, seeds, trees, trash bags and recycling literature.

Volunteers at Wappapello Lake collected 247 bags of trash from around the lake, part of their Missouri Beautification Association Spring Cleanup.

At the District Headquarters in downtown St. Louis 26 volunteers got down and dirty to clean up around the Robert A. Young Building. Another nine worked behind the scenes to make it happen. They filled a long-bed pickup and a dump truck with eight cubic yards of trash, some of which required strong arms and strong stomachs to handle. The Missouri Highway Department provided the trash bags and trucks.

Throughout the St. Louis District our people made a statement by their deeds about their commitment to planet earth.



Pat McGinnis, Chief of the Riverlands Area Office, oversees the planting of prairie forbs by volunteers and school children in the Environmental Demonstration Area on Earth Day.

Budget confirms DoD serious about environmental duties

By F. Peter Wigginton
American Forces Information Service

DoD's fiscal 1994 budget requests \$2.3 billion for environmental restoration work - nearly double the 1993 spending level.

The increase primarily reflects acceleration of scoping and actual cleanup work, said Pat Meehan, principal director for the Office of the Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense for Environment. "We are moving out of the study phase into the actual dirt-moving and water-cleaning activities," he said. "That accounts for part of it. Plus, we have more sites covered by agreements with regulators."

Meehan said the budget item covers only environmental restoration and not base realignment and closure or other accounts.

He added that a comparison of actual figures for fiscal 1992 and 1993 shows a decrease of 25

percent in real growth because Congress appropriated less than the amount requested. Actual funding for restoration in fiscal 1990 amounted to \$601 million, \$1 billion in 1991, nearly \$1.6 billion in 1992, but \$1.2 billion in 1993.

"Overall, however, it's still a significant increase and shows a steady rise," said Meehan. "The figures reveal DoD's commitment to cleaning up the environment."

"The basic belief is that the primary mission of the department is national security," he said. "But if we don't do the right thing, if we don't face up to our environmental responsibilities, it is much more difficult for the installation commander to properly train and accomplish his basic mission. When we do the right thing, when we work with the public, when we take proper conservation actions, we have much greater success."

Congress can change the president's defense budget request.



Asian-Pacific-American Heritage Month

From boat person to Air Force doctor

By Evelyn D. Harris
American Forces Information
Service

Hoang Nhu Tran knows fear. Tran and his family escaped from South Vietnam just before the communists took Saigon in 1975. He and his family huddled in a leaky, overloaded boat until rescued by a U.S. Navy ship and transported to Guam.

Twelve years later, 2nd Lt. Hoang Nhu Tran graduated at the top of his class from the U.S. Air Force Academy in Colorado Springs, Colo. Tran, who studied biology and chemistry, now lives in Cambridge, Mass., while finishing his final year at Harvard Medical School.

Tran said he had a normal, happy childhood growing up in Saigon. Then the war shattered the family's peace. "We left the night before Saigon fell," Tran said.

"There were 150 of us crammed in the boat, so there wasn't much room to move," Tran said. "All we had was some water and a little rice. The boat was taking on water fast, and we were wet and scared. After about a week, we saw a welcome sight - a U.S. Navy ship, which rescued us. I was 10."

The ship took the family to Guam. Then they went to Camp Pendleton Marine Base near San Diego. They were there a month before being sponsored by a church in Colorado.

"My brother and I didn't have too much trouble learning English. To start, they put me in fifth grade. I'd always liked math, so that was fine from the start since numbers

are the same. Also, my parents were very supportive and stressed academic achievement. I had a tutor to help with English. The new culture was like an adventure for my bother and me, but it was difficult for my parents at first.

"Since my father was in the airborne in Vietnam, the Air Force was a natural choice for me," Tran said. "My bother joined the Air Force also. He's now a captain and works with computers in the Pentagon."

Tran said the Air Force Academy was a good experience. "I liked the challenging environment."

He thinks the academy helped develop his management skills. "We had to balance academics, athletics and military activities.

Tran received a Rhodes scholarship and studied at Oxford, England. He studied philosophy and political science. He also studied strategy and the role of the military in the international arena.

"During my two years at Oxford - 1987 to 1989 - my Oxford friends and I traveled to just about every European country," he said.

Tran is looking forward to being an Air Force orthopedic surgeon. He chose the specialty because it is a skill in great demand during war that is also useful treating peacetime patients.

"After seeing my homeland devastated and my parents lose everything they had, I'm convinced the military is very important to protect national interests both at home and abroad. People in the United States have been good to my family, and I want to contribute and serve in return," he said.

Be safe, not sorry, don't shake your child

It may be tempting to shake a crying, unruly child, but experts warn that shaking small children may result in very serious injury.

The Shaken Infant Syndrome has been newly recognized in the last few years as a significant cause of infant injuries, according to the National Center for the Prevention of Child Abuse.

In children under the age of 2, even moderate shaking can cause brain damage and bleeding in and on the surface of the brain, experts say. Even children ages three to four still have weak neck muscles and poor strength to control their heavy heads and may also suffer injury from shaking.

Parents should also be aware that some play activities can be hazardous too. Among these activities: Tossing a child into the air, jogging with an infant on the back or shoulders, bouncing a child on the knee or a swinging foot, swinging a child by the ankles, spinning a child around.

Any child who has been vigorously shaken, either accidentally or on purpose, should be taken to the hospital immediately. Take courage and make sure you tell the emergency room doctor that the child has been shaken. That's the only way bleeding on the brain can be immediately detected and treated.

Quotables

A few kind words take only seconds to say, but their echoes can go on for years.

Anon.



To your health

Cook hamburgers until pink is gone

By Rudi Williams
American Forces Information
Service

Earlier this year, bacteria in undercooked ground beef killed a number of people in the Northwest and made many others seriously ill. The culprit was *E. coli*, short for *Escherichia coli*.

Health and agriculture officials warn people to cook hamburger until all the pink is gone - medium well. That's the only way to ensure *E. coli* bacteria are killed.

Children under five and the elderly are at primary risk for severe consequences, officials said. Health officials estimate that as many as 20,000 cases of *E. coli* infection occur in the United States each year.

Humans normally carry *E. coli* inside their intestines. But this specific strain - 0157:H7 - was first identified as a cause of human

illness in 1982, researchers said. A strain of *Escherichia coli* can cause severe, often bloody, diarrhea and painful abdominal cramps, officials said.

The illness normally subsides in five to 10 days, but the infection can lead to a condition known as hemolytic uremic syndrome, causing kidney failure and other complications including seizures and stroke.

Less than 10 percent of infections lead to the syndrome, officials said, but patients often require intensive care, blood transfusions and kidney dialysis to survive. Most victims survive, but some may have high blood pressure and kidney problems later in life, officials noted.

The major sources of *E. coli* are undercooked ground beef and raw milk, officials said. The bacterium, present in cattle intestines, may contact the meat during slaughter.

Heat kills the bacteria when the meat is thoroughly cooked, but the germs can survive in rare or inadequately cooked meat.

Bacteria on the cow's udders or milking equipment can be passed into raw milk, but pasteurization kills them, officials said.

Waterborne transmission of *E. coli* has been documented. Centers for Disease Control officials said to consider only chlorinated or carbonated water as safe. Also, the organism is easily passed from person to person through casual contact - shaking hands, for example, could transmit the bacteria.

Officials are concerned about transmission of the bacteria in day care centers. Toddlers who are not toilet-trained are especially likely to spread the infection. Officials recommend day care providers frequently wash their hands with soap and water to prevent transmission.

How to avoid carpal tunnel syndrome

By Philip Higgs, M.D.,
BarnesCare Physician

Each year, more than 200,000 Americans develop carpal tunnel syndrome, a condition characterized by swelling of tendons in the wrist which can cause fiery pain, numbness, tingling in the hands, and weakness in the fingers.

Many carpal tunnel cases are associated with job-related tasks which require hours of repetitive motion. Carpal tunnel syndrome can also be associated with jobs that require holding the hands in an unnatural position for hours at a

time, spending long hours typing on a computer and other repetitive tasks.

Carpal tunnel syndrome has been referred to as the "Disorder of the Informational Age." Just as the use of computers has proliferated the American workforce, reported cases of carpal tunnel have risen by nearly 800 percent since 1983.

One hallmark indication of carpal tunnel syndrome is a burning pain that begins in the wrist and radiates out to the fingers. Numbness in the thumb, index, long middle and ring fingers can also be indications of carpal tunnel syndrome.

Below are some simple tips which can help you avoid carpal tunnel syndrome:

* Focus on keeping wrists and hands in a neutral position - not bent upward, downward or to the side.

* Do some "warm ups" - gently massage your palms, and then press your palm down to stretch the underside of the forearm area. Lightly clench your hand, then open it and fan your fingers in an outward direction. Repeat this several times a day.

* Take breaks away from your
(Continued on next page)



Retiree Review

By the Retiree Correspondent

On April 15, 1993, 28 attended the retiree luncheon at the Salad Bowl. Bill Hayes was present with a few of his little cuties and a "Tacks" shelter - the last day of the year! Bill said next month he plans to bring some of his "dogs." Bill keeps his knife sharp for those pieces of wood!

Elmer Huizenga reported that he has had several phone calls and a card from Paul Olson. Phil Pusateri's arthritis keeps him pretty quiet. Cliff Forderhase has had artery surgery on his neck. He's home recovering. Bill Douglas said he has a new car, but doesn't know if it will make it to St. Louis. We all miss you, Bill. It has been quite some time since you've joined us. "Barney" Barnhard has been doing a little bowling. Doing fine. Slowly getting back to "normal."

Elmer said Dave Harley had reported his condition on his computer, so it has been broadcast far and wide. Elmer had tests a month ago and the report was no cancer cells found at that time. His monthly test was April 14. He will have the results in a few days. Then if cancer cells are found, he'll probably have surgery. Hope none are found.

Pete Puricelli has instituted recognizing each person's birthday in that current month. Steve Williams admitted having a birthday in April. Happy Birthday, Steve.

The EOC (Flood Center) was being activated as we were meeting. A crest of 36 feet was expected on Saturday.

The Loren Lignons were reunited. Dorothy was back from her sojourn to California. She reported an enjoyable trip. Loren, as usual, was up to par. It seems this guy who owned a little farm near Edwardsville was going to paint his old barn. It was one of those real warm days. He put on several coats in preparing to paint. His wife said, "Why are you putting on so many coats, it's so warm?" He said, "I'm only following the instructions. See, it says, 'Put on three coats for best results.' And that's what I'm doing." Sounds like Loren, doesn't it?

Gene Degenhardt was the District Rep. He brought this message from Jean and Dee. "Hello. We hope to attend the May luncheon IF the sun is out." Come now. You're not just fair weather friends. We will welcome you come rain, come shine. Colonel Craig has returned after five weeks in Washington assisting in the Chief's Office since Brig. Gen.

Witherspoon had an accident a couple of weeks ago. While crossing the road near his home, while out jogging, he was hit by a car, sustaining broken collar bone, some broken ribs, punctured lung and lacerations. He is still in intensive care and probably will be for another week. Probably will be unable to return to work for some time. Best wishes for a speedy recovery are extended to him.

The new M/V Mississippi was dedicated last week. The high water inspection trip will be next week. The M/V Mississippi will probably be in St. Louis in the fall.

No Assistant Secretary of the Army for Civil Works has been announced as yet. The acting Assistant Secretary is Dr. Dickey. He will visit St. Louis next week. Nothing new on the reorganization is forthcoming.

We wish to extend our sympathy to the family of Leona E. Siegrist (Mrs. Victor Siegrist) who passed away March 25. Vic worked with us for many years and she worked for the IRS.

Thanks to "Mr. Salad Bowl" we learned that SENIOR CITIZENS ARE THE BIGGEST CARRIERS OF AIDS: * Rollaids * Medic-Aids * Hearing Aids * Band-aids * Walking-Aids * Government-Aid. How about that. Thanks again.

You good people who do not attend these luncheons miss a very enjoyable get-together. Don't forget. Mark your calendar for May 20 - about 11 or 11:30 - Salad Bowl on Lindell. See you then. Let's pack the hall. See you on May 20!

Carpal tunnel, continued

tasks especially if your job entails substantial amounts of repetitive motion. An Australian study found that people who type more than five hours a day at a computer had a 12 times greater risk of incurring carpal tunnel syndrome. So take a few moments to relax your hands and wrists whenever possible.

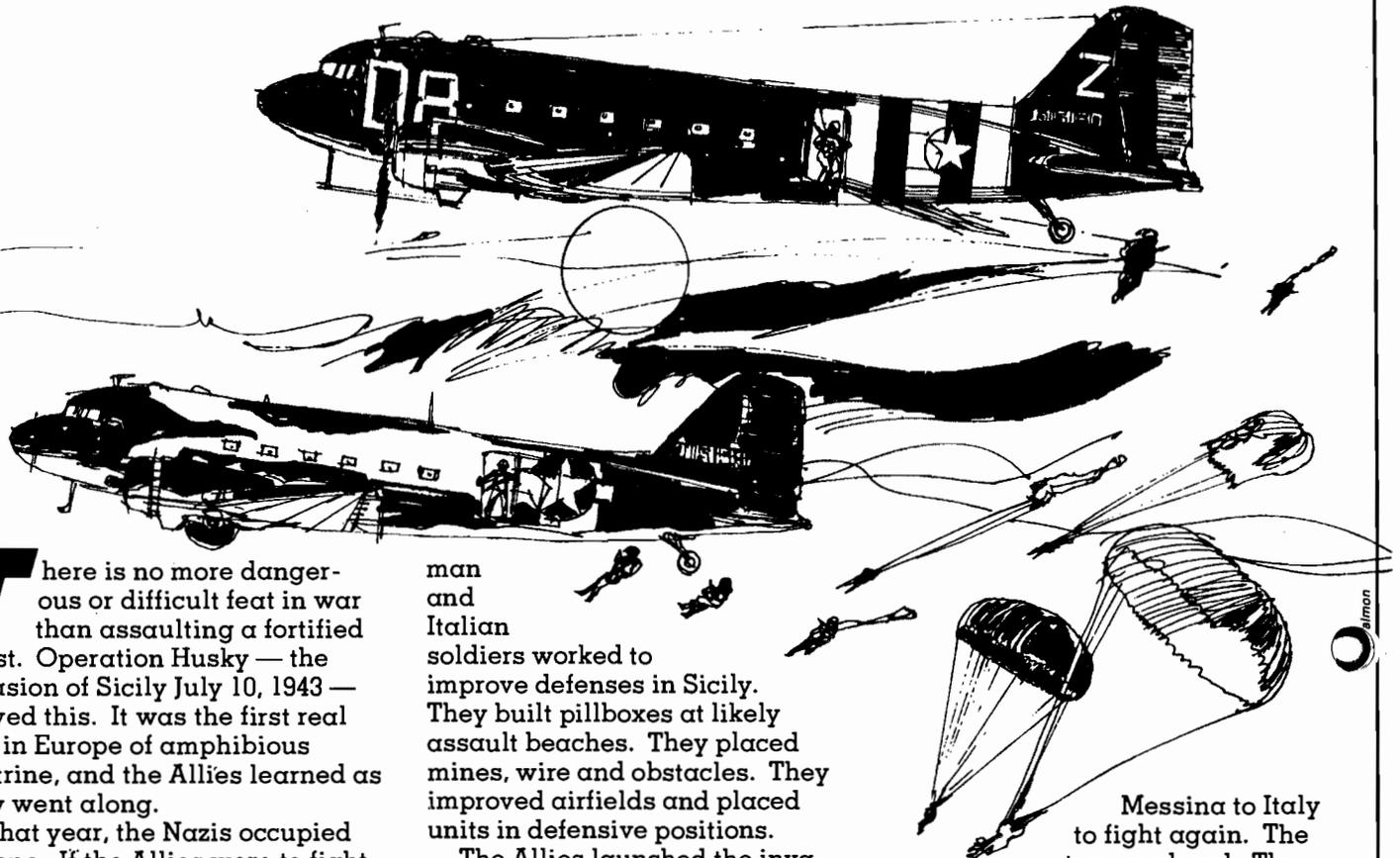
Don't ignore pain in the wrist and hand, or numbness of the fingers. Carpal tunnel only becomes a serious, debilitating problem if it is left untreated.

If you begin to experience numbness or tingling in your hands, seek medical attention immediately. Carpal tunnel syndrome can often be treated without surgery if recognized soon enough.



KNOCKING ITALY OUT!

Allied Invasion of Sicily Paves Way to Victory



There is no more dangerous or difficult feat in war than assaulting a fortified coast. Operation Husky — the invasion of Sicily July 10, 1943 — proved this. It was the first real test in Europe of amphibious doctrine, and the Allies learned as they went along.

That year, the Nazis occupied Europe. If the Allies were to fight them, U.S. and British troops had to storm across beaches, fall from the sky or ride plywood gliders.

How were they supposed to load the ships so the proper supplies would be available when needed? How much pre-invasion bombardment is needed? What's the proper mix of troops for an invasion? How long can you support a major operation with supplies delivered over beaches? How do you provide medical care? Where should airborne troops be dropped? How about air support? Thousands of questions begged answers.

In the meantime, 405,000 Ger-

man and Italian soldiers worked to improve defenses in Sicily. They built pillboxes at likely assault beaches. They placed mines, wire and obstacles. They improved airfields and placed units in defensive positions.

The Allies launched the invasion the night of July 10. Tragedy ensued and pointed to how much the Allies needed to learn. Planes carrying Allied airborne forces overflew the seaborne convoy. Allied ships opened fire, bringing down many of their own planes. Still, this airdrop was successful.

American and British troops stormed ashore. An American destroyer, the USS Cowie, proved its worth by beating off an attack by a German Tiger tank outfit.

The entire Sicilian campaign lasted 38 days. About 40,000, or 10 percent, of the German and Italian troops escaped across the Straits of

Messina to Italy to fight again. The rest surrendered. The invasion gave the Allies important experience they would need in an invasion of France. Further, it helped school a group of Allied leaders, from Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower to Lt. Gen. George S. Patton Jr. to Gen. Bernard Law Montgomery.

But more importantly, the invasion of Sicily knocked Italy out of the war. The invasion was the catalyst that caused the ouster of dictator Benito Mussolini on July 25, 1943. As the saying went at the time, "One down. Two to go."

— American Forces Information Service



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