



CECOM DOTS and DASHES

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CECOM provides critical quick-react support to Joint Tactical Terminal

Software Engineering Center

Interoperability, or lack thereof, can pose great threats to the warfighters' ability to gather situational awareness and maintain communications to command and control headquarters.

That's why when the Program Executive Office for Intelligence, Electronic Warfare and Systems, requested the delivery of software updates to the Joint Tactical Terminals (JTT), the U.S. Army Communications-Electronics Command's Software Engineering Center quickly assembled a team of software engineers to answer the need, according to Garrett Shoemaker, CECOM SEC Intelligence and Information Software Support Division Chief.

"The JTT ensures interoperability with the new Common Interactive Broadcast military standards for ultra-high frequency satellite communications," said Ned Rianhard, Program Manager for Integrated Broadcast Services Terminals, Program Manager Distributed Common Ground System-Army.

The Joint Tactical Terminal, otherwise known as the JTT, is a family of software-programmable intelligence radios that can operate at multiple security levels.

The systems are designed to provide common communications and display systems for intelligence through a variety of intelligence broadcast networks within the Integrated Broadcast Service,

as well as from tactical data links and secondary imagery dissemination systems.

SEC's team of software engineers traveled to numerous depots and operational sites with special equipment to install the system updates.

.....> cover story continued on page 5

Can you decode what's in this box?



To find the answer, go to page 31.



Message from THE COMMANDER



MG Robert S. Ferrell

FY-13 – Challenges & Achievements

Unlike New Year's Eve at the close of the calendar year, the end of a 'Fiscal Year' is not usually a cause for celebration. However, as we have recently completed Fiscal Year -13, and so much of the news we read and our daily focus has centered on budgets and the fiscal environment, the end of this fiscal year in particular is a good opportunity to take a quick look back at the challenges

and achievements of the last twelve months.

Point blank, FY-13 has proven to be the most complex and difficult budget year in nearly a generation. For example, our Army continued to implement the Budget Control Act of 2011, which among other effects will result in a planned reduction of more than 80K Soldiers. In addition, sequestration, which took effect in March 2013, resulted in further funding reductions across our force and necessitated the furlough of over 250,000 Army Civilian Professionals during the summer – including nearly all of the 8,000 who serve on our CECOM Team. Couple these with the furlough which occurred during the first week in October and the impact of operating under continuing resolutions, along with commensurate reductions in 'OCO' or 'Overseas Contingency Operations' funding, and you have an overall fiscal environment that could have potentially limited the Army – and CECOM's – ability to accomplish our mission.

Fortunately, all across our Force and at CECOM, we have undertaken steps to organize and optimize ourselves which are setting conditions for a very

different - but still very exciting - future. During FY-13, CECOM began a number of key initiatives – from right-sizing our C4ISR Field Support mission, to re-organizing our CECOM Forward Elements, to optimizing 'like-functions' across our headquarters G8, G1 and G6 staffs, that will allow us to actively shape our command's future, rather than to be shaped by events outside of our control.

Moreover, in spite of the fiscal challenges of FY-13, CECOM can also be especially proud of the tremendous C4ISR support we have provided to the Army and Joint Force over the last twelve months. Wherever you look across our Command, you find significant and lasting achievements, along with sustained, superior performance.

For example, our Logistics and Readiness Center (LRC) has been able to dispose of more than \$1.42 billion dollars in excess C4ISR stocks in FY-13. LRC has accomplished this while also maintaining historic highs in the readiness of our fleets; record highs in stock availability and record lows in equipment backorders. Our CECOM personnel who are forward deployed to Afghanistan supporting the drawdown of forces and embedded at the Redistribution Property Accountability Team (RPAT) Yards and Retro-Sort Yards, have been able to identify more than 10,000 serviceable C4ISR equipment items with a total dollar value of over \$70 million dollars, and return them to the Army supply system.

At the Tobyhanna Army Depot (TYAD), throughout FY-13, our team continued to excel in its role as DoD's C4ISR Logistics Support Center of Choice. In just the last year, TYAD received the Lean/Six Sigma Program's Excellence Award (LEAP) for the Industrial Category; the Secretary of the Army Environmental Award for an Industrial Organization; and the Silver Shingo Award for Communications Security Operations at the Enterprise Level. Notably, these

tremendous TYAD recognitions occurred at the same time the Depot was required to complete a phased, FY-13 workforce reduction of over 970 personnel.

CECOM's Information Systems Engineering Command (ISEC) also built on its already stellar record of performance in FY-13 by supporting the stand-up of new, state of the art, Army Headquarters IT facilities at locations such as Ft. Bragg and at SOCSOUTH. In addition, ISEC provided outstanding information technology infrastructure support to the Yongsan, Korea relocation; an effort that impacts more than 29,000 personnel. ISEC has also played a critical engineering role for the Host Based Security System (HBSS), which detects and counters cyber-threats to DoD. Specifically, ISEC led the planning and execution of U.S. European Command's migration to the Army's 5th Signal Command NIPR, SIPR and HBSS enterprises – the first time that a Combatant Command had ever successfully migrated to an Army enterprise system of any kind.

At CECOM's Central Technical Support Facility (CTSF), FY-13 was also a highly successful year, where CTSF personnel completed the Army Interoperability Certification of (42) critical systems that resulted in upgrades released to our Warfighters. CTSF's participation in the Coalition Interoperability Assessment and Validation (CIAV) process resulted in innumerable real-world improvements to the Afghan Mission Network that supports OEF. CTSF also provided extensive expertise and assistance to the ASA/ALT staff and several of our C4ISR PEO's as part of their on-going effort to achieve operations and intelligence information fusion thru implementation of Common Operating Environment (COE) 1.0.

The CECOM Software Engineering Center's (SEC) FY-13 performance was similarly outstanding. SEC's Joint On-Demand Interoperability (JOIN) Team continued their critical support to the USFK-ROK interoperability

effort. SEC is providing solutions that address SINCGARS interoperability challenges on the peninsula, while testing commercial, off-the-shelf, communication bridging capabilities used by Special Operations Command in theater. During FY-13, SEC also supported the Distributed Common Ground System-Army (DCGS-A) effort, by partnering with TRADOC to enhance DCGS-A Field Software Engineering training for NCO's and entry-level Soldiers in the Military Intelligence Systems Maintainer/Integrator MOS. SEC also successfully conducted the 2013 Joint User Interoperability Communications Exercise (JUICE), which included over 1,500 participants from the U.S. and our Allied and Coalition partners, and which focused on the cyber-defense of a deployed Joint Task Force.

As you can see, despite the challenging fiscal conditions our command confronted in FY-13, talented and dedicated CECOM professionals, operating at locations all across the globe, were able to accomplish our mission while also building the 'future CECOM' we'll need to sustain the Army and Joint Force of 2020 and beyond. Although, resources and budgets will remain limited, and tough choices will have to be made in FY-14/15, given all we have accomplished, we can be confident our command is on the right track and that we will have the capabilities we need to remain the 'Critical Link' in C4ISR sustainment.

Thank you for your hard work and efforts throughout FY-13, for working to meet the many challenges of the furlough - and for all you do each and every day for our Warfighters.

Army Strong!

MG Robert Ferrell

Message from **THE COMMANDER**



CSM Kennis J. Dent

COMMAND SERGEANT MAJOR'S PERSPECTIVE

"Our nation has always drawn its strength from the differences of our people, from a vast range of thought,

experience, and ability... During National Disability Employment Awareness Month, we nurture our culture of diversity and renew our commitment to building an American workforce that offers inclusion and opportunity for all." This quote by President Barack Obama was taken from the Presidential Proclamation on National Disability Employment Awareness Month which is being celebrated in October. "Because We Are EQUAL to the Task" is the theme of this year's campaign. The theme showcases that people with disabilities possess the same abilities to take on tough tasks as anyone else in the workplace.

At CECOM, our most important resource is our people. You are the fuel that drives our Command to accomplish our missions. This month we take time to recognize the talents, skills and dedication of Americans with disabilities who represent a vital part of our country and workforce. Within CECOM, we have approximately 1350 individuals with disabilities. These team members successfully serve in our profession as logisticians, engineers, accountants, strategists, and supervisors. From our disabled veterans and civilians to our Soldiers returning home as wounded

warriors, these men and women overcome challenging physical and personal difficulties everyday and demonstrate vital resiliency. Despite the challenges they encounter, they prove to be more than "equal to the task" and supporting any mission.

October is also National Depression Awareness Month for the Army. Clinical depression is a serious medical condition that if left untreated, can lead to other complicated medical conditions or could even result in suicide. The holiday season is right around the corner and this can often times be a trigger for stress and depression as well.

Depression signs and symptoms include:

- Feelings of sadness or unhappiness
- Irritability, frustration or angry outbursts
- Abrupt changes in mood or behavior
- Loss of interest in normal activities you once enjoyed
- Fatigue, listlessness, trouble concentrating
- Talking about death, dying or suicide

A depression screening is often the first step to getting well. Unfortunately, two-thirds of people who suffer from depression fail to seek the care needed. They mistakenly believe their symptoms are just a normal part of life. The good news for people who suffer with depression is that clinical depression can be treated.

The Army is committed to decreasing the stigma for

Soldiers, family members and civilians who seek this kind of behavioral health care.

Asking for help is not a sign of weakness, but great strength.

Even the most severe cases of depression, are treatable. The earlier the treatment begins, the more effective it is and the greater the likelihood the recurrence of depression can be prevented.

Your awareness and understanding of depression plays a critical role in protecting our people. Therefore, be proactive; it could really mean the difference between life and death. If you or someone you know suffers from depression, help is available from a primary care physician or behavioral health counselor. In fact, anonymous depression screenings are available for Soldiers, family members and Army civilians through the Department of Defense, Department of Veterans Affairs and behavioral health agencies and resources in local communities.

Both of these special emphasis programs fall into the Army's Ready and Resilient Campaign. Our focus must remain on building resilience in our people, increasing their professionalism, and equipping them with the knowledge, skills, abilities, tools and support they need to maintain strong mental, emotional, and physical health to succeed in our missions.

We are... The Critical Link!
Army Strong!



CECOM Software Engineers update a Joint Tactical Terminal.



CECOM Software Engineer with soldiers working in Kuwait as they update a Joint Tactical Terminal.

“These updates will ensure joint service warfighters can confidently and successfully continue to perform their missions using the Joint Tactical Terminal system to access time sensitive force protection intelligence data,” said Rianhard.

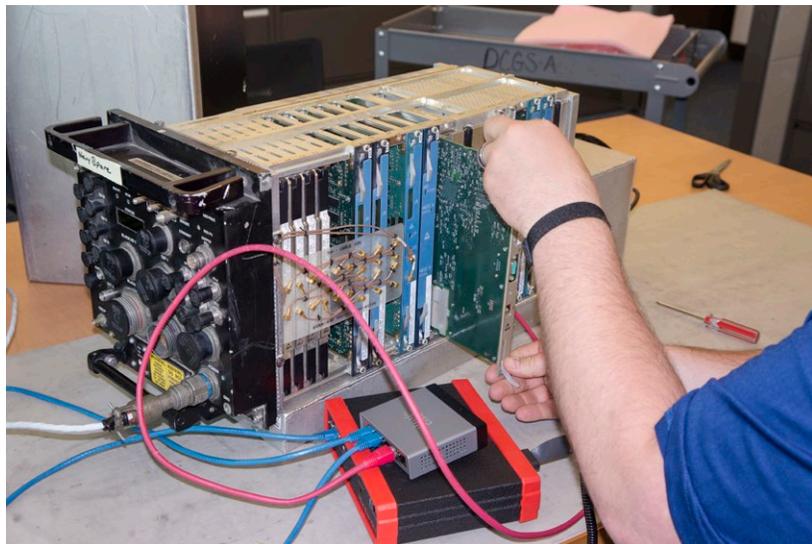
To date, the team has updated 326 terminals since March, with plans to update an additional 84 terminals at installations within the next three months.

“Thanks to CECOM Software Engineering Center, we are going to meet our milestone for the Common Interactive Broadcast Initial Operational Capability date,” said Rianhard.

The Joint Tactical Terminal uses this information to create a common operating picture which aids in the prevention of fratricide as well as combat search and rescue operations to rescue stranded warfighters.

“I’m proud of our team. They quickly learned how to upgrade the radios and are now independently visiting units around the world to perform the critical work,” said Shoemaker. “This is also a great opportunity for us to engage the Soldiers who use our systems to better understand their unique requirements so CECOM can continue to provide exceptional support for the Joint Tactical Terminal.”

“Once again, the Software Engineering Center has stepped up to fill a critical need,” said Rianhard.



CECOM Software Engineers update a Joint Tactical Terminal.



THE DECISIVE EDGE

ISEC provides support for Joint Information Environment mission

By Marissa Anderson (CECOM Public Affairs)

The U.S. Army Information Systems Engineering Command is assisting in one of the largest restructurings of information technology management ever undertaken in the history of the Department of Defense.

The Joint Information Environment or JIE, as defined from the JIE Operations Concept of Operations, is a secure joint information environment, comprised of shared information technology (IT) infrastructure, enterprise services, and single security architecture designed to achieve full spectrum superiority, improve mission effectiveness, increase security and realize IT efficiencies.

From left to right- George Long (USA ISEC), Robert Lorentsen (USA ISEC, TSD director), LTC Alan Kral (USFK J6), and Craig Engel (USA ISEC) collaborate during a meeting in the J65 conference room. Not pictured David Premeaux. (photo credit ISEC).

“The benefit of JIE for the Army is that it can offer enhanced cyber and warfighter command and control capabilities within a single security architecture, as opposed to multiple, non collaborative firewalls and networks as had been the case in the past,” explained George Long, engineer at Transmissions Systems directorate of ISEC. ISEC director of Transmission Systems, Robert Lorentsen and engineers Craig Engel, David Premeaux, and Long went to work with the United States Forces Korea to set up an organizational structure and kick off the JIE initiative in Korea.

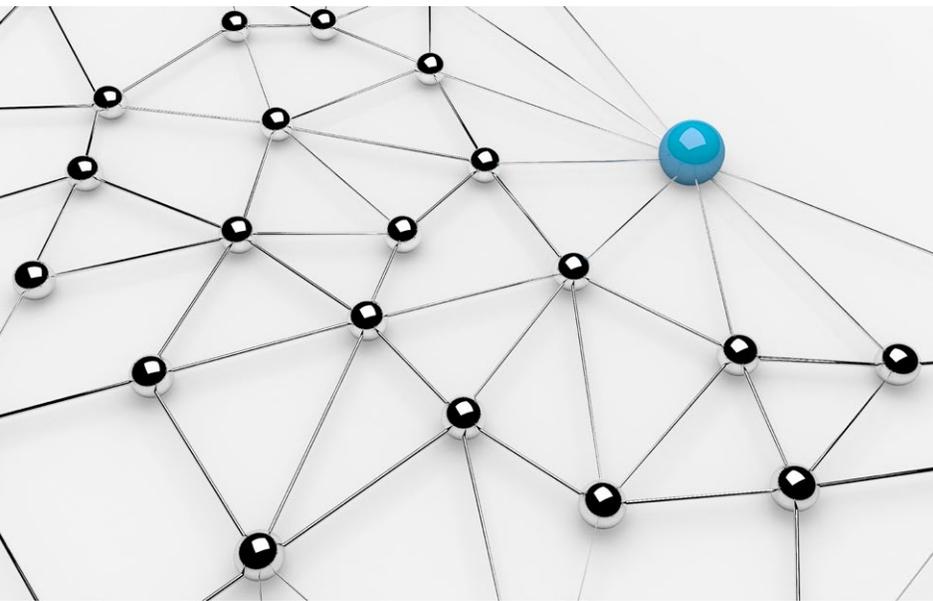
The United States Forces Korea and ISEC created the first JIE enabling Korean Theater working groups which included architecture, transport, resource management, network operations services, services and applications, tactical, and combined forces interoperability. The overarching working group that coordinates the JIE effort is the Governance working group explained Long.

“JIE is designed to correct numerous issues that impact operational effectiveness, timeliness and security within the current IT infrastructure of the Army and DoD. Currently, the networks that are in place may hinder mission success in many domains from strategic to tactical,” said Long. “These include uncoordinated security architectures, multiple firewalls,

stove-piped networks, data and operation centers that lack a common operating picture. The current enterprise network service models require forward deployed forces to reach back to CONUS or DoD component architectures for services and maintenance.”

The JIE will promote the use of common tactics, techniques, and procedures (TTPS) developed at the enterprise level with the goal of providing services, applications, and tools for use amongst DoD agencies and mission partners to allow for real time, global intelligence gathering and coordinated decision making concerning cyber operations on IT assets, explained Lorentsen. A more “standardized,” consolidated operating IT environment will allow a more seamless approach for integrating new evolving technologies and requirements. “The cost savings for the Army are significant as JIE’s efficiencies of scale and standardized architectures are incorporated in the Army’s IT infrastructure,” Lorentsen.

ISEC continues to provide engineering assistance to the CIO G6 led Army team supporting the JIE Technical Synchronization Office as needed as well as working with PEO EIS to provide support to the USFK J6 JIE enabling activities.



PROVIDING THE
**CRITICAL
LINK**

Central Technical Support Facility (CTSF)

The Central Technical Support Facility Configuration Management (CM) team continued analysis and coordination efforts with DA CIO/G6 CM representatives to identify database structure and field requirements for the Configuration Management Tracking System Version III (CMTSv3).

The effort will enable CMTSv4 to serve as the single authoritative source for consolidated accreditation and certification software lifecycle management, and include any unique software versions intended for employment in a coalition environment.

Information Systems Engineering Command (ISEC)

Senior National Leadership Communications (SNLC) Program — In support of PM DCATS, ISEC is providing technical expertise in the modernization of the SNLC Network. The modernized network will provide increased bandwidth efficiency to accommodate the increased demand on the Direct Communications Link (DCL or “Hotline” to Moscow). At the request of the Russian Presidential Directorate, communication designs were modified to include Russian furnished equipment into the overall network architecture. Cutover of the recently installed Russian equipment is ongoing. The next step will be technical discussions in Moscow to discuss the feasibility of a Direct Secure Communications Link.

Communications Upgrades in Honduras — ISEC and Tobyhanna Army Depot (TYAD) have teamed up to provide communications upgrades at Joint Task Force-Bravo and the Embassy’s USMILGROUP in Honduras. Most recently, the team completed back-up power upgrades that will significantly improve the reliability of critical communications at these locations. The next phase includes preparing the facilities for an upgrade of their antiquated voice systems with a state-of-the-art Voice Over IP (VOIP) capability. VOIP implementation is scheduled to be complete by the end of the year.

Logistics and Readiness Center (LRC)

Logistic Assistance Representatives (LARs) Conduct Back to Basics Training — CECOM LARs continue to lead the way in the Army's about face away from augmented support and new focus on self sufficient sustainment. Emphasis continues to be placed on back-to-basics efforts and traditional maintenance training with a focus on the fundamental process of Preventive Maintenance Checks and Services (PMCS), fault identification, work ordering, man-hour accountability, Primary Load List (PLL)/shop stock, parts requisitioning and system repair. Back to Basics highlights for the week ending 24 Sep resulted in a total of 79 soldiers trained across the Army Field Support Brigade (AFSB) regions and a cumulative 175 hours of training. A note of thanks was received from 1LT Joe Marion, Battalion Fire Direction Officer (BN FDO), 2-29 Field Artillery (FA), on the support CECOM SENSOR LARS at Fort Bliss, Texas provided to a week-long training event on the Global Broadcast Systems.

198th Expeditionary Signal Battalion (ESB) — CECOM IT-Switch (IT-SW) Brad Riedeman and Long Haul Transmission (LHT) Maintenance Technician (MT) Larry Eberhardt were requested to provide training for the 198th Expeditionary Signal Battalion (ESB) Soldiers responsible for resolving issues with the Harris 7800W Line of Sight (LOS) radio systems. LAR Riedeman and Eberhardt provided training on the proper configurations for the radio portion, the Internet Protocol (IP) addressing, and link troubleshooting steps from the router/switch to the 7800 and across the link to the adjacent radio and router/switch. The LARs trained the Soldiers to configure computers and the 7800 radios to demonstrate the proper method of verifying the link prior connecting into the router/switch devices.

Training took place over the course of two (2) days with 6 soldiers attending.

ARC-231 SATCOM — CECOM Avionics LAR Quirino Camacho, USAG Humphreys, was contacted to train Soldiers on the ARC-231 SATCOM. Four soldiers were instructed for four hours on Set Up procedures, loading COMSEC keys utilizing the Single Key Loader (SKL), and conducting maintenance operational checks (MOC). LAR provided instruction to the Soldiers on setting the system back to factory settings and performing reconfiguration procedures. This was followed by instruction on communications and SATCOM Loopback checks to verify system operability.

CECOM Security Assistance Management Directorate — Completion of four "HisVis Enabler FMS Cases

On 7 October, the CECOM Security Assistance Management Directorate completed four "Hi-Vis Enabler" FMS Cases involving P-ISR to the United States Army Security Assistance Command, setting the stage for a future \$6.7M procurement of training, sustainment and field support for 10 Raid Towers equipped with full-motion video sensors. These systems are projected to be the foundation of Persistent Surveillance capabilities for the Afghanistan National Army.



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meals for the hungry.

\$5

per week provides 5
wigs for children with
cancer undergoing
chemotherapy.

\$10

per week provides a
lightweight wheelchair
for a physically
challenged person.

To date, CECOM has raised nearly
\$12,000 for various charities in need!

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To make a donation, please visit:
www.opm.gov/combined-federal-campaign
www.cfctoday.org

Or contact your organizational CFC Representative.



Distributed Common Ground Station-Army (DCGS-A) training — SEC provided Distributed Common Ground Station-Army (DCGS-A) training to Mission Occupation Specialty 35T (Military Intelligence Systems Maintainer/Integrator) Soldiers assigned to I Corps, increasing their proficiency and providing efficiencies by reducing unit reliance on contractor field software engineer (FSE) support. By training 35T Soldiers to maintain the DCGS-A system by performing routine FSE functions such as map loading and system reboots, SEC is helping the Army reduce system sustainment costs while providing responsive agile support and building confidence in both units and the Soldiers who depend on them for critical intelligence.

Team ARAT Develops Software — SEC's Army Reprogramming Analysis Team – Program Office is developing threat load software for the 2nd Armored Brigade Combat Team's Counter Radio Controlled Improvised Explosive Devices (RCIED) Electronic Warfare (CREW) Duke V3 mounted systems. SEC is chartered by the Army to provide Post Production Software Support for electronic warfare systems, including the Duke V3 system, against regional and emerging enemy threats worldwide, and is developing the threat load software in response to 2nd ABCT's operational needs statement supporting their regional alignment with the continent of Africa. So far, the brigade has conducted five missions - to the Democratic Republic of Congo, Malawi, Sierra Leone, Niger, and Ghana – with more scheduled.

Software Engineering Center (SEC)

Lower Tactical Internet (LTI) validation — SEC deployed an engineer to Afghanistan, providing onsite engineering support for radio hardware and Capability Set 13 equipment troubleshooting to assist PM Radios with Lower Tactical Internet (LTI) validation. Capability set 13 improves communications by providing an enhanced ad-hoc networking capability down to the individual Warfighter, in turn providing them with improved battlefield situational awareness and communications. The LTI validation, taking place at Bagram Airfield in Afghanistan, is technically intensive and involves planning Soldier Radio Waveform networks; installing cryptographic keys and radio installation; installing hardware onto tactical vehicles; and verifying vehicular and dismounted node functionality. SEC's onsite support provides an immediate response to any complications hindering successful network validation, ensuring we get this critical capability into our Warfighters hands as soon as possible.

Tobyhanna Army Depot (TYAD)

Core capabilities secure CROWS workload — Tobyhanna Army Depot will leverage its extensive resources to become the Army’s new depot source of repair for the Common Remotely Operated Weapons Station, known as CROWS. Depot employees and Program Executive Office Soldier’s Project Manager for Soldier Weapons personnel have joined forces to develop depot-level capability to repair more than 11,000 mounted turret systems at the Defense Department’s (DoD) full-service electronics maintenance facility. CROWS was initially tested by the Army and fielded to units supporting Operation Iraqi Freedom and Operation Enduring Freedom. The primary advantage for a vehicle-mounted CROWS is that it allows the operator to remotely aim and fire a weapon from inside a vehicle. The transition plan includes everything from funding, facilities and training to manpower.

SMART-T Reset: Employees, Warfighters benefit from Lean — Teamwork and continuous improvement helped reduce the repair cycle time (RCT) on the AN/TSC-154 Secure Mobile Anti-Jam Reliable Tactical Terminal (SMART-T) Reset program. As a result of a Lean event in 2009, incorporating multiple process improvements decreased the RCT from 80 to 65 days. Since then, additional upgrades have cut the RCT to 57 days for the entire system. By introducing a multi-level Bill of Material (BOM), employees were able to further reduce the RCT for the humvee Reset to 39 days. SMART-T terminals are Reset by employees in the Communications Systems Directorate’s TACSAT

Equipment Branch and the humvees are Reset by Tobyhanna employees. Collaboration between two Tobyhanna Army Depot directorates proved to be the solution to mission success and warfighter support. Personnel here became part of the Reset program as early as 2006. The extremely high frequency (EHF) and advanced extremely high frequency (AEHF) systems are disassembled, refurbished, tested and repaired.

Team Tobyhanna streamlines Nett Warrior Fielding process — Team Tobyhanna connects Soldiers to cutting-edge technology, which gives leaders the ability to soundlessly maneuver and track a unit’s movements on the battlefield using a handheld device. Several shops here are supporting the U.S. Army’s Nett Warrior (NW) system that provides warfighters secure and mobile voice, video and data communications capabilities. With this system leaders can send information using services such as e-mail, text messages and icons that signify different threat levels. Depot personnel are streamlining the fielding process by performing tasks that until recently were handled by multiple vendors. In addition, tens of thousands of cables are being produced to meet customer needs. The Nett Warrior program pairs commercial off-the-shelf (COTS) smart phones with the AN/PRC-154 Rifleman Radio transmitter/receiver to display maps, troop positions and operational updates previously restricted to vehicles or hard-wired command posts.

Headquarters

CECOM Office of Small Business — FY13 C4ISR Small Business Achievement

This year CECOM and Team C4ISR Awarded \$953,905,103 to Small Businesses as prime contractors. This is a great accomplishment for both the C4ISR partners and Small Business Contractors for FY 13. The C4ISR team exceeded 4 out of 5 socio-

economic small business goals. Small Disadvantaged Business, Women Owned Small Business, and Small Disadvantaged Veteran Owned Small Business, were all tripled, and HUBZONE was also exceeded. This is a tremendous accomplishment in this declining spending environment.



Breast Cancer Awareness

National Breast Cancer Awareness Month is a chance to raise awareness about the importance of screening and the early detection of breast cancer.

About 1 in 8 women born today in the United States will get breast cancer at some point during her life. After skin cancer, breast cancer is the second leading most common cause of cancer in women.

Most women who get breast cancer have no known risk factors besides age. Many women with one or more risk factors never get breast cancer. So it's impossible to know who will actually get breast cancer. Here are some factors that can affect a woman's risk of breast cancer:

- **Age.** The strongest risk factor is age. Risk increases as women get older. Most women who get breast cancer are older than 50.
- **Family history.** Having a mother, sister, or daughter who has had breast cancer increases a woman's risk. The risk is higher if her family member got breast cancer before age 40. A woman's risk also is increased if more than one family member on either her mother's or father's side of the family has had breast cancer.
- **Body weight.** The chance of getting breast cancer after menopause is higher in women who are overweight or obese.

- **Drinking alcohol.** The more alcohol a woman drinks, the greater her risk of breast cancer.
- **Physical activity.** Women who are not physically active throughout life may have an increased risk of breast cancer. Strenuous exercise for more than 4 hours per week may help lower breast cancer risk.

Breast cancer can also affect men, even though it's rare. It happens more often to men who are older than 60. Factors that can increase a man's risk of breast cancer include:

- Exposure to radiation.
- Having harmful gene mutation or several female family members who have breast cancer.
- Having high estrogen levels, such as from disease or a genetic disorder.

Treatment can help men with breast cancer and survival rates for men if detected early.

Regardless of gender, breast cancer is a disease that has a significant long-term affect on you and your loved ones. The best method to diagnosing and curing breast cancer is early detection. Early detection means over the age of 40 for females and over the age of 60 for men to keep up with your regular annual mammograms.

For more information on the CECOM wellness program, contact the program POCs:

Keosha Pointer, 443-861-7915 (DSN: 848-7915); Tiffany Grimes, 443-861-7910 (DSN: 848-7910).



Winners- Team of the 3rd Quarter, FY13

C4ISR Team of the Quarter - Software Engineering Center's Army Reprogramming Analysis Team. The team received the award in recognition for their continued outstanding service and dedication in support of the Army Electronic Warfare capabilities.

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|-----------------------|--------------------|------------------|
| Nelson Capan | Michael Hvizdzak | Joseph Parker |
| Leo Chan | Eric Lee | Kevin Pham |
| Michael Crapanzano | Janet Lee | Steven Pham |
| Michelle Damato | Rita Lee | Jessica Rigdon |
| Jessica DeSteno | Joseph Lilonsky | John Sensing |
| Ramiro DeJesus | Kwok Lo | William Simmons |
| Jason Dennett | Christopher Morici | Steven Suit |
| Wayne Field | Amy Nguyen | Phuong Tran |
| Nicholas Gerasimowicz | Tho Nguyen | Bruce Woodmansee |
| William Hersey | Roxanne O'Brien | |
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Employees and civilian team members of the 3rd Quarter FY13 will each receive a DA Achievement Medal for Civilian Service. Military team members will receive an Army Achievement Medal.

Honorees will receive a CECOM Certificate of Achievement and their names will be engraved on the plaque displayed in the Headquarters office area.

Please extend congratulations for outstanding work achievement!

Excellence

IN OUR WORKPLACE

CTSF recognized for school supply donations

By David G. Landmann, CTSF

KILLEEN, TX – The Fort Hood-based Central Technical Support Facility (CTSF) received official words of thanks from the principal of a local elementary school chosen to receive school supply-stuffed backpacks purchased with employee donations.

Alice Wilson, principal of the Killeen Independent School District's East Ward Elementary School praised the generosity of the CTSF family in a recent letter, addressed to CTSF Director COL Anthony Wizner.

"On behalf of the students and staff of East Ward," Wilson wrote, "I want to extend our thanks to all of you for your generous donation of school supplies."

The donated supplies, she said, will be appreciated.

"Most of our students come from low-income families, and we also serve students residing at the Families In Crisis shelter and the Option House foster care residence, so your donations will be put to good use," Wilson wrote in her Aug. 30 thank you letter.

"Again," she continued, "thank you for your generosity and (for) thinking of our school."

Wizner, along with CTSF volunteers Joni House-Linn, Nancy Nelson, and Serena Jones, delivered 30 backpacks, all stuffed with elementary-level school supplies to East Ward Elementary School Aug. 23.

The backpacks and supplies were either donated outright, or were purchased with funds raised at an annual spaghetti luncheon and at other special events.

Another 30 backpacks were donated to the Copperas Cove Independent School District for distribution to students in need.



Cindy Hutcherson of the Copperas Cove Independent School District (left) presents Lt. Col. Dererick Giles (center) and Nancy Nelson (right) of the Fort Hood-based Central Technical Support Facility (CTSF) with the district's Board of Education Certificate of Recognition in a brief ceremony Sept. 10, in Copperas Cove. The certificate recognized the CTSF's employees for purchasing and donating 29 school supply-stuffed backpacks to the district for distribution of students in need. CTSF photo by David G. Landmann



Killeen's East Ward Elementary School Principal Alice Wilson (right) poses with (from left) Nancy Nelson, Serena Jones, CTSF Director COL Anthony Wilson, and Joni House-Linn Aug. 23, when the group delivered 30 school supply-stuffed backpacks to the school. The CTSF stages an annual school supply donation drive to assist students in need in the neighboring towns of Killeen and Copperas Cove. CTSF photo

House-Linn is a CTSF administrative assistant, Jones serves in the CTSF's Configuration Management Branch, and Nelson is a member of the CTSF Operations Branch.

Killeen borders Fort Hood on the east. Copperas Cove is Fort Hood's nearest neighbor to the west.

RECOGNITIONS AND AWARDS

G6 director receives CTSF Commander's Coin



CECOM G6 director Patricia O'Connor receives Commander Coin from COL Wizner, director of Central Technical Support Facility (CTSF) for efforts on the Information Technology Master Plan (ITMP)

COL Wizner, director of Central Technical Support Facility (CTSF) presented Patricia O'Connor with his Commander Coin for Excellence for her efforts in assisting CTSF on the Information Technology Master Plan (ITMP), Army Portfolio Management System and the Army Data Center Consolidation Program requirements and process.

COL Wizner spoke highly of O'Connor's assistance. "Patti basically saved us 2 months of discovery learning going through the ITMP process by coming out to Ft Hood and working with my staff. It is

rare that a senior manager takes the time to get in the weeds with a subordinate staff to mentor, train, and teach them on something. In this case not only was the effort appreciated, but it paid huge dividends to us at the CTSF."

Salvatore Corpina, chief of CTSF, explained how O'Connor traveled to Ft. Hood and spent time navigating employees through the requirements. "We were having difficulties getting through the process. She helped us make the on the spot corrections to the data and ensured that we were prepared for the

FY14 submission. She also informed us of the progress of the SharePoint migration and addressed our specific concerns.

"She reviewed all our circuit requirements and offered her expertise in coming up with ideas to combine some requirements to help the CTSF save resources during the upcoming fiscal years," said Corpina. "Thanks to her help CTSF will be ready for the formal inspection and ensure we have all our MICP requirements under control."

Town hall Award Recipients

On 27 September, MG Robert Ferrell hosted a Command wide awards ceremony. Awards were given to individuals at APG, Tobyhanna, Ft. Huachuca, and Ft. Hood.

Philip Pierson, CECOM inspector general received the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff Joint Meritorious Civilian Service Award for serving as the duty inspector general during the period of July 2003 to January 2013. He provided compliance oversight to the U.S. Southern Command's 24 security cooperation offices and 3 joint task forces in Latin America.



The Association of Old Crows 2012 Outstanding U.S. Army Electronic Warfare Unit Award was given to the Software Engineering Center's Army Reprogramming Analysis Team (ARAT) for outstanding performance in furthering the purposes of electronic warfare.

From left to right: Steven Suit, Michelle Damato, Steven Pham, Eric Lee, Wayne Field, Nelson Capan, MG Ferrell, Amy Nguyen, Michael Crapanzano, William Simmons, William Hersey, Jessica Rigdon, Tho Nguyen, Joseph Lilonsky, Jason Dennett, and Kwok Lo.



Carlin Walsh, cecom Office of the Chief Counsel, received an achievement medal for civilian service for her outstanding support to several delivery orders for hardware under the global tactical advanced communications systems and services contract during the end-of-year closeout.



The cecom employees of the 3rd quarter, Mr. Felix Velazquez-Ramos, from the G8, and Mr. Lawrence Aiello, from the Software Engineering Center. Mr. Velazquez-Ramos received a cecom certificate of achievement for his selection as the CECOM employee of the 3rd quarter, fiscal year 2013, senior category. While serving as a systems accountant, he distinguished himself as the lead for "GFEBS" contractual funding issues "IPT", resolving complex contractual and funding issues, and saving potentially thousands of dollars and unnecessary excess man-hours. Mr. Aiello received a CECOM certificate of achievement for his selection as the CECOM employee of the 3rd quarter, fiscal year 2013, junior category. While serving as a student trainee, Information Technology Management, he distinguished himself through his support of the Force 21 Battle Command Brigade. His technical expertise contributed to a successful interoperability capability demonstration during the JUICE 2013 event.

Honorees will receive a CECOM certificate of achievement and their names will be engraved on the plaque displayed in the headquarters office area.



Ms. Deepika Canatella from the CECOM G2 received a certificate of appreciation from the Defense Intelligence Agency for improving the tradecraft and quality in CECOM G2 that produced system threat assessment reports.



Jennifer Vaccaro from the Logistics and Readiness Center received a CECOM certificate of achievement for her selection as the CECOM employee of the 2nd quarter, fiscal year 2013, mid-level category. While serving on the Central Inventory Accounting Team and representing the team during the Army Working Capital Fund Audit Readiness and Financial Improvement Plan team meetings, her efforts led to greater inventory accuracy and increased visibility of receipts.

Town hall Award Recipients



Length of service certificates and lapel pins were given in recognition of service to the government of the United States of America for 25 to 35 years.

(From left to right) Dominic D’orazio 35 Years, Kim Hampton 25 Years, Karen Pitts 25 Years, MG Robert Ferrell, Eric Shiver 25 Years, Roger Chin 15 years, Kimberly Ann Goodwin 15 years.

Length of service certificates and lapel pins were given in recognition of service to the government of the United States of America for 10 years.



(From left to right) Deshawna Gardner, Jackie Glass, MG Robert Ferrell, Kevin Grimm, Bryant Herbert, Phillip Pierson, Michcell Shultz

Length of service certificates and lapel pins were given in recognition of service to the government of the United States of America for 5 years.



(From left to right) Melissa Cohen, Tesha Doyle, Eric Manansala, Scheree Mcdonald, MG Robert Ferrell, Caitlyn Monahan, Andrew Phelps, Sharon Releford, Nathaniel Robinson (Not Pictured) Keith Boegner, Matthew Oskam

The following individuals received a commander's award in recognition of **outstanding contributions** to the mission and operation of our worldwide command.



ISEC - (L-R) COL Patrick Kerr, Leslie D. South, CSM Brenda J. Kadet



LRC - (L-R) Gary Salomon, Associate Director of Programs, Jon Calafato, MG Robert Ferrell



SEC - (L-R) MG Robert Ferrell, Marc Gutleber, Larry Muzzelo, Director of SEC



HQ Staff - (L-R) MG Robert Ferrell, Gene Catena, Secretary to the General Staff, Gary Martin, Deputy to the Commanding General



Tobyhanna Army Depot – Patricia A. Kratzer, Chief of Production Management Directorate, Operations Management and Analysis Division

Not pictured:

Central Technical Support Facility:
Stanley T. Sheppard



HAIL & Farewell

The CECOM family would like to welcome our new Military service member that has come on board for the month of October. Let us greet him with open arms and warm smiles!

CPT Lendrick James LRC
LRC, Aberdeen Proving Ground

What a better way to spend the Fall holidays, then being retired! Let us all wish the following employees a happy and healthy CECOM retirement!

Lionel A. Cadogan
ISEC
21 September 2013

Mark F. Rhyner
ISEC
30 September 2013

Roger Thiesfeld
ISEC
3 November 2013

HR Dots . . .

BENEFITS

The Federal Employees Health Benefit (FEHB) Open Season will be held from 11 Nov 2013 to 9 Dec 2013. All changes will be effective 12 Jan 2014. More information on open season will be published as it is received.

What is Open Season?

- This is the time of year to ensure that you have the right health, dental or vision insurance coverage for you and your family. It is also time to consider the money you can save on your out-of-pocket medical and dependent care expenses for 2013.

Why is Open Season important to me?

- Most FEHB plans will see benefit and rate changes for 2013. Some plans are dropping out of the program and others are changing their service areas or coverage option. It is wise to review your coverage during this period to decide what coverage and premium best suits your needs for the upcoming year.
- You can supplement your health insurance coverage by choosing dental and/or vision insurance coverage that will reduce your out-of-pocket costs for these types of care. You may also cancel your participation in these programs during this period.
- A flexible spending account can save you money through lower tax withholdings. You can fund your account through pre-tax contributions

from your salary, and use the account to pay health care out-of-pocket or dependent care costs.

- You cannot enroll, change your enrollment, or cancel your coverage in these programs outside the Open Season unless you experience a Qualifying Life Event.

What happens if no changes are made during Open Season?

- You will continue to be covered by your present health insurance plan, unless your plan is dropping out of the FEHB or reducing its service area. However, your benefits, premiums, or coverage options may change.
- You will continue to be covered by your present dental and/or vision insurance plan. However, your benefits and/or premiums may change.
- If you already have an FSAFEDS account, it will not continue automatically; you must reenroll.

For more information about open season, please visit OPM's website at: <http://www.opm.gov/>



ACTIVE SHOOTER AWARENESS

EVACUATE · HIDE · TAKE · ACTION

INDICATORS OF POTENTIAL VIOLENCE BY AN EMPLOYEE

Employees typically do not just snap but display indicators of potentially violent behavior over time. If these behaviors are recognized, they often can be managed and treated. Historically, many attackers have had no prior violent criminal record. Potentially violent behaviors may include one or more of the following (this list of behaviors is not comprehensive nor is it intended as a mechanism for diagnosing violent tendencies):

- Increased use of alcohol and/or illegal drugs
- Unexplained increase in absenteeism; vague physical complaints
- Noticeable decrease in attention to appearance and hygiene
- Depression/withdrawal
- Resistance and overreaction to changes in policy and procedures
- Repeated violations of company policies
- Increased severe mood swings
- Noticeably unstable, emotional responses
- Explosive outbursts of anger or rage without provocation
- Suicidal; comments about “putting things in order”
- Behavior that is suspect of paranoia (“everybody is against me”)
- Increasingly talks of problems at home
- Escalation of domestic problems into the workplace; talk of severe financial problems
- Talk of previous incidents of violence
- Empathy with individuals committing violence
- Increase in unsolicited comments about firearms, other dangerous weapons and violent crimes

PROFILE

OF AN ACTIVE SHOOTER

An active shooter is an individual engaged in killing or attempting to kill people in a confined and populated area. In most cases, active shooters use firearms and there is no pattern or method to their selection of victims. Active shooter situations are unpredictable and evolve quickly. Typically, the immediate deployment of law enforcement is required to stop the shooting and mitigate harm to victims. Because active shooter situations often are over within 10 to 15 minutes, before law enforcement arrives on the scene, individuals must be prepared mentally and physically to deal with an active shooter situation.

HOW TO RESPOND

WHEN AN **Active Shooter**
IS IN YOUR VICINITY

EVACUATE

- Have an escape route and plan in mind
- Leave your belongings behind
- Keep your hands visible

HIDE OUT

- Hide in an area out of the shooter’s view
- Block entry to your hiding place and lock the doors
- Silence your cell phone and/or pager

TAKE ACTION

- As a last resort and only when your life is in imminent danger
- Attempt to incapacitate the shooter
- Act with physical aggression and throw items at the active shooter

HOW TO RESPOND

WHEN **Law Enforcement**
ARRIVES

- Remain calm and follow instructions
- Put down any items in your hands (i.e., bags, jackets)
- Raise hands and spread fingers
- Keep hands visible at all times
- Avoid quick movements toward officers such as holding on to them for safety
- Avoid pointing, screaming or yelling
- Do not stop to ask officers for help or direction when evacuating

For more information about Active Shooter Preparedness visit
<https://sp4.kc.army.mil/cecom/home/ActvShooter/default.aspx>
<http://www.dhs.gov/active-shooter-preparedness>



CHAPLAIN'S CORNER

God's grace!

**By CH (MAJ) Young D. Kim,
CECOM Command Chaplain**

Not too long ago, the Empire State Building in New York City was the tallest building in the world, with 102 stories. This number "102" is not an arbitrary number—it represents the 102 pilgrims that portrayed the essence of pioneering and gratitude.

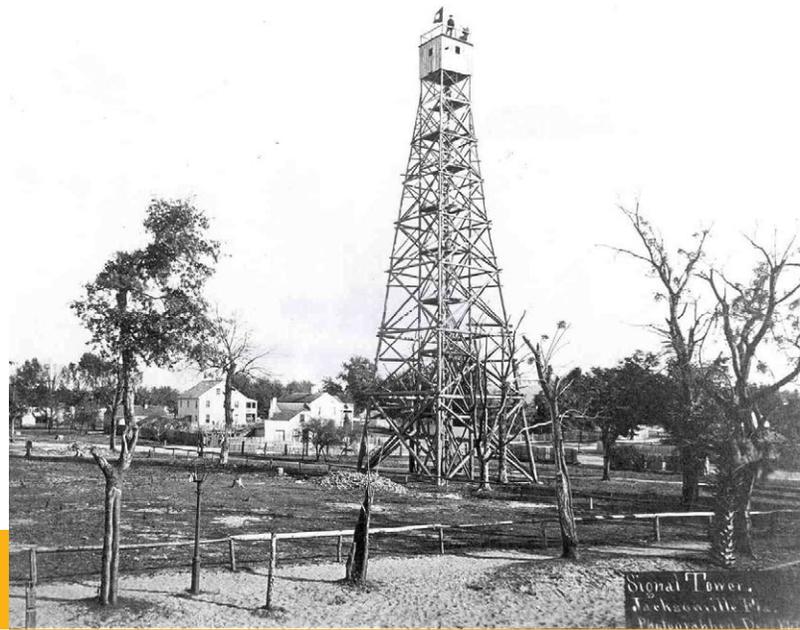
In 1620, the Puritans boarded the Mayflower and traveled to America only to face a ruthless winter, hunger, and attacks from Indians. Initially, only 44 survived, but they persevered and their labor began to pay off with a plentiful harvest that lay ahead. But, with only a few days before the harvest, insects took over the fields and began to eat away the grains. Trying to kill the bugs was no use, and the Puritans knelt in desperation and prayed

for forgiveness for having forgotten God's grace. Just then, the sky was filled with birds that appeared out of nowhere to devour all the insects.

The Puritans proclaimed that "In God we trust. We remember His greatness." They confessed gratitude, and realized they had not been displaying gratitude nearly enough. A small service was given in thanks to the Lord, and established a mentality of gratitude to be passed down through generations. He is very faithful and sincere to take care of His people. Psalm 118:29 says, "Give thanks to the Lord, for He is good; His love endures forever." Thanks be to God!

“ We should not look back unless it is to derive useful lessons from past errors, and for the purpose of profiting by dearly bought experience. ”

—George Washington



History Highlights

ADAPTING TO NEW TECHNOLOGIES DURING COMBAT

LEADERSHIP LESSONS FROM THE PAST: PART 2 OF 4

By Susan Thompson, CECOM History Office
Chrissie Reilly, CECOM History Office
Andricka Thomas, CECOM Public Affairs

The second article in the leadership series begins with the creation of the US Army Signal Corps. Albert James Myer, an Army doctor, developed the idea of a separate, trained professional military signal service. He proposed that the Army use his visual communications system called “wigwag” while serving as a medical officer in Texas in 1856. When the Army adopted his system June 21, 1860, the Signal Corps was born with Myer as the first—and for a time the only—Signal Officer. The United States Army was the first military to have a Signal Corps, and has served as inspiration for other armies.

Using flags for daytime signaling and a torch at night, wigwag was first tested in combat in June 1861 to direct the fire of a harbor battery against the confederate positions

opposite Fort Monroe, Virginia. This system was light and portable at the same time it was constructed with easy to find inexpensive equipment. Myer continued to evolve the signal service during the hostilities, with a limited staff of detailed Soldiers.

Not every technological innovation was a success. One Civil War ‘advance’ included an unsuccessful balloon experiment at First Bull Run which almost cost the Signal Corps its mission.

However, in response to McClellan’s desire for a Signal Corps field telegraph train, the Signal Corps successfully deployed an electric telegraph system. By the end of the Civil War, the telegraph had outpaced the usefulness of the wigwag system, which was dependent upon line-of-sight. Even then, Army leaders could see the evolution to meet the needs for





Signal Corps -
Civil War

more information to be made available more quickly across the entire battlefield.

By the time the Civil War ended, the Signal Corps had proved its worth in battle. The electric telegraph, in addition to visual signaling, became a Signal Corps responsibility in 1867. Within 12 years, the Corps had constructed, and was maintaining and operating some 4,000 miles of telegraph lines along the country's western frontier. We spread the technology across the country, serving the needs of the nation as well as the Army.

The Signal Corps continued to illustrate its value to the military. In 1870, the Signal Corps established a congressionally mandated national weather service. The thousands of miles of telegraph lines across the United

States transmitted this weather data. Historian and Myer biographer Bob Gilbert wrote how Myer's Signal Corps telegraph system "enabled the Signal Service to transmit storm warnings faster than storms travelled" which contrasted with civilian telegraph companies such as Western Union.

Myer was also a good steward of Army funds. By developing a "brevity code" to transmit messages, he reduced the length of the transmissions, which brought down the costs. The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration reported that Myer's weather division "warnings reached more than 30 million Americans before the advent of radio, television, telephone, or the Internet."

With the assistance of LT Adolphus Greely, Chief Signal Officer MG Myer, by the time of his death in 1880, commanded a weather service of international acclaim. Myer led not only the US Army in these efforts, but the United States weather service was one of the great 19th Century achievements in science and international cooperation.



COMING NEXT MONTH

LT Adolphus Greely, Chief Signal Officer, and his work in the Arctic!

VIGILANCE

BALANCING SECURITY AND PRIVACY



By James D. Scroggins, CECOM G2

The 9/11 attacks unified the hearts and minds of Americans and strengthened our resolve to show the world that we are truly the land of the free and home of the brave. This wakeup call reminded us that we need to remain vigilant, always ensuring our freedoms and liberties are protected as we engage in the “war on Al Qaeda”. There have been many debates regarding how to keep our privacy and safeguard our country at the same time. This conflict between protecting individual privacy and protecting our national security is even more difficult to solve given our current digital dependence.

The USA Patriot Act: Preserving Life and Liberty was written and enacted to unite and strengthen America by providing the right tools to intercept and obstruct terrorism. (Found at: <http://www.justice.gov/archive/ll/highlights.htm>). It empowered our law enforcement agencies to utilize the tools we already had in place to fight terrorist acts. To clarify, as Sen. Joe Biden (D-DE) explained during

the floor debate about the Act, “the FBI could get a wiretap to investigate the mafia, but they could not get one to investigate terrorists. To put it bluntly, that was crazy! What’s good for the mob should be good for terrorists,” (Cong. Rec., 10/25/01).

This Act was instrumental in bringing swift and decisive justice to terrorists in a way which wasn’t previously available. Although we have seen great accomplishments since its enactment, the one thing it can’t do is settle the issue of which is more important, our civil liberty or national security.

Bringing this conflict closer to home, how can CECOM organizations increase security without hindering productivity or infringing on employees’ right to privacy? Balancing security measures with privacy concerns involves solutions which are centered on fairness, reasonableness, and transparency. There are good, logical arguments for both sides. Privacy advocates argue that

security should take a backseat to privacy because there is no need to give up any portion of our right to privacy. Security advocates argue that security should take priority because our right to privacy and freedom depends on us being a secure nation.

The answer lies somewhere within the confines of collaboration and compromise between security and privacy. CECOM organizations can reduce security and privacy conflicts by working together toward the common goal of being the Critical Link for the warfighter. In addition, we can work with the private sector to ensure that security and privacy considerations are addressed at all stages in the development of our systems, policies and regulations.

What do you think? Are we doing enough to balance our right to privacy with our need for security?



WORKING SMARTER

Tobyhanna Army Depot Fulfills Value Engineering Goal for FY13

By Amanda Kerchevale
CECOM Value Concept Office

Tobyhanna Army Depot (TYAD) has successfully fulfilled their Value Engineering (VE) goal for Fiscal Year 13. Each year TYAD has a goal to submit projects resulting in cost savings or cost avoidance that total one and half percent of their total obligation authority. For FY13 TYAD's goal was \$11.078M which they overachieved by 276.9%. There was one project submitted related to satellite communication terminals that was valued at \$30.673M in cost avoidance.

Before the implementation of the Value Engineering Proposal (VEP), the AN/FSC-78 Satellite Communications (SATCOM) Terminal Antenna System at various sites was being decommissioned and replaced by the AN/GSC-52B (v) 2 System, Modernization of Enterprise Terminals (MET). Harris Corporation and General Dynamics proposed a solution that would require the installation of an adapter plate of their own design to mount the new terminal on top of the existing 21-foot tall concrete base as well as a separate walkway to access the antenna.

Through a study analysis, TYAD determined that instead of using the solution proposed by Harris Corporation and General Dynamics,

the majority of the antenna base could be cut down to 12 inches above ground level and a rectangular pad would be formed over the remnants of the antenna base to allow the new MET antenna to be installed at ground level. The TYAD study team on this project consisted of William J. Stevens, Chris Sheerer and Gene Curran. James Waters assisted with submitting the project to CECOM's Value Concepts Office.

At the conclusion of the VE study, it was determined that TYAD's alternative solution was the better of the two options. The PM at PM-DCATS proposes to adopt TYAD's design and re-use the older AN/FSC-78 antenna pads at all sites except three that will need an altered version of TYAD's plan to move forward.

The original method that was quoted by Harris Group/GD SATCOM Technologies for PM DCATS as a solution would cost \$2,150,000.00 for each of the 16 sites, while TYAD's proposal would only cost \$232,907.28 for each site. The results would be a cost avoidance of approximately \$1,917,092.73 per site with a total avoidance of \$30,673,483.52.

CSST

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1/2

Gas Connector

SAFETY FIRST

FAST FACTS: CSST

By Robert McNabb, CECOM Safety & Occupational Health

Reports of lightning-related fires and gas leaks in at least a dozen states have raised concerns about the use of flexible gas lines made of corrugated stainless steel tubing and have led to lawsuits, studies, and efforts to better track the incidents. Corrugated stainless steel tubing or CSST, is thinner and less expensive than heavy iron gas lines, but in a storm, it is more susceptible to an electrical charge that it can't carry.

Manufacturers have defended the plastic-coated metal tubing, known as CSST, which has become increasingly common in new homes since it was introduced domestically more than two decades ago. Fire officials and researchers are trying to determine whether to blame a faulty product, unsafe installation or something else for the blazes.

Fire officials and researchers believe lightning struck at or near the homes, and the electrical charge traveled along the CSST before jumping to a less resistant pathway nearby such as a metal ventilation duct. It then punctured a hole in the tubing the size of a pencil tip creating a gas leak that had the potential to ignite.

Firefighters and gas providers point out that the fires seem to occur with an unusual

combination of factors — a newer building that has CSST, a lightning strike in just the right place, non-existent or poor bonding but outside and inside the home, the puncture of the tubing and the spark to ignite the gas.

The most common issue that is found with CSST is a system that hasn't been properly bonded. When CSST is installed without being properly bonded to current standards, there is an increased risk for damage to the material from a nearby lightning strike. When CSST is damaged, it can leak gas and cause an explosion and/or a fire. Of course, proper bonding won't make CSST immune to damage from a nearby lightning strike, but it will reduce the risk of damage significantly.

The bottom line is that if you have a home with CSST, you should make sure it's properly bonded to today's standards, regardless of whether the installation 'met code' when it was originally installed. Based on the most recent reports of lightning-related fires and gas leaks, it is highly recommended that you get your gas provider to conduct a thorough safety inspection of your CSST gas lines, to include the proper bonding in accordance with today's standards. You can't grandfather safety!

UNDERSTANDING BETTER BUYING POWER

By Colin Stratakes, CECOM G8

On September 14, 2010, Under Secretary of Defense Frank Kendall released a memo addressing direction from President Obama and then-Secretary of Defense Gates that the Department of Defense must explore avenues to “do more without more.” This memo, titled Better Buying Power (BBP) was developed with input from stakeholders in the acquisition process, including the Components Acquisition Executives (CAEs), senior logisticians and systems command leaders, OSD officials, program executive officers (PEOs) and program managers (PMs) as well as individuals representing the acquisition industry. The BBP memo proposed guidance and initiatives intended to help DoD find and gain efficiencies, improve business practices, and provide better value for the dollars spent. A revision, Better Buying Power 2.0, was released on November 13, 2012.

The BBP memos are not asking for one-time changes that result in savings now. Initiatives and guidance presented in BBP ask the acquisition workforce to make decisions with benefits that might not be realized for several years. BBP calls for the defense community to make a cultural change by valuing affordability and becoming a more cost conscious workforce. All stake-holders in the acquisition process can and will affect the success of these initiatives, and it is critical to BBP’s success that they all participate in its’ implementation and growth in the coming years.

More information on the BBP memos and guidance can be obtained by contacting the CECOM-G8-Cost and System Analysis Division.

AROUND *the* COMMAND



Sarah Sevillano of SEC performs as part of the Divine Dance Group.



Team APG presented the National Hispanic American Heritage Month Observance on 19 September at the Myer Auditorium at APG. Each year, Hispanic Heritage month is recognized from September 15 through October 15. The observance theme for 2013 is "Hispanics: Serving and Leading Our Nation With Pride and Honor." The celebration included musical entertainment by Mariachi Sunrise, a performance by the Divine Dance Group, and authentic cuisine.



Bennett Dunn, senior Software Engineer at SEC, teach students how to use the simulations. In support of Team APG STEM, the CECOM SEC sent their Computer Based Training team to St. Joan of Arc Career Day, a kindergarten thru 8th grade STEM school located in Aberdeen, Md. The team exhibited to the students the video game simulations they create to train soldiers how to use equipment. "The over-arching message that we tried to convey to the kids was that video games, in the proper application, can be an extremely powerful teaching/learning tool."



SEC software engineers Lance Kelly (left) and Kevin Seldomridge (right) show students a training simulation



CH (Major) Young Kim (right) and SSG Carlos Vazquez (left) visited FT Gordon, Ga., on 17 September.

The purpose of the trip was to meet with all CECOM personnel in the area and reiterate MG Ferrell's care and concerns during the period of financial uncertainty. The UMT also met with all senior personnel to ensure all CECOM elements were well integrated with any outside agencies should they needed to be called upon.



The Deputy to the Commanding General Mr. Nelson Keeler (left) gave the UMT a tour in the Signal Tower. Ft. Gordon is home to the U.S. Army Signal Corps and Signal Center.



Gary Martin (center), deputy to the commanding general, U.S. Army Communications-Electronics Command (CECOM), listens as Dennis Redding, chief of the Computer Service and Repair Branch, Command, Control and Computers (C3)/Avionics Directorate, explains the capabilities of a Command Center System. Martin and a group of Program Executive Officers (PEO) and Project Managers (PM) from PEO Command, Control and Communications-Tactical (C3T), PEO Intelligence, Electronic Warfare and Sensors, Communications-Electronics Research, Development and Engineering Center and CECOM visited Tobyhanna Army Depot.



The Honorable Jim Cawley, Pennsylvania's Lieutenant Governor, discusses automated test equipment repair with Col. Gerhard P.R. Schröter, depot commander, and George Bellas, director of the Command, Control and Computers/Avionics Directorate. The purpose of the visit was to honor former TYAD employees and to tour the depot.



Karen Quinn-Doggett, director of CECOM's Corporate Communications, briefs the Command's new campaign plan and branding guidelines during one of "The Critical Link" workshops to headquarters staff. The workshops are designed to increase awareness and understanding of the CECOM brand and to ensure clear, consistent messaging throughout the Command.

COMMAND INFORMATION RESOURCES

By Renee A. Ullman, Corporate Communications

This month's Share Pointers feature highlights resources that the Command uses to share information and communicate with the CECOM workforce and stakeholders.

Please take a few minutes to become familiar with these resources, bookmark the links, and become CECOM's Facebook friend. Stay up to date with the latest information from CECOM!



CECOM SharePoint Portal Homepage: <https://sp4.kc.army.mil/cecom/home>
Command-wide information, announcements, and sites dedicated to topics such as Sequestration and Furlough Planning, are accessible from this secure site. Click on topic tabs to access information and links to command-wide policies and calendars, relevant news, frequently used sites such as TED, DAU, myPay, ABC, CPOL and more.



CECOM on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/CommunicationsElectronicsCommandCECOM>
"Like" CECOM to be sure that you are in the know when it comes to emergency notifications, command accomplishments, and important news from Army and AMC.



CECOM on Flickr: <http://www.flickr.com/photos/cecom>
View and download photos from Command-wide events such as change of commands, award ceremonies, and team building activities.



Dots and Dashes: <https://sp4.kc.army.mil/cecom/home>
Providing information the workforce needs to know, this monthly newsletter focuses on accomplishments, people and events internal to CECOM as well as topical and policy updates from staff.



CECOM Public Website: <http://cecom.army.mil/>
This site is your link to current Command news, information about our organization, leaders, mission, and core competencies.



The LINK: <http://cecom.army.mil/theLinkArchive.html>
CECOM's official magazine publication, The LINK, aims to raise awareness about services available to Soldiers by informing readers about the CECOM mission, impact, and priorities.

Send questions and comments to Renee A. Ullman, Corporate Communications @ renee.a.ullman.civ@mail.mil.

TRAIN *the trainer*

By Karen Quinn-Doggett,
Corporate Communications Director

In the September issue of Dots and Dashes, we introduced a new strategic initiative, the Campaign Plan Train-the-Trainer Workshops, to educate CECOM's workforce on the Campaign Plan's four Lines of Effort and associated priorities and initiatives. The idea is to ensure that all of our workforce, not just our senior leaders, understand the "big picture" of our current operating environment. The more our workforce knows about the Command's priorities and initiatives, the better they can do their jobs. Our external environment has changed drastically as troops drawdown in Afghanistan and we transition from war to sustainment. The Army's active force is being significantly reshaped and reduced by 12 BCTs or 80,000-100,000 troops. And, DOD is entering the second year of sequestration with drastic budget and manpower reductions. We can no longer afford to operate the way we have in the past. Efficiency is the order of the day. The Campaign Plan is the Command's blueprint for addressing these unprecedented challenges that confront CECOM, the Army and DoD. We want to provide reassurance to our workforce that by having a plan - a path forward with unity of purpose, CECOM is poised to weather the storm and continues to be the critical link that provides global readiness of C4ISR systems.

We chose the train-the-trainer method of chain teaching for several reasons. First, it is the most expeditious way to reach large numbers of employees in several geographic locations in a timely manner. Second, there is no better way of learning the material than to teach it. Finally, we wanted trainers at all levels to make the material as relevant as possible by providing perspective within their own organizations. So far, feedback from half a dozen workshops has been extremely positive. We tend to take for granted that all of our workforce has a basic understanding of the Command's direction, priorities and strategic initiatives, but that is not always the case. In fact, we



Karen Quinn-Doggett, director of CECOM's Corporate Communications, briefs the Command's new campaign plan and branding guidelines during one of "The Critical Link" workshops to headquarters staff. The workshops are designed to increase awareness and understanding of the CECOM brand and to ensure clear, consistent messaging throughout the Command.

have found that everyone, even our Division chiefs, learns a thing or two during the workshops. But most importantly, we reinforce the strategic theme that CECOM is a unique organization with a critical mission and that every employee plays a vital role in executing that mission.

To date, we have completed training of our first tier consisting of 20 Champions across the Command. Our Champions have been charged with conducting the train-the-trainer program with the next level of Division and Branch Chiefs (tier 2) within their respective organizations by the end of November. So far, 58 trainers and 215 employees/ trainees have been trained. Our overall goal is to complete training of the entire workforce (tier 3) by the end of January 2014. While we still have a long way to go, we expect the number of trained to increase exponentially over the next two months. As an incentive, we are offering continuous learning points (CLPs) for the workshop. Trainers receive three CLPs per workshop conducted and trainees receive two CLPs.

For information regarding the Campaign Plan Train-the-Trainer Workshops, please contact Renee Ullman, renee.a.ullman.civ@mail.mil.

CECOM Campaign Plan:

http://cecom.army.mil/Campaign_Plan_2013/

CECOM HQ & Organization Co-Branding Guidelines

(click on the Branding Toolkit Image):

<https://sp4.kc.army.mil/cecom/home>



CECOM DOTS and DASHES



The answer to "What's in the box?" is:
Morse code for - Fiscal Year End

DISCLAIMER: Dots and Dashes is an authorized CECOM publication for the CECOM workforce. This publication focuses on awards, achievements, people and events internal to CECOM as well as topical and policy updates from staff. Contents of Dots and Dashes are not necessarily the official views of, or endorsed by, the U.S. Government, the Department of the Army, or CECOM. The content of the publication is the responsibility of the U.S. Army CECOM Chief of Public Affairs, Robert DiMichele. The newsletter is published monthly and distributed electronically via email. It is posted to the CECOM SharePoint site at: <https://sp4.kc.army.mil/cecom/home>

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