



NEWSBLAST

U.S. Army Contracting Command

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"Providing global contracting support to war fighters."

Civilian furloughs may begin April 26, says DOD comptroller

By Jim Garamone
American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON – Unless Congress acts to end sequestration, furloughs for Defense Department civilian employees can begin April 26, the department's comptroller said here March 11.

Robert F. Hale discussed the furlough planning process with a Pentagon audience. The comptroller also took questions sent in via Facebook and Twitter.

DOD is the only agency in the U.S. government that has to notify Congress when it wants to impose furloughs. Officials did that Feb. 20. "There is a 45-day waiting period after we submit that notification before furloughs can start," Hale said.

See **FURLOUGHS**, page 5.



(Photo by Petty Officer 1st Class Chad J. McNeely)

Acting Under Secretary of Defense for Personnel and Readiness Jessica Wright and Under Secretary of Defense (Comptroller) Robert Hale brief the media on the status of DOD's civilian furlough planning efforts.

AMC leadership engages Congress on 'National Treasure'

By Kelly A. DeWitt
AMC Office of Public & Congressional Affairs

REDSTONE ARSENAL, Ala.

– The commanding general of the Army Materiel Command met with congressional leaders and staff members Feb. 27 on Capitol Hill to discuss the Army's Organic Industrial Base and national military readiness.

Gen. Dennis L. Via spoke at a House Depot Caucus breakfast, addressing the critical nature of the defense manufacturing capabilities and skilled workforce, which includes AMC's depots, arsenals and ammunition plants. Many of the facilities provide one-of-a-kind maintenance or production capabilities.

Via's remarks to lawmakers focused on four areas: AMC's industrial base is a national treasure; AMC delivers

readiness for the joint war fighter; AMC continues to support combat operations while simultaneously transitioning to sustainment operations; and serious challenges lie ahead with budget funding uncertainties while under continuing resolution constraints, made even more so with sequestration.

"Our industrial base facilities are truly our national treasures, providing key capabilities in support of our defense mission today, while preparing for the threats of tomorrow," Via told the group, which included co-chairmen of the House Military Depot and Industrial Facilities Caucus, Reps. Walter Jones (R-N.C.) and Dave Loebsack (D-Iowa). "Their mission is enduring."

Retaining the critical maintenance and manufacturing skills and capabilities to meet Army enduring needs,

while providing flexibility for future requirements is essential, Via said.

"Our industrial bases are a critical enabler to our nation and an economic engine for our local communities," he said. "For every \$1 AMC invests in these facilities, there is a \$1.83 return."

The current budget uncertainty will reduce the workload at the organic industrial base facilities, Via told the members. "The workload decrease results in a reduction of an estimated 5,000 temporary, term and contractor employees. The continuing resolution and sequestration compounds our workforce challenges by accelerating execution of our multi-year plan into the year of execution, making it impossible to rebalance in a responsible manner," he said.

See **CONGRESS**, page 6.

AGILE

PROFICIENT

TRUSTED

Campbell takes oath as Army's vice chief of staff

By J.D. Leipold
Army News Service

WASHINGTON – After receiving his fourth star, Gen. John F. Campbell was sworn in as the Army's 34th vice chief of staff by Secretary of the Army John McHugh at the Pentagon March 8.

An hour earlier, Gen. Lloyd J. Austin III, the outgoing vice chief for the last 13 months, was presented the Distinguished Service Medal and his wife, Charlene, was given the Army Public Service Award by McHugh. The Austins are headed to Tampa, Fla., where the general will take the reins of the joint U.S. Central Command which oversees all military operations in the Middle East and Afghanistan.

President Barack Obama nominated Campbell to succeed Austin in February. He was confirmed by Congress March 5. His previous assignments were as deputy chief of staff, G-3/5/7 and as commander of Combined Joint Task Force 101 during Operation Enduring Freedom.

Prior to Campbell's swearing in by McHugh, Army Chief of Staff Gen. Raymond T. Odierno and Campbell's wife, Ann, replaced his three-star shoulder boards with those of full general.

After the change of responsibility,



Odierno told the audience that as the Army continues to move forward through trying times, it becomes more and more important to pick the right leaders.

"As we continue to move forward with this great Army of ours it's important that we pick the right leaders as we go forward as we address these challenges in the Army," Odierno said. "John Campbell is one of those leaders I want by my side as we navigate these very difficult times. He will be the one who helps me and the secretary as we reshape the Army of the future."

After presenting his wife with flowers, Campbell took center stage pledging, "to do everything I can with the tools I have to support our great Army – I look forward to the challenges ahead," he said.



Spotlight on...

For Spotlight submissions, click on the icon.



Tony Baumann

409th bids deputy director farewell Tony Baumann's service lauded

Tony Baumann departed Feb. 8 from Germany on a "high note" after serving as deputy director, 409th Contracting Support Brigade, Kaiserslautern, for the past six years.

"His leadership and technical expertise will be missed; moreover, his friendship and camaraderie cannot be replaced," said Col. William Bailey, commander, 409th CSB.

As deputy, Bauman's duties included executing authority of the principal assistant responsible for contracting for U.S. Army Europe/7th Army (in the PARC's absence), special competition advocate for the 409th CSB, and CP-14

contracting career program manager for the European theater.

Baumann also played a major role in the transformation and stand up of the 409th CSB.

"He was a founding member and was instrumental in the establishment of the 409th Contracting Support Brigade and the transition of Contracting Command – Europe," remarked Bailey.

Baumann leaves the 409th CSB to take a Senior Executive Service position as the director of contracting at Warner Robins Air Logistics Complex, Robins Air Force Base, Ga.

U.S. Army Contracting Command

Commanding General
Maj. Gen. Camille M. Nichols

ACC Command Sergeant Major
Command Sgt. Maj. John L. Murray

The NewsBlast is a weekly newsletter authorized and produced by the U.S. Army Contracting Command's Office of Public and Congressional Affairs editorial staff in accordance with AR 360-1 (The Army Public Affairs Program) to inform, educate and entertain the ACC community on people, policies, operations, technical developments, trends and ideas of and about the Department of Defense, the Department of the Army and this command.

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Integration establishes training ground for Soldiers

By Daniel P. Elkins

MICC Public Affairs Office

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JOINT BASE SAN ANTONIO-FORT SAM HOUSTON, Texas – Broadening contracting proficiency and increasing readiness are among the reciprocal benefits behind integrating more than 400 Soldiers at offices throughout the Mission and Installation Contracting Command beginning March 20.

Army Contracting Command officials announced in January the attachment of Soldiers to its contracting centers and MICC field offices throughout the nation in an effort to streamline the span of control from oversight of uniformed service members stateside while enhancing their professional development.

“The integration of Soldiers into MICC contracting offices will not only benefit MICC and Expeditionary Contracting Command but also the Army contracting profession,” said Col. Antonio Brown, the director of the MICC Field Directorate Office at Fort Bragg, N.C., who will also command the 419th Contracting Support Brigade upon activation. “Pairing our Soldiers with journeyman contracting professionals will provide the opportunity to learn from the best in our field.

“Additionally, integration adds senior military leaders at the FDO level. This harmonizes mission command of the entire contracting workforce while enhancing the opportunity to provide better horizontal and vertical spans of control for contract oversight and responsiveness,” he said.

Attaching Soldiers to the MICC gives command leaders direct supervision over day-to-day assignments by Soldiers supporting stateside operations. Military members will remain assigned to the ECC, which will remain focused on its overseas and contingency support.

“Hands-on training, mentoring and guidance enable Soldiers to become more competent and confident contingency contracting officers in support of future expeditionary operations,” said Brown, who

was assessed into the Army Acquisition Corps in 1999.

Brown said attachment of the more than 400 Soldiers presents a challenge for offices already understaffed to find the time to mentor military members while meeting day-to-day workload requirements.

To assist that process, a cross-functional team of MICC headquarters personnel

at Fort Sam Houston have been meeting since October 2012 to develop a guide that outlines a structured rotation training plan for contingency contracting officers. The plan charts training, education and experience requirements on a rotational schedule to best develop Soldiers for future assignments.

See **INTEGRATION**, page 6.



(Photo by Benito Gonzales)

Joshua Kaufmann, contract specialist, MICC-Fort Drum, N.Y., and Lt. Col. Mitzi Dix, contracting officer, MICC-Fort Campbell, Ky., Construction and Engineering Division, discuss exercise input during the recent Joint Contracting Readiness Exercise at Fort Bliss, Texas. Dix is among the more than 400 Soldiers being attached to the MICC over the next seven months.

NewsBlast readers now have a feedback tool to provide input about the weekly newsletter. Click on the mailbox icon to the right and submit your comments or suggestions. Responses will assist the editorial staff in producing a publication to better meet readers' expectations and information needs.



MICC-Fort Bliss delivers

Contracting office provides needs for more than 35,000 Soldiers, families

By Ben Gonzales

MICC Public Affairs Office

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JOINT BASE SAN ANTONIO-FORT SAM HOUSTON, Texas

– Providing the contracting needs for more than 35,000 Soldiers and their families at the Army's second-largest installation is no easy task, but members of the Mission and Installation Contracting Command-Fort Bliss, Texas, accomplish that every day.

The 56-member contracting office plans, integrates, awards and administers contracts for Army commands and units on the El Paso post that spreads across 992,000 acres.

Home to the Army's second-largest maneuver area as well as 1,500 square miles of virtually unrestricted airspace used for missile and artillery training and testing, Fort Bliss has the room to accommodate the 300-percent increase in its population over the last five years. Providing and sustaining the contract needs of the installation is where the MICC-Fort Bliss staff comes in.

In fiscal year 2012, the Soldiers and civilians at MICC-Fort Bliss executed more than 2,100 contract actions valued at more than \$207 million. They take care of all of Fort Bliss' major units - including the 1st Armored Division, Fort Bliss Garrison, 32nd Army Air and Missile Defense Command, Brigade Modernization Command, Joint Task Force-North, U.S. Army Sergeants Major Academy - and assist with the new William Beaumont Army Medical Center.

According to Lt. Col. Shawn Jenkins, the MICC-Fort Bliss associate director, the MICC-Fort Bliss staff partners with its customers to evaluate and determine the best course of action to achieve contract award, management and oversight. Such efforts include teaming with 1st AD officials to develop a contract action review board to assist the division in prioritizing its contract requirements.

"We sit with the 1st AD's chief of staff and go through all the large requirements to make sure we procure only what is truly necessary for the customer," said Jenkins.



(Photo by Benito Gonzales)

Maj. Gen. Camille Nichols, ACC commanding general, talks with Karla Candelaria (center) and Melissa Garcia during an office visit Jan. 25 at Fort Bliss, Texas. Candelaria and Garcia are assigned to the MICC-Fort Bliss office.

"Since fiscal year 2010, our staff helped the 1st AD with a 54 percent reduction in costs with no noticeable reduction in services through smart contracting and consolidation of requirements. They understand the value of contracting and how we can work together to save the Army money."

Fort Bliss leaders and customers recognize and seek the expert technical contracting advice and assistance of the MICC-Fort Bliss staff. It is about selecting contract types and methods of solicitations to obtain services and supplies designed to best meet customer requirements, said Hester Stone, a contracting officer. He said the ability to interact and understand different customer needs and execute acquisitions requirements in a timely manner on a daily basis is vital to providing responsive contracting solutions and oversight.

In addition to working with Fort Bliss commands, support by the contracting office reaches beyond the post gates to local small businesses that perform many of the contracts required for the

installation. In fiscal year 2012, more than \$69 million went to area small businesses through more than 1,300 contract actions. Leading the effort for Fort Bliss is Sue Jones, the small business specialist.

"We open our doors to meet with area small business representatives every Friday to educate local officials on what opportunities are available here, as well as provide the forecast for contracts to come," Jones said.

When Jones isn't working as the conduit for area businesses, she trains the MICC-Fort Bliss staff on market research for small businesses and how the programs benefit the Army and local economies.

According to Melissa Garcia, a contracting officer in the major acquisitions division, it takes a team effort to administer the installation's contracts.

"In a constantly changing environment, my job is to keep my team on track through mentoring while staying abreast of the current policies and changes in the dynamic contracting world," explained Garcia, who leads four contract specialists.

See MICC-FORT BLISS, page 6.

Team-building project nets 8,613 ounces of food

By Betsy Kozak-Howard
ACC-Aberdeen Proving Ground, Md.
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A team-building project organized by members of the Army Contracting Command–Aberdeen Proving Ground, Md., raised 8,613 ounces of food items in support of the APG-wide “Harvest for the Hungry” food drive.

The food will be donated to the Harford Community Action Agency that distributes food to homeless shelters, food pantries and after-school programs throughout Harford County, Md.

Members of the Tenant and Garrison Divisions began accepting non-perishable donations Feb. 19, with a goal to collect 7,000 ounces of food items.

“We have 88 people within the two divisions, so we estimated that if each person brought in approximately five 16-ounce items, that 7,000 ounces would be a good goal to achieve,” said Kirstin Hazlewood, contract specialist with the Technology Branch of the Tenant Division. “At the end of each day, we tallied the collections and kept track of our progress on our ‘Food-Drive-O-Meter.’

“By the end of our food drive on March 6, our efforts paid off and we exceeded our goal by 1,613 ounces. This amounts to about 538 pounds of food and will provide about 400 meals for local families, she said.

Prior to delivering the food donations, the divisions held a pep rally to reveal the totals and thank those who contributed.

“We expressed our gratitude to



(Photo by Betsy Kozak-Howard)

Capt. Sean Kwoun (left), 722nd Contingency Contracting Team, and Kirstin Hazlewood (right), contract specialist with the Technology Branch of the Tenant Division, both at Aberdeen Proving Ground, Md., unload boxes of food in support of the APG-wide “Harvest for the Hungry” food drive.

everyone for coming together to support a common goal and a worthwhile cause,” Hazlewood said. “In this time of fiscal uncertainty, it is very humbling to see our divisions come together and help those who are not nearly as fortunate.”

The food drive was the first event organized by the Tenant and Garrison Divisions’ Team Building Committee. The

volunteer committee was recently formed to build camaraderie and encourage teamwork among the two divisions.

“We saw this as an opportunity to help the community while bringing us together as a team,” Hazlewood said. “Since our first activity was so successful, we are planning more activities to help the community and to have fun getting to know each other.”

FURLoughs

continued from page 1

The department asked commands to identify civilians who would be excepted from furloughs. That information is back in the Pentagon, Hale said, and officials are reviewing the recommendations. Their goal is to complete that review by March 15, he added.

After notifying Congress, the department began legally required bargaining with unions. About a dozen unions have national consultation rights, Hale said, and local commanders are in the process of notifying several local unions. “The unions, in this case, don’t have the right to bargain not to do the furloughs, he said. “They do have the right to bargain how they are implemented.”

If Congress does not act on sequestration, later this month the department will send letters to the excepted employees and propose furloughs for the rest, Hale said. There is a seven-day

period for people to reply to their letters, followed by a 30-day waiting period.

“At the end of that period, we can send decisions of furloughs, and those furloughs can start,” he said.

When the formal notice is sent, civilian employees have the right to appeal to the Merit Systems Protection Board. “We’ve never done this,” Hale said, “and I hope we never do. ... It’s not quite clear what this appeal right will be, but the appeal right is there.”

If Congress does not act, civilian employees will be furloughed without pay for 22 days – one day a week through the Sept. 30 end of the fiscal year. For affected civilian employees, this amounts to a 20 percent cut in pay from the beginning of furloughs through the end of the fiscal year.

INTEGRATION

Mentoring and developing Soldiers' contracting skills through integration also will prove beneficial in providing greater predictability for many MICC offices that can assign work to newly attached uniformed members.

"These Soldiers will help balance the workload tremendously since about 60 percent of our actions are simplified," said Pat Hogston, the director of MICC Strategic Operations. "They will begin with simplified actions, but as their training is progressive, they will also be able to eventually assist in more complex service acquisitions."

Simplified actions include the acquisition of supplies and services, including construction, research and development, and commercial items not exceeding \$150,000.

The integration of Soldiers with the MICC is being accomplished in three phases. The first phase includes attaching approximately 200 military members, assigned to the ECC, to 19

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MICC contracting offices where many are already collocated. The command assumes primarily responsibility for the supervision, training, readiness and logistics support of the military personnel.

The second phase calls for the April 16 activation of the 418th CSB headquartered at Fort Hood, Texas, and the 419th CSB at Fort Bragg under ECC and attached to the MICC. When fully staffed, each brigade will conduct personnel, operations, logistics and contract oversight functions as an FDO. Designated to command the 418th CSB will be Col. Timothy Starostanko, who is projected to arrive at the end of April. Brown arrived at the MICC-FDO Fort Bragg in July 2012.

The third and final phase of the integration takes place Oct. 1 with the attachment of the 412th CSB at Fort Sam Houston, Texas, to the MICC. The 412th CSB will maintain its contracting mission in support of U.S. Army North.

MICC

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To make sure the contracting office staff keeps up to date, MICC-Fort Bliss conducts weekly contracting developmental training for contracting officials as well as the newly assigned Soldiers. Many of the uniformed contracting officials have only been in the job for a short time, so the staff implemented a new rotational program exposing Soldiers to as many facets of contracting as possible.

With such a demanding customer base, many MICC-Fort Bliss members manage high-dollar contracts. Contract specialist Wendy Colon awarded six information technology supply contracts and service contracts totaling more than \$17 million last fiscal year. George Brown, contract management chief, manages more than 200 contracts valued in excess of \$948 million.

"I help by awarding contracts on-time while being a good steward of our taxpayer dollars and ensuring the contracts meet the needs of the Soldiers," Brown said.

CONGRESS

"Sequestration has an immediate impact on partnerships with industry, specifically prime contractors and their sub-vendors will be impacted through reduced purchases of spare parts and technical services," Via added. "Once the supply chain is disrupted, the recovery period is estimated to be one to three years. Reductions will have a ripple effect in fiscal years 2014 to 2018 ...and beyond."

AMC has been directed to curtail depot maintenance for the third and fourth quarter of fiscal 2013. The most immediate impact, Via said, will be seen at Army posts' combat equipment repair and reset of redeploying divisions' equipment.

"This is best depicted when an Army combat unit has to move, shoot and communicate," he said. "You need vehicles and other platforms to move – potentially 1,000 wheeled vehicles will not be reset; you need weapons systems to shoot – potentially 17,000 weapons will not be reset; and you need communications (equipment) like radios to maintain command control – potentially 14,000 radios will not be reset."

At the conclusion of his briefing, Via encouraged members to visit AMC

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facilities and meet the workforce.

"You will be surprised by all that we do," he said. "Our organic industrial base

is a national treasure. The Army is its caretaker which delivers readiness for our nation."



(U.S. Army photo)

Katherine Hammack (left), assistant secretary of the Army (Installations, Energy and Environment) speaks to Rep. Dave Loebsack (D- Iowa), Gen. Dennis L. Via, AMC commanding general, and Rep. Walter Jones (R-N.C.) during a House Depot Caucus breakfast Feb. 27.

CID warns of email scam, criminals posing as police

QUANTICO, Va. – The U.S. Army Criminal Investigation Command is warning both the Army community and the public about a new internet phishing scam where criminals are attempting to pose as Army CID officials.

Cyber-criminals are attempting to impersonate members of the U.S. Army Criminal Investigation Command via email, stating that they are from the “Office of the Division of Criminal Investigation (DCI),” when no such organization exists.

In the email, the perpetrators state that they have discovered fraudulent activities with a company that the targeted victim had contact with. The cyber-criminals then ask the potential victim to acknowledge the email and provide financial and personal information.

According to CID special agents, these phishing or spear-phishing emails originate from overseas, most likely Western Africa, which is home to a number of well-known internet scams such as the “Nigerian Scam,”

“Foreign Lottery Scam” and the “Romance Scam” that continues to plague the public.

Most email scam attempts are easily recognizable as they are usually unsolicited, contain misspelled words, punctuation and grammatical errors, and often ask for personally identifiable and/or financial information or for money.

Cyber-crime and internet fraud presents unique challenges to U.S. law enforcement agencies as criminals have the ability to mask their true identities, locations and cover their tracks quickly. Websites and accounts can easily be established and deleted in very little time, allowing scam artists to strike, and then disappear before law enforcement can respond.

The ability of law enforcement to identify these perpetrators is very limited, so individuals must stay on the alert and be personally responsible to protect both themselves and their loved ones.

CID strongly recommends that Soldiers, civilians and family members who receive

any suspicious and/or unsolicited emails should delete them immediately without response.

However, if you receive an email claiming to be from “Office of the Division of Criminal Investigation (DCI),” to take the following steps:

- Do not respond to the email.
- Stop all contact if you have responded to the email and report it to CID.
- Report having received the email to Army CID’s “Report a Crime” email at usarmy.belvoir.usacidc.mail.crime-tips@mail.mil.

Other cyber-crime resources available are: Internet Crime Complaint Center (IC3): <http://www.ic3.gov/default.aspx>; and, Federal Trade Commission: spam@uce.gov.

By reporting this crime one can assist CID and other law enforcement officials across the United States in their investigations and help bring those responsible to justice.

Soldier Record Brief to go online with new personnel, pay system

By Gary Sheftick
Army News Service

FORT MEADE, Md. – Soldier Record Briefs will be available online this fall with debut of the Integrated Personnel and Pay System-Army.

IPPS-A has been in the works for three years. When fully implemented, it will replace 54 legacy systems while combining pay and personnel processes, said Col. Edward Prem, chief of the Functional Management Division, G-1. He’s worked on IPPS-A for the past 18 months.

“I’m very excited about Release One,” Prem said about the first incremental fielding in October. “Once it’s fielded, we’ll be able to build upon its success.”

IPPS-A will be delivered to the Army in five releases over the next six years, he said. Its fourth release will enable the Army to process its own pay instead of relying on the Defense Finance and Accounting Service.

IPPS-A is an enterprise resource planning system designed to save the Army money through consolidation and replacement of multiple older systems, Prem said.

This first incremental release will feature the new SRBs and populate nine multi-component reports for commanders and human resource professionals, Prem said. It will pull in information from 15 legacy systems and set up the structure for the rest of the functions to work.

The new SRBs will eventually replace the Enlisted Record Briefs and Officer Record Briefs available through Army Knowledge Online. The SRBs will resemble current ORBs, Prem said, and be standard for all ranks and components, including the Army Reserve and National Guard.

It will be important for Soldiers to check their new SRBs online, he said, because if the information is wrong, that means current databases have inaccurate data. Eventually that could affect pay.

Soldiers who need to make changes to their SRB will need to do that through the legacy systems at first, Prem said. That’s because the first release of IPPS-A won’t actually replace the 15 legacy systems. It will simply draw data from them. Release Two will begin replacement or what he called the “sunset” of systems.

Familiarization training for IPPS-A Release One will be available through

distance learning in the Army Learning Management System. The ALMS training will consist of 13 self-paced modules which cover each section of the SRB. Another nine training modules will be available to cover the nine reports generated by IPPS-A, these include: Personnel Management Report; Assigned Duty Title Report; Certification & Qualification Report; Member Availability & Restrictions Report; Overseas & Deployment Report; Promotion Information Report; Annual Records Review Report; Service Data Report; and Demographics Information Report.

IPPS-A releases 2 and 3 will enable a “continuum of service,” Prem said, by allowing National Guard and Reserve Soldiers to transition on and off active duty while maintaining benefits, personnel information and training in the same database.

Release 3 of IPPS-A in fiscal year 2016 will “sunset” dozens of field personnel systems, he said. Release 4 in FY 2017 will provide pay services and “off ramp” DIMS.

The final release of IPPS-A is scheduled to take place in fiscal year 2018.

Funding for tuition assistance stops

By David Vergun
Army News Service

WASHINGTON – Beginning March 8, funding for tuition assistance ceased and Soldiers cannot submit new requests for tuition assistance, according to Lt. Gen. Howard B. Bromberg, deputy chief of staff, G-1.

Approval for the stoppage came from Secretary of the Army John McHugh and affects Soldiers from both the active and reserve components.

Those currently enrolled in courses approved for TA are not impacted and will be allowed to complete their funded coursework, however.

Soldiers are encouraged to contact

their local education centers with any question they may have regarding their education needs and planning, according to officials from the Office of the Assistant Secretary of the Army for Manpower and Reserve Affairs/Army G-1. Also, updates on any changes to the TA funding will be posted to www.goarmyed.com.

The suspension “is necessary given the significant budget execution challenges caused by the combined effects of a possible year-long continuing resolution and sequestration,” the G-1 public affairs office wrote in a released statement.

This suspension “will remain in effect until the fiscal situation matures,” Bromberg said. “The Army understands the

impacts of this action and will re-evaluate should the budgetary situation improve.”

TA funding, derived from the Army’s budget, is the only education funding affected at this time. Soldiers can continue their education using alternate methods.

GI Bill funding, which is derived from the Department of Veterans Affairs, is available and Soldiers can continue their education using this benefit. The GI Bill includes the Montgomery GI Bill, Post 9/11 GI Bill and several other education programs listed on their website: <http://www.gibill.va.gov/benefits/index.html>.

Also, National Guard Soldiers may be eligible for state-funded TA benefits. Federal loans or grants are another option for all Soldiers, as well as their families.



ACC in the News

These articles mention Army Contracting Command.

AMC completes Keith L. Ware Competition, awards 26 first place winners (Note: ACC wins 6 first, 2 second and 3 third-place awards)

REDSTONE ARSENAL, Ala. -- The U.S. Army Materiel Command completed its 2012 Maj. Gen. Keith L. Ware Public Affairs Competition here, Feb. 11.

Designed to recognize excellence in furthering the objectives of the Army Public Affairs program, about 100 entrants competed from 11 different AMC commands across the country. Of those, 26 first place winners will move on to represent AMC in the Department of the Army competition.

<http://www.army.mil/article/97970/>

Contracting intern gains new perspective from missile demo

By Angela Sierk
ACC – Redstone Arsenal, Ala.

(Published in *The Redstone Rocket*, March 6, 2013)

It’s certainly the highlight of every intern’s career when we are given an opportunity to turn our daily desk job into a hands-on experience – to step out from behind the walls of our little cubicles and to see how the contracts we create become tangible systems; to be able to physically touch the systems we work so hard to support from our desks. As anyone would, we eagerly jump at opportunities to see product demonstrations, tour facilities, attend seminars, and to speak with senior leaders, field experts and customers – all in an effort to soak up an abundance of knowledge and insight during the brief learning phase of our internships.

http://www.theredstonerocket.com/people_profile/article_6b45c8a4-866d-11e2-9b0e-0019bb2963f4.html



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ACC safety messages.



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