

NCOES Conference Set for July 24-28 at Ft. Bliss, TX

The U.S. Army Sergeants Major Academy (USASMA) will host the 1995 NCOES Conference July 24-28 at the Centennial NCO Club on Biggs Field, Ft. Bliss, TX.

Post billeting and government mess aren't available. Off-post billeting is on a first-come basis. USASMA has blocked rooms (availability guaranteed until June 30) in five hotels. Participants may make reservations before June 30 by calling area code 915: The Airport Hilton, 778-4241; Radisson Hotel, 772-3333; Residence Inn, 772-8000; Holiday Inn, 778-6411; or El Paso Armed Services YMCA Residence Center, 562-8461.

Conference registration fee is \$5.00 and should be stated on the individual's orders. For more information, call MSG Williams at DSN 978-8633/8011 or COM (915) 568-8633/8011.

1995 Military Almanacs Available to Servicemembers

New and updated editions of Uniformed Services Almanac, Inc., annual military reference books are now available to Active, Reserve, Guard and retired service members.

Each of the volumes contains current, detailed information on health care, federal and state taxes, survivor benefits, insurance, veterans benefits and much more.

The *Uniformed Services Almanac* for Active-duty personnel of all the services contains detailed tables reflecting basic pay and allowances and tax withholding. It lists all special incentive pays and also covers subjects such as health care and CHAMPUS, travel, Space-A, overseas dependent schools, listings of military facilities and many other topics of interest.

The *Reserve Forces Almanac* and the *National Guard Almanac* are each prepared specifically for members of these components. They contain drill pay tables for daily, weekend and annual training. Each of these titles contain important information on the RCSBP and military retirement. Also included are

listings of Guard and Reserve units and locations. Promotion criteria, programs and many other subjects important to Reservists and Guard members and their families are also covered.

The *Retired Military Almanac* is the most useful book for retirees and those near retirement. In addition to detailed pay tables, it also lists locations and phone numbers for military and veterans health care facilities and how to obtain care through CHAMPUS and other providers. Listings of military facilities showing availability of temporary quarters, exchanges, commissaries, golf courses and recreation areas. Also included are sections on taxes, death benefits, burial, national and veterans cemeteries and other listings of retirement residences, associations and organizations and interesting statistical data.

Look for these books at most military exchange stores or order directly from the publisher: Uniformed Services Almanac, Inc., P.O. Box 4144, Falls Church, VA 22044 or call (703) 532-1631 for credit card orders. ■

Army Manages Training Lands Better With Database

Installation natural resource information is gathered, analyzed and digitally stored on computer at Colorado State University's Center for Ecological Management of Military Lands. A special inventory and monitoring effort—Land Condition Trend Analysis (LCTA)—standardizes methods of collecting, analyzing and reporting natural resource data and is helping the Army to better manage its training lands.

The information obtained through LCTA helps the Army meet its training requirements while reducing costs. ■

Mike Cast, USAEC Public Affairs,
Aberdeen Proving Ground, MD

Army Publishes First Manual On Peacekeeping Principles

Field Manual 100-23, *Peace Operations*, will be used by the Army as the basis for training soldiers and leaders carrying out various peace missions.

"With this manual, the Army con-

tinues the broadening of its post-Cold War doctrine, doctrine that is focused on warfighting, yet accommodates employment across the full range of operations," said GEN William W. Hartzog, commander of Training and Doctrine Command (TRADOC).

The manual is a guide for commanders to use and adapt to existing situations and describes three types of missions—support of diplomacy, peacekeeping and peace enforcement—but is primarily concerned with the latter two.

The fundamental difference between peacekeeping and peace enforcement is the use of applied military power. Peacekeeping troops are generally concerned with only maintaining truces. Peace enforcement involves more heavily armed troops who may have to use force or the threat of force to establish conditions in which peace may be achieved between warring factions. ■

TRADOC News Service
Ft. Monroe, VA

Army Says Goodbye to SDT

GEN Gordon R. Sullivan, U.S. Army Chief of Staff, approved elimination of the Self Development Test (SDT) on 2 February 1995. The consensus of MACOM command sergeants major was that SDT was a redundant program paralleling NCOES and didn't help provide Battle Focus. NCOES has advanced to a point where it objectively measures soldier performance much better than SDT.

The lessons learned from SDT will remain part of NCOES, as well as NCOPD at unit levels and will provide commanders flexibility in tailoring unit training to fit their needs. ■

ODCSOPS, The Pentagon

Coins Pay Tribute to POWs, Servicewomen, Vietnam Vets

Three U.S. Veterans Commemorative silver dollars, issued by the U.S. Mint, honor prisoners of war, military servicewomen and Vietnam veterans. Surcharges raised from sale of the coins contribute to three memorials. The National Prisoner of War Museum is plan-

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