

The Desert SUSTAINER

December 24, 2003

Serving the soldiers of LSA Anaconda and Sustainer Army Airfield

Keeping LSA Anaconda Flu free



Spc. Nick Vellema gives the flu vaccine to Capt. Andrew Heimbrock, 588th Maintenance Company.

The flu season is upon us and that means mandatory flu shots for all soldiers.

Soldiers can be seen lining up three mornings a week at the Logistical Support Area Anaconda Troop Medical Clinic to get their shots from the 109th Medical Battalion.

"The shots provide protection against getting the flu," said Sgt. Anna Rhodes, the noncommissioned officer in charge of the TMC's immunization clinic.

"There is an epidemic going on in the states and we've seen some soldiers have the flu here," she said. "It offers some protection."

The soldiers of the 109th have immunized 3,400 troops at LSA Anaconda



Soldiers wait at the Troop Medical Clinic to get their flu vaccinations.

and continue to give more every week.

"It keeps the soldiers from getting the flu and prevents it from spreading," said Spc. Edward Spanenburg, a medic who helps give the shots.

Despite the shots being mandatory many soldiers try to avoid them.

"A lot of people think it will make them sick but that's not true," said Rhodes, who plans on giving shots for a few more weeks.

"We'll continue to give shots until we run out," she said.

Shots are available Monday, Wednesday and Friday, from 8 to 11 a.m.

California earthquake leaves 2 dead

PASO ROBLES, California (CNN) — Two people died when a historic building collapsed in Paso Robles after a strong earthquake jolted the central California coast Monday and sent tremors from Los Angeles to San Francisco and beyond.

The quake registered a preliminary magnitude of 6.5 when it hit about 11:15 a.m., the U.S. Geological Survey said.

Its epicenter was about six miles northeast of the coastal town of San Simeon, about 240 miles north of Los Angeles and 200 miles south of San Francisco. But it occurred at the relatively shallow depth of about five miles and was felt across a wide swath of the state.

"We have reports of motion being perceptible from way south of Los Angeles to way north of San Francisco," said Bill Ellsworth, chief scientist of the earthquake hazards team for the U.S. Geological Survey in Menlo Park near San Francisco.

About 50 aftershocks with magnitudes of about 3.0 were

reported within three hours of the original quake, Ellsworth said.

In about one in 20 earthquakes, an aftershock is more powerful than the original quake, he said and urged area residents not to enter structures that may have been damaged.

Scientists had no warning of the shock, which occurred in an area that has experienced a large number of small earthquakes in recent years, he said.

"It apparently occurred without any significant foreshocks, but this is not unusual."

In Paso Robles, about 30 miles inland, Jennifer Murick, 19, of Tascadero, and Marilyn Zafuto, 55, of Paso Robles, were killed by falling debris from the collapse of the city's landmark clock tower, police said.

Police and fire officials completed a search of the rubble late Monday with cadaver-sniffing dogs and determined that there were no additional casualties.

The American Soldier named Time's "Person of the Year"

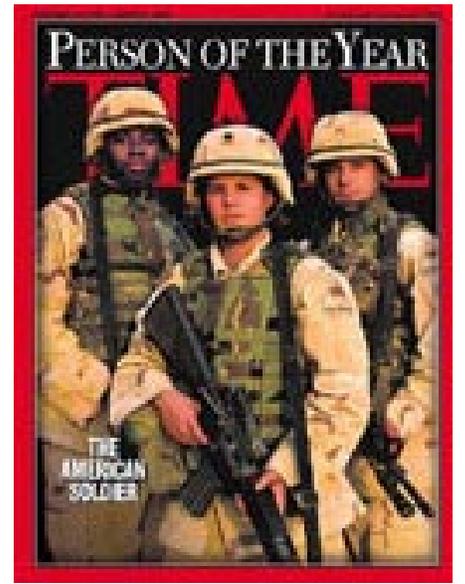
They swept across Iraq and conquered it in 21 days. They stand guard on streets pot-holed with skepticism and rancor. They caught Saddam Hussein. They are the face of America, its might and good will, in a region unused to democracy. The U.S. G.I. is TIME's Person of the Year.

The American Soldier earned this honor by volunteering their skills, their services and their lives every day with unwavering dedication. This extraordinary group of 1.4 million diverse men and

women are the face of America—a group responsible for the successful invasion of Iraq and recent capture of Saddam Hussein.

This is the second time that the American service member has received this recognition from Time magazine.

53 years ago the American soldier was named TIME's Person of the Year, as well. It was the G.I.'s defense of democracy in Korea that first earned this distinction from TIME.



Terror Alert in States goes to second highest level

WASHINGTON (CNN) — Surface-to-air missiles were being deployed around Washington, state troopers were authorized to ride New York area commuter trains, and air travelers encountered more delays — all results of the heightened terrorism threat alert level.

On Sunday, the Department of Homeland Security raised the level from elevated, or yellow, to high, or orange, the second-highest level on the department's five-color warning system.

The move was based mostly on information gleaned from a high volume of "chatter" among suspected terrorists, Homeland Security Secretary Tom Ridge said.

Ridge warned of possible strikes more devastating than the al Qaeda airliner attacks of September 11, 2001, on New York and Washington, and told CNN on Monday that airplanes remain terrorists' weapon of choice.

"There is a continuous stream of reporting, literally from the last two years, that indicates [terrorists'] preference or desire to use aircraft as a means of attack," Ridge said on CNN's "American Morning."

In addition to Washington, anti-aircraft missile batteries may be deployed around New York City, and a senior Pentagon official said "irregular air patrols" had been ordered.

Governors have been given lists of specific measures and sites to be protected, including critical infrastructure that if hit by an aircraft could cause extensive problems, an official said.

A government official said numerous people have been blocked from entering the country at various locations since December 1 but would not give specifics.

Another U.S. official said a handful of foreign flight crew members had been stopped in recent days.

The United States is working with airlines and foreign governments to improve their security postures, officials said.

There is concern about Mexico and Canada because of their contiguous airspace with the United States.

Officials at all levels said the threat this time around seems more serious than previous alerts.

TMC CLOSURE

The troop medical clinic will be closed on the following days except for emergency - life, limb or eyesight - situations:
Christmas - Thursday, Dec. 25, and New Year's - Thursday, Jan. 1. For more information contact Maj. Douglas Olney at 318-528-1413.

PLUMBING WORK

In the near future buildings 4114-4169, 4247 and 4248 will be receiving fixtures and toilets in preparation for running water. The tenants of these buildings are encouraged to clear all bathrooms of garbage and excess storage as well as cease all plumbing being done by contracted Iraqis.

RESERVE ID CARDS

Due to units being extended, many reservists' ID cards are set to expire. Units confronting this issue should contact Staff Sgt. Jonathon Trussell, 90th Personnel Support Battalion, to set up an appointment to renew their ID cards. Trussell can be reached at 551-9903. Amendment orders are needed for new IDs.

CONTACT US

The Desert Sustainer is a newsletter compiled printed and published by the 3rd Corps Support Command Public Affairs Office. Please send any comments, suggestions, submissions or story ideas to us by email at grant.calease@us.army.mil, or call 558-2053, or stop by Bldg. 4137.

N.C. State opens the bowl season with a 56-26 rout of Kansas

ORLANDO, Fla. (AP) — Philip Rivers kept throwing and throwing and throwing, leading North Carolina State to another victory.

"He's going to make somebody a winner, because he is a winner," coach Chuck Amato said after the Wolfpack routed Kansas 56-26 in the Tangerine Bowl on Monday. "He's been that way since the day he showed up to our campus."

Rivers threw for Tangerine Bowl records of 475 yards and five touchdowns, and T.A. McLendon scored three touch-

downs to help the Wolfpack (8-5) rebound from a two-game losing streak that cost them a trip to a bigger bowl.

The Wolfpack amassed 653 yards, including 30 plays of at least 10 yards.

"You never do know if you're going to blow the doors wide open and just be hitting on everything," Rivers said. "But we felt coming in there were going to be some opportunities for big plays. We felt there were a lot of holes right behind the linebackers. That's where we attacked, and it got us rolling."

North Carolina State marched 64, 68 and 97 yards on its first three possessions to build a 21-7 lead. Rivers led an 88-yard drive in the third quarter, then broke the game open by taking advantage of a blocked punt to put the Wolfpack up 42-17.

Richard Washington scored on receptions of 45 and 14 yards, and Jerricho Cotchery had 13

catches for 171 yards and one TD. McLendon got into the end zone three times, scoring on a 3-yard reception and runs of 1 and 26 yards.

Amato didn't remove Rivers until midway through the fourth quarter after his final completion gave him the Tangerine Bowl yardage record.

Kansas coach Mark Mangino didn't feel the Wolfpack showed up the Jayhawks by continuing to throw with a 30-point lead.

"I'm of the school of thought that you never run it up," Mangino said. "If you can't stop them, too bad."

Rivers, the ACC's career passing and total offense leader finished 37-of-45 for his fifth 400-yard game this season, and seventh overall.

The 6-foot-5, 236-pound senior has been the starting quarterback for every game the Wolfpack have played under Amato, the former Florida State assistant who has taken his team to a bowl game in each of his four seasons.

"Nobody will replace Philip," Amato said. "It took 40 years to replace Roman Gabriel. I hope it doesn't take 40 to replace Philip. But it might when you put his total package into it."



N.C. State runningback T.A. McLendon ran for two touchdowns and caught a pass for another.

NBA Standings

EASTERN CONFERENCE		WESTERN CONFERENCE	
ATLANTIC		MIDWEST	
Nets	--	Spurs	--
76ers	--	T-wolves	0.5
Celtics	--	Nuggets	1.5
Heat	3.5	Mavericks	2.5
Knicks	4	Rockets	2.5
Wizards	4.5	Grizzlies	3
Magic	7.5	Jazz	3.5
CENTRAL		PACIFIC	
Pacers	--	Lakers	--
Hornets	2	Kings	1
Pistons	3.5	Blazers	8
Raptors	5.5	Warriors	8
Bucks	6.5	Sonics	8
Cavs	11.5	Clippers	8
Bulls	12	Suns	11.5
Hawks	13.5		

National Hockey League

EASTERN		WESTERN	
ATLANTIC		CENTRAL	
Flyers	47	Red Wings	48
Devils	44	Blues	44
Rangers	33	Predators	35
Islanders	31	Black Hawks	24
Penguins	23	Blue Jackets	23
NORTHEAST		NORTHWEST	
Maple Leafs	47	Canucks	44
Bruins	38	Avalanche	39
Senators	38	Flames	39
Canadiens	37	Wild	34
Sabres	27	Oilers	30
SOUTHEAST		PACIFIC	
Thrashers	40	Kings	39
Lightning	33	Sharks	37
Panthers	31	Stars	34
Hurricanes	30	Coyotes	33
Capitals	24	Mighty Ducks	31

NFL Standings

NFC		AFC	
East		East	
Eagles	11-4	Patriots	13-2
Cowboys	10-5	Dolphins	9-6
Redskins	5-10	Bills	6-9
Giants	4-11	Jets	6-9
West		West	
Rams	12-3	Chiefs	12-3
Seahawks	9-6	Broncos	10-5
49ers	7-8	Raiders	4-11
Cardinals	3-12	Chargers	3-12
North		North	
Vikings	9-6	Ravens	9-6
Packers	9-6	Bengals	8-7
Bears	7-8	Steelers	6-9
Lions	4-11	Browns	4-11
South		South	
Panthers	10-5	Colts	11-4
Saints	7-8	Titans	11-4
Buccaneers	7-8	Texans	5-10
Falcons	4-11	Jaguars	5-10