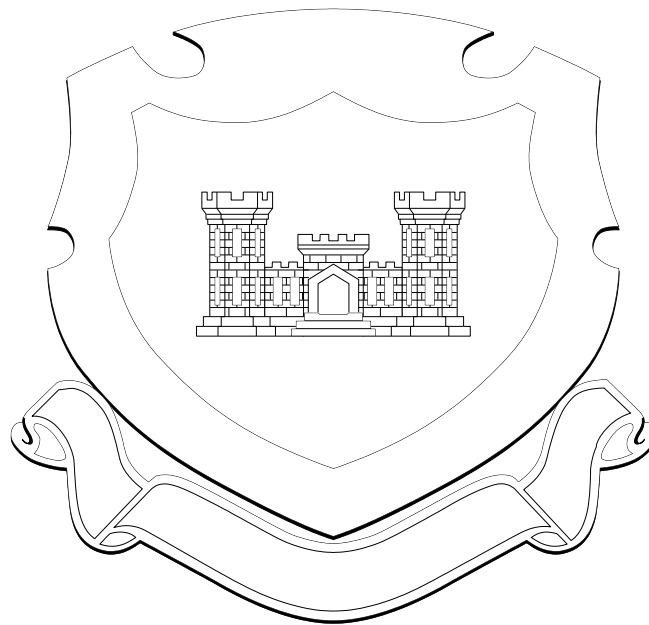
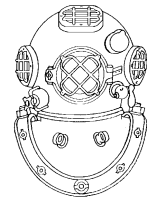
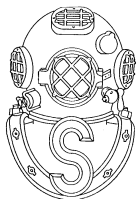


# U.S. ARMY DIVER

## BOTTOM TIMES REPORT



COVERING JUL - OCT 1999



**ARMY LIAISON OFFICE**  
**NAVAL DIVING & SALVAGE TRAINING CENTER**  
*PANAMA CITY, FLORIDA*

Greetings from sunny Florida.

Good students are still hard to come by. One recently pre-screen graduate quit after day two. Another quit about week two. We presently have 10 students onboard but some of them are fighting to stay afloat.

Recent graduates:	2LT Lull ---	Ranger School then Ft. Eustis
	2LT Greer ---	Ft. Eustis
	SPC Flack (Honor Grad)	Hawaii
	SPC Larrew ---	Ft. Eustis
	SPC Forkhammer ---	Ft. Eustis
	SPC Roman ---	Ft. Eustis
	SPC Regis ---	Ft. Eustis
	PFC Hayden ---	Ft. Eustis
	PFC Fimon ---	Reservist from California
	(Why was he sent to school? Who knows.)	

CONGRADULATIONS to SFC Burch and SFC Elmore for making MDV.

NOTES: All new classes will be taught using the new REV. 4. Which by the way already has changes.

1CL students will be leading the missions in during the FTX so buff yourselves up and be ahead of the game.

Pro-pay is still up in the air.

***News from the staff:***

**CPT Perusek** – Took over as the Army Liaison Officer and Fleet Diving Division Officer on 1 OCT 99 after a FOUR-month transition (I got here on 8 JUN 99). I had to wrestle the reigns from a reluctant CPT Menendez. We are in the process of standing the ALO up as F Co. 169<sup>th</sup> Engineer Battalion NLT 1 Feb 00. We will fall under Fort Leonard Wood. FLW thinks that they are finally bringing the Army Engineer Divers under the Engineer umbrella. Duh....Personally, my first priority was purchasing **2** Polaris jet ski watercrafts to ensure that my assignment here is enjoyed to the fullest. My wife, Elita, ETS'd on 26 OCT 99 so is no longer a CPT. Our son, Isaiah, is 2 years old now.

**CPT Menendez** – This is my last Bottom Times input. CPT Perusek has taken over as the Army Liaison Officer. Over the past three or so years the ALO has had some tremendous challenges to overcome (both professional and personal). I especially want to recognize the crew that put in place the new Army Engineer 00B10 Course; SFC McKenzie, SFC Pagel, SFC Jordahl, SFC Elmore, SSG Dunbar, SSG Hanners, SSG Rivera. The amount of time and effort they put in (nights & weekends) will benefit the field in the long run; the field owes them a debt of gratitude for their efforts.

When I leave Panama City, I will be leaving the active service, but the greater impact for me will be that I am leaving is the Army Diving Community. I loved every day I have been in the field and will always look back fondly. Special thanks to MSG Brill and SFC Wilson, and all the members of the Army Engineer Diving Community who have made my active duty experience exceptional.

Also a new addition to the Menendez family is due in late May.

**SFC Kane** – Did my observations of diving procedures to get my command MDV qualification. Took over as NCOIC on 1 Oct 99. Some changes coming to the 2C coarse but nothing major. Looking to make this a happy place ----Work smarter not longer. Also having family get-togethers to include the retired divers. We recently had a rainy day Bar-B –Que at my house, toys from wall to wall but a good time had by all. On the personal side, working part time to get ahead for retirement (Home Depot has some good benefits) and Tonias' day care is up and running again.

**SFC Pagel** – Spent the last few months getting MDV evals ready to go. Taught Army unique to the candidates and acted as Project Master for the diving portion. As everyone knows, had 100% success resulting in two new MDV's. Turned over NCOIC to SFC Kane on 1 Oct. Currently working on revising the salvage portion of evals and updating the ALO SOP to meet 1st Bde. Standards.

Late breaking news – new addition to the Pagel family but no firm date as of yet.

**SSG Bryant** – I have arrived and literally hit the ground running by teaching the rigging portion of the Army Unique Course within my first month here. I am working on getting my quals done, but the water fountain has become a real challenge and I also have to become a craftmaster (woo woo) to drive the SLWT (an inherit duty from Cal.). Additionally, lets not forget about developing the Army UCT Advanced portion for the 1CL class. So in other words, life here is a little more fast pace than Port Hueneme, but hey! If it was easy, well you know.

**SSG Thompson** – Found a big house to rent, nice change after living in Eustis quarters. In "I" division working on qualifications (I'll probably have mine way before Lane). Proctor of newest Army 2C. Got a part-time job at PaPa John's (defected from Domino's). Hunting season coming up, (but not hunt camp) looking to kill a wild pig or two, along with a few deer and any other defenseless animal that comes near. Everyone keeps picking on me here, I seem to be the brunt of all the practical jokes.

**SSG Haney** – Had a new addition to the family, born on 23 June 99, 7 lbs. 12 oz., Killian Ray Haney (just what we need, another Haney). Working on quals to use new obstacle course and hoping to finally get my sup. quals. Spending Army money to outfit the new Army 2C course. Sold my house in Virginia and probably buying a bigger one. Also still balding. I'm looking to buy another vette as well. P.S. Thanks for all the help moving in Virginia (d---s).

**SSG Rivera** – Spending most of my time fulfilling the Course Manager responsibilities for the Army 2C Course since Marty (Elmore) bailed for ANCOC, Drill Sergeant School, MDV Evals and the dusty trail at FLW. The Sea Bee's instructors are onboard and we are finally running the course from start to finish with only Trees and Bee's (as of 21 OCT). Inherited the Army 1C Course as well. We are armpit deep in the development for the 1C Army specific portion. I think after this tour he'll be begging for Eustis. (Yeah, right!!!)

**SSG Lane** – Proctoring 40-A2C. Started with 13 and down to 5, but these five look strong. Revising my areas of instruction, FTX and Recon. I am trying to add Demolition Effects Simulators to into the FTX. They simulate actual explosives in size and weight and leave a small dust signature after detonation. The cost is marginal, less than \$100 to have a complete explosive system. We want to use it on the bridge demolition mission. I am enclosing the proposal because it has the applicable NSN's and lists the local purchase items needed for the system. Good, cheap way to stay proficient on demo. You may be able to use them right on post for SGT's Time. Due to the use of live explosives (det cord MDI, and M-81's) all personnel participating are entitled to demo pay. I finalized my divorce 1 Aug. and I have custody of Devin until next June. I am currently accepting add donations for the purchase of a live aboard sailboat. Donations should be forwarded to the school

SUBJECT: Demolition Effects Simulators

1. Demolition effects simulators ( DES ) training devices simulate the size weight and shape of actual explosive charges as well as producing sound and visual effects to enhance battlefield realism.
2. DES devices can simulate blowing mines in place, destroying timber trestle bridges, destroying captured supplies and equipment, cratering, and gaining access to buildings during MOUT training. All missions can be executed safely with no damage to facilities.
3. All charges except the M-112 (C-4) block and the M-118 sheet explosive are chalk charges. The chalk charges are various size containers filled with a chalk and sand mixture and detonating cord. The detonating cord is the explosive propellant that displaces the chalk powder. The M-112 charges are constructed of a non-explosive clay compound that simulates the C-4. The M-118 is non-explosive rubber matting. The explosive signature comes only from the detonating cord.
4. Military detonating cord contains approximately 6.4 lbs. of PETN high explosive per 1000' the amount used in the DES charges required for the FTX is approximately 4' or .0256 lbs. of PETN. The blast effect will be similar to that of an artillery simulator.
5. The following is a list of required materials for constructing DES charges applicable to the Army FTX missions.

Box cardboard, 7" x 1 3/4" x 1 3/4"	local purchase
Chalk, field marking	local purchase
Cord, detonating	NSN 1375-00-965-0800
Sand	local purchase
Clay, pottery, moist	local purchase
Tape, clear	NSN 7510-00-995-0455
Tape, electrical, black	NSN 5970-00-419-4291
Tape, fabric, red	NSN 7510-00-074-4969
M-14	NSN 1375-01-415-1233
M-81	NSN 1375-01-415-1235
M-11	NSN 1375-01-415-1232
M-12	NSN 1375-01-415-1230

6. The training conducted utilizing the DES is the final evolution of the Army second class divers course. This course has in depth coverage of both surface and underwater demolitions operations.
7. All phases of the DES training will be conducted as if utilizing actual explosive devices to include storage, construction, emplacement, and safe separation / safe distances.
8. POC for the above is SSG Lane at 850-230-7050, DSN 436-7050.

**U.S. ARMY DIVE COMPANY (PROV)**  
**FORT EUSTIS, VIRGINIA**

AFFG-Z-ADC

04 OCT 99

MEMORANDUM FOR RECORD

SUBJECT: Bottom Times

1. The following is a list of missions for the Dive Company from July to September '99':

<u>MISSION</u>	<u>DATES</u>
PANAMA CITY, FL. 'DEEP BLUE 99'	06 JUN - 02 JUL
TAMPA, FL. (PORT FACILITIES)	06 - 23 JUL
AUGUSTA, GA. (RECON DAM)	27 - 30 JUL
CONCHAS DAM, NEW MEXICO (DRIVERS)	12 AUG - 10 SEP
CONCHAS DAM, NEW MEXICO (MAIN BODY)	15 AUG - 10 SEP SUR-D-O2 dives (130 ft)
ABERDEEN, MD. 'RECON FOR DEMO TRNG'	23 -24 AUG
DURHAM, NC. 'DUKE UNIVERSITY'	07 - 09 SEP (5 divers) Testing altitude tables at 25,000 ft for 2 hrs.
TALLAHASSEE, FL. 'T.A.I.R.'	11 - 17 SEP
ABERDEEN, MD. 'DEMO TRNG'	12 - 17 SEP
DURHAM, NC. 'DUKE UNIVERSITY'	28 - 30 SEP Testing altitude tables @ 25,000 ft. 1 diver got a type 1 hit at altitude.

2. News from the company:

Departures: 1SG Groninger for Hawaii, SSG Thompson and SFC Kane for Panama City.

SGT John Koch ETS'ed and is in Texas. He plans on going to school while working.

News: SSG Mason's retirement was approved for June 2000.  
1SG Ventura to 1SG Academy (31 Aug - 06 Oct)  
SPC Anderson and Johnson to SGT in July  
SGT Bonner to SSG in July  
SPC Chebahtah went to Riverside, CA. For Hometown recruiter for 30 days

Duke University in Durham, North Carolina is conducting altitude testing and will be requesting divers from Ft. Eustis to be the "guinea pigs". The profile will be at 25,000 feet, starting at two hours, (21 "guinea pigs") and proceed to 3 and 4 hours in the future. It should be an on-going TDY ( 3 - 4 days) for the next 2 years. Applicants receive Stress Pay and get to stay in an exquisite hotel (Homewood Suites) w/ free breakfast and dinner meals (alcohol included).

3. POC is the undersigned @ 878-3500.

RAY A. SNYDER  
SSG, USA  
Operations NCO

# 7<sup>TH</sup> ENGINEER DETACHMENT (DIVING) *FORT SHAFTER, HAWAII*

## 7TH Engineer Detachment (DIVE)

Aloha, It's been a busy quarter for the soldiers and families of the 7<sup>th</sup> Engineer Detachment (DIVE). The unit has had to say good-bye to a Commander, welcome new soldiers and their families, and celebrate the birth of a new member of our 7<sup>th</sup> Dive family. While all this has been happening we still found time to deploy to Maui and reorganize from a Lightweight Dive Team to a Heavy Dive Team.

CPT Joe Lock departed the unit in August. During his tenure here he commanded numerous deployments throughout the Pacific theatre, ensuring we were the best trained, and best led divers in the Army. A "soldier's soldier", CPT Lock met all operational commitments while still making sure we had time for furthering our education and spending time with our families. We wish him the best of luck as he attends the Special Forces Qualification Course, and in all his future endeavors.

MSG Karl Groninger, his wife Vicky, and children, Jillian and Timothy arrived in early August from the U.S. Army Dive Company, Fort Eustis, Virginia. SGT Raymond Ramirez and his wife Melanie arrived on 2 September, also from the U.S. Army Dive Company. We welcome both families with open arms as they begin this new assignment.

Our Dive family increased by one on 5 August when SGT Nathan Swartwood and his wife Angel gave birth to Nathan Jr. It's events like this that remind us about what is really important in life. We are all shopping for a really small mask and pair of fins.

The unit conducted it's annual deep dive training from xx to xx August. We were joined by soldiers from the 294<sup>th</sup> Engineer Detachment (DIVE) (USAR), Camp Pendelton, CA. The two-week exercise gave us the opportunity to train on decompression dives at depths of up to 150' and evaluate our diving supervisors.

On 16 September the unit officially changes from a Lightweight Diving Team to a Heavy Diving Team. What does that mean to us? We will increase the number of authorized soldiers from 17 to 25. We will also see additional equipment, some of which has already arrived. Our training will not change much except we will focus more on salvage, harbor clearance and port rehabilitation. Don't worry, this does not mean we will have to deploy more often than we have been.

The unit plans to spend two weeks at Johnston Island in November. The entire Battalion will be on the "Big Island" in February 2000 for the 45th CSG(F) EXEVAL. As the exact dates for these events become available we will let you know.

### DEEP SEA!





**CHIEF DIVING SUPERVISOR**  
**U.S. ARMY ENGINEER SCHOOL**  
**FORT LEONARDWOOD, MISSOURI**

**Thanks to SFC Ellis.** SFC Ellis is no longer assigned to DOTD. He was instrumental in the production of the STP and many revisions to engineer doctrine. The loss of him from our directorate will be deeply felt especially when he is not around to answer my phone. He has moved to the Directorate of Combat Development where I'm sure he will do more great things for the diving field. SFC Ellis is still providing subject matter expert support to the Doctrine Development Division in the revision of FM 5-490, Engineer Diving Operations. Any comments or suggestions on the FM should be directed towards him.

**Elimination of 51B Training Phase.** The Engineer School Commandant has approved the elimination of 51B training from the initial diver training program. This action has to be coordinated with DA PERSCOM and other DA offices to execute. It is anticipated to go into effect FY01. The new initial training program would look like this:

Basic Training (9 weeks est.) at Ft. Leonard Wood, MO (subject to seat availability, 2<sup>nd</sup> fill priority Ft. Jackson, SC.)

Engineer Diver, MOS 00B10, Phase 1 (2 weeks 4 days est.) at Ft. Leonard Wood, MO.

Engineer Diver, MOS 00B10, Phase 2 (26 weeks est.) at Naval Diving and Salvage Training Center (NDSTC), Panama City, FL.

**Moving of Diver Courses to the Maneuver Support Center, Ft. Leonard Wood, MO.**

Starting FY00 two courses have been moved from the Transportation School at Ft. Eustis, VA to the Maneuver Support Center at Ft. Leonard Wood, MO. The Engineer Diver, MOS 00B10, Phase 1 course was moved to the 1<sup>st</sup> Engineer Training Brigade under the U.S. Army Engineer School. The Engineer Diver BNCOB, Phase 1 course was moved to the Libby NCO Academy. Both courses were revised in the process and additional engineer common training added to the courses.

**Reorganization of the Army Liaison Office as an AIT Company.** In a combined effort between the Directorate of Training and the 1<sup>st</sup> Engineer Training Brigade, the Diving Instructor Branch (commonly known as the Army Liaison Office) at NDSTC is being transferred to the 1<sup>st</sup> Engineer Training Brigade for command and control. It is planned to organize them under the 169<sup>th</sup> Engineer Bn. as Foxtrot (AIT) Company. The Brigade is presently working support issues like establishing a 1SG position, clerk support, Drill Sergeant Support, etc.

**First Iteration of Revised Army Master Diver Course Completed.** The revised Army Master Diver Course, which now is the ANCOB technical phase, was conducted between 10 Aug and 23 Sep 99. This revised course included training on salvage operations, reconnaissance, demolition and mine/ countermine operational planning. The culminating Situational Training Exercise was the Master Diver Certification Board. The board evaluated their technical knowledge and leadership abilities on two major diving supervisor tasks. These tasks were Supervision of High Risk SCUBA and

Surface Supplied Diving Operations, and Monitoring the Supervision of A Casualty Requiring Recompression Treatment. The hands-on performance evaluations were done at sea utilizing the Navy's diving vessel and AIT level students as a dive team (platoon), many thanks to the Navy for their support. Final revisions are being made to the curriculum IAW the AAR comments provided by both students and evaluators. Congratulations to the first graduates of the course, SFC Elmore and SFC Burch. See the 00B web page at [www.wood.army.mil/TDD/mos00b.htm](http://www.wood.army.mil/TDD/mos00b.htm) for selected pictures of the operation.

**Draft Critical Individual Task List.** The final draft of the Critical Individual Task List is being processed to be released to the selection board members for their final review and comments. Once the Critical Individual Task List is approved by the Engineer School Commandant, the Soldiers Training Publication (STP) will be sent for final review to the editors on its way to final approval and submission to TRADOC. See the 00B web page at [www.wood.army.mil/TDD/mos00b.htm](http://www.wood.army.mil/TDD/mos00b.htm) for the Draft Critical Individual Task List.

**Diving Unit Mission AARs.** Thank you for the AARs that I have been receiving from the units. Some of them were quite impressive with the use of modern technology. My major goal in reviewing AARs is to be able to pinpoint deficiencies caused by formal training, doctrine

# **COMBAT DEVELOPER**

## **U.S. ARMY ENGINEER SCHOOL**

### *FORT LEONARDWOOD, MISSOURI*

This is my first input to our Bottom Times as Combat Developer NCO here within MANSCENS Engineer Support Equipment Branch and will start by saying thanks to my predecessor SFC Heikkinen for all of his previous hard work with a number of well-researched equipment programs. ESSAYONS! In bringing everyone up-to-date I'll start by mentioning that the following new programs are funded and work moves forward to get them to you the "Field":

- **Diving Equipment Set:** Re-procurement actions for a Surface Supplied Diving Set are scheduled to go to bid in 2nd qtr. FY 00. The set consists of dive helmets (Superlite 17K), umbilical assemblies to support divers with air and communications to the surface, dive-suits, helmet-mounted video camera, and other associated equipment. Currently the commercial diving industry is 20 years ahead of the military in terms of technology. The new equipment set will be packaged in ISO type containers compatible with transportation/ load handling systems and have a projected service life of 25-30 years.
- **Underwater Construction Set:** Re-procurement goes out for bid in November 1999. A new modularized underwater construction set will consist of four separate containerized subsystems. Each subsystems is designed to provide the capability of independent operability, giving dive teams the ability to tailor equipment packages for multiple, simultaneous missions.
- **Recompression Chambers:** During prior re-procurement actions in 1996, an overhaul program was initiated to modernize and containerize 8 units in an effort to extend the service life by 15 to 20 years. Currently, modernization program has been scrapped because of cost comparison to commercially available equipment. Commercial equipment was found to be less expensive and met required specifications. Solicitation for new units will be put forward in 2nd Qtr FY 00. The updated equipment uses 21st century technology and corrects deficiencies previously identified.
- **Low Pressure Compressors:** The system consists of two 40-CFM compressors that can operate separately in support of the Diving equipment Set--Lightweight, Diving equipment set--Deep-Sea, Special Diver Air Support System, and the Underwater Construction Set. The two compressors will be utilized in a dual configuration to support the recompression chamber operations.

Secondly, here's some good information on the current status of efforts to get new radios into our dive teams. Reference the Single Channel Ground and Airborne Radio System (SINCGARS) (SINCGARS Improvement Program) SIP, 7th Grp will be getting 250+ next March; I think you guys at Ft Eustis could track down who is handling the fielding for the 7th Trans and get our designated radios set aside when they arrive. These are the "D" version of the radio. There will be an advance fielding team

(requiring information on vehicle placement and the associated mounting) followed by Project Managers (PM) from Ft. Mamouth, followed by a New Equipment Training Team (NETT) as part of the fielding. Specific questions about fielding dates probably need to be coordinated with the Program Manager, Tactical Radio Communications Systems, (PM TRCS).

The SINCGARS radios for the Dive Teams are as follows:

TOE (Design) Unit UIC Location  
05530LA00 (Hvy Dive Tm) 569th Eng Tm WCZ1AA Ft Eustis  
05530LC00 (Lt Dive Tm) 544th Eng Tm WBFBA Ft Eustis  
86th Eng Tm WHKXAA Ft Eustis  
74th Eng Tm WDZ1AA Ft Eustis  
511th Eng Tm WHKYAA Ft Eustis

Title OPFAC Type Radio Configuration of Radios  
Diving Tm Hq EIBZ0 VRC-89D (1 Long Range/1 Short Range Receiver/Transmitter)  
Eng Sec Ldr EH201 VRC-88D (2 ea) (1 Short Range (Vehicular/Dismountable))  
Diving Sec EHBZ0 PRC-119D (4 ea) (1 Manpack f/use in 7 man boat)

NOTE: This is a very good link for SINCGARS info:  
<http://www.monmouth.army.mil/cecom/lrc/comm/tradio/sincgars.html>

On a final note I'll mention that as the Engineer School's Diving Combat Developer, TRADOC had tasked me as an observer to the American, British, Canadian, and New Zealand (ABCANZ) Diving Conference to assess potential for future conference involvement (see AAR). Conference was conducted at the Canadian Forces Maritime Warfare Centre, Canadian Forces Base Halifax, Nova Scotia, Canada on 15-17 September 1999. Observed and recorded on-site data pertaining to worldwide diving equipment design, techniques, and procedures in an effort to gain information useful from an Engineer Diving Combat Developer perspective. Reviewed conference data for possible areas to support the Engineer Diving Force mission essential tasks in the following areas:

- (1) Port opening.
- (2) Salvage.
- (3) Inland waterway mobility and countermobility.
- (4) Mine/ countermine operations.
- (5) Hydrographic survey.

The ABCANZ diving conference was successful in bringing together worldwide diving units in an effort to share information, make important doctrine and equipment decisions, steering development of new products, and refining of techniques and procedures. All briefings and discussions enabled question and answer sessions that allowed input from other nationalities. This important review allowed all participants to comment on their own research and development. Overall, the conference served as a vital information exchange to strengthen military diving through a continually ongoing effort to exploit the underwater environment. ESSAYONS!

VICTOR O. ELLIS  
SFC, USA  
Engineer Diving Combat Developer  
US Army Maneuver Support Center  
Ft. Leonard Wood, MO. 65473-8929  
DSN 676-7325  
COM 573-596-0131, ext. 3-7325  
FAX 4089/8000  
E-mail: ellisv@wood.army.mil

**DIVING EQUIPMENT LIAISON  
ARMAMENT & CHEMICAL  
ACQUISITION & LOGISTICS ACTIVITY  
*ROCK ISLAND ARSENAL, ILLINOIS***

**NEW EQUIPMENT PROGRAMS**

As many of you know we are continuing to work on fielding new chambers to all units. The first three chambers fielded under the "Material Change Program" initiated by ATCOM, are now at FT. Eustis. During the completion of the first 3 units, we were continuing to study our options for the completion of the next 5. While looking for someone to complete the Material Change Program we discovered that the cost of modifying old chambers exceeded the cost of buying new and that the current design was very expensive. To give you an idea of the cost, the old chambers were initially fielded for less than \$60,000 apiece. Refurbishment of the old chambers to the new design cost us \$400,000 each. So the material change program was cancelled. Since then a new Description for Purchase has been written and the other parts of a solicitation package are nearly complete. Before the next newsletter is out we will be out on the Commerce Business Daily (CBD) with the solicitation and reviewing contract bids for acceptance. With any luck we will have a contract in place and chambers under construction before I leave next June. Once construction starts, the entire program for 8 new chambers should be completed within a year. We hope to keep the cost of the brand new chamber packages under 300K.

The new medium pressure compressor is about 30 days behind the chamber program. The Description for Purchase is completed and the sections L and M for the solicitation will be written in November. We have gone out on the CBD for sources sought and some contractors have expressed interest in doing the program. We have asked for their input on the specifications we have set for the new compressor and will be meeting to discuss their comments the first week of November.

The Underwater Construction Set is approximately one more month behind the compressor program. The Description for Purchase has been written and is presently out at Dover for quality control input. This should be back to us any time now. The equipment list is pretty much complete but we can still make changes to this up until contract award. The only equipment still being looked at for addition to the set is surveying equipment. With our current budget and the high cost estimate of survey gear it may not be possible to add it at this time.

The Surface Supplied Diving Set, which is eventually slated to replace both the Deep-Sea and LightWeight Diving Sets, is an additional month or 2 behind the UCS. The new set will be packaged in two 8x8x10 foot shelters, will be lighted, heated, ventilated and have enough space for a diver to change in during the winter. We have received additional instructions, from higher up, that we are to take a closer look at the possibility of having the Arsenal complete this program and the UCS.

I have high expectations that all of these sets will be contracted out and under construction before I leave. I would have liked to field these sets myself, but it looks like that will be up to my replacement. All the sets will have a common modular scheme and be packaged for quick deployment. Hopefully they will be rugged and reliable and stand the test of time.

At this point none of the systems will be provisioned and have parts stocked in the stock system. This is in accordance with the latest Army directives for small density items and guidance for commercialization. There will be few if any specially designed items in the set so it should be no problem to get whatever is needed on the commercial market.

SFC Nels Malmberg