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NDTA GRAM

Defense Transportation News



July 4, 2008 Military Re-enlistment Al Faw Palace in Baghdad, Iraq

General Petraeus presided over 1,215 service members .. the largest re-up ceremony in history. The event was essentially overlooked by mainstream media. Video, Blog and Photos [HERE](#)

FRONT PAGE

Team USA - Military Olympians
Home in a Box
ICEBREAKERS -
Arctic Horizons

GOVERNMENT NEWS

Army begins overhaul of civilian career management
Defense Personal Property System ROLLS OUT
Base Realignment - Germany
Sealift Changes Command - Kuwait
MSC Ship-to-Shore JLOTS

MEMBER NEWS

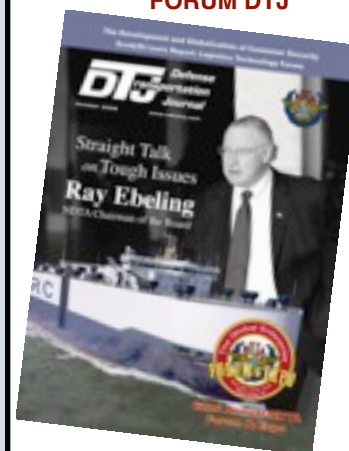
ABF - Agility - Bennett Motors
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Southwest - Tucker
United Van - XIO

EVENTS

The Global Enterprise
NDTA Forum & Expo
Sept. 20 - 24, 2008
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FORUM DTJ



Straight Talk on Tough Issues

The Development and Globalization of Container Security

Scott St. Louis NDTA Chapter Co-Hosts Logistics Forum Technology Forum

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THANK YOU for supporting our country, our troops and NDTA

IN MEMORIAM



LTG Edward Honor, USA (Ret.)
Mar. 17, 1933 ~ Sept. 3, 2008

*General Honor touched us all
We are grateful for his vision,
his leadership and his friendship*

General Honor served his country and the Association with distinction during his entire adult life. He entered the Army as a 2nd Lieutenant from Southern University and achieved the rank of LTG. He served two combat tours in Vietnam, held two key staff positions in the Army Staff as a General Officer-Director of Resources and Management and Director of Transportation Energy and Troop Support. He commanded Eastern Area MTMC (SDDC), The Military Traffic Management Command (SDDC), and then was selected as the Director for Logistics J4—where he championed the Unified Transportation Command that led to the establishment of the United States Transportation Command. Immediately after retirement from the Army he was elected President of NDTA. As President he energized the Association and significantly improved all aspects of the organization: the A-35 program, DTJ, membership, and the Committee structure. He was a mentor to many and inspired the NDTA Edward Honor Mentor – Protégé program. We are all better soldiers and citizens for having known LTG Edward Honor, USA (Ret).

WELCOME [Limitless Int'l, Inc.](#) [Mack Trucks, Inc.](#) [Panalpina](#) [Port of Port Arthur](#) [SLT Expressway](#)

TEAM USA

Service members, who have competed on the battlefields of Iraq and Afghanistan, gathered forces on the tracks and fields of the 2008 Olympics in Beijing. The games have concluded - and all of them have returned home as WINNERS!

Air Rifle

Army Maj. Michael Anti
 Army Sgt. 1st Class Jason Parker
 U.S. Military Academy Cadet Stephen Scherer

Rapid-Fire Pistol

Army Staff Sgt. Keith Sanderson

Free Pistol

Army Staff Sgt. Daryl Szarenski

Double Trap Shooting

Army Spc. Walton Glenn Eller III
 Army Spc. Jeffrey Holguin

Trap Shooting

Ret. Army Sgt. 1st Class Bret E. Erickson
 Air Force Lt. Col. Dominic Grazioli

Pistol Shooting

Army Staff Sgt. Libby Callahan

Skeet

Army Pfc. Vincent Hancock

Modern Pentathlon

Air Force Capt. Eli Bremer

Greco-Roman Wrestling

Army Staff Sgt. Dremiel Byers

20-kilometer Race Walk

Air Force Capt. Kevin Eastler

Epee Fencing

Air Force Capt. Seth Kelsey

Read [ON](#)



Army Reserve Staff Sgt. Libby Callahan is a 3-time Olympic international pistol shooter. Photo by U.S. Army



Clockwise: USAF World Class Athlete Program Capt. Eli Bremer, scores in the epee one-touch fencing. Bremer rides Dangdang to a 14th-place finish in the equestrian show. Olympic skeet gold medal winner US Army Pfc. Vincent Hancock, center; Tore Brovold, left, of Norway Anthony Terras, right, of Italy. US Army photos by Tim Hips



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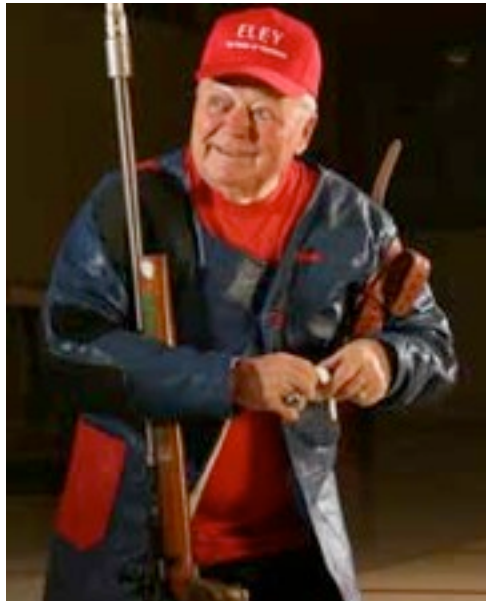
Benchmarking Partners

Surface Transportation

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The **NDTAGram** is produced monthly by NDTA. To submit articles or announcements, contact, [Managing Editor](#). Content may be adapted to fit format



TOP: Lones W. Wigger Jr., narrator for 2008 Olympic games coverage for MSNBC. American Forces Press Service Photo.

BELOW: USAF World Class Athlete Program Capt. Kevin Eastler earns an Olympic berth in the Beijing Games by winning the 20-kilometer race walk with a time of 1 hour, 27 minutes, 8 seconds at the 2008 U.S. Olympic Team Trials for Track & Field July 5, 2008, outside Autzen Stadium in Eugene, Ore. U.S. Army photo by Tim Higgs.



[Web Site](#)

Former Army shooter enters U.S. Olympic Hall of Fame

Carol L. Bowers (American Forces Press Service)
National Guard News

WASHINGTON, Aug. 8, 2008 - Retired Army Lt. Col. Lones W. Wigger Jr., 70, a three-time Olympic military marksman himself, starts a new job with the beginning of the 2008 Olympics as narrator for MSNBC's Web video coverage of marksmanship competitions in the Summer Games. Several Army marksmen are representing the United States in the competitions.

Wigger, whose career spanned 25 years, competed at the 1964 Olympic Games in Tokyo, the 1968 Olympic Games in Mexico and the 1972 Olympic Games in Munich. He won a combined two gold medals and one silver medal. [MORE](#)

**US ARMY WORLD-CLASS
ATHELETE PROGRAM (WCAP)**

Over the past 60 years, 644 U.S. Army Soldiers have earned a total of 153 Olympic medals

- The U.S. Army founded WCAP in 1948
- Since 1948, 541 Army Soldier athletes have been selected to either an American Summer or Winter Olympic team, earning 131 Olympic medals in a variety of sports
- The WCAP provides outstanding Soldier athletes the support and training to compete and succeed in national and international competitions to include the Olympic Games, while remaining current in maintaining a professional military career
- The WCAP will potentially accept Soldiers in any Olympic sport if they have recently displayed Olympic potential
- Soldiers are currently assigned in the following sports: Boxing, fencing, modern pentathlon, rowing, shooting, track and field, triathlon, taekwondo, wrestling, biathlon, bobsled and skeleton
- Soldiers are currently training in New York, Utah, Georgia, California and Colorado
- The WCAP is organized with the mission to provide Soldiers with high national ranking or world class potential the opportunity to train in order to compete for a place on the U.S. Olympic Team



Militia Soldier - Olympic Pioneer

By Army Master Sgt. Bob Haskell
Special to American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON, Aug. 5, 2008 – Imagine the Olympic Games without the specter of terrorists, tests for outlawed drugs or gold medals. That was the Olympics that a soldier who served in the Massachusetts militia experienced in Greece in 1896.

Thomas Pelham Curtis was his name, and he was an Olympic pioneer in the sense that he competed in the first games of the modern Olympic era. He won the 110-meter hurdles for the US.

His time of 17.6 seconds on a soft track is by far the slowest winning time in that event's Olympic history. But Curtis, who had studied electrical engineering, played football and ran track at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, was just as proud to be an Olympian in Athens as the 10,500 who competed in Beijing during the 29th Summer Games beginning August 8th. [Read ON...](#)

“ Being a champion takes character. It also entails responsibility. In Beijing, you will convey our nation’s most cherished values. As ambassadors of liberty, you will represent America’s love for freedom and our regard for human rights and human dignity.”

George W. Bush
To the U.S. Olympic Team
Aug. 8, 2008



FYI

Founded in 1862, the Union Pacific Railroad is the largest landholder west of the Mississippi River and it is second only to the United States government in overall landholdings within the United States.

[MORE](#)



UNION PACIFIC RAILROAD will offer learning tours to attendees of the 62nd Annual Forum & Expo in Reno / Tahoe, Nevada. Tours will coincide with formal professional dialogue sessions that are scheduled on Monday, September 22, and Tuesday, September 23 with two offsite tour times each day. Groups are limited to 10 people for each slot, and transportation will be provided to the rail yard from the John Ascuaga’s Nugget Casino Resort, the NDTA Forum Hotel.

UNION PACIFIC CLASSIFICATION YARD TOUR			
Monday, Sept. 22		Tuesday, Sept. 23	
Tour #1	2 - 3:30pm	Tour #1	2 - 3:15pm
Tour #2	3:45 - 5:15pm	Tour #2	3:30 - 4:45pm

Sign Up at the NDTA Forum Registration Desk, Nugget Casino

NDTA FORUM REGISTRATION - DHL PAVILION
2nd Floor, Hotel East Tower

- Saturday, Sept. 20 noon - 5pm
- Sunday, Sept. 21 8am - 5pm
- Monday, Sept. 22 7am - 4pm
- Tuesday, Sept. 23 7am - 4pm
- Wednesday, Sept. 24 8am - 10am



A 3,200-square-foot home. Redondo Beach, CA.



The Illy Coffee Stand. Venice, Italy



Two-apartment complex model



12 Containers - 1 Amazing Home

Shipping containers provide home in a box

By Melinda Fulmer, MSN Real Estate

It just might be the next hot thing. A steel building is functional, sturdy and — if you can like it simple enough — quite a bit cheaper than a traditional house.

Shipping containers, those big metal boxes used to transport the lamps, washing machines and furniture in our houses, are now becoming homes in their own right.

The 40-foot-long and 8-foot-wide containers left empty at ports around the country are being recycled into stylish, eco-friendly housing that's less costly than traditional construction.

THE EVOLUTION

Initially developed as an experiment for art installations, emergency housing and vacation homes for wealthy modernists, cargo container housing is moving off the fringe and into the mainstream.

"People have begun to think of it as viable instead of weird," says New York architect and artist Adam Kalkin, who began building homes with containers in 2000.

Kalkin and a handful of other architects and builders have begun using the corrugated steel boxes for everything from high-rise apartment homes and coffee shops to senior residences and even luxurious suburban homes. Indeed, Manhattan Beach, Calif.-based architect Peter DeMaria has launched a home building firm, Logical Homes, that will offer nine different models of container homes on lots around Southern California, an area where he has several other projects built or underway.

From the outside, the Logical Homes models, which range from 640 to 3,520 square feet, appear to be mid-century tract homes, their large corrugated boxes covered with special finishes or "skins" and enhanced with custom paint and large windows.

On the inside, they have bamboo floors and energy-efficient appliances. Insulation is provided by recycled denim; an optional ceramic paint helps form a greater sound barrier against the outside world.

The price tag for all this eco-chic? DeMaria's homes average around \$150 to \$200 per square foot, compared with about \$220 to \$250 for much of the traditional building in the area.

Generally, architects say, container homes are about 20% cheaper to build than those made with traditional construction, ranging from \$87 a square foot for the most basic container home to about \$200, depending on location and finishes.

THINKING INSIDE THE BOX

DeMaria and other architects have embraced the idea of shipping containers largely because of their price. With a surplus of hundreds of thousands of containers sitting vacant on U.S. docks due to the imbalance in trade, used containers sell for \$1,000 to \$2,500, depending on their size and condition, DeMaria says.

[Read ON.....](#)

ICEBREAKERS *Arctic Options*

In Congress hearings in July, Mead Treadwell, Chair of USARC, encouraged members to prepare for significantly greater shipping in the Arctic Ocean as climate change, improved technology and demand for Arctic resources make northern seaways more accessible. He cited the central role the Arctic plays in global air transportation, and predicts a similar role for the Arctic Ocean in shipping explaining the importance of new Icebreaker Vessels as the White House formulates Arctic policy.



“Under the principle of freedom of navigation, global shipping can come to our doorstep whether we invite it or not. If you envision the Arctic Ocean as a new seaway, for trans-Arctic shipping, competitive with the Panama and Suez Canals, or only foresee an expansion of the current shipping in and out of the Arctic, the time to prepare is now.”

Treadwell noted that the Senate’s preference to build two new polar class icebreakers as Coast Guard Authorization Act for fiscal year 2008 was based on economic factors as well as on security and science concerns, as testified to by Admiral Thad Allen, Commandant, USCG, and Dr. Arden Bement, Director, National Science Foundation. Treadwell cited seven “billion dollar, if not trillion-dollar” economic issues in the Arctic that help justify an approximate \$1.5 billion investment in new U.S. polar class icebreakers.

Security and sovereignty—An accessible Arctic Ocean allows access to new or expanded routes for any ships, necessitating a capability for military and law enforcement. Under the Convention of the Law of the Sea Treaty, the U.S. will gain control of vast, valuable sub-sea Arctic territory estimated to be larger than the state of California. Treadwell cited major icebreaker-based research this summer laying out a potential U.S. claim.

Energy—Regular oil and gas shipments have begun by sea from the Russian Arctic, and the U.S. needs to be prepared for similar shipments from U.S. offshore sources, or shipments coming through waters adjacent to the U.S. Year-round Arctic energy production is currently a mainstay for the economies of northern Russia, Norway, Alaska, and Canada, and the U.S. Geological Survey indicates that over 20% of future oil and gas reserves may be found inside the Arctic Circle. Energy development in the North, including renewable energy, is a major economic, environmental and security issue.



Transport and trade—As Arctic seaways become a reliable venue for global trade, the number of ice-class ships, currently around 7800, will likely grow from 4.5% of the world’s shipping fleet to 10%.

Mineral production—World-scale mines in Alaska, Canada and Russia are already producing minerals that reach the billion-dollar magnitude. Some of these operations conduct, or expect to conduct, year-round Arctic shipping.

Food production—Ice-strengthened vessels are essential platforms in the Bering

Sea, where fishing vessels operate the world’s largest fishery, in or near the seasonal sea ice edge, for research and fisheries oversight.

Climate change—Icebreaker-based research will help establish and monitor Arctic countries’ response and progress in meeting international climate goals..

Life in the Arctic—As a central tool in efforts to understand and protect marine mammals, icebreakers will continue to assist in maintaining the subsistence lifestyles of indigenous people.



Treadwell made clear that his views represent those of the U.S. Arctic Research Commission, a federal agency that advises the Executive and Congressional branches of government, and not necessarily those of the Bush Administration, which is currently undergoing a policy review on the Arctic.

[U.S. Arctic Research Commission](#)

Treadwell’s testimony for both hearings may be found on the USARC website: www.arctic.gov/news.htm

ABF marks the 13th Annual National Truck Driver Appreciation Week, Aug. 24–30, 2008, with a system-wide campaign called: “ABF Employees. Standing the Test of Time. 1923–2008.” [Read ON....](#)

AGILITY Defense & Government Services today said its Taos Industries subsidiary won a contract to store, distribute and maintain equipment for the U.S. Marine Corps at 15 bases [Read ON....](#)

BENNETT MOTOR EXPRESS has promoted Rick Gann to Director of Operations, Government/Aerospace division and Bob Moody to Director of Freight Operations. [Read ON....](#)

BOOZ ALLEN The USO proudly introduces Booz Allen Hamilton, Inc. as its newest Worldwide Strategic Partner. Booz Allen is developing a long-term strategic plan for the USO, and has made a financial contribution to the USO, supporting morale-boosting programs and services to service members and their families worldwide. [Read ON....](#)

CROWLEY Crowley Maritime Corporation announced on August 4th that Cole Cosgrove has been promoted to vice president of marine personnel. [Read ON....](#)

ENTERPRISE Pamela Nicholson has been named president of Enterprise. She succeeds Donald Ross, who continues as vice chairman. Nicholson began her career as a management trainee in 1981 after graduating from the University of Missouri. She is a native of St. Louis. [Read ON....](#)

MAERSK LINE LIMITED has completed the purchase of a 47,000 DWT product tanker to add to its U.S. flag vessel fleet. The M/T MARCO, which will be reflagged as the MAERSK MICHIGAN in early September, will provide U.S. gov't. customers, like the Defense Energy Support Center, with expanded petroleum transport capacity around the world. [Read ON....](#)

SAIC (Science Application Int'l. Corp.) has been awarded a task order by the General Services Administration Federal Systems Integration and Management Center. The task order will provide Information Technology (IT) Support to the U.S. Army Human Resources Command. [Read ON....](#)

SOUTHWEST AIRLINES Logistics Management has ranked the airline #1 among all air carrier Quest for Quality award winners. Southwest earned the highest scores in On-Time Performance, Value, Customer Service, and Equipment & Operations. [Read ON....](#)

TUCKER COMPANY held a golf outing at Riverton Country Club, Riverton, N.J., to benefit the Alzheimer's Association, resulting in nearly \$7,000 in donations. This is the 9th consecutive year that Tucker has hosted a benefit golf outing for the Alzheimer's Association. [Read ON....](#)

UNITED VAN LINES Mesa Systems, Inc., United Van Lines agent, has partnered with Operation Give, an organization that supplies humanitarian aid to civilians in combat zones while at the same time providing for United States military personnel. [Read ON....](#)

XIO STRATEGIES has commenced work providing subject matter expertise for two DOD programs as subcontractor to SAIC. The first is in support of the DoD's Purchase Card On-line System (PCOLS) program. Under the second award, XIO will offer guidance regarding the DOD's IUID policy and the application of that policy to the Navy's Littoral and Mine Warfare operations and supplier contracts. [Read ON....](#)



Mr. Cole Cosgrove, CROWLEY

M/T MARCO - to be MAERSK MICHIGAN



Presentation from Alzheimer Assoc. in appreciation for support from TUCKER



Ms. Pamela Nicholson ENTERPRISE

ARMY BEGINS OVERHAUL OF CIVILIAN CAREER MANAGEMENT

By Katherine McIntire Peters
August 14, 2008

Early this fall, the Army will launch a pilot test of a new civilian personnel management system. The test will be part of a far-reaching program known as Enterprise Civilian Human Capital Lifecycle Management, through which the service intends to integrate disparately managed career programs into a centralized system.

As a key component the Army will organize dozens of job specialties for employees in General Schedule levels 7 to 15, or in National Security Personnel System pay bands 1 to 3, into eight broad career groups. Each of these career groups is to have a clear roadmap for advancement, giving employees a better understanding of the routes to promotion. By managing the program centrally, service leaders will have a more detailed picture of what the workforce looks like across the Army and will be able to shape it more appropriately to evolving needs.

At present, a large percentage of the Army's approximately 250,000 civilian employees have no established career path, said Ray Horoho, director of the civilian development office at Army headquarters.

"The three major stakeholders in this are the Army, so we can shape our workforce; the commander who will get a better prepared employee and then the employee who will be able to manage their [sic] career based on their [sic] desire or potential," he said.

In the Army's current decentralized civilian management system, some employees are well supported with training and education opportunities and have clear notions of how to move up the career ladder, while others are essentially on their own, depending on their position and where they are located. The new system, as Army leaders envision it, would benefit both employees and the Army, Horoho said.

The Army has not been able to estimate the cost of implementing the new system, but "we definitely think it's going to cost more money," he said. That's because the service will need to make training and education opportunities available to more people.

While the categories still are being hammered out, Horoho said the Army generally expects to establish the following eight career groups:

- *Installation management*
- *Human capital management*
- *Resource management*
- *Engineering and science*
- *Health services*
- *Force protection*
- *Communications & information management*
- *Logistics*

The pilot program will examine the group for communications and information management, to determine the effect the new system may have on individual career patterns and how it meets the Army's needs.

A white paper the Army produced stated the career groups will "provide alternative career paths, enabling employees to cross-train into other specialty areas within a career group. The result will be greater opportunity and visibility of opportunity for the entire civilian workforce. The vision is for each employee's possibility for advancement to be commensurate with his or her own potential and desire."

Horoho added, "Today's [personnel] system is prescriptive and reactive. We want tomorrow's system to be proactive and collaborative." [Read ON...](#)



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Monday (9/22) & Tuesday (9/23) 11:30am - 2pm

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- Reno Expo Hall (Pavilion), 2 F
- Outdoor Vehicle Display

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REMEMBER

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U.S. DEFENSE TRANSPORTATION, DISTRIBUTION EXPERTISE AIDS GEORGIAN REFUGEES *It is a scene played out in the background of the larger, more dramatic stage of the humanitarian crisis in the Republic of Georgia. In a quieter sense, the global U.S. defense transportation system worked to help get more than 22,000 humanitarian daily rations to a relief organization in the area to help feed a growing number of Georgian refugees. [Read ON.....](#)*

DOD ANNOUNCES BASE REALIGNMENT IN GERMANY *The DOD has announced today that the United States will cease operations at 15 U.S. Army, Europe, sites in Idar-Oberstein, Dexheim and other locations in Germany. [Read ON.....](#)*

SR. LEADERS - WHAT'S AHEAD FOR THE USAF *Senior Air Force leaders gathered for a strategic summit Aug. 27 at Bolling Air Force Base to discuss the way ahead for the Air Force as a part of the August emphasis on strategic planning. [Read ON.....](#)*

TRANSCOM OFFICIALS ANNOUNCE ROLLOUT OF DPS *Officials from the United States Transportation Command and the Army's Military Surface Distribution and Deployment Command have announced the initial rollout of the Defense Personal Property System, or DPS. [Read ON.....](#)*

KUWAIT-BASED SEALIFT OFFICE CHANGES COMMAND *The Kuwait-based U.S. Navy command responsible for managing nearly 90 percent of all U.S. military cargo being shipped in and out of the Middle East held a change of command ceremony at the Port of Ash Shuaybah, Kuwait Aug. 10. Navy Reserve Capt. John Cochrane and his 10-person unit were relieved by Navy Reserve Capt. David Lehman and members of Military Sealift Command Expeditionary Port Unit 101, based in Quincy, MA. [Read ON.....](#)*

DOD Government Links- partial list

Department of Defense
<http://www.defenselink.mil>

Assistant Deputy Under Secretary of Defense for Transportation Policy
<http://www.acq.osd.mil/log/tp/index.htm>

Joint Chiefs of Staff (Logistics Directorate, J-4)
<http://www.jcs.mil/j4>

Defense Logistics Agency - DLA
<http://www.dla.mil>

US Transportation Command TRANSCOM
<http://www.transcom.mil/>

Air Mobility Command – AMC
<http://www.amc.af.mil/>

Surface Deployment Distribution Command – SDDC
<http://www.sddc.army.mil/Public/Home>

Military Sealift Command – MSC
<http://www.msc.navy.mil/>

US Army Directorate for Force Projection & Distribution
<http://www.hqda.army.mil/>

US Army Material Command
<http://www.amc.army.mil/>

*For a full list, visit the NDTA Home Page
www.ndtahq.com*

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DOD AID to GEORGIA U.S. service members assigned to the joint humanitarian assistance assessment team from U.S. European Command visit an internally displaced persons facility in Tbilisi, Georgia. The team is working with the federal government, international governments, aid agencies and the Republic of Georgia to assist Georgians affected by the recent conflicts. (U.S. Navy photo by Lt. Cmdr. Walter Matthews/Released)



JLOTS Two miles from the Camp Pendleton, Calif., coast – with no port in sight – large, medium-speed, roll-on/roll-off ship USNS Piliilau spent 6 days in July conducting around-the-clock off-load operations. Piliilau arrived at its anchorage carrying more than 210,000 sq.ft. of Army equipment to be discharged as part of, "Pacific Strike 2008". The TRANSCOM-sponsored exercise focused on transporting military cargo between ship and shore where ports aren't accessible, a unique capability called joint logistics over the shore, or JLOTS. [Read ON...](#)