



ARMY ALLIANCE, INC.

A large, faded American flag is positioned in the background behind the main text. It features the stars and stripes of the flag in a light, semi-transparent color.

ANNUAL
REPORT

JUNE 2003

KEEPING OUR FUTURE STRONG!

ARMY ALLIANCE OBJECTIVES

The Army Alliance is a non-profit civic organization under Section 501 C (4) of the Internal Revenue Code. The overarching objective of the Alliance is the well being of programs and organizations at Aberdeen Proving Ground. Through the exchange of information and coordination of activities we hope to —

- ★ Maintain Aberdeen Proving Ground as an economic asset and resource to the northeastern Maryland region by supporting its organizations, programs, and missions.
- ★ Present a clear, coherent image of the technological assets of the Proving Ground and its value to the national defense.
- ★ Inform businesses and citizens of northeastern Maryland of the economic and cultural benefits of a strong military presence in the region.
- ★ Assist with the attraction of government and industry organizations to increase the economic viability of the Proving Ground.
- ★ Act as a coordinating body for various organizations, groups, clubs, and individuals who have similar interests in maintaining a healthy and stable Aberdeen Proving Ground.

We encourage you to contact the Army Alliance if you wish to support our efforts or if you have any questions concerning our goals and activities.



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THE FIRST FIVE YEARS

This edition of the Alliance annual report is the fifth of its kind, representing slightly less than five years of activity. The organization has progressed through periods of learning, development, and relationship building to become an established and recognized component of community affairs. Assessing the results to date, the Alliance has —

- supported initiatives for the annual federal budgets that have resulted in more than \$76 million of new funding for Aberdeen Proving Ground programs.
- fostered efforts that secured funding for three new buildings at the Proving Ground.
- participated in activities that prevented the loss of 284 analysis and testing jobs.
- conducted more than 100 briefings, exhibits, and meetings to display Alliance objectives and Proving Ground assets.
- addressed our requirement to inform government and the community about Aberdeen Proving Ground through the publication of leaflets, booklets and videotapes.
- provided information to two Maryland communities on how to establish Alliance-like activities and responded to a request to assist in the formation of a similar “alliance” at a third one.

Not all Alliance efforts will have successful outcomes; e.g., it is reasonable to expect about a 20 per cent success rate for the annual budget initiatives we support – if they were assured of funding they would not need our support. Perhaps the most important consideration for the Proving Ground over the past five years is what did not happen: there have been no overall reductions in the workforce, no losses of organizations, and no reductions of significant programs. Instead, post payrolls have grown by more than \$50 million, and total funds spent in Maryland have increased by more than \$100 million.

It is almost never appropriate to attribute events favorable to the Proving Ground solely to Alliance efforts. We call attention to opportunities, assist in formulating ideas, and convey information, but we are only one part of a team of organizations, elected officials, and individuals who watch over the health of the installation. Perhaps the most gratifying aspect of Alliance operations has been the maturation of our organizational relationships from coordination and information exchange to true teaming to achieve joint interests. The following pages of this report describe ongoing activities that illustrate those relationships.



THE NATURE OF ALLIANCE BUSINESS

This report is intended to serve as an annual history, as a summary of activities for Alliance sponsors less involved in the program than the board of directors, and as a primer for those individuals and corporations who are not yet part of the Alliance community.

Alliance activities that directly support Aberdeen Proving Ground programs and organizations fall into two categories –

- **Major, generally long-term actions on matters that will have significant impact on the Proving Ground.** Examples of such efforts include our interest in the organization and location of Army test and evaluation organizations and readiness to ensure the Proving Ground fares well in the coming round of base realignment and closures. To provide a sense of scale, the potential impact of items in this category of effort is usually in terms of hundreds of jobs.

These actions usually take several years to reach conclusion. They invariably involve teaming with state and local organizations, and they all require repeated action by the Congressional delegation members and staff.

- **Actions that address the annual federal budget cycle, usually seeking funding for such things as the start-up, acceleration, or enhancement of programs and facilities.** These budget interests sustain the health of the Proving Ground infrastructure, and in a sense they “pay the rent” while we work the longer term, slower payoff issues. While the individual items often have a relatively small dollar value, collectively they can be quite significant in maintaining funding levels, jobs, and the organizational vitality that is necessary to assure the Proving Ground fares well in activities such as base realignment and closure. These efforts also serve to build relationships and maintain awareness of the Alliance while we work important, though less visible, long-term actions.

We begin the annual budget efforts in November of each year by having informal discussions with Proving Ground officials and others to collect ideas. Often federal action on the budget runs late and for many areas we must know the results on the current year budget before we can address initiatives for the coming year. We formally start the annual process in February or March by hosting a meeting of Congressional staff representatives at the HEAT Center. Following that, we select items to support based on several subjective criteria –

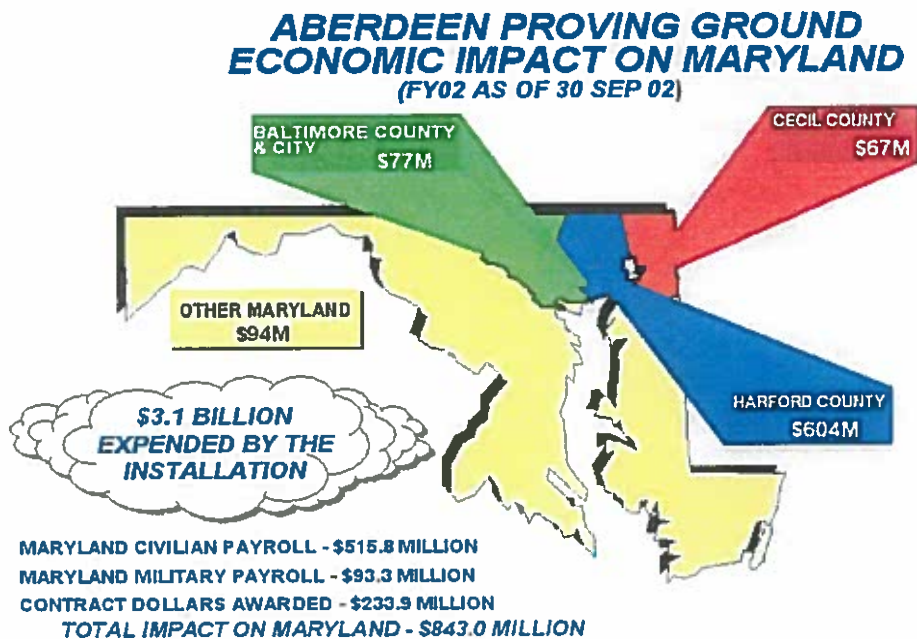
- the expected impact on the Proving Ground and the community
- the likelihood that the item would be funded in the absence of Alliance support

- the degree to which the Army has accomplished essential internal actions in support of the item
- the probability that our efforts will result in a successful outcome

For each of the items we select to support, the Alliance and Van Scoyoc Associates – who assist us in Washington – prepare a background paper of three to four pages for the Congressional delegation. In cases where the delegation staff request it, we also assist with the drafting of letters and the completion of required forms for our members of Congress to submit to the appropriations committees. As the budget process proceeds through the summer months we respond to questions from the delegation and budget committee staff.

Our close relationship with the members and staff of our Congressional delegation is our most valuable asset. We believe that relationship rests on a base of credibility, accessibility, and responsiveness. Maintaining our credibility means we can attempt support only for those proposals that have genuine merit and benefit the nation as a whole as well as our local interests.

The support of the Maryland Department of Business and Economic Development, the Harford and Cecil County governments, and the municipalities of Bel Air, Aberdeen, and Havre de Grace is essential to Alliance operations, and their cooperative, team relationship with the Proving Ground is a major factor in making our operations possible.



MAJOR, LONG-TERM ACTIONS

These activities involve work over a period of several years before coming to conclusion. Some must be addressed in the annual budget cycles, but others are solely matters of organization and location. These long-term actions represent the kind of effort that was most clearly envisioned for the Alliance when it was initiated.

★ **Aberdeen science and math academy magnet school program.** In February 2000 the Alliance initiated the idea of creating an Aberdeen Proving Ground-supported magnet school program in conjunction with construction of the new Aberdeen High School. In February of this year the 11 areas that comprise the non-defense portion of the federal budget were rolled together into a single omnibus appropriations bill for the current fiscal year. Included in that omnibus bill was \$695,450 for "*a collaboration between a science and technology*

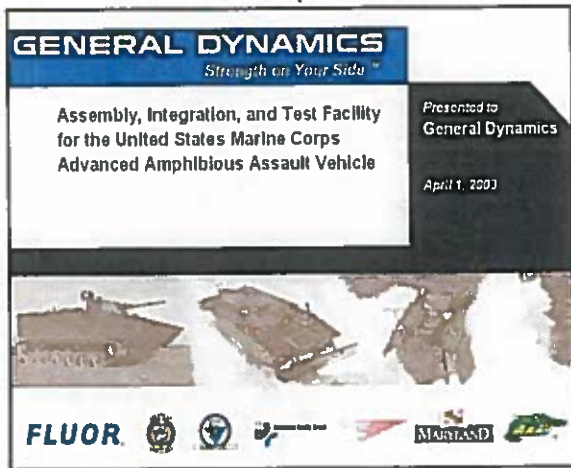


high school and the Aberdeen Proving Ground." This allocation of funding supplements \$369,000 of planning funds provided in fiscal year 2001 to provide for the purchase of magnet program technology such as laboratory instruments, computing equipment, and communications. In addition, the Harford County and State of Maryland budgets for the

next fiscal year now include \$525,000 and \$958,000 for the construction of a dedicated facility area for the magnet program, arranged as a "penthouse" to the new high school. The science and math academy is on a firm path toward fruition in 2004. Encouraged by the Congressional delegation staff to do so, we have requested consideration of funding in the FY04 federal education budget for additional technology to go into the school. It appears likely that the Alliance will continue to play an advisory role for the academy for several more years.

★ **Location of RDECOM headquarters.** The new Research, Development and Engineering Command (RDECOM) headquarters that will be established within the Army Materiel Command is now being sought by the Congressional delegations of six states, with the Alabama delegation being the most active besides Maryland. There is a good rationale for locating the RDECOM headquarters at APG: a significant portion of the new command's assets are located here, manpower positions will be available for reuse with the disestablishment of the Soldier, Biological and Chemical Command, and the Proving Ground is centrally located among the organizations the headquarters will oversee. We believe that in October the new headquarters will be provisionally placed at the Proving Ground for a period of two years, with the final location decision being deferred and addressed as a part of base realignment and closure deliberations in 2005.

★ **Integration and acceptance testing facility for the Advanced Amphibious Assault Vehicle.** Organizations in ten regions are competing to host General Dynamics' planned integration and acceptance testing facility for the Marine Corps' Advanced Amphibious Assault Vehicle, or AAV. In January a team composed of the Proving Ground, the city of Aberdeen, Harford County, the State of Maryland, the Alliance, and commercial developers submitted a written proposal that the facility be located on Aberdeen Proving Ground. In April, a 20-person proposal team that included Lieutenant Governor Steele, Congressman Ruppertsberger, Maryland Secretary for Business and Economic Development Melissaratos, and several members of the Congressional delegation staff met with General Dynamics at Fairfax, Virginia to deliver the oral presentation on the proposal. If the contract is awarded to the Proving Ground it will result in a peak of about 400 additional high skill civilian and government positions and a capital investment of more than \$200 million for a program that could extend over 35 years. General Dynamics is expected to make its site selection decision this summer. We believe this effort has a good chance of success, but even if it is not it has been valuable as a learning and teaming exercise on innovative means of doing business.



★ **Location of Army Test and Evaluation Command (ATEC) Headquarters.** As its first effort in 1999 the Alliance sought the relocation of ATEC headquarters from leased space in Alexandria, VA, to Aberdeen Proving Ground. We were unsuccessful, in that the Secretary of the Army at that time issued a decision that the headquarters would remain in Alexandria. The ATEC headquarters is now seeking relocation to gain the security provided by a large military installation. They have requested construction of a \$32 million headquarters facility at Fort Belvoir in the fiscal year 2007 budget. We have assembled information demonstrating that the headquarters could be moved into existing facilities at APG within 17 months and with a savings of \$23.3 million in lease fees and construction costs. Relocation to the Proving Ground would also create an opportunity to establish a focused, efficient center of testing and evaluation excellence at APG. Co-located with the headquarters is one-half of one of the ATEC subordinate commands, the Army Evaluation Center, with the other half, about 150 people, located at Aberdeen Proving Ground. As there is no middle ground on this matter – APG will either gain or lose a significant number of manpower positions and the momentum of an improved Army testing organization – the Alliance and the Congressional delegation are intensely interested in the outcome. Our present understanding is that the ATEC location decision, as with the RDE Command, will be made as a part of base realignment and closure deliberations in 2005.

★ **State Department Counter-Terrorism and Security Training (CAST) Center.**

The Antiterrorism Assistance Agency of the State Department conducts training for police and security personnel of other nations. Presently that training is conducted at seven sites across the US, and growth in requirements for the training exceeds their capacity. The Agency hopes to establish a dedicated center, involving a staff and faculty of about 200 and 7500 students each year. The Alliance has assisted State Department officials in becoming familiar with the Proving Ground and has supported the Congressional delegation in attempting to secure funding for the facility. The FY03 president's budget request included \$52 million for the facility, but that funding did not survive negotiations that lead to the omnibus federal funding bill in February of this year. Funding for CAST was also unsuccessfully sought in the FY03 budget supplement that was passed in April, even though all five members of our Congressional delegation actively supported it. The delegation is expected to seek inclusion of it in the FY04 Commerce, State and Justice budget, but we do not hold great hopes of success: it is not included in the administration's FY04 budget request and, while CAST is clearly wanted at the working level, the upper levels of the State Department have not emphasized it in comparison with competing priorities. The most likely route to success on funding of CAST appears to be through a technique known as "enhanced use leasing," similar to the approach proposed on the AAV program, under which the facility would be financed with an operating contract rather than up-front investment. The Alliance and the Department of Business and Economic Development are exploring that approach with the Proving Ground Garrison and the State Department.



★ **Base Realignment and Closure (BRAC).** In May of this year members of the House Armed Services Readiness Subcommittee raised the possibility of delaying the round of base realignment and closure scheduled to occur in 2005. Although delay or even termination will be deliberated in Congress, it still seems reasonable to assume BRAC 2005 will occur on schedule. Indications that the location of the RDE Command and ATEC headquarters will be determined as a part of the BRAC process are sufficient to make BRAC a major interest item for Aberdeen Proving Ground. BRAC planning has been less visible during Operation Iraqi Freedom, but as preparations become more intense we expect other significant possibilities for gains and losses to be identified. State and local governments across the country are allocating unprecedented funding to what might be called BRAC defense, and we expect base realignment and closure to be a significant part of the national environment in 2004.

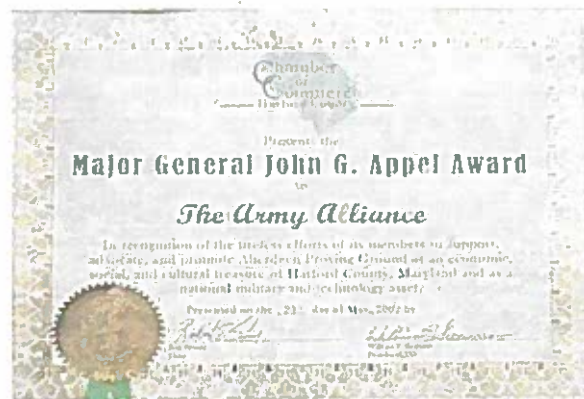


RESULTS OF 2002-2003 BUDGET INITIATIVES

The total funding for Alliance supported initiatives in the federal budget for the current fiscal year is \$8.5 million. In addition to the magnet school funding, continuation funding was provided for LISA, the laser-based chemical agent detector (\$3.3 million), and "Knowledge Base Management," an Army Research Laboratory-Morgan State University effort funded at \$4.5 million. The total amount is significantly down from fiscal year 2002. A major factor in the difference is in military construction funding, where the entire cost of a new building is budgeted in a single year: in FY02 the Proving Ground was funded for four new buildings, and in FY03 there were none. Generally, this was simply a very tough year, and our level of success for FY02 must be viewed as a pleasant aberration rather than the norm.

Two Alliance-supported items were included in a "basket" of 25 chemical defense R&D items from which DOD was directed to make selections for distribution of \$25 million. Two additional items the Alliance did not initiate, but assisted on, are funded at \$3.5 and \$4.8 million. These items were supported by the Congressional delegations of other states, and industry representatives requested assistance in formulating the requirements. The first deals with chemical agent decontamination, the second with virtual reality simulation in the Army Research Laboratory.

Although APG received no new funds for construction of facilities in FY03, language in the military construction appropriations act strongly encourages FY04 construction projects that would make use of the partially built, now unneeded chemical demilitarization facilities at the Edgewood Area of the Proving Ground. That language provides a basis for hope that construction of the "sample receipt facility," a laboratory for processing suspect chemical agent materials, can be accelerated from fiscal year 2007 to 2004.



LEGISLATIVE INTERESTS FOR FEDERAL FISCAL YEAR 2004

The Alliance is supporting an unprecedented number of initiatives for possible funding in the fiscal year 2004 budget. In part this is due to the inclusion of several items for which partial funding was provided in earlier years and continuation funding is needed to bring the projects to conclusion. It also reflects the impact of an expanded Alliance board, with more board members who are familiar with the detailed needs of APG organizations. Due to the fiscal 2003 budget being completed only in February, with a supplemental budget in April, there was little time available to make the difficult choices necessary to down-select to fewer items. One member of the Congressional delegation staff suggested we formulate background papers on all of the candidate items we had identified in March, and we have done so. This greater number of candidates does not necessarily mean more items will be funded – e.g., for the military construction program we will feel successful if one or two projects are funded – though it does allow the delegation choices on where to place their support among credible, vetted needs.

Our FY 04 interests span four of the 13 budget areas that make up the federal budget. They are briefly summarized in the following paragraphs.

Labor, Health and Education budget.

- **Additional Funding for the Science and Math Academy, \$1.3 million.** We sought \$2 million in the FY03 budget for technology to go into the magnet program, and slightly less than \$700,000 was provided. With the encouragement of the Congressional staff, we are soliciting consideration of the balance needed.

Commerce, State and Justice budget.

- **Center for Anti-Terrorism and Security Training (CAST), \$52 million.** As noted in the discussion of long term projects, we believe the best means to fund the State Department's CAST facility would be an enhanced use leasing approach that would require no up-front investment by the government. On the possibility that avenue is not taken, and considering the investment of effort and political capital the delegation has already made in CAST, the option of supporting the project for FY04 funding is being retained even though we do not believe it has much probability of success.

Military Construction budget.

- **Sample Receipt Facility, Edgewood Chemical Biological Center, \$13 million.** Since the terrorist events of late 2001 the number of suspect chemical and biological agent samples that must be analyzed has greatly expanded, and

even a single suspected large-scale agent release would result in thousands of samples that must be analyzed and identified. To cope with the workload that presents, a modern facility using robotic systems is needed to inactivate the samples, make them safe for analysis in analytical laboratories, and archive them for forensic and law enforcement purposes. As this is written chemists at the Edgewood center are engaged in analyzing samples from Iraq. This facility would also replace an aging "chemical transfer facility" that is the only source for chemical agent reference standards used throughout the country in developing chemical agent protection equipment and procedures. The foundation of the facility is crumbling due to water seepage, and in recent years \$3 million has been spent to remedy the problem, without success. This project got considerable Congressional attention in the FY03 budget cycle in the context of re-using partially-built but now unneeded chemical demilitarization facilities. Because of that and the area of work it addresses we suspect it has the best chance among our MILCON proposals for FY04 funding.

- **Information Science and Supercomputer Center, Army Research Lab, \$25 million.** The Army Research Laboratory contingent at APG has one of the world's largest supercomputers, but it is housed in facilities that date to before 1965. The ARL has been seeking a modern facility for more than ten years, but each year it has slipped further into the future. Both the computing capability and the space to house it are saturated. Two roles of the APG computing activity illustrate its importance: it is the only Department of Defense supercomputer used for processing classified information, and an important role of the staff is intrusion detection for a significant portion of the DOD computer networks.

- **Ammunition Surveillance Facility, US Army Garrison, \$8.2 million.** This facility is needed to replace small, old and potentially dangerous facilities currently still in service. It would greatly improve base safety as well as improve throughput of ammunition that must be tested before it can be approved for use. Traffic safety will also increase, as there is an increased usage of larger trailers that are currently unable to use the facilities without creating traffic problems at APG.

- **Automotive Technology Evaluation Facility, Aberdeen Test Center, \$13 million.** The U.S. Army Aberdeen Test Center has been designated the DOD lead test center for automotive testing. The requirement to test wheeled and tracked vehicles at sustained high speeds cannot be met on existing courses at the Center. This project would replace test courses that were established in 1941-1942 and are not suitable for testing the new, high-speed vehicles of Army Transformation. Automotive systems being fielded are not getting adequate ground truth testing, and this situation will worsen as the Army progresses to a smaller, lighter, faster ground force, with vehicles envisioned to have sustained speeds approaching or exceeding 100 mph.

National Defense budget.

- **Completion of the Roadway Simulator, Aberdeen Test Center, \$5 million.** Funding is being requested in the DOD Central Test and Evaluation Investment Program account to complete the Roadway Simulator project already initiated and mostly funded at Aberdeen Proving Ground. This final increment of the project would enable testing of tractor-trailer vehicles with the simulator. That capability is needed for Army, Marine Corps, and special operations vehicles, but it also has great potential for dual use in the testing of civilian vehicles. All funding for the roadway simulator has been the result of action by the Maryland Congressional delegation, and this increment is expected to be no different.



- **Technology Transfer Initiative, Business Development Office, \$1 million.** This project will fund a joint effort of the Maryland Technology Development Corporation (TEDCO) and the APG Science and Technology Board's Business Development Office (BDO). The Maryland General Assembly established the TEDCO in 1998 as a "public instrumentality" intended to facilitate the creation of



businesses in the State through technology commercialization. It leverages public and private funding to aid and promote business incubators, connect entrepreneurs with resources in federal and university laboratories, and support technology development activities. In this effort two thirds of the total budget will be used for a pre-commercialization fund, providing grants to small businesses that are working with APG. The remaining funds will be used

by the BDO and TEDCO to provide outreach, due diligence, and technology transfer assistance. The project will enhance the existing activities of the BDO by increasing its staffing capabilities, providing seed funding for businesses desiring to work with APG, and gaining addition technical support from TEDCO.

- **Biomanufacturing cGMP Upgrade, Edgewood CB Center, \$ 1million.** This funding is needed to bring the Edgewood Chemical and Biological Center's biomanufacturing facility into compliance with the Food and Drug Administration's "current Good Manufacturing Practices" (cGMP) guidelines in order to produce critical biotechnology products for Department of Defense and Department of Homeland Security requirements. A cGMP-qualified facility would allow the production of biotechnology products needed by the defense medical community as well as the quantities of materials needed for Phase I and Phase II clinical trials. This latter capability is crucial because both DOD's medical defense and commercial biotechnology companies are finding it extremely difficult to secure cGMP manufacturing services, which severely delays product availability.

- **Continuation of LISA Standoff Detector, PM NBC Defense, \$3.5 million.**

The LISA (Laser Interrogation of Surface Agents) development is intended to provide standoff detection and identification of chemical warfare agents for the next generation of nuclear, biological, and chemical reconnaissance systems.



This would allow faster reconnaissance and reduce the risk to vehicle crews. Funding provided in fiscal years 2002 and 2003 was used to develop the first generation of LISA hardware and to partially fund engineering development models needed for field testing. This continuation funding would be used to complete engineering development models and initiate field testing. ITT Industries has committed to placing a manufacturing facility in the APG area if the program is successfully completed

- **Physics of Failure/Roadway Simulator Modeling, Army Materiel Systems Analysis Activity, \$3 million.** This project would combine physics-of-failure modeling with results from the Aberdeen Test Center's roadway simulator to improve the reliability and readiness of DOD vehicles. The Army faces a major challenge in the design of combat vehicles light enough to be delivered by helicopter, yet survivable against the threats likely to be encountered on future battlefields. The roadway simulator gives the Army the advanced testing tools it needs to validate the reliability of future logistics and transportation tools as well as new mobile weapons systems. Physics of failure modeling eliminates failures early in the design process by addressing root-cause failure mechanisms in a computer aided engineering environment. Physics of failure analyses already performed for many Department of Defense systems have resulted in improved reliability and millions of dollars in savings.



- **Human Effects RDT&E Center, Aberdeen Test Center, \$2 million.** This proposed center will provide a centralized location for research, test and assessment of personal protective equipment and the means to gather a greater understanding of injury mechanics and the potential for injury from blast, ballistics, and shock. Example concerns are the threats from landmines, due to their proliferation around the world, and fragmentation weapons, which cause 80 per cent of battlefield wounds. Development of protective equipment can be improved through use of advances in medical and biomechanical knowledge and research. Evaluation of protective measures with the individual considered as an integral component of the system requires an integrated research team of developers, engineers and surgeons to correlate protection levels with potential medical outcomes. It is anticipated that the program will serve the Department of Homeland Security, the Department of Justice, and the intelligence and law enforcement communities as well as DOD.

- **NBC Survivability/Vulnerability Analysis, Army Research Lab, \$5 million.**

This funding is being requested for testing and analysis critical to supporting the fielding of military systems that can survive the effects of nuclear (blast, electromagnetic pulse), biological (toxic effects) and chemical (toxic effects, corrosive material effects) weapons. Without this effort the Army risks fielding systems that will not survive an NBC attack and will put soldiers' lives at risk. Army Regulation 70-75 requires that NBC survivability be a part of the formal requirements documents for all equipment that is considered to be mission critical. In the absence of adequate test data or analysis, the requirement is often waived or by-passed. Currently the Army has hundreds of systems in development that require NBC survivability assessment. Without adequate resources, only a few of the highest priority systems will be addressed. In addition to funding for this program, at the suggestion of a member of the Congressional delegation staff the Alliance is exploring the possibility of statutory language that would require greater attention to NBC survivability.



- **Small Unit Distributed Simulation Environment, Army Research Laboratory, \$9 million.**

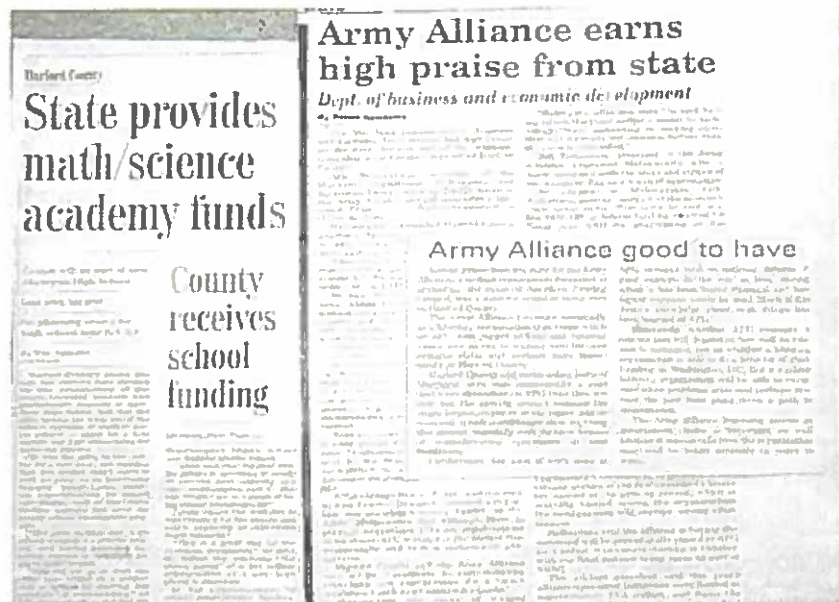


This funding would support the planning, design and construction of a facility at Aberdeen Proving Ground, MD to provide an integrated environment for small unit simulation of technology, tactics, doctrine, and training. It will provide a high fidelity simulation environment to address tradeoffs and impacts of all technologies and tactics for the soldier. National and international threats have placed demands on dismounted soldiers to provide security not only on the battlefield but also in urban environments. The combination of operating advanced technology systems and performing

command and control while conducting operations in a hostile environment increases the cognitive burden and may overload the soldier. In order to leverage each organization's expertise, this system will be an interoperable simulation environment that is fully networked with the Aberdeen Test Center at the Proving Ground, the Dismounted Battlespace Battle Lab at Fort Benning, Georgia, and the Program Executive Office for Simulation, Training and Instrumentation at Orlando, Florida.

• **Continuation of Morgan State University/Army Research Laboratory Knowledge Management Center, \$10 million.** This funding would provide for the continuing operation of the Army Knowledge Fusion Center at the Army Research Laboratory and the associated Army Knowledge Management Center of Excellence located at Morgan State University. The Army vision for its Objective Force is to have the capability to put combat forces anywhere in the world within 96 hours after liftoff. This objective force will be a fully mobile, fully-communicating, agile, and situation-aware lightweight force that is dependent on internetted command, control, communications, computers, intelligence, surveillance, and reconnaissance. This highly mobile future force has an increased need for advanced information protection tools and techniques to ensure survivability in a forward-deployed, energy-constrained, bandwidth-constrained, and hostile mobile environment. The program was initiated during the past year with funding supported by the Alliance and the Congressional delegation. This additional funding will ensure effective and efficient research, development, test and evaluation and deployment of knowledge management technologies on the battlefield, in homeland defense, and throughout the Army.

All of these requirements are solidly in the best interest of the nation and the Proving Ground – and all of them will significantly enhance the technology base of the region.



OTHER ACTIVITIES

In addition to initiatives that directly influence the well being of the Proving Ground, the Alliance performs a variety of supporting activities essential to our mission. Some representative examples are –

- **State of Maryland federal priorities.** Each year the Maryland Department of Business and Economic Development gives the Alliance the opportunity to nominate issues for the State of Maryland list of priorities for federal legislative activity. That annual list and the accompanying background papers are used by the governor's Washington office in addressing state legislative interests, and the governor and other state officials lend their support to items in the package. This year the list is arranged into tier one and tier two categories of importance. Five of eight tier one items deal with Aberdeen Proving Ground, and 12 of 17 tier two items are APG issues. All Alliance-nominated items are included in the package.

- **Alliance website.** A committee of Alliance board members has been working toward establishment of an Alliance website. The site is being commercially designed and will be demonstrated at the June sponsors dinner meeting. Identified as www.ArmyAlliance.org, the site will have private as well as public areas to facilitate the coordination of sensitive matters within the organization without revealing them to competing enterprises. A sponsors' section will permit the inclusion of descriptive paragraphs and contact information for Alliance corporate sponsors.

- **Partnering guide for military facilities.** The Maryland Department of Business and Economic Development is actively promoting partnering arrangements of the



state's military installations with federal, state, and local government as well as for-profit and non-profit organizations. In recent months the Department and the Alliance have worked jointly for the preparation of a booklet and a more extensive CD ROM disk that constitute a guide to assist installation personnel in establishing such partnerships. A companion effort to assess and display the economic impact of each of the state's military installations is nearing completion.

- **Maryland Military Council.** The Alliance assisted in sponsoring a bill in the Maryland legislature to create an advisory council to the governor on military installations. The bill was signed into law in May and goes into effect in July. The presidents of the Army Alliance and similar organizations across the state will be members of the council.



FINANCIAL MATTERS

The Alliance is clearly in the information business: we gather, consolidate, package, coordinate, and exchange information. In order to be successful we must constantly acquire information and provide it to those who can act on it to the benefit of Aberdeen Proving Ground. This effort is continual and involves considerable expense.

We are fortunate that the amount of financial assistance we receive allows us to accomplish our mission in an effective manner. During the past year we received revenues amounting to approximately \$200,000, of which 95 per cent was in the form of grants from the State of Maryland, Harford and Cecil Counties, and the three municipalities of Bel Air, Aberdeen, and Havre de Grace. The remaining Alliance income was in the form of contributions from the business community and individuals. Our largest category of expense, \$174,000, was for gathering, packaging, and distributing information. That funding supports two major contracts for educational services in the Washington area that serve as a conduit for information among the Alliance, the Pentagon and the Congress. An additional contract provides professional guidance and executive services between the Alliance and the educational contractors. Only two per cent of our expenses is for administration.

The Alliance board of directors, who provide most of the interface with Proving Ground organizations and much of the administrative effort, perform their work without payment.

THE NATURE OF ALLIANCE WORK –

- We elaborate ideas**
- We provide information**
- We try to find and exploit synergies**



ASSESSMENT

For the Proving Ground, the 2002-2003 has been a year when budgets have increased, groundbreakings have been held for new buildings, and Operation Iraqi Freedom has placed new demands on Proving Ground organizations. For the Alliance, we have become a recognized factor in the community, and we have had successes in supporting Proving Ground needs. As we close out the 2002-2003 year of Alliance operation, some salient observations are —

- The past year has given us our first experience in dealing with a Congressional delegation of five members rather than three: Senators Sarbanes and Mikulski and Congressmen Bartlett, Gilchrest, and Ruppertsberger. It has been impressive to see the interest, responsiveness, and cordiality of all the delegation members and their staff working together to represent the needs of Aberdeen Proving Ground.
- With the guidance that the locations for the RDE Command and the headquarters of the Army Test and Evaluation Command will be determined as a part of the BRAC process, we need no additional reasons to view the outcome of BRAC 2005 as crucial to the future of APG. We feel certain, however, that there will be additional major decisions impacting us, and we believe the odds favor gains rather than losses.
- Proving Ground personnel are increasingly embracing the idea of significant partnering activities with civilian developers and industry for the best use of installation real property assets and reduction of base operations costs. The APG-hosted workshop held in May on enhanced use leasing is evidence of this, and the trend bodes well for growth at the installation and favorable outcomes in BRAC.

We have had to learn the need for patience in dealing with our long-term, major interest items. We have addressed some of those for almost five years, and it seems certain they are still far from conclusion. We continue to believe events of the next three years will determine the future of Aberdeen Proving Ground for decades into the future. Our role in shaping those events depends on competency, credibility, and availability. In return for the continuing support of our granting agencies and our corporate and individual sponsors, we cannot promise success, but we can promise our best effort to maintain and direct those attributes toward the well being of Aberdeen Proving Ground and Northeastern Maryland.



ALLIANCE SUPPORT

Financial support of the Army Alliance is open for participation by any person or organization that supports our goals and objectives. Our contribution levels allow all interested parties to participate to the extent of their ability. Contributions to the Alliance are not deductible for tax purposes as charitable contributions, but may be submitted as a business expense. The contribution categories are as follows.

★ ★ ★ ★	sponsor	\$2,500 or more annually
★ ★ ★	sponsor	\$1,000 or more annually
★ ★	sponsor	\$250 or more annually
★	sponsor	\$50 or more annually *

* Open only to individuals

GRANTING AGENCIES

The Alliance receives funding support from six government agencies. The following organizations have supported the Alliance's efforts in many ways, including extensive personnel assistance in addition to significant financial grants.

**Maryland Department of Business
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Harford County Government

Cecil County Government

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Financial assistance from our corporate sponsors, together with grants from our supporting government organizations, is essential to the existence of the Alliance. In addition to financial assistance, several of our corporate sponsors demonstrate their commitment to the success of the organization with supplies, manpower, and facilities. This corporate support is essential not only from a financial standpoint, but also as evidence that Alliance activities represent the interests of the region.

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The members of the Alliance board of directors are elected to three-year terms at the annual dinner meeting in June of each year. Following that meeting the board elects its officers to annual, renewable terms.

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