



# R & R

Rough & Ready

A product of [www.TumblingWithTheTroops.com](http://www.TumblingWithTheTroops.com)



JUNE 2011

## ON TAP

**Invented anything lately? If so, let the Army know.**



The MRAP (mine-resistant ambush-protected) Overhead Wire Mitigation Kit was a top Army invention in recent years.

ABERDEEN PROVING GROUND, Md., May 24, 2011 -- Since 2003, the Army Materiel Command has conducted the Army Greatest Inventions (AGI) program to encourage and reward those fighting the war from research labs throughout the Army by developing the best technology solutions for the Soldier. The award is given to recognize Soldiers for their exemplary effort to enhance their fellow Warfighters' equipment and/or performance. SGI nominations are now being accepted for practical extensions, applications and/or game-changing new products initiated by one or more active duty U.S. Army Soldiers.

Previous AGI award winners include the 40mm M320 Grenade Launcher, Counter Radio Controlled Improvised Explosive Device Electronic Warfare Duke V3 (CREW DUKE V3) and MRAP (mine-resistant, ambush-protected) Overhead Wire Mitigation Kit (see photo above).

### Nomination criteria:

- Nominated inventions for SGI must have been "First Fielded" during calendar year 2010: Jan 1. through Dec. 31, 2011.

- The SGI "fielding" definition can include traditional and other expedited fielding methods used to put a new mission critical product, device or process in to use by Soldiers at any level.

Technology nomination criteria for each award are available through the U.S. Army Research, Development and Engineering Command, executing on behalf of AMC. Nomination packages must be submitted by email to: [AGI-Awards@conus.army.mil](mailto:AGI-Awards@conus.army.mil) by 7/1/2011. ~ [RDECOM](http://RDECOM)

## ON THE HOMEFRONT

### Send Dad a care package

If Dad is serving overseas with the military, Father's Day can be a tough time. But even if you can't celebrate together, there are many ways to still feel connected. These Father's Day ideas can help you and your family mark this special day.

Families who have spent holidays apart from their military loved ones usually know the ropes about sending packages overseas. If this is the first time you've celebrated a holiday without your military dad, here's what you need to know.

- **Timing-** It normally takes between two and three weeks before your package reaches Dad. And if you're already too late for it to arrive on time, you can still send Dad an Email or text message that says "help is on the way!" :)

- **Contents-** Depending on where Dad is stationed, there may be certain restrictions on your package. Play it safe. Check with your local post office for a full list of restrictions.

Letters usually aren't opened unless they're particularly bulky. Some packages are opened during spot checks. ▶

~

### Flag Day is June 14th

The Color Significance of the Flag:

**RED** — signifies hardness and valor.

**WHITE** — signifies purity and innocence.

**BLUE** — signifies vigilance, perseverance, and justice



### Happy Father's Day

... to all the dads  
from all the brats!

When I think of all the things you do,  
the ways in which you care,  
I'm filled with a sense of gratitude  
and pride that is always there.  
I seldom take the time to tell you  
that I'm happy you're my dad;  
so I'll tell you now what's in my heart,  
"You're the best that I could have!"

~ Author Unknown

**Father's Day is June 19th**

### What to send

If you're sending Dad a care package as a Father's Day gift, you might want to include:

- **Military gift certificates-** Dad can use these gift certificates to buy snacks, phone cards, music and electronics from Army and Air Force Exchange Service stores.

- **Prepaid phone cards-** Give Dad the gift of gab on Father's Day. A prepaid phone card lets him call you whenever he has a free moment.

- **Small photos-** Larger pictures in glass frames can get broken or bent. Send Dad a small photo of the family that he can carry with him.

- **A video-** Get out the camcorder and film a message for Dad. This Father's Day idea lets him see how much the kids are growing and will help him feel like he's right in the action. Send a CD or DVD, or post the video on a private webpage and send Dad the URL.

- **A positive message-** Dad misses the family so include a note to keep him up to speed on what's happening back home. Try to keep your letter upbeat. Let him know about your successes and the good things happening in your life. You might want to add a quote about dads to top it off, and a wish for a safe and quick return.

Remember, you're not alone - lots of families are missing their military dads too. For a supportive Father's Day idea, get together with other military families you know and have a barbecue. Make a video of the day and give copies to the families to send to their own military dads. It may help make the day a little easier for everyone

~Source: [www.fathersdayandmore.com/](http://www.fathersdayandmore.com/)

## Barracks-life got you down?

Too hot or too cold outside? Don't complain, it could be worse... think about how things used to be.

Here are some facts about the 1500's that I thought I'd share with you over the next few issues in case you missed it the first time the story made the rounds via the modern-day email circuit. Plus, it's a learning experience about how certain phrases got started. :)



Houses had thatched roofs - thick straw-piled high, with no wood underneath. It was the only place for animals to get

warm, so all the cats and other small animals (mice, bugs) lived in the roof. When it rained it became slippery and sometimes the animals would slip and fall off the roof; hence the saying, "It's raining cats and dogs".

The floor was dirt. Only the wealthy had something other than dirt; hence the saying, "dirt poor". The wealthy had slate floors that would get slippery in the winter when wet, so they spread thresh (straw) on floors to help keep their footing. As the winter wore on, they added more thresh until, when you opened the door, it would all start slipping outside so they added a piece of wood in the entrance way; and so began the saying, "carry over the thresh hold."

(Quite an education, so far, isn't it? More in next month's issue of the R&R.)

~

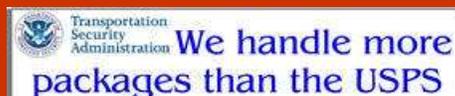
## TSA Update. . . ANOTHER GREAT IDEA FROM AN AVERAGE JOE!

Here's a solution to all the controversy over full-body scanners at the airports:

All we need to do is develop a booth that you can step into that will not X-ray you, but will detonate any explosive device you may have hidden on or in your body. The explosion would be contained within the sealed booth.

This would be a win-win for everyone. There would be none of this crap about racial profiling and the device would eliminate long and expensive trials.

This is so simple that it's brilliant. I can see it now: You're in the airport terminal and you hear a muffled explosion. Shortly thereafter an announcement comes over the PA system, "Attention, standby passengers! We now have a seat available on flight number..."



## FROM THE MAILBAG

### Cemetery squirrels nuts about U.S. flags

A squirrel -- weighing about 3 pounds -- got up on its hind legs, tore a small American flag from a small staff next to a grave stone, rolled it up and carried it up a tree to a waiting mate building a nest.

It happened not just once, but about dozen times. For the full story go to:

[www.yesemails.com/militarystuff/usflag/](http://www.yesemails.com/militarystuff/usflag/)



## ON THE LIGHTER SIDE

### Wonderful English from Around the World

Cocktail lounge, Norway:

**LADIES ARE REQUESTED NOT TO HAVE CHILDREN IN THE BAR.**

Doctors office, Rome:

**SPECIALIST IN WOMEN AND OTHER DISEASES.**

Dry cleaners, Bangkok:

**DROP YOUR TROUSERS HERE FOR THE BEST RESULTS.**

Advertisement for donkey rides, Thailand:

**WOULD YOU LIKE TO RIDE ON YOUR OWN ASS?**

In a Tokyo bar:

**SPECIAL COCKTAILS FOR THE LADIES WITH NUTS.**

In a Nairobi restaurant:

**CUSTOMERS WHO FIND OUR WAITRESSES RUDE OUGHT TO SEE THE MANAGER.**

Hotel, Yugoslavia:

**THE FLATTENING OF UNDERWEAR WITH PLEASURE IS THE JOB OF THE CHAMBERMAID.**

Hotel, Japan:

**YOU ARE INVITED TO TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THE CHAMBERMAID.**

Hotel, Zurich:

**BECAUSE OF THE IMPROPRIETY OF ENTERTAINING GUESTS OF THE OPPOSITE SEX IN THE BEDROOM, IT IS SUGGESTED THAT THE LOBBY BE USED FOR THIS PURPOSE.**

A laundry in Rome:

**LADIES, LEAVE YOUR CLOTHES HERE AND SPEND THE AFTERNOON HAVING A GOOD TIME.**

~

## A GOLFER'S POEM

[It's time for outdoor sports in the States and golf is in full-swing... pun intended. :)]

In my hand I hold a ball... white and dimpled, rather small... Oh, how bland it does appear... this harmless looking little sphere. By its size I could not guess... the awesome strength it does possess ... But since I fell beneath its spell... I've wandered through the fires of hell... My life has not been quite the same... Since I chose to play this stupid game... It rules my mind for hours on end... A fortune it has made me spend... It has made me swear and yell and cry... I hate myself and want to die... It promises a thing called par... If I can hit straight and far... To master such a tiny ball... should not be very hard at all ... But my desires the ball refuses... and does exactly like it chooses... It hooks and slices, dribbles and dies... and even disappears before my eyes... Often it will take a whim... to hit a tree or take a swim... With miles of grass on which to land... it finds a tiny patch of sand... Then has me offering up my soul... if only it would find the hole... It's made me whimper like a pup... and swear that I will give it up... And take a drink to ease my sorrow... but the ball knows... I'll be back tomorrow!!!

~Author Unknown

### Mission Statement:

Having close ties to the military most of my life, I am a big fan of the military and wish to bring them some joy and humor with a little bit of attitude. No offense is ever intended toward any particular group. I am a mother, grandmother, and mother-in-law of one of your own. Don't ask me who (I don't want him to be embarrassed by my naughtiness) and don't ask me how old I am... I'll only smile and say, "I'm somewhere between the age of consent and collapse, closer to collapse."

~ Marie Renn, Editor

Email: [mrennbiz@gmail.com](mailto:mrennbiz@gmail.com)