



AMUA TIMES

ARMY MARKSMANSHIP UNIT ASSOCIATION

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We've set the date!

We're catching the fish!
We're inviting you to the reunion

October 16-18, 1998

18 USAMU shooters selected to World Championship Team

U.S. Army Marksmanship Unit Public Affairs Office

FORT BENNING, Ga. — More than a dozen soldiers of the U.S. Army Marksmanship Unit have been named to the U.S. World Championship Shooting Team.

The USAMU hosted the World Championship Team Selection Matches April 15 to 25, which selected the U.S. Team to compete at the 1998 World Shooting Championships to be conducted in Barcelona, Spain, in July.

International pistol shooter Sgt. 1st Class Daryl L. Szarenski won the Gold Medal in the Men's Free Pistol Match and secured a spot on the World Championship U.S. Pistol Team. Shooters who made the Men's Junior Pistol Team were Spc. Terry S. Bradley, who won Gold Medals in the Junior Air, Sport and Rapid Fire Pistol matches, and Pfc. Travis A. Jorgenson, who took the Silver Medal in the Junior Free Pistol Match. Pvt. 2 Renee D. Cunningham received the Bronze Medal in the Junior Women's Sport Pistol Match and made the Junior Women's Team.

Running target shooters Sgt. 1st Class Lance D. Dement, who took first place in the 10-Meter Mixed Match, and Spc. Armando R. Ayala, who won the 10-Meter 30+30 Match, were named to the U.S. Running Target World Championship Team.

International rifle shooter Capt. Glenn A. Dubis, who won Gold Medals in the Air Rifle and Smallbore Prone matches was selected to the team. Sgt. Kenneth A. Johnson, who won the Gold Medal in the Men's Three-Position Rifle Match and the Silver Medal in the Air Rifle Match, and Staff Sgt. Thomas A. Tamas, who received Silver Medals in the Smallbore Prone and Men's Three-Position Rifle matches, were also named to the team. Spc. Jason A. Parker, who won the Bronze Medal in the Men's Three-Position Rifle Match, and Staff Sgt. Lance S. Hopper, who received the Silver Medal in the Men's 300-Meter Prone Match and finished fourth in the Smallbore Prone Match, made the team. Maj. Stephen C. Goff made the team after taking the Silver Medal in the 300-Meter Three-Position Match and Bronze Medals in the 300-Meter Standard and the Air Rifle

matches. Also, U.S. Army Reserve Maj. Wanda R. Jewell, who as a civilian is the USAMU Support Officer, took the Silver Medal in the Women's 3x20 Match and was named to the team.

Also, Sgt. 1st Class James T. Graves and Staff Sgt. Theresa E. DeWitt are on the U.S. Trap Team and Sgt. 1st Class Bret E. Erickson and Sgt. David R. Alcoriza are made the U.S. Double Trap Team after Alcoriza took the Gold and Erickson the Silver in the Double Trap Match. Graves also won the Gold Medal in Skeet and was named to the Skeet Team. Staff Sgt. Shawn C. Dulohery, who won the Bronze Medal in Skeet, was also named to the team.

Nearly 250 shooters, including 22 Olympians and a Medal of Honor recipient, competed in all four Olympic shooting disciplines — International Pistol, International Rifle, Running Target and Shotgun.

REUNION?

For more details see "President's Report" on page 2.

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PRESIDENT'S REPORT

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Quality, quantity prevail in USAMU Custom Firearms Shop's Ammunition Loading Section

U.S. Army Marksmanship Unit Public Affairs Office

Keeping abreast of the constant demand for world-class match ammunition for the shooters of the U.S. Army Marksmanship Unit is far from easy. Yet the soldiers of the USAMU Custom Firearms Shop Ammunitions Loading Section, say it's a challenge they eagerly face.

Only four soldiers, Staff Sgt. Robert S. Finch, Sgt. David J. Sheely and Spcs. Justin A. Meyer and Joshua E. Steen, are responsible for the thousands of rounds produced each day. Some days when preparing for upcoming matches, the soldiers load as many as 3,000 rounds, each measured and adjusted to within 500ths of a grain.

The men produce ammunition for rifles and pistols, including center-fire rifles, M-14s, M-16s, 300 Magnums, .38 supers and .45 automatics. They also perform many tests on each cartridge case, propellant, primer and bullet and say quality is the section's priority.

While production reigns as their primary mission, the soldiers must ensure that each round they produce is of the highest quality.

Quality control for the ammunition section is much more in-depth than at comparable facilities, said Sgt. 1st Class Darryl W. Seawright, noncommissioned officer in charge of the USAMU Custom Firearms Shop.

USAMU's ammunition technicians are checking to see that the quality of the components fit USAMU standards. Cartridge cases are checked for weight, hardness, dimensions and thickness, while bullets are air gauged for consistency.

The role of these soldiers (reloaders) and the quality of their products are paramount to the success of the USAMU shooters in competition, Seawright said.

"We have to produce ammunition that outperforms the gun, which in turn has to outperform the shooter," Finch said. "That way shooters have all the advantages to improve themselves and the equipment doesn't impede their performance. If the ammunition produced here isn't up to our standards, the shooters are at a disadvantage."

Maintaining the number of rounds and the high quality demanded sometimes is a tangible pressure the soldiers can feel. One-tenth of a grain of gunpowder in a mismeasured round changes the impact of the bullet enough to cause a top shooter to lose a competition.

"All it takes is one round with the wrong powder charge," Finch said. "That's how important it is for us to be here doing our job."

Despite the constant demand for quality ammunition, the reloaders rarely fall behind.

"We constantly forecast what will be needed for the year," Sheely said.

Constant communication between the ammunition tech-

nicians and the shooters, as well as periodic checks of the ammunition bunker, help keep the soldiers on top of the demand.

In their off-duty time, the ammunition technicians search for even higher quality by striving to create new combinations of gunpowder, primers, casings and bullets that will outperform the unit's current standards.

"We're always looking for better ways to streamline our production process to improve production flow and product quality," Finch said.

The reloaders constantly test the various ammunition components and equipment for quality and reliability. Each product they use is evaluated for internal purposes so as to supplement commercially published results.

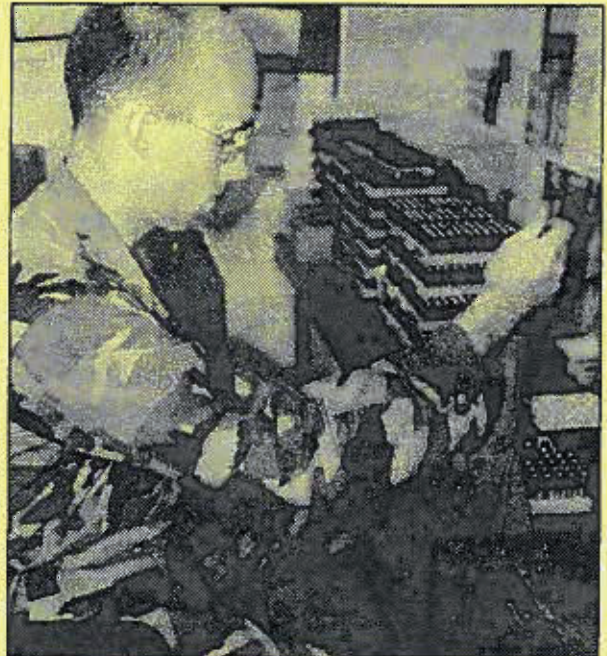
"We have the luxury of being a completely unbiased organization concerned only with performance," Meyer said.

While they do not publish their testing results, the Marksmanship Unit will provide information when requested to companies that produce the equipment so that improvements can be made, which results in better equipment in the future.

Manufacturers are not the only ones interested in the USAMU testing results. Frequently the Marksmanship Unit is inundated with telephone calls for information and advice. According to Seawright, many other specialized units that are concerned with accurate ammunition have called wanting load data.

Despite the continued interest from the competitive shooting sphere, the Marksmanship Unit will only give minor technical advice not specific about the manufacturing process since the ammunition they produce is designed specifically for use in USAMU custom-built firearms.

"Our mission remains the same," Steen said. "We're trying to find that combination that makes or breaks the game."



SSG FINCH in the Reloading Room

9 USAMU soldiers win 15 medals at International Grand Prix

U.S. Army Marksmanship Unit Public Affairs Office

FORT BENNING, Ga. — Nine soldiers of the U.S. Army Marksmanship Unit won 16 medals in the International Grand Prix of Shooting, which was conducted May 5 to 10 at Phillips, Pool and Hook ranges.

Nearly 400 competitors from 26 countries competed in three Olympic shooting disciplines — International Pistol, International Rifle and Shotgun.

Sgt. 1st Class James T. Graves won the Gold Medal in the Men's Trap Match, followed by Pascal Fontanili of Monaco, who took the Silver Medal, and Nathan McDonnell of Australia, who got the Bronze. In the Women's Trap Match, Sgt. Joetta R. Novinski won the Gold Medal, Lisa Smith of Australia received the Silver, and Staff Sgt. Theresa E. DeWitt, the Bronze.

DeWitt won the Gold Medal in the Women's Double Trap Match. Novinski took the Silver and Sandra Honour of Canada got the Bronze. In the Men's Double Trap Match, Sgt. David R. Alcoriza won the Gold Medal, Charles Redding of the United States received the Silver, and Sgt. 1st Class Bret E. Erickson took the Bronze.

Staff Sgt. Shawn C. Duloher took the Silver Medal in the Men's Skeet Match; Clive Barton of Australia won the Gold and Clayton Miller of Canada got the Bronze. In the Women's Skeet Match, Zemfira Meftakhedinova of Azerbaijan won the Gold Medal, Lauryn Ogilvie of the United States got the Silver Medal, and Kasey West of the United States, the Bronze.

Capt. Glenn A. Dubis won the Gold Medal in the 300-Meter Free Rifle 3x40 Match and Maj. Stephen C. Goff received the Silver Medal; Oliver Cottagnoud of Switzerland got the Bronze Medal. In the 300-Meter Standard Rifle 3x20 Match, Goff brought home the Gold Medal, Dubis the Bronze and the Silver Medal went to Norbert Sturny of Switzerland. Daniel Burger of Switzerland won the Gold Medal in the 300-Meter Prone Match, while Sgt. 1st Class Thomas Tamas got the Silver Medal and Goran Jansson of Sweden received the Bronze.

Dubis won the Gold and Goff the Silver in the Men's Free Rifle Three-Position Match, and Sergei Kovalenko of Russia took the Bronze. Jayme Dickman of the United States won the Gold Medal in the Women's Sport Rifle Three-Position Match; Irina Gerasimenok of Russia was second with the Silver Medal and Elizabeth Bourland of the United States got the Bronze.

In the Men's 50-Meter Free Rifle Prone Match, Kovalenko won the Gold Medal; the Silver Medal went to Christian Klees of Germany, and the Bronze to Vidar Strom of Norway. Bourland won the Gold Medal in the Women's Sport Rifle Prone Match. Roopa Unnikrishnan of India took the Silver Medal and Michelle Bohren of the United States got the Bronze.

Artem Khadjibekov of Russia won the Gold Medal in the Men's Air Rifle Match, followed by Konstantin Prihodtchenko of Russia with the Silver Medal and Maik Eckhardt of Germany with the Bronze. In the Women's Air Rifle Match, Ljubov Galkina of Russia won the Gold Medal, Han Na Yoo of Korea took the Silver Medal and Soo Young Kang of Korea got the Bronze.

David Vondrak of the United States won the Gold Medal in the Center Fire Pistol Match, with Sergey Pyijanov and Sergey Aliferenico, both of Russia, receiving the Silver and Bronze Medals. In the Rapid Fire Pistol Match, Ralf Schumann of Germany won the Gold Medal, Aliferenico took the Silver Medal and Emil Milev of Bulgaria got the Bronze. Tanu Kirikov of Bulgaria won the Gold Medal in the Free Pistol Match, followed by Uwe Potteck of Germany with the Silver Medal and Vigilio Fait of Italy with the Bronze.

In the Sport Pistol Match, Galina Beljaeva and Svetlana Smirnova, both of Russia, won the Gold and Silver Medals, and Diana Yorgova of Bulgaria got the Bronze. Mihail Nestruev of Russia won the Gold in the Standard Pistol Match; Pyijanov got the Silver, and Vivek Singh of India took the Bronze.

Boris Kokorev of Russia won the Gold in the Men's Air Pistol Match; Pyijanov received the Silver Medal and Fait got the Bronze. In the Women's Air Pistol Match, Beljaeva won the Gold, Rhonda Bright of the United States took the Silver and Mirosztawa Sagun of Poland the Bronze.

The Grand Prix allowed the shooters to prepare for the upcoming World Cup to be conducted at the Wolf Creek Olympic Shooting Complex in Atlanta May 12 to 17. The Atlanta World Cup will offer nations the opportunity to win country quotas for the 2000 Olympic Games and allow athletes to meet individual qualifying standards for Olympic participation at the 2000 Games in Sydney, Australia.

After World Cups in Atlanta, Guatemala, Munich and Milan, USAMU international shooters will be gearing up to compete in the 1998 National Championships in Atlanta in June and the 1998 World Championships in Barcelona, Spain, in July.

Soldiers participate in TV show

U.S. Army Marksmanship Unit Public Affairs Office

Soldiers from the U.S. Army Marksmanship Unit's Shotgun Team participated in a television show taped at the Wolf Creek Olympic Shooting Park in Atlanta, Ga., April 27 to 30. The show, called Direct Hit produced by Seals Communication Corporation, will air on the Outdoor Life Network in August.

Sgts. 1st Class Bret E. Erickson and James T. Graves and Staff Sgts. Theresa E. Dewitt and Shawn C. Duloher made up the team for the Army Marksmanship Unit.

"The whole purpose behind the series is to portray shooting sports in a positive fashion to the masses," said Rodney Mull, producer with Seals Communication. "We want to see the shooters compete and have a good time doing it."

The competition was broken down into 13 individual matches with 47 targets - 37 skeet and 10 trap targets.

"They made the competition a little harder by changing the course of fire around from a normal competition," Graves said. "The hardest part would have to be the trap section of the competition."

Only one person in the entire competition had a perfect score of 47 out of 47 and that was Duloher.

"I told myself that I could do this and I did it," Duloher said. "I wasn't thinking of this as a competition but more as this was supposed to be fun, so I had fun."

USAMU Service Rifle coach receives Superior Civilian Service Award

U.S. Army Marksmanship Unit Public Affairs Office

For producing champions, breaking records and improving training — and saving the government some money at the same time — a U.S. Army Marksmanship Unit coach was recently recognized for his outstanding accomplishments.

Frank Briggs, International Pistol and Rifle Team Coach and former head coach of the Service Rifle Team, received the Superior Civilian Service Award in ceremonies March 20 at Sharpe Hall of Fort Benning, Ga.

The award, equivalent to the military Meritorious Service Medal, was given for his "superb leadership and innovative training techniques as coach of the USAMU Service Rifle Team," according to Bob Aylward, USAMU deputy commander.

While the head coach for Service Rifle from 1995 to 1998, Briggs produced 28 national and interservice champions and set 13 national records.

"Due to his innovativeness, he created a team that consistently dominated Service Rifle competition," Aylward said. "He did the impossible by winning the 1997 1,000-Yard National Team Championship using the M-16A2 — what people said could never be done."

Briggs made an immediate and highly visible impact upon his assignment to the U.S. Army Marksmanship Unit," according to D.I. Boyd, USAMU chief of competitions.

"Frank's introduction of progressive training techniques resulted in the Army Team wrestling the Service Rifle Interservice and National Championships from the Marine Corps for the first time in 10 years," Boyd said. "His comprehensive knowledge of firearms, wind effects and ballistics contributed to the final phase of the research and development of the match grade M-16A2 rifle and ultimately in its successful fielding as the premier rifle used in national match competition."

Briggs said his success would not have been possible without the great shooters and gunsmiths of the Army Marksmanship Unit.

"I was so proud of the way the Service Rifle shooters came together as a true team; rather than a bunch of individuals shooting, they became a team that worked with each other and took care of each other," Briggs said. "They're a great bunch of guys — very hardworking and true champions."

Recent modifications made to the rifle and its ammunition by USAMU gunsmiths and reloaders transformed the reliable combat weapon into a quality match rifle, Briggs added.

Briggs also incorporated the Noptel computer program into Service Rifle training, which integrated a laser device with a computer program that not only enhanced training but also reduced ammunition costs.

"Coach Briggs has provided exactly the right kind of leadership that builds great teams," USAMU Commander Col. Arch Arnold said. "The Service Rifle Team has dominated the opposition on Coach Briggs' watch. He is a winner who inspires our soldier-

shooters to reach their full potential within the framework of the team concept. I expect the same great results from his teams as he moves now to be our International Pistol and Rifle coach."

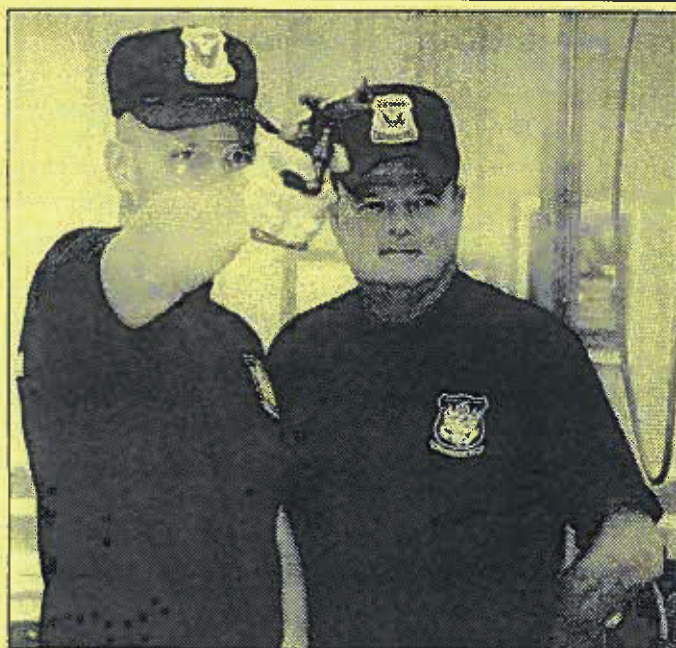
"I'm really excited about working in my original area of expertise — international shooting — and being involved in the World Championships," Briggs said. "My big goal now is the 2000 Olympics. We're going to ensure our international shooters have the best equipment and most advanced technology so they'll have a great opportunity to win world and Olympic titles. I'm pretty optimistic that many of our shooters will represent the United States in the Olympics."

A resident of Columbus, Ga., Briggs started shooting in 1949. He graduated from Forest Hills High School in Queens, N.Y., where he won the Outstanding Service Medal, created especially for him. He received a bachelor of arts degree in history from St. John's University of Jamaica, N.Y., in 1957, where he was the university's Outstanding Athlete of the Year, a two-time member of the All-American Shooting Team and a charter member of its Athletic Hall of Fame.

As a U.S. Marine Corps captain, Briggs served for four years and was captain of the Marine Corps International Shooting Team and a member of the U.S. Shooting Team that competed in the World Shooting Championships in Moscow in 1958.

He taught and coached the basketball team at Forest Hills in the early 1960s until he became the president of the Shoot-o-Rama Corporation of Waukegan, Ill., in 1967. He was the first director of Olympic Shooting Programs for the U.S. Olympic Training Center in Colorado Springs, Colo., before taking over as the director of public relations for Crosman Airguns in East Bloomfield, N.Y., in 1981.

He also worked as a consultant for the National Shooting Sports Foundation, authored the "You Can Be an Expert Rifleman" book and developed the "Six Step Method for Teaching Position Rifle Shooting," which is used by many top U.S. shooting coaches. Briggs also set 18 national records and was the head coach of the U.S. Air Force International Rifle Team, the Puerto Rican Olympic Rifle and Pistol Team and the Indian and Thailand National Teams.



Coach Frank Briggs with Daryl Szarenski

News

Briefs

USAMU PAO

Shooters of the U.S. Army Marksmanship Unit of Fort Benning, Ga., have scored some major victories in the past few weeks. The following results are just some of their recent accomplishments:

- Wolf Creek Inter-Skeet Shoot, Atlanta, Ga., March 20 to 21 — USAMU shotgun shooter Staff Sgt. Shawn C. Dulohery won the March 20 and 21 matches; Spc. Anthony D. Naatjes was second March 20.

- World Cup Selection Match, Atlanta, Ga., March 20 to 21 — International pistol shooter Sgt. 1st Class Daryl L. Szarenski was second in the Free Pistol Match March 20 and Capt. Steven King finished second in the Free Pistol Match March 21.

- Conseil International du Sport Militaire Tryouts, Fort Benning, Ga., March 15 — International pistol shooter Capt. Steven M. King finished second in the match and Staff Sgt. Roger C. Jacobson was third; U.S. Army Reserve Lt. Col. Terry Anderson, a 1996 Olympian, was the winner. Capt. Rhonda L. Bright won the Women's Division and Staff Sgt. Kimberly J. Kolb was second.

- Dixie Match, Jacksonville, Fla., March 15 — The USAMU Service Pistol Team won the Service Pistol Team Match. Spc. Thomas A. Rose won the Leg Match and broke the match record; Sgt. Jason A. Sargent was second in the Nondistinguished Category.

- Junior Olympics, Colorado Springs, Colo., April 4 — USAMU international pistol shooter Pfc. Travis A. Jorgenson won the Junior Sport Pistol Match and Spc. Terry S. Bradley finished second in the Junior Air Pistol Match.

- Zone 3 Trap Match, Atlanta, Ga., April 4 — Shotgun shooter Sgt. David R. Alcoriza was the in-zone winner and took second place overall in the match; Spc. Matthew T. DePuydt was second in zone and Spc. William H. Keever was third.

- Georgia Regionals, Fort Benning, Ga., March 27 — Service rifle shooter Spc. Erik A. Burge took second place in the Excellence in Competition Match.

- World Cup, Cairo, Egypt, March 20 to 21 — Shotgun shooter Sgt. Joetta R. Novinski achieved her minimum qualifying score for Olympic participation at the 2000 Games in Sydney, Australia, and made the U.S. National Team.

- Area 6 Championships, Anderson, S.C., April 26 — USAMU action shooter Spc. Julie A. Goloski was the winner in the Women's Division.

- Oak Ridge Monthly Match, Oak Ridge, Tenn., April 25 and 26 — Service Rifle shooter Master Sgt. John O. Chubb won the Any Rifle Any Sight Match, followed by Sgt. 1st Class Daniel R. Herman in second place and Staff Sgt. Charles E. Coffey in third. Spc. Troy L. Alexander won the Service Rifle Match with Sgt. Joshua D. Maguire in second place and Sgt. Christopher S. Hatcher in third. Sgt. Barry L. Coleman won the 800 Aggregate. Staff Sgt. Grant L. Singley was second and Staff Sgt. Kevin B. McMahon was third.

- Alabama Regional, Birmingham, Ala., April 12 — The USAMU Service Pistol Team won the Team Grand Aggregate by winning the Service Pistol and .45-Caliber Matches and taking second place in the Center Fire and .22-Caliber matches.

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