

ORION, Albuquerque

On Thursday, September 20, 2007, Dr. Ríos and Maria Estela de Ríos were guests of the Consulate of Mexico at a special luncheon for the Mexican-American community to welcome Dr. David Schmidly, the new President of the University of New Mexico, to Albuquerque and to the University. The luncheon took place at Los Equipales Restaurant. They were accompanied by Dr. Eliseo Torres and a number of Hispanic businessmen interested in programs at the University of New Mexico. Dr. Schmidly

travels all over the Republic. He stated his commitment to more exchange programs for students and faculty members between institutions of Mexico and New Mexico, which brought strong applause from those in attendance. He also indicated his respect and admiration for the accomplishments of the Mexican students on campus, which he sees as an opportunity for greater economic benefit to New Mexico.



commented on the research he had conducted in Mexico, as well as on his

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Halloween's origins date back to the ancient Celtic festival of Samhain. The Celts, who lived 2,000 years ago, celebrated their new year on November 1, marking the end of summer and the harvest and the beginning of the dark, cold winter. Celts believed that on the night before the new year, the boundary between the worlds of the living and the dead became blurred.



the Observatory

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Where Stars Are Born

October 15, 2007

ORION, Eglin AFB, FL

Coalition Exercise Focused On Improving Combat Identification

by Cherie Johnson and Casey Bain

Courtesy of Florida's Emerald Coast.com

Frank Pugliese of ORION's Eglin Air Force Base, FL TEAS Group is currently working on a project involving many foreign countries, which will aid military combat effectiveness.

The Joint Fires Integration and Interoperability Team (JFIIT) deployed with an eight-nation coalition to assess technologies at an advanced concept technology demonstration designed to reduce friendly fire incidents and enhance combat effectiveness. JFIIT, a subordinate command of U.S. Joint Forces Command, traveled to Nellis Air Force Base, Nevada, and the National Training Center at Fort Irwin, California, to conduct this joint training mission with Australia, Belgium, Canada, France, Germany, the Netherlands, Sweden, the United Kingdom, the United States and NATO.

"This demonstration is crucial because it will allow us to assess emerging non-cooperative target identification technologies in a realistic operational environment," said Jim MacDonald, Science Applications International Corporation and JFIIT senior analyst for the demonstration. "If these technologies are proven effective, they could be fielded to our forces and coalition partners in the near future, and would significantly enhance our ability to positively identify targets on the battlefield."

JFIIT, USJFCOM and its partners tested Coalition Combat Identification technologies during an operational demonstration known as Bold Quest which took place at Nellis AFB and the NTC from September 7 - 19.

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On May 5, 2005 Maria Estela de Ríos helped found the Fundación Educativa Mexicana de Nuevo Mexico. This Foundation is a non-profit, charitable, and educational organization incorporated in the State of New Mexico. The mission of the Foundation is to enrich the lives of both Mexicans and New Mexicans by providing access to cultural and educational resources that promote greater understanding and appreciation of the respective cultures.

The Mexican Ministry of Foreign Affairs, through the Institute of Mexicans Abroad, gives the OHTLI Award to individuals or organizations in different areas of culture, history, public policy and human rights that have an impact the relations with Mexico. In the language of the ancient Aztecs, Náhuatl OHTLI is a word that means "pathway" and the OHTLI medalion, which has an image of footprints, symbolizes the pathway that women and men will follow.

As a result of her contributions to enhancing relations with Mexico, on September 16, 2007, during the Mexican Independence Day Celebration, which was held at the National Hispanic Cultural Center in Albuquerque, Maria Estela de Ríos was presented with the prestigious OHTLI Award by the Mexican Consul, Juan Manuel Solana, for her zealous efforts toward promoting understanding and appreciation of the two cultures.



"Pleasure in the job puts perfection in the work."
-Aristotle

EMPLOYEES' CORNER

At the recent Sandia Employee Appreciation Luncheon, many people were recognized for their outstanding efforts at work. ORION would like to take a moment to also recognize them here. Congratulations and keep up the outstanding work.

AMY ALLEN
HENRY BRYANT
SARAH BUTTRAM
RANDEY COLGROVE
JAN COUTO
LISA ESHELMAN
ADRIANA GARCIA
JUDE GARCIA
BIRGITTA FOSTER
MARKUS HOFFMAN
DENNIS INMAN
DAVID JOHNSON
CECILIA LAROSE
JONATHAN LEONARD



JOHN LOPEZ
JUDY LOVATO

TOM MACK
PETER MONTOYA
MORRIS NUANES
MELVA PERALTA
MIKE ROSE
PAM SAYERS
JAMES SCOTT
MATT SHAIN
CATHERINE SOBCZAK
LUIS VALDIVIA
JANELL WAQUIE
MARC WILLIAMS
WADE WYSS

2007 ORION HOLIDAY PARTY

The time for Yuletide logs and eggnog is fast approaching. It may only be October, but you need to mark your calendars for the 2007 ORION Holiday Party on December 8, 2007 from 6PM-12AM. This year's event will be held at the Marriott Pyramid in Albuquerque, just southwest of the I-25 and Paseo Del Norte exit. Drinks will begin at 6PM with dinner starting at 7PM. Awards and prizes will follow, and then you can dance the night away to DJ provided music.

For those traveling in from Santa Fe, or if you'd just not care to drive after the event, please take advantage of a special rate of

\$89.00 offered by the Marriott on a block of 20 rooms. Simply call 1800-262-2043 and identify yourself as an ORION employee to receive that special

rate. Reservations must be made by November 8, 2007.

Invitations will be sent out shortly, but if you have questions, please contact Kim Smith at ksmith@orionint.com or by phone at 505-998-4000. To RSVP, please contact Brandy Marr at bmarr@orionint.com or by phone at 505-998-4000.

We hope to see you there!



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Notices



A Warm
ORION Welcome!

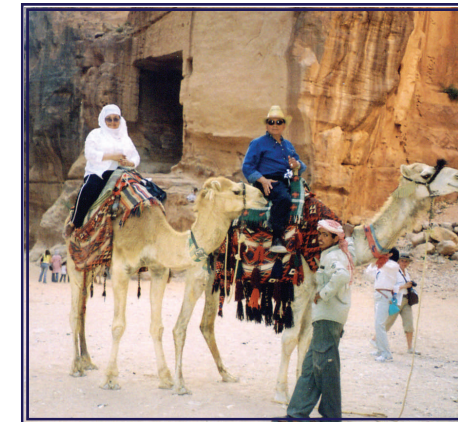
Sandia National Labs

Robert Ewing
Ivan Izenburg
T. Todd Kuzior
Tracy Lizon
Julie Lynch
Larry Rogers
Tom Stewart

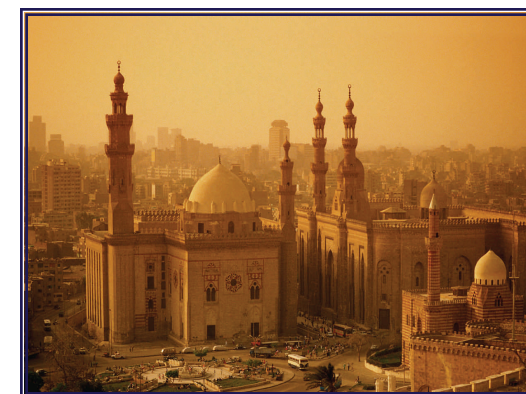
ORION Technical Resources
ORION/LANL Employee Appreciation Party will once again be held at the LA Fonda Hotel in Santa Fe on Saturday, October 27th. Cocktails start at 6:30PM, followed by dinner and dancing. Thanks to all who have RSVP'd. We look forward to seeing you all there!

ORION HOLIDAY PARTY
Keep your calendar open on December 8, 2007 for the ORION Holiday party at the Marriott Pyramid in Albuquerque. More information in the article on page 2.

ORION, Albuquerque



On May 14-16, 2007, Maria Estela de Rios, current Past President of the New Mexico Women's Forum, and CEO of ORION Technical Resources, represented New Mexico at the International Women's Forum Global Cornerstone Conference in Amman, Jordan. When the Conference was over, Maria Estela de Rios and her guest, Dr. Miguel Ríos, Jr. took the opportunity to tour Amman, Jordan, Jerash, Madaba & Mount Nebo, where Moses was allowed to see the Holy Land, but was not allowed to enter it. Then on to the Nabatean City, Petra, built by Nabatean Arabs from 800BC to 200AD. Dr. Ríos and Maria Estela de Rios toured Petra by camel, as shown in the picture above. They stayed in a Monastery in Nuweiba, Egypt, then went on to Cairo and finally home.



Cairo, Egypt; stock photo

ORION, Eglin AFB, FL

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"One of our goals is to resolve some of the combat ID shortfalls that we've seen during Operation Iraqi Freedom and Operation Enduring Freedom in Afghanistan," said U.S. Marine Corps Maj. Eric Drown, JFIIT project lead at Bold Quest. "The great work done here by USJFCOM and our allies will help war fighters today and in the future by focusing our efforts on improving coalition combat identification capabilities."

"When you improve combat ID, you enhance overall combat effectiveness and reduce the potential of fratricide and collateral damage," he said. "That's mission-essential to the war fighter, and that's why we're excited to be part of this important event."

This demonstration allows active duty service members to train with and help assess the technologies at Bold Quest.

"We think it's a fundamental requirement that you allow the actual men and women in uniform to train with this equipment in a challenging field environment...and Bold Quest will do exactly that," said Mr. MacDonald. "We want to demonstrate the capability to share blue (friendly) force situational awareness information in an air-to-ground environment that will help the war fighter defeat any adversary, and come back home safely."

Two technologies that JFIIT focused on during Bold Quest were the Synthetic Aperture Radar-Aided Target Recognition (SAR-ATR) and the Laser Target Imaging Program (LTIP). The SAR-ATR is a software upgrade for the Joint Surveillance Target Attack Radar System and the LTIP is a software upgrade to current fighter advanced targeting pods.

"Opportunities are usually disguised as hard work, so most people don't recognize them."

-Ann Landers