

Commandant Visits DSMC Eastern Regional Center

Boston—The New England Connection

RICH STILLMAN

Boston is rich with military history, and the Defense Systems Management College Eastern Regional Center is quickly becoming part of that tradition.

A Rich Military Heritage

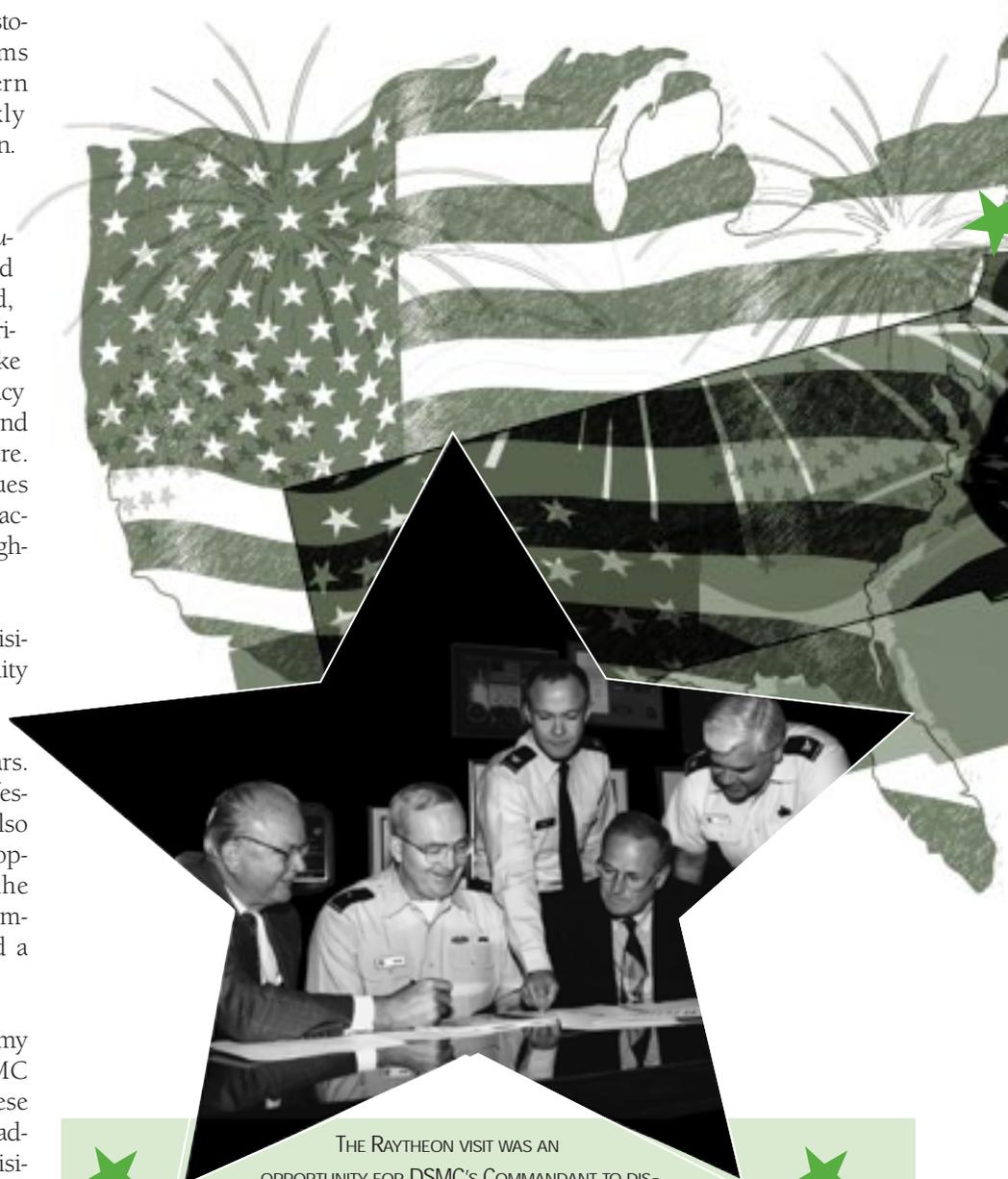
Boston — home of the U.S.S. *Constitution*, the Lexington battlegreen, the old North Church, the bridge at Concord, and Bunker Hill — is where the American Revolution started. Patriots like John Adams and his son John Quincy Adams, Paul Revere, John Hancock, and Sam Adams all lived and died there. And that military tradition continues today with the many defense contractors and military bases spread throughout the New England states.

DSMC has been educating the acquisition workforce within close proximity to its Eastern Regional Center at Hanscom Air Force Base, 25 miles outside Boston, for the past 12 years. The College serves acquisition professionals not only at Hanscom, but also the Army's Natick Research, Development, and Engineering Center; the Defense Contract Management Command's Eastern Headquarters; and a host of defense contractors.

During a recent visit to Boston, Army Brig. Gen. Richard A. Black, DSMC Commandant, visited many of these activities and met with their key leaders as well as defense industry acquisition professionals.

Electronic Systems Center. ESC is the Eastern Regional Center's host command at Hanscom. It develops, acquires, and sustains command, con-

Stillman is the DSMC Eastern Regional Director.



THE RAYTHEON VISIT WAS AN OPPORTUNITY FOR DSMC'S COMMANDANT TO DISCUSS PLANS FOR ENROLLING MORE INDUSTRY STUDENTS IN DSMC

COURSES. FROM LEFT: EUGENE STOCKTON, RAYTHEON ELECTRONIC SYSTEMS DIRECTOR FOR PRODUCT ASSURANCE; ARMY BRIG. GEN. RICHARD A. BLACK, DSMC COMMANDANT; ARMY COL. ED CERUTTI, DEFENSE CONTRACT MANAGEMENT COMMAND RAYTHEON OFFICE; WALTER PUTIS, RAYTHEON ELECTRONIC SYSTEMS, MEADS PM; AND AIR FORCE COL. SAM BROWN, DSMC DEAN OF ACADEMIC PROGRAMS.



tors, users, developers, and contractors, and also identifies system problems that require quick resolution.

OF PARTICULAR INTEREST DURING THE HANSCOM VISIT WAS A TOUR OF AN OPERATIONAL BATTLELAB — THE COMMAND AND CONTROL UNIFIED BATTLEFIELD ENVIRONMENT, KNOWN AS THE CUBE. FROM LEFT: RICH STILLMAN, DSMC EASTERN REGIONAL DIRECTOR; JOHN C. WILSON, JR., EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, ESC. SEATED: ARMY BRIG. GEN. RICHARD A. BLACK, DSMC COMMANDANT.

Raytheon. Visiting the Bedford, Mass., facility of the Raytheon Corporation, Black was accompanied by Army Col. Ed Cerutti, Commander of the Defense Contract Management Command office at that facility (DCMC Raytheon). (At the time of the visit, Cerutti was a student in the four-week Executive Program Management Course at DSMC's main Fort Belvoir, Va., campus.)



ARMY BRIG. GEN. RICHARD A. BLACK, DSMC COMMANDANT, MEETS WITH STUDENTS AT THE EASTERN REGIONAL CENTER, HANSCOM AFB, MASS. OVER 1,000 STUDENT TRAINING WEEKS A YEAR ARE PROVIDED THERE.



control, communications, computers, and intelligence (C⁴I) systems for the Air Force. Managing over 200 C⁴I systems, ESC's budget totals \$4 billion.

Of particular interest during the ESC visit was a tour of an operational battlelab — the Command and Control Unified Battlefield Environment, known as the CUBE. Its primary mission is developing, integrating, testing, and supporting command and control equipment in an operational environment. Besides promoting improved fact-based decision making by participants about hardware, software, and processes, the CUBE is capable of generating responses to the "what-if" questions for opera-



While at the Bedford facility, Black and Cerutti held discussions with Eugene Stockton, Raytheon Electronic Systems Director for Product Assurance. Topics varied from updates on selected acquisition programs and the education that Raytheon provides its senior- and mid-level managers, to joint Raytheon/DCMC efforts toward implementing several specific Acquisition Reform (AR) initiatives:

- Reinvention Lab Efforts to Obtain Regulatory Waivers
- Single Process Initiative Activities
- Performance-Based Contracts
- Past Performance
- Proposal Structures
- Integrated Product Teams
- Process-Oriented Contract Administration Services
- Cost As An Independent Variable (CAIV)
- Prime/Subcontractor Relations
- Best Practices
- Acquisition Metrics

Much of the material and information gathered during the discussions later served to update DSMC course materials.

How Can We Serve You?

Anyone who desires to take a course offered at the Eastern Regional Center or any other DSMC facility should first contact their local training office for detailed Service/Component/organization procedures on how to apply for DSMC courses. The

Service/Component-level points of contact listed in the DSMC 1998 Catalog can advise on specific application procedures. For catalog requests or general information about DSMC courses, schedules, etc., call the Office of the DSMC Registrar at (703) 805-3681, DSN 655-3681, or Toll Free 1-888-284-4906. Information about DSMC courses, schedules, etc., is also available at <http://www.dsmc.dsm.mil> on the DSMC Home Page.