

ARMY INTELLIGENCE?

Washington D.C. (UPI) Pentagon officials today privately expressed dismay at the reports that Jeffery James Bucchino has been quietly inducted into the U.S. Army and is currently training at Fort Jackson, South Carolina, near Columbia.

At a hastily called press conference, Pentagon spokesman Major Mallory "Mal" Function read from a prepared statement: "The Joint Chiefs of Staff and Defense Secretary Rumsfeld are presently looking into these allegations and if they are found to be true, their intentions are to make an immediate decision whether or not disciplinary action is warranted against those responsible for this apparent oversight."

Further investigation has also revealed indications

that Private Bucchino is scheduled to be transferred to Goodfellow Air Force Base near San Angelo, Texas for training as a Signals Intelligence Analyst, upon successful completion of primary training at Fort Jackson.

When pressed for comment, Goodfellow AFB Commander, Col. Bill "Wild Blue" Yonder appeared to express serious reservations saying, "With our nation's security slated to be placed in the hands of Private Bucchino, I can't help but think that the terrorists have won."

White House sources told reporters that President Bush was unavailable for comment at this time and said to be considering heavy sedation.

MELLOW YELLOW

Atlanta, GA (Reuters) This week Georgia Insurance Commissioner John Oxendine took the highly unusual step of implementing a day-to-day, color-coded 'Alert Status' for traffic in the Atlanta metro area and specifically for drivers around the North Georgia/Cumming portion of the state. Unveiled by Bruce Smythe, assistant designer to the Commissioner,



traffic alert color codes ranged from the

highest alert level of peach, to the lowest level, chiffon.

"While our office is very cognizant of the fact that the recent traffic 'irregularity' was not the fault of April Bucchino," stated Mr. Oxendine, "incidents in the general vicinity of Bucchino operated vehicles are recurring with an alarming frequency. In response to this development, we have created a method for informing our citizens of the immediate relative danger they face when taking to the road. Drivers may obtain daily alert status information by logging onto the Georgia DOT sponsored website at <http://www.bucchinodrivessuck.gov>."

Describing the relatively minor incident involving April, Georgia State Patrol trooper Billy "Bob" Thornton said, "Even though the vehicle Miss Bucchino was operatin' wern't movin' at the time, the car was a total loss. Seems these here eye-talians are sure-fire accident magnets and I'd just as soon not see 'em in my rear view mirror." Mr. Bucchino was unavailable for comment and reportedly under sedation.

COPING WITH NO NEWS BLUES

Cumming, GA (AP) As the Christmas holiday season draws near, local emergency 9-1-1 operators have been overwhelmed with frantic calls from across the United States.

"The tremendous number of calls have had an extremely negative impact on our emergency response resources here in Cumming", explained one operator between hurried gulps of steaming coffee, "we've even had to assign extra people to handle the increased volume."

According to Emergency Operations Director Helen Back, the majority of calls to 9-1-1 appear to be from distant family members and various acquaintances of the Bucchino family voicing concerns that the 2002 Christmas newsletter won't be sent. "Much of our time during the last few months has been spent calming the fears of hysterical, sobbing people that this year will bring an awful repeat of last year", said Back with a heavy sigh. "People have reported a full 365 days of sleeplessness, depression and heartburn, repeated episodes of incontinence, embarrassing rashes and schistosomiasis, all directly attributable to the absence of any 2001 Bucchino Christmas newsletter."

City officials have received numerous assurances from local law enforcement that they will be stepping up their surveillance of Candy Bucchino to ensure that her Christmas cards are forthcoming

this year in a timely manner.

When confronted about last year's omission, Mrs. Bucchino angrily denied any deliberate intent on her part to cause trauma, confusion and appear the Grinch. "I was very busy last year," she shrieked from around her front door, "now all you kids get out of my yard!" Repeated attempts to contact Mr. Bucchino for comment were unsuccessful.

IN TOON WITH THE SEASON

Cumming, GA (AP) Legions of web surfers and cartoon aficionados have expressed wonder and delight at recent developments taking place at www.wizardofdraws.com.

"It's an incredible, unbelievable thing that this man is doing", cried Ozzie "Hack" Mitnick, "just imagine, giving away hundreds of CD's for free! Sure, there's a small shipping and handling fee, but dude, what a deal!" Created as a result of overwhelming demand for inexpensive, high quality cartoon clipart, The Wizard of Draw's Cartoon Clipart CD Volume 1 has been a brisk seller at \$19.95 since it's initial release in 1997.

"Jeff is an extraordinarily generous individual, a credit to his profession...truly a saint", mumbled His Holiness Pope John Paul II while searching the internet for Christmas clipart, "and I should know."

President of the Cartoonists Organization & Mercenaries of America (COMA), Rocco "Peanuts" Shultz, was less generous in his praise of Mr. Bucchino. "The leadership and members of COMA are shocked and disappointed to learn that Mr. Bucchino has chosen to give away his work, and by comparison put our members in a bad light. Fortunately, we've spoken with Mr. Bucchino and after we made him an offer he couldn't refuse, and it appears that his philanthropic bent will only last until the end of 2002."

Repeated attempts to contact Mr. Bucchino for comment were unsuccessful.

*Merry Christmas with
Love from
Jeff, Candy, Jeffery,
April and Sara*



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