

Fill 'er up in Stuttgart

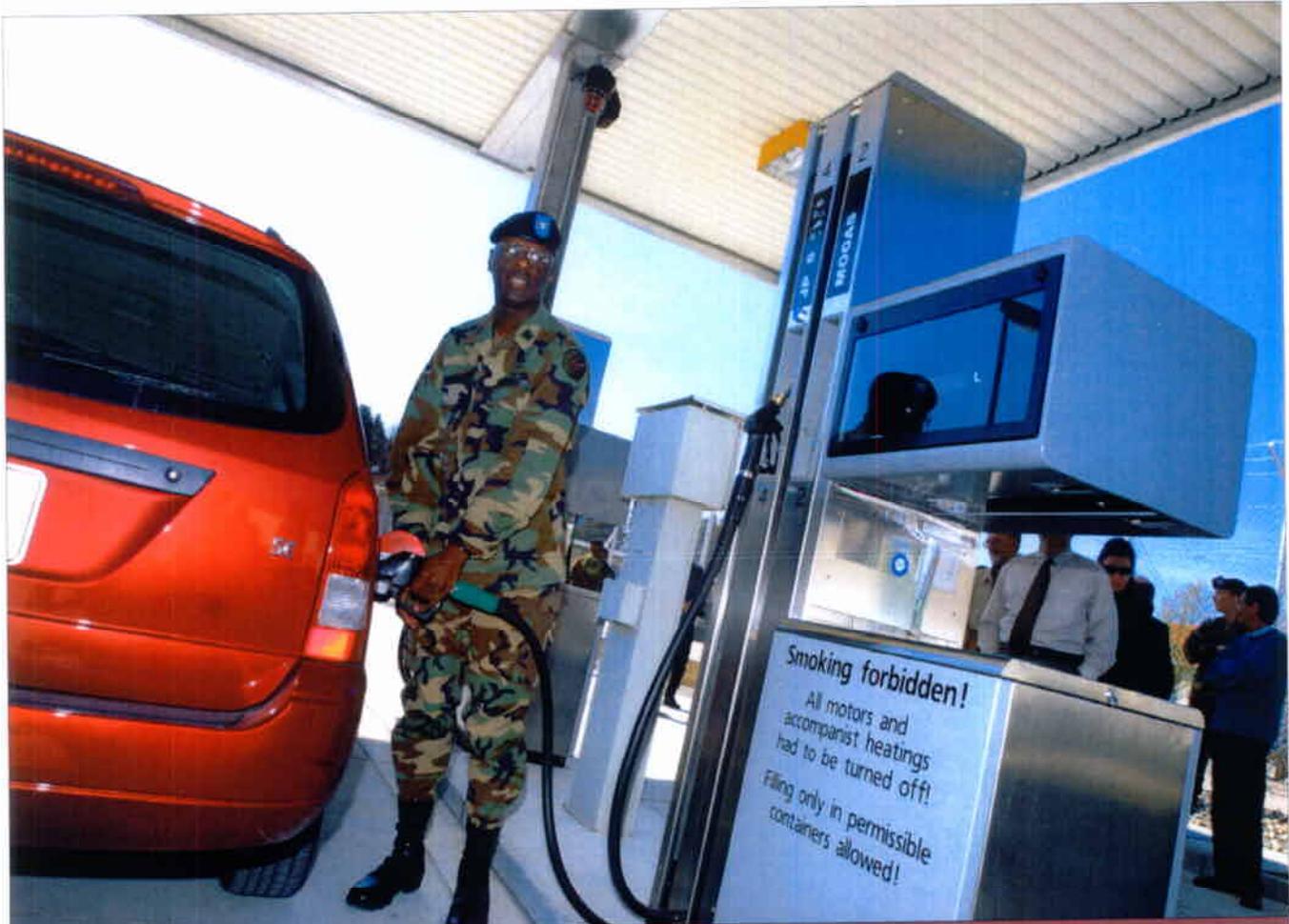
Story by Brian H. Temple

Gasping up government and tactical vehicles in Stuttgart is now easier since the April 16 opening of a \$475,000 gas station on Panzer Kaserne.

With four new nozzles chugging out almost twice the gas of the previous station, troops and government employees can now fill up and be on their way sooner, said Karl-Heinz Mueller, Logistics Management Specialist of the 6th Area Support Group's Directorate of Logistics (DOL). "We have high-speed pumps ... so we just push the button and that increases the capability to 75 liters, instead of 45 liters per minute," he said.

The station, collocated with the 95th Military Police Battalion, 554th Military Police Company's motor pool, has two 50,000-liter underground tanks, replacing two 10,000-liter tanks. The larger tanks are now refilled monthly, versus weekly.

The larger tanks would have also meant fewer trips to manually check the tank's gas levels with a dipstick, except that a new automated fuel system has dispensed with such checks altogether, Mueller added. The "Fuel Master" automated system measures how much gas is pumped and provides daily reports to help personnel keep track of exact usage.



Col. Larry Stubblefield, Commander, 6th Area Support Group, gasses up the first vehicle at Panzer Kaserne's new gas station in Stuttgart, Germany, April 16.

Photo by Brian H. Temple



Photo by August "Augie" Carrillo

Contract workers lower a 50,000 liter gas tank into place on Panzer Kaserne in Stuttgart. The \$475,000 transportation motor pool station construction was managed by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Europe District. The station opened April 16.

Saving both time and money are important to the ASG, Mueller said, and he thanked the project delivery team for completing the gas station several weeks early.

"On a project like this everybody needs to work together as a team and that was done here. ... Sometimes the teamwork is not there," he said.

One U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Europe District project engineer said the people involved kept the project moving forward even while facing construction challenges.

When the site was excavated to place the 50,000 liter tanks underground, contractor *Staatliches Hochbauamt Reutlingen* uncovered a problem, said project engineer August "Augie" Carrillo. "When we dug up the site we found ... the [tanks] were going to run into the

steam lines for the centralized heat plant so we had to move those. We had to put a little bend in 'em ... jog 'em out a few feet." When they did so, workers discovered the water lines were at a different elevation than plans indicated as well, he said. The amount of redirection to the steam lines was increased, and the water

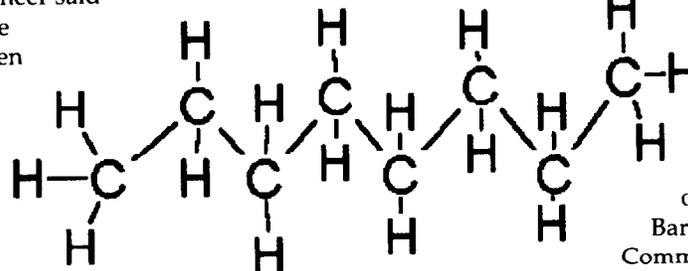
not be pleased. "Steam not being on - not so bad, water not being on - bad," he said. "After much begging and pleading, I was forgiven for having turned the water off for longer than I promised. It worked out."

Working things out is what enabled the project team to deliver the station to the customer early.

Carrillo said the contractor was "conscientious" and did his best to minimize disruptions, which resulted in a good project. And, as the 6th ASG looks forward to consolidating more facilities on Panzer Kaserne from Patch Barracks, Col. Larry Stubblefield, Commander of the 6th ASG, said the Corps of Engineers would be there to help them do so.

"Patch is very crowded, to put it in a nutshell," Stubblefield said. "We have a long range community plan to take things off of Patch and put them over here, and this is just the beginning step. All of the 6th ASG assets such as the in-processing, the central issue facility, the housing office ... are all going to be moved over here to Panzer."

"The Corps of Engineers and the 6th ASG - we're partners. We made an area in our DPW office for the Corps of Engineers. We put it right there with the DPW because our partnership with the Corps of Engineers is just that important."



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lines, originally expected not to be a problem, also had to be rerouted.

Carrillo needed to cut off steam and water for several days to redirect the pipes, and although the steam outage was planned, the water outage was an unforeseen requirement. He knew employees on post would



Herr Jochen Schrempf, Herr Eugen Kastner, Herr Karl Anzenhofer, August "Augie" Carrillo, Dobrita Nezer, Steven Baker, Karl-Heinz Mueller, Robert Gromer.