

# Hospital staff reacts

by Candy Walters  
KA staff writer

"We coped extremely well with a very difficult situation on a very difficult day," said Maj. Joe Flannery, chief of the Clinic Support Division of Landstuhl Army Regional Medical Center.

"We had 120 patients come through here and in less than two hours, they had been evaluated by physicians and decisions made on their dispositions. The cooperation between the Army, Air Force and our German medical colleagues went extremely well," he said.

"The transportation coordination was just amazing with the buses, ambulances, emergency vehicles and the air evacuation network," Major Flannery added.

"I don't know why I was ever concerned about having enough staff. Within a few minutes, staff filled the halls. There were no problems with the amount or the quality of staff," he said.

The major also praised the volunteers and Red Cross staff members who turned out to help.

"They set up a family support center that went extremely well. It helped relieve a lot of tension in the air," he said.

Brigitte deJesus, 29th Area Support Group public affairs officer, was among the volunteers who arrived to help out at 2nd General Hospital.

"The cooperation at Landstuhl was simply fantastic," she said, especially in the missing person's waiting room.

"They compiled lists of people who were missing, and family members were taken care of. There were refreshments and people trying to help everywhere.

"There Were Red Cross volunteers, Army Community Service people and other

volunteers. They had the situation very well under control," Mrs. deJesus said.

Col. William Milnor, chief of orthopedic surgery, said he was impressed with the way people worked to help out.

"The people outside the hospital, many of them waiting to find out about family members, helped to unload supplies from emergency vehicles and also patients from ambulances," he said.

"We had a number of volunteer health professionals from other clinics come and volunteer their services," Doctor Milnor said.

Mrs. deJesus said a number of people living on Landstuhl Post quickly arrived at the hospital to work in the triage area and provide assistance wherever necessary.

Blood donors also responded quickly as "soldiers were bused in to donate blood. German nationals came to donate blood. We ended up with so many people wanting to donate blood that many of them had to be turned back," Mrs. deJesus said.

Major Flannery and Doctor Milnor praised the efficiency and willingness of the local German medical professionals who responded to the emergency.

"We were able to have patients moved very quickly from the triage area to the operating rooms. We also had many patients treated in the triage area and our German medical colleagues helped us take many of them to various hospitals," Doctor Milnor said.

Doctor Milnor said most of the patients treated at LARMC suffered burns and extremity injuries.

"We coped very well. The first thing to do with a burn victim is to get fluids to them and get them stabilized. And then get those who need it to surgery very rapidly," he said.

"It went very smoothly. It's something you practice periodically, but you never expect to see something like this," Doctor Milnor said.



## In memory of

Flags fly at half-mast outside the headquarters of the 1st Air Force in Europe, Central Europe in memory of those killed in Sunday's accident.

Medical stations provide on the spot emergency