



The

DOUBLE

"Twice the Citizen! Army Strong!"

EAGLE

May 2013, Vol. 2, No. 2

LEADING OFF: [\(Click text to read story\)](#)

WARRIORS on the WATER

SWE  RING IN
Thomas named top NCO

REALIGNING
Army Reserve Forces



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DOUBLE EAGLE

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Anglers gather for the start of the Eighth Annual Warriors on the Water at Jordan Lake State Recreation Area near Pittsboro, N.C., April 19, 2013. Warriors on the Water is a military appreciation event that included a bass fishing tournament. (Photo by Timothy L. Hale/Army Reserve Command Public Affairs)



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The **DOUBLE EAGLE**
"Twice the Citizen! Army Strong!"

The Double Eagle is an authorized publication for members of the U.S. Army Reserve Command headquarters, Fort Bragg, N.C. Contents of the Double Eagle are not necessarily the official views of, or endorsed by, the U.S. Government, Department of the Army, or U.S. Army Reserve Command. The editorial content of this publication is the responsibility of the HQ USARC Public Affairs Office, Fort Bragg, N.C.

ARMY RESERVE COMMAND TEAM
Lt. Gen. Jeffrey W. Talley
Chief, U.S. Army Reserve
Chief Warrant Officer 5 Phyllis J. Wilson
Command Chief Warrant Officer of the Army Reserve
Command Sgt. Maj. Luther Thomas Jr.
Command Sergeant Major of the Army Reserve

DOUBLE EAGLE STAFF
Col. Ernest Parker
Chief, Public Affairs Division
Sgt. Maj. Anthony Martinez
Army Reserve Communications Sergeant Major
Mr. Marty Martin
Chief, Internal Information
Mr. Timothy L. Hale
Editor, Double Eagle

SUBMISSIONS: Double Eagle invites your story ideas, photographs, and other material of interest to members of the USARC headquarters. Correspondence can be sent via email to: timothy.l.hale.civ@mail.mil. Please include Double Eagle Story Submission and your office in the subject line of your email along with a daytime telephone, your email, and contact name.



U.S. Army Reserve
“WE CARE”
Celebrating Life

Life after suicide: a survivor's story

Maj. Angel Wallace

Army Reserve Command Public Information

It was a cool, fall day when Erin Thede walked on to the back porch of the home she shared with her husband, Juan Thede, and found him dead from a self-inflicted gunshot wound.

“It’s complete and total chaos,” Thede recalled as she talks through the scene at her home after finding her husband and calling 9-1-1.

“It seemed like a split second that my house was full of people – detectives, police officers, medical examiners, photographers taking pictures of every room.”

As she discussed the various things that occurred that tragic day, there’s one thing that stands out most in her mind, “I was supposed to know this was gonna happen. I know what to look for. I know the signs, and I didn’t see it.”

Thede has served in support of Soldiers and their Families for more than a decade. Though she is currently the U.S. Army Reserve’s director for the Employer Partnership Office, she previously served as the chief of Soldier and Family Support Services at the National Guard Bureau, where she faced the subject of suicide head-on both as a trainer for its prevention and for providing programs that help with resiliency and coping with loss.

“We were like any other couple. We fought, we laughed, we cried, we had great vacations, we had difficult car rides – just like everyone else,” she said, while acknowledging the lack of indicators that would’ve helped her to intercede in her husband’s desperate decision to end his internal struggle with pain.

“It’s not unlike any other deaths, with the exception that you’re still trying to find answers. On top of everything else, you’re trying to understand ‘why?’”

The most important message she wishes to share with those who are survivors is one backed by years of experience, training and now – hindsight.

“It is not your fault,” she said.

“This happens, and if you didn’t see those signs? It’s ok, because you probably didn’t see all of them, or enough of them to have been able to stop it,” she said.

As Thede conveyed her lack of understanding over her husband’s decision to take his life, she wished that he would’ve considered the impacts of that decision – not only for their shared life together, but also the impact of that decision on other important people in his life.

“His daughter got married on the first of February, and he didn’t walk her down the aisle... His youngest son is going to be graduating from college and he’s not going to see that,” Thede said alluding to not only the impact for her husband, but for those that are left behind to pick up the pieces.

When asked if the Army is effectively engaging against an enemy that many military leaders are now calling an epidemic through its various resiliency initiatives, Thede’s response is immediate and clear.

“I think the Army message is a good one,” Thede said. “It’s one I support one-hundred and fifty percent, or I wouldn’t be

here talking about this... Resiliency doesn’t mean you can’t acknowledge pain or you can’t say you need help.

“Resiliency is about knowing enough about yourself to acknowledge you need help and that it’s ok.”

Thede defined her husband as someone who was larger than life, bulletproof even. As a retired Gunnery Sergeant with over 21 years of service in the Marine Corps, his record reaffirms her characterization of him.

“There was no way that he was ever going to let anyone see (weakness),” she said.

Thede has one more message for those considering suicide.

“Talk to whoever it is that makes you feel comfortable – a spouse, a family member, a priest or member of the clergy. Your commander or maybe even your battle buddy,” she said. “Being resilient means you don’t have to be bulletproof.”

As for how Thede is coping with the loss of her partner, she acknowledges her faith has helped her through a very difficult time.

“I don’t think I’ll ever get over it. I’ll come to grips with it. I will never understand it,” Thede said.

She concedes that she takes everything one day at a time, “Starting back on November 13th, they were all bad days. Eventually, I had a good day. Then, I had a couple more good days.”

She looks forward to the day when those good days finally outnumber the bad ones. 🌈

EDITOR’S NOTE: If you are currently struggling with life after someone you care for has completed suicide, if you have knowledge of someone considering suicide that has confided in you, or if you have had thoughts of dealing with your own pain by taking your life – talk with someone.

National Suicide Prevention Lifeline 800-273-TALK (8255)

National Crisis Help Line 800-SUICIDE (784-2433)

U.S. Army Reserve Fort Family Outreach & Support Center 866-345-8248



CLICK HERE TO WATCH ERIN THEDE SHARE HER STORY



Thomas sworn in as 12th command sergeant major

*Story by Lt. Col. Jefferson Wolfe
Army Reserve Communications*

ARLINGTON, Va. — The Army Reserve's new command sergeant major challenged noncommissioned officers to train with the resources they have to improve themselves, their Soldiers and their units.

Command Sgt. Maj. Luther Thomas became the 12th Command Sergeant Major of the Army Reserve and the Command Sergeant Major of United States Army Reserve Command during a ceremony at the Hall of Heroes in the Pentagon, April 30.

"I am humbled and honored to be selected as the 12th Command Sergeant Major of the Army Reserve," he said.

Thomas follows Command Sgt. Maj. James M. Lambert, who has been the interim Command Sergeant Major of the Army Reserve since November.

"Going forward, and for the foreseeable future, we will operate under fiscal constraints," he said.

"While I recognize the challenge, I also see opportunities for us to effectively and efficiently use the resources we do have. We will now have time to slow things down and focus more on basic Soldier skills, to include individual training, sergeant's time training, physical training and leader development," Thomas said.

Continuity is important, but it is just as important to embrace change, he added.

"As we transition from an army of war to an army of preparation, leadership is critical and NCOs must provide that leadership," Thomas said. "We must provide direction, instill discipline and hold ourselves and our Soldiers accountable for meeting the Army standards."

The command sergeant major's position is the right hand of the command team, said Lt. Gen. Jeffrey Talley, the Chief of Army Reserve and Commanding General of United States Army Reserve Command.

"He is absolutely the right Soldier and



Command Sgt. Maj. Luther Thomas, right, accepts the ceremonial sword from Lt. Gen. Jeffrey W. Talley, Chief, U. S. Army Reserve and U.S. Army Reserve Command commanding general, at a change of responsibility ceremony at the Hall of Heroes in the Pentagon, April 30, 2013. Thomas is the 12th Command Sergeant Major of the Army Reserve and the USARC command sergeant major. (Photo by Lt. Col. Nathan Banks/Army Reserve Communications)

the right leader to help me take the Army Reserve to new levels of success," he said.

Lambert, who leaves his position to deploy overseas with the 143rd Expeditionary Sustainment Command, said much has happened in the six months he served as the interim command sergeant major.

"It has been a sincere honor for me and my family to be able to serve all of the Army Reserve during this time of transi-

tion," he said. "I have been truly impressed with the staff and leadership across the headquarters and throughout our units. We really do have some of the finest non-commissioned officers serving together for the good of our Soldiers, civilian employees and family members."

Talley praised Lambert's selfless service.

"It's never about him," he said. "It's always about service to others."

Talley also thanked Lambert's wife, Denise, and his family for their support.

"The Lamberts are simply the best," he said. "We are a better Army Reserve because of your service."

The Army Reserve has never been more indispensable to the nation's defense, Talley said. The command sergeant major is involved in many aspects of the job, including assisting and advising the CAR or as well as serving as a direct line to the Sergeant Major of the Army, the U.S. Army Forces Command sergeant major and all the command sergeants major in the field.

"This is no ordinary sergeant major's position," he added. "Both of these men are anything but ordinary."

Thomas joined the Army in 1984 at Fort Leonard Wood, Mo., after completing high school and has served with distinction in many active and reserve component leadership positions.

He deployed to Kuwait and Iraq in 2003-2004 as a logistician and to Afghanistan in 2008-2009 as an infantryman in an embedded training team assisting the Afghan Army. He also provided support to the Hurricane Katrina cleanup as part of the 356th Quartermaster Battalion from Laurel, Miss.

His most recent job was as the command sergeant major for the 84th Training Command at Fort Knox, Ky.

Thomas has an associate degree in Human Services from Midlands Technical College in Columbia, S.C., a bachelor's in political science from North Carolina State University in Raleigh, N.C., and an MBA from Trident University in Cypress, Calif. 





STILL "ARMY STRONG"



U.S. Army Reserve celebrates 105 years of military service

Photos by Timothy L. Hale/Army Reserve Command Public Affairs

(ABOVE) Maj. Gen. Luis R. Visot, U.S. Army Reserve Command deputy commanding general for operations, leads USARC officers and noncommissioned officers in a two-mile run at Fort Bragg, N.C., April 23, 2013, to celebrate the 105th anniversary of the Army Reserve. Created in 1908 as the Medical Reserve Corps, today's Army Reserve is a key complimentary operational force that supports the entire United States. The Army Reserve consists of more than 200,000 "Citizen-Soldiers", and approximately 11,900 of those Soldiers are currently deployed around the world, providing life-saving and life-sustaining capabilities for Joint Force operations.



 **CLICK THE BLUE LINKS BELOW
TO SEE SLIDESHOWS
FROM THE BIRTHDAY RUN AND
HEADQUARTERS CELEBRATION**

(L-R) Sgt. Jessy Westfall, Master Sgt. Rhonda Beck, Maj. Gen. Luis R. Visot, Ann Capps, and Xavier Pitts, cut the ceremonial cake during the command's 105th anniversary celebration at Fort Bragg, N.C., April 23, 2013. Created in 1908 as the Medical Reserve Corps, today's Army Reserve is a key complimentary operational force that supports the entire United States. Westfall and Beck were the youngest and oldest Soldiers serving while Pitts and Capps were the youngest and oldest civilians serving in the headquarters. Visot is the USARC deputy commanding general for operations.



WARRIORS on the WATER

Story & photos by Timothy L. Hale
Army Reserve Command Public Affairs





Anglers gather for the start of the Eighth Annual Warriors on the Water at Jordan Lake State Recreation Area near Pittsboro, N.C., April 19, 2013. Warriors on the Water is a free military appreciation event that included a bass fishing tournament.





(TOP) Lt. Col. Danavan Bussey, a U.S. Army Reserve Command strategic events planner, shows off his "keeper" bass on Jordan Lake State Recreation Area during the Eighth Annual Warriors on the Water tournament near Pittsboro, N.C., April 19, 2013.

PITTSBORO, N.C. - More than 75 military service members teamed up with professional and semi-professional bass anglers for the Eighth Annual Warriors on the Water fishing tournament at Jordan Lake State Recreation Area, April 19.

(BOTTOM) Sgt. Dexter Taylor, a U.S. Army Reserve Command paralegal noncommissioned officer, and his professional angler, J.W. Moreno, try to find a busy spot for bass during the Warriors on the Water tournament.

For three U.S. Army Reserve Command Soldiers who may not have pulled in a trophy bass, the memories and new friendships they gained far surpassed effort.



Sgt. 1st Class Michael Waskewich, a U.S. Army Reserve Command paralegal noncommissioned officer, and his professional angler, Tommy Smith, fish on Jordan Lake State Recreation Area during the Eighth Annual Warriors on the Water tournament near Pittsboro, N.C., April 19, 2013. Warriors on the Water is a free military appreciation event that includes a bass fishing tournament.



“This is not a money tournament,” said Hal Abshire, an Air Force veteran and one of the founding members of Warriors on the Water. “It’s that pride of taking that hero out with them and everyone is a hero here.”

Lt. Col. Danavan Bussey, a strategic event planner with the USARC Contract Acquisition Support Office, said it was “fun and it’s one of the most exciting things I’ve done.”

Bussey, himself an avid fisherman from Fort Lauderdale, Fla, said it also gave him a chance to talk to other anglers.

“We were all there together in friendship. As soon as I got back to the car, I called everyone that I knew,” Bussey said. “If I’m here next year, I want to do it again.”

For Sgt. Dexter Taylor, a USARC paralegal noncommissioned officer, the Warriors on the Water event was only the third time the New Bern, N.C. native had been fishing.

“I’ve been twice with my wife, but we never caught anything,” Taylor said. But that changed thanks to his professional partner, J.W. Moreno from Piney Flats, Tenn.

“He was great,” Moreno said. “He didn’t know how to use a spinning reel at the start of the day. By the end of the day, he was

throwing it up under trees. He’s patient and that’s what it takes to be a good fisherman.”

Taylor broke his fishless streak and landed one. Even though it didn’t meet the required 14-inch minimum for the tournament, he’s hooked on fishing.

“I’m looking at renting a boat and getting back out there,” Taylor said.

Sgt. 1st Class Michael Waskewich, also a USARC Staff Judge Advocate NCO and experienced angler from Brookville, Ind., only caught three fish, but no keepers.

“The waves being real choppy and the wind blowing around probably had a lot to do with people not catching as many,” he said.

Waskewich said fishing with his pro, Tommy Smith of Fayetteville, N.C., was “a blast. He is very knowledgeable and he’s been on this lake several times.”

Whether a service member catches their limit or none at all, Abshire said they pay off for Warriors on the Water “is to see the look on their faces. It’s amazing how everyone comes together.” 🇺🇸



[CLICK HERE TO SEE MORE WARRIORS ON THE WATER IMAGES](#)



Spc. Samantha Greeninger, an Army Reserve medic from Cincinnati, Ohio, assigned to the 629th Forward Surgical Team of Columbus, Ohio, spends time with two Ugandan children at the Pajimo Clinic in rural Uganda, Oct. 20, 2009, during Operation Natural Fire 10. Through Regional Alignment of Forces, Army Reserve assets can be used to support combatant commanders' Theater Security Cooperation activities, training events, and exercises. (FILE PHOTO - Maj. Corey Schultz/U.S. Army Reserve Command Public Affairs)

Regional Alignment of Forces shaping partnerships

*Story by Timothy L. Hale
Army Reserve Command Public Affairs*

FORT BRAGG, N.C. – In keeping with the Army Reserve's mission to provide an enduring and operational reserve, a move is underway to help shape how our 205,000 warrior-citizens will be used to ensure the Army can meet its objectives at home and overseas.

After 10-plus years of supporting the total Army and joint forces capabilities through Army Force Generation manning and equipping, the Army Reserve is taking steps to implement their portion of the Army's Regional Alignment of Forces.

"As we go forward out of the significant contributions to CENTCOM, it is difficult to project where the next conflict will be," said Maj. Katherine Numerick, U.S. Army Reserve Command, G-35 plans officer.

"The Army Reserve is the federal enabling force, and so we

have to have our forces arrayed so that we're responsive, in whatever theater the next conflict comes to," she said.

Ultimately, Numerick said it's not so much where a unit is based in the U.S. but what it can bring to the fight in a given theater of operation.

"It is capability-based in order to identify the geographic link," Numerick said.

Since Army Reserve forces are spread throughout communities across the United States, Europe, and the Pacific, planners looked at what was already in place. She noted that it was a matter of looking at where active and reserve units were already assigned or theater-committed by existing orders or even from a historical perspective.

"We also looked at the strategic context of each theater," she said. "Some theaters simply don't need certain types of our capacity – it might be nice to have but there is a greater need in another location," she said.



Through all of this, the regional alignment for the Army Reserve will take place at the major subordinate command or brigade level, Numerick said, adding that all subordinate units to a given command would typically follow the same alignment.

Building Partner Capacities

In his March 2012 *Army Live* blog, Gen. Ray Odierno, Army Chief of Staff, said, “The regionally aligned forces concept represents an innovative and expanded approach to our ongoing Army security cooperation mission and force management process.

Army Soldiers will become familiar with the region in which they may be tasked to operate. Soldiers will maintain core combat skills and capabilities while furthering the important business of training and mentoring partner nation security forces.”

These partnerships are nothing new for the Army Reserve, which has been operating and supporting peacetime missions throughout the globe for years – most recently in exercises such as Eastern Accord and Natural Fire in Uganda, Balikatan in the Philippines, and Beyond the Horizon held throughout the Southern Command area of operation.

These exercises involve U.S. forces working along side their multi-national partners in the areas of medical, civil affairs, law enforcement, signal, aviation, and logistics.

“This is part of the Army Reserve’s Theater Security Cooperation support plan,” Numerick said. “One of the beauties of regionally aligning units is that we’ve distributed enough assets across ARFORGEN so units come into their available year on a regular cycle.”

Numerick said that all RAF planning has been done with “an eye toward maintaining the Army’s Force Generation cycle.

One of the opportunities it opens up is overseas deployment training in their aligned theater. Since every theater has major exercises, there are plenty of opportunities to be spread across our units.”

Enabling Regional Alignment

Another key component of regional alignment is the Army Reserve Engagement Cell or AREC.

While the AREC is not part of the current Army Reserve structure, it is being developed to ensure the Army Reserve sup-



Lt. Col. Tom Englehart examines a Ugandan man’s injured foot at the Pajimo Clinic in rural Kitgum district, Oct. 20, 2009. Englehart, the commander of the Army Reserve’s 629th Forward Surgical Team of Columbus, Ohio, and about 60 other Army Reserve medical providers, treated more than 700 local residents during Natural Fire 10, a partnership exercise with Uganda, Kenya, Burundi, Tanzania and Rwanda. Through Regional Alignment of Forces, Army Reserve assets can be used to support combatant commanders’ Theater Security Cooperation activities, training events, and exercises. (FILE PHOTO - Maj. Corey Schultz/U.S. Army Reserve Command Public Affairs)

ports Army service component commanders and combatant commanders.

She said they are doing this by “planning and identifying the best resources the Army Reserve can provide to meet the requirement.”

Numerick said this is great way to leverage the capabilities of Army Reserve units and commands that provide medical, logistics, as well as civil affairs capabilities

Overall, Numerick said, “realigning Army Reserve forces to meet the needs of the Army not only reaffirms our readiness but also helps the supported commands tap into our unique capabilities.

“The Army Reserve has the only insti-

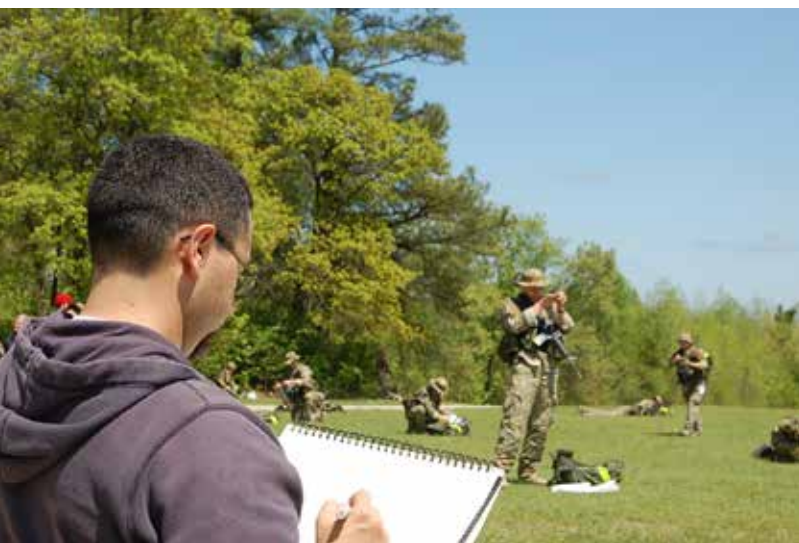
tutional training capacity in the Army,” she said.

“So when theaters look at the kind of building partner capacity events that they have with host nations, our training capacity is ideal,” she said.

Odierno said it’s these capabilities that support the entire force “to improve partner capacity, sustain strong relationships, and to assist our Joint, Interagency, Intergovernmental and Multinational partners in building a stronger global security environment,” he said.

“This combination of skills and knowledge will continue to make U.S. Army units the security partners of choice.”





Life as ART

(Right) Master Sgt. Steve Opet, a U.S. Army Reserve Command public affairs noncommissioned officer, works on an illustration about the day in the life of Fort Bragg Soldiers at the USARC headquarters, April 26, 2013 (shown completed at the top). Opet is participating with Mariano Santillan, an illustrator with the *Fayetteville Observer*, working on a "Day in the Life at Fort Bragg" project. Both of their final works will be featured in the *Fayetteville Observer's* Elite Magazine. (Photos by Timothy L. Hale/Army Reserve Command Public Affairs)

(Left) *Fayetteville Observer* illustrator, Mariano Santillan, captures airmen practicing land navigation techniques at the Pope Air Force Base Combat Control School, April 23, 2013. (Photo by Maj. Angel Wallace/Army Reserve Command Public Affairs)





Change can be a good thing

By Timothy L. Hale
Editor, USARC Double Eagle

As the U.S. Army Reserve Command *Double Eagle* moves into its second year, you will probably start to notice some changes in the look and presentation of the online publication.

Last month, I outlined the new hyperlink structure found throughout the publication in order to make it a true online publication.

Starting with this month's edition, you will see a more robust graphic design approach.

Based on many years in the media industry, I felt that it was time to change the appearance in keeping with the multitude of online publications out there - both military and civilian.

Each month will now feature a cover story. This will be the feature story covering an event or person that highlights the best of this command's Soldiers and civilians. The front page will cover story with single image.

Additionally on the front page will be graphic elements for other stories in the publication. Clicking on any of these elements will take you directly to the story in the .pdf document.

I have taken the previous front page "teaser" images and moved them to page two which is now the table of contents.

The table of contents page is completely interactive - click on any story title or department title and it will take you to that page.

The USARC Public Affairs Internal Information branch is also working on some other initiatives to further streamline your online reading experience. I don't want to give away the surprises so you'll just have to wait.

Feedback is also an important piece of the *Double Eagle* redesign. If you have suggestions, comments, or story ideas, feel free to contact me via email at timothy.l.hale.civ@mail.mil or by phone at 910-570-8149.

As always, thanks for your support and readership as we move into the future. 🇺🇸



CLICK HERE to read Double Eagle back issues.



Timothy L. Hale, a U.S. Air Force veteran, is an award-winning photojournalist and editor of the USARC Double Eagle. A member of a number of professional organizations to include Nikon Professional Services, he also owns a photojournalism and graphic design service and freelances for an international photo wire service. The views expressed in this column are expressly his own and do not necessarily reflect those of the U.S. Army Reserve Command, the Department of the Army, and/or the Department of Defense.

And the winner is ...

It was just a rusty spike

by Col. Robert Hefner
75th Training Division, G-3/5/7

DAVIDSON, N.C. — No one would expect a rusty spike to be the subject of a story in the *Double Eagle*. But that's exactly what happened when Col. Robert Hefner, G-3/5/7, wrote the story "It was just a rusty spike" for the May 2013 issue of the publication. The story, which was published on the front page of the May 2013 issue, won the 2012 Department of Defense Thomas Jefferson Award in the Contribution by a Stringer (Writing Category).

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Join the *Double Eagle* and U.S. Army Reserve Command Public Affairs in congratulating Lt. Col. Robert Hefner, with the 75th Training Division, G-3/5/7, for winning the 2012 Department of Defense Thomas Jefferson Award in the Contribution by a Stringer (Writing Category).

Hefner's article "It was just a rusty spike" previously won at the Army Reserve Lt. Col. Wetzel "Scoop" Brumfield "Best in the Army Reserve" and the Maj. Gen. Keith L. Ware Public Affairs Competition, to earn the chance of competing at the DOD level.



CLICK HERE to read "It was just a rusty spike".



145th observance of Memorial Day

*By Christopher Ruff
Curator, National Museum of the Army Reserve*

Nearly 150 years ago after the American Civil War (1861-1865), Memorial Day, as it is now known, was established as a way to remember the sacrifice of the fallen.

The tradition was first known as “Decoration Day” because the graves of our military dead were decorated with tokens of flowers, wreaths, and flags.

The custom of remembering the dead with grave side rituals has long been a hallmark of human society. Because of this shared humanity, these memorial observances were not isolated to a particular region but occurred in both the South and the North.

Ceremonies and speeches after the Civil War had included much rhetoric and lamentation of a cruel enemy’s prosecution of unjust war, on both sides.

With the passage of time, these ceremonies set aside the sectional differences and Soldiers in blue and grey were honored alike.

The first Memorial Day celebration, originally called Decoration Day, is credited to Boalsburg, Pa, according to local historians. The ceremony took place on July 4, 1864 when local women there decorated Soldier’s graves.

In actuality, the first informal observance occurred with the

Civil War’s first casualty. Soon after the war, the federal government began a program to consolidate the Union war dead into national military cemeteries.

Nearly 300,000 Union dead were re-interred in 73 national cemeteries by 1870, the most famous of which are Gettysburg, Pa. where President Abraham Lincoln gave his immortal address, and Arlington, Va., the former home of Confederate Gen. Robert E. Lee.

A portion of Abraham Lincoln’s Gettysburg Address sums up the essence of today’s Memorial Day; “—that from these honored dead we take increased devotion to that cause for which they gave the last full measure of devotion – that we here highly resolve that these dead shall not have died in vain – that this nation, under God, shall have a new birth of freedom – and that government of the people, by the people, for the people, shall not perish from the earth.”

In the North, the champion of the new custom was Union veteran, Gen. John A. Logan. After the war, he commanded the Grand Army of the Republic, a large and politically powerful, veteran’s organization. With this authority, Logan issued a proclamation on May 5, 1868, stating that Decoration Day should be observed on May 30th annually throughout the nation.

He was a long time politician from before the war. His actions



Give pause and... FORGET THEM NOT

and service as a commander in the Union Army of the Tennessee were widely known and respected. Logan even commissioned a painting championing himself as the Hero of the Battle of Atlanta, fought in August 1864, as a promotional for his unsuccessful bid for Vice President of the United States on a ticket with James G. Blaine in the 1884 election. He died just two years later in 1886; currently the painting is housed in the [Cyclorama](#) in Atlanta's Grant Park.

In the South, Decoration Day was celebrated at the war's end with family reunions, outdoor pick-nicks, and grave side religious services. Women's organizations, like the United Daughters of the Confederacy, were one of the main drivers to adopt Decoration Day and raised money to erect monuments and rebury Confederate dead. Later, in the early 20th Century, Decoration Day came to increasingly be called "Memorial Day" as the Indian Wars, the Spanish American War, the Philippine Insurrection, and World War I were added to the annals of U.S. military history.

By the World War II era, the holiday was widely called Memorial Day but the name change was not official until 1967. The day is also marked by lowering the U.S. flag to half-staff, a visible symbol of mourning, until noon when it is fully raised again.

Across America and in cemeteries on foreign soil where American service members are interred, Soldiers and volunteers

walk through these cemeteries, placing flags on graves. Ironically, also on Memorial Day weekend, war movies play on our television sets and the Indianapolis 500 auto race is held.

In recent years, Memorial Day offered many people time away from work as a family holiday amidst the symbols of flags and flowers.

There are two major reasons for Memorial Day's current date: late May is considered the best time for flowers to be in bloom and this time of year also marks the unofficial start of summer and warm weather suitable for cookouts.

Today, Memorial Day is celebrated on the final Monday in May, and is used to honor all of our nation's war dead while Veteran's Day honors the surviving servicemen and women.

The celebration is rooted in the communal outpouring of solemn grief and a need to commemorate the loss of so many of our men, and increasingly women, to America's history of military conflict.

As Americans, we have been touched by war; we all have family and extended family that have numbered among the ranks of the United States Armed Forces, whatever the uniform. Most of them have returned, but many have not. Join me in keeping those who were lost in our thoughts. Give pause and forget them not, because they were Americans every one! 🇺🇸

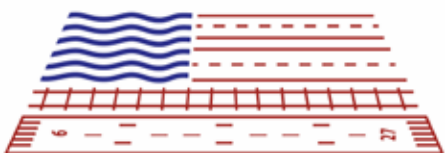




DID YOU KNOW?

In honor of National Defense Transportation Day and (3rd Friday in May) National Transportation Week, here are the TOP 10 things you probably DID NOT KNOW about Army Reserve Transportation.

- The Army Reserve has 44% of total Army Transportation units.
- The Army Reserve has 50% of the Army's Watercraft (not pre-positioned).
- The Army Reserve has boats! Watercraft units are located in Calif., Fla., Md., N.C., Va., and Wash.
- Army Reserve Transportation units are in 45 states and territories.
- The Army Reserve is under-strength for NCOs in the ranks of E-5 through E-7. Three Transportation Military Occupation Specialties (88K, 88L and 88N) have Warrant Officer career programs.
- The Army Reserve has 100% of all Army Rail units, Trailer Transfer Point units and Expeditionary Terminal Operations Elements.
- Transportation units conduct missions (not just annual training) in many countries including Barbados, Cuba, Egypt, Germany, Guatemala, Japan, Puerto Rico, and the Virgin Islands and 33 states including Alaska, Ariz., Calif., Colo., and Fla.
- Army Reserve Transportation includes trucks, boats, airport operations, seaport operations, movement control and rail. Our equipment is very similar to the transportation industry equipment.
- The Army Reserve Employer Partnership Office can connect Soldiers with job opportunities in the transportation industry with military-friendly employers including: Schneider National, C.R. England, Swift Transportation, Estes Express, Walmart, AMTRAC, BNSF, and Union Pacific (www.h2h.jobs).
- Check the patches at deployment seaports and air terminals: the majority of the Soldiers loading, unloading, mapping, tracking and planning for our seaports and air terminals are wearing Army Reserve patches. Those ports are run by Army Reserve Transporters!



National Transportation Week

List compiled by
U.S. Army Reserve Command G-4:
Lt. Col. Murray Mallett,
Chief Warrant Officer 5 Jimmy Smith,
Lt. Col. Dale Rivers, Maj. Joseph Corcoran,
Lt. Col. Brian Burkett, Lt. Col. Jon Carrico,
Fred McDonald, and TAPDBR.



The Association for
Global Logistics & Transportation





What direction is your life taking?

*Chaplain (Lt. Col.) Richard Savage
USARC Chaplain's Office*

What directs our lives?

Is it a document or internal values?

For the United States, our guiding document is the Constitution.

On May 29, 1790, 14 years after we declared our independence from England, the state of Rhode Island became the thirteenth state to ratify the Constitution of the United States. With their ratification, we initiated the document that has governed our country for over 220 years.

The Constitution looks like a simple document, but it has changed over the years.

The first change occurred immediately after it was written. The Bill of Rights added important individual rights to the Constitution.

Over the years, our nation added other amendments.

The Constitution changed as both our country and the times have changed.

The Constitution serves as our nation's road map and how we as a nation are to operate.

What's amazing is that many people do not really know how important the Constitution is to our country or what its true meaning is. We fail to take the time to study it, to know it.

It is that way with our lives as well.

We start out with our path set and planned out. Then we have to make adjustments.

When we are born, our parents had certain dreams and aspirations for us.

As we go through our childhood, and then teenage years, we develop our own dreams and aspirations – it is amazing at how often they change when we are in our younger years. These dreams and aspirations drive us and keep us focused in our lives. These dreams direct the choices we make.

My direction in life has changed over the years.

Initially I thought I would be a veterinarian, but in high school felt God's call to be a minister.

At first I thought it would be in the local church, but while at my first church after seminary felt that it would be with the Army. I've been in that ministry for the past 24 years. My direction has been directed by my faith, Scriptures, and sensing the calling of God into the ministry in the Army.

Dreams and aspirations give us our road map and include our values and guiding principles. Without these we would be wandering around aimlessly and without a purpose. Hopefully you will take time to look over and reaffirm your values, dreams, and aspirations in your life.

Check where you are going and make sure you are staying true to those values and aspirations. 🙏

FORSCOM/USARC Christian Bible Study

**U.S. Army Forces Command and U.S. Army Reserve Command
hosts a weekly Christian Bible study.**

Studies are held each Tuesday,

starting at 11:30 a.m., Room 1901 near the USARC G4.

Please come and share a time of fellowship and worship with us.

**“All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching,
for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, that
the man of God may be competent, equipped for every good work.”**

Second Timothy 3:16-17





Army Ten-Miler Registration opens May 1 & 15

ARLINGTON, Va., – The Army's 29th annual Army Ten-Miler will be conducted on Sunday, Oct. 20, at 8 a.m., at the Pentagon.

Produced by the U.S. Army Military District of Washington, the Army's race is expected to attract over 35,000 military and civilian runners from around the world.

Army Ten-Miler officials have confirmed that they will continue the two-phase registration process for the Army's race that was introduced in 2011. Priority registration, presented by Navy Federal Credit Union, for all U.S. service members and runners who have participated in seven or more Army Ten-Miler races will open on May 1.

U.S. service members must use a ".mil" address to register, and a searchable database will be posted for seven-time or more Army Ten-Miler runners. Installations will be able to obtain pre-paid entries for their teams during both registration sessions.

Officials also confirmed that the runner field will increase to 35,000 runners, and 10,000 race entries will be reserved for the priority registration program. The remaining two-thirds of the race entries will be available to the general public on a first-come, first-served basis beginning May 15.

For those who miss registration in May, the Army Ten-Miler online transfer program will open June 1. Last year over 2,500 runners were able to enter the race through the transfer program.

The Army Ten-Miler is the third largest 10-mile race in the world and will again be conducted on the day before the opening of the Association of the United States Army's Annual Meeting and Exposition at the Walter E. Washington Convention Center.

The race's two-day Health and Fitness EXPO at the D.C. Armory will be held on Friday, Oct. 18, and Saturday, Oct. 19, from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. both days. Over 35,000 attendees visit this pre-race event. The D.C. Armory is located at 2001 East Capitol Street, across from RFK Stadium in Washington. Free parking will be available to runners and the public during EXPO hours. The Armory is also accessible from the Stadium/Armory Metro Station on the Blue and Orange lines.

The Marriott Crystal Gateway Hotel in Arlington, Va., will again serve as the headquarters hotel for this year's race. The hotel is conveniently located less than a mile from the Pentagon and is on the Metro Blue and Yellow Lines. The hotel will offer a special room rate for runners and host the popular all-you-can-eat GEICO Pasta Dinner on Saturday Oct. 19. Since the room block and GEICO Pasta Dinner always sell out, race officials encourage runners to make their reservations early. Complete race information is available at www.armytenmiler.com. The lead sponsors for the 2013 race are the Association of the United States Army and KBR, an AUSA sustaining member. 

Opet's Odyssey

By Master Sgt. Steve Opet



Safely sharing Fort Bragg roads

In January 2013, an Army Soldier from Aberdeen Proving Ground, Md., died while operating a POV that collided with an Mine Resistant Ambush Protection Vehicle on Fort Bragg.

Over the next several months, there will be an increase in heavy, armed wheeled vehicle traffic on post roads.

With increased military traffic comes the potential for increased risk to non-military traffic.

Here are some considerations before venturing out on the roads:

- 1 - Appropriate levels of leadership during planning,
- 2 - Conduct route recon and avoid peak rush hour,
- 3 - Properly trained, licensed military vehicle operators,
- 4 - Occupants must know their individual responsibilities,
- 5 - Positive leadership makes all the difference.



Civilian Workforce Transformation: Setting up civilian keys to success

A message from the Honorable Mr. John McHugh, Secretary of the Army;

"I hold each Army Civilian accountable for mapping and navigating a progressive program of self-development. Commanders, supervisors, and managers share responsibility for enabling Army Civilian employees to reach their full potential."

To that end two key Army initiatives, resulting from the Army's Civilian Workforce Transformation plan, will provide what is necessary to plan and attain career goals. The CWT is the Army's program to transform the Army's civilian workforce for the 21st century.

It not only provides better management of the Army's civilian workforce from an enterprise perspective but also develops a more capable Civilian who is well grounded as a leader and is technically proficient with the requisite training to meet the mission. Of most significant the following initiatives were completed in calendar 2012:

1. All Army civilians now are in one of 31 career programs. Do you know your career program? A career program is comprised of occupational series and functional fields grouped together on the basis of population, occupational structure, grade range, and commonality of job and qualification characteristics. Career programs are established to ensure the availability of qualified and trained professionals to meet Army's current and future needs.

The Army developed 448 career maps that now cover the General Schedule, or GS, population with a blueprint for a successful civil service career. Training, education, and development are vital parts of career program management.

At each stage in a civilian career, training, education, and development assignments improve job performance and build qualifications. Career development is through the Army Civilian Training, Education and Development System. Check out the

<http://cpol.army.mil/library/train/acteds> for all career programs.

2. The development of the Army Career Tracker. The ACT is an Army portal that changes the way training, education and experiential learning support is provided to the Army. The ACT integrates data from existing Army systems into one easy to use and customized portal simplifying the career management process for the Army.

All newly-developed career maps covering the GS population are now loaded into ACT, empowering an employee to search for training and education opportunities and resources. Supervisors can now advise and track employee development more effectively. Army's future plans are to require the use of ACT in the management of Individual Development Plans and coordination for centrally funded training. All personnel and supervisors are encouraged to access ACT and become familiar with the system to facilitate the future transition in career program management. The ACT is a Common Access Card enabled system and can be accessed at <https://actnow.army>.

3. Are you familiar with America's Army-Our Profession Education and Training Program? This is an ongoing education and information effort to help establish a widely understood, accepted, and internalized meaning of the Army Profession and Ethic. This effort is not solely targeted for the Soldiers.

Army civilians, as an integral component of the Army profession will benefit from this information and exposure to these concepts. Specific information on the Army Profession Campaign can be found at the Center for the Army Profession and Ethic website; <http://cape.army.mil>. As part of this effort the U.S. Army Forces Command and U.S. Army Reserve Command Special Troops Battalion is sponsoring Army Profession Seminars on May 3 at 9 a.m. and 2 p.m. at the STB Headquarters building. USARC Staff civilian employees are welcome and encouraged to attend. 🇺🇸

USARC Soldiers, Families attend White House Easter Egg Roll

(L-R) Mackenzie Hansen, daughter of Capt. Niels Hansen, U.S. Army Reserve Command G-37 Individual Training Division, participates in the annual White House Easter Egg Roll, April 1, 2013. The Hansens were just one of a number of Soldiers and their Families who attended the event.





ACROSS THE ARMY



Addison “Tad” Davis, U.S. Army Reserve Command chief executive officer, (seated second from right) was one of the featured attendees at an Army operational energy summit, here, March 27. The summit featured leaders in Army energy on developing energy-efficient technologies and a more energy-informed culture. (Photo by Mike Strasser/Assistant Editor, *The Pointer View*)

Davis attends operational energy summit

*Story by Mike Strasser
Assistant Editor, The Pointer View*

WEST POINT, N.Y. – Addison “Tad” Davis, U.S. Army Reserve Command chief executive officer, was one of the featured attendees at an Army operational energy summit, at the U.S. Military Academy, here, March 27.

Speaking at one of the breakout sessions, Davis emphasized the importance of what he called “the triple bottom line of mission, environment and community.

“Energy – operational or on our installations and at Army Reserve facilities – is a key component of sustainability,” Davis said.

“We in the Army Reserve have a major

vested interest in operational energy to ensure mission success, as the Army Reserve consists of primarily combat service and service support units. We’re moving the fuel and water and other classes of supply, so we have to be concerned with it – it is indeed an operational imperative,” he said.

During the culminating panel discussion, more than 580 cadets squeezed into Arnold Auditorium to hear from four senior Army leaders on the subject of developing a more energy-informed culture.

Lt. Gen. Raymond V. Mason, the Department of the Army deputy chief of staff for logistics, told cadets the Army’s push to develop energy-efficient technologies and to train its Soldiers to be energy-conscious is all about the warfighters.

“This focus on operational energy is not about, necessarily, trying to save fuel,” Mason said. “It’s about making you more combat-effective and reducing your risk.”

For one gallon of generator fuel or water used, it requires seven gallons of fuel to transport. In combat, it takes more than 20 gallons of fuel per day to sustain each Soldier, according to the U.S. Army Operational Energy Office. Mason said an army that can make energy-informed decisions will save Soldiers lives just by reducing the number of fuel and water convoys traveling to outposts and forward operating bases, known as FOBs.

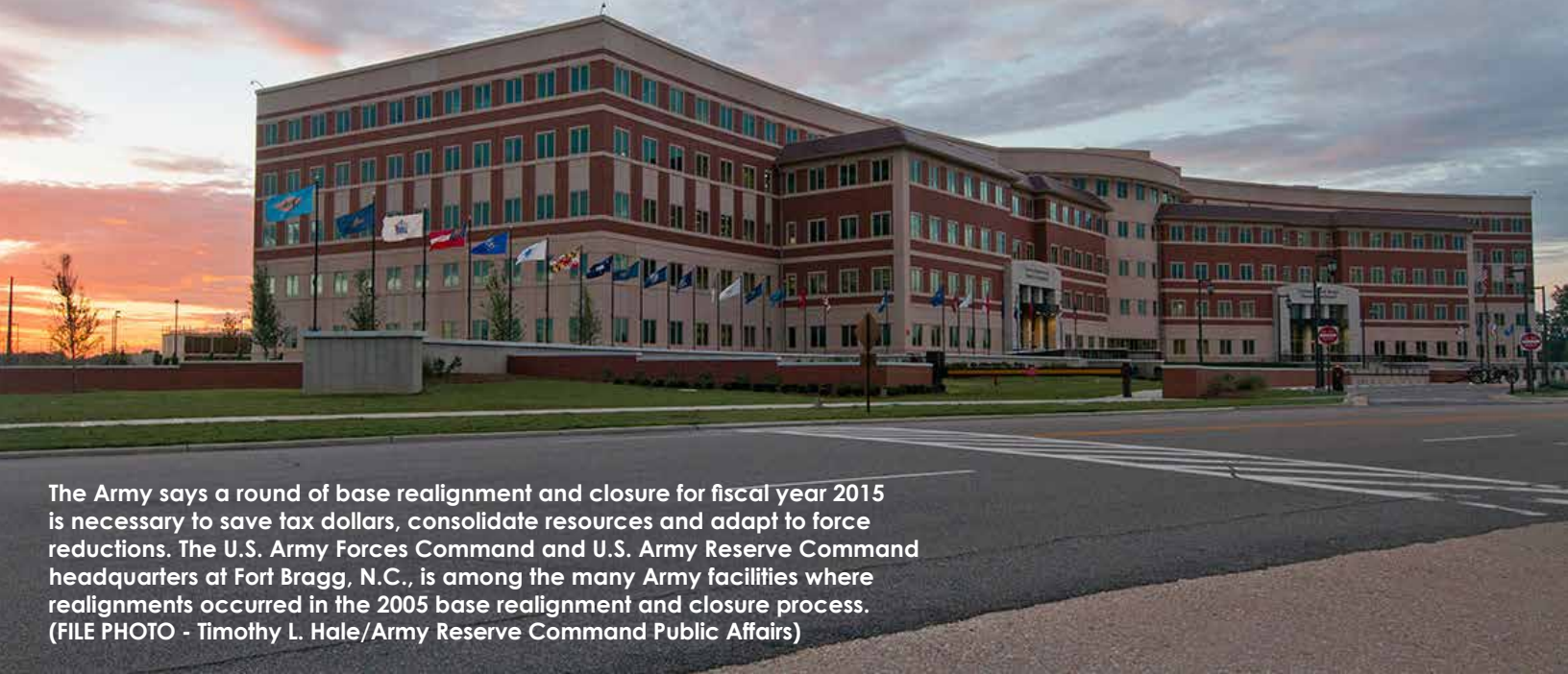
“There’s a risk to your Soldiers getting

See **SUMMIT**, Pg. 22



BRAC 2015:

Army seeks another round of base closures, realignments



The Army says a round of base realignment and closure for fiscal year 2015 is necessary to save tax dollars, consolidate resources and adapt to force reductions. The U.S. Army Forces Command and U.S. Army Reserve Command headquarters at Fort Bragg, N.C., is among the many Army facilities where realignments occurred in the 2005 base realignment and closure process. (FILE PHOTO - Timothy L. Hale/Army Reserve Command Public Affairs)

*Story Lisa Ferdinando
Army News Service*

WASHINGTON – The Army says a round of base realignment and closure for fiscal year 2015 is necessary to save tax dollars, consolidate resources and adapt to force reductions.

With a smaller total force over the next years -- from a high of 570,000 in 2010 to 490,000 in 2017 -- the Army's need for facilities will also decrease, said Katherine Hammack, the Army's assistant secretary for Installations, Energy and Environment.

"The resulting force structure reduction will create excess capacity at several installations," she testified to the Senate Armed Services Committee, subcommittee on readiness and management support, April 24, 2013.

"With a reduced end-strength and force structure in the United States, now is the time to assess and right-size the supporting infrastructure," she said.

Hammack said the Army is already downsizing its infrastructure in Europe, and that it is working closely with the Office of the Secretary of Defense to examine whether there are additional cost-saving opportunities in Europe through joint or multi-service consolidation.

Infrastructure changes in Europe, while important, are not part of base realignment and closure, known as BRAC. The BRAC process -- including past rounds of BRAC and any future rounds of BRAC -- applies only to installations in the United States.

With a 45 percent reduction in force structure, Hammack said the Army is implementing a 51 percent reduction in infra-

structure, a 58 percent reduction in civilian staffing, and a 57 percent reduction in base operating costs.

"A future round of base realignment and closure in the United States is essential to identify excess Army infrastructure and prudently align civilian staffing with reduced uniform force structure, just like we are doing in Europe," she said.

For fiscal year 2014, the Army requests \$2.4 billion for military construction, Army family housing and the Army's share of the Department of Defense base closure account, said Hammack. She said the request represents a 34 percent decrease from the fiscal year 2013 request.

Hammack said BRAC property conveyance from prior rounds of BRAC, remains an Army priority.

"Putting excess property back into productive reuse can facilitate job creation, help communities building the local tax base and generate revenue," she said. "In total, the Army has conveyed almost 78 percent of the total prior BRAC acreage."

Hammack said the Army also requests \$15.2 billion for installation energy and environmental programs, facility sustainment restoration and modernization and base operating support.

"With the fiscal challenges we are facing, the Army has closely reviewed the facility investments to determine the level of resources needed to support the force," Hammack said. "Supporting the force requires appropriate facilities, training ranges, maintenance and operations. And that's where we have focused."

Hammack said the most important aspect of the Army is its human element.

See **BRAC**, Pg. 22

from Pg. 20

there and then with 20 vehicles at the gate. That's 20 opportunities for the bad guys to get inside the FOB," Mason said. "If we can help reduce it down by five trucks through operational energy programs, I've reduced your risk by 20 percent."

Still, developing energy independence is a strategy needed to further eliminate risk. Easy access to fuel and energy has been an advantage the Army has based its combat operations around for the past two decades, Mason said. "The enemies we are going to fight in the future will try to deny us that access," he said.

Every Soldier in an infantry squad carries 23 batteries just to power equipment on a 72-hour mission. New technology, like the Soldier Worn Integrated Power Equipment System, or SWIPES, is being produced to both lighten the load and increase performance in the field.

"We're trying to give them a lot of capabilities so that a squad can be as autonomous and last as long as they can," Mason said.

The panel discussion was the culminating event in the day-long Army Energy-Informed Culture Summit. Joining Mason on the panel were Davis, Brig. Gen. Michael Stone, the Michigan National Guard assistant adjutant general, and the Honorable Katherine Hammack, the assistant secretary of the Army for Installations, Energy and Environment.

Hammack, who chose West Point in 2011 as one of the pilot installations for the Army's Net Zero Energy program, spoke on the theme of enhancing mission effectiveness through an energy-informed culture.

"That's really what it's about -- ensuring all of our Soldiers have energy at the right place and the right time to do their mission, while at the same time we reduce risk and vulnerability," Hammack said.

The Net Zero Energy initiative is an integrated approach to reaching the Army's goal of producing as much energy as consumed on an installation over a period of one year.

EDITOR'S NOTE: Steve Patarcity, Office of the Chief, Army Reserve, strategic plans officer/program manager, contributed to this story.

from Pg. 21

"The Army's strength is our Soldiers, families and Army civilians who support them," she said. "They are and will continue to be the centerpiece for the Army."

John Conger, the acting deputy undersecretary of defense for Installations and Environment, testified that a BRAC round is needed for fiscal year 2015, but it must be executed in a careful manner that does not affect the warfighter.

"The department is facing a serious problem created by the tension caused by declining budgets, reductions in force structure, and limited flexibility to adapt our infrastructure accordingly," he testified.

"Without question, installations are critical components of our ability to fight and win wars," he said. "However, we need to be cognizant that maintaining more infrastructure than we need taxes other resources that the warfighter needs -- from depot maintenance to training to bullets and bombs."

Army Reserve Soldier serving worlds apart

*Story by Bob Reinert
USAG-Natick Public Affairs*

NATICK, Mass. – It's hard to imagine two more different places than the Natick Soldier Systems Center and Bagram Airfield.

Just ask David Sanborn.

While one is a 78-acre military research and development facility on Lake Cochituate in Mass., with approximately 1,800 Department of Defense civilian employees, contractors and service members, the other is a sprawling base in the high desert of Afghanistan with as many as 42,000 people.

They are separated by 6,500 miles, but Sanborn has spent time in both worlds. Normally the chief of Master Planning at U.S. Army Garrison Natick, the command sergeant major in the Army Reserve has been serving since Oct. 6, 2012, as the command sergeant major of USAG-Bagram.

When he and Col. Steven Campfield took over, it marked the first complete Installation Management Command, or IMCOM, change of command for an Army garrison in a combat zone.

"It's a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity," said Sanborn during a recent telephone interview from Bagram. "Having been selected as the garrison CSM for the largest (forward operating base) in Afghanistan has been



Command Sgt. Maj. Dave Sanborn, an Army Reserve Soldier, gets ready to board a helicopter at Bagram Airfield, Afghanistan, to visit with Soldiers at forward operating bases. In the civilian world, Sanborn is chief of Master Planning at U.S. Army Garrison Natick, Mass. (Courtesy photo)

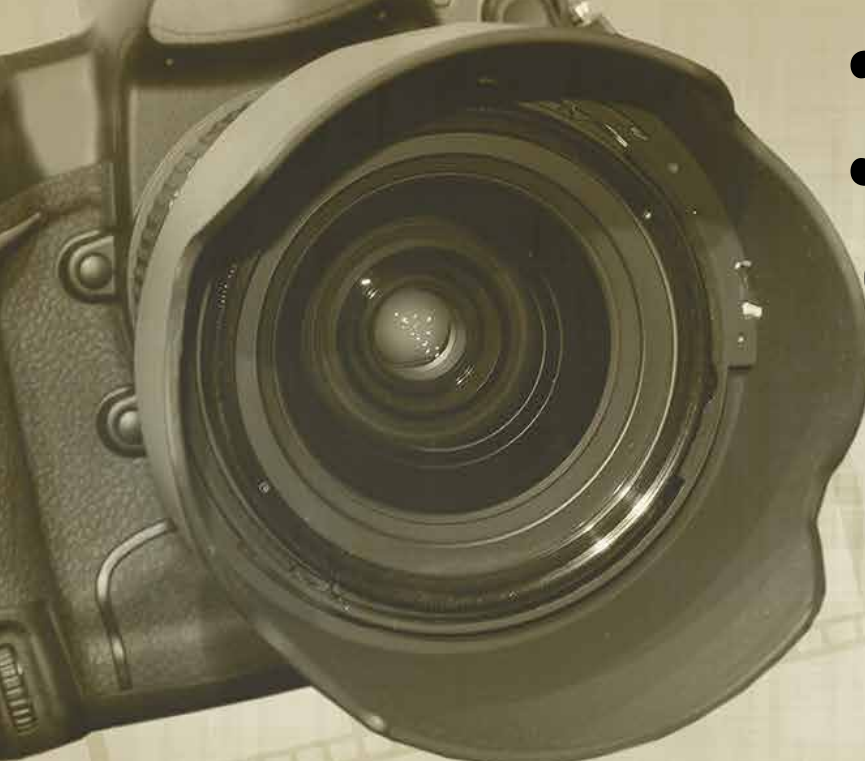
a great honor and opportunity. We have everybody here. We've got all the military services, to include all the special operations 'tribes,' as we call them. We are a 'purple' base by all standards.

"I'm not only dealing with Army units and their respective missions, I'm also dealing with the Air Force and my counterparts there," explained Sanborn. "It's really a job in interaction and cooperation. I have made very good friends here, and we work together constantly to ensure the base is operational."



CLICK HERE to read the full story.





DEPTH of FIELD

A monthly showcase of the
U.S. Army Reserve in action

Images from March 2013



Tactical vehicles begin staging at Fort Hunter Liggett, Calif, March 13, 2013, as part of Warrior Exercise 91 13-01, a multi-week U.S. Army exercise. Nearly 3,500 Soldiers are expected to take part in the training. (Photo by Spc. Joseph Chapman/300th Mobile Public Affairs Detachment)



A determined Spc. Ashlie N. Diggs, a paralegal assigned to the Pinellas Park, Fla.-based Army Reserve Medical Command Headquarters, Headquarters Company, struggles over the incline wall at the Florida National Guard's air assault training facility at Camp Blanding, March 25, 2013. Diggs dug deep to finish the course, part of the AR-MEDCOM 2013 Best Warrior Competition. (Photo by Staff Sgt. Eric Jones/AR-MEDCOM Public Affairs)

From right, U.S. Army Sgt. 1st Class Lahomma D. Fowler of Morgantown, W. Va., acting first sergeant for the 363rd Military Police Company, and 1st Lt. Lucas D. Collins of Mechanicsburg, Penn., acting commander, listen to a team leader prior to an evening training mission March 22, 2013, at Fort Hunter Liggett, Calif. Their unit, based out of Grafton, W.Va., was one of many participating in the multi-week joint Warrior Exercise that drew thousands of Reserve Soldiers, Sailors and Airmen from across the United States. (Photo by Staff Sgt. Gary Whitte/300th Mobile Public Affairs Detachment)



Monthly images selected by Army Reserve Public Affairs Soldiers and civilians voting on private Facebook group.



MOTORCYCLE PMV-2

You've checked your ride, but are your battle buddies ready for the road?

STANDARDS

TRAINING

DISCIPLINE

Training, Discipline and Standards

Training, discipline and standards are the bedrock of our Army, and as Soldiers, you've been taught what right looks like. As leaders, you have a duty and a responsibility to maintain standards in your formations. You also have an obligation to your Soldiers and their Families to manage risk and take action to correct problems. In our fight against accidental injuries and fatalities, knowledge is the weapon of choice. Visit <https://safety.army.mil/mmp> for more information on safe riding.



ARMY STRONG:



<https://safety.army.mil>

