



MEDIA ADVISORY

1st Infantry Division and Fort Riley

HOME OF THE BIG RED ONE



June 5, 2018

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

‘Big Red One’ to host Change of Command ceremony for outgoing, incoming commanding generals

FORT RILEY, Kan. – The “Big Red One” will bid farewell to its senior leader and welcome the newest commanding general to the 1st Infantry Division in a Change of Command ceremony at 10 a.m. June 8 on Fort Riley’s Cavalry Parade Field.

Maj. Gen. Joseph M. Martin assumed command of the 1st Inf. Div. in October 2016 and shortly thereafter deployed with the Big Red One headquarters to Iraq, where the division took command of the Combined Joint Forces Land Component Command – Operation Inherent Resolve in November 2016. While deployed, the division headquarters provided command and control of Coalition troops training, advising and assisting Iraqi Security Forces.

During that time, 1.8 million people were liberated in Mosul, Iraq, which had been under ISIS control since June 2014. While the headquarters was deployed, more than 350,000 children returned to school in Mosul, 320 schools reopened and 195,000 internally displaced persons returned to their homes in Iraq’s second-largest city. Under the 1st Inf. Div.’s leadership, 30,000 Iraqi Security Forces Soldiers were trained.



Maj. Gen. Joseph M. Martin

The division’s next commanding general will be Maj. Gen. John S. Kolasheski. Kolasheski most recently served as deputy chief of staff, G-3/5/7, for the U.S. Army Forces Command at Fort Bragg, North Carolina. He previously served with the 1st Inf. Div. as the division’s deputy commanding general for maneuver from June 2015 to May 2016, and in various positions with the division from July 2001 to May 2005.

Members of the media interested in attending the Change of Command ceremony will need to RSVP by noon June 7 by calling (785) 240-1796 or emailing usarmy.riley.1-id.mbx.1id-pao@mail.mil.

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