

ARNORTH Monthly

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Army North CG discusses command's role with key civilian, industry, government leaders, Pg. 3

Army North hosts senior Mexican Army leaders to strengthen relationships, Pg. 6

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- Pg. 5Fort Sam Houston honors retirees; Army North presents civilian of the quarter awards
- Pg. 8Army’s disaster response task force gears up for Vibrant Response
- Pg. 12Logisticians plan huge movements for nation’s response forces during Army North workshop
- Pg. 14Meeting fiscal, national security responsibility is vital
- Pg. 16Woman’s Equality Day honors service, sacrifice
- Pg. 18SMA visits Army North, Fort Sam Houston
- Pg. 20News briefs

Front Cover: FORT SAM HOUSTON, Texas — Lt. Gen. Guy Swan III, commanding general, U.S. Army North and Fort Sam Houston, discusses Army North’s role in disaster response operations with senior Mexican Army leaders during the Fifth Army Inter-American Relations Program. The delegation of Mexican Army officers spent a week at U.S. Army North. (U.S. Army photo by Staff Sgt. Keith Anderson, Army North PAO)

Back Cover: SAN ANTONIO — Maj. Gen. Perry Wiggins, deputy commanding general, U.S. Army North, discusses the importance of the Purple Heart medal and the sacrifices made by Soldiers during the rededication of the Purple Heart Memorial Aug. 8 at the Cadena-Reeves Justice Center. The Alamo Chapter 1836 of the Military Order of the Purple Heart refurbished the memorial and added 50 more pavers to honor Purple Heart recipients. (U.S. Army photo by Staff Sgt. Keith Anderson, Army North PAO)



Commanding General: Lt. Gen. Guy Swan III
Command Sgt. Maj.: Command Sgt. Maj. David Wood

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Army North CG discusses role of Army North with key civilian, industry, government leaders during forum

Story and photos by
Sgt. Maj. Eric Lobsinger
Army North PAO

FORT SAM HOUSTON, Texas — “We measure our success on the success of other government agencies – local, state and federal – and we feel pretty good that we’re linked in with all of those partners,” said Lt. Gen. Guy Swan III, the commanding general of U.S. Army North, while speaking with a packed house July 29 during the Aspen Security Forum, at the Aspen Institute, in Aspen, Colo.

Swan served as a member of a 3-person panel discussion titled: “The war abroad and the threat at home.” Among the highlights was a discussion on the Department of Defense’s – and Army North and U.S. Northern Command’s – role in homeland security.

He was joined on the panel by retired Lt. Gen. Douglas Lute, who serves as a special assistant to the President for Afghanistan and Pakistan, along with Dr. Paul Stockton, the assistant secretary of defense for Homeland Defense and Americas’ Security Affairs, Department of Defense. Kimberly Dozier, from the Associated Press, served as the panel moderator.

The panel was one of the highlights of the four-day forum, July 27-30, at the Aspen Institute, which is nestled in the mountain slopes of Aspen. Events such as this are important, said Swan, because they provide an opportunity to discuss Army North’s mission, as well as how it supports U.S. Northern Command and the Department of Defense, with an audience that may not otherwise have visibility on the

command’s talents and resources.

“These are opinion makers here,” said Swan. “These are people who will go back to the government, industry, academia, and they are going to influence policy decisions. We will execute whatever the policies are. If you are not giving our view of things, then those policy makers are not getting the full imprint that they need to make good decisions. I think we have an obligation to engage.”

He said it is important to have a voice at the table and to tell the Army North story – both inside the Army and the Department of Defense – and also with the general public.

During his introduction, Swan told the gathered attendees that he commands the land component command of Northern Command

— **see ASPEN, Pg. 11**



ASPEN, Colo. — Lt. Gen. Guy Swan III, commanding general, U.S. Army North, speaks to a packed house July 29 during the Aspen Security Forum at the Aspen Institute in Aspen, Colo. Swan attended the event and was the member of a 3-person panel discussion titled: “The war abroad and the threat at home.” He was joined on the panel by retired Lt. Gen. Douglas Lute (not shown), who serves as a special assistant to the President for Afghanistan and Pakistan, along with Dr. Paul Stockton, the assistant secretary of defense for Homeland Defense and Americas’ Security Affairs, Department of Defense. Kimberly Dozier, from the Associated Press, served as the panel moderator.

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Photo by Staff Sgt. Keith Anderson, Army North PAO

Observing training

FORT HOOD, Texas — Senior Mexican Army leaders get a breakdown of the training being conducted June 15 by U.S. Army Soldiers from the 104th Engineer Company, 62nd Engineer Battalion, in one of the mock compounds in Fort Hood's training areas, as part of the Fifth Army Inter-American Relations Program, a program that dates back to 1946. Seven senior Mexican Army officers, chosen by the Mexican equivalent of the Secretary of Defense, spent a week at Army North from June 13-17.



Photo by Laurri Garcia, Army North PAO

CG welcomes guests

FORT SAM HOUSTON, Texas — Lt. Gen. Guy Swan III, commanding general, U.S. Army North and Fort Sam Houston, hosts community and military leaders at a social and gazebo concert July 23 in front of his quarters on historic Fort Sam Houston. Guests dined with Swan and his wife, Melanie, and enjoyed a patriotic musical celebration provided by Fort Sam Houston's own, U.S. Army Band.

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ARNORTH welcomes

Col. Terence Hermans, DCO RGI
Col. Russell Livingston, DCS, G4
Col. Steven Schenk, DCO RGNV
Col. David Wilcox, CofS
Col. Sharon Wisniewski, DCS, G1
Lt. Col. John Bohlin, DCS, G3/5/7
Lt. Col. John Clarkson, SJA
Lt. Col. Neal Daniels, CCP 1
Lt. Col. Kristian Marks, DCS, G3/5/7
Lt. Col. Dana McCormick, DCO RGNII
Maj. Nathaniel Garza, DCS, G3/5/7
Maj. Timothy Green, CCP 1
Maj. Jeffrey Korando, CSTA
Maj. Phillip Lenz, PMO
Maj. Barrett Lynch, DCS, G4
Capt. Eric Arras, DCS, G3/5/7
Sgt. Maj. Luis Cruzcarrisquillo, DCS, G6
Sgt. Whitfield Leach, HHBn
Sgt. Zachariah Stroud, DCS, G3/5/7
Spc. Jose Leora, DCS, G3/5/7

ARNORTH says goodbye

Col. James Gray, G4
Lt. Col. Amy Dubuque, G3/5/7
Lt. Col. Deon Green, SJA
Maj. Mark Rosequist, SURG
Sgt. 1st Class Aquinda Reed, G3/5/7
Staff Sgt. Nathan Haselhorst, G6
Staff Sgt. Mario Quinn, SGS
Staff Sgt. Timothy Walters, SGS
Nancy Anderson, CSTA
Joshua Cooperwood, G6
James Flowers, CSTA
Gerard Francis, G1
Kevin Gainey, G2
Thomas Hendricks, G3/5/7
Robert McKenzie, CSTA
Sixto Martinez, CSTA
Todd Minnich, G3/5/7
Andrea Powers, G8
Janet Worley, G3/5/7

Fort Sam Houston honors retirees



Photo by Sgt. 1st Class Manuel Torres-Cortes, Army North PAO

FORT SAM HOUSTON, Texas — Families, friends, coworkers and loved ones say farewell to Lt. Col. Pierre Fenrick, U.S. Army North; Mr. Thomas Hendricks, Army North; Maj. Thomas Groggett, Army North; Maj. Kevin Neal, U.S. Army South; Maj. John Quinones, Army South; Sergeant Maj. George Harris, U.S. Army Sergeants Major Academy, Fort Bliss, Texas; Master Sgt. Alvin Cuevas, Brooke Army Medical Center; Sgt. 1st Class Albert Farrar, BAMC; Sgt. 1st Class Larry Sams, 187th Medical Battalion; Staff Sgt. Norma Longoria, 282nd Army Band, Fort Bliss; and Staff Sgt. John Ochs, 323d Army Band, during the installation retirement ceremony July 28 at Army North's historic Quadrangle.

Army North CG presents civilian of the quarter awards

FORT SAM HOUSTON, Texas — Lt. Gen. Guy Swan III, commanding general, U.S. Army North and Fort Sam Houston, presents the Civilian of the Quarter award to Johnny Cook, Theater Security Cooperation intelligence specialist, Army North, and the Civilian of the Quarter Supervisory award to Brad Ramey, comptroller, Army North, during the quarterly recognition ceremony and town hall meeting Aug. 5 at the Army Community Service building. Winners of the Civilian of the Quarter award receive a framed certificate of appreciation and star note, signed by the commanding general, as well as a special parking space, a 16-hour time off award, and a \$500 special act award.



U.S. Army photos by Sgt. 1st Class Manuel Torres-Cortes, Army North PAO

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Army North hosts senior Mexican Army leaders to strengthen relationships

By Staff Sgt. Keith Anderson
Army North PAO

FORT SAM HOUSTON, Texas — As part of an Army program that dates back more than half a century – to 1946 – seven senior Mexican Army officers, chosen by the Mexican equivalent of the Secretary of Defense, spent a week at U.S. Army North to continue to build cooperation and foster closer relationships between the two militaries.

The officers, along with some of their spouses, traveled to Fort Sam Houston June 13-17 to learn more about U.S. Army missions, activities and responsibilities. During their visit, along with their Army North hosts, they visited military, government and civilian organizations on Fort Sam Houston, Fort Hood and Camp Swift, Austin and College Station.

Established after World War II, the Fifth Army Inter-American Relations Program has been an annual, weeklong program that hosts visiting Mexican senior leaders to Army installations in the United States. The intent of the program is to build rapport, understanding and confidence with senior Mexican officers and their spouses while sharing information about the U.S. Army and the American way of life in a professional, social and cultural context.

“It’s a historical program that fosters cooperation and relationship-building, and it promotes military exchange and allows us to share our lessons learned,” said Maj. Gen. Perry Wiggins, deputy commanding general, U.S. Army North.

On Fort Sam Houston, the group of Mexican officers, which included a major general, three brigadier generals and three colonels, visited the Center for the Intrepid, a rehabilitation facility to treat amputees and burn victims from wars in Iraq and



Photo by Sgt. 1st Class Manuel Torres-Cortes, Army North PAO
CAMP SWIFT, Texas — Lt. Gen. Guy Swan III, commanding general, U.S. Army North and Fort Sam Houston, and Mexican Army Maj. Gen. Jaime Lopez Reyes look out over Camp Swift during a helicopter flight June 16.

Afghanistan, the Warrior and Family Support Center and toured the historic Quadrangle. The officers were briefed on Army North’s role in homeland defense, civil support and theater security cooperation. Additionally, they were afforded the opportunity to observe the unit’s specialized equipment and emergency response vehicles.

“Defense Support of Civil Authorities is a core competency of the Mexican Army, and Army North’s experience in supporting civil authorities during disasters gives us common ground for sharing experiences and cooperating against the forces of nature that threaten both of our peoples,” said Leo Muniz, political and military advisor, Army North.

The next day, Army North leaders escorted the delegation to Fort Hood, where they met Lt. Gen. Donald Campbell Jr., the commanding general of III Corps and Fort Hood, and were briefed on civil-military techniques and procedures. Afterward, they enjoyed lunch at the base’s Culinary Arts Center

before boarding Black Hawk and Huey helicopters to watch Soldiers from the 104th Engineer Company, 62nd Engineer Battalion, and conduct field training at one of Fort Hood’s training areas.

After watching the exercise at an Iraqi-style compound, the delegates tested their skills with Army weapons at the Engagement Skills Trainer, where they fired at virtual targets and received feedback on their aim and group techniques. The EST provides realistic marksmanship and combat scenario training for 12 of the most common small-arms and crew-served weapons and individual anti-tank weapons in the Army inventory. It includes multi-lane individual and collective gunnery training for static, dismounted individual, squad, team and element levels.

The next day, Army North leaders escorted the delegation to Camp Swift, a Texas Army National Guard training site, where they watched counter improvised-explosive device training. After leaving Camp Swift, the delegation met up with their spouses in Austin for a tour of the capitol and a meeting with Esperanza “Hope” Andrade, Texas Secretary of State.

The delegation flew to College Station June 17 to visit Texas Task Force 1, the state’s urban search and rescue response team, and to meet with leaders from the Texas Engineering Extension Service, which oversees the task force and the TEEX Disaster City training facility. The delegation participated in a guided tour of the 52-acre “Disaster City” training site, complete with full-scale collapsible structures designed to simulate various levels of disaster and wreckage.

After the tour, the delegates toured the Texas A&M University campus before an early return to San Antonio to participate in the U.S. Army Ball,

— see FIARP, Pg. 17



Photo by Staff Sgt. Keith Anderson, Army North PAO
FORT HOOD, Texas — A senior Mexican Army leader tries his hand with a U.S. Army humvee simulator at the Warrior Skills Trainer June 15 as part of the Fifth Army Inter-American Relations Program, a program that dates back to 1946. The humvee simulator provides realistic theater convoy training, with wrap-around virtual reality screens that follow the driver’s reactions and include hazards such as improvised explosive devices on the roadway, snipers, vehicle-borne IEDs and other scenarios.



Photo by Staff Sgt. Keith Anderson, Army North PAO

COLLEGE STATION, Texas — Members of Texas Task Force 1, the state’s urban search and rescue unit, brief senior Mexican Army leaders on the unit’s vehicles, equipment and capabilities June 17 during a tour of the Disaster City training facility and Texas A&M Univ. as part of the Fifth Army Inter-American Relations Program. The 52-acre “Disaster City” training site includes full-scale collapsible structures designed to simulate various levels of disaster and wreckage as well as industrial and mass transit mass casualty scenarios.

Army's disaster response task force gears up for Vibrant Response

By Staff Sgt. Keith Anderson
Army North PAO

CAMP BULLIS, Texas — Members of the Army's Joint Task Force – 51, U.S. Army North, spent a week at Camp Bullis July 11-15 rehearsing the Department of Defense response to a notional 10-kiloton disaster in preparation for Vibrant Response 12.

The command post exercise at the U.S. Armed Forces Reserve Center put support force members, and leaders at subordinate units, through their paces for VR 12, a national-level field training exercise slated for Aug. 16-28 at Camp Atterbury, Ind.; Muscatatuck Urban Training Complex, Ind., and other venues in southern Indiana and northern Kentucky.

Vibrant Response trains federal military forces on their role in supporting civilian consequence managers in responding to catastrophic chemical, biological, radiological and nuclear incidents.

During the command post exercise at Camp Bullis, members of JTF-51 created plans and orders for accomplishing many of the missions they will orchestrate at Vibrant Response, such as aerial reconnaissance of the disaster zone, search and rescue, medical evacuations and others.

One of the biggest challenges for first responders in major disasters is having plans and procedures in place to avoid delays to lifesaving or life-sustaining efforts, said Maj. Dennis Major, current operations and information center chief, JTF-51.



Photo by Staff Sgt. Keith Anderson, Army North PAO

Staff Sgt. Heidi Strain and Chief Warrant Officer 2 Francisco Villareal, liaison officers for Task Force Aviation, Joint Support Force – 51, U.S. Army North, discuss aircraft requirements for disaster relief operations July 13 during a command post exercise at the Armed Forces Reserve Center at Camp Bullis.

The CPX ensured that task force members could work out any challenges before the exercise.

"The exercise provided an opportunity for us to rehearse and refine our standard operating procedures and to reinforce training on some of the specialized computer systems and equipment that we utilize," said Maj. Dennis Major, current operations and information center chief, JTF-51.

The command post exercise was an introduction to civil support operations for some of the newer members of the support force.

"It's a good learning experience," said Sgt. 1st Class Christopher Williams, human resources noncommissioned officer, JTF-51, who was participating in his first exercise since arriving at

Army North in April.

"It's different from anything I've done before in the Army."

The joint task force must be prepared to quickly mobilize and deploy to civil support operations anywhere in the U.S., said Maj. Gen. Jeffrey Jacobs, commanding general, JTF-51, to members of the task force July 13.

"What we're doing is critically important," Jacobs said. "We're a national asset. We prepare for the unthinkable."

This year's Vibrant Response will be the first confirmation exercise for the new 5,200-person Defense CBRN Response Force.

More than 7,000 active and Reserve Soldiers, Sailors, Airmen, Marines and civilians will train in the exercise.

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Direct commission

FORT SAM HOUSTON, Texas — Maj. Gen. Perry Wiggins, deputy commanding general, U.S. Army North, congratulates 2nd Lt. Timothy Walters, Army North, July 22 after removing his staff sergeant rank and slipping on the second lieutenant shoulder boards in a direct commissioning ceremony in the Quadrangle.

Walters, who previously served as the military assistant to Wiggins, will begin coursework at George Washington Univ. in Washington, D.C., towards a master's in security policy studies. Upon graduation, he will report as a signal officer in the Army Reserve.

The Buffalo, N.Y., native has deployed to Afghanistan, Iraq and the horn of Africa.



Photo by Staff Sgt. Keith Anderson, Army North PAO

Goodbye and Aloha

FORT SAM HOUSTON, Texas — Lt. Gen. Guy Swan III, commanding general, U.S. Army North and Fort Sam Houston, presents the Meritorious Service Medal July 22 to Col. Jon Lehr, outgoing defense coordinating officer, Region VI, Army North.

Lehr was selected for promotion to brigadier general and is leaving Army North to serve as deputy director, Strategic Planning Policy Directorate (J5), U.S. Pacific Command, at Camp H.M. Smith, Hawaii.



Photo by Staff Sgt. Keith Anderson, Army North PAO

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from ASPEN, Pg. 3

Command, which was one of many organizations created in the aftermath of 9-11, along with the Department of Homeland Security and the National Counterterrorism Center. The command's mission is somewhat unique in that its focus is on the homeland, unlike most other commands that focus on Iraq, Afghanistan or Africa.

Among the command's responsibilities, he explained, is providing the land component support to Northern Command for homeland defense and homeland security responsibilities, and providing military support to other federal agencies, such as FEMA, in a disaster.

The command also provides military support to U.S. Customs and Border Protection and the U.S. Border Patrol for border security, and it provides training and assistance support to the security forces of Mexico in the fight against transnational criminal organizations and drug cartels.

"Mexico is something that we ought not to take our eye off of," said Swan.

"The strength of the transnational criminal groups, the cartels, is very disturbing – and even more so because it's on our southern border," he said. "Part of our military-to-military mission within the command is to work with our military counterparts and other security forces in Mexico to compliment what we do with the border patrol, the (Center for Domestic Preparedness) and others."

Other aspects of the command's responsibilities include maintaining trained and ready response forces for chemical, biological, radiological, nuclear, and high-

yield explosive weapons-of-mass-destruction attacks or disasters, in addition to defending the homeland against missile attacks, providing maritime and air defense of North America, and various other missions.

"We're very concerned about protecting our resources so we can do all the things we need to do to support other government agencies," said Swan.

Ultimately, said Stockton, Department of Defense resources are prepared to provide Defense Support to Civil Authority in the case of any man-made or natural disaster.

"The Department of Defense will always be in support of the lead federal agencies that are responsible for such domestic events," said Stockton. "... We're in terrific shape in the Department of Defense to support FEMA and DHS for what I call normal disasters – the kind of disasters that happen every year or every couple of years."

He said the Department of Defense is also honing its skills for



ASPEN, Colo. — Lt. Gen. Guy Swan III, commanding general, U.S. Army North, chats with Maj. Brad Martin, his Aide-de-Camp, as he prepares to appear as a panel member July 29 during the Aspen Security Forum at the Aspen Institute here.

the possibility of facing complex catastrophes, such as was practiced in the recent National Level Exercise 11, in which Northern Command and Army North both were key participants.

The exercise scenario featured a 7.7 earthquake along the New Madrid fault, which falls along the Mississippi River.

The 7.7 earthquake typifies what he terms as the challenges of complex catastrophes.

"First, the magnitude," he said, because "it's so much bigger than anything we've faced – way beyond Hurricane Katrina – over 100,000 casualties in the scenario."

It would be a complex catastrophe due to the effects of cascading failures of critical infrastructure.

Army North is situated to provide assistance through its 10 direct coordinating elements, which are co-located within the 10 FEMA regions.

"We are embedded with FEMA across the country," said Swan. "So this time of the year, especially with hurricanes, we're joined at the hip with our team of partners."

He said units such as Army North, and its military partner units throughout Northern Command and the Department of Defense, bring a wealth of knowledge to the fight.

"The conflicts that we've been involved in over the past 10 years has built up a knowledge base within our armed forces on planning, training and equipping for a variety of threats," said Swan.

"We often find ourselves in a capacity building role with our federal partners. ... We play an advise and assist role, just as we do overseas, with our own federal partners."

Logisticians plan huge movements during Army North workshop

Story and photos by
Staff Sgt. Keith Anderson
Army North PAO

FORT SAM HOUSTON, Texas — Logistics and transportation planners from around the country met at a U.S. Army North workshop July 18-22 to plan for the movements of more than 6,500 Department of Defense personnel and 4.6 million pounds of equipment for deployments to potential disasters within the United States.

The attendees drew up plans to move everything from chemical and radiation detection equipment to tactical vehicles, helicopters, ambulances and construction equipment, as well as sanitation equipment and portable bridges, to get military life-saving and life-sustaining support to victims of disasters within days.

“We’re making sure the forces are ready to go out the door,” said Lester Goins, joint operation planning execution system analyst, Army North.

Army North hosted a weeklong “Time Phased Force and Deployment Data” workshop for the logisticians of the nation’s Defense Chemical, Biological, Radiological and Nuclear Response Force, and the Command and Control Response Element – Alpha, both of which assume their missions Oct. 1.

The DCRF is a 5,200-person joint service, multi-component force intended to provide a rapid, robust, initial response capability to support civilian agencies to



Maj. Gen. Perry Wiggins, deputy commanding general, U.S. Army North, welcomes logisticians and transportation planners to Army North’s Time Phase Force Deployment Data workshop July 19 at the Fort Sam Houston All-ranks Club.

save lives, relieve human suffering and mitigate great property damage following a catastrophic CBRN incident.

The C2CRE-A is a 1,500-person command and control element designed to deploy with initial life-saving capability and receive additional federal military forces to save lives and relieve human suffering.

Army North, the Joint Force Land Component Command to U.S. Northern Command, oversees the DCRF and C2CRE-A missions.

During the workshop, attendees drew up movement plans for moving personnel, vehicles, equipment and aircraft from

more than 30 installations located around the United States.

For planning purposes, the logisticians determined what it would take to move the forces to Houston, Chicago, Colorado Springs, Colo., and Los Angeles.

Logisticians had to answer a seemingly simple question, said Goins.

“Can we do it, and how can we do it?” said Goins, adding that “it’s never easy.”

Some units require air transport larger than is available through the military, and transport has to be contracted out or can only travel by ground or the aerial point of debarkation is overwhelmed and other hubs must be contracted.

The results of the workshop

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FORT SAM HOUSTON, Texas — Lester Goins, a Joint Operation Planning Execution System analyst, U.S. Army North, discusses JOPES at the workshop.

were submitted to U.S. Transportation Command for a transportation feasibility analysis, one of the final steps in the process before the DCRF and C2CRE-A officially assume their missions Oct. 1.

“Your presence is critical to the Joint Force Land Component Command and subordinate joint task forces in support of the CBRN consequence management mission,” said Maj. Gen. Perry Wiggins, deputy commanding general, Army North, to workshop attendees.

“This workshop plays a critical part in ensuring that we are prepared to execute this important mission,” he added.

The first test of moving the units is scheduled to take place in August when both the DCRF and C2CRE-A exercise during the Vibrant Response 12 Exercise.

The U.S. Northern Command directed, Army North field training exercise runs from Aug. 16-28 at Camp Atterbury, the Muscatatuck Urban Training Complex and various surrounding areas in Indiana.

The exercise focuses on the DoD mission to support civil authorities in a consequence management role.

DCO workshop

FORT MONROE, Va. — U.S. Army Col. Jim Mathis, Region III defense coordinating officer, U.S. Army North, addresses command group leaders of Joint Task Force – Civil Support June 28 during a one-day informational workshop with the Department of Defense’s DCOs and defense coordinating element planners at Fort Monroe, Va.

In coordination with Army North, JTF-CS hosted 18 DCO and DCE representatives to identify needs and discuss DoD response operating procedures

during the first 72 hours – considered crucial to saving lives and enabling recovery – following a chemical, biological, radiological or nuclear incident. Assigned to each of the 10 Federal Emergency Management Agency’s regions, DCOs are the DoD’s designated primary points of contact between DoD response forces, such as JTF-CS, and the lead federal agency, such as FEMA, in support of state and local response agencies during disaster response. The Fort Eustis, Va.-based JTF-CS is the military unit designated to command and control DoD Title 10 forces responding to a CBRN incident



Photo by Gunnery Sgt. Jim Goodwin, JTF-CS PAO

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Meeting our fiscal, national security responsibility is vital



Leon Panetta, Secretary of Defense

To all Department of Defense personnel:

As I begin my second month in office as Secretary of Defense, I wanted to take the opportunity to share my thinking with you on one of the key challenges we face as a Department: how to ensure that our military has everything it needs to protect our national security at a time of considerable fiscal challenge in our country.

I know that many of you watched with concern the deficit reduction negotiations in Washington.

As President Obama has said, our growing national debt, if not addressed, will imperil our prosperity, hurt our credibility and influence around the world, and ultimately put our national security at risk. As part of the nation's efforts to get its finances in order, defense spending will be – and I believe it must be – part of the

solution.

The reductions in defense spending that will take place as a result of the debt ceiling agreement reached by Congress and the President are in line with what this Department's civilian and military leaders were anticipating, and I believe we can implement these reductions while maintaining the excellence of our military. But to do that, spending choices must be based on sound strategy and policy.

In the past, such as after the Vietnam War, our government applied cuts to defense across the board, resulting in a force that was undersized and underfunded relative to its missions and responsibilities. This process has historically led to outcomes that weaken rather than strengthen our national security – and which ultimately cost our nation more when it must quickly rearm to confront new threats.

I am determined not to repeat the mistakes of the past.

In order to make the key decisions on how to best implement spending reductions, the President said in April when he unveiled his fiscal framework that “we’re going to have to conduct a fundamental review of America’s missions, capabilities, and our role in a changing world.”

As a Department, we are following that approach. We are asking ourselves: What are the essential missions our military must do to protect America and our way of life? What are the risks of the strategic choices we make? And

what are the financial costs?

Achieving savings based on sound national security policy will serve our nation's interests, and will also prove more enforceable and sustainable over the long-term.

We expect that the responsible transitions in Iraq and Afghanistan will help reduce total U.S. defense spending over the coming years. But I will do everything I can to ensure that further reductions in defense spending are not pursued in a hasty, ill-conceived way that would undermine the military's ability to protect America and its vital interests around the globe.

For example, the debt ceiling agreement contains a sequester mechanism that would take effect if Congress fails to enact further deficit reduction. If that happens, it could trigger a round of dangerous across-the-board defense cuts that would do real damage to our security, our troops and their families, and our ability to protect the nation. This potential deep cut in defense spending is not meant as policy. Rather, it is designed to be unpalatable to spur responsible, balanced deficit reduction and avoid misguided cuts to our security.

Indeed, this outcome would be completely unacceptable to me as Secretary of Defense, the President, and to our nation's leaders. That's because we live in a world where terrorist networks threaten us daily, rogue nations seek to develop dangerous weapons, and rising powers watch to see if America will lose its edge.

The United States must be able to protect our core national security interests with an adaptable force capable and ready to meet these threats and deter adversaries that would put those interests at risk. I will do all I can to assist the Administration and congressional leaders to make the commonsense cuts needed to avoid this sequester mechanism.

Our military has always taken on and succeeded in every mission it has been assigned – from the efforts in Iraq and Afghanistan to humanitarian assistance and disaster relief at home and abroad.

You – the men and women of the military – have never said “I can't do it.” Nor have the civilians who support you. That is the military ethos – to salute and press on.

The ethos of this nation's leaders and policy makers must be to ensure that the missions assigned to the military meet critical national security priorities. It is our responsibility to determine those priorities and to ensure that you will always have the training and equipment to succeed in those missions.

I am aware that as Washington discusses strategy and policy, you

and your families are discussing the implications of decisions that may be made.

I promised in my first message as Secretary that I will fight for you. That means I will fight for you and your families as we face these budget challenges.

The force has been stretched by a decade of combat. We owe you and your families the support you have earned – both on the battlefield and on the home front.

To be sure, the current budget constraints will make it all the more challenging to modernize and recapitalize the force.

Platforms from the build-up of the 1980s are reaching the end of their shelf life and must be replaced, and units and equipment that have been stressed by a decade of combat must be reset. Going forward, we must ensure that the military gets the effective and affordable weapons it needs by redoubling our efforts to enforce procurement discipline.

We also must continue to tackle wasteful and duplicative spending, and overhead staffing.

We must be accountable to the American people for what we spend, where we spend it, and

with what result. While we have reasonable controls over much of our budgetary information, it is unacceptable to me that the Department of Defense cannot produce a financial statement that passes all financial audit standards.

That will change.

I have directed that this requirement be put in place as soon as possible. America deserves nothing less.

The United States faces a series of tough choices ahead on the budget as we seek to balance the need for fiscal solvency with the need to protect our security.

We can – and must – address the budget and protect the country. As we do, we will be guided by the principle that we will do what's right for our nation now and for its future.

By better aligning our resources with our priorities, this Department can lead the way in moving towards a more disciplined defense budget.

Only in that way can we ensure that we fulfill the fundamental duty for those of us in public service – which is to do everything we can to give future generations of Americans a better and safer life.

Sworn in

Secretary of Defense Leon E. Panetta swears in Adm. James A. Winnefeld Jr. as the new Vice Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff during a ceremony conducted in Panetta's Pentagon office on Aug. 4. Winnefeld's wife Mary holds the Bible. Winnefeld previously commanded U.S. Northern Command and the North American Aerospace Defense Command. Gen. Charles Jacoby Jr., who previously served as the director for strategic plans and policy, JCoS, assumed command of Northern Command Aug 4.



DoD photo by R.D. Ward

Woman's Equality Day honors service, sacrifice

**Article courtesy of the
Fort Sam Houston
Equal Opportunity Advisor
Multicultural Newsletter**

Women's Equality Day is a day proclaimed each year by the U.S. President to commemorate the giving of the vote to women throughout the country on an equal basis to men.

Women in the U.S. were given the right to vote Aug. 26, 1920, when the 19th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution was certified.

The amendment was first introduced many years earlier in 1878. Every president has published a proclamation for Women's Equality Day since 1971 when legislation was first introduced in Congress by Bella Abzug. This resolution was passed designating August 26 of each year as Women's Equality Day.

The Nineteenth Amendment to the U.S. Constitution prohibits any U.S. citizen to be denied the right to vote based on sex. It was ratified on Aug. 18, 1920.

The Constitution allows states to determine the qualifications for voting, and until the 1910s most states disenfranchised women. The amendment was the culmination of the women's suffrage movement, which fought at both state and national levels to achieve the vote.

Susan B. Anthony and Elizabeth Cady Stanton drafted the amendment and first introduced it in 1878; it was forty-one years later, in 1919, when the Congress submitted the amendment to the states for ratification. A year later, it was ratified by the requisite number of states, with Tennessee's ratification being the final vote

needed to add the amendment to the Constitution.

Abzug (July 24, 1920 – March 31, 1998) was an American lawyer, Congresswoman, social activist and a leader of the Women's Movement.

In 1971, Abzug joined other leading feminists such as Gloria Steinem and Betty Friedan to found the National Women's Political Caucus. She famously declared, "This woman's place is in the House — the House of Representatives," in her successful 1970 campaign to join that body.

She was later appointed to chair the National Commission on the Observance of International Women's Year and to plan the 1977 National Women's Conference by President Gerald Ford and led President Jimmy Carter's commission on women.

Anthony was born Feb. 15, 1820 in Adams, Mass. She was brought up in a Quaker family with long activist traditions.

Early in her life, she developed a sense of justice and moral zeal. After teaching for fifteen years, she became active in temperance.

Because she was a woman, she was not allowed to speak at temperance rallies. This experience, and her acquaintance with Stanton, led her to join the women's rights movement in 1852, soon after she dedicated her life to woman suffrage.

Ignoring opposition and abuse, Anthony traveled, lectured and canvassed across the nation for the vote. She also campaigned for the abolition of slavery, women's right to their own property and earnings, and women's labor organizations. In 1900, Anthony persuaded

the Univ. of Rochester to admit women.

Anthony, who never married, was aggressive and compassionate by nature. She had a keen mind and a great ability to inspire. She remained active until her death on March 13, 1906.

Elizabeth Cady, the daughter of Daniel Cady, a lawyer and politician, was born in Johnstown, N.Y., Nov. 12, 1815. She studied law under her father, who later became a New York Supreme Court judge.

During this period, she became a strong advocate of women's rights. In 1840 Elizabeth married the lawyer, Henry Brewster Stanton. The couple both became active members of the American Anti-Slavery Society.

Later that year, Stanton and Lucretia Mott travelled to London as delegates to the World Anti-Slavery Convention.

Both women were furious when they, like the British women at the convention, were refused permission to speak at the meeting. Stanton later recalled: "We resolved to hold a convention as soon as we returned home, and form a society to advocate the rights of women."

However, it was not until 1848 that Stanton and Mott organized the Women's Rights Convention at Seneca Falls, N.Y. Stanton's resolution that it was "the duty of the women of this country to secure to them the sacred right to the elective franchise" was passed, and this became the focus of the group's campaign over the next few years.

In 1866, Stanton, Mott, Anthony and Lucy Stone established

the American Equal Rights Association. The following year, the organization became active in Kansas where Negro suffrage and woman suffrage were to be decided by popular vote.

However, both ideas were rejected at the polls. In 1868, Stanton and Anthony established the weekly publication "The Revolution," and the following year the two women formed a new organization, the National Woman Suffrage Association.

The organization condemned the Fourteenth and Fifteenth amendments as blatant injustices to women. The NWSA also advocated easier divorce and an end to discrimination in employment and pay. Another group, the American Woman Suffrage Association, was

also active in the campaign for women's rights and by the 1880s it became clear that it was not a good idea to have two rival groups campaigning for votes for women.

After several years of negotiations, the AWSA and the NWSA merged in 1890 to form the National American Woman Suffrage Association. Stanton was elected as NAWSA's first president but was replaced by Anthony in 1892. Stanton was also a historian of the struggle for women's rights and with Anthony and others, compiled and published several volumes of the six-volume, "The History of Woman Suffrage."

Stanton died in her home in New York City Oct. 26, 1902, 18 years before women were granted the right to vote in the U.S.



— from FIARP, Pg. 7
co-hosted by U.S. Army North, U.S. Army South and U.S. Installation Management Command.

All of the places were interesting, considering that they provided know-how that can be used in training and operations, said Mexican Army Maj. Gen. Jaime Lopez Reyes, leader of the Mexican delegation.

He said the respect and admiration that American citizens have for service members that have made the ultimate sacrifice during military operations is very meaningful for the delegation.

The program benefits both countries and is vitally important, said Leonardo Hernandez, Security Cooperation, Army North.

"FIARP provides us an opportunity to present U.S. military forces in a political and historical context to our Mexican counterparts," said Hernandez.

"We use FIARP to increase understanding of U.S. Army missions, activities and responsibilities," he said.

"This program also allows the Mexican and U.S. militaries to further develop and maintain a cooperative relationship, which is built on mutual trust and confidence," Hernandez added.

For next year's FIARP, Mexican leaders expressed an interest in seeing some U.S. Army noncommissioned officer schools and enhanced counter IED training.

Sergeant Major of the Army visits Army North, Fort Sam Houston

By Staff Sgt. Keith Anderson
Army North PAO

FORT SAM HOUSTON, Texas — Sgt. Maj. of the Army Raymond Chandler III and his wife, Jeanne, visited service members, Wounded Warriors and new recruits July 8-9 at Fort Sam Houston and U.S. Army North.

Chandler, who was sworn in March 1 as the 14th Sergeant Major of the Army, traveled to Fort Sam Houston to hear from service members and their Families directly.

Chandler and his wife began the two-day visit with stops at Brooke Army Medical Center and the Center for the Intrepid, a rehabilitation, education and research facility, .

“It’s important to understand the issues Soldiers bring to the table so we may use it to better our policies, procedures and equipment,” Chandler said. “One direct impact Soldiers made was the feedback we got to change the standard garrison head gear back to patrol caps.”



Photo by Staff Sgt. Keith Anderson
Chandler, and his wife Jeanne, visit with Pfc. Keenan Almeida, a wounded Soldier from Niles, Mich., during a visit July 8 to Brooke Army Medical Center.



Photo by Staff Sgt. Keith Anderson, Army North PAO
Sgt. Maj. of the Army Raymond F. Chandler III challenges Sgt. 1st Class Peter Villa, and other U.S. Army North noncommissioned officers, to explain why they are outstanding NCOs, and to believe in the importance of their mission, during a visit to the Combined Operations and Intelligence Center July 8.

Pfc. Keenan Almeida, a wounded Soldier from Niles, Mich., was one of the Soldiers that Chandler and his wife visited at BAMC. Almeida was burned during a rocket attack in Iraq.

“It just made me feel better inside knowing he took the time to talk to us individually,”

said Almeida. “It really does improve the morale of Soldiers that are healing when they see the commitment of top-level leadership.”

Afterwards, he traveled to Army North to visit Lt. Gen. Guy Swan III, commanding general, U.S. Army North and Fort Sam

Houston, and to walk through the historic Army North Quadrangle and to meet service members.

The Army’s top enlisted leader took time to talk with Soldiers in Army North’s Combined Operations and Intelligence Center in the Quadrangle. Personnel in the COIC monitor threats and ongoing civil support operations around North America 24-hours a day.

“It was great to see the Army’s highest enlisted leader recognize the noncommissioned officers in the COIC,” said Sgt. 1st Class Peter Villa, operations NCO, Army North. Villa was one of several NCOs presented challenge coins for excellence by the sergeant major of the Army.

Next, Chandler visited the Military Entrance Processing Station at Fort Sam Houston, Chandler, where he presented coins to new recruits and visited with MEPS personnel.

“It’s my honor to be in the presence of you young Soldiers, who have selflessly joined our ranks in a time of war, after September 11th, knowing there is a good chance that you could fight our nation’s wars,” he said to the recruits.

He then visited the Caisson section Soldiers who perform military funerals at Headquarters and Headquarters Company, Fort Sam Houston Army Support Activity, and was shown the large French draft horses in the Caisson stables.

The horses, all of the breed known as “Percheron,” pull the Caisson in funeral ceremonies and are named after previous sergeants major of the Army.

When he asked if they had a horse named after retired Sgt. Maj. of the Army Kenneth Preston, he



Photo by Sgt. 1st Class Manuel Torres-Cortes, Army North PAO

Sgt. Maj. of the Army Raymond F. Chandler III serves up an omelet he just made to a Wounded Warrior July 9 at the Warrior and Family Support Center. Chandler spent the morning cooking omelets for wounded Soldiers and family members and afterwards visited single Soldiers to discuss important topics of today’s military.

was told that the horse had to be replaced. Chandler suggested also naming the new, replacement horse after Preston.

Afterwards, Chandler met with command sergeants major from around Fort Sam Houston in the Texas Room at the Quadrangle for a senior enlisted leadership meeting.

The same day, his wife, Jeanne, toured and visited with representatives from military programs throughout Fort Sam Houston, to include Army Community Service and Family Advocacy, and met with individuals from various Family Readiness Groups to discuss hot

topics such as day care, health care, and job and educational opportunities for spouses.

That evening, Chandler and his wife went to the commanding general’s community leaders’ social, attended by various community and military leaders from throughout San Antonio.

The next morning, Chandler and his wife cooked breakfast for Wounded Warriors at the Warrior and Family Support Center. Chandler made omelets, one of his favorite breakfasts, for Soldiers.

The visit marked the second to BAMC and the WFSC for Chandler, who first visited April 22.

www.arnorth.army.mil

News

Army to shut down eArmyU

By Jim Tice
Army Times

WASHINGTON — The eArmyU civilian education option that has provided distance learning support services to 64,000 Soldiers over the past decade will be shuttered next year.

The 1,429 Soldiers enrolled in the program today may continue to register for eArmyU courses until March 31, 2012 even if a course runs past the shutdown date.

Each of the Soldiers has been sent a letter by the Human Resources Command, encouraging them to continue taking eArmyU classes until March 31, when they will be transitioned to regular tuition assistance.

HRC officials said many of these Soldiers are simultaneously enrolled in traditional tuition assistance courses, so they are familiar with that program.

“While eArmyU has run successfully for 10 years, its has reached a point of maturity, essentially meeting its recruiting and retention objective (and) increasing soldiers’ participation in their own education development,” said Command Sgt. Maj. Bruce A. Lee, command sergeant major of the Human Resources Command.

Traditional TA is available within the GoArmyEd portal (www.goarmy.ed), and provides financial assistance up to 100 percent, not to exceed \$4,500 per year and \$250 per semester hour.

So far this fiscal year, nearly 160,000 active-duty Soldiers have taken 282,609 tuition assistance-

courses at a cost of \$173.9 million, according to information provided by the Army Continuing Education System of HRC.

Online courses leading to degrees today account for nearly 78 percent of tuition assistance enrollments, which is a major reason why the eArmyU option is being discontinued.

Disaster aid to North Dakotans tops \$175 million

Federal Emergency Management Agency

BISMARCK, N.D. — Federal and state disaster assistance for this year’s flooding in North Dakota has surpassed \$175 million. Individuals and businesses in Barnes, Benson, Burleigh, McHenry, Morton, Ramsey, Renville, Richland, and Ward counties and the Spirit Lake Nation may apply for disaster assistance.

The deadline is Aug. 23.

To date 9,267 individuals have registered with the Federal Emergency Management Agency for disaster assistance. A total of 8,213 grants for more than \$83 million have been approved for temporary housing and essential home repairs. The Other Needs Assistance program has approved nearly \$1.5 million for serious disaster-related needs such as personal property losses, and medical and dental expenses not covered by insurance or other sources.

FEMA’s Public Assistance program provides funding reimbursement for eligible costs incurred for emergency response or damage to public infrastructure. Public Assistance has been approved for 44 counties and four reservations in

North Dakota. To date, FEMA has obligated funding for 108 approved projects totaling \$1.4 million.

The U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) has approved more than \$88.9 million to-date in low-interest disaster loans to residents and businesses. SBA disaster representatives are available at all Disaster Recovery Centers and the Business Recovery Centers to issue loan applications, answer questions about SBA’s low-interest disaster loan program, explain the application process and help each resident or business owner complete an application.

U.S. Northern Command deploys DCO, DCE to U.S. Virgin Islands

Immigration and Customs Enforcement

PETERSON AIR FORCE BASE, Colo. — U.S. Northern Command activated a defense coordinating officer July 30 to the U.S. Virgin Islands in preparation for support to civil authorities as hurricane season builds and a storm approaches the U.S. territory.

USNORTHCOM activated the DCO and defense coordinating element from U.S. Army North in support of the Federal Emergency Management Agency Region II, to provide assessment and coordination as required.

DCOs and DCEs work very closely with federal, state, tribal and local officials to determine what unique DOD capabilities can be brought to assist in mitigating the effects of a natural disaster.

USNORTHCOM is the joint combatant command formed in the wake of the Sept. 11, 2001 terrorist

attacks to provide homeland defense and defense support of civil authorities.

GI Bill changes include actual cost for in state tuition

Dept. of Veterans Affairs

WASHINGTON — The Department of Veterans Affairs is reaching out to inform veterans of recent changes made by Congress to the Post 9/11 GI Bill that take effect in 2011.

“The Post 9/11 GI Bill is incredibly important because it reduces the financial burdens of higher education so that veterans have an opportunity to achieve their education goals,” said Gen. Allison Hickey, under secretary for Benefits. “The VA believes it is important for veterans to be aware of changes to the GI Bill this year and learn more about how these changes may affect them.”

Hickey said that today, more than 537,000 students have received more than \$11.5 billion in GI Bill benefits to help them take charge of their future.

Upcoming changes to the Post-9/11 GI Bill, effective Aug. 1, 2011, include paying the actual net cost of all public in-state tuition and fees, rather than basing payments upon the highest in-state tuition and fee rates for every state.

Another change involves capping private and foreign tuition at \$17,500 per academic year, as well as ending payments during certain school breaks to preserve veterans’ entitlement for future academic semesters.

Additionally, certain students attending private schools in select states can now continue to receive

benefits at the same rate payable during the previous academic year.

Beginning Oct. 1, 2011, eligible individuals will be able to use the Post-9/11 GI Bill for programs such as non-college degrees, on-the-job training, and correspondence courses. They will also be eligible to receive a portion of the national monthly housing allowance rate when enrolled only in distance learning courses.

Soldiers to begin 2012 with nine-month deployments

Army News Service

ARLINGTON, Va. — Beginning Jan. 1, most Soldiers will deploy for nine months, meaning more time at home with their families.

Secretary of the Army John McHugh signed a directive instituting a nine-month “boots on the ground” policy for deployed Soldiers, providing more “dwell” time at home for Soldiers and families.

“Implementation of this change is based on the projected demand for Army forces, and remains contingent on global security conditions and combatant commanders’ requirements,” said Lt. Col. Peggy Kageleiry, an Army spokesperson.

Corps units and above, and individual augmentee deployments will remain at 12-month deployments.

The goal for the corps units is to eventually get to nine-month deployments.

Most augmentees — those with particular skills or those in low density skill sets and grades — will remain on 12-month deployments.

This change in policy, to be fully implemented by April 1, will affect Soldiers in all named operations.

U.S. mourns loss of 38 killed in crash

ISAF Joint Command and White House

WASHINGTON — President Barack Obama traveled to Dover Air Force Base, Del., Aug. 9 for the return of 30 U.S. servicemembers killed in a helicopter crash in Afghanistan.

Thirty International Security Assistance Force members, one civilian interpreter, and seven Afghan commandos were killed when a coalition CH-47 Chinook crashed in Afghanistan early Aug. 6.

All of the ISAF servicemembers on board were from the United States, officials said. They added that the incident represents the highest number of U.S. forces killed during a single event in support of Operation Enduring Freedom.

The dead servicemen included a number of Navy SEALs, officials said. Some of them were reportedly from SEAL Team 6, the unit that carried out the raid on Osama Bin Laden.

The Chinook helicopter crashed in the rugged and remote Tangi valley of Eastern Afghanistan. U.S. officials have said the crash may have been caused by insurgents firing a rocket-propelled grenade, but emphasized that an investigation is underway to determine the exact cause.

“No words describe the sorrow we feel in the wake of this tragic loss,” said Gen. John R. Allen, commander, International Security Assistance Force.

“All of those killed in this operation were true heroes who had already given so much in the defense of freedom.”



Military Order Purple Heart



Combat Wounded