

ARNORTH Monthly

December 2011



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Front Cover: FORT SAM HOUSTON, Texas — Lt. Gen. Guy C. Swan III, commanding general, U.S. Army North and Fort Sam Houston, passes the Army North colors to Gen. Charles Jacoby Jr., commanding general, North American Aerospace Defense Command and U.S. Northern Command, during Swan's Relinquishment of Command and Retirement ceremony Dec. 2 at Staff Post Field near Army North's historic Quadrangle. (Photo by Sgt. 1st Class Manuel Torres-Cortes, Army North PAO)

Back Cover: FORT SAM HOUSTON, Texas — Col. Richard Francey, chief of staff, U.S. Army North, salutes Gen. Charles Jacoby Jr., commanding general, North American Aerospace Defense Command and U.S. Northern Command, and Lt. Gen. Guy C. Swan III, commanding general, U.S. Army North and Fort Sam Houston, during Swan's Relinquishment of Command and Retirement ceremony Dec. 2 at Staff Post Field near Army North's historic Quadrangle. (U.S. Army photo by Sgt. Maj. Eric Lobsinger, Army North PAO)

Deputy Commanding General: Maj. Gen. Walter Davis
Command Sgt. Maj.: Command Sgt. Maj. David Wood

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Military service is about people

*An excerpt from his Tattoo ceremony speech
 Dec. 1, 2011, in the Quadrangle*

By Lt. Gen. Guy Swan III

Commanding General, U.S. Army North and Fort Sam Houston



There are a number of leaders here from San Antonio, and you've heard me say it before, we've been in a lot of places over the years but nothing compares to what this city does and offers to our Armed Forces every single day of the week. That moniker "Military City, U.S.A." really fits in this great city, so thank you all for coming out.

I started my career in 1972, at the tail end of the Vietnam War. I graduated the academy in '76. We came up in the Army in the post-Vietnam era and learned from our leaders. There's a great deal of comradeship I feel for our Vietnam Veterans.

I want to thank all of you because you didn't get the thanks that we got after the Gulf War, or even today, so we certainly appreciate what you've done over the years, and the things you've taught us over the years have made us a stronger Army.

There have been really no bad assignments along the way, and I guess that's because Melanie and I try to make that assignment at that time the best assignment we've ever had. That has certainly been the case here, at Fort Sam, and with Army North. You don't do this for the paycheck. Even at the general officer level, it's not about the paycheck – it's about the people – and that is really what has kept us going for all these many years.

We're closing out the career in the Homeland Security/ Homeland Defense environment, which is something out of the mainstream for a lot of us in uniform. But as I've had the experience to do some of this work in Washington and at Northern Command headquarters, I'm convinced more and more every day that our Armed Forces do have a role in the homeland – albeit within the traditions, the legalities and the culture

of the U.S.; 9/11 taught us that we are vulnerable here at home. Hurricane Katrina taught us that we're always vulnerable to Mother Nature's catastrophes, and our Armed Forces are very important in this environment.

I really want to thank, individually and collectively, the Army North team in attendance here from all our components for what you do, every day, in conjunction with our National Guard partners and our interagency partners to keep our fellow citizens safe right here in the homeland.

We are America's Army; we are America's forces; we're part of the American people. I couldn't think of a better place to close out my career than right here in San Antonio, at Fort Sam Houston, in front of the clock tower, right here in the Quadrangle.



Photo by Staff Sgt. Keith Anderson, Army North PAO

Farewell

FORT SAM HOUSTON, Texas — Lt. Gen. Guy Swan III, commanding general, U.S. Army North and Fort Sam Houston, says farewell to San Antonio community members and Fort Sam Houston service members during his Tattoo ceremony Dec. 1 in Army North's historic Quadrangle. Swan relinquished command of Army North Dec. 2, and retired from military duty after more than 35 years of service. Lt. Gen. William Caldwell, who most recently served as the commander of NATO Training Mission – Afghanistan and as the commanding general of Combined Security Transition Command – Afghanistan, will assume command of Army North in January 2012.



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

Thanksgiving feast

FORT SAM HOUSTON, Texas — Spc. Ryan Richmond, Spc. Anthony Schons and Spc. Jonathan Stoby, all members of Fort Sam's Own 323rd Army Band, U.S. Army North, line up for turkey, ham and fixings during Thanksgiving in the Quadrangle Nov. 23.



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

Packers fan

FORT SAM HOUSTON, Texas — Lt. Gen. Guy Swan III, commanding general, U.S. Army North and Fort Sam Houston, chooses Jemele Hill as the commentator he agrees with during the ESPN2 "First Take" taping in the Quadrangle Nov. 7. Swan, seated between Jay Crawford and Dana Jacobson, said the Green Bay Packers could repeat as Super Bowl champions, and was given a wedge-shaped foam "Cheesehead" hat to wear, stating that "we in the military have to be in proper uniform for every mission."

ARNORTH welcomes

Maj. Gen. Walter Davis, DCG
Col. Carroll Anderson, DCS, G3
Capt. Delmar Graves, CCP
Chief Warrant Officer 2
Joshua Parks, G6
Lt. Col. Ronnie Davis, G4
Lt. Col. Gregory Hill, CCP
Maj. Gerry Peppmuller, G5
Maj. Delmar Graves, CCP
Maj. Lacrederick Jackson, PMO
Sgt. 1st Class James Winters, G3
Sgt 1st Class Able Bermea, RGN VIII
Sgt. Jerry Martinez, RGN X
Jaycee Alcala, G6
Michele Elemore, G6
Regina Mclean-Burrell, G8
Tommy Riley

ARNORTH says goodbye

Lt. Gen. Guy Swan III, CG
Marie Hill, CSTA
John Manguso, Museum
Ryan Spangler, CSTA
Robert Wait, CSTA

Fort Sam Houston honors retirees



Photo by Staff Sgt. Keith Anderson, Army North PAO

FORT SAM HOUSTON, Texas — Service members, Family, friends and loved ones say farewell to November retirees Nov. 18 in U.S. Army North's historic Quadrangle grounds. Retirees are (from left to right) Col. Thomas Little, 32nd Medical Brigade; John Manguso, Fort Sam Houston Museum; Master Sgt. Jose Rigual III, Brooke Army Medical Center; Master Sgt. Elva Marquez, U.S. Army South; Sgt. 1st Class Ruben Alaniz, Army South; Staff Sgt. Erik Hurst, Medical Education and Training Campus; and Minerva Contreras, Public Health Command Region – South.

FORT SAM HOUSTON, Texas — Lt. Gen. Guy Swan III, commanding general, Army North and Fort Sam Houston, present the Meritorious Civilian Service award to John Manguso Nov. 18 in the Quadrangle during the November Fort Sam Houston retirement and awards ceremony. Standing with Manguso is his wife, Barbara, and his sons, Joseph and Matthew. Manguso, the Fort Sam Houston Museum director, is retiring after 33 years at the museum. The retirement is his second, following 28 years of active and Reserve service.



Photo by Staff Sgt. Keith Anderson, Army North PAO

Lt. Gen. Swan relinquishes command of U.S. Army North

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

FORT SAM HOUSTON, Texas — Lt. Gen. Guy C. Swan III relinquished command of U.S. Army North during a ceremony at the Staff Post Parade Field, across from Fort Sam Houston's historic Quadrangle, in front of Family, fellow service members and civilians who gathered together Dec. 2 to bid him farewell.

Following his relinquishment of

command, Swan retired after more than 35 years of service – the final two as the commanding general of Army North and as the senior commander of Fort Sam Houston.

“The balance of your leadership style, and the command climate that you established at every point in your career, is truly something those who have served with you, and under you, value – it is your legacy,” said Gen. Charles Jacoby Jr., commanding general, North American Aerospace Defense Command and U.S. Northern

Command.

Prior to assuming command of Army North, Swan's notable service included commanding the 11th Armored Cavalry Regiment, the 7th Army Training Command, Joint Force Headquarters – National Capital Region and the U.S. Army Military District of Washington. He also served as the Chief of Staff and Director of Operations for Multi-National Force – Iraq during Operation Iraqi Freedom.

“As America's insurance policy

against the most unthinkable threats to the homeland, our mission is truly a noble one. My last six years have been spent defining that role that protects the homeland and the Army's role in that mission,” said Swan. “This job, this command, is truly the ‘no penetration line’ in the defense of our country.”

While serving as commanding general for Army North, Swan continued to build up the nation's chemical, biological, radiological, nuclear and consequence management response force, which is tasked with preparing

for catastrophic events, such as terrorist attacks or natural disasters.

Swan said Army North members have established broader and stronger partnerships with their Mexican and Canadian counterparts to protect the homeland from threats that know no borders, posed by international and transnational terrorist groups.

“You have hit all our priorities even before we had defined them. You instinctively understood and knew our center of gravity for this mission was our trusted partnerships,” said Jacoby. “You are a leader of great patience, humility, integrity, and you embodied that most simple yet most powerful word – Trust!”

Swan was commissioned as an Armor Officer from the United States Military Academy at West

Point, New York, in June 1976.

“As for my last closing remarks, I would like to leave you with this. Even though, thankfully, more of our service members will be home this holiday as the drawdown from Iraq is completed, thousands more will still be separated from their Families,” said Swan. “Please keep them in your thoughts and prayers this holiday season and also those who are recovering from their wounds and our Gold Star Families.”

Lt. Gen. William Caldwell, who most recently served as the commander of NATO Training Mission – Afghanistan and as the commanding general of Combined Security Transition Command – Afghanistan, will assume command of Army North in January 2012.



FORT SAM HOUSTON, Texas — Command Sgt. Major David Wood, Gen. Charles Jacoby Jr., commanding general, North American Aerospace Defense Command and U.S. Northern Command, Melanie Swan, wife of Lt. Gen. Guy Swan III, commanding general, U.S. Army North and Fort Sam Houston, stand in front of the formation, during Swan's Relinquishment of Command and Retirement ceremony Dec. 2 at Staff Post Field near Army North's historic Quadrangle.

SMA visits Wounded Warriors, families



Photos by
Sgt. 1st Class
Manual Torres-Cortes
Army North PAO

FORT SAM HOUSTON, Texas — A Wounded Warrior shows his prosthetic leg to Sgt. Maj. of the Army Raymond Chandler III (right) and Command Sgt. Maj. Marshall Huffman, Brooke Army Medical Center, as he speaks with them Nov. 17 at the Warrior and Family Support Center. **Below:** FORT SAM HOUSTON, Texas — Sgt. Maj. of the Army Raymond Chandler III (right) thanks Soldiers for their hard work and dedication Nov. 17 for helping and supporting Wounded Warriors at the WFSC.



The Warrior and Family Support Center provides coordinated services to patients, next-of-kin and extended Family members with a primary focus on Wounded Operation Iraqi Freedom and Operation Enduring Freedom Warriors. It provides a friendly, comfortable environment in which to take a break, watch a movie on big-screen TVs, play video games, check email or use the Internet, select a book or magazine to read, make a phone call, or just grab a cup of coffee. Wounded Warriors and their Family Members visit the WFSC to maintain contact with other military members or extended Family Members, to receive emotional support, answers to their questions, and to extend their rehabilitation away from the hospital. The rehabilitation involves learning to cope with war related disabilities as individuals, as couples and as families.

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SMA to NCOs, leaders: no one stands alone in today's Army

Leaders,

So far this year, we've lost almost 300 Soldiers, Family members and Department of the Army Civilians to suicide. At this rate, we may exceed our 2010 record high of 343.

Our Army Family faces significant challenges: relationship problems, substance abuse, financial issues, work-related problems, post-traumatic stress, traumatic brain injury and legal issues are just a few.

As an Army, we've taken steps to provide our Army Family with the resources they need to aid in suicide prevention efforts. We've increased access to Behavioral Health Care and expanded the Strong Bonds Program. We've reduced waivers for high-risk accessions and decreased the amount of time a Soldier can have prescription medication. We've also expanded Ask, Care, Escort training and increased the number of Applied Suicide Intervention Skills Training trainers.

Earlier this year, the Health Promotion and Risk Reduction Task Force reviewed recent suicide trends and found two areas of concern: rising suicide rates among Soldiers with a support MOS and Soldiers living alone in off-post housing.

These challenges indicate that we are not properly integrating incoming Soldiers into the community, unit and Family support systems. Thus, leaders at all levels need to establish and sustain a viable sponsorship program in accordance with Army Regulation 600-8-8. It is imperative that we take additional efforts to maintain visibility and accountability of these Soldiers.

I need each leader to train and familiarize themselves on the principles discussed in Chapter 3 of the Task Force's July 2010 report 'The Lost Art of Leadership in Garrison' and ensure the reflected initiatives are being implemented at all levels. This includes:

- Sharing of relevant information between medical providers and commanders.
- Ensuring Soldiers understand that controlled substance prescriptions will have an expiration date and that a positive urinalysis after the prescription expiration date may result in an illicit-drug use



MilitaryFamily.com gathered a group of experts in emotional resiliency to develop a free app to address the increasing number of suicides among active duty military and veterans.

finding

- Ensuring timely reporting of command intervention in response to high-risk behavior
- Ensuring that Soldiers subject to investigative/legal actions are monitored for signals of high-risk behavior or self-harm
- Reinforcing the requirements of AR 600-85 concerning initiation of separation actions for Soldiers with positive urinalysis.

Finally, leaders must continue to adopt a supportive mindset that encourages those in need of help for behavioral and other non-physical health issues to get help without the fear of adverse consequences.

As leaders, we strive to mitigate stressors on our force, but we can only do so much. First-line leaders need to actively engage in their Soldiers' lives or we will continue to lose this battle.

I am calling on all of our leaders, but especially the noncommissioned officers, the backbone of our great Army, to make a difference.

We must cultivate a climate that encourages help-seeking behaviors and supports those who ask for help. By standing Shoulder to Shoulder, we can ensure that No One Stands Alone!"

Sgt. Maj. of the Army Raymond Chandler III

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Military community takes part in Veterans Day parade



Photos by
Staff Sgt. Keith Anderson
Army North PAO

Left: SAN ANTONIO — Lt. Gen. Guy Swan III, commanding general, U.S. Army North and Fort Sam Houston, and his wife, Melanie, wave to spectators Nov. 12 as they pass the Alamo in an open humvee during the 12th-annual U.S. Military Veterans Parade as part of Celebrate America's Military Week. There were more than 200 entries in the parade.

Below Left: SAN ANTONIO — Master Sgt. Eric Basora leads Fort Sam's Own 323rd Army Band past spectators Nov. 12 during the 12th-annual U.S. Military Veterans Parade here as part of Celebrate America's Military Week.

Below Right: SAN ANTONIO — The Joint Base San Antonio Color Guard opens the 2011 U.S. Military Veterans Parade Nov. 12 in downtown San Antonio. Military service members joined community members to honor the service of veterans.



SAN ANTONIO — Members of the John Jay High School Silver Eagle varsity armed drill team, led by Master Sgt. William Harwell, perform their winning exhibition drill for spectators Nov. 12 before the commencement of the U.S. Military Veterans Parade. Lt. Gen. Guy Swan III, commanding general, U.S. Army North and Fort Sam Houston, presented trophies to the winning drill teams. **Below:** SAN ANTONIO — Military leaders from around San Antonio pay respects to Veterans Nov. 12 during a wreath-laying ceremony on the Alamo lawn. (From left to right) Marine Corps Lt. Col. Ed Tovar, assistant inspector instructor, 4th Reconnaissance Battalion, San Antonio; Coast Guard Capt. Brendan Frost, USCG liaison to Hispanic Association of Colleges and Universities; Army Lt. Gen. Guy Swan III, commanding general, U.S. Army North and Fort Sam Houston, Texas; Navy Rear Admiral Bob Kiser, commandant, Medical Education and Training Campus, Fort Sam Houston; USAF Gen. Edward Rice Jr., commanding general, Air Education and Training Command, Randolph Air Force Base, Texas; wreath-bearer Staff Sgt. Joel Colon, METC; and Delia Guajardo, U.S. Military Veterans Parade Association, honor the service of the nation's veterans.



Texas Honor Ride donates \$128,000+ to Warrior and Family Support Center



Photo courtesy of Laura Lobsinger

FORT SAM HOUSTON, Texas — Airmen proudly display American flags as motorcycle riders pass underneath a bridge on Interstate Highway-10 during the Texas Honor Ride Nov. 12. A check for more than \$128,000 was presented to the Warrior and Family Support Center by the Texas Honor Ride at Fort Sam Houston's Salado Creek Park. The group has raised more than \$630,000 over the past six years in support of the Wounded Warriors being treated at Brooke Army Medical Center, according to the group's Website. The ride kicked off in Houston, with local military and civilian riders joining the group at the Exit 619 rest stop on I-10. Approximately 800 motorcyclists participated in the event. The group's mission, according to its Website, is "To honor, directly help and improve the quality of life of wounded warriors and their families who are recovering at the Brooke Army Medical Center (BAMC) in San Antonio, Texas."



Photo by Maj. Stephen Short, Army North PAO

FORT SAM HOUSTON, Texas — The first of approximately 800 riders begin arriving at Fort Sam Houston's Salado Creek Park during a Texas Honor Ride Nov. 12. **Right:** FORT SAM HOUSTON, Texas — Riders view a memorial display dedicated to: "Honoring America's Heroes from the state of Texas Making the Ultimate Sacrifice defending our freedom, serving our country."



Photo by Sgt. Maj. Eric Lobsinger, Army North PAO

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62nd Medical Brigade certified for homeland response mission

By Hazard Bentley III
JTF-CS PAO

FORT EUSTIS, Va. — The 62nd Medical Brigade became the first military unit to receive the "Task Force Medical" designation under the enhanced military response force – the Defense Chemical, Biological, Radiological and Nuclear Response Force.

Joint Task Force – Civil Support certified the Fort Lewis, Wash.-based brigade to conduct its domestic CBRN response mission following a command post exercise at Fort Lewis Oct. 31 – Nov. 4.

TF Medical would be the first medical unit from the Department of Defense to arrive on the scene of a major incident if additional federal resources are requested by a state government or a federal agency to help support response efforts. Medical Soldiers could respond to a nuclear explosion or attack, a radiological or chemical incident, or a biological attack or outbreak such as the plague outbreak simulated during the exercise.

Bringing military and civilian partners together offered the first opportunity to integrate her organization into the newly formed DCRF enterprise, said Col. Theresa Schneider, the 62nd's commander.

"This exercise gives the medical task force the opportunity to use its ability to respond quickly and effectively as we deploy to a national disaster site and work with our civilian colleagues to take care



USAF photo by Senior Airman Marleah Miller

of the folks who are effected by that disaster," said Schneider. In the training scenario, terrorists unleashed a deadly plague of yersinia pestis in a U.S. city. As the 'casualties' and 'fatalities' mounted, the state governor determined his state's resources were all but exhausted, resulting in a simulated presidential disaster declaration activating the Federal Emergency Management Agency. FEMA, in turn, requested assistance from the DoD to treat victims, transport patients and provide assistance to local authorities. This is where the 62nd and JTF-CS came in.

"It's important we do training like this regularly to ensure the

units that might need to go are ready for when and if it happens," said Gunnery Sgt. Juan Ospina, exercise planner and the lead plans and JTF-CS operations non-commissioned officer. The exercise tested the medical unit's leadership in controlling the brigade's smaller units, and ensured that senior officers and non-commissioned officers were ready to issue orders and efficiently organize tasks the brigade will need to accomplish if a CBRN incident were to occur. The DCRF, led by USAF Maj. Gen. Jonathan Treacy, is comprised of 5,200 personnel, and headquartered at Joint Base Langley-Eustis.

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Native American dancers share culture with Fort Sam Houston community



Photo by Staff Sgt. Keith Anderson, Army North PAO

A Native American dancer dances to the beat of drums Nov. 12 during the 12th Annual Veteran's Pow Wow at U.S. Army North's historic Quadrangle. The event provided dancers an opportunity to meet with military community members and to tell them more about themselves through dance, song and storytelling. The event was sponsored by the Fort Sam Houston Equal Opportunity Program and United San Antonio Pow Wow Inc. Community members enjoyed interacting with the traditional dancers, sampling food and purchasing souvenirs.



Photo by Staff Sgt. Keith Anderson, Army North PAO

ABOVE: Sgt. 1st Class David Frieze, equal opportunity advisor, U.S. Army North, dances with a Native American dancer Nov. 12 during the 12th Annual Veteran's Pow Wow at U.S. Army North's historic Quadrangle. **Below:** Members of United San Antonio Pow Wow Inc. enter the drum circle with tribal, state and national flags for the Pow Wow in the Quadrangle. After the flag march, dancers performed traditional dances, and spoke with community members about the traditions and heritage of the Native American community.



Photo by Sgt. Maj. Eric Lobsinger, Army North PAO



Photo by Staff Sgt. Keith Anderson, Army North PAO

ABOVE: A Native American dancer twirls during the 12th Annual Honoring the Veteran's Pow Wow at U.S. Army North's historic Quadrangle Nov. 12. The Native American dancers shared a bit of their culture with members of the Fort Sam Houston community through dance, song and storytelling. The Pow Wow was sponsored by the Fort Sam Houston Equal Opportunity Program and United San Antonio Pow Wow Inc. Community members enjoyed interacting with their visitors, sampling food and purchasing souvenirs. **TOP RIGHT:** A Native American young lady takes center stage performing in a "jingle" dress during the Veteran's Pow Wow. **RIGHT:** A young lady prepares for a plate dance during the the Veteran's Pow Wow. Members young and old of United San Antonio Pow Wow Inc. shared Native American culture with community members.



Photo by Staff Sgt. Keith Anderson



Photo by Sgt. Maj. Eric Lobsinger, Army North PAO

Army North, Pershing Elementary sign covenant

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

FORT SAM HOUSTON, Texas — Leaders of Headquarters and Headquarters Battalion, U.S. Army North, signed a covenant Nov. 8 with school officials at John J. Pershing Elementary School and unveiled a new sign at the school commemorate the military and community partnership.

Lt. Col. Shannon Miller, commander, HHBN, and Command Sgt. Maj. Eddie Fields, senior enlisted leader, HHBN, signed the formal charter with Kathleen St. Claire, principal, Pershing Elem., before cutting a ribbon and unveiling a new sign at the school as part of the Fort Sam Houston “Adopt-a-School” program.

“Although our unit has been partnered with Pershing Elementary since last school year, we wanted to establish the covenant with a formal charter – and unveil our new sign – because this truly is a partnership, a binding agreement between both communities, and truly takes commitment on everyone’s part,” said Miller.

The charter outlines terms and areas of responsibility for the school and the Army North battalion.

The partnership makes a difference for the students, said St. Claire.

“You enrich the lives of these children,” said St. Claire, to volunteers from Army North at the ceremony. “You make an impact in the lives of our students. When they are 18 or 19 years old, they are going to remember you, and we hope that you are going to remember them.”

The program has made a difference for the students at the school, and efforts like the Adopt-a-School program have improved scores at the school, said Debbie Andrew, Pershing Elem. case manager, Communities in Schools. The school improved to “Recognized” under the Texas Education Agency accountability ratings system after the last school year.

The four possible TEA rankings, in order from best to worst are: “Exemplary,” “Recognized,” “Academically Acceptable,” and “Academically Unacceptable.”



Principal Kathleen St. Claire, John J. Pershing Elementary School, signs a covenant Nov. 8 to officially partner the elementary with U.S. Army North's Headquarters and Headquarters Battalion. Lt. Col. Shannon Miller (center), commander, HHBN, and Command Sgt. Maj. Eddie Fields, HHBN, also signed the covenant.

Miller, who tutors Jalynn, a third-grader at the school, when she's not commanding the Soldiers of HHBN, said tutoring is a good change of pace and is rewarding.

“I think the difference is that you can see the progress your student is making at each session,” said Miller. “I didn’t realize at the onset that I’d have such an impact.”

Under the agreement, Army North volunteers will conduct regular school visits, coordinate for mentor and tutor volunteers upon request, coordinate installation usage for on-post program activities, and other requirements. School officials will provide training for mentors and tutors, instructional supplies and supervision of children.

Fort Sam Houston welcomes incoming Army North deputy commanding general

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

FORT SAM HOUSTON, Texas — Community and Fort Sam Houston leaders joined members of U.S. Army North in welcoming the unit's new deputy commanding general Nov. 4 during a ceremony in the historic Quadrangle.

Lt. Gen. Guy Swan III, commanding general, Army North and Fort Sam Houston, welcomed Maj. Gen. Walter Davis to Army North.

“I am especially gratified to have Maj. Gen. Davis here,” Swan said. “Walter is a distinguished and experienced officer, and his



Maj. Gen. Walter Davis, incoming deputy commanding general, U.S. Army North, introduces himself to the command and to community leaders Nov. 4 during a welcome ceremony in the Quadrangle. “I’m ready to jump in with both feet to embrace this command and this community,” Davis said.

assignment history is in line with what we do here at Army North.”



Lt. Gen. Guy Swan III, commanding general, U.S. Army North and Fort Sam Houston, and Maj. Gen. Walter Davis, incoming deputy commanding general, Army North, render honors to the colors during a welcoming ceremony for Davis Nov. 4 in the Quadrangle.

Swan highlighted several of Davis’s previous assignments, including commanding the Army’s new 20th Support Command, a chemical, biological, radiological, nuclear and high-yield explosives Army command activated in

October 2004.

Davis also served as commander of the Joint Unmanned Aircraft Systems Center of Excellence, U.S. Army Forces Command; and as deputy director, Army Capabilities Integration Center, U.S. Army Training and Doctrine Command.

Davis said he was ready to get to work.

“I’m ready to jump in with both feet to embrace this command and this community,” said Davis.

Davis said he was glad to be back in the great state of Texas and humbled to serve with the great military and civilian team at Army North, and was excited about the opportunity to fully engage and immerse himself into San Antonio, ‘Military City, U.S.A.’

2012 ARMY ALL AMERICAN BOWL SCHEDULE



SUNDAY, Jan. 1, 2012

Army All-American Players Arrive
Location: Grand Hyatt Hotel
Time: All Day

Media Center Opens

Location: Grand Hyatt Hotel Texas Ballroom Salon A
Time: 9 a.m. – 5 p.m.

MONDAY, Jan. 2, 2012

U.S. Army All-American Marching Band Arrives
Location: Grand Hyatt Hotel
Time: All Day

U.S. Army All-American Bowl Practice

East Location: Heroes Stadium
West Location: Blossom Athletic Center

Time: 10 a.m. – 3 p.m.

Media Availability:
3:15 - 3:45 p.m.

Note: Open to the Public and Media

TUESDAY, Jan. 3, 2012

U.S. Army All-American Bowl Practice

East Location: Heroes Stadium
West Location: Blossom Athletic Center

Time: 10 a.m. – 3:45 p.m.

Media Availability:
4 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.

Note: Open to the Public and Media

WEDNESDAY, Jan. 4, 2012

Player-Soldier Hero Challenge
Location: Sunset Station Pavilion
Time: 6 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.
Note: Media Only

THURSDAY, JANUARY 5, 2012

U.S. Army All-American

Bowl Practice

East Location: Heroes Stadium
West Location: Blossom Athletic Center

Time: 10 a.m. – 3 p.m.

Note: Open to the Public and Media

Player Awards Press Conference

Location: Grand Hyatt Hotel
Time: 3:45 p.m. – 4:45 p.m.
Note: Open to the Public and Media

FRIDAY, Jan. 6, 2012

U.S. Army National Combine

Location: Alamodome
Time: 7:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.
Note: Open to the Public and Media

Army Strong Zone

Location: Sunset Station Parking
Time: 8 a.m. – 9:30 p.m.
Tickets: Free to General Public

GAME DAY - SATURDAY, Jan. 7, 2012

NCSA Combine Parent Seminar
Location: Hyatt Regency Hotel, Regency Ballroom
Time: 8 – 10 a.m.

Tickets: Closed to U.S. Army National Combine parents only

U.S. Army Strong Zone
Location: Sunset Station



Parking Lots

Time: 9 – 11 a.m. & 2 – 5 p.m.
Tickets: Free to General Public

U.S. Army Pre-Game Pageantry

Location: Alamodome

Time: 11 a.m. – Noon

Note: Bowl Ticket Required

U.S. Army All-American Bowl Game, Live on NBC

Location: Alamodome

Time: Noon

Note: Tickets Required

U.S. Army All-American Marching Band Performance

Location: Alamodome

Time: Halftime

Note: Bowl Ticket Required

SUNDAY, Jan. 8, 2012

Eastbay Youth All-American Bowl Games

Location: Alamodome

Time: 9 a.m. – 6 p.m.

Tickets: Free to General Public (No Ticket Required)

For more information on the U.S. Army All-American Bowl, please call (973) 366-8448 or visit www.usarmyallamericanbowl.com

ALL AMERICAN BOWL FACTS

- The U.S. Army became the title sponsor of the All-American Bowl in 2002.
- The U.S. Army All-American Bowl has more than 175 alumni currently playing in the NFL.

Air Force command chief master sergeant assumes top enlisted duties

Story and photo by
Armando Carrasco
JTF-N PAO

FORT BLISS, Texas — Air Force Command Chief Master Sgt. Dwight D. Badgett accepted the Joint Task Force – North senior enlisted leader duties Nov. 8 during an assumption of responsibility ceremony at the command's headquarters.

Badgett, who previously served as the Command Chief Master Sgt. of the Air Force Reserve Command, Robins Air Force Base, Ga., will serve as the senior enlisted adviser to Col. Mark Stammer, JTF-N commander, for all matters pertaining to the unit's active-duty and reserve-component Soldiers, Sailors, Airmen, Marines, Coast Guardsmen and their families.

In his welcoming remarks, Stammer highlighted Badgett's unique active-duty and reserve-component experiences and past assignments with Air Force engineering units.

"Considering all this organization does with the reserve components and the fact that we have a large component of engineering requirements, he is the right person for this job," said Stammer.

During his remarks, Stammer shared the response that Badgett gave him when the commander asked why he would go from a three-star command down to a one-star command. Badgett's response was simply: "I want to be provided the opportunity to contribute

in the joint world."

Badgett also said he was looking forward to working with, and supporting, JTF-N's law enforcement partners.

"The command chief master sergeant will represent the command at all levels. His sole purpose is to act on behalf of the entire organization," said Stammer.

As part of his new responsibilities, Badgett will also focus on the health, morale, welfare and duties of the volunteer units that execute the JTF-N counterdrug operations in support of the nation's federal law enforcement agencies.

His new position will require him to routinely travel to locations throughout the U.S. Northern Command theater of operations.

Badgett joined the Air Force in 1982 and served on active duty in various traffic management and civil engineering positions. In 1992, he left active duty to pursue a bachelor's degree. In 1996, he joined the Air Force Reserve and served as an individual mobilization augmentee; he later transferred to the active guard and reserve program and served in the civil engineering career field.

His past assignments have included tours of duty at Air Force bases in South Dakota, Nevada, Virginia and Georgia.



Col. Mark R. Stammer (right), Joint Task Force – North commander, passes the joint service command's colors to Air Force Command Chief Master Sgt. Dwight D. Badgett, senior enlisted leader, during an assumption of responsibility ceremony Nov. 8.

He also served overseas in the Netherlands and deployed to Southwest Asia in support of operations Enduring Freedom and Iraqi Freedom.

His military education includes completion of the Air Force Senior Noncommissioned Officer Academy, Senior Enlisted Joint Professional Military Education and the National Defense University's Keystone Command Senior Enlisted Leader Course.

He holds a bachelor's degree in business administration from Black Hills State University, Spearfish, S.D., and a master's degree in business administration from East Carolina University, Greenville, N.C.

News

Conference IDs transnational criminal organizations as concern

By Arwen Consaul,
U.S. Army South

LIMA, Peru — Transnational criminal organizations are on the rise in the Western Hemisphere, and their power, range, influence and weaponry have become more than law enforcement can handle in many parts of the region.

Acknowledging this phenomenon, the senior leaders in attendance at the recent Conference of American Armies discussed possible solutions to a widespread problem affecting everyone in the Americas.

“This conference shows all of us that the problems we face are not restricted to just our country,” said Maj. Gen. Oscar Salvador Baladares, Nicaraguan army chief of staff. “All countries in the Western Hemisphere are affected by having to counter illicit trafficking, narco-terrorism and organized crime. That is why it is important to our public that we come together to discuss solutions.”

The desired objective of the Conference of American Armies is for regional army commanders to strengthen integration and cooperation, study problems of mutual interest, and contribute to hemispheric security. This year, member armies agreed that combating transnational criminal organizations was an essential topic and agreed to create an accord to conduct a separate “Emerging Threats and Risk Situations” conference. Colombia

is currently scheduled to host the separate conference in October 2012.

“There needs to be a harmony of work,” said Gen. Luis Patricio Cárdenas Proaño, commander of the Ecuadorian army, at the beginning of the conference. “At this conference, I will propose to touch on the theme of how to manage organized crime. Much of the organized crime occurs at our borders. The ports and borders are the center of gravity for narcotrafficking, money laundering and other illicit criminal activities. The governments need to work together towards an end state of disrupting these activities and looking for socio-economic solutions.”

Since transnational criminal organizations essentially affect all countries in the Western Hemisphere, a coordinated regional response is required, which not only involves state and political parties, but law enforcement and military leaders as well, he said.

Transnational criminal organizations, whose activities include narcotics trafficking, financial crimes, cybercrimes, corruption extortion, counterfeiting, trafficking humans and arms, have a global reach that surpasses the interdiction ability and resources of many law enforcement agencies.

Quite easily, an illicit crime that starts in one country, can pass onto a second and be on its way to a third before it is even detected. Transnational criminal organizations adapt and evolve quickly; therefore countries cannot solve this problem alone or in a vacuum, he said.

“This is not just an issue in the United States,” said Maj. Gen. Simeon Trombitas, commander of U.S. Army South. “Transnational

criminal organizations have cut a path throughout the political, social and economic landscape of the Western Hemisphere affecting everyone in the region. These threats, which were previously reconciled in the world of law enforcement, have morphed into national security threats.”

According to the White House Strategy to Combat Transnational Crimes, released in July 2011 (<http://www.whitehouse.gov/administration/eop/nsc/transnational-crime>), it is imperative that political, military and law enforcement on the national and international levels come together to foster collaboration and share strategies that have proven to be successful.

The strategy calls for the building of international capacity, cooperation, and partnerships, critical objectives in the fight against transnational criminal activities.

ICE special response teams prep for high risk situations

U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement

FORT BENNING, Ga. — They serve warrants under hazardous conditions. They secure the airspace over the Super Bowl in Blackhawk helicopters. They go undercover to dismantle drug trafficking organizations. They even assist after a horrible tragedy like Hurricane Katrina. Their overriding goal is to protect public safety. The work of special response team members is often grueling and so is the training they undergo at Georgia’s Fort Benning. SRT training lasts three weeks and includes several components. Students must complete a 1.5-mile

run in less than 12 minutes, drag a dummy for 25 yards, complete 30 pushups and transition over a six-foot wall in full tactical gear. “We average a failure rate of five to six students out of 24 on the first day,” said Steve Podaras, U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement’s (ICE) National Tactical Coordinator. “Some people are meant for this, and some people are not. That’s what this school does; it weeds people out.” Trainees are also required to meet certain shooting requirements and complete classroom lessons in various tactical disciplines, including: intelligence gathering, use of force and officer mindset.

As the training progresses, the students participate in force-on-force sessions, which create the most realistic training environment available.

“It’s better to sweat now than bleed later,” said Podaras. “That’s why we try to simulate for agents what it will be like in the field when they serve an actual warrant.”

Individuals attending SRT training are all existing ICE agents or officers. They must serve as field agents for three years to be considered. ICE currently has 22 deployable teams, each consisting of 16 to 18 graduates from the Ft. Benning program. Nearly 400 individuals have graduated from special response team training since it was created more than 15 years ago.

\$662 billion defense authorization bill clears Senate

By Kate Brannen
Army Times

WASHINGTON — The Senate passed a \$662 billion defense

authorization bill for 2012 on Dec. 1 that includes \$527 billion for the Pentagon’s annual base budget. Approved by a 93-7 vote, the legislation also provides \$117 billion for war spending, \$1 billion less than the Pentagon’s request. Another \$17.5 billion is included for defense programs overseen by the Department of Energy.

With the clock running out on this year’s legislative session, the bill now moves to conference committee with the House, where various disagreements will have to be resolved before a final version can go to the president for his signature.

The Senate version contains provisions concerning how the government detains terror suspects. A compromise on the detainee language came late in the day on Thursday, after days of intense debate over whether U.S. citizens suspected of being terrorists could be detained indefinitely by the military. The White House had earlier threatened to veto the bill over such provisions; it was unclear whether the new language would mollify the president.

To get the bill passed, the Senate dropped 71 pending amendments at the last minute. But Sen. Carl Levin, D-Mich., said they could be introduced next week under a separate piece of legislation.

Among the abandoned amendments was a measure sponsored by Sen. John Cornyn, R-Texas, that directed the president to sell 66 new F-16 C/D fighter aircraft to Taiwan.

After modification, the amendment read, “the president shall carry out the sale of no fewer than 66 F-16 C/D multirole fighter aircraft to Taiwan.”

In September, the White House

said it would permit the upgrade of Taiwan’s F-16 A/Bs, but it said no decision had been made regarding Taipei’s pleas to buy more advanced F-16 C/Ds.

Android, iPhone to be OK’d for official use

By Andrew Tilghman
Army Times

WASHINGTON — For several years, most official Defense Department business has been limited to the BlackBerry. Now, Apple’s iPhone and Google’s Android smartphone software are close to being approved for widespread use across the force.

The Defense Information Systems Agency, which is responsible for digital security across the military, was to release details of its approval for the Android and iPhone in late November, the agency said.

William Keely, director of the agency’s field security operations activity, told Military Times that initial use will require approval from the chief information officer of each command seeking to use the devices.

While troops have been using a variety of smartphones for some work-related tasks, most have not received approval for use with the Defense Department’s Global Information Grid, which operates military email systems and operational databases.

The approval process is complex and painstaking because the use of wireless devices carries the risk of exposing classified information or making DoD’s information grid vulnerable to cyber attacks.

The Army is aggressively pursuing smartphone technology as a key component of its ground combat systems.

