



Fort A.P. Hill

Down Range

Vol.46, No.7

"The Best Training and Support -- Anywhere!"

May 23, 2011



AIRBORNE!

**4-73rd Cavalry Regiment
'Gets after it,' preps for
pending combat mission**

New fiscal reality, same commitment to Soldiers, Families

By Lt. Gen. Rick Lynch

Commanding General

Installation Management Command

A fundamentally different fiscal reality -- We will be hearing some variation of that phrase from our leaders for a long time to come. The Army's budget is smaller than it has been in previous years, and it will get smaller still. However, a different fiscal reality does not change the reality of what we owe to Soldiers and Families for their service and sacrifice. Our commitment to Soldiers and Families remains as strong as ever.

For the last 18 months, the Installation Management Community has been taking a hard look at the programs and services we provide to Soldiers and Families, with an eye not only to costs but also to effectiveness. As the inevitable belt-tightening comes, we are not trying to do more with less. We are working to make sure we can do the important things better.

One of our most important efforts has been to fully establish Survivor Outreach Services, to provide Survivors with longer-term, expanded support and care after casualty assistance ends. SOS staff have made tremendous progress in a short time, receiving more than 24,000 cases from Casualty and Mortuary Affairs, and they continue to enhance services as more Survivors provide feedback. This past year, SOS initiated a Survivor Vehicle Decal Program to ease installation access, established a Facebook page, and held the first annual SOS summit to address challenges Survivors face.

Other efforts include:

- * Transforming how Army Community Service delivers services, by cross-training more generalists to handle multiple programs and moving service locations out into communities.

- * Adding 44 more Systems Navigators to Exceptional Family Member Programs at 26 installations to assist Families with special needs members in accessing educational, medical, housing and personnel services on and off post.

- * Hiring more than 240 additional Army Substance Abuse Program counselors for installations worldwide.

- * Launching the Confidential Alcohol Treatment and Education Pilot, a program which allows Soldiers to seek help without mandatory command involvement.

- * Launching a pilot program in which Military Student Transition Consultants join School Liaison Officers in working with school districts, garrisons and Families to help students succeed at their new schools.

- * Revising the Total Army Sponsorship Program that helps prepare Soldiers, Families and Civilians for their new duty station.

- * Reinvigorating the Army Family Action Plan process with an analysis and review process that has reduced the backlog of active AFAP issues from 86 in February 2010 to 51 in February 2011.

This is a snapshot of what we have been doing to enhance support for Soldiers and Families. It does not begin to convey all the programs and services installation management professionals provide every day, including housing, public works, emergency services, environmental programs, recreation, child care, single Soldier programs and Family programs.

When we look at some big indicators, we see evidence that the Army is meeting the needs of Soldiers and Families. The Army is exceeding its recruitment and retention goals, and on the most recent Survey of Army Families, the majority of spouses said they are satisfied with the Army as a way of life. This is significant after 10 years of ongoing conflict - it speaks to the dedication of Soldiers and their Families and the Army's commitment to providing a quality of life commensurate with their service.

In the new fiscal reality, it will be more of a challenge for the Installation Management Community to provide the level of support we want to for our Soldiers and Families, but we will. We are finding better and smarter ways to provide services and programs by asking ourselves the same questions Families ask when they look at their own budgets: do we really need it? Is

it worth the cost? What are we willing to do without?

To answer these questions, we need to keep hearing from Soldiers and Family members about the specifics of what is working, what needs to be improved, and what is missing.

The commitment to supporting Soldiers and Families remains as strong as ever, but more than ever, we have to make sure we are on target in meeting their needs.



Garrison Commander

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Garrison Command Sergeant Major

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Public Affairs Officer

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2009

Department of Defense
Thomas Jefferson Award

2010, 2009, 2004

Department of the Army
Maj. Gen. Keith L. Ware Award

2010, 2009

U.S. Army Installation Management Command
Maj. Gen. Keith L. Ware Award

2008

U.S. Army Installation Management
Command - Northeast Region
Liberty Bell Award

The Down Range - Fort A.P. Hill newsletter is an award-winning bi-monthly publication authorized and produced by the PAO editorial staff in accordance with AR 360-1 to inform and entertain the installation community on people, policies, operations, technical developments, trends and ideas of and about the Department of Defense, the Department of the Army and Fort A.P. Hill.

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Installation newsletter wins ... again!

For the second consecutive year, the *Down Range – Fort A.P. Hill* newsletter has garnered top honors in the annual Department of the Army Maj. Gen. Keith L. Ware competition in the newsletter category.

Last year, the publication also won the much-coveted Department of Defense Thomas Jefferson award.

In 2008, the newsletter only placed as far as IMCOM-NE Region. Previous awards have included the Liberty Bell and KLV award in 2004.

The newsletter editor, David San Miguel, also placed third at the IMCOM-level for individual news writing.

“This win didn’t surprise me,” he said. “After last year’s win at both the Army and DOD levels, I felt confident that I made the changes needed to make this an even more competitive publication.”

He explained that when you compete at Army-level, the publications are judged by some of the most successful print and broadcast journalists in the field to include newspaper and magazine editors, authors of journalism textbooks, university and college journalism professors and professionals in mass communication and public relations fields.

“The judges evaluate the complete package. They carefully read and review articles, photographs, design elements, artwork and the overall quality of the finalists’ work,” he said. “Nothing is overlooked.”

It’s an achievement San Miguel says few readers outside the public affairs arena fully realize.

At last year’s award presentation at Fort Meade, Md., I felt “somewhat intimidated by the talent and caliber of their larger staffs,” he added.

“Most of the other publications I competed against had larger staffs,” the editor said. “They had graphic artists, writers, photographers, several editors and some even have creative design specialists ... and their mission was solely to produce that



Photo by Luke Elliot

Lieutenant Colonel John W. Haefner, garrison commander, and Jennifer Erickson, public affairs officer, receive the Installation Management Command-level Maj. Gen. Keith L. Ware award from Lt. Gen. Rick Lynch, IMCOM commanding general, at the Army Installation Management Symposium held in San Antonio, Texas, April 19-23. Accompanying the general were Sergeant Major of the Army Raymond F. Chandler III and the Hon. Katherine Hammack, Assistant Secretary of the Army for Installations, Energy and Environment.

publication.”

Here, at Fort A.P. Hill putting together a first-rate publication sometimes takes a back seat to supporting other missions, such as community and media relations events and activities, he said.

Yet despite these challenges, San Miguel said he explores whatever communication media is available in the Caroline County market to heighten readers’ interest and further support the command’s information needs and training initiatives.

“Today’s readers get bombarded with news from the radio, from television and the Internet,” he said. “I have to compete with that. I have to make this newsletter stand out so that readers will want to pick it up.”

Philip J. “PJ” Crowley, assistant secretary of state for public affairs, at last year’s DOD award ceremony challenged the winners to continue the “fight to get the word out.”

“We can communicate one-to-one, one-

to-many or many-to-many,” he stated. “The successful communicator will be someone who makes information compelling, yet simple to understand and convenient for the reader, listener and viewer.”

Crowley acknowledged though there are many methods available to communicate messages, the real challenge of which is to find the right medium and to excel as storytellers.

“And that, along with expanding our news coverage to include active duty, National Guard and Reserve Component Warriors from each of the military branches, Veterans, military retirees, Family members, Department of the Army Civilians, government contractors and those interested parties outside our gates, is one of my primary goals,” San Miguel added. “I believe this will go a long way in communicating our training mission to the public and further gain support for our troops and their Families.”

AIRBORNE!



82nd Airborne's 4-73rd Cav. Regt. 'Gets after it!'

By David San Miguel
Editor

Working on suspicion of insurgent activity, the squadron commander authorizes an air assault raid near the Afghan village of Jelawar in the Arghandab River Valley of the Kandahar Province.

He directs his men to move into the village quickly and to conduct a key leader engagement with the village elders to gather intelligence which would help in the identification of suspected insurgent activity and in the manufacturing of IEDs or Improvised Explosive Devices.

Such began the scenario which would test the Soldiers combat readiness.

Lieutenant Colonel Jeffery Howard, commander of the 4th Squadron, 73rd Cavalry Regiment, 4th Brigade Combat Team, 82nd Airborne Division, added that the training here at Fort A.P. Hill is part of an intense training cycle to prepare the unit for its combat mission.

During their two-weeks here, the Soldiers qualified with all their assigned weapon systems and learned how to integrate direct and inorganic fire to defeat the enemy, Howard said.

In addition, the leaders were trained how to integrate squad, platoon and troop operations to conduct air assault and airborne missions; and, conduct key leader engagements with the village elders. This included the transitioning of platoons from mounted patrol into a dismounted assault force under live fire conditions.



The 4-73rd Cav. Soldiers receive instruction on how to jump out of the CH-47 Chinook helicopter.



The Soldiers help each other harness their parachutes.



Photos by David San Miguel

Armed and ready, Sgt. Brandon Quinsa, C Troop, 4-73rd Cav., watches for any suspicious activity.



... boarding the aircraft.



The 4-73rd Cav. Soldiers respond to an ambush and IED attack.



... a key leader engagement with the village elders.



Photos by David San Miguel

Moving out to the objective, Pfc. Ryan Auge, A Troop, 4-73rd Cav., prepares to engage the enemy.

Specialist Brandon Hazlett and Pvt. Martin Fuentes Jr., both with C Troop, 4-73rd Cav., fire mortars down range.



The Soldiers practice first aid under combat conditions. Here, the medic prepares to perform an intra-venous procedure to save the life of a Soldier hit by an improvised explosive device.



The 4-73rd Cav. Soldiers conduct an air assault mission to the Afghan village of Jelawar.

Photos by David San Miguel

Gates budget review to 'force discussion' of risk analysis

By Lisa Daniel

American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON -- Defense Secretary Robert M. Gates today announced the framework for a comprehensive review of military spending designed to put national security needs ahead of arbitrary budget cuts.

"We must reject the traditional approach of applying across-the-board cuts -- the simplest and most politically expedient approach, both inside this building and outside of it," Gates said. "That kind of an approach preserves overhead and maintains force structure on paper. But it results in a hollowing out of the force from a lack of proper training, maintenance and equipment."

President Barack Obama set a goal of saving \$400 billion over 12 years, mostly from the Defense Department beyond the savings already identified. To do that, he directed a "fundamental review of America's military missions, capabilities, and security role around the world," Gates said.

Defense leaders have worked for more than two years to find cost savings in the department, he added. The effort began in acquisitions, with more than 20 weapons systems being curtailed or canceled, then moved to cutting overhead costs and redirecting the savings to support warfighters and help to reduce the federal deficit.

"The overarching goal of these efforts was

to carve out enough budget space to preserve and enhance key military capabilities in the face of declining rates of budget growth," he said.

The goal of the new review, he said, is "to preserve a U.S. military capable of meeting crucial national security priorities, even if fiscal pressure requires reductions in the force's size."

The review will be guided by the National Security Review, the National Defense Strategy, the National Military Strategy, the Chairman's Risk Assessment and the Quadrennial Defense Review to ensure it is focused on "strategic policy choices, first, and corresponding changes in the DoD budget, second," the secretary said.

The review will provide a strong analytical link currently missing between the QDR and the present makeup of the forces, Gates said. Once competing strategy options are identified, only then should the review consider fiscal implications and options.

The secretary outlined a four-step process for saving money in the department that would start with identifying additional efficiencies to be gained from eliminating bureaucratic excess and overhead.

But that alone won't generate enough savings, he said, so examiners should then move on to looking at programs, processes and mandates that drive up costs, "to include the way we deliver health care, compensate military personnel, provide retirement benefits, sustain our infrastructure and acquire

goods and services."

In the third category, officials will review missions and capabilities of marginal scope against overall strategy.

Gates cited the long-standing U.S. strategy that calls for the military to be able to fight two major, regional conflicts simultaneously as an example of reviewing strategic alternatives.

"If you were to tell yourself the likelihood of having two such fights simultaneously is low, and you could therefore plan to fight sequentially, that would have huge implications in terms of the size of force that you need to maintain," he said. "But the other side of that is the risk involved if you're wrong."

The final area for consideration is to consider alternatives to the QDR strategy that translate into options for reductions in force structure or capability needed to execute the strategy, Gates said.

"In the end, this process must be about identifying options for the president and the Congress where the nation is willing to accept risk in exchange for reduced investment in the Department of Defense," Gates said.

"If we're going to cut the military, if we're going to reduce the resources and the size of the U.S. military, people need to make conscious choices about what the implications of that are for the security of the country, as well as for the operations that we have around the world," he said.

SAFETY STAND DOWN

Fort A.P. Hill Fire Inspector Tim Beverly explains the hazards of fireworks to Ben McBride, the director of Public Works, during the installation's annual Summer Safety Stand Down conducted each year prior to the Memorial Day weekend.

This year, the event was held May 17 at the Community Activities Center where from 9 a.m. until noon, employees were given an opportunity to pick up literature and to speak with various subject matter experts about unexploded ordnance, motorcycle safety, electrical hazards, drug and alcohol abuse, outdoor grilling, workman's compensation and much more.



Photo by David San Miguel

New chief outlines Army's focus areas

By Rob McIlvaine
Army News Service

ARLINGTON, Va. -- Leading off with a music video by "Disturbed," Gen. Martin E. Dempsey outlined his intent for the Army of 2020 to the Association of the U.S. Army Institute of Land Warfare breakfast, May 5.

"I'm a little short of a month in my new job and I'm trying to feel what the Army is all about," the Army Chief of staff said. Too much time is spent trying to understand the Army when what really makes the Army is the way Soldiers feel about themselves.

The Army, he said, has a sense of history. It has existed for 235-plus years with leaders who change constantly and continue to build on that legacy. This is important to understand when examining where the Army is and where it's heading.

Besides the video, he had a photograph of a Soldier down range.

"On this notion of feeling the Army, I'll tell you how I spent most of my time in the three weeks that I've been the 37th Chief," Dempsey said.

He first went to the Virginia Military Institute to take part in the Marshall Awards for the best and brightest of the Reserve Officer Training Corps cadets across the country.

"This group is eager to join our profession, eager to belong, eager to contribute, eager to collaborate, eager to understand, but also eager to feel what this thing is all about," he said.

"Now take a look at that photograph again. This one really gets at some things that are important to me: trust and fitness and discipline, but especially trust," Dempsey said. "So, this image is not only about what that young leader is going through in trying to work through a very uncertain situation, but he's got a wedding band on and that kind of reminds you of the families that are part of this wonderful institution."

"He's got a Soldier there watching his flank and he trusts that Soldier to do his job so that he can do his," he continued.

This brought Dempsey to his focus areas -- a framework, he said, that by the time of the Army birthday, June 14, will be published with the possible title, "The Chief of the Staff of the Army's Intent."



Photo by C. Todd Lopez

General Martin E. Dempsey, Army Chief of Staff, speaks before a Senate panel.

"This will allow me to express my intent from a broad statement of the role of the Army," he said.

His nine focus areas are: The Nation; The Joint Fight; The Profession; The Army Family; Leader Development; Mission Command; Squad; Human Dimension; and, 21st Century Training.

These focus areas, he said, will help to bundle the initiatives under each area, make sense of them, and help people understand how, for example, the Human Dimension can be delivered.

"What does the nation need of us in 2020 and how do we move ourselves from where we are today to where we need to be in 2020," Dempsey said. The other aspect is giving the nation the most options possible.

"We are in conflict, the nation knows we are in conflict, they support us in that conflict - thank God - but we have to think through what changes will be needed when the conflict begins to diminish," he said.

As we build this Army of 2020, we need to meet the needs of the combatant commander, he said. "The study of the profession is resonating out in the force and it's resonating not just with officers, but with noncommissioned officers, warrant officers, active, Guard and Reserve and with our DA civilians. It's resonating because the other thing the Army brings to the nation is it brings a sense of belonging."

"People really want to belong to something today and we should reinforce

that and we should take advantage of that and we are," the Army chief said. This will cause the Army to look at policies, such as personnel policies."

We'll decide if there are policies that potentially erode the profession - so that we actually can determine earlier within the profession who is meeting the professional credentials that we desire, he said.

"I've seen the Army in the last 10 years of my career, from the top down, and thinking about the Army and where it over matches its potential adversaries," he explained. "We don't want to send a Soldier into harm's way who doesn't over match his potential enemies. It's at the squad level where it becomes too much of a fair fight. So, the motivation was to lie on my back and look up and look at the Army from the bottom up, and see what that does."

"I have another image I carry around in my head. The way the squad entrenches itself today is with the entrenching tool. This is the 21st century and I'm just not convinced that the best we can do is an entrenching tool," Dempsey said.

There are two core competencies the Army must provide the nation, he said. It must be able to maneuver to seize the initiative when it doesn't have it and it must be able to establish security over wide areas to consolidate the gains that are made by maneuver, the chief added. "I think we should all put our shoulders to that and make sure we don't make mistakes along the way."



Photo by David San Miguel

May Yard of the Month

A perennial winner in the seasonal Yard of the Month competitions, Gary J. Siebert, Wilcox Camp manager, and Hopemont housing resident, spends countless hours with his wife, Sandy, working on the yard.

According to Garrison Command Sgt. Maj. Miguel E. Reyna, Gary and Sandy's work has paid off. The yard was recently chosen as this month's winner.



Fort A.P. Hill's 70th Anniversary

June 11

**Salute America's Warriors at
this Free Family Event!**

BOWLING GREEN
PORT ROYAL
FORT AP. HILL

- ★ Patriotic Parade
- ★ Historical Tours
- ★ Military Displays
- ★ Reenactments



★ **Military District of Washington Twilight Tattoo**



**All Veterans invited to Route Step by arriving at
9:30 am at Broadus Ave. staging area.**

10 a.m. The Town of Bowling Green and the Caroline Legion Post present an Americana Military Parade Caroline High School JROTC Cadet, Vietnam & Korean War Vets and a Soldier will lead as grand marshals of parade featuring 392nd Army Band of Fort Lee, American Legion Riders, and Explosive Ordnance Disposal Soldiers and robot.

12-2 p.m. Historical & Art Gallery Tours, Town of Port Royal.

2 p.m. Military displays and more, Beavertown Picnic area, Fort A.P. Hill. See various military vehicles, equipment and demonstrations. Mingle with "Lt. Gen. A.P. Hill" at a Civil War encampment.

6:30 p.m. U.S. Army Band, "Pershing's Own" will prelude to the Twilight Tattoo Pageant which starts at 7 p.m. Twilight Tattoo is an hour-long sunset military pageant featuring Soldiers of the 3rd U.S. Infantry Regiment (The Old Guard) units—the Fife and Drum Corps, Soldier-musicians from the U.S. Army Band.

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