

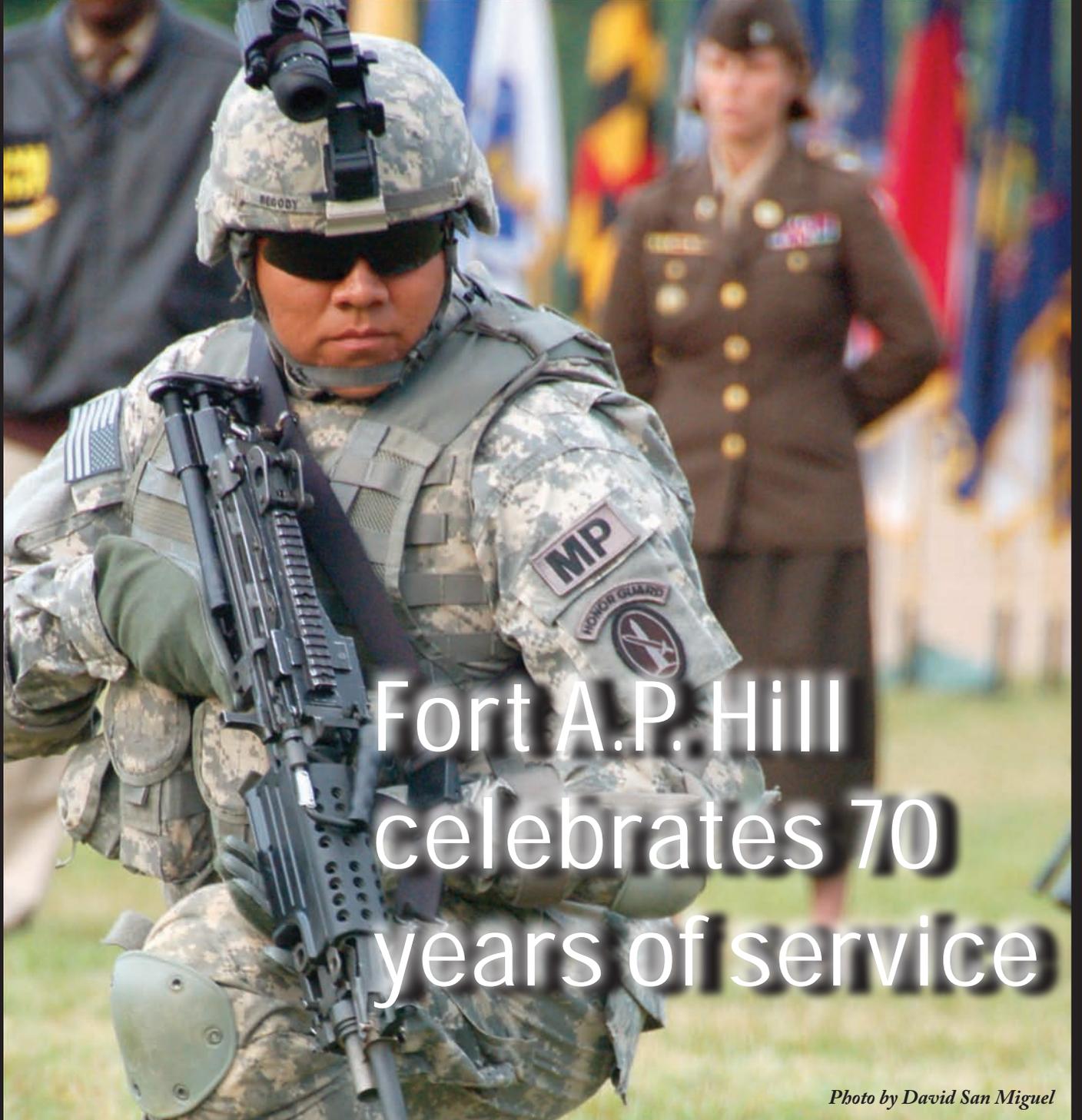
Fort A.P. Hill

Down Range

Vol.46, No.8

"The Best Training and Support -- Anywhere!"

July 8, 2011



Fort A.P. Hill
celebrates 70
years of service

Photo by David San Miguel

D6 Sends**Army on target to better support Soldiers, Civilians, Families****By Lt. Gen. Rick Lynch***Commanding General**Installation Management Command*

The past 10 years have brought a great deal of change to our Army. Not only do our Soldiers continue to fight in two wars, but the Army is going through the greatest organizational change since World War II.

Between instituting the Army Force Generation model, reorganizing around modular brigades and the Base Realignment and Closure process, our Army looks very different than it did 10 years ago.

The BRAC process is a large part of that reorganization. With its completion on time and on target in September, the Army will have reshaped its infrastructure to better support Soldiers, Civilians and Families.

The Base Realignment and Closure commission made recommendations about how to make efficiencies in the Department of Defense to the president, who presented them to Congress and those recommendations became law in September 2005. Of the 182 commission recommendations, 113 affected the Army.

This BRAC is an important part of the Army's historic transformation and has affected many commands, including the Installation Management Command Headquarters in San Antonio, Texas.

BRAC 2005 enables the Army to reshape its infrastructure to support its forces. It repositions our forces, making them more relevant and combat ready for the combatant commander. It also creates doctrinal efficiencies by consolidating schools into centers of excellence and headquarters and other activities into joint or multifunctional installations for efficiency and cost control.

Joint Base San Antonio is experiencing the largest economic development in its history with 10,000 Families relocating here. This BRAC move has transformed the former Fort Sam Houston into a premier

medical complex and the largest medical training campus in the world. Joint installations, like JBASA, improve training capabilities and eliminate excess capacity while providing the same or better service at a reduced cost.

Fort Benning, the new home of the Maneuver Center of Excellence, is a good example of how BRAC growth has been handled in an environmentally and fiscally sustainable way.

Thirty-four new projects have been built there as a result of BRAC and all of them have been designed to be LEED Silver certified. All of the new construction supports increased operational capacity and our warfighting capability.

On installations across the Army you can see signs of success in meeting the goals of BRAC 2005.

Construction alone has brought thousands of jobs to surrounding communities. Expanded installations have caused local businesses and service providers to grow.

Even communities surrounding closure installations have benefitted by working with the Army to redevelop the surplus property. But with BRAC successes, there are also challenges.

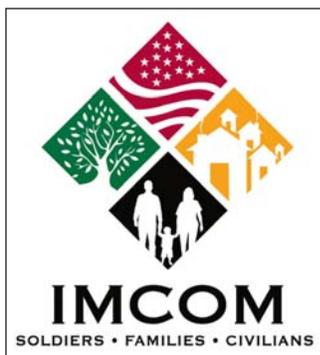
More people require more schools, housing and emergency services. The city of El Paso is a great example of a community that turned its challenges with BRAC into a success story.

Fort Bliss is experiencing the largest BRAC realignment in history with unparalleled growth of 29,600 Soldiers and 45,000 Family members relocating there.

El Paso embraced BRAC, building new schools, while the state invested \$1 billion for transportation projects in the city and creating thousands of civilian jobs. When BRAC and Army Transformation are complete, Fort Bliss will have enough new facilities to accommodate five brigade combat teams, a division staff and their Families.

IMCOM plays a big part in transforming the Army's infrastructure through BRAC,

supporting the movement of several organizations and welcoming thousands of Soldiers and Civilians onto our installations and into surrounding communities. This transformation has made us a stronger more efficient and agile organization, supporting a stronger, more efficient and agile Army.

See D6 SENDS, page 3**Garrison Commander**

Lt. Col. John W. Haefner

Garrison Command Sergeant Major

Command Sgt. Maj. Miguel E. Reyna

Public Affairs Officer

Jennifer Erickson

Editor / Photojournalist

David San Miguel

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.

The views and opinions expressed in this publication are not necessarily the official views of, or endorsed by, the U.S. Government, the U.S. Army or this command.

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Panetta pledges 'No Hollow Force' under his watch

By Jim Garamone
American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON – New Defense Secretary Leon E. Panetta pledged there will be no hollow force on his watch.

The secretary made the commitment in a message to the Defense Department released after he took the oath of office, July 1. DOD General Counsel Jeh Johnson administered the oath which transferred responsibility for the department from Robert M. Gates.

Panetta also pledged to be a tireless advocate for service members and their families.

“You and your families will always be foremost on my mind and at the top of my agenda,” he said.

The secretary will not hesitate to do what needs to be done to defend America. He also will fight for the needs “of the men and women who serve in harm’s way, and the families who support them,” Panetta said.

“Even as the United States addresses fiscal challenges at home, there will be no hollow force on my watch. That will require us all to be disciplined in how we manage taxpayer resources.”

See PANETTA, page 10



DoD Screen capture

Panetta is sworn in as the 23rd Secretary of Defense, July 1, at the Pentagon.

Military takes top U.S. confidence rankings

By Donna Miles
American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON – Americans continue to express high confidence in the armed forces, with more than three-quarters of those surveyed in a recent Gallup poll reporting higher confidence in the military than in other national institutions for the 14th consecutive year.

Seventy-eight percent of the 1,020 respondents in the poll reported high esteem for the military.

Forty-seven percent said they have a “great deal” of confidence in the military, the highest rating, and 31 percent reported “quite a lot” of confidence. That rating was 14 percent higher than for the second-

ranking institution, small business, and 22 percent higher than for the third-ranking institution, the police.

Other organizations rankings, in descending order of high confidence, were: organized religion, 48 percent; the medical system, 39 percent; the U.S. Supreme Court, 37 percent; the presidency, 35 percent; the public schools, 34 percent; the criminal justice system, 28 percent; newspapers, 28 percent; television news, 27 percent; banks, 23 percent; organized labor, 21 percent; big business, 19 percent; and health maintenance organizations, 19 percent. Congress received the lowest high-confidence ranking, at 12 percent.

The military has been the top-ranked national institution every year since 1998,

and also from 1989 to 1996, Gallup officials reported.

Confidence levels in most of the institutions polled this year were below historical averages, with the notable exception of the military. The 78 percent military confidence ranking for 2011 was 11 points above the historical average.

Public confidence in the military tends to run high when the nation is actively engaged in military operations, officials said, citing the all-time 85-percent high confidence ranking in early 1991 just after the first Persian Gulf War ended. Ratings have ranged between 69-82 percent over the last decade during U.S. military operations in Afghanistan and Iraq, officials reported.

Another Gallup poll, released June 21, demonstrated that Americans consider the ground forces most essential to national defense.

Twenty-five percent of the 1,020 adults surveyed ranked the Army the most important service followed by the Marine Corps at 24 percent; the Air Force at 17; the Navy at 11; and, the Coast Guard at three percent.

Forty-six percent of the respondents named the Marine Corps the most prestigious branch of the armed forces. The Army ranked second, at 22 percent; followed by the Air Force, at 15 percent; the Navy, at eight percent; and the Coast Guard, at two percent.

D6 SENDS

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BRAC is an important part of the largest Army transformation in three generations. Consolidating and repositioning several major commands will save millions in personnel and facilities costs and is needed to put the Army on the path to future sustainability.

We have no way of knowing exactly what the future will look like, but the 2005 BRAC process better positioned the Army to meet future challenges.

The Army has realigned its infrastructure with the new modular structure and mod-

ernized our support facilities, all while becoming more fiscally and environmentally sustainable.

When it is complete it will be a major achievement for the Army.

By September, the Army will have completed over \$13 billion in construction and renovation projects, and a reorganization that will affect one-third of the Army. This will all have been done in six years putting the Army on time and on target to meet its future missions.

Support and Defend!

Army's largest command cases colors, moves to Bragg

Story & Photo by
Staff Sgt. Alexandra Hays
300th Mobile Public Affairs
Detachment

FORT McPHERSON, Ga. -- U.S. Army Forces Command, a command responsible for more than 800,000 Soldiers nationwide, cased its colors June 24 in advance of its permanent relocation to Fort Bragg, N.C.

General James D. Thurman, FORSCOM commanding general, led the casing ceremony and was assisted in rolling the command's colors by Command Sgt. Maj. Ronald T. Riling, the FORSCOM command sergeant major.

The casing ceremony is an age-old Army tradition symbolizing the movement of a command to a new operational location.

Traditionally, the cased colors travel with the commander and remain cased until the commander arrives at the new destination where an "uncasing" ceremony occurs.

Headquartered at Fort McPherson since 1973, FORSCOM was directed to relocate under the 2005 Base Realignment and Closure legislation. Other tenant organizations, such as U.S. Army Reserve Command and U.S. Army Central (Third Army), were also directed to relocate.

More than 600 members of the FORSCOM headquarters staff are already operating from temporary work locations at Fort Bragg. The remainder of the nearly 1,400-strong staff will continue relocating through the summer, in advance of the Sept. 15 deadline for the completion of all BRAC 2005 actions.

During the ceremony, Thurman said he was certain that FORSCOM's Soldiers and Army civilian employees would leave with mixed emotions, add-

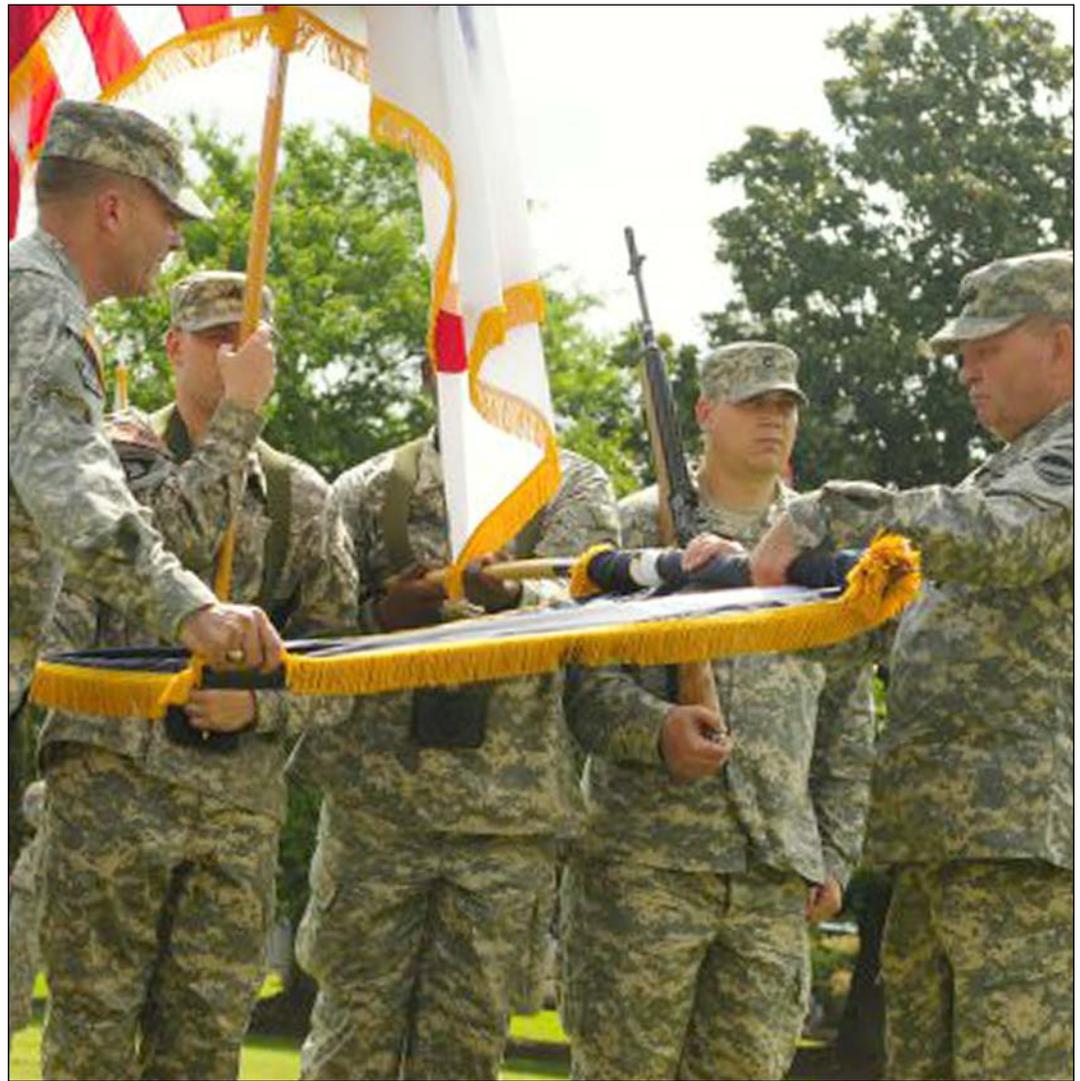


Photo by Staff Sgt. Alexandra Hays

Thurman, accompanied by Riling, cases the colors in advance of the command's permanent relocation to Fort Bragg, N.C.

ing that the people of Atlanta have supported FORSCOM throughout its history here.

The Atlanta-based installation was established in 1886 and was named after Union Maj. Gen. James Birdseye McPherson who was killed in action while commanding troops outside Atlanta on July 22, 1864.

During its 125 years as an active military post, Fort McPherson has played a part in every major U.S. conflict since the Civil War. The post has also processed Soldiers for war, been home to one of the largest military hospitals in the

region, housed prisoners of war, and played host to President Franklin D. Roosevelt on his trips to Warm Springs.

In place of the military post, a new comprehensive community is planned, with a science and technology center tentatively named the "Georgia Institute for Global Health" as the central focus.

Highlighting the ceremony, Fort McPherson's Salute Battery fired a 17-gun volley in honor of Thurman and presented him with the traditional shell casing of the last 75mm round fired.

Commenting on the com-

mand's mission to train and prepare deployable forces Thurman called on those present to uphold everything that FORSCOM has worked hard to accomplish, continuing its mission at the new location.

Thurman said he wants FORSCOM to "ensure that we never send a Soldier into combat who is not properly trained, equipped and led."

"The march order has been given," he said. "It is now time to break camp, time to fold the tent, time to load the wagon and ride to where the Army needs us to go."

Post celebrates 70th Anniversary!

By Jennifer Erickson
Public Affairs Officer

Commemorating years of service training Warriors for various military operations worldwide, Fort A.P. Hill hosted its 70th Anniversary celebration, June 11.

The day began with an Americana Military Parade in Bowling Green honoring all service members past and present who served in our Armed Forces. Following the parade, Port Royal hosted historical and art gallery tours highlighting the community's role in shaping the nation.

Culminating the day's events was the Military District of Washington's Twilight Tattoo held on the post's Beaverdam picnic grounds.

The parade included the Caroline High School Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps of cadets and high school marching band; the American Legion Riders; and, representatives from the U.S. Army Explosive Ordnance Disposal Training Center. Parade grand marshals included Caroline High School JROTC cadets, and Vietnam and Korean War Veterans.

At the Beaverdam picnic grounds, military displays showcased various tactical vehicles units use to train with here as well as a Civil War headquarters.

Later that evening, the U.S. Army Band, "Pershing's Own," kicked off the evening with prelude music to the Twilight Tattoo pageant.

The Twilight Tattoo is an hour-long sunset military pageant that features

Soldiers of the 3rd U.S. Infantry Regiment "The Old Guard"; the Fife and Drum Corps; Soldier-musicians/vocalists from the U.S. Army Band, "Pershing's Own"; the U.S. Army Chorus; and, the U.S. Army's "Downrange."

With more than 100 "Old Guard" Soldiers wearing period uniforms, the show provided a fast-paced journey through Army history from the Revolutionary War to its current involvement in Iraq and Afghanistan.

Just as the crowd of 1,000 plus spectators watched the Army's history unfold, they also traveled on a journey reminiscent of Fort A.P. Hill.

See ANNIVERSARY, page 8



Caroline County Sheriff Tony Lippa is accompanied down the parade route by none other than McGruff, the crime dog.



Photos by David San Miguel

Jack Mathews of Cub Scout Pack 1421 in Ladysmith carries the flag during the Americana Military Parade in Bowling Green. He is the son of Fort A.P. Hill employee Mike Mathews and his wife, Mary.



Soldiers with the 392nd Army Band from Fort Lee, Va., perform at the Bowling Green parade, one of several events leading up to the post's 70th anniversary celebration.

Following the Americana Military Parade in Bowling Green, the Port Royal community hosted historic and art gallery tours complete with guides in period costume.



Photos by David San Miguel

U.S. Navy Master Chief Petty Officer (Ret.) Bill Knode of the Naval Special Warfare Group on Fort A.P. Hill enjoys the Bowling Green parade with his daughter-in-law, Tanya Knode, and ten-month-old grandson, Caleb.



Veterans, past and present, from all the Armed Forces were honored and given a hardy reception during the parade.



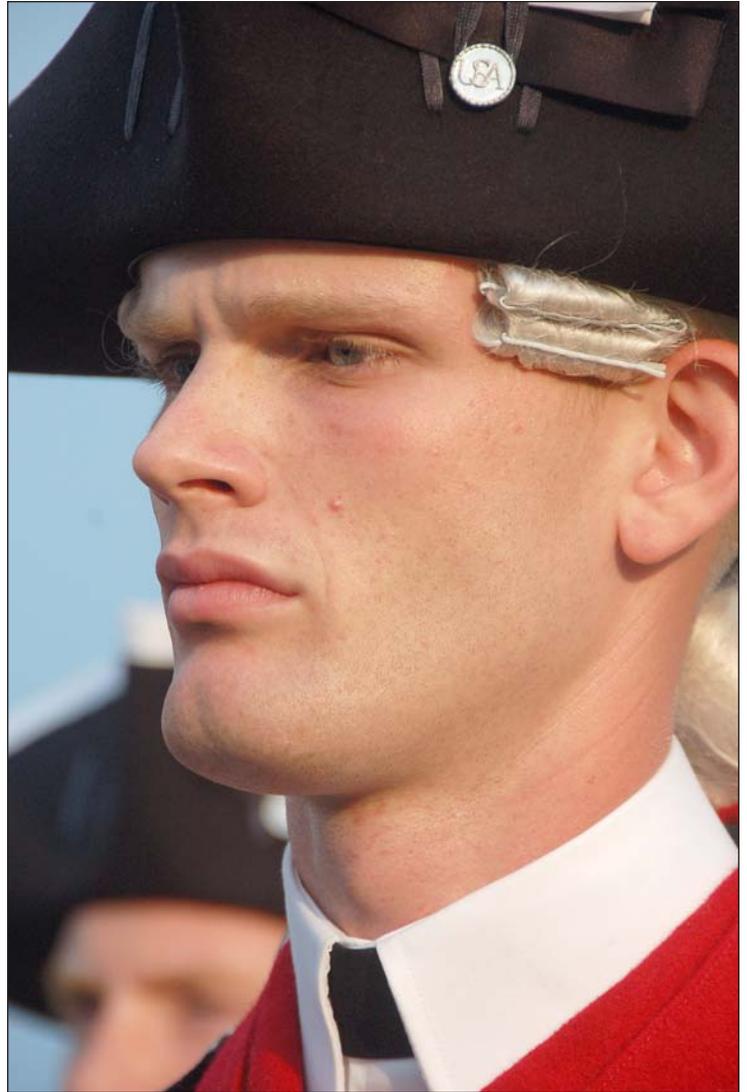
Spectators were amazed to see Sgt. 1st Class Brandon Storm of the Explosive Ordnance Disposal Training Complex walk the parade route in full gear.



Fort A.P. Hill employees wipe down the picnic tables following a thunderstorm just hours before the show.



Following the show, the spectators were given the opportunity to meet and photograph members of "The Old Guard" dressed in period uniform.



Photos by David San Miguel

All prim and proper, a Soldier with the Commander-In-Chief's Guard patiently waits for the historical pageantry to begin.



The spectators were awed by the artful and dangerous drill and ceremony demonstrations by the U.S. Army Drill Team.

ANNIVERSARY

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Photos by David San Miguel

Joseph Wright, a Civil War reenactor of the 5th Brigade Color Guard, greets individuals as they visit his Confederate campsite.

The installation traces its roots back to 1941 when it was initially established as a maneuver training area and later as a staging area for Maj. Gen. George Patton's task force during World War II. Since then, hundreds of units have trained here for such military operations as Desert Shield/Desert Storm, Bosnia, Kosovo, Afghanistan and Iraq.

In fiscal year 2010 alone, nearly 94,000 Warriors trained here -- its highest training throughput in 16 years.

"June 11th marks a significant day in our 70-year-history -- a day we can all come together as a proud American community united in patriotism and enthusiasm for this great nation," said Lt. Col. John W. Haefner, garrison commander.

"June 11th is about you -- the citizens we support and defend," he added. "It's our way of saying 'thank you' for all you do in support of the 100,000 Warriors who train here annually."



Staff Sergeant Martha Krabill of the U.S. Army Band "Down Range" plays to the audience during the installation's 70th anniversary celebration.



Bowling Green Mayor David W. Storke and his family enjoy the day's activities.



The Honorable Terrie L. Suite, Secretary of Veterans Affairs and Homeland Security for the Commonwealth of Virginia, presents the Governor's Proclamation declaring June 11 as the anniversary of Fort A.P. Hill to Lt. Col. Jack Haefner, garrison commander.



Photos by David San Miguel

The Commander-In-Chief's Guard conclude the Twilight Tattoo presentation with the retiring of the colors.



Father and son walk towards the various military displays showcasing the installation's wide and varied training mission.

Quartermaster Group welcomes new leader, bids outgoing commander farewell

By David San Miguel
Editor

FORT A.P. HILL, Va. – In a break from training and the unrelenting heat, Soldiers of the 165th Quartermaster Group gathered inside the Virginia National Guard Armory on Fort A.P. Hill to witness their unit's transfer of authority, June 12.

There, Col. Thomas J. Vaccaro assumed command from Col. Bruce E. Hackett who now joins the staff under Brig. Gen. Peter S. Lennon, commanding general of the 316th Sustainment Command (Expeditionary).

The change of command is a time-honored tradition in which the unit's leadership is transferred in a symbolic gesture with the passing of the unit guidon from the outgoing to the incoming commander. It marks the official transfer of authority and the beginning of new leadership.

"You're getting a commander of equal talent," commented Lennon. "He will make sure the 165th lives up to its reputation."

Hackett agreed and added that the Soldiers of the 165th are very fortunate to have Vaccaro as their new unit commander.

He said that he too was fortunate to have been given the opportunity to command the unit.

Originally, Vaccaro had been selected to command the unit but had asked for a deferment to attend the much sought after,

U.S. Army War College. Hackett had been chosen as the interim commander until Vaccaro completed course.

In his remarks, Vaccaro thanked Hackett for bringing the unit's standards up ... "it's a sign of good leadership, he said, "and I am honored to lead this group of Soldiers."

A distinguished military graduate from the Reserve Officers Training Corps Program at Shippensburg University in Shippensburg, Pa., Vaccaro entered active duty in May 1986 and served in various assignments with the 1st Infantry Division at Fort Riley, Kan., until he joined the U.S. Army Reserves three years later.

His Reserve assignments encompass a variety of command and staff positions within the Air Defense, Quartermaster and Transportation branches, some highlights of which include commanding the 359th Transportation Battalion (Terminal) from 2006 until 2008 and the Defense Logistics Agency Theater Consolidation and Shipping Point at Camp Arifjan, Kuwait, from 2005 until 2006.

A highly decorated Veteran, Vaccaro's awards include the Bronze Star; the Defense Meritorious Medal; the Meritorious Service Medal; the Army Commendation Medal; the Army Achievement Medal; the National Defense Service Medal; the Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary and Service Medals; the Armed Forces

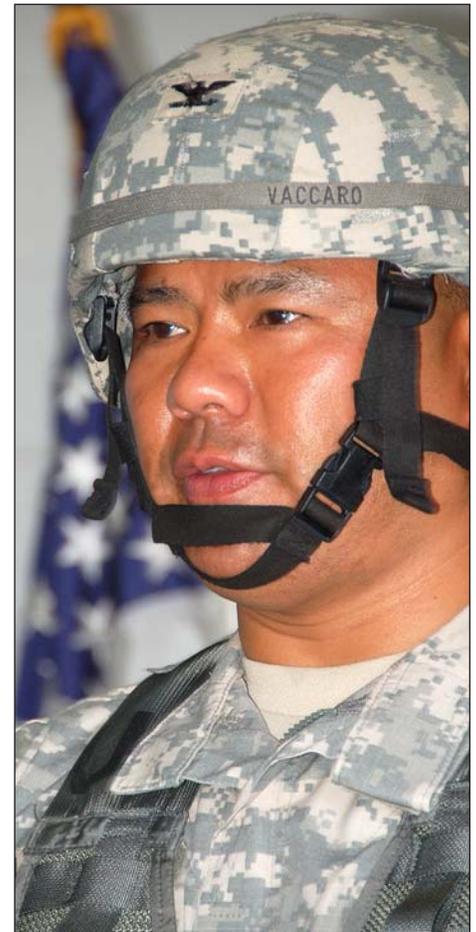


Photo by David San Miguel

Colonel Thomas J. Vaccaro assumed command of the 165th QM Group.

Reserve Medal; the Afghanistan Campaign Medal; the NATO Ribbon; the Army Service Ribbon; the Parachutist Badge; and, the Pathfinders Badge.

PANETTA

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In Afghanistan, Panetta said service members must continue to work with Afghan security forces and coalition partners to transition security responsibility by 2014. The goal must be an Afghanistan that never again becomes a safe haven for terrorists.

The transition of American troops in Iraq is well under way with more than 100,000 U.S. service members out of the nation, and 48,000 due to leave by the end of the year.

"As we continue our transition out of Iraq, we must cement a strategic relationship with the Iraqi government, one based not solely on our military footprint there but on a real and lasting partnership," Panetta said. "It is in America's interests to help Iraq realize its potential to become a stable democracy in a vitally important region in the world and to

reinforce that responsibility, for the future security of Iraq must belong to the Iraqis themselves."

The secretary has a long public service career that began as an Army intelligence officer in 1964. He also served in the House of Representatives from California, director of the Office of Management and Budget and White House chief of staff in President Clinton's administration. Throughout his career, he said, he has focused on being disciplined with the taxpayers' money, but not short-changing security.

"We must preserve the excellence and superiority of our military while looking for ways to identify savings," he said. "While tough budget choices will need to be made, I do not believe in the false choice

between fiscal discipline and a strong national defense. We will all work together to achieve both."

The secretary said his parents -- who im-migrated to California from Italy -- believed it was important to give something back to their adopted country.

"I will never forget my father's words: 'to be free, we must also be secure,'" he said.

"As Americans come together to commemorate what we and those before us have accomplished, and as I take on my new role, my thoughts are with you and your families. You are making personal sacrifices to preserve our liberty, serving on front lines around the world," he said. "You are fighting to keep America safe. Rest assured that I will fight with you and for you."



Photos by David San Miguel

Cadet Cheryl Logan of Parkdale High School in Riverdale, Md., breathes a sigh of relief after completing the Confidence Course.

Summer camp challenges youth's endurance, leadership capabilities

By Esther Dacanay
U.S. Army Cadet Command

FORT A.P. HILL, Va. – For most teenagers, their idea of summer camp is basking along the seashore by day, and sharing fireside chats by night. But for Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps cadets, the Cadet Leadership Challenge is a different kind of camp.

Approximately 418 high school students enrolled in Army JROTC programs at 30 schools nationwide arrived at Camp

Wilcox for the 2011 JCLC “Mountain” held June 24 – 29, ready to test the limits of their endurance, stamina and leadership capabilities.

The junior cadets grew in confidence and leadership during the six-day camp adventure. Their typical daily routine consisted of a 5:30 a.m. wake up, movement to breakfast and/or chapel at 6:30 a.m., with strength, confidence and leadership training beginning as early as 8 a.m., and continued throughout the day.

Camp activities consisted of marksmanship training; crossing a rope bridge; first aid; land navigation; rappelling; negotiating the confidence course; and, testing their mettle at the Leader’s Reaction Course.

Cadets are not allowed to bring cell phones with them to camp in order to help wean them away from emotional longing to get back to their friends and family at home, according to retired Col. Reginald Geary, the Senior Army Instructor at T.C. Williams High School in Alexandria, Va.

“By the second day,” he said, “they learn to make new friends and just fall in line.”

On average, four to six cadets representing each of the 30 schools nationwide attend JCLC. They arrive together and share living quarters, but are dispersed among other camp platoons, companies and units throughout the duration of their stay. In other words, they are challenged to step out of their comfort zone to meet and team up with cadets from other schools with different backgrounds, skills, and abilities.

“At first, it was really awkward coming out of my comfort zone away from friends and family,” said Cadet Kiane Snoot, 14, an incoming sophomore at Woodbridge Senior High School in Woodbridge, Va.



U.S. Army Reserve Sgt. 1st Class Brent Shelton of the 95th Training Division, Ky., coaches the cadets on the teamwork needed to negotiate the LRC.



Approximately 900 student cadets from high schools throughout the northeast participated in both the JCLC “Success” and “Mountain” camps held here in June.

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CHALLENGE continued from page 11

"I had to get out there and talk to other people I didn't know," he said. "It's really hard learning to trust the teammates you've never met before. It really brings out the true leader in all of us, but you just gotta trust that they'll be there for you and won't let you down."

That theory is put to practice on multiple levels throughout the JCLC as cadets experience it first-hand when participating in each of several obstacle courses.

"If you're gonna slack, don't come," says Snoot. "I was placed in an immediate leadership position from day one. But ranks are switched each day to give everyone a chance at a leadership position."

Through Geary's three-year involvement with JCLC, he says cadets tend to return to school with a renewed sense of purpose, focus, and a better understanding of what the JROTC citizenship program is all about.

"When it comes to being a leader, you can't just sugar coat everything because everybody's your friend," said Cadet Reginald White, 15, an incoming junior at Petersburg High School. "Sometimes you just need to forget who your friends are for a second, and just take the lead."

Cadet William Hutt, 17, an incoming senior at Liberty High School in Bealeton, Va., took great interest in the fact that his strength and abilities as a leader have grown and developed since his freshman year in JROTC.

"My strength has increased greatly and my leadership skills are constantly getting better," said Hutt, who plans to major in Political Science at North Georgia State College on an ROTC scholarship next year and earn a commission in the Military Intelligence Corps. "I'm adapting, and I find myself being able to just flat out be a stronger leader."

After a challenging week-long summer camp, the cadets were anxious to return home to share their experiences with family and friends.



Photos by David San Miguel

During the five-day JROTC summer camp, cadets learned to depend on each other to safely negotiate the confidence course.

4th of July *Port Royal*

The historic Town of Port Royal hosted its annual 4th of July festivities and relived its early American roots.

The day's events included the reading of the Declaration of Independence; musical performances by the St. Andrews Legion Pipes and Drums;

horse-drawn carriage rides; blacksmith demonstrations; children's games; colonial-era dance demonstrations; a period fashion show; Civil War encampments; and, more to highlight the town's role and historic ties to the formation of this country.



Photos by David San Miguel

These youth illustrate how children walked with wooden stilts for fun and recreation.



A horse-drawn carriage provided visitors with a leisurely tour through historic Port Royal.



A "southern lady" demonstrates games children played during colonial times.



Reliving history and dressed in Civil War period attire, the "southern belle" takes a stroll past one of a handful of mansions still standing in Port Royal.



Showing her patriotic colors, this little tyke enjoys a light snack at the Port Royal 4th of July celebration.

Photos by David San Miguel



One of many reenactors retells the history of Port Royal and its role during the Revolutionary and Civil Wars.



Photo courtesy of George Sisson

Play ball!

Fort A.P. Hill's very own Garrison Command Sgt. Maj. Miguel E. Reyna delivers the first pitch for the "Old Timers" game, July 2, at the Richmond County Little League Field in Warsaw, Va.

Reyna was honored as the hero of the event for his military service.