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THE VARSITY

COMMUNICATOR

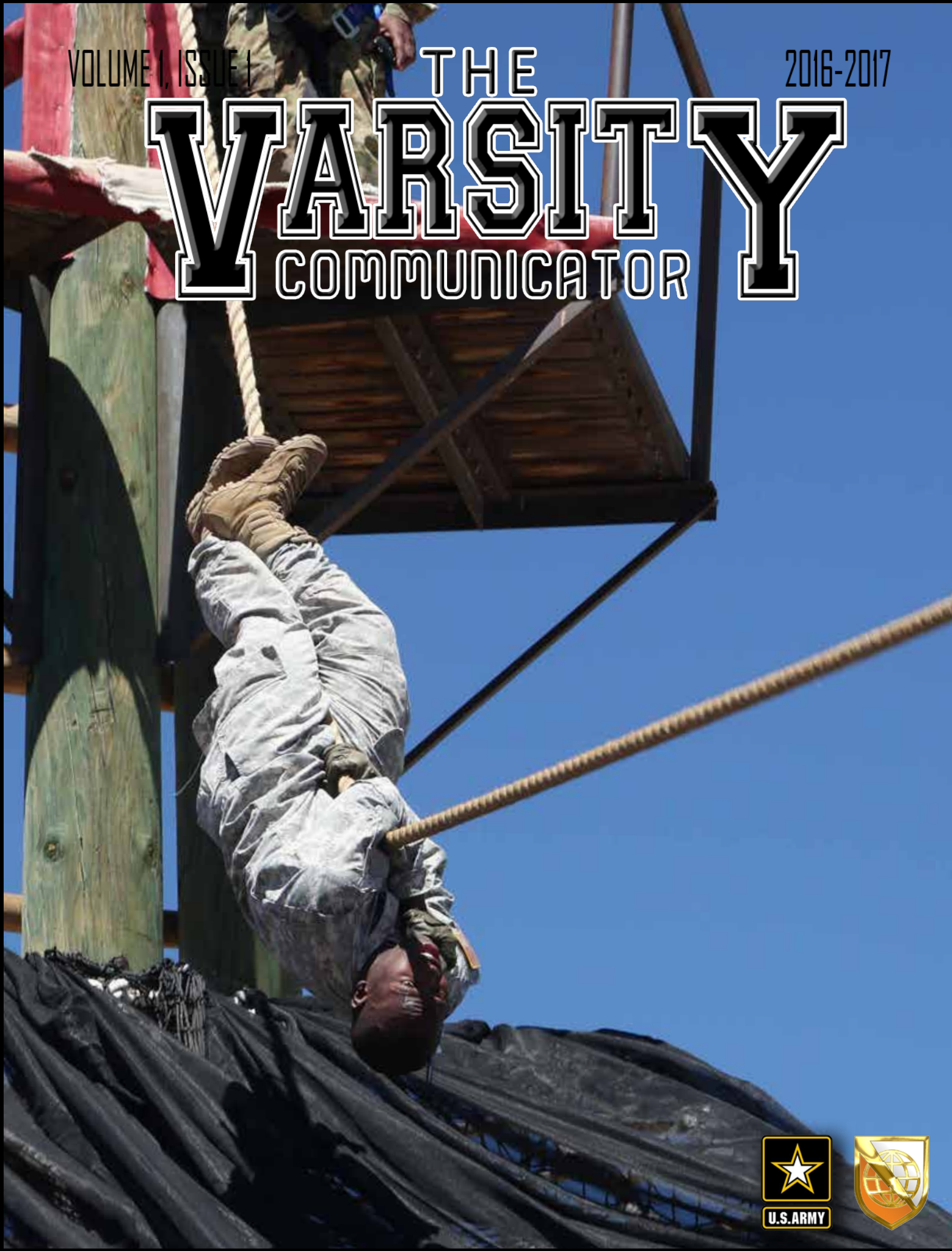
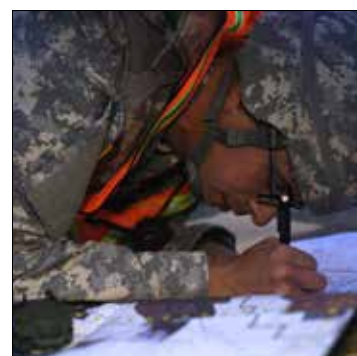
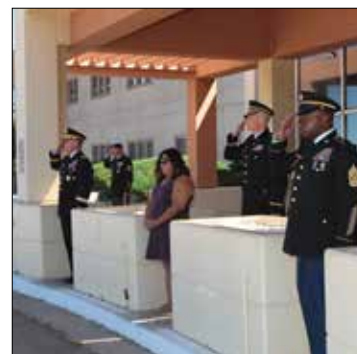


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FRONT COVER: Sgt. Eric Taylor, assigned to Headquarters Company, NETCOM, navigates a portion of the obstacle course event May 15, 2017, during the 2017 NETCOM Best Warrior Competition at Fort Huachuca, Arizona. The competition is a grueling week-long event that tests the skills, knowledge, and professionalism of the Soldiers representing NETCOM's subordinate organizations. (U.S. Army photo by Pfc. Elizabeth Brown, 55th Signal Company)



BACK COVER: U.S. Soldiers from Bravo Troop, 4th Squadron, 6th Cavalry Regiment conduct pre-flight January 10, 2017, on an AH-64E Apache helicopter at Camp Erbil, Iraq. U.S. Army Aviation assets provide air support on the battlefield, enabling partnered forces to defeat Islamic State forces. Combined Joint Task Force –Operation Inherent Resolve is the global Coalition formed to defeat the Islamic State in Iraq and Syria. (U.S. Army photo by Spc. Craig Jensen, 55th Signal Company)

THE VARSITY COMMUNICATOR

The VARSITY COMMUNICATOR is an authorized publication for members of the U.S. Army Network Enterprise Technology Command Team, and its subordinate commands and organizations throughout the world, in accordance with AR 360-1. Contents of the Varsity Communicator are not necessarily the official views of, or endorsed by, the U.S. Government, Department of Defense, or the Department of the Army or NETCOM. The design and editorial content of this publication is the responsibility of the NETCOM Public Affairs Office. All submissions from outside sources may be edited for style, content, and space limitations. The Varsity Communicator is distributed electronically via NETCOM's official public website - www.netcom.army.mil. To contact the Public Affairs Office, call (520) 538-2374, or e-mail usarmy.huachuca.netcom.mbx.hq-pao@mail.mil. The mailing address is: ATTN NETC-PA (PAO), US Army NETCOM, 2133 Cushing Street, Suite 3209, Fort Huachuca, AZ 85613-7070. Electronic copies are available upon request.



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CG's Corner

Teammates,
As I said a year ago, the critical work our global command accomplishes for the Army every day is clear. We operate in a volatile, uncertain, complex, and ambiguous cyber environment. Thus, our job remains to continue to deny cyber space freedom of action to our adversaries while maintaining the same freedom of action and maneuver for ourselves.

Our team has made great strides in modernizing our physical and increasingly converged infrastructure. This past year has seen an intense period of increased digitization of our architecture, disruption with new technologies offering tremendous opportunities, divestment of legacy items, and force structure alignments. And, we're only at the beginning of the fast-moving "Digital Age."

We are a global command, with more than 15,000 of our teammates demonstrating their agility, dexterity, and creating readiness for our Army. This readiness provides a network that balances availability and security. Always remember, our network is a weapons system. And, our adversary's continuous aggression in the cyber domain poses an existential threat to our network enterprise. So keep the network ready and resilient.

In the past year, hundreds of our teammates deployed and supported dozens and dozens of multinational exercises and operations around the globe, on almost every continent. We supported every rotation at our Combined Training Centers. From north of the Arctic Circle to Afghanistan and Iraq, to Poland and Romania, our Varsity Communicators delivered. The critical work we accomplish is fundamental to our Army's readiness. We must lead the way using technology to anticipate and adopt advance capabilities to provide security and quality services. Don't wait, move out!

The Army's network modernization efforts, in which NETCOM and our Varsity Communicators have been front and center, is moving at an astounding pace. Migrations of networks behind Joint Regional Security Stacks (JRSS) is advancing, with more than 478,000 Army users at 111 locations worldwide behind JRSS at the end of September 2017. Additionally, our Communicators completed 19 network modernization and infrastructure improvements from Fort Irwin to Fort Detrick, and from Yongsan to Camp Arifjan.

These modernization efforts are advancing our Army's warfighting capabilities and support our intent to establish a global network, with enhanced tools and security that will enable NETCOM and our Army to execute our critical missions... day and night, 365 days a year. We're not taking half measures either. We're driving convergence, digitization, modernization and restructuring to the end.

In many ways, the success of NETCOM comes down to the men and women of this fantastic command. You solve the "wicked" problems! You transform our capabilities and build network capacity with each new technology breakthrough. You are disciplined, resilient and willing to pivot to seize new opportunities. And, you always choose speed over bureaucracy. Your accomplishments are what helps make our Army the greatest in the world.

For all these reasons, and more, NETCOM has a bright future. The Army has noticed that NETCOM's Varsity Communicators are relevant, as we provide, operate, secure and defend the Army's networks. As I talk with our Army's senior leaders, they tell me how much they need what only we can provide, and how much they appreciate what each of you are doing every day for our Army.

I sincerely thank each of our Soldiers, Civilians, and Family members for all they do for NETCOM, our Army and our Nation.



Maj. Gen. John Baker

We are the Army's Varsity Communicators. Voice of the Army. Army Strong!

CSM's Corner

Team NETCOM,
The time I've spent in the Command Group has been one of the best - and busiest - times in an Army career that started way back in 1984. Working my way through the companies, battalions, brigades and theater commands gave me a great foundation when I was chosen for this position; and every day, I find there are nuggets of knowledge to gain from those who work to make this command a success.

As I've toured the global area of operations, working my way to the Soldiers and Civilians who seem to be always on the move to make missions happen, I see the looks of determination on their faces. It is a look that says, "I will not fail."

That is the spirit of our Army.

Our commanding general calls us the "Army's Varsity Communicators." That is something we should all take to heart. We can't be the people warming the bench or warming up for the last minutes of the game; we are the team that must always be first on the field – in a game with no clock and no timeouts, on a field that has no boundaries and a lot more players trying to score against us. And when the other team scores, it doesn't just affect the NETCOM team; it affects the entire Army organization.

That's a lot to shoulder. That's also why we partner with other Army and Service organizations, industry and academia, sharing lessons learned and best business practices. The old saying of, "Two heads are better than one," is especially valid in the cybersecurity business. We have a lot of smart people in NETCOM, and they do too. Learning from each other is a great way to keep each other informed of trends and capabilities to thwart our adversaries.

Talking about a lot to shoulder, my main mission is to ensure the health and well-being of the members of this great team. Our operational tempo since I jumped on board has not decreased in the slightest. In fact, it seems to have increased. We're seeing more missions, more requirements, more need for assured communications capabilities at a higher service level than ever before, even as we work to adjust our presence in Europe and here at the headquarters. But I have no doubt this team will do as it always does – it will excel in this endeavor.

Excelling in these ever-evolving missions require that we communicate with one another. Section heads must communicate with their directors and to their teams. Teams need to communicate with their supervisors and peers. Directors need to communicate with their section heads and the command group. It sounds easy, yet it is one of the most difficult to execute. The answer is communicate more, and ask questions when there is a possibility of misinterpretation.

Consistent communication with your teams and peers will resolve a lot of the issues, and will also provide clues to your teams' health. It only takes a few words to acknowledge when the pressures of this high mission tempo starts affecting the state of your team. It's all about having your team's back, so communicate, communicate, communicate.

In closing, there is a lot going on (a fraction of which are on the pages of this publication) and it's going to continue for the foreseeable future. Keep up the spirit, and continue to stay in tune with your teams... because Together We are... The Voice of Our Army.

Thank you for all you do.



Command Sgt. Maj. Darris Curry

Voice of the Army!

Cyber Bowl III - Cleaning up the Net

**Article and photos by
Capt. Sandra Richards**

335th Signal Command (Theater)(Provisional)

CAMP ARIFJAN, Kuwait (April 26, 2017) – U.S. Army Central held the Cyber Bowl III at Camp Arifjan, Kuwait, April 26-28, to promote cyber awareness and security. This year's theme was "Cyber Hygiene."

A growing reliance on cloud services creates vulnerabilities for organizations. Tens of thousands of MongoDB (cloud) databases were hijacked and held for ransom in 2016 after users left outdated versions exposed, without authentication (identity confirmation) turned on.

According to Symantec Corporation, the United States was the biggest and softest target for these types of vulnerabilities.

As technology advances, the need to secure and manage information becomes even more important and challenging. Securing and managing all this information is a tough job, and to help us understand many of these challenges, cyber operations subject matter experts gathered over the course of three days.

USARCENT facilitated this event by holding educational briefings on topics like social engineering, emerging technology, encryption, cyber damage, host based security systems and many others. In addition to educational briefings, games, and guest speakers, individuals had the opportunity to participate in the cyber range.

"The cyber range was designed for a mix of participants with different cybersecurity skill levels, from expert cybersecurity analysts to less experienced everyday computer users," said Chief Warrant Officer 2 Hermes Yen, an information assurance analyst with the Regional Cyber Center Southwest Asia (RCC-SWA).

"The bottom line would be to inform the general user population of basic and best practices to keep themselves and others protected on the network in a fun and collaborative environment," said Sgt. Ethan Riley, an RCC-SWA information assurance analyst. "If we practice good cyber hygiene every day, it becomes a norm and no longer will be an inconvenience, but most importantly, you will be



Maj. Gen. John Baker, Commanding General, Network Enterprise Technology Command, visits the Cyber Range during the Cyber Bowl III April 27, while conducting his battlefield circulation at Camp Arifjan, Kuwait. Soldiers from the Regional Cyber Center South West Asia, show Maj. Gen. Baker the way the Cyber Range was designed for this year's competition. The range covered a wide array of topics including network sniffing, packet capture, packet analysis and social engineering among others.

protected and secured."

"There is no patch, no technical solution to poor judgment, or lack of training, so protect yourselves, your family and your friends, because in doing so, your will help defend our nation," said Brig. Gen. Stephen Hager, commanding general, 335th Signal Command (T)(P), during the event's closing remarks.

The event concluded with the announcement of the winning team - the RCC-SWA's team, Cyber Scorpions, who have won the title the past three years.



Lt. Col. Stanley Reed, RCC-SWA Director, holds the award for the winning team, The Cyber Scorpions from the RCC-SWA. The Cyber Scorpions won the title of champion for a third straight year.

NONCOMMISSIONED OFFICER OF *and* THE SOLDIER YEAR



U.S. Army photo by Spc. Quince Lanford

Spc. Stephen Calderone, assigned to the 160th Signal Brigade, U.S. Army Signal Activity-Kuwait, pulls himself along a rope at Fort Huachuca, Arizona, May 15, 2017, during the Network Enterprise Command (NETCOM) Best Warrior Competition. Calderone topped the other competitors in the Soldier category and was selected as the Soldier of the Year.

By Eric Hortin

NETCOM Public Affairs

FORT HUACHUCA, Ariz. (May 19, 2017) – After a grueling week of competition, two Soldiers were chosen as the Network Enterprise Technology Command 2017 Soldier and Noncommissioned Officer of the Year during an awards and recognition ceremony held today in the Greely Hall Auditorium.

Staff Sgt. Brian Randall, assigned to the U.S. Army Signal Activity at Fort Detrick, Maryland, and representing the 7th Signal Command (Theater), was announced as the Noncommissioned Officer of the Year.

Spc. Stephen Calderone, assigned to U.S. Army Signal Activity at Camp Arifjan, Kuwait, representing the 160th Signal Brigade, was announced as the Soldier of the Year.

The winners received the Army Commendation Medal, a “Soaring Eagle” statue, and gift certificates from local community sponsors. They will represent NETCOM at the Army Cyber Command level of competition in August.

“These are the absolute best Soldiers from across NETCOM,” said Command Sgt. Maj. Darris Curry, NETCOM’s command sergeant major.

Throughout the week, the Soldiers took part in a series of tasks and events which included the Army Physical Fitness Test, Obstacle Course, M4 Rifle Marksmanship, Day and Night Land Navigation, Army Warrior Tasks and Battle Drills, Mystery Tasks, essay writing and the formal Sergeants Major Board. Each of these tasks tested the strength, endurance and mental agility of the Soldiers.

Runners-up for the competition were:



U.S. Army photo by Spc. Tianna Wilson

Staff Sgt. Brian D. Randall, assigned to 7th Signal Command (Theater), U.S. Army Signal Activity at Fort Detrick, Maryland, participates in a range during the 2017 NETCOM Best Warrior competition. Randall topped the other competitors in the Noncommissioned Officer category and was selected as the NCO of the Year.

(Soldier) Spc. Justin Carter, assigned to the 275th Signal Company at Camp Coiner, South Korea, representing the 311th Signal Command (Theater), and; (NCO) Sgt. Angel Ortiz, assigned to U.S. Army Signal Activity at Camp Arifjan, Kuwait, representing the 160th Signal Brigade.

Runners-up received the Army Achievement Medal and gift certificates from local community sponsors. Responsibilities of the runners-up include representing NETCOM at the next level of competition should the winners not be able to compete.

“You represent every competitor here when you go to the next level,” said Command Sgt. Maj. Thomas Latter, U.S. Army Intelligence Center of Excellence, who was the guest speaker. “Take this back with you. Develop the next generation of competitors.”

More images on pages 6-7.



U.S. Army photo by Spc. Tianna Wilson

Sgt. Allison C. Sardler, assigned to Headquarters Detachment, 52nd Signal Battallion, 5th Signal Command (Theater), climbs a ladder during a obstacle course for the 2017 NETCOM Best Warrior competition.



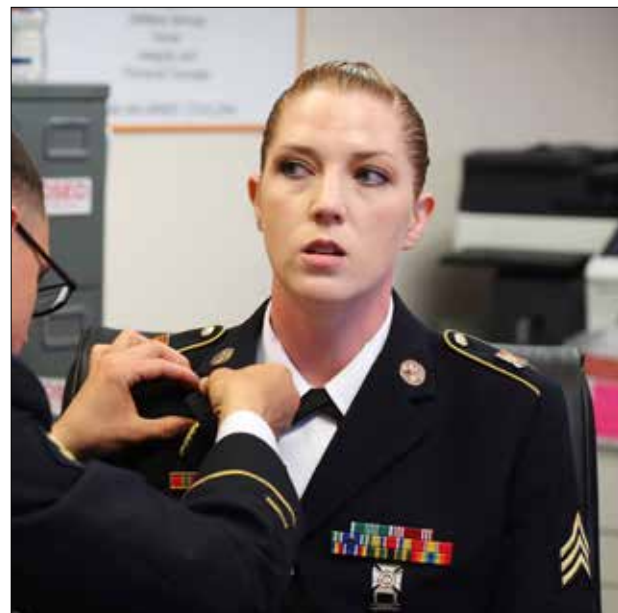
U.S. Army photoby Pfc. Elizabeth Brown

Sgt. Angel Ortiz, assigned to 160th Signal Brigade, U.S. Army Network Enterprise Center - Kuwait (USANEC-K), disassembles a MK-19 grenade launcher May 12, 2017, in preparation for the 2017 NETCOM Best Warrior Competition at Fort Huachuca, Ariz.



U.S. Army photoby Pfc. Elizabeth Brown

Pfc. Jessica Estrada (left) and Sgt. Eric Taylor, assigned to Headquarters Company, Network Enterprise Technology Command (NETCOM), plot their points May 11, 2017, during the land navigation training exercise for the NETCOM Best Warrior Competition at Fort Huachuca, Ariz.



U.S. Army photoby Pfc. Elizabeth Brown

Sgt. Allison Sardler, assigned to Headquarters Detachment, 52nd Signal Battalion, 5th Signal Command, gets her uniform touched up May 17, 2017, before reporting to the formal board during the NETCOM Best Warrior Competition at Fort Huachuca, Ariz.



U.S. Army photo by Spc. Quince Lanford

Soldiers competing in the 2017 Network Enterprise Technology Command (NETCOM) Best Warrior Competition receive instructions May 16, 2017, before qualifying with the M4 carbine at Fort Huachuca, Ariz.



U.S. Army photo by Pfc. Elizabeth Brown

Spc. John Lubwama (left), assigned to 106th Signal Brigade, 7th Signal Command (Theater), and Spc. Hunter Stradley, assigned to the Cyber Protection Brigade, assemble a tactical radio, May 13, 2017, during training for the NETCOM Best Warrior Competition at Fort Huachuca, Ariz.



U.S. Army photo by Pfc. Elizabeth Brown

Spc. Justin Carter, assigned to 275th Signal Company, representing the 311th Signal Command (Theater), reports to the board members May 17, 2017, during the NETCOM Best Warrior Competition at Fort Huachuca, Ariz.

ROC drill validates Saber Guardian communications support plan

Story and photos by William King

2d Signal Brigade Public Affairs

WIESBADEN, Germany (May 18, 2017) – The 44th Expeditionary Signal Battalion, 2nd Theater Signal Brigade, hosted a Rehearsal of Concept (ROC) drill May 15, 2017 in Landstuhl to coordinate and validate the unit's plan for tactical and strategic communications and network support for Saber Guardian 17.

Exercise Saber Guardian 17 is a U.S. European Command, U.S. Army Europe-led annual exercise taking place in Hungary, Romania and Bulgaria in the summer of 2017. This exercise involves more than 25,000 service members from over 20 ally and partner nations. The largest of the Black Sea Region exercises, Saber Guardian 17 is a premier training event for U.S. Army Europe and participating nations that will build readiness and improve interoperability under a unified command, executing a full range of military missions to support the security and stability of the Black Sea Region.

Maj. Lauren Bell, 44th Expeditionary Signal Bn. S-3 Operations, Plans and Training officer in charge, said the purpose of the ROC drill was to give an overview of the battalion's plan to everyone who will be involved in Saber Guardian 17 from a Signal perspective, from senior leaders down to team chiefs.

"For us, fulfilling the role of a theater (network operations), it was important that all the units and all the stakeholders understood what the plan was, what the concept was," Bell said.

She said the battalion, with support from 2nd Theater Signal Bde., U.S. Army Europe G-6 Communications and Information Management, 21st Theater Sustainment Command and the 4th Infantry Division, will operate as the theater network operations, or NETOPS, for the exercise - a role normally performed at corps level. The "Lightning Ops" cell will give

the 44th Expeditionary Signal Bn. the added capability and responsibility to monitor the Army Coalition Mission Environment network, provide network resolution, and service or escalate trouble tickets, all while providing tactical communications support to warfighters in the field.

"We started really working on Saber Guardian in November of last year with the initial requirements to figure out how we were going to be able to accomplish such a large mission while still supporting our other ongoing requirements," said Sgt. 1st Class Adam Dement, 44th Expeditionary Signal Bn. S-3 Operations, Plans and Training noncommissioned officer in charge. "It's a huge undertaking for the battalion," he said.

The 44th Expeditionary Signal Bn., the only expeditionary signal battalion in Europe, is currently providing tactical communications and support to U.S. Army Europe and its regionally allocated forces participating in Operation Atlantic Resolve, NATO's enhanced Forward Presence battlegroup in Poland and multinational exercises in Hohenfels, among other ongoing missions across the U.S. European Command and U.S. Africa Command areas of operation.

See Saber Guardian, page 11



Icons representing different Signal units and assemblages are arranged on a map during a Rehearsal of Concept (ROC) drill hosted by the 44th Expeditionary Signal Battalion, 2nd Theater Signal Brigade, May 15, 2017 in Landstuhl, Germany. The purpose of the drill is to coordinate and validate the unit's plan for tactical and strategic communications and network support for exercise Saber Guardian 17.

Landstuhl SATCOM facility cuts ribbon on new building

Article and photo by William King

2d Signal Brigade Public Affairs

WIESBADEN, Germany (May 17, 2017) – The U.S. Army Signal Activity Kaiserslautern (USASA-K), 102nd Strategic Signal Battalion, officially opened a new headquarters and operations building for the Enterprise SATCOM Gateway Landstuhl (ESG-L) at a ribbon cutting ceremony May 15, 2017 in Landstuhl.

The ESG-L is the largest Army-operated SATCOM facility outside the continental U.S and provides warfighters on the ground, air and sea, as well as other Department of Defense and U.S. Government agencies, with internet services via satellite anywhere on five continents and three oceans.

Col. Jeff Worthington, commander of 2nd Theater Signal Brigade, said the new modern facility will enhance Team Signal's ability to enable mission command and deliver world-class satellite communications, service delivery and theater communications security support.

"This unique facility will provide the tactical and strategic satellite backbone for the Department of Defense, joint, interagency, intergovernmental and multinational organizations spread throughout Europe and Africa," Worthington said.

The official opening of the building is the culmination of a concept, design and construction process that began more than 10 years ago. However, USASA-K will not be fully moved in until 2020 when it completes the transition of mission support from its current headquarters to the new building.

"It's exciting to see the doors open, but I know it's still a long road ahead before the project will be fully realized," said Capt. Matthew de la Guardia, commander of USASA-K. "When it's complete, our technicians and operators will have the ability to more rapidly support the diverse customer base that we have downrange."

According to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Europe District, the new 48,050-square-foot facility took 29 months to construct at a cost of \$32.5 million. Matthew Karlinchak, project manager for Europe District, said the building was a design collaboration between German architects and the Europe District.

"This project is pretty unique in the world. It took



Capt. Matthew de la Guardia, commander of U.S. Army Signal Activity Kaiserslautern; Col. Jeff Worthington, commander of 2nd Theater Signal Brigade; John Adams, deputy district engineer of U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Europe District; and Lt. Col. Ernest Tornabell IV, commander of the 102nd Strategic Signal Battalion, cut a ribbon to officially open the new USASA-K headquarters and operations building at a ceremony May 15, 2017, in Landstuhl, Germany.

years of planning, years of getting requirements from the users and just making sure we get everything right to get this facility built," Karlinchak said.

He said the project had a number of environmental considerations, including moving ant hills and lizards, constructing bat sanctuaries and working around archaeological sites. Karlinchak said the coloring and contours of the facility were designed to blend in with the natural surroundings of the nearby forest.

"I think the iridescent panels on the outside is the most unique part of the facility. The panels themselves change color as you walk around, anywhere from brown to maroon to yellow," Karlinchak said.

Another unique design feature is the infrastructure, including power, water, and heating and cooling systems, shared between multiple military units and buildings at the facility, which Karlinchak said will ultimately save the government millions of dollars.

"The road from this project's inception to its inauguration today has been long and full of challenges, but through the exceptional work of many talented individuals we have the opportunity to open those doors today," de la Guardia said.

CSA Command visit



U.S. Army photo By Gordon Van Vleet

CSA visit to NETCOM

Gen. Milley, Chief of Staff of the Army, visited the NETCOM Headquarters during his visit to Fort Huachuca, Ariz. Gen. Milley, along with other distinguished visitors, were briefed on several initiatives the command is executing on behalf of the Army and Army Cyber Command, including capabilities in the Department of Defense Information Networks Fusion Center, which has the mission to monitor a large part of the Army's portion of the service's networks. Top: Gen. Milley is introduced to Terrance Kelly, NETCOM G-6, and Sgt. 1st Class xx Delarosa, NETCOM Command Group at the end of the CSA's visit; Right, Maj. Gen. John Baker, NETCOM commanding general, discusses some final thoughts prior to Gen. Milley departing the headquarters.



U.S. Army photo by Gordon Van Vleet

Saber Guardian, from page 8

“There’s been some challenges across the board such as how to plan for such a huge event conducted with so many key assets coming in as well as continuing to support missions such as Atlantic Resolve and Saber Junction,” said 1st Lt. Marina Northrup, 44th Expeditionary Signal Bn. S-3 Operations, Plans and Training plans officer.

To help fill the gap between ongoing missions and Saber Guardian 17 exercise support, 2nd Theater Signal Bde. will be augmented with Soldiers and equipment from the 86th Expeditionary Signal Battalion from Fort Bliss, Texas, and several members of the South Carolina National Guard. Bell said there would be a total of 77 pieces of tactical communications equipment spread across five countries during the exercise.

“The biggest challenge is making sure the communications plan is synched with the maneuver plan for the exercise, making sure that we’re in tune with the main effort,” Bell said.

She said there were some details still to be worked out following the ROC drill, but overall the leadership was pleased with the plan.



U.S. Army Capt. John Maham (center right), commander of Alpha Company, 44th Expeditionary Signal Battalion, briefs his Saber Guardian 17 exercise communications support plan to 2nd Theater Signal Brigade senior leaders during a Rehearsal of Concept (ROC) drill May 15, 2017 in Landstuhl, Germany.

“It’s been a team effort. Everybody realizes that we have to pull together as a community to get through this, and it’s going really well,” Dement said.



U.S. Army photos

Army Training!

41st Signal Battalion conducted Air Assault and Chemical, Biological, Radiological and Nuclear defense training May 18, 2017, at Camp Casey, South Korea. The intent of this training was to enhance physical fitness, morale and readiness. Soldiers had to overcome obstacles such as the weaver, tough one and confidence climb. Soldiers were also educated about various CBRN related tasks as well as conducted mask confidence.



HONOR *Another tile added to the Signal Cove of Remembrance*

By Sharon Shulsky

NETCOM Public Affairs Office

FORT HUACHUCA, Arizona (May 17, 2017) – Signal Soldiers of the Network Enterprise Technology Command, Fort Huachuca, Ariz., honored their own during a memorial ceremony for the Signal Cove of Remembrance, Wednesday, at the NETCOM headquarters, Greely Hall. The Cove is dedicated to the more than 100 Signal Soldiers and civilians who have died since the 9-11 terrorist attack.

During the solemn ceremony May 17, the name and image of Sgt. 1st Class Allen E. Brown, formerly of the Headquarters Company, 1st Special Troops Battalion, 1st Sustainment Brigade, 1st Cavalry Division, Fort Hood, Texas, was added to the NETCOM Signal Cove of Remembrance memorial.

Brown, a Takoma Park, Maryland native, was wounded November 12, 2016 during an attack on Bagram Air Base, Afghanistan and died December 6, at Walter Reed National Military Medical Center in Bethesda, Maryland. Attending the ceremony was Brown's widow, Marissa Brown.

"It is humbling to stand with you here today as we remember and hold in reverence the sacrifices made by the men and women we honor" said Maj. Gen. John W. Baker, NETCOM commanding general. "And, it is with a heavy heart that we continue to add memorial plaques, etched with the names and likeness of our fallen."

With more than 100 people in attendance at the



U.S. Army photo by Gordon Van Vleet

Members of the NETCOM Honor Guard stand guard by a memorial wreath and an image of Sgt. 1st Class Allan E. Brown while NETCOM Commanding General, Maj. Gen. John Baker, speaks during a ceremony rededicating the NETCOM Signal Cove of Remembrance, May 17, in front of the NETCOM headquarters, Greely Hall, Fort Huachuca, Ariz. Brown, who was enshrined in the Cove, died Dec. 6 from wounds suffered a month earlier during an attack on Bagram Air Base, Afghanistan.

memorial ceremony, the 102 names of the Signal Corps' fallen were read with voices mixed with emotion in remembrance and with the solemn promise to never forget their ultimate sacrifice.

Baker and Command Sgt. Maj. Darris Curry, accompanied by Ms. Brown, placed a memorial wreath and revealed Brown's engraved tile, adding his name to the 101 names already enshrined in the Cove.

Lt. Col. Daryl Morse, 1st Cavalry Division Battalion commander, remarked that, "Sgt. 1st Class Brown was a great Soldier and NCO," who will be missed by all who knew him.

Capt. Jennifer Genslinger, Brown's company commander, echoed this sentiment by saying, "Sgt. 1st Class Brown went out of his way to embrace Soldiers and welcome them into the Army family. He cared very deeply for Soldiers, and he took every opportunity to challenge them and to pass his knowledge on to them."

The annual memorial ceremony ended with the echo of honors in a 21-gun salute and the playing of taps. The Signal Cove of Remembrance was opened in 2008, with 56 names and images of Signal Soldiers and civilians who died in support of Signal operations.



U.S. Army photo by Eric Hordin

Members of the NETCOM Team read the names of the 101 fallen Soldiers and Civilians during the NETCOM Signal Cove of Remembrance ceremony, May 17.

509th marks end of era as voice services upgrade

Article and photo by Capt. H. Hannon

509th Signal Battalion

LONGARE, Italy (March 4, 2017) – Soldiers, civilians and local nationals gathered to witness an end of an era as 509th Signal Battalion hosted the decommissioning of the Longare Electronic World Switch Digital, or EWSD, end office telephone switch.

The event followed a highly successful initiative to upgrade legacy voice services on the site to Voice over Internet Protocol (VoIP) technology.

The legacy EWSD telephone switch was part of the larger Defense Switched Network (DSN), providing U.S. government dialing services worldwide and a cornerstone of the U.S. Army's ability to communicate over the past 12 years. Evolution in communications technology in recent years has rendered the switch obsolete.

The 509th, whose mandate is to provide communications support "South of the Alps" to U.S. forces across Italy, the Balkans, the Black Sea region and Africa, has been working to field next-generation VoIP services across Southern Europe. The decommissioning of the Longare EWSD is the beginning of the implementation of the new system.

According to Todd Hunt, chief, Network Infrastructure Division, "The decommissioning of the

EWSD switch represents an honorable end to an analog era on the Longare campus as we replace this legacy system with the latest converged network technology. The advent of unified capabilities has enabled us to stand down extensive communications facilities, significantly reducing our operations and maintenance footprint across the theater while enhancing the quality of voice services to the warfighter."

The process of instituting VoIP services as the primary means of telecommunications began in September 2016 when the Signal Battalion concluded a campus-wide migration of all analog voice subscribers from the EWSD switch to the regional VoIP enclave. Since then, upgrades to the VoIP network have introduced several key service enhancements to include voice mail and call handling capabilities.

Overall, the network equipment and VoIP instruments on Longare campus represent a \$250,000+ investment and the beginning of a series of five sites across the area of operations scheduled to be decommissioned over the next 18 months.

The 509th's team of trusted professionals continues to lead the way in providing next-generation communications support to more than 23 sites in eight countries as well as deployable VIP communications support on the continent of Africa.



Lt. Col. Brent O. Skinner, 509th Signal Battalion commander, addresses those present about the importance of the EWSD decommissioning and the transition to VoIP services.

Signal Soldiers train, validate ‘fight tonight’ capabilities

Article and photos by William King

2nd Theater Signal Brigade Public Affairs

WIESBADEN, Germany (May 11, 2017) – U.S. Army Soldiers assigned to the 44th Expeditionary Signal Battalion, 2nd Theater Signal Brigade, deployed to the field to train and validate teams, processes and procedures during exercise Heavy METL II May 4-12, 2017 near Illesheim, Germany.

The training is a culminating exercise that will certify the unit’s Soldiers and teams for the year in the individual and collective tasks required to deploy and provide communications support for the upcoming Saber Guardian exercise and to Operation Atlantic Resolve.

“The training exercise reinforces the ‘fight tonight’ attitude that we are trying to instill in the Soldiers,” said Lt. Col. Adam Sannutti, commander of the 44th ESB. “It’s the opportunity to do those fundamentals of install, operate, maintain and defend communications systems, which is their (Mission Essential Task List) task.”

Capt. James Griffes, commander of Charlie

Company, 44th ESB, said the training focuses on skills such as site selection, crew drills, camouflage, network operations, radio etiquette and convoy operations.

“When they leave here our (Command Post Node) teams will be trained according to Army standard,” Griffes said. “We’ll also be validated for the year and prepared to go out on mission. It gives us all the way up that confidence in the equipment and the personnel.”

As part of the exercise, Griffes said teams had jumped locations about eight times so far, each time going through the process of set up, establishing network connectivity, then tear down and movement. Each team is evaluated against standards and for time according to the Digital Master Gunnery tables, which serves as the battalion-level training validation.

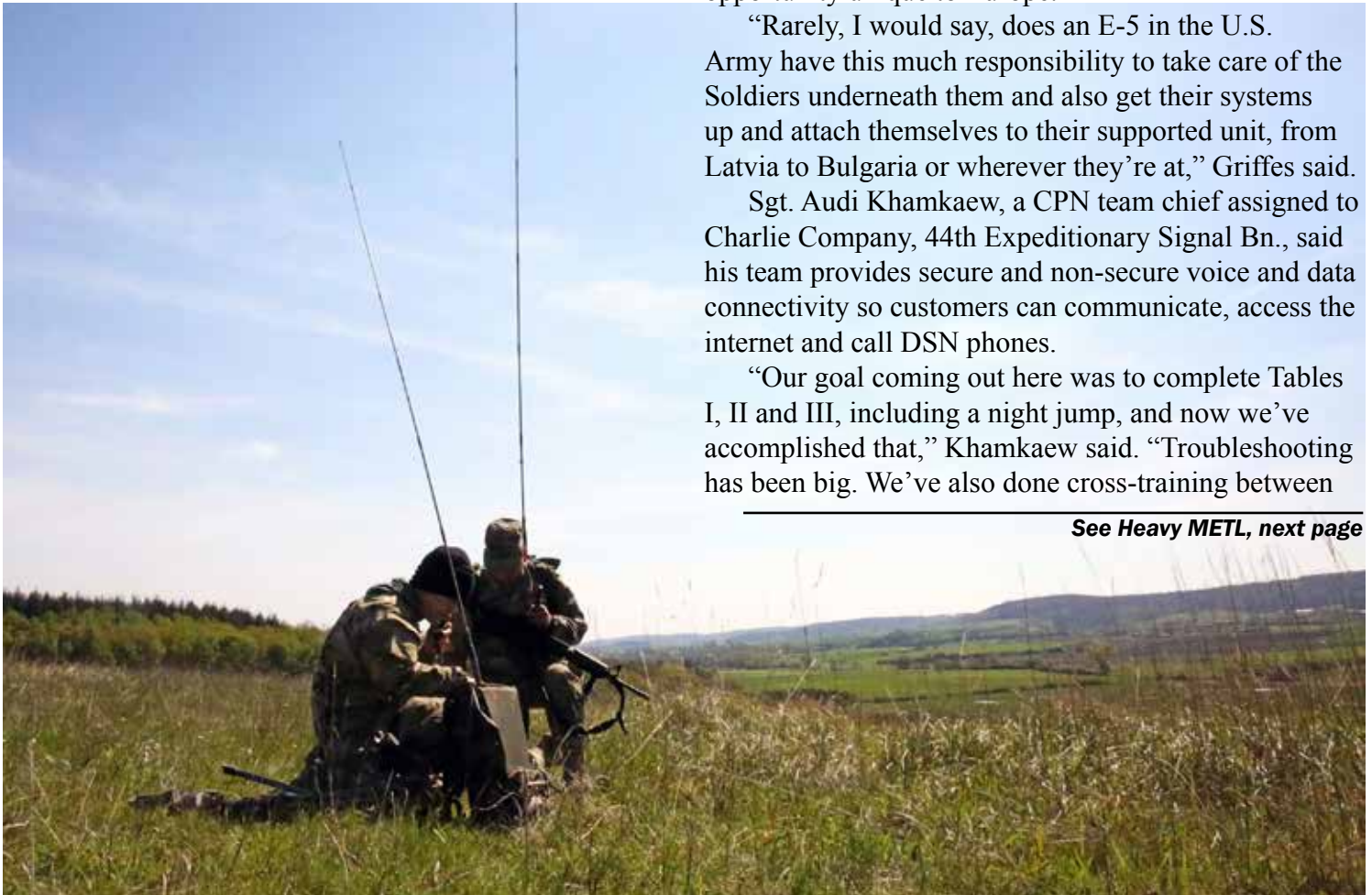
Griffes said each Soldier team is led by a junior noncommissioned officer, usually a sergeant, who is responsible for providing communications support and caring for their team while operating in a forward and sometimes austere environment. He described this experience as an excellent junior leader development opportunity unique to Europe.

“Rarely, I would say, does an E-5 in the U.S. Army have this much responsibility to take care of the Soldiers underneath them and also get their systems up and attach themselves to their supported unit, from Latvia to Bulgaria or wherever they’re at,” Griffes said.

Sgt. Audi Khamkaew, a CPN team chief assigned to Charlie Company, 44th Expeditionary Signal Bn., said his team provides secure and non-secure voice and data connectivity so customers can communicate, access the internet and call DSN phones.

“Our goal coming out here was to complete Tables I, II and III, including a night jump, and now we’ve accomplished that,” Khamkaew said. “Troubleshooting has been big. We’ve also done cross-training between

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U.S. Army Soldiers assigned to the 44th Expeditionary Signal Battalion, 2nd Theater Signal Brigade, conduct a high-frequency radio communications check during exercise Heavy METL II May 10, 2017 near Illesheim, Germany.

Civilian Workforce Recognition



U.S. Army photo

Eric Albert, 311th Signal Command (Theater), receives his graduation certificate from the Pacific Leadership Academy on July 14.



U.S. Army photo

Patrick Jacobs, NETCOM Headquarters, receives the Achievement Medal for Civilian Service on June 2, from Maj. Gen. John Baker, commanding general.



U.S. Army photo

Francesco Depento, 509th Signal Battalion, receives the Achievement medal for Civilian Service on June 27, from Lt. Col. Brent Skinner, former battalion commander.



U.S. Army photo

Lorese Dudley, 7th Signal Command (Theater), receives the Commander's Award for Civilian Service on August 11, from Brig. Gen. Welton Chase, commanding general.

Heavy METL, from page 14

Soldiers and (Military Occupational Skills), as well as basic Soldier skills.”

Sannutti said company-level field training exercises such as Heavy METL II enable training at the Soldier and team level and lay the foundation for the unit's success. He said he anticipates all teams will complete the training objectives and be validated and ready to deploy at a moment's notice and provide communications support to U.S. forces and our NATO allies and partners across Europe.



U.S. Army Soldiers assigned to the 44th Expeditionary Signal Battalion, 2nd Theater Signal Brigade, set up a SNAP terminal during exercise Heavy METL II May 10, near Illesheim, Germany.

NETCOM TAC-Europe stands up in Garrison Wiesbaden

By William B. King

2nd Signal Brigade Public Affairs

WIESBADEN, Germany (April 14, 2017) – A formation of U.S. Army Soldiers from 5th Signal Command (Theater) donned U.S. Army Network Enterprise Technology Command patches during a ceremony marking the establishment of the NETCOM TAC-Europe April 14, 2017 in Wiesbaden, Germany.

The NETCOM TAC-Europe provides direct enterprise network engineering, planning, operations and cybersecurity support of the U.S. European Command and U.S. Africa Command areas of responsibility. The NETCOM TAC-Europe coordinates, directs and supports strategic and tactical planning, operations and cybersecurity capabilities for inter-theater requirements and provides direct reach back to NETCOM headquarters.

“The TAC-Europe establishes a team which will be vertically aligned to the theater’s missions and provide the operational extension of the NETCOM commander for planning and executing enterprise projects and supporting operations in the European and African theaters,” said Michelle Curtis, NETCOM TAC-Europe deputy director.

Col. Tim Norton, NETCOM chief of staff, and Command Sgt. Maj. Darris Curry, NETCOM senior enlisted leader, removed the 5th Signal Cmd. patches and placed NETCOM patches onto the shoulder sleeves of Maj. Jared Snawder, NETCOM TAC-Europe assistant director, and Sgt. 1st Class James Young, NETCOM TAC-Europe noncommissioned officer in charge, symbolizing authorization of all Soldiers assigned to the NETCOM TAC-Europe to wear the NETCOM patch. Snawder and Young patched the remainder of the formation, then Norton and Curry gave NETCOM pins to each Civilian assigned to the NETCOM TAC-Europe.

Norton said he challenged the new NETCOM TAC-Europe Soldiers and Civilians to be excited about this change, to do something different and to think



U.S. Army photo by Staff Sgt. Brian M. Cline

Col. Tim Norton, U.S. Army Network Enterprise Technology Command chief of staff, places a NETCOM patch onto the shoulder sleeve of Maj. Jared Snawder, NETCOM TAC-Europe assistant director, during a ceremony April 14, marking the establishment of the NETCOM TAC-Europe in Wiesbaden, Germany.

outside the box.

“It’s not too often that you get to stand up a new organization, you get to build it, to define its mission, you get to really work through the tactics, techniques and procedures, the battle rhythm and to build the relationships with the other units around you,” Norton said.

5th Signal Cmd. is scheduled to inactivate later this year as a result of directed funding and force structure cuts made throughout the Department of Defense announced November 2016. The Theater Signal Restructure and Reinvestment is NETCOM’s effort to transform and streamline overseas theater Signal mission command structure. This plan eliminates a layer of mission command by consolidating support functions at the NETCOM headquarters elements and theater signal brigade, and reinvests manpower and resources into supporting five core functions -- network planning, network engineering, network operations, network intelligence and cybersecurity.

With the pending inactivation of 5th Signal Cmd., Norton said the establishment of the NETCOM TAC-Europe demonstrates NETCOM’s ongoing

See TAC-Europe, next page

Worms bids farewell to 5th Signal Command

By William B. King

2nd Signal Brigade Public Affairs

WIESBADEN, Germany -- The City of Worms said farewell to the U.S. Army's 5th Signal Command (Theater) when the unit moved to Mannheim in 1996, and, as the unit prepares to inactivate later this year, said farewell again at a ceremony June 21, 2017 in Worms.

5th Signal Cmd. was headquartered at Taukkunen Barracks in Worms from 1974 to 1996 and the unit has maintained a close partnership with the city ever since.

Speaking at a ceremony at the Worms city hall, Col. Rob Parker, commander of 5th Signal Cmd. and the U.S. Army Europe chief information officer/G-6, said it was the people of Worms that make the city special.

"From our earliest days here in your beautiful community, you reached out with the hand of friendship to the members of the command. The citizens of Worms are special and are the ones who truly give this city its well-deserved



U.S. Army photo by Staff Sgt. Brian M. Cline

Col. Rob Parker, commander of 5th Signal Command (Theater) and the U.S. Army Europe chief information officer/G-6, and Lord Mayor Michael Kissel of Worms unveil a plaque with the command's distinctive dragon emblem at a farewell ceremony for the command June 21, 2017 in Worms, Germany.

reputation as a welcoming and supportive community," Parker said.

Parker likened the inactivation to the end of a chapter, but not the end of the book.

"You will always be remembered fondly and have made a lasting and important impact on the lives of so many American service members,

our civilian employees and their families who were always proud to call this city home," Parker said.

Several current and former 5th Signal Cmd. Soldiers and employees were on hand at the ceremony, including Jose Parent, a Department

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commitment to the theater.

"It's a sign of commitment from not only the NETCOM staff, but Army Cyber, that we will continue to look out for the interests of Europe and Africa, we'll continue to expand the mission as necessary and surge forces," Norton said.

The 5th Signal Cmd. patch was authorized Oct. 24, 1994 by The Institute of Heraldry. The green dragon on the patch is associated with the legendary hero Siegfried and the Nibelungenlied saga, which was set in Worms where the

command was headquartered from 1974-1996. Orange and white are colors of the Signal Corps, and the black lightning bolts symbolize the speed and power of electronic communications.

The patch worn by NETCOM Soldiers today is no stranger to Europe as it was worn from 1964 by Soldiers assigned to U.S. Army Strategic Communications Command -- Europe, then by 5th Signal Cmd. Soldiers from 1974-1995. The NETCOM patch also uses the colors orange and white to represent the Signal Corps. The

globe indicates the worldwide nature of the communications controlled by the command, and the lightning depicts its dynamic and strategic capabilities.

Col. Tim Norton, U.S. Army Network Enterprise Technology Command chief of staff, places a NETCOM patch onto the shoulder sleeve of Maj. Jared Snawder, NETCOM TAC-Europe assistant director, during a ceremony marking the establishment of the NETCOM TAC-Europe April 14, 2017 in Wiesbaden, Germany.



U.S. Army photo by William King

U.S. Army Col. Rob Parker, the U.S. Army Europe chief information officer/G-6 and last commander of 5th Signal Command (Theater), and Command Sgt. Maj. Gregory Rowland, 2nd Theater Signal Brigade senior enlisted leader, prepare to case the 5th Signal Command's colors at an inactivation ceremony Aug. 4, 2017, at Clay Kaserne in Wiesbaden, Germany.

5th Signal Command cases colors after 43 years in Europe

By William B. King

2nd Signal Brigade Public Affairs

WIESBADEN, Germany -- The U.S. Army's 5th Signal Command (Theater) cased its colors at an inactivation ceremony Aug. 4, 2017, at Clay Kaserne in Wiesbaden, bringing to a close more than 43 years of professional communications service in Europe.

The command's heritage could be traced back to the U.S. Army Signal Command Europe, organized under U.S. Army Europe General Order dated March 20, 1958, which consolidated military communications in the European Theater. 5th Sig. Cmd. was activated July 1, 1974, in Schwetzingen before moving to Worms the following month. The command's headquarters later moved to Mannheim in 1996, then to its final location in Wiesbaden in 2009.

Col. Rob Parker, the U.S. Army Europe chief information officer/G-6 and last commander of 5th Sig. Cmd., said the unit had forged strong bonds with

its host nation over the last 43 years and thanked the German people for their enduring friendship.

"Over the years the partnerships between the United States military and the communities in which we live and operate have often grown into friendships and ultimately into inseparable bonds of mutual commitment, respect and support," Parker said.

Parker also thanked the Soldiers, Civilians and Local National employees of 5th Sig. Cmd. for their hard work and professionalism over the years. He said people will be key to ensuring success as Signal forces continue to reorganize and restructure to meet future missions and provide communications support to U.S. forces in Germany and throughout Europe.

"I'm confident we will remain an essential element to enabling a Strong Europe while standing shoulder-to-shoulder with allies and partners," Parker said.

See Inactivation, next page



U.S. Army photo by Eric Hortin

Col. Rob Parker and Command Sgt. Maj. Gregory Rowland case the 5th Signal Command's colors at an inactivation ceremony Aug. 4, 2017, at Clay Kaserne in Wiesbaden, Germany.

Inactivation, from previous page

The inactivation is a result of directed funding and force structure cuts made throughout the Department of Defense announced November 2016. The Theater Signal Restructure and Reinvestment is U.S. Army Network Enterprise Technology Command's effort to transform and streamline overseas theater Signal mission command structure. This plan eliminates a layer of mission command by consolidating support functions at the NETCOM headquarters elements and theater signal brigade, and reinvests manpower and resources into supporting five core functions -- network planning, network engineering, network operations, network intelligence and cybersecurity.

While some of the command's responsibilities will be transferred back to NETCOM, most of the day-to-day network and communications operations in Europe and Africa will be conducted by the 2nd Theater Signal Brigade.

Speaking at the ceremony, Maj. Gen. John W. Baker, NETCOM commander, said the Dragon Warriors may be leaving, but the outstanding level of support provided will continue.

"This inactivation is a part of the Army's efforts to transform our overseas theater signal mission command structure, however, our Signal and Cyber forces of our great Army that serve across the

European and African theaters continue and our commitment to mission success will never waver," Baker said.

He described the inactivation as an historic event and end of an era for NETCOM and the Army.

"The 5th Signal Command Dragon Warriors may be gone, but their impact on Signal operations in Western Europe and the Army will live on forever," Baker said.

Several former commanders of 5th Sig. Cmd. were in attendance at the inactivation ceremony, including retired Maj. Gen. Charles G. Suttan Jr., who commanded the unit from 1992-1995. He said it was bittersweet to be back and witness the command's inactivation, but credited the unit for its many contributions to U.S. Army Europe's mission over the years.

"I think the legacy, the kinds of things that they have done here in Europe, will extend beyond the inactivation. They put their imprint on the infrastructure and the capabilities this theater has that will exist for a long time to come," Suttan said.

Parker described the inactivation of 5th Sig. Cmd. as the end of a chapter in a great book, but said the story goes on.

"Like the infamous legend of Siegfried and the dragon in Worms, I'm equally confident the legend of the 5th Signal Command will endure for years to come," Parker said.



U.S. Army photo by Eric Hortin

U.S. Army Maj. Gen. John W. Baker, commander of U.S. Army Network Enterprise Technology Command, speaks during the 5th Signal Command (Theater) inactivation ceremony Aug. 4, 2017, at Clay Kaserne in Wiesbaden,

EXERCISE CYBER SHIELD 2017

Guard and Reserve Soldiers team up for cyber defense

Article and photos by
Sgt. Stephanie Ramirez
U.S. Army Reserve Command

CAMP WILLIAMS, Utah (May 3, 2017) – Technological advances are happening on a daily basis. Every day, new operating systems, programs or servers go up, creating new challenges in the cyber environment.

In order to stay ahead of this ever-shifting threat, service members and civilian organizations have to learn how each other operates.

Exercise Cyber Shield 17 is a National Guard exercise held in cooperation with U.S. Army Reserve that is providing Soldiers, Airmen and civilians from 44 states and territories the opportunity to test their skills in response to cyber-incidents in a multi-service environment.

“What Cyber Shield allows us to do is to share and collaborate in regards to tactics, techniques and procedures,” said Maj. Patrick Wicker, Detachment 4 Commander, for the Defense Information Systems Agency’s Army Reserve Element based out of St. Louis,



Capt. Humberto Nieves, an Army information systems manager assigned to the 335th Signal Command (Theater) out of East Point, Ga., executes a malicious code as part of a training inject during Cyber Shield 17 at Camp Williams, Utah, May 2, 2017.

Missouri and DISA-ARE Blue Team Lead.

This two week training exercise took place at Camp Williams, Utah, from April 23 to May 5, 2017, and it involved more than 800 service members and civilians.

The first week of CS-17 provided training and certifications for participants, while the second week tests the Blue Team’s ability to identify and react to cyber threats inserted by the Red Team to test their cyber response skills.

Cyber Soldiers assigned to the 335th Signal Command (Theater) and its subordinate units served in several roles during the exercise.

Some of their cyber protection teams supported the Colorado and Indiana National Guard Blue Teams. While assigned to those teams, National Guard and Army Reserve Soldiers worked together to provide cyber support for assigned mission partners or civilian agency.

While working with the states, the Soldiers were evaluated to determine their level of expertise by members of the White Team from the Army Reserve 75th Training Command, Gulf



Chief Warrant Officer 3 Richard Tillery, a U.S. Army Reserve senior forensics officer assigned to the Army Reserve Cyber Operations Group (ARCOG), Western Cyber Protection Center out of Camp Parks, California, explains his mission to Col. Michael D. Smith, commander for the ARCOG out of Adelphi, Maryland, during Cyber Shield 17 at Camp Williams, Utah, May 2, 2017.

Division, Birmingham, Alabama.

“This training helps the service members get smarter,” said Maj. Michael Ehrstein, Air National Guard cyber space information team chief for the 177th Information Aggressor Squadron out of McConnell Air Force Base, Kansas and the CS-17 Red Team Lead. “From day one, I’ve asked them, ‘are you smarter today than you were yesterday?’ The bad guys are getting smarter every day and we if aren’t doing that, if we don’t have that same enthusiasm for the cyber world, we’re going to fall behind.”

The 335th Signal Command also provided subject matter experts in several other elements in the exercise. These included the Red Team adversaries, White Team evaluators, and lawyers supporting the judge advocate elements.

Part of the intent for CS-17 is to improve the collaboration between Army National Guard, U.S. Army Reserve and mission partners such as Department of Homeland Security, FBI, State Fusion Centers and industry partners.

“From training in a multi-service environment, everyone can walk away with different perspectives,” said Ehrstein. “We get to share information and get exposed to how civilian organizations approach cyber and vice versa.”

Another goal of this training exercise is to develop stronger relationships not only between mission partners and the National Guard units, but also with the Army Reserve.

“Here, the Reserve Soldiers get a better understanding of what it’s like to work with the National Guard in the event a state requests support from the Department of Defense,” said Capt. Aaron Brunck a CS-17 Red Team Leader and cyber planner assigned to the 335th Signal Command (Theater) out of East Point, Georgia. “This is important because this way each component not only understands how to integrate successfully to complete the mission, but also becomes aware of the boundaries they have to abide by.”

Cyberattacks are happening on a constant basis and training events such as these develop Soldier’s skills to be a ready force for the defense of the nation’s electronic infrastructure.

“From training in a multi-service environment, everyone can walk away with different perspectives.”



Maj. Lavon Hooker, a U.S. Army Reserve cyber planner assigned to the 335th Signal Command (Theater) out of East Point, Ga., protects the network during Cyber Shield 17 at Camp Williams, Utah, May 2, 2017. Cyber Shield is a National Guard exercise, in cooperation with U.S. Army Reserve, that provides Soldiers, Airmen and civilians from over 44 states and territories the opportunity to test their skills in response to cyber-incidents in a multi-service environment.



Sgt. Charles Apperti, a U.S. Army Reserve information technology specialist assigned to the Army Reserve Cyber Operations Group, Western Cyber Protection Center out of Camp Parks, Ca., shows Col. Michael D. Smith, commander for the Army Reserve Cyber Operations Group out of Adelphi, Md., his work during Cyber Shield 17 at Camp Williams, Utah, May 2, 2017.



U.S. Army photo by Lawrence Boyd

Terrance Kelly, NETCOM G-6 (Chief Information Office), reacts after hearing the announcement for his selection as the NETCOM Headquarters 2016 Civilian of the Year.

NETCOM headquarters picks top Civilian

By Gordon Van Vleet

NETCOM Public Affairs

FORT HUACHUCA, Arizona (March 23, 2017) -- The Network Enterprise Technology Command selected the 2016 Civilian of the Year and Most Valuable Player (MVP) of the Year for the headquarters during a ceremony March 23, at Greely Hall, on Fort Huachuca.

Terrance Kelly, NETCOM G-6 (Chief Information Office), was selected as the 2016 Civilian of the Year and Enrique Estrada III, NETCOM G-4 (Logistics and Engineering), was selected as the 2016 MVP.

Kelly, the NETCOM Civilian of the Month for December 2016, serves as the Information Technology Projects Lead, focusing on planning and implementing and delivering IT capabilities to the command's Headquarters, its subordinate commands and across the enterprise.

Estrada, the Fourth Quarter (October-December) 2016 winner is a Supply Technician in the command's Property Book Office. Estrada's main focus is providing logistical support to the headquarters and supporting units.

Speaking of the need for a civilian workforce and the contributions made throughout history, NETCOM Commanding General, Maj. Gen. John Baker, said "We actually had Department of the Army civilians before we even had a country." Pointing out that the Army was established a year prior to our declaration of independence and Richard Peters become our first Army civilian. "Our lineage goes back to that year when we started our teamwork between the Army's Soldiers and the Army's civilians."

Speaking about how the civilians in NETCOM are a part of the team that Baker calls the "Army's Varsity Communicators," the general pointed out that the command's civilian workforce covers 26 of the 31 different career fields found in the Army.

Speaking about the dedication of our civilian workforce, Dan Bradford, the NETCOM Deputy to the Commander, Senior Technical Director and Chief Engineer, said "...although the load is heavy and the OPTEMPO is great, our civilians rise to the cause just like they did back during the Revolutionary War, and

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of the Army Civilian assigned to the U.S. Army Network Enterprise Technology Command TAC-Europe. Parent said he worked for 5th Signal Cmd. in Worms from 1989 to 1996 and recalled the closeness between the Army and the people of Worms.

“Of all the cities that I’ve lived in over the years, Worms is by far the friendliest. When you meet the people, they’re just overly friendly and receptive, and want to help you,” Parent said.

In his remarks Lord Mayor Michael Kissel of Worms spoke of the bonds formed between Americans and Germans through the years at events such as the German-American Friendship Festival, Backfischfest and New Year’s reception, among others.

“Even after the troop drawdown and withdrawal of American troops from the City of Worms, those friendships were maintained,” Kissel said.

Kissel noted how the Soldiers of 5th Signal Cmd. wore the dragon patch on their uniforms, taking the symbol of Worms with them wherever they went. Parker said over the years the unit’s dragon patch became instantly recognized throughout the Army as symbolizing professional communications.

The 5th Signal Cmd. patch was authorized Oct. 24, 1994 by The Institute of Heraldry. The green dragon on the patch is associated with the legendary hero

Siegfried and the Nibelungenlied saga, which was set in Worms where the command was headquartered from 1974-1996. Orange and white are colors of the Signal Corps, and the black lightning bolts symbolize the speed and power of electronic communications.

Following the ceremony at city hall Parker and Kissel unveiled a plaque of the 5th Signal Cmd. dragon on the main gate to the former Taukkunen Barracks.

“I can think of nothing more appropriate than bringing the dragon crest back home from where it came,” Parker said.

5th Signal Cmd. will inactivate at a ceremony Aug. 4 in Wiesbaden. The inactivation is a result of directed funding and force structure cuts made throughout the Department of Defense announced November 2016. The Theater Signal Restructure and Reinvestment is NETCOM’s effort to transform and streamline overseas theater Signal mission command structure. This plan eliminates a layer of mission command by consolidating support functions at the NETCOM headquarters elements and theater signal brigade, and reinvests manpower and resources into supporting five core functions -- network planning, network engineering, network operations, network intelligence and cybersecurity.

Kelley, from previous page

I encourage you to keep that up because it is making a difference for our nation and our Army.”

The NETCOM Headquarters Civilian of the Year program has been in place since 2006. However, this is the first year the command headquarters is selecting an MVP of the Year. The MVP award is for junior civilians in the headquarters and is for grades GS-9 and below.

The monthly winners competing for the Civilian of the Year title were: January, Eric Cunningham, NETCOM G-6 contracting officer/acquisition and budget officer; February, Leslie South, an IT specialist for the NETCOM Cybersecurity Directorate; March, Jared Lee, an operations research analyst for the NETCOM G-8 (Resource Management); April, Sharon Shulsky, a strategic communications analyst working for the command Public Affairs Office; May, Joe Griego, management analyst within the NETCOM G-8; June, Douglas Hickey, a computer scientist and lead engineer in the NETCOM G-3/5 (Plans and Engineering); July, Wanda Raney, a training management specialist

with the command’s G-1 (Personnel) office; August, James Riehle, an IT intelligence specialist with the NETCOM G-2 (Intelligence and Security); September, Shawnee Carlile, a military human resources specialist with NETCOM G-1; October, Bridy Godwin, an IT specialist with the NETCOM G-3/5/7 (Operations); and November, Darryl Jackson, a staff action officer with NETCOM G-6.

The quarterly winners competing for the MVP of the Year title were: Second quarter, Amanda Demaris, an administrative officer with the NETCOM G-6; third quarter, Bernadette Rodriguez, an administrative assistance in the NETCOM G-8. There was no first quarter winner in this category.

The winners of the headquarters competition will go on to compete for the NETCOM-wide Civilian of the Year and Jr. Civilian of the Year honors in April, when an appointed board of senior NETCOM officials will select one winner from each category from among the command’s more than 4,000 globally-stationed civilians.

Two 2nd Signal Brigade units win 2016 NEC of the Year awards

Article and photo by William King

2nd Signal Brigade Public Affairs

WIESBADEN, Germany (February 25, 2017) – Two 2nd Signal Brigade units were recently named the U.S. Army Network Enterprise Technology Command 2016 Network Enterprise Center of the Year in their respective categories, recognizing the highest standards for customer service and communications excellence across the command.

The 509th Signal Battalion in Vicenza, Italy won the NETCOM NEC of the Year award for the medium category, and the 102nd Signal Battalion in Wiesbaden won for the large category, the unit's fifth consecutive award.

There are 132 NECs in NETCOM each evaluated for responsiveness in supporting enterprise establishment efforts, supported enterprise solutions, innovative demonstrated in solutions to resource shortfalls and other specified criteria.

Maj. Gen. John Baker, commander of NETCOM, presented the awards during visits to the 509th Signal Battalion and the 102nd Signal Battalion Feb. 22-23, 2017.

"This speaks volumes as to your work and professionalism. I am enormously proud of the standard that you're setting and the contributions that you're making," Baker said.

Lt. Col. Ernest Tornabell IV, commander of the 102nd Signal Battalion, said his unit is the largest strategic signal battalion in Europe with six NECs spread across Germany and an enterprise satellite communications gateway.

"This is truly a team effort when we were able to receive this award again. We could not have done it without the leadership and the drive of all our personnel," Tornabell said.

Lt. Col. Brent Skinner, commander of the 509th Signal Battalion, said while his unit is the smallest in 2nd Signal Brigade, it

has the second largest direct customer base and is the most geographically dispersed serving customers in Italy, the Balkans, Black Sea and Africa.

"This award is a true testament of the commitment and dedication of all our Soldiers, DA Civilians, Italian Local Nationals, and contractors of the mighty 509th Signal Battalion," Skinner said. "Our personnel across the board have committed themselves to the highest level of customer service that we are able to provide."

Scott Hughston, deputy director of the 509th Signal Battalion, attributed the unit's success to strong leadership and a highly qualified, motivated and talented workforce.

"We build and maintain a strong esprit-de-corps within our empowered team," Hughston said. "This award represents the quality of the 509th Signal Battalion team, their ability to lean forward while solving complex technical problems while delivering superior IT services to our customers that enable mission success."



Maj. Gen. John Baker, commander of U.S. Army Network Enterprise Technology Command, presents a trophy to Lt. Col. Ernest Tornabell IV, commander of the 102nd Signal Battalion, for the unit winning the 2016 NETCOM Network Enterprise Center of the Year (Large Category), Feb. 23, 2017 in Wiesbaden, Germany.



Range Day!

Soldiers from the 335th Signal Command (Theater) (Provisional), 160th Signal Brigade, and 54th Theater Signal Battalion conduct weapons qualification training Feb. 16, at the Udairi Range on Camp Buerhing, Kuwait.



311th Signal Command officer attends 'Strategic Broadening' in England

By Ms. Liana Kim

311th Signal Command (Theater) Public Affairs Office

SHRIVENHAM, England (April 24, 2017) – Imagine one day you're enjoying the sweet Hawaiian breeze from your backyard hammock, and then the next two days you're traveling the United Kingdom to study strategic military culture.

Stepping off the plane into the bitter cold, you think, "Should I have changed out of my shorts and flip flops?"

The change of climate was welcome for Capt. Casey Schreiner, a logistics officer from the 311th Signal Command (Theater), who was one of 29 senior Army captains selected to attend the U.S. Strategic Broadening Program at the Defence Academy of the United Kingdom, here, Jan. 18-March 3.

The Broadening Program is a six-week portion of the U.K. Intermediate Command and Staff Course (Land), a 30-week professional development course for U.K. Army majors.

"I had never operated in a strategic environment before, let alone internationally with allied forces, so it was a challenge, but I was up to the challenge," Schreiner said.

Schreiner and his peers participated alongside the U.K. majors in two educational modules on the Global Effects on Defense and the Higher Management of Defense and the Army. They received lectures from academics instructors from Kings College London and Cranfield University, military advisers and peers who joined working group discussions.

They visited various headquarters throughout the United Kingdom, including the Permanent Joint Headquarters, which is home to five headquarters on one campus, the Ministry of Defence in London, the U.K. Army Headquarters, and the NATO Allied Rapid Reaction Corps HQ.

Participants receive a tour of the Defense Capability Centre Gun Shed, a weapons research establishment in Warwickshire, Tribinam. (Photo by Capt. Casey Schreiner, 311th Signal Command Theater)

Participants receive a tour of the Defense Capability



U.S. Army photo by Capt. Casey Schreiner

U.K. Maj. Charlie Sprake shares historic information about landmarks with fellow students during a London tour, including St. James Place, a residence of the royal family, during a field trip. The U.K. officers were excited to share stories and English military traditions with their American counterparts throughout the program. (, 311th Signal Command Theater)

Centre Gun Shed, a weapons research establishment in Warwickshire, Tribinam. (Photo by Capt. Casey Schreiner, 311th Signal Command Theater)

"I've been impressed by the professionalism, competence and proficiency of the British officers we've encountered in this school," said U.S. Capt. Orlandon Howard. "(This program) made us take a look at the impact U.S. Department of Defense has on the international community. ... I think it will make us take account of factors we may not be accustomed to looking at, and give more meaning to what we do (as military officers)."

The cultural immersion and partnership-building opportunities were the most invaluable and exciting benefits for the U.S. students.

"One of the U.K. students escorted us around London, and his knowledge was unparalleled. He was the former commander of the Queens guard at Buckingham Palace, so we got a behind-the-scenes tour of the Queen's guard and Mounted Guard," said Schreiner. "We also visited different cities every weekend. London, Oxford and Edinburgh were my

See Broadening, next page



U.S. Army photo by Lawrence Boyd

Field Trip

Soldiers and family members of Headquarters Company, NETCOM, visited the Pima Air & Space Museum in Tucson, Ariz., during a team-building outing June 6. Opened in May 1976, the museum features more than 300 historical aircraft, including a Wright Flyer. The museum also offers bus tours of the famous 2,600-acre “Aircraft Boneyard,” a military and government aircraft storage facility at Davis-Monthan Air Force Base.

Broadening, from page 22

personal favorites.

“For me, the pinnacle highlight of the program was that it opened my eyes to the global community beyond our borders and helped me realize we must consider relationships between international communities with regard to U.S. strategies,” Schreiner said. “My runner-up favorite was visiting No. 10 Downing Street. Now I can say I’ve been there, on the doorstep. It was surreal, and I had never even considered it a possibility.

Students enjoy an interactive experience in the Defence Academy Armory where instructors shared historic anecdotes of numerous weapon systems from around the world and throughout history. Participants receive a tour of the Defense Capability Centre Gun Shed, a weapons research establishment in Warwickshire, Tribinam. (Photo by Capt. Casey Schreiner, 311th Signal Command Theater)

Students enjoy an interactive experience in the Defence Academy Armory where instructors shared

historic anecdotes of numerous weapon systems from around the world and throughout history. Participants receive a tour of the Defense Capability Centre Gun Shed, a weapons research establishment in Warwickshire, Tribinam. (Photo by Capt. Casey Schreiner, 311th Signal Command Theater)

“If you are selected for the program,” Schreiner continued, “I recommend gaining a basic understanding of how the U.K. Army and Parliament are structured and work, both separately and together, before you arrive. This background will be invaluable to deciphering the lectures and the U.K. students’ language in the syndicates.”

He added, “Also, don’t be afraid to speak candidly in the discussion groups. All the professional development courses are extremely candid, not in a rude way, but in a way that truly evaluates and progresses the discussion.”

(Editor’s note: Capt. Casey Schreiner contributed to this article.)

Army Reserve celebrates 109 years of service

1st Lt. Emily Klinkenborg

311th Signal Command (Theater) Public Affairs Office

FORT SHAFTER FLATS (April 20, 2017) — Soldiers and civilians across Oahu celebrated the 109th United States Army Reserve Birthday at the 9th Mission Support Command Assembly Hall on April 20.

The event was jointly hosted by three reserve commands: Army Reserve Engagement Cell, 311th Signal Command (Theater) and 9th Mission Support Command. The one-star generals from each organization spoke during the celebration.

“I am very proud in the direction we are headed and very proud of our brothers- and sisters-in-arms who I serve with,” said Brig. Gen. Douglas Anderson, deputy commanding general of the Army Reserve and director of Army Reserve Engagement Cell, U.S. Army Pacific.

The Army Reserve was founded on April 23, 1908, when Congress authorized the Army to establish a Medical Reserve Corps. This corps eventually became what the Army Reserve is today. Over the years, Reserve Soldiers have participated in every major military campaign, including World War I, World War II, the Korean War, the Cold War, Desert Shield/Desert Storm and the Global War on Terrorism.

“We trained hard. We have citizen Soldiers who dedicated their lives, their time and their family efforts



to being the best they could be,” said Brig. Gen. Lawrence F. Thoms, commanding general of the 311th Signal Command (Theater).

The oldest and youngest Reserve Soldiers out of all three organizations took part in the traditional cake-cutting ceremony. Col. Casey Rogers and Pvt. 2 Jewels Changkaipo of 9th MSC cut the cake in remembrance of the birth of the Army Reserves.

The first piece of cake was presented to the guest of honor, P. Pasha Baker, the Army Reserve ambassador to Hawaii. The second piece was presented to Rogers, signifying the honor and respect according to

experience and seniority. Rogers then passed a piece of cake to Changkaipo as a symbolic representation of the 109 years experienced Soldiers have spent nurturing young Soldiers to refill the ranks and renew the organization.

“The U.S. Army is the team of teams providing opportunities to live a challenging life of service commitment and dedication to a greater cause than one’s self,” said Brig. Gen. Stephen Curda, commanding general of the 9th MSC. “With our all outstanding Army Reserve units across this vast region, we support and live our motto.”



U.S. Army photo by Liana Kin

Col. Casey Rogers and Pvt. 2 Jewels Changkaipo, 9th MSC, participate in the traditional cake-cutting ceremony to honor the birth of the Army Reserves.



U.S. Army photos

Saber Guardian 2017

Exercise Saber Guardian 17, a U.S. Army Europe-led, multinational exercise, will take place in Bulgaria, Hungary, and Romania July 11-20, 2017. The 44th Expeditionary Signal Battalion (shown conducting load-out operations June 5) is a vital part of the communications support for Joint and Coalition forces throughout the theater. SG17 is larger in both scale and scope over previous iterations. Approximately 25,000 service members from 23 allied and partner nations will take part, and the exercise highlights participant deterrence capabilities, specifically the ability to mass forces at any given time anywhere in Europe. Conducted annually since 2013, SG17 rotates through Bulgaria, Romania, and Ukraine and serves as part of U.S. European Command's Joint Exercise Program (JEP). SG17 is the largest iteration of the Saber Guardian series to date and will enhance joint and combined interoperability across a variety of mission sets with allied and partner nations.





U.S. Army photos by Lawrence Boyd

NETCOM Chaplain Teams from around the globe listen to briefings during the command's Unit Ministry Team Leader Development Training Summit at the Thunder Mountain Activity Centre on Fort Huachuca, Arizona, March 28-30.

Spiritual warriors train, provide spiritual health

By Gordon Van Vleet

NETCOM Public Affairs

FORT HUACHUCA, Arizona – Taking care of the troop's spiritual health is a team effort in NETCOM, and in order to ensure the best religious support possible is provided, the command recently held a Unit Ministry Team Leader Development Training Summit at the command headquarters on Fort Huachuca, March 28-30.

"The Unit Ministry Team's role is religious support," said Sgt. 1st Class Marcus Anderson, the command's Senior Religious Affairs NCO. "The Chaplain Corps mission is to provide religious support by assisting commanders in the responsibility to provide for free exercise of religion, and to provide religious, moral, and ethical leadership." This support is grounded in law and policy Anderson went on to explain.

"The NETCOM UMT significantly contributes to operational mission accomplishment and broader Army mission end

states of developing and sustaining a ready force of resilient and ethical Soldiers and leaders," said Anderson. The Command UMT is responsible for oversight of the world-wide ministry team's personnel, equipment and training, Anderson added.

"The summit provided the opportunity to bring NETCOM UMTs together to receive quality leader development training. This development allows all UMTs to hear firsthand from Maj. Gen. (John) Baker (NETCOM Commanding General) and receive his vision and guidance for our UMTs," said Anderson. "The summit also allowed Chaplains and Religious Affairs Specialist and NCOs, formally known as Chaplain Assistants, the opportunity to receive updated information on procedures, regulations, and changes within the Chaplain's Corps.

The command UMT work in setting up the summit was extensive said Anderson. "A great deal of planning, coordination, and support



Chaplain (Maj. Gen.) Paul Hurley, the 24th Chief of Chaplains of the Army, speaks before NETCOM chaplains and command staff attending the summit, March 28.

contributed to making the UMT Leader Development Training Summit a success. Coordination with facilities, lodging, funding, and transportation was critical to move our 32 UMT teams from around the globe to Fort Huachuca."

See UMT Summit, page 24

Combat Camera team tackles documentation mission in wake of Hurricane Harvey

FORT HUACHUCA, Arizona (September 12, 2017) -- While Federal organizations were conducting rescue and assistance missions in eastern Texas after the destruction caused by Hurricane Harvey, team members from the 55th Signal Company (Combat Camera), from Fort Meade, Maryland, were always close by. Several Army photo and video documentation specialists have been on-site since August 27, and out in the most devastated parts of the state documenting coordination, relief and rescue efforts of the dozens of organizations tasked with a mission that has become the costliest in U.S. history.

Setting up with the task force base in Austin, Texas, members of the only active component Combat Camera unit quickly started their part of the monumental effort.

"I was woken up by a phone call at 0730 from my squad leader," said Spc. Austin Boucher, a combat photographer and videographer from Watertown, Connecticut. "He told me to get my gear ready because I was going out to Texas to document the situation on the ground. Our flights left later that day, so we all had a short amount of time to get ready."

They were on the ground within hours of their call to support. The team's mission took them into some of the hardest hit areas of the state. Documenting rescues and relief supply runs in flooded neighborhoods, and joint civilian and military operations -- all conducted in a very short period of time -- has presented a number of opportunities to coordinate and cooperate with several federal and civilian relief organizations.

While on the ground, they receive support from different organizations in the form of a place to work and sleep, and access to communications to provide them a means to send their products to home station.

"The support we receive when on the ground is great," said Pfc. Joseph Cannon, a combat photographer and videographer from San Antonio, Texas. "We've received help from not only other military units but from other organizations such as Red Cross, FEMA



U.S. Army photo by Spc. Austin Boucher

Spc. Gabriel Rangel, 1st Squadron, 124th Cavalry Regiment, Texas Army National Guard, helps bring a child onto a Light Medium Tactical Vehicle in Orange, Texas, Sept. 4, 2017. Both the U.S. Military and civilian volunteers are working together to assist those affected by Hurricane Harvey.

(Federal Emergency Management Agency), and SBA (Small Business Administration). They've provided us with information of the surrounding areas, that in turn allows us to get the photos and video we need."

And while support from other organizations is welcome, it is their training at home station and support from within the team is what keeps them going.

"These guys and gals are doing really well," said Staff Sgt. Carl Greenwell, team lead. "It takes real professionals to stay focused because missions don't always go as planned. I'm really impressed how these guys keep their heads up and keep driving on."

"The training 'Combat Camera' receives is thorough for all sorts of missions," Cannon said. "That includes missions that are projected for short periods of time or longer ones. We are always ready to do our job with whatever it takes for however long it takes."

So far, the team has documented more than 20 civilian and military rescue and assistance missions throughout the area.

"Bringing in DoD assets into these situations help a lot," Greenwell said. "The Services can help provide those things the states don't necessarily have on-hand. Once the situation is worked to a manageable level,

Transitions and Transformations



U.S. Army photo by Eric Hortin

Col. Mark Baxter, former NETCOM Chief of Staff, receives congratulations from Maj. Gen. John Morrison Jr., commanding general of the U.S. Army Cyber Center of Excellence and Fort Gordon (Georgia), after presentation of the Legion of Merit during Baxter's retirement ceremony.



U.S. Army photo

The 56th Signal Battalion change of command ceremony was held April 21, at the Fort Sam Houston Quadrangle. The battalion welcomes Lt. Col. Dallas A. Powell Jr. and his wife Lori and children, Dallas III, Christian, and Abigail to the Wolfpack Family. Lt. Col. Powell was assigned to the 7th Signal Command (Theater) at Fort Gordon, Georgia where he served as the Deputy G-3 and Chief of Plans.



U.S. Army photo

The 509th Signal Battalion held a change of command ceremony June 30. Lt. Col. Brent Skinner relinquished battalion command to Lt. Col. Mike Reeder, who will continue to develop the "Mighty" 509th Signal Battalion's team of trusted professionals supporting a "Strong Europe" and providing high-quality customer service.



U.S. Army photo

Col. Mark D. Miles assumed command of the 516th Signal Brigade from Col. Jeth B Rey during a ceremony June 13, at Historic Palm Circle on Fort Shafter, Hawaii.



U.S. Army photo by Sgt. 1st Class Brent Powell

Brig. Gen. Peter A. Bosse takes the 335th Signal Command (Theater) flag from Maj. Gen. David J. Conboy, the deputy commanding general (operational), United States Army Reserve Command, during a change of command ceremony Oct. 15, 2016, at Fort McPherson, Georgia. Bosse took command from Brig. Gen. Christopher R. Kemp, who had commanded the unit and it's more than 4,500 Soldiers for the past two years.



U.S. Army photo by Jet Fabra

Lt. Col. Richard D'Angelo assumes command of the 25th Signal Battalion from Lt. Col. Bryan Lake during the change of command ceremony. Col. Kevin Griggs, 160th Signal Brigade commander, oversaw the ceremony.



U.S. Army photo

The 335th Signal Command (Theater)(Provisional) conducted a change of command ceremony June 26, between Brig. Gen. Stephen J. Hager (outgoing, at left) and Brig. Gen. John H. Phillips (incoming, at right) at Zone 1 Gymnasium at Camp Arifjan, Kuwait. The presiding officer for the ceremony was Lt. Gen. Michael X. Garrett (center), commanding general, U.S. Army Central Command.



U.S. Army photo

Companies of the 54th Theater Signal Battalion conducted a reflagging ceremony Dec. 10, 2016 at Camp Arifjan, Kuwait. The 56th Signal Company redesignated as the U.S. Army Signal Activity (USASA)-Kuwait Defense Satellite Communications System; 228th Signal Company redesignated as the U.S. Army Network Enterprise Center (USANEC)-Kuwait and the 519th Signal Company redesignated as USANEC-Arifjan.



Courtesy photo

Awareness Run

Members of the 311th Signal Command (Theater) Team conducted an awareness run July 29, honoring Brandon Carrier, son of Maira Carrier. Brandon suffered from Gastroschisis, a birth defect of the abdominal wall, resulting in the baby's intestines forming outside of the baby's body.



U.S. Army photo

Area beautification

Volunteers of all ages have been planting flowers in the planter boxes over the past few weeks and adding some fresh paint to really bring some color to the outside of Greely Hall.



U.S. Army photo by Capt. Mathew Sherburne

Military Academy MARS on the air!

The U.S. Military Academy at West Point's Military Auxiliary Radio System (MARS) station and Cadet Amateur Radio Club station W2KGY are now fully operational following the successful installation of a folded dipole antenna provided by U.S. Northern Command. The successful activation of the station now means West Point has a world-wide communications capability that does not require any infrastructure to include satellite communications.



U.S. Army photos

Top Chef

Spc. Anne Nicole Yalcengco, Headquarters Company, 307th Expeditionary Signal Battalion, was selected from more than 20 Soldiers to compete with the Hawaii Culinary Arts Team at the Army Culinary Arts Competition, March 3-9, at Fort Lee, Virginia. During the seven-day competition, Yalcengco and her team won the silver medal for Student Skills Team and won Student Skills Team of the Year. She was also the gold medal runner-up for Student Chef of the Year, and her team won Installation of the Year for the third year in a row. The team is now eligible to compete in July at the American Culinary Federation Nationals Competition in Orlando, Florida, for a chance to represent the United States at the World Championship for Culinary Arts in Switzerland.



Courtesy photo

SHARP Awareness

Soldiers, Civilians and family members of 1st Signal Brigade showed their support for Sexual Harassment and Assault Reporting and Prevention by volunteering, running, rucking and walking in U.S. Army Garrison Yongsan's half marathon run April 8. The Yongsan SHARP Program, together with the Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation Programs and 65th Medical Brigade, coordinated a shadow run of the renowned SHARP/Austin Half Marathon. The event was held in observance of Sexual Assault Awareness Prevention Month.

Army Europe signal Soldiers train together on expeditionary SATCOM systems

VICENZA, Italy (February 13, 2017) – U.S. Army Signal Soldiers from the 509th Signal Battalion, 2nd Signal Brigade, the 173rd Airborne Brigade and U.S. Army Africa came together for a training session on expeditionary satellite communications systems Feb. 13, 2017 on Caserma Del Din in Vicenza, Italy.

Led by the 509th Signal Battalion, the training increased the Soldiers' knowledge of expeditionary communications assets and better prepared them to support mission command in a dynamic environment across both Europe and Africa.

The training focused on the Tampa Microwave with 65cm SATCOM Terminal and also included a demonstration of Panther SATCOM Terminal. The training was divided into two sessions; the morning

session consisted of classroom training that provided an overview of system capabilities, configurations and setup procedures, followed by the afternoon session outside to practice the objectives taught in the morning with hands-on training and configuration drills.

Sgt. 1st Class Joshua Manglicmot, assigned to the 509th Signal Battalion S-3, organized the training sessions. He said having signaleers from other units at the training helped foster a sense of community among units and Soldiers.

"I believe that having Soldiers from four different battalions at the training enabled all of us to see that we all have a common goal and as a signal team we can harness our combined knowledge and accomplish any mission," Manglicmot said.

Master Sgt. Jason Clute, 173rd Airborne Brigade S-6 NCOIC, said he requested the SATCOM training to better support command teams on the ground and familiarize his Soldiers with newly acquired systems.

"With new systems comes new training and finding a local military (subject matter expert) reduced the flash-to-bang time and eliminated a training expenditure," Clute said.

Sgt. Dasean Payton, an RTO for the 173rd Airborne Brigade command team, said the training was needed and that he was impressed they were able to receive the quality of training they did without having to pay industry experts.

"This training was extremely beneficial because it provided hands-on training with unfamiliar equipment from a military subject matter expert," Payton said.

The Tampa Microwave will be supplementing the Secure Internet Protocol Router/Non-secure Internet Protocol Router (SIPR/NIPR) Access Point (SNAP) satellite terminals currently supporting the battalion and brigade command teams. The 173rd Airborne Brigade "Sky Soldiers" will conduct airborne operations with the Tampa to provide IP space for enhanced command and control as part of early entry packages.

"This ability allows expeditionary forces the ability to not only talk 'voice' but also pass real time reliable data to other combatant commanders on the battlefield or at home station," Manglicmot said. "Being able to shoot, move and communicate is the overall goal of the 'fight tonight' and 'Strong Europe' concept, and mobile communication kits are great assets to support that end state."



U.S. Army photo

Signal Soldiers from the 173rd Airborne Brigade and U.S. Army Africa Commanding General's Communications Team take turns aligning the Tampa SATCOM Terminal to the AOR Satellite during a joint SATCOM training session hosted by the 509th Signal Battalion, 2nd Signal Brigade, Feb. 13, 2017 in Vicenza, Italy.

Combat Camera, from page 31

then the states take over.”

As the team continues to document support, the evidence of the people’s resiliency is unmistakable.

“We were in a government van following an LMTV (Light-Medium Tactical Vehicle) through a flooded neighborhood en-route to rescue an elderly woman,” Boucher said. “The roads were nearly impassable. Water was up to the windowsills of some houses, and for a while I didn’t see anybody.

“But as we were driving passed what looked like a vacant home, I saw two kids in bathing suits laughing and playing in nearly two-feet of brown floodwater on the side of this house. They both stood up, smiled and waved at us with bright eyes and excitement. It was a short, yet telling moment. These kids, despite all they’ve lost -- all they’ve endured, still manage to live their childhood.”

Other members of the team include Spc. Elizabeth Brown and Spc. Hayley Gardner.

Staying in-line with their reputation as one of the



U.S. Army photo by Pfc. Joseph Cannon

U.S. Soldiers from the 1st Squadron, 124th Cavalry Regiment, FBI and local law enforcement walk through the streets checking on the residents affected by Hurricane Harvey, Orange, Texas, Sept. 5, 2017. Police and U.S. Soldiers work together with the focus of helping residents in flooded areas and those in need of help in surrounding areas.

most utilized and deployed units in the Army, the team was reassigned September 8, to document support and assistance operations in Florida, after the arrival of Hurricane Irma.



Maj. Gen. John Baker greets Chap. (Lt. Col.) Chris Morris, assigned to Eighth U.S. Army, at the UMT Summit.

UMT Summit, from page 26

The steps in making the summit a success ran the gambit from input and guidance from the NETCOM CG to coordination with the Army Chief of Chaplain’s staff and the Chaplain Center and School Commandant and staff, explained Anderson.

“I believe the summit was a great success,” said Chaplain (Col.) Richard Garvey, the NETCOM Command Chaplain. “With the outstanding presenters ... contributions provided a professional training event that has produced positive comments from our attending team members from around the globe.”

Speaking about the success of the summit, Anderson said the servant leadership of our chaplains and religious support specialists and NCOs and their dedication to serve is what he thought stood out the most.

“The UMTs work together as a brotherhood helping one another to ensure quality ministry to all our personnel,” Anderson said. “The next step for our UMTs (after return to home station) is apply the lessons learned in order to provide first class religious support to our deserving Soldiers, families and Department of the Army civilians.”

Because of the success of the summit, this kind of effort will continue. “This event has set the standard for our future training events,” Garvey said.

Army Social Media Tips and Guidelines

Army reemphasizes standards of online conduct for Soldiers

Social media is a part of our daily lives, and a powerful tool we use to share the Army's story. It helps us to create meaningful connections with our audiences, which maintains their trust and confidence in America's Army.

The Army acknowledges the importance of social media, and encourages our commands, Soldiers, Families, and Army Civilians to safely and accurately use social media to share their experiences and

provide information.

Advances in technology and accessibility to connected mobile devices, combined with society's acceptance of social media, have changed how information is delivered and how people, organizations, and government entities communicate.

Department of Defense Instruction (DODI) 8550.01, released Sept. 11, 2012, provides guidelines for military use of social media. The instruction acknowledges that Internet-based capabilities are integral to

operations across the Department of Defense.

The All Army Activities message (ALARACT 014-2017), published February 2017, also reemphasizes that Soldiers are held to the standards of the Uniform Code of Military Justice and Army Values when using social media, even when off duty. Commenting, posting and linking to material that violates the UCMJ or basic rules of Soldier conduct are prohibited, along with talking negatively about supervisors or releasing sensitive information.

Beware of online scams, extortion

U.S. Army Criminal Investigation Command receives hundreds of reports a month from individuals who have fallen victim to a scam perpetrated by a person impersonating a U.S. Soldier online.

Victims of these "romance scams" report they became involved in an online relationship with someone they believed to be a U.S. Soldier who then began asking for money for various false service-related needs. Victims of these scams can lose tens of thousands of dollars and face a slim likelihood of recovering any of it.

Victims may encounter these romance scammers on a legitimate dating website or social media platform, but they are not U.S. Soldiers. To perpetrate this scam,

the scammers take on the online persona of a current or former U.S. Soldier, and then, using photographs of a Soldier from the internet, build a false identity to begin prowling the web for victims.

The most common scheme involves criminals, often from other countries – most notably from West African countries – pretending to be U.S. Soldiers serving in a combat zone or other overseas location. These crooks often present documents and other "proof" of their financial need when asking their victims to wire money to them.

CID's Computer Crime Investigative Unit also cautions Soldiers themselves to be on the guard for "sextortion scams." In these scams, criminals engage in online sexual activity with unsuspecting Service members

and then demand money or favors in exchange for not publicizing potentially embarrassing images, video or information.

Scams involving dating sites, pose a unique challenge in the fight against impostors and identity thieves. On such sites, a dating profile is often required to conduct a search for fake accounts. That makes it difficult for organizations to monitor those sites for impersonators using a Soldier's or key leaders' information in a scam.

In addition, it is not possible to remove dating site profiles without legitimate proof of identity theft or a scam. If you suspect fraud on a dating site, take a screenshot of any advances for money or impersonations and report the account on the platform immediately.

Online Information

CID Information - www.cid.army.mil/romancescam.html

Army STAND-TO - www.army.mil/standto/archive_2017-02-09

Visit NETCOM Social Media

Facebook
facebook.com/usarmynetcom

YouTube
youtube.com/netcom9thsca

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Groundbreaking marks 'leap forward' for Army cyberspace operations

FORT GORDON, Ga. – The Army took a major step toward the future when Secretary of the Army Eric Fanning joined Army Cyber Command and Second Army commander Lt. Gen. Paul M. Nakasone and other dignitaries Tuesday to break ground on the construction of a new Army Cyber Command Complex here.

The ceremony marked the start of an estimated two-and-a-half-year project that will draw together the Army's cyber operations, capability development, training and education in one location - the Army Cyber Center of Excellence at Fort Gordon.

During the event, Fanning and Nakasone donned hard hats and manned shovels for the first turning of earth on the project site. They were joined by other Army leaders and senior representatives of ARCYBER's partners in the venture: Army Cyber Command Sgt. Maj. William G. Bruns; Maj. Gen. John B. Morrison Jr., commanding general of the Army Cyber Center of Excellence and Fort Gordon; Hardie Davis Jr., mayor of Augusta, Georgia; Lt. Gen. Todd Semonite, the Army's chief of Engineers and commander of the Army Corps of Engineers, and; John Garlington, president of B.L. Harbert International, the contractor for the facility.

Morrison welcomed the more than 100 leaders and guests who attended the ceremony and lauded the project as a landmark for the Army, ARCYBER, the Army Cyber Center of Excellence and Fort Gordon, and their many military, civic, industry and academic partners.

"Today's ARCYBER facility groundbreaking ceremony is a culmination of more than five years of hard work to integrate the planning, design and development of an operational headquarters," Morrison said. "[The complex] will not only enhance the Army's capabilities for cyberspace operations, but also enhance the partnerships with academia, industry, and the local Central Savannah River Area communities."

In his own remarks at the ceremony, Fanning said that building the Army's cyberspace capabilities will prove critical to maintaining the Army's readiness and ensuring dominance on the battlefields of today and tomorrow.

"Cyberspace can be considered the ultimate high ground, which means that in modern conflicts, ceding cyberspace invites defeat," Fanning said.

"So what we're building here won't be your typical government facility," he continued. "It will be the U.S.



U.S. Army photo by William Roche

Army and Augusta city leaders turn the first shovelfuls of earth in a ceremonial groundbreaking marking the start of construction on the Army Cyber Command Complex at Fort Gordon, Ga., Nov. 29.

Army's premier warfighting platform for cyberspace operations. It is the weapon system that will ensure our cyber warriors go into battle with the tools they need, and that all our Soldiers can operate in a more secure environment."

The construction of the complex, Fanning assured his audience, will demonstrate to the American people that the Army is committed to extending its warfighting capabilities into cyberspace.

"We are demonstrating to the American people that our commitment to fighting and winning the nation's war extends ... to protecting [the] commerce, communication and critical infrastructure that allow our nation to thrive," he said. "We are demonstrating to our adversaries that, no matter how warfare may change, we intend to fight, win and dominate."

For Nakasone, the groundbreaking represented a series of investments that will yield "unparalleled opportunities" for the Army and the nation. The new complex, he said, is an investment in national security and future readiness, an investment in Fort Gordon's future as the center of gravity for Army cyber operations, and an investment in future cyber capabilities that will ensure the Army remains an "elite force in cyberspace."

"This facility will build on the tremendous momentum the Army has generated in cyberspace over



Wolverine Forge

Headquarters Detachment, 509th Signal Battalion deployed to Livorno, Italy as part of the unit's first-ever exercise "Wolverine Forge" in that location. This operation focused on multi-echelon training supporting Network Enterprise Center-Livorno and our customer service delivery which included; implementation of Windows 10, the #1 priority of the Army's Chief Information Officer/G-6; Army Warrior Tasks and Drills; Continuity of Operations, and; MRAP (Mine-Resistant Ambush Protected) All-Terrain Vehicle familiarization. Exercises such as "Wolverine Forge" allow the 509th Signal Battalion to ensure their preparedness for future missions while accomplishing daily tasks that increase the overall readiness of the battalion.



ARCYBER, from page 26

the last six years," the general said. "We are constantly growing operationally, institutionally, and in preparation for the future fight. It will ensure that our teams, both offensive and defensive, train, plan and operate in a state-of-the-art facility equipped with cutting-edge technology, enabling them to provide superior support to joint and Army warfighters."

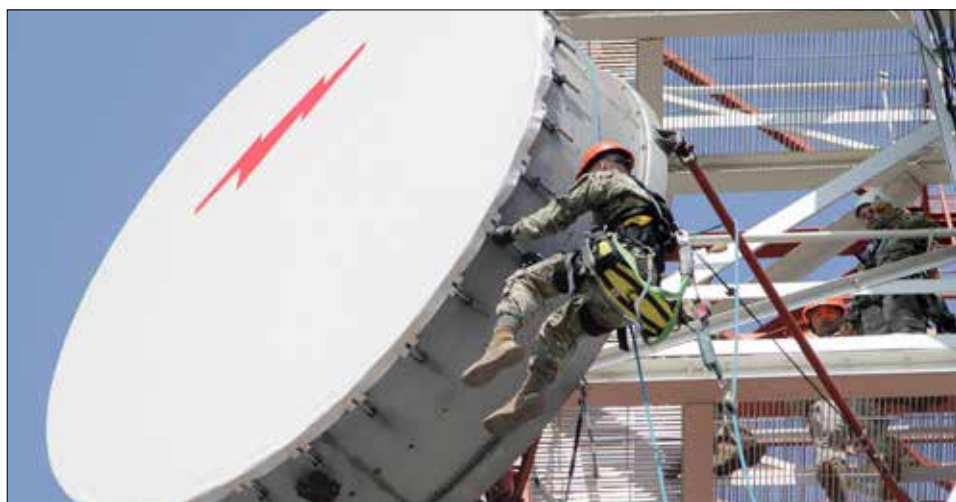
"Today marks a major leap forward on the road to achieving greater readiness, resilience and strength for

Army cyberspace operations," he concluded.

The first phase of the project is scheduled for completion in May 2018. The second phase of construction to support Cyber Protection Team operations is expected to be completed in early 2019. The buildings, with a total baseline capacity to support more than 1,200 cyber Soldiers and civilian employees, are projected to be fully ready for occupation in 2020.



U.S. Army photos



Taking time out for tower training

SUWON, South Korea – Soldiers with Headquarters and Headquarters Detachment, 41st Signal Battalion, 1st Signal Brigade, conducted tower maintenance March 15, at Madison Site, near Suwon, South Korea.

A team of six scaled 150 ft. to

tighten bolts holding up a radome cover and conduct additional tower maintenance training with key leaders and Soldiers new to Korea.

Routine maintenance on the towers ensures open communication continues throughout the peninsula.



U.S. Army photo

Community Engagement

The U.S. Army Africa (USARAF) Communications Team (CGCT), an element of the 509th Signal Battalion, participated in the Vicenza Elementary Career Day. The CGCT is a valuable asset that provides critical communications to the USARAF commanding general and enables mission command across the African continent. When not supporting USARAF missions, they conduct community engagements such as this as a means of building ties to the U.S. Army Garrison-Italy community.



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