

JBSA

LEGACY

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JOINT BASE SAN ANTONIO

SEPTEMBER 6, 2019



PHOTO BY SABRINA FINE

Col. Phillip G. Born, 37th Training Wing vice commander, addresses attendees during a wreath-laying ceremony beside the grave of President Lyndon B. Johnson at LBJ National Historical Park on Aug. 27 in Johnson City, Texas.

JBSA official attends LBJ wreath-laying ceremony

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Army overhauls small arms training

By Franklin Fisher

U.S. ARMY MANEUVER CENTER OF EXCELLENCE

The U.S. Army has drawn up a sweeping overhaul of how it will train Soldiers in using small arms — rifles, pistols and automatic rifles — a revamp that adds tougher standards and combat-like rigor to training and testing marksmanship.

The combat-oriented revamp replaces a training system that dates to the Cold War era. It's geared to ensuring that every Soldier — whether in a combat job or not — is trained from the start to not only hit targets but to have the other basic “tactical” weapon skills needed for combat, according to interviews with officials of the U.S. Army Infantry School at Fort Benning, Georgia.

Those skills include Soldiers' ability to load, reload and otherwise handle their weapons just as they'd have to in the blur and stress of combat.

The overhaul is spelled out in a new marksmanship manual titled “TC 3-20.40, Training and Qualification-Individual Weapons.”

Referred to informally as the “Dot-40,” it runs to more than 800 pages and contains four chapters and nine appendices.

“It's exactly what we would do in a combat environment, and I think it's just going to build a much better shooter,” said Command Sgt. Maj. Robert K. Fortenberry, who currently oversees the Infantry School's marksmanship revamp project and is the Infantry School's senior enlisted leader.

The Infantry School is part of Fort Benning's U.S. Army Maneuver Center of Excellence, or MCoE.

The Dot-40 applies to the entire Army — the active duty force, including cadets at the U.S. Military Academy at West Point, as well as the Army Reserve and National Guard.

It covers four categories of what the Army considers “individual” weapons: the rifle and carbine; pistol; the automatic rifle; and sniper rifles.

It's meant as a standardized, one-stop-shop for all Army units to follow in training their troops in individual weapons marksmanship.

And it applies to all Soldiers regardless of whether they're in combat jobs — Infantry and Armor, for example, or not — a cook, a finance or supply clerk, X-ray technician or a musician in an Army band.

It was developed at Fort Benning over a two-year span by staff of the MCoE's



MARKETH HORACE

Soldiers with C Troop, 2nd Squadron, 15th Cavalry Regiment, a one station unit training for cavalry scouts with the Maneuver Center of Excellence, zero their M4 carbines at Soto Range on Fort Benning, Georgia, Aug. 21.

Directorate of Training and Doctrine, and by the Infantry School, as well as nearly 200 marksmanship experts drawn from across the Army, including the Reserve and National Guard, officials said.

All units regardless of type will be held to the same tougher basic standards. All will have to train their Soldiers in the same skills, and ensure they schedule the same amount, type and frequency of marksmanship training mandated by the Dot-40.

“It was just time for a re-blue,” said Fortenberry, using a term that refers to the re-bluing of firearms. “It's not to say that what we were doing in the past was wrong. So it's not that the old way of firing didn't teach you how to shoot.

“There was an opportunity to create a fundamental change in regards to marksmanship that more closely aligns with what was done and learned over the past 19 years of combat, making it to where it fits the entire Army as a collective, and makes a more proficient marksman.”

To help foster proper understanding of the Dot-40 and to offer help to units in putting its requirements into action, members of the Infantry School's Marksmanship Team have begun traveling widely to Army posts and explaining it to key audiences. Those include, among others, senior leaders who head divisions and brigades, as well as Soldiers at what are known as Leadership Professional Development sessions.

In creating the new approach the Army wants to bring all Soldiers to a “baseline” set of marksmanship skills that go beyond what it takes to get a passing score during a “qualification,” a term for a graded shooting test at a firing range.

The ability to hit their intended targets, though crucial, is only one part of the overall marksmanship skill set every

Soldier should be equipped with, Infantry School officials said. Marksmanship training should also train Soldiers on the other tasks they'd face in using their weapon in combat, they said.

The Dot-40 mandates a series of drills and tests that check whether Soldiers can rapidly load and reload as they'd have to under fire, work the bolt of their weapon, switch firing positions quickly — standing, kneeling, lying prone, firing from behind a barrier — while at the same time exercising “critical thinking” — making battlefield snap judgments as to which targets to shoot at in which order — and hitting them. All are elemental to being deemed actually proficient in Soldier marksmanship, officials said.

And it adds other new requirements: that Soldiers fire their weapons effectively in night combat scenarios and in conditions that simulate chemical attack.

Marksmanship training in which Soldiers fire from the standing position or while steadying their weapon against a barricade is not new. But under the new methods both will become part of the official, graded marksmanship test each Soldier must pass to be declared “qualified” on use of their weapon.

“You're employing your weapon system in a more tactical environment or scenario, versus the more traditional way of doing it,” Fortenberry said. “And by doing so, it creates additional rigor, using all of the elements of critical thinking, sound judgment, adapting to change, all of those non-tangible attributes.

“So for the individual, it's a clear progression, to make them way more capable with their weapon system and all of the nuances that are part of marksmanship,” he said.

“You will work your transitions, from a standing against the barrier, you'll work the kneeling to the prone, the prone to the kneeling,” he said. “Coaches will be assessing you based upon your transition periods, how well you do it. You're forced now to pull from your kit and insert magazines.

“Before, commanders, leaders, didn't have to necessarily focus on that,” Fortenberry said. “It now forces everybody to practice on it.”

Under the old method of marksmanship testing, Soldiers at the firing range would have magazines of ammunition neatly stacked in front of them, and would have to fire in a set progression that tested their aim but not the other weapon-related skills they'd need in a firefight, officials said.

JBSA LEGACY

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Feedback Fridays

By Brig. Gen. Laura L. Lenderman

502D AIR BASE WING AND JOINT BASE SAN ANTONIO COMMANDER

Feedback Fridays is a weekly forum that aims to connect the 502d Air Base Wing with members of the Joint Base San Antonio community. Questions are collected during commander's calls, town hall meetings and throughout the week.

If you have a question or concern, please send an email to RandolphPublicAffairs@us.af.mil using the subject line "Feedback Fridays." Questions will be further researched and published as information becomes available.

Mold Issues

Q. Will other buildings such as the CCSD building be checked for mold? The LMM/Communications Security library has black stains all over the walls and floors and it appears to be mold.

I have been told I will have to work in this room once I get the proper badge. I and another employee who will be working in that room are concerned about breathing in black mold and possibly asbestos. The individual who is usually in the room stated no action has been taken to remove the carpet due to asbestos in the room.

A. Thank you for bringing this to my attention. The health and safety of Joint Base San Antonio members is my top priority. Our Civil Engineer team are coordinating with the CCSD Building and LMM/COMSEC library facility manager to perform a detailed inspection, looking for any signs of mold or other unacceptable sanitation conditions.

During our dorm resident inspections, there have been no instances of black mold or asbestos hazards identified. However, we will aggressively address any discrepancies found in this building, and remediate as soon as possible.

Installation & Facilities

Q. What is the possibility of having some electric vehicle charging stations installed around the base? It would be wonderful to have a charging station at

the Military Personnel Flight, Base Exchange, etc.

A. Thank you for your question. We are committed to providing a resilient and energy efficient installation and culture.

Typically, energy initiatives such as charging stations are installed during new construction of facilities, or as a commercially-provided contracted pay-for-use service.

We are supportive of these types of initiatives, particularly when they target community gathering spaces such as the BX and Commissary. We will recommend to the Army and Air Force Exchange Service and Defense Commissary Agency to consider these initiatives as they make capital improvements to their facilities.

Q. I would like to know what is the Joint Base San Antonio policy for driving Slingshots (three-wheeled vehicles) on base.

Currently, every Security Forces member I've asked is not sure of what is mandated to drive one on base.

One day I'm allowed without a helmet, the next day I'm almost yelled at that I need a helmet. Could someone for

once please clarify this?

A. Thank you for your excellent question, as there is still much confusion whether Slingshots fall within motorcycle or automobile rules of the road.

The Air Force and JBSA classifies Slingshots as "autocycles," requiring operators and passengers to wear Department of Transportation-approved/certified headgear while on at least JBSA roadways (per the Oct. 15, 2018 JBSA Supplemental policy to Air Force Manual 31-116).

I apologize for the confusion and your experience, and I will ensure this information is shared throughout JBSA and posted on our homepage at <https://www.jbsa.mil>.

Q. Thanks for painting the directional lines on the pavement at the corners of Truemper Street and Carswell Avenue on JBSA-Lackland. What an invaluable improvement!

Even so, on Family Days, drivers become impatient at the traffic light. Drivers have been seen turning from the right lane, then crossing the two left

lanes, to exit the Valley Hi Gate.

It may be worth it to post an officer at the intersections of Truemper and Carswell periodically to discourage this dangerous practice.

A. Thank you for up-channeling this on-going traffic safety concern, as the security and safety of Team JBSA is a top priority for myself and our Security Forces Squadrons.

A month ago, I received a very similar concern from an individual who cited that the occurrences happened mostly during the daily release of technical training students. We responded by painting the lines you saw, adding a patrol to monitor and respond to these infractions and also addressing this at the leadership level.

Thanks to your observation, I will ensure our patrols now also put emphasis on monitoring this corner during Family Days. Thank you again for your continued vigilance in keep our drivers and pedestrians safe across JBSA!

Q. Why do we need the two extra speedbumps at the main gate of

FEEDBACK FRIDAYS continues on 4



Military students can win \$20,000 in scholarships from exchange

By Gabriela Moore

ARMY & AIR FORCE EXCHANGE SERVICE
PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Military students who make a difference in their community are eligible to win one of 10 \$2,000 scholarships through the Army & Air Force Exchange Service's and Unilever's Rewards of Caring essay contest.

From Aug. 30 through Sept. 26, authorized students in grades six through 12 with a grade-point average of 2.5 or higher (on a 4.0 scale) can submit an essay in English of 500 words or fewer explaining why their community and involvement in service projects are important to them.

"This contest is a great opportunity for students involved in their communities to be recognized for their hard work," said Chief Master Sgt. Luis

Reyes, Exchange senior enlisted advisor. "The Exchange is honored to acknowledge the dedication of these military children."

Entries are accepted via U.S. mail only to:

**EXCHANGE REWARDS OF CARING
SCHOLARSHIP 2019 FALL
CONTEST**

P.O. Box 7778

Melville NY 11775-7778

Submissions must be postmarked by Sept. 26 and received by Oct. 15 to be considered.

Contest winners will be selected by Unilever's Operation In Touch team. No purchase necessary to enter. For complete rules and entry details, visit <http://www.operationintouch.com>.

Editor's note: No commercial endorsement is implied by this article.



COURTESY GRAPHIC

FEEDBACK FRIDAYS

From page 3

JBSA-Randolph? One after entering and one after exiting the gate. I can see no purpose for them and feel they should be removed.

A. Thank you for your question, as drivers are typically used to navigating over one speed bump between roads, both on and off a Department of Defense installation. The additional speed bumps and their spacing are required by recent updates to the Department of Defense policy for military construction and sustainment, called the "Unified Facilities Criteria."

These additional devices help better protect JBSA installations and our workforce against high-speed vehicles that don't have to negotiate barriers at slow speed when driving through the inbound and outbound lanes at the gate.

You can expect to see more of these in the future, and I thank you for your patience and cooperation with these needed security measures to keep all of us safe!

Q. Concerning the continuing situation at the entry gates to JBSA-Lackland in

the early mornings, I'm curious why some of the gates do not open until 6 a.m.

Personally, I am required to be at work at 6 a.m., but it is getting increasingly difficult to arrive on time due to the gate traffic that builds up at the Luke West visitor gate. The buildup of traffic affects the intersection near the Luke West gate and I have witnessed many potential hazards for accidents due to drivers positioning for a lane, etc., during this busy time.

A possible solution that I've thought about is opening the other gates at, say, 5:30 a.m. to alleviate some of the congestion. If these gates are only opened for 12 hours then I believe 5:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. would be sufficient to allow ingress and egress during high traffic hours.

I also realize that some gates off of SW Military do open at 5:30 a.m. to accommodate the BMT graduation/family traffic, so in actuality, all that I'm suggesting is for an additional three duty days (Monday—Wednesday) to open gates at 5:30 a.m.

A. Thank you very much for your question! We determine each gate's

hours based on peak traffic studies, the level of protection necessary for the buildings nearest that gate, and the availability of security forces manpower.

In order to mitigate the peak traffic hour of 6 a.m. that you and many others are experiencing, we open additional gates at that time and always have four 24-hour gates open.

We will discuss your suggestions for hour changes to the "Luke West" gate and see if we can make changes based off of our current manpower and traffic studies.

In the meantime, alternatives to using the "Luke West" gate are the 24-hour "Luke East" (Visitor Control Center) gate across the street and the 24-hour "Valley Hi" gate down the street from Valley Hi Drive at the I-410 intersection.

Please also check the <https://www.JBSA.mil> public website for all JBSA gate hours and announcements or call 210-671-6174 at any time to get real-time gate information and suggested commute routes.

The serious hazards that you addressed at the Military Drive intersection are monitored by our partners in the San Antonio Police

Department; however, I am aware of them as well and will ensure feedback from security forces and the community continues to be passed along so that we can ensure that our installations and the surrounding communities remain safe.

Miscellaneous

Q. What is the current policy for using chewing tobacco while in uniform and on duty?

I was recently getting a visitors pass from JBSA-Randolph, and while I was getting my pass the service member who was helping me was actively using chewing tobacco, with a spit bottle on the desk.

This struck me as extremely unprofessional, especially when you are interacting with visitors and representing the installation.

A. Thank you for this important question, as it is certainly a professionalism issue. Current Air Force policy does allow use of smokeless products while in uniform and on duty and — as with smoking — can only be used in designated areas. I will ensure our leadership team and workforce are reminded of this policy.

DOD to begin next major phase of military hospital consolidation

By Military Health System Communications Office

HEALTH.MIL

The Department of Defense is preparing for the next major step in consolidating military hospitals and clinics under a single agency, one of the largest organizational changes within the U.S. military in decades.

On Oct. 1, the Army, Navy and Air Force begin the final two years of a multi-year transition to shift administration and management of their medical facilities to the Defense Health Agency by October 2021, changes that are “transformational and far-reaching,” said Vice Adm. Raquel Bono, the DHA Director.

“For the first time in our modern military’s history, a single agency, the DHA, will be responsible for all the health care the Department of Defense delivers to our 9.5 million beneficiaries,” Bono said. “This consolidation will drive higher levels of readiness for operational and medical forces and integrate health care services to standardize practices across the entire Department.”

The primary driver for this change is the National Defense Authorization Act of 2017. Congress mandated that a single agency will be responsible for the administration and management of all military hospitals and clinics.

DHA will be responsible for health care delivery and business operations across the Military Health System including budgets, information technology, health care administration and management, administrative policies and procedures, and military medical construction.

Bono said that even though congressional directives mandate this change, “it’s the right thing to do.”

“We have more than 40 years of independent studies and internal reviews that demonstrate the current structure of the Military Health System is unsustainable,” she said. “What makes us unique from other health systems is that we are heavily embedded with combat forces around the world focused on operational medical readiness and the health of our warfighters. Improving medical readiness is the key driver of the overall effort.”

During this transition, the quality of care won’t change for beneficiaries of the Military Health System, Bono said.

“Ultimately, what this transition means for all of us in the Department of Defense is a more integrated, efficient and effective system of readiness and health, and integration of health care services that leads to a more standardized and consistent experience of care for patients,” Bono said. “Central to that is having one agency oversee MTF operations while supporting the Services’ effort to focus more on readiness.”

Since October 2018, the DHA has been operating eight hospitals and clinics as part of the first phase of what was at first a four-year transition period. In June, the overall timeline adjusted to three years to reduce the amount of duplicative management by the Military Departments and the DHA, said Dr. Barclay Butler, the DHA’s assistant director for management and MTF transition head.

“The primary driver of that is to measurably and precisely coordinate the reduction of the Military Services’ Medical Department support and oversight of the MTFs to the DHA,” Butler said. “We want to create a simple and clear transfer of authority that positively impacts healthcare for our patients.”

From Oct. 1 of this year through October 2021, the transition will focus on four primary objectives:

► Centralized administration and management: On Oct. 1, all hospitals and clinics in the continental United States transition to the DHA, with the Army, Navy and Air Force medical departments maintaining a direct support role.

► Establish Health Care Markets: At the center of the reorganization is the creation of health care markets. The DHA will stand up 21 large markets during the transition period to manage MTFs in local areas.

► Establishment of a Small Market and Stand-Alone MTF Organization: For stateside hospitals and clinics not aligned to a large market, this office, referred to as SSO, will provide managerial and clinical oversight. As with the large markets, the Military Departments will continue managing the MTFs until they are realigned under the SSO. There are 16 small market MTFs and 66 stand-alone MTFs assigned to the SSO.

► Establish Defense Health Regions overseas: The transition period for standing up Defense Health Regions in Europe and Indo-Pacific begins in 2020. All MTFs overseas would then report to their respective DHA regional offices.

Army offers more than \$80,000 in re-up bonuses

By Thomas Brading
ARMY NEWS SERVICE

Effective Sept. 9, Soldiers willing to reenlist in some of the Army's most in-demand careers have the chance to receive up to \$81,000 in lump-sum bonuses — the highest amount in more than five years, officials announced Aug. 27.

In addition to critical fields, this latest announcement also offers a wide range of cash options for Soldiers re-upping for longer commitments, or reclassifying into needed fields.

"Reenlistment bonuses are reviewed continuously, and encourage long-term retention of Soldiers going into or staying in critical skills," said Sgt. Maj. Mark Thompson, the senior Army career counselor.

In other words, he added, the Army is investing heavily in its people, with hopes that they continue their investment in the Army.

The payouts are based on critical skills and selective retention. The Selective Retention Bonus program is

designed to incentivize Soldiers to maintain their current military occupational specialty or reclassify into another MOS based on demands for the individual jobs.

Understanding not every Soldier will commit to longer terms, to sweeten the offer, last year the Army instituted the ability for Soldiers to extend their service versus reenlisting.

"We're incentivizing the longer-term commitments without taking away the ability for Soldiers to choose shorter-term commitments, too," Thompson said.

These efforts have directly impacted the "historically high retention rates" the Army is currently experiencing, Thompson added. At least 82 percent of eligible Soldiers have already reenlisted in fiscal year 2019.

"The Army is experiencing an unprecedented success in the retention program due in large part from engaged leaders and professionally developed career counselors," Thompson said, adding, "The

Army continuously evaluates the current enlisted strengths with future projections to establish precision incentives."

Although retention is at a historic high, the Army still needs to fill certain fields. The price tag actually creates a cost-effective solution to fill those positions internally, Thompson added.

"Investing in Soldiers with critical skills — such as cyber, intelligence, Special Forces, etc. — helps meet the retention needed to strengthen the Army's ability to size, shape, and stabilize its force," he said.

Bonuses are categorized into tiers, one through 10, with the latter having the largest payout.

Examples of top-tier fields include cyber and Special Forces. One of the smallest bonuses would occur with an individual in tier one, who may receive \$1,000 for extending their service through reenlistment 12-23 months.

On the other hand, for example, a staff sergeant wishing to move into, or currently in, a tier 10 MOS,

and extends service by at least five years may become eligible for the maximum payout.

The Army will match increased commitment with increased bonus amounts.

The intent of the SRB tier changes is to appropriately incentivize long-term reenlistments, Thompson said. For example, a cavalry scout sergeant on the old SRB message would get \$7,800 for a six-year reenlistment; the new SRB Message will give the same Soldier \$9,900; this is an increase of \$2,100.

Bonus amounts depend upon a Soldier's primary MOS, rank, time in service with skill identifiers, or reclassification into high-demand careers. However, individuals reclassifying will receive payment upon completion of training.

Another example of bonuses includes location stabilization. Soldiers who reenlist for a location-specific bonus will be stabilized for a minimum of 24 months (12 months if reenlisting for a short tour area) unless otherwise

directed.

Investing in Soldiers is nothing new for the Army, Thompson said, adding, "The chief of staff's No. 1 priority is people, and we are investing in that priority."

This is the sixth bonus message this fiscal year, with rates in 85 skills increasing, 88 decreasing, and 671 not changing.

Another example is infantrymen, who have six different SRB variations across four different skill levels, and five different reenlistment terms, creating hundreds of possible bonus variations across multiple MOSs. In addition, roughly 45% of the Army is eligible for a potential payday for many reenlisting Soldiers.

"The Army consistently reviews structure and projected strength requirements, and releases bonus messages as necessary," Thompson said.

Soldiers with questions pertaining to bonuses and eligibility requirements should contact their servicing career counselors.

Air Force mandates dedicated space for nursing mothers

From Secretary of the Air Force
Public Affairs

A new lactation policy, released in an Air Force Guidance Memorandum dated Aug. 15, requires units to provide nursing mothers access to a lactation room.

The policy enables commanders to support nursing mothers by outlining procedures and requirements for establishing a private, secure (lockable from the inside) and sanitary location for the purpose of breastfeeding and/or expressing breast milk.

"This policy gap came to our attention from the grass-roots level. Our job here is to do what we can to make it easier for Airmen to serve," said Christy Nolta, deputy assistant secretary of the Air Force for reserve affairs and Airman readiness. "Women shouldn't feel like

they must choose between serving and being a mother. A small policy tweak can actually make a difference to our Airmen. It adds up, improves quality of life and supports retention efforts across the service. We remain really focused on breaking more barriers to make continuing to serve an easy choice."

A lactation room, comparable to a break room, should be a comfortable and welcoming place for nursing mothers. According to the policy, lactation rooms will be located in the immediate vicinity of the workplace and will include a table, a place to sit, electrical outlets and have comfortable temperatures and adequate lighting. The rooms are also required to be near a source of hot and cold water for handwashing and sanitizing breast pumps and parts.

"We received a lot of feedback from

"This policy gap came to our attention from the grassroots level. Our job here is to do what we can to make it easier for Airmen to serve."

Christy Nolta, deputy assistant secretary of the Air Force for reserve affairs and Airman readiness

nursing mothers about having to pump or nurse in less than ideal facilities," said Maj. Alea Nadeem, Air Force Women's Initiative Team chief. "They were having to pump in bathrooms, locker rooms and borrowed offices, and this sometimes discourages new

mothers from continuing to express milk."

The policy also provides guidance for lactation breaks. Supervisors will provide nursing mothers, both military and civilian, with reasonable lactation breaks for at least one year postpartum. According to AFI 44-102, Medical Care Management, supervisors should allow 15-30 minutes every 3-4 hours to pump breast milk.

"The Air Force Women's Initiative Team works to remove barriers through policy for Airmen so they can continue to serve successfully and use common sense approaches to outdated policies," Nadeem said.

For more information, visit <https://static.e-publishing.af.mil/production/1/afm/1/publication/afgm2019-36-02/afgm2019-36-02.pdf>.

FORT SAM HOUSTON

Army names top drill sergeant at competition

By Tish Williamson

HEALTH READINESS CENTER OF
EXCELLENCE PUBLIC AFFAIRS

After five days, more than 70 tested events and hundreds of evaluated standards, the U.S. Army named its top drill sergeant in an Aug. 23 ceremony hosted at Joint Base San Antonio-Fort Sam Houston by the Center for Initial Military Training, or CIMT, the lead in the U.S. Army Training and Doctrine Command, or TRADOC, for all initial entry training.

Staff Sgt. Earnest J. Knight II, representing Fort Jackson, South Carolina, and the U.S. Army Drill Sergeant Academy, is the 2019 U.S. Army Drill Sergeant of the Year.

Staff Sgt. Benhur Rodriguez, representing Fort Sill, Oklahoma, and the Fires Center of Excellence, was named runner up to the 2019 Drill Sergeant of the Year and also received an award for the highest physical fitness score during the competition. In the event the primary selectee is unable to perform his duties, Rodriguez will assume the role.

By design, the competition is one of the most physically demanding and mentally tough challenges any soldier may face in a competition. The Army level event tests and highlights the professionalism and readiness of the U.S. Army by testing the drill sergeants that are responsible for training the total force.

The annual event was conducted at JBSA-Fort Sam Houston and JBSA-Camp Bullis for the first time since the Drill Sergeant of the Year was established 50 years ago.

Not only did the Health Readiness Center of Excellence,



JOSE E. RODRIGUEZ

Twelve Soldiers from around the United States compete in the U.S. Army Drill Sergeant of the Year competition at Joint Base San Antonio-Camp Bullis.

based at JBSA-Fort Sam Houston, have a candidate in the competition, but the support of their staff and soldiers, along with CIMT planners, were crucial to the success of the event. Staff Sgt. Jeffrey C. Lullen was the representative from the Health Readiness Center of Excellence at JBSA-Fort Sam Houston.

Sgt. 1st Class Kyle Specht, HRCoE's senior drill sergeant and Sgt. 1st Class Gabriel Hulse were the HRCoE's lead planners for the event. They were both honored with an Army Commendation Medal presentation during the ceremony. Six other HRCoE soldiers were also recognized for their significant contributions to the planning and execution of the competition.

Specht, who was recently selected for promotion to master sergeant and was himself a Drill Sergeant of the Year competitor in 2018,

discussed how HRCoE was honored to conduct the 50th anniversary of the Drill Sergeant of the Year Competition on behalf of CIMT and TRADOC as the newest CoE within the Combined Arms Center and TRADOC.

"Every drill sergeant competitor gave 100 percent and it was inspiring to see their individual resolve and how each rose to the challenge and represented their respective CoEs and the noncommissioned officer corps as a whole," Specht said. "Command Sgt. Maj. Edward Mitchell and his staff outlined the expected standards of excellence and vision and allowed us, the mission command, to take ownership and host this historic event."

The 2017 Drill Sergeant of the Year, Sgt. 1st Class Chad Hickey and the 2017 Platoon Sergeant of the Year, Staff Sgt. Bryan Ivery, as CIMT representatives, conducted two site visits, multiple initial planning

reviews, and were on site over a week prior to the event validating test components. Specht continued, "The success of the event is really a demonstration of what cohesive teams can accomplish with 61 dedicated support noncommissioned officers, CIMT and our staff."

The 2019 Drill Sergeant of the Year competition was rigorous, highly structured and covered a broad base of subject areas at a relentless pace.

The noncommissioned officers were evaluated in marksmanship, unknown distance road marches, individual warrior tasks, collective battle drill tasks, modern Army combatives, written exams, drill and ceremony, leadership, oral boards, and much more for the honor of being recognized as the top drill sergeant in the Army.

The competitors, who truly had to be prepared for anything

also took the Army Physical Fitness Test that is the current test of record and the new Army Combat Fitness Test that becomes the Army's physical test of record in October 2020.

Command Sgt. Maj. Edward Mitchell, CIMT Command Sergeant Major, said each event is designed to stress the candidates and push their limits physically and mentally to determine if the drill sergeant's performance, abilities or professionalism become degraded.

Mitchell believes the competition is an extreme example of what all drill sergeants face in their daily tasks of training the Army's newest recruits. He said that though many things in the Army have changed since he was a Drill sergeant from 1995 to 1998, "the Soldierization process has not changed in the last 50 years. Drill sergeants are still tasked with turning ordinary citizens into soldiers."

AMEDD Center & School getting a new name

By Tish Williamson

HEALTH READINESS CENTER OF EXCELLENCE
PUBLIC AFFAIRS

The premier Army medicine training and education institution widely known as the "Army Medical Department Center & School" will officially change its name to "U.S. Army Medical Center of Excellence," or MEDCoE, effective Sunday, Sept. 15, 2019.

MEDCoE will replace the longer designation of U.S. Army Medical Department Center and School, Health Readiness Center of Excellence, or AMEDDC&S HRCoE, which has been in effect since 2015. The command has called Joint Base San Antonio-Fort Sam Houston home since 1946.

The organization traces its lineage to the Medical Field Service School, established nearly 100 years ago in 1920 at Carlisle Barracks, Pennsylvania. There have been numerous name changes over the years, but the mission of training medical professionals to support the Army remains constant.

The new designation recognizes the divestment of the former AMEDDC&S HRCoE from the U.S. Army Medical Command and further solidifies the center's alignment to the U.S. Army

Training and Doctrine Command, or TRADOC. The CoE's transition to TRADOC began Oct. 19, 2018 and will be complete as of Oct. 2, 2019.

"This has been a long time coming," said Maj. Gen. Patrick D. Sargent, commander of the forthcoming U.S. Army Medical Center of Excellence. "This name change allows a unity of message with an unambiguous line drawn directly to Army medicine, with whom we are inextricably linked, while helping us continue to streamline our organization with TRADOC's other centers of excellence."

With the addition of the U.S. Army Medical Center of Excellence, TRADOC oversees 32 Army schools organized under 10 centers of excellence that provide specialized training to more than 500,000 soldiers and service members annually. Other specialized centers of excellence within TRADOC include aviation, intelligence, cyber, maneuver, and fires.

The medical CoE's mission remains to envision, design, train, educate and inspire the world's premier military medical force to enable readiness and strengthen America's Army.

The redesignation ceremony will be conducted at JBSA-Fort Sam Houston Sept. 16.

Unit Designation History

Eighteen months after the close of World War I, the Medical Field Service School, or MFSS, was established at Carlisle Barracks, Pennsylvania, on May 15, 1920. In 1946, the school at Carlisle closed, reopening at Fort Sam Houston with Brooke Army Medical Center as its higher headquarters.

The MFSS continued to operate as an independent school at Fort Sam Houston until the Army reorganization of 1972, when it was combined with other schools to form the Academy of Health Sciences. Prior to the current realignment to U.S. Army Training and Doctrine Command, the unit has been aligned under a fully operational U.S. Army Medical Command since 1994.

The chronological history of official unit designations since the MFSS was established is listed below:

- 1920-1946: Medical Field Service School, or MFSS, at Carlisle Barracks
- 1946-1947: Army Medical Service School, or AMSS, aligned under Brooke Army Medical Center at Fort Sam Houston
- 1947-1955: Medical Field Service School, or MFSS
- 1955-1961: Army Medical Service School, or AMSS
- 1961-1973: Medical Field Service



COURTESY GRAPHIC

School, or MFSS

- 1973-1991: Academy of Health Sciences, or AHS, aligned under the Health Services Command, or HSC
- 1991: Army Medical Department Center and School, or AMEDDC&S, with AHS serving as the "school"
- 1993: AMEDDC&S, aligned under the U.S. Army Medical Command (Provisional)
- 1994: AMEDDC&S, aligned under the fully operational U.S. Army Medical Command, or MEDCOM
- 2015: Health Readiness Center of Excellence, or HRCoE, added to AMEDDC&S designation, Aligned under MEDCOM

5th Medical Recruiting Battalion hosts PTSD lecture

By Leanne Thomas

5TH MEDICAL RECRUITING BATTALION
PUBLIC AFFAIRS

The 5th Medical Recruiting Battalion partnered with residency programs throughout the New Orleans and Baton Rouge areas to conduct didactic lectures on post-traumatic stress disorder Aug. 9.

Approximately 100 family medicine and psychiatry residents, along with faculty members affiliated with Louisiana State University Health Science Center School of Medicine, the Ochsner Clinic Foundation, and Tulane University School of Medicine attended the training.

The academic and military partnership supports graduate medical education program requirements to supplement clinical experiences during residency.

Dr. (Lt. Col.) Christian Schrader, an Army psychiatrist and program director of Carl R. Darnell Army

Medical Center's Psychiatry Residency at Fort Hood, Texas, served as the guest speaker and provided an in-depth overview of the disorder and the updated clinical practice guidelines for treatments.

"I spoke with the residents, and they said they really enjoyed the presentation," said Dr. Tracy Carlson, assistant professor, Department of Family Medicine, LSUHSC School of Medicine. "The lecture gave us a great review of how PTSD has been classified and conceptualized throughout history. In addition to knowing the Diagnostic Statistical Manual criteria, the presentation gave residents another way of viewing PTSD through the 'elements of horror.'"

The military-civilian collaboration also allows the residents to gain a better insight into Army Medicine.

"We, as physicians, are on the cutting edge of research in behavioral health and a lot of other areas in general surgery and orthopedics,"

Schrader said. "We're heavily invested in learning about and treating PTSD."

According to the U.S. Army Medical Research and Materiel Command, from 2007 to 2017 the Army, in collaboration with other government and external agencies, and the Department of Defense, invested more than \$212 million and had 302 projects in PTSD

research and the psychosocial effect of combat.

In addition, the Army has made advances in transforming its behavioral health system of care to prevent and treat PTSD, reduce the impact of mental disorders and build psychological resilience among service members and families.

Husband and wife, both three-star generals, share secrets to dual family success

By Joe Lacdan
ARMY NEWS SERVICE

During the onset of Operation Iraqi Freedom, the Richardson family faced a difficult dilemma. James and Laura Richardson, Army officers with promising careers, both received orders to deploy to Iraq.

They needed to find care for their daughter, Lauren, who had just entered her teenage years. The Richardsons had prepared a family care plan in case that happened. They made arrangements for their daughter to live with Laura's grandparents in Colorado and go to the same high school her mother had attended.

Now the first female general to ever command U.S. Army North (Fifth Army) at Joint Base San Antonio-Fort Sam Houston, Laura and her husband have spent more than three decades adapting to frequent moves and changing assignments, like the deployments to Iraq. Through the changes, the Richardsons both reached the rank of lieutenant general.

The Richardsons told the story of their 33-year marriage during a panel discussion at the Joint Women's Leadership Symposium in Washington, D.C., Aug. 22.

"I think it's important to share the challenges that you have and also the rewarding things that come out of it as well," Laura said. "And share your experiences. We didn't have necessarily anybody to share dual military experiences or tell my husband and I, 'hey, try this.'"

Lt. Gen. Laura Riachardson is responsible for all the Title 10 troops stationed along the Southwest border. The command's responsibilities include homeland defense and Defense Support of Civil



Lt. Gen. Laura Richardson and Lt. Gen. James Richardson discuss their dual military family life, which has spanned more than three decades.

JOE LACDAN

Authorities for national emergencies, including hurricanes. Lt. Gen. James Richardson serves as the deputy commanding general of Army Futures Command, a new four-star command responsible for modernizing the force in the backdrop of a growing technology community.

Army North's headquarters at JBSA-Fort Sam Houston is an 80-mile drive along Interstate 35 to James' office in downtown Austin. Admittedly, some assignments forced the Richardsons to take long commutes or live separately on occasion when time and distance became too great.

As a dual-military family, they have overcome more hurdles than a typical military family.

"The compromises that we made — both of us did that — really made us more marketable as officers in the Army," Lt. Gen. Laura Richardson said. "Because we didn't have the

typical assignments that just a straight helicopter pilot would have. I think as we got higher in the rank that really paid off."

Her resume includes a wide range of assignments from serving as military advisor to former vice president Al Gore to deputy commanding general of the 1st Cavalry Division at Fort Hood, Texas, and as deputy commanding general of Forces Command at Fort Bragg, North Carolina.

Reaching the rank of three-star general didn't come without its hardships. The couple said military families can help weather momentous life changes like they did through careful preparation and reaching out to the Army's vast resources.

The Army currently is in the midst of revamping its Soldier and Family Readiness Groups to be more inclusive to different types of families as well as single Soldiers. The groups help connect Soldiers and families to

available services, including child care, as well as providing command news and information to families.

At times, duty has forced them apart. But they tried to make the transitions as smooth as possible by carefully selecting assignments that didn't distance themselves too far from each other. And they said the Army attempted to accommodate the couple by assigning them to installations in close proximity when possible. Sometimes they had long commutes, though.

"You want to stay together as much as you can," James said. "When you get up to our ranks, it's hard to stay together. The higher you go in the service, the harder it is to be together."

The Richardsons also researched their new installations and duty stations ahead of time. First, they would interview possible childcare candidates, and then they started house hunting close to

their childcare provider. After moving, they tried to assimilate themselves into the local community and enrolled their daughter in social activities like sports.

Both aviators by trade, the Richardsons met in the mid 1980s in Korea shortly after Laura earned her commission as a helicopter pilot. She had been working as a platoon leader and company commander when she met James, a fellow aviator.

James said he would share his career challenges and triumphs during night-time discussions with Laura. Before moving to Austin, Richardson served as a special advisor to Gen. James McConville, now the chief of staff of the Army, during McConville's stint as vice chief of staff.

James has also served as deputy commanding general of III Corps, and as the commander of Army Aviation and Missile Command at Redstone Arsenal, Alabama. The Richardsons said supporting each other throughout their careers proved advantageous for them as a couple.

"I would not be where I am today without being married to her," James said, now a master Army aviator who has commanded Soldiers in combat six times. "It's Team Richardson, it really is. And that's how you have to operate. She knows what I'm going through. I know what she's going through every day. So if you have to come home at 9 or 10 o'clock at night, she understands."

"It's not about me. It's not about her. It's about the team. And that's how we got through. We've communicated. We've helped each other in our careers as we've moved up."

Their daughter, now 30 years old, has a child of her own.



Staff members from Brooke Army Medical Center's Trauma Clinic provide Stop the Bleed training to San Antonio Police Department members at the SAPD headquarters in San Antonio Aug. 29.

JASON W. EDWARDS

BAMC staff trains city personnel in 'Stop The Bleed'

By Daniel J. Calderón

BROOKE ARMY MEDICAL CENTER
PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Staff from the Brooke Army Medical Center's Trauma Clinic held "Stop the Bleed" training for a City of San Antonio councilmember and more than two dozen council staff members, along with San Antonio Police Department officers and personnel, during two sessions held at city facilities the last week of August.

"The number one cause of preventable death after an injury is bleeding," said Army Lt. Col. Luke Hofmann, a BAMC trauma surgeon. "This training can be used anywhere."

The training consisted of a presentation where attendees learned about the "ABCs of bleeding control" along with some hands-on practice in applying tourniquets, packing wounds and in applying pressure to stop bleeding at the site of an injury.

Councilwoman Dr. Adriana Rocha Garcia, who represents District Four,

said she appreciates BAMC for encouraging staff members to share the training with members of the community.

"This training is one more step we can take to give our staff the opportunity to respond in the case of an emergency," she said. "It's an outstanding opportunity for us to learn from BAMC."

BAMC is one of two Level One trauma centers in San Antonio and the only Level One trauma center in the Department of Defense. The staff provides trauma care to tens of thousands of military and civilian trauma patients each year.

Since 2017, the training team has provided more than 100 sessions of the Stop the Bleed training. Garcia said the training from the BAMC staff provided her and the other attendees with information and skills that could help them save lives. She will encourage other council members and community leaders to request this training.



DANIEL J. CALDERÓN

Gina Pickard, Trauma Division manager at Brooke Army Medical Center's Trauma Clinic, shows City of San Antonio council staff members how to pack a wound during Stop the Bleed held at the Plaza de Armas building in downtown San Antonio Aug. 29.

"The goal is to train people to recognize when someone has life-threatening bleeding," Hofmann explained. "Then, we want to make sure they know the steps to take to stop that bleeding."

Hofmann said the training is available to members of the community. He said anyone with medical training, and base access, can call the Trauma Education and Prevention office at 210-916-1677 to apply to be an instructor.

Career Skills Program helps Soldiers transition

From U.S. Army Installation Management Command Public Affairs

The Army Career Skills Program provides Soldiers transitioning out of the Army with an opportunity to participate in free or minimal-cost apprenticeships, on-the-job training, employment-skills training and internships.

The U.S. Army Installation Management Command, or IMCOM, has 200 career skills programs hosted at 32 garrisons, with more than 4,000 employers that return an impressive 93 percent career placement rate for Soldiers. Managed by IMCOM, the program is open to Soldiers 180 days prior to transitioning out of the military.

"Since the program's inception in 2013, more than 17,500 Soldiers have been placed directly into high-wage careers post military service, contributing to a steep decline in unemployment compensation payments for the Army," said Christine Krieger, Indtai Inc. contractor, Army Continuing Education System assistant program manager, IMCOM.

"The Career Skills Program helps Soldiers turn their military skills into post-service careers," Krieger said.

Partner employers recognize the importance Army values and ethos bring to their companies in direct support of Soldier for Life.

The program has won several prestigious awards, including the American Business Awards Gold Stevies for Best Overall Organization of the Year (governmental) and Best Overall

Customer Service Team of the Year (small, nonprofit); the Council of College and Military Educators Barry Cobb Government Organization Award; and the Federal Recognition Awards for Large Teams (second place). The program also was a finalist for the Harvard University Innovation in American Government Award in 2018.

IMCOM's latest federal career skills program is a collaboration with the Army Civilian Human Resources Agency providing internship at Soldiers' garrisons with direct appointments to federal careers as HR classifiers and specialists.

Programs vary by Army garrison. Some of the areas covered are heating, ventilation, air conditioning and refrigeration; sprinkler fitting; forestry land management; diesel technician; welding; software and computer systems; telecommunications; air frame and power plant; and painting, drywall and glazing.

Efforts are ongoing to increase federal agency participation, expand successful programs, and serve transitioning populations in nontraditional garrison locations.

Soldiers interested in the program should visit the local installation administrator at their Education Center or Transition Office, or visit <https://home.army.mil/imcom/index.php/customers/career-skills-program>. Career Skills Program helps Soldiers



COURTESY PHOTO

The Army Career Skills Program provides Soldiers transitioning out of the Army with an opportunity to participate in free or minimal-cost apprenticeships, on-the-job training, employment-skills training and internships.

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Soldiers interested in the program should visit <https://home.army.mil/imcom/index.php/customers/career-skills-program>.

IMCOM leaders host housing manager symposium

From U.S. Army Installation Management Command Public Affairs

More than 60 Army housing managers from installations around the world traveled to San Antonio Aug. 19-23 for the inaugural housing executive course hosted by U.S. Army Installation Management Command.

The week-long symposium offered more than 36 different classes focusing on traditional housing, privatized housing, unaccompanied housing and program management, with an

emphasis on group discussions, demonstrations and hands-on learning opportunities.

"This has been a great training environment for everyone to do hands-on exercises and take back this knowledge to their installations," said Connie Glenn, chief, Housing Division, IMCOM G-4. "As the senior housing careerist on the installation, this training gives them the ability to speak from a position of authority on all things housing."

This housing manager training has been a year in the

making. One area of focus was in resource management, specifically budgeting.

"For me, I've been doing this for a very long time," said Mary Scott, housing manager, Fort Gordon. "The housing budget we've been working on now gets into the depth and knowledge that we need to manage our budget."

"The spreadsheet we're working on now gives us a hands-on experience and makes it comfortable to make mistakes," said Scott. "It's a safe environment to test our knowledge and test our

understanding on what we need to know about our budget."

"This training is wonderful, absolutely wonderful," said Ingrid Misch, housing manager, U.S. Army Garrison Ansbach. "I've been challenged and have learned a lot. The budget process has been eye-opening to me."

Misch said the networking has been a great help to her as well as hearing from IMCOM senior leaders. "I can get the help I need when I have a challenging case," she added. "Every course has been great," Misch said. "I draw it up

like a sponge and am exhausted at the end of the day. I'm proud to be a part of this team."

Glenn added this type of training and networking provides valuable opportunities for housing managers to share best-practices that will improve service at every Army garrison.

"At the end of the day, what everyone is able to learn and take away from this training will directly support Soldiers and their families," Glenn said. "Our enduring effort is to ensure we remain focused on providing quality housing and services for our Army."

LACKLAND

25th Air Force welcomes new commander

By Alexx Pons

TWENTY-FIFTH AIR FORCE
PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Maj. Gen. Timothy D. Haugh assumed command of Twenty-Fifth Air Force from Maj. Gen. Mary F. O'Brien during a change of command ceremony presided over by Gen. Mike Holmes, Air Combat Command commander, at Joint Base San Antonio-Lackland Aug. 29.

"As we conduct this change of command to honor these two leaders, let's not forget that we are also honoring the performance of the 29,000 Airmen from around Twenty-Fifth Air Force," Holmes said. "Today, I recognize the accomplishments of two great leaders who have built careers within the intelligence, surveillance, and reconnaissance community; both really helped design and build this command, and we are grateful for and look forward to your continued teamwork and partnership. There is an exciting future for the Airmen of Twenty-Fifth Air Force."

The Twenty-Fifth Air Force provides multisource intelligence, surveillance, and reconnaissance products, applications and resources, to include cyber and geospatial forces and expertise. Additionally, it is the Service Cryptologic Component responsible to the National Security Agency/Central Security Service for Air Force matters involving the conduct of cryptologic activities, including the full spectrum of missions directly related to both tactical warfighting and national-level operations.



SHARON SINGLETON

U.S. Air Force Maj. Gen. Timothy D. Haugh (right) takes command of Twenty-Fifth Air Force from Gen. Mike Holmes, Air Combat Command commander, during a change of command ceremony at Joint Base San Antonio-Lackland Aug. 29. Haugh succeeds Maj. Gen. Mary F. O'Brien, who was recently confirmed as the Air Force's next deputy chief of staff for ISR and cyber effects operations.

O'Brien, who was recently confirmed as the Air Force's next deputy chief of staff for ISR and cyber effects operations, will receive her third star and promotion to the rank of lieutenant general.

"I want all of you to know it has truly been my honor to serve with you these past two years. I am grateful for the opportunity to work with so many outstanding, dedicated professionals who are determined to protect and defend our nation from those who would do us harm," O'Brien said. "I know you will continue to innovate, forge new mission concepts, and create decisive effects for commanders engaged in

competition and conflict with adversaries across the globe. Because of you, we are the greatest air, space and cyberspace power in the world. I will celebrate your future successes and you can count on me to be your strongest advocate."

Haugh takes command of Twenty-Fifth Air Force after having served as the Cyber National Mission Force commander at Fort George G. Meade, Maryland.

"When I graduated from the last SIGNIT (signals intelligence) officer training class at Goodfellow (Air Force Base, Texas) 27 years ago, I never imagined I would be standing here, today. As a

career SIGINT officer, having served in every one of the past three Twenty-Fifth Air Force predecessor organizations (AFISRA, AIA, AFIC), I have witnessed the excellence of this enterprise firsthand. I am proud to be back home, and look forward to continuing our great work together," Haugh said.

"We are engaged in power competition with adversaries in all domains today; intelligence is the fuel that commanders require to maneuver in response. The nation expects our enterprise to be global and agile; integrated into daily combat and reconnaissance operations, and capable of

quickly maneuvering capabilities to focus on emerging threats. We will expect positive, innovative leadership at all levels. We will invest in our people, train them well, allow them to excel. I am inspired by what you have accomplished, I am honored to serve with you, and I look forward to the great things we will achieve together."

Haugh, a distinguished graduate of the ROTC program at Lehigh University, Pennsylvania, is a career intelligence officer; and has served as the U.S. Cyber Command Director of Intelligence among his many successful assignments since his 1991 commissioning.

EUCOM COMMANDER VISITS AFCYBER



TECH. SGT. R.J. BIERMANN

Col. Jeffrey Gomes, 624th Operations Center commander (right), briefs Gen. Tod Wolters, commander of U.S. European Command, at Joint Base San Antonio-Lackland Aug. 28. Wolters visited the 624th Operations Center to learn about the center's command and control mission, and to meet cyber Airmen.

AF VICE CHIEF OF STAFF VISITS AFCYBER



TECH. SGT. R.J. BIERMANN

Gen. Stephen Wilson, Vice Chief of Staff of the Air Force, meets with 690th Network Support Squadron Airmen at Joint Base San Antonio-Lackland Aug. 28. Wilson visited several 24th Air Force units to meet Airmen and hear about their cyber mission capabilities.

JBSA leader honors legacy of President Lyndon B. Johnson

By Steve Elliott

502ND AIR BASE WING
PUBLIC AFFAIRS

"President Johnson was a man whose legacy is as big as the Texas sky," said Col. Philip G. Born, 37th Training Wing vice commander, during a public wreath-laying ceremony Aug. 27 at the Lyndon B. Johnson National Historical Park.

This year marked the 111th anniversary of Johnson's birth in a house on the sprawling ranch in the Texas Hill Country.

"Without the diversity he fostered and fought for, we would not have what is now the world's premier fighting force," Born added. "President Johnson was responsible for helping this diverse country coming together during a time of adversity, crafting a series of legislative acts that became known as the 'Great Society' and the foundation of that was the Civil Rights Act of 1964."

The colonel also noted that Johnson was one of only four people to serve as a U.S. Representative, U.S. Senator, Vice President and President.

The park is located in Johnson City, Texas. The gravesite ceremony for the former president observes his birthday and the contributions he made to the nation. The national park, which sits on more than 600 acres, is also home to Johnson's childhood home, his school house and a graveyard, among other attractions.

The Johnson family graveyard is nestled in the shade of a number of large expansive trees, just a few hundred feet from the Pedernales River.

This year's ceremony is a continuation of the tradition started Aug. 27, 1973, by Johnson's wife, Claudia "Lady

Bird" Johnson just a few months after the former president's passing. The event is now sponsored by the National Park Service.

Located about 50 miles west of Austin in the Texas Hill Country, the park protects the birthplace, home, ranch and final resting place of the 36th President of the United States. During Johnson's administration, the LBJ Ranch was known as the "Texas White House" because the President spent about 25 percent of his time in office there.

While president, Johnson urged the nation "to build a great society, a place where the meaning of man's life matches the marvels of man's labor."

Also speaking at the event was President and Mrs. Johnson's granddaughter, Catherine Robb, who was the keynote speaker.

Catherine Robb, daughter of Lynda Johnson Robb and Charles Robb, is one of President Johnson's seven grandchildren to carry on his legacy. Although Catherine grew up in Virginia, where her father was elected governor and then U.S. Senator, she moved to Austin to study at the University of Texas School of Law, earning her J.D. in 1998, with honors.

"I know my grandfather would have loved to have seen you all here today to celebrate his birthday," Robb said. "This is a place where he got his sustenance, found his moral compass and got a chance to recharge. It meant so much to him to be able to come here for so many years."

"It really was a place to get back to his roots and reflected who he was," Robb added. "He would greatly enjoy bringing foreign visitors here to show that a man could come from anywhere and



SABRINA FINE

A wreath was placed on the grave of President Lyndon B. Johnson Aug. 27 during a ceremony at LBJ National Historical Park.



STEVE ELLIOTT

Luci Baines Johnson (left), Lyndon B. Johnson's daughter, speaks with Col. Phillip G. Born, 37th Training Wing vice commander, after the Lyndon B. Johnson Birthday Observance Wreath-Laying Ceremony Aug. 27 at the LBJ National Historical Park in Johnson City, Texas.



STEVE ELLIOTT

Admirers, family and friends of former President Lyndon B. Johnson gathered for a public wreath-laying ceremony Aug. 27 at the Lyndon B. Johnson National Historical Park. This year marked the 111th anniversary of Johnson's birth in a house on the sprawling ranch in the Texas Hill Country.

achieve great things."

Robb also recalled spending each Tuesday with Mrs. Johnson, cooking, watching PBS, or reading some of Mrs. Johnson's favorite books.

She is also the founder, former chairman, and chair emeritus of the LBJ Library Future Forum. Having learned

the value of philanthropy from her grandmother, Catherine also volunteers for several non-profits in the community, including Reading is Fundamental of Austin, Trinity Center, Back on My Feet, and Volunteer Legal Services.

"We all share in the beauty of this place, where we can

continue to give thanks to President Johnson's many contributions to America," said Susanne McDonald, from the U.S. Parks Service and superintendent of the Lyndon B. Johnson National Historical Park. "It was his home and now it is our national treasure."

RANDOLPH



SEAN M. WORRELL

Pilot Training Next students gather for a group photo after graduation from the learning experiment's second iteration with Brig. Gen. Jeannie Leavitt, Air Force Recruiting Service commander, Aug. 29 at Joint Base San Antonio-Randolph.

Pilot Training Next graduates 14 Airmen

By Dan Hawkins

AIR EDUCATION AND TRAINING
COMMAND PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Air Education and Training Command's Pilot Training Next program graduated 14 U.S. Air Force, U.S. Navy and the Royal Air Force students from the learning experiment's second iteration in a ceremony at Joint Base San Antonio-Randolph Aug. 29.

Guest speaker Brig. Gen. Jeannie Leavitt, commander of Air Force Recruiting Service and a trailblazer in aviation as the Air Force's first female fighter pilot, remarked on how the students represent the future and marveled at the fact the students had the

opportunity to be on the leading edge of a new way to learn.

"The fact is we are looking at a whole new way of learning in a non-standard way from the Air Force perspective," Leavitt said. "Remember ... dream big, be bold and learn to take calculated risk."

PTN is an experimental program under the "Learning Next" umbrella with a focus on understanding how Airmen learn, as well as exploring and potentially prototyping a flying training environment that integrates various technologies to produce pilots in an accelerated- and learning-focused manner.

"You're pioneers ... you've

seen the speed of innovation," said Lt. Col. Ryan Riley, Detachment 24 commander and PTN director, while addressing the graduates. "This program is critical for our Air Force in this era of great power competition."

The graduates, which included two Air National Guard students, were selected to fly airframes including the F-35 Lightning II, F-15E Strike Eagle, F-16 Fighting Falcon, C-17 Globemaster III, C-130 Hercules, EC-130 Compass Call, C-5 Galaxy, B-2 Spirit, C-146A Wolfhound, and the T-6 Texan II (first assignment instructor pilot).

Additionally, one was selected to fly the U-28A, used as part of the Air Force Special

Operations Command manned, airborne intelligence, surveillance, and reconnaissance fleet. One other pilot will fly the C-146A Wolfhound, used to transport small teams in support of U.S. Special Operations Command.

The Navy graduates will fly the T-45A Goshawk, while the RAF graduate will move to the Typhoon.

With their family and friends looking on inside the Fleenor Auditorium, the new aviators reflected on the accomplishment of becoming an pilot.

"Pinning on the silver wings means accomplishing a goal I've had for years and serves as a symbol of all the hard work and

dedication I've put in," said 2nd Lt. Aaron Sless, a distinguished graduate and the Warrior Award winner who is slated to fly the F-35. "It is a physical representation of the responsibility we are being given moving forward, becoming one of the most lethal and ready assets in the world's greatest Air Force."

For the students, learning how to fly in a non-traditional way was both difficult and exciting at the same time.

"It definitely made the process more difficult having to push through burgeoning technology, but I am glad that I could be a part of the

GRADUATES continues on 18

GRADUATES

From page 17

development process towards a more efficient and thorough version of learning for the future,” Sless said. “I am excited to see how PTN progresses technology and learning in the future and how it will be applied to undergraduate pilot training, and the Air Force at large.”

For 2nd Lt. James Brittingham, the experience at PTN and getting the opportunity to help shape the future of pilot training has been everything he had hoped for, including his drop night assignment to fly the F-15E.

“I’m thrilled to fly my dream aircraft as it symbolizes the culmination of a life goal, and the start of a new life journey,” Brittingham said. “It’s also been very exciting to have input into the evolution of pilot training.”

During the second iteration of PTN, which began in January of this year in Austin, Texas, before moving here in May, the

training model was refined to incorporate more immersive and engaging academics, scenario-based training in the immersive training devices (ITD), competency-based learning models for training validation, and artificial intelligence instruction.

“The competency-based learning and immersive scenario-based training increased the value of each of our sorties by ensuring that students were better prepared for each sortie,” Riley said. “Using these tools creates competencies that are important, but likely won’t be reinforced in live aircraft.”

As an example, Riley talked to the use of clock-to-map-to-ground practice in an F-35. He also talked to the value of artificial intelligence in student feedback.

“Continuing to advance the capabilities of AI instruction to assist our students’ practice

further optimizes instructor involvement with the potential for students to gain more experience in primary weapons systems,” Riley said.

Per the PTN cadre, a third iteration of the class is scheduled to begin in January 2020, building on the successes of the first two classes by incorporating new learning theories such as time-spaced-retrieval, deep repetition and adding additional competencies for peer-level conflict and multi-domain thinking and airmanship.

Additionally, the incorporation and use of a T-6B+ variant for the class will test the ability to train Formal Training Unit-ready pilots with Combat and Mobility competencies using moving map display, synthetic radar, air-to-air and air-to-ground symbology, as well as detailed downloadable debrief files.

Air Force EFMP families can attend Virtual Summit 3.0

For the third year, Air Force Services Directorate, or AF/AS, the Air Force's Personnel Center and the Air Force Medical Readiness Agency will jointly host the Exceptional Family Member Program Summit 3.0.

The event will be virtual through the EFMP-Assignments facebook page at <http://www.facebook.com/EFMPAssignments> at 10:30 a.m. Sept. 25. Air Force EFMP families, leaders, mentors and supervisors of airmen enrolled in the program are encouraged to attend.

People can discuss current program initiatives, resources, and there will be a question-and-answer session. Topics covered will include respite care, incapacitated

children and adults, the Defense Health Agency transition, Child and Youth School Liaison, Humana TRICARE, case management benefits, Extended Care Health Options (ECHO), Department of Defense Education Activity, and Education and Developmental Intervention Services.

Patrons may submit questions, ideas for innovation, or process improvements by sending a private message to the EFMP-Assignments facebook page. Questions posed during the broadcast will be answered as time permits. For those unable to tune in to the live event, a recording will be available on the AFPC YouTube channel. See the created playlists and click EFMP Assignments.