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A Space & Missile Defense NewsWire

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New SMDC command sergeant major accepts “sword of responsibility”



Photo by Carrie E. David

Lt. Gen. Richard P. Formica, commanding general, U.S. Army Space and Missile Defense Command/Army Forces Strategic Command, passes the ceremonial sword to incoming USASMDC/ARSTRAT Command Sgt. Maj. James N. Ross. Ross assumes the top-level noncommissioned officer responsibility from Command Sgt. Maj. Larry S. Turner to become the command's 10th command sergeant major in a Change of Responsibility April 26. See article on Page 3.



MAY 2, 2013

U.S. Army Space and Missile Defense Command/Army Forces Strategic Command publishes the Eagle bi-weekly as a digital newswire. The newswire is an authorized publication of the USASMDC/ARSTRAT in accordance with AR 360-1. The SMDC commanding general has directed that the publication of this periodical is necessary in the transaction of the public business as required by law. The views and opinions expressed in the Eagle are not necessarily those of the Department of the Army or SMDC. The Eagle is intended to inform members of the command on happenings within the Army space and missile defense community. Distribution is made to the service members, civilians and contractors, and to the general public.

COMMANDING GENERAL
Lt. Gen. Richard P. Formica

COMMAND SERGEANT MAJOR
Command Sgt. Maj. James N. Ross

DEPUTY TO THE COMMANDER
Ronald E. Chronister

DEPUTY COMMANDER FOR OPERATIONS
Col. James H. Jenkins III

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SMDC History: A new home for JFCC IMD

Sharon Watkins Lang
Command Historian

The Joint Functional Component Command for Integrated Missile Defense was established in February 2005. Three months later, the organization initiated construction on a new 13,500-square-foot facility, at the Joint National Integration Center at Schriever Air Force Base, Colo.

To optimize the effort, a condensed construction project was divided into two 120-day phases. Kirby Brown, director of the U.S. Army Space and Missile Defense Command/Army Forces Strategic Command, Future Warfare Center's Battle Laboratory, initiated phase one – deconstruction – on May 2, 2005. He began the process with the swing of a sledge hammer.

The entire construction was expected to be complete on or about the first of September. Approximately 120 personnel were to be employed at the new JFCC IMD Operations Center and Staff Center.

The JFCC IMD ground breaking is actually the only event for this date on the command chronology at this point. If you have any events that should be included in the command chronology, please forward the information to the Historical Office at Sharon.W.Lang.civ@mail.mil.

Although May 2 has been a quiet day in USASMDC/AR-



File photo

Kirby Brown, former director of the Space and Missile Defense Future Warfare Center's Battle Lab in 2005, marks the beginning of construction of the Joint Functional Component Command for Integrated Missile Defense or rather deconstruction with the swing of the sledge-hammer.

STRAT history, there have been several interesting points in history that can be traced to this date.

1670 – King Charles II granted a permanent charter to the Hudson Bay Company which established fur trade in North America.

1863 – Confederate Lt. Gen. Stonewall Jackson was wounded in the Battle of Chancellorsville in Virginia. He died eight days later of pneumonia.

2011 – Osama bin Laden, the founder of al Qaida and suspected mastermind of the September 11, 2001, attacks was killed by U.S. Navy SEALs.

SMDC marks transition of senior enlisted responsibility

Jason B. Cutshaw
SMDC Public Affairs

REDSTONE ARSENAL, Ala. – Members of the U.S. Army Space and Missile Defense Command/Army Forces Strategic Command witnessed Command Sgt. Maj. James N. Ross assume the top-level noncommissioned officer responsibility from Command Sgt. Maj. Larry S. Turner to become the command's 10th command sergeant major.

During the change of responsibility ceremony April 26, Lt. Gen. Richard P. Formica, USASMDC/ARSTRAT commanding general, passed the ceremonial sword to Ross, entrusting him as the new SMDC senior enlisted advisor.

“Today we mark the transition of responsibility from Command Sgt. Maj. Turner to Command Sgt. Maj. Ross and continue the tradition of the ceremonial exchange of the noncommissioned officer sword. The sword is a symbol of the authority of the NCO; we use it in this ceremony to represent the relinquishing of responsibility and authority from the outgoing to the incoming command sergeant major,” Formica said during the ceremony. “NCOs run our Army. They are the backbone of our force. They are where the rubber meets the road making sure orders are executed promptly and properly. Most Soldiers have a hard time remembering the names of their first commanders, but they never forget the name or face of their drill sergeant or their first platoon sergeant or their first first sergeant.

“At the top of the NCO Corps are the command sergeants major; they are the senior enlisted leaders in our units from battalion and larger; they are responsible to lead, train, discipline, care for, and serve the Soldiers, civilians, and families in our Army,” he added. “They are our standard bearers. And together with their commanders – they form command teams responsible for the readiness of our units to perform their mission.”

Formica thanked Turner for all of his 35 years of service in the Army and for his partnership in the command team for SMDC.

“As you read Command Sgt. Maj. Turner's bio in the program, you will note his impressive credentials of leadership and courage; and a legacy of service – taking care of Soldiers and their families,” Formica said. “He has spent the majority of his career at the tip of the spear



Photo by Carrie E. David

Command Sgt. Maj. James N. Ross, incoming command sergeant major, U.S. Army Space and Missile Defense Command/Army Forces Strategic Command, speaks to the audience at his change of responsibility ceremony April 26.

in light infantry and airborne units, and as a trainer. He has 48 total months of combat experience, which includes three tours in Afghanistan, one in Panama, and one in Saudi Arabia. He is among the most deployed Soldiers in the Army.

“Command Sgt. Maj. Turner often says that when he got here he had no clue about what SMDC/ARSTRAT did. But he learned, and then spent his time making sure the rest of the Army's senior NCOs also found out,” he continued. “He made ‘rocket science’ relevant to the Soldier; he helped translate our space and missile defense tasks into English so they could be better understood by our Army. But, that is just how Command Sgt. Maj. Turner operates – he sees a gap and fills it. Command Sgt. Maj. Turner will leave a legacy at SMDC/ARSTRAT of strength, a passion for Soldiers, a thirst for knowledge, and by his quiet professionalism.

“CSM Turner, you should take great pride in your accomplishments, but, more importantly, in the many people who you have influenced here at SMDC/ARSTRAT and in all the units who now have a better understanding of the capabilities available to them

See CSM on Page 13

Budget analyst deploys to support troops

Carrie E. David
SMDC Public Affairs

REDSTONE ARSENAL, Ala. – One of the U.S. Army Space and Missile Defense Command/Army Forces Strategic Command's Department of the Army civilians decided to apply, and was selected, to take supporting the Warfighter to the next level.

Jimmie Sherode, budget analyst in SMDC's G-8 office, began a six-month deployment to Kuwait in February serving as a budget analyst for the 402nd Army Field Support Brigade at Camp Arifjan.

"I knew about Department of the Army civilians volunteering to support the Warfighter in theater, and that interested me, so I went for it," Sherode said. "I submitted my resume, and a week later, I was accepted for the position."

Sherode is in an Army Materiel Command position that was opened up to him through the Army Sustainment Command. He works six days a week, with five of those as 12-hour days.

"As a budget analyst, I assist financially to ensure the brigade and all battalions under it are able to continue their critical missions of ensuring the Warfighters in theater have the necessary resources to achieve their goals," Sherode said.

Sherode said his only off day is Sunday, and he normally spends



Photo by Johnnie Frazier

Jimmie Sherode, budget analyst in SMDC's G-8 office, pauses as he reviews budget documents in Kuwait at the beginning of his six-month deployment in February serving as a budget analyst for the 402nd Army Field Support Brigade at Camp Arifjan.

that with other civilians, Soldiers and contractors.

"I don't get a lot of spare time, and most Sundays on the camp, I do a little spoken word (poetry) and singing at 'open mic' at Starbucks," said Sherode, who is considered a creative type around SMDC. "That's my only creative outlet for now. I wasn't able to ship my conga drums, and I miss playing them in my Reggae band Kush very much."

Sherode, while currently a Department of the Army civilian, is also

a veteran. He said he thought this experience would be personally fulfilling.

"I wanted to experience some of the things they endure while being deployed," Sherode said. "It will also benefit my career as a budget analyst. I get to see with my own eyes the impact and importance of understanding and acting on the details in the budget world."

Col. Lester J. Campbell, SMDC

See DEPLOYMENT on Page 10

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Future leaders discuss future technologies

Jason B. Cutshaw
SMDC Public Affairs

REDSTONE ARSENAL, Ala. – The Army’s future leaders visited members of the U.S. Army Space and Missile Defense Command/Army Forces Strategic Command recently to discuss tomorrow’s technology with today’s experts.

Eight U.S. Military Academy at West Point, N.Y., cadets and four faculty members spent April 25 interacting with members of USASMD/ARSTRAT’s Technical Center to discuss laser projects the cadets have been working on.

“We have a cadet team here today that has been working on some high-energy laser weapon research, and they are going to brief their work to the experts here at SMDC, get some feedback from them, and hope some of the work they have produced can be of value to the command,” said Lt. Col. John Hartke, professor of photonics at West Point. “The command has always treated us very well. It is always great working with SMDC and one of the great things is that SMDC actually has an office at West Point. The office there always helps us with the synergy between the work we are doing at the academy and the work that SMDC is doing.”

“We are looking forward to a great interaction, and it is going to be good to work with the experts who are here – the people who are doing this every day,” he added. “I have five young men who are about to graduate in 30 days and go out to be lieutenants in the Army. Their exposure to SMDC, its mission, and the development of high-



Photo by Jason B. Cutshaw

Kip R. Kendrick (center), chief of the Directed Energy Division, U.S. Army Space and Missile Defense Command/Army Forces Strategic Command Technical Center, meets with cadets from the U.S. Military Academy at West Point, N.Y., April 25 to discuss projects the students have been working on.

energy laser weapons is of great value because when they go out into the Army and they start seeing SMDC people around, they have an understanding of what the people here are doing to help them in the field.”

Five seniors, two juniors and a sophomore at “The Point” have been working on a high-energy laser and its possible capabilities against mortar rounds on the battlefield.

“Our group of cadets has been working on our project for about a year, and we are here to present what we have been finding and be able to talk to the professionals who have been doing this kind of research for a long time and get their feedback,” said Cadet Tyler Federwisch, a West Point senior. “We have been working on laser reaction with mortars and how to defend a forward operational base with lasers. It will be great to get some feedback and learn how we can improve on what we have done so far.

“I am extremely excited to be here,” he added. “We are going to learn a lot in one day and get exposed to a lot of knowledge. I am looking forward to it.”

During the visit, the cadets learned the command is leading the Army in current Army counter-rockets artillery and mortar technology.

“This is a great opportunity for us to present some of our work that we have spent a lot of time on,” said Cadet Clifford Crofford, a West Point senior. “Having the chance to visit before we graduate is great. We have spent a lot of time with this project and it can be frustrating, but it has definitely been worth it.

After the visitors from West Point left, one of SMDC’s engineering leaders talked about how both parties came together and learned from each other.

“The cadets were here to present research they have worked on in the

See CADETS on Page 11

Simulation Center helps build future defenses

Jason B. Cutshaw
SMDC Public Affairs

REDSTONE ARSENAL, Ala. – The U.S. Army Space and Missile Defense Command/Army Forces Strategic Command's Simulation Center helps build strong relationships between the Department of Defense's leading missile defense agencies.

As the Missile Defense Agency and USASMDC/AR-STRAT, among others, work together to defend the high ground, the Simulation Center's role is to help engineer, acquire, integrate, test and provide sustained support as requested by its customers.

The Simulation Center is executed by the SMDC's Future Warfare Center in support to the Missile Defense Agency Test Resources Directorate. The FWC is responsible for building future space and missile defense forces. It develops the Army's space and missile defense doctrine and concepts, validates requirements, and ensures Army-wide solution integration. The FWC advances innovations for space, missile defense, high altitude and cyber to the Warfighter through prototype development, experimentation and wargames, analytical assessments, and modeling and simulation development.

The Simulation Center provides supercomputing resources, experimentation, and exercise and network support for the SMDC mission of research and development of future space and missile defense applications and related technologies.

"The Simulation Center is one of the core ground test assets in support of our Warfighter exercises. We have brought the THAAD Extended Air Defense Simulation suites over to the Simulation Center and are in the process of working with the Aegis BMD Program Office to bring their EADSIM suite into the Simulation Center as well," said James McComb, chief, MDA/DTRG.

The Simulation Center is operated by the Decision Support Directorate of the Space and Missile Defense FWC as an SMDC command core competency in support of the MDA programs with U.S. Strategic Command and the Army.

"The Simulation Center can be characterized as a laboratory of laboratories with leading-edge, high-performance computing assets supporting large-scale processing requirements for space, high altitude and missile defense research and development communities and



Photo by Carrie E. David

Roshann Brown, general engineer, Missile Defense Agency, receives a tour of the U.S. Army Space and Missile Defense Command/Army Forces Strategic Command's Simulation Center data storage capabilities from Lisa Vann, Simulation Center alternate contracting officer's representative, and Charlie Wilcox, Simulation Center contractor program manager, GaN Corporation.

other joint projects," said Dr. Claudette C. Owens, chief, Information and Computational Engineering Division, SMDC Future Warfare Center Decision Support Directorate.

The Simulation Center is a center providing facilities, high-performance computers and resources to support systems that simulate the behavior or characteristics of Warfighter tools, capabilities and systems.

Simulation Center execution is strategically located in the Information and Computational Engineering Division, SMDC DSD, with management and oversight by the MDA test organization. The Simulation Center also supports the development of mobile modeling and simulation suites for Warfighter onsite and network-based training.

"One of the desired outcomes of the mobile suite configurations is to capture the Warfighters' and their trainers' feedback and understanding into the improvement of current and development of future tactics, techniques and procedures," Owens said. "The mobile modeling and simulation suites help to ensure we have trained and

See CENTER on Page 12

SMDC remembers children of the Holocaust

DJ Montoya
SMDC Public Affairs

COLORADO SPRINGS, Colo. – Army Space Soldiers from the 1st Space Brigade, along with other personnel from U.S. Army Space and Missile Defense Command/Army Forces Strategic Command, attended a program, ‘Remembering the Holocaust,’ hosted by the brigade April 18.

Lt. Col. Karen Roe, commander of the 53rd Signal Battalion (Satellite Control), served as host providing opening and closing remarks. Holocaust educator/presenter Rosalyn Kinkel, Colorado Jewish Holocaust child survivor and descendant, was the guest speaker.

Kinkel was the youngest of three children. By the time the Holocaust ended, she was the only child left – a Jewish child survivor. As a storyteller and speaker she dramatizes true recollections to help people understand and remember the Holocaust.

She has been featured in *The Denver Post*, *Intermountain Jewish News*, and on National Public Radio. Kinkel’s stories are based on her early memories and what her father and aunt told her, along with her own research. She has permission to tell the stories of the other children who lived and died during the Holocaust.

Her presentation was titled “Children of the Holocaust.” Kinkel recounted the experiences of those who lived and perished through poignant vignettes of the Jewish children of Europe during those darkest of days to include the infamous “kinderaktia” (children’s action) on Nov. 5, 1943, in Lithuania.

“So you wonder how I survived?” asked Kinkel while pointing to the fact that the Nazis murdered 1.5 million Jewish children in Europe. “I was among the estimated one percent who survived. How? By hiding my Jewish identity.”

She said only so many children found themselves fortunate enough to be adopted into a Christian home to be hidden. Some children also ended up in an orphanage, in a monastery, in a barn, on the run, and some even hid in the forest.

Through a series of poignant and heartbreaking stories, Kinkel held the audience captive describing what children and their families had to endure in the Jewish ghettos, concentration camps, and even in underground sewers during the Holocaust.



Photo by DJ Montoya

Holocaust educator/presenter Rosalyn Kinkel, Colorado Jewish Holocaust child survivor and descendant, recounts the experiences of those who lived and perished through poignant vignettes of the Jewish children of Europe, to include the infamous “kinderaktia” (children’s action) on Nov. 5, 1943, in Lithuania. The 1st Space Brigade’s ‘Remembering the Holocaust’ program took place April 18 in Colorado Springs, Colo.

“These are Jewish children. Some lived, and some didn’t,” Kinkel said while showing photographs of the children she talked about, including her family. “When I see my granddaughters, I am so thrilled that I lived. I lived so that they could be born – my daughter, my son. And I feel very sad that my sister, brother and mother did not. I feel I am a voice for children – the Jewish children who have no voice – and that is why I’m here today to share a small piece of what happened to children.”

Before presenting Kinkel with a brigade letter and coin of thanks, Roe said, “Let us reflect on all the good things people did, all the ways of hope and help. What a powerful impact you have had being here today.”

Kinkel said she was grateful for the opportunity to share her story.

“Let this never happen again – anywhere,” she said.

Brigade personnel also had an opportunity to meet Kinkel and learn more of the Holocaust through displays set up in the lobby of the brigade headquarters.

Army synchronizes to strengthen readiness, resilience

Lisa Ferdinando
ARNEWS

WASHINGTON – The Army has aligned and synchronized services to give Soldiers access to the resources they need to strengthen readiness and resilience, said the sergeant major of the Army.

The Ready and Resilient Campaign focuses on a whole-person approach that includes medical and personal readiness and transition issues, said Sgt. Maj. of the Army Raymond F. Chandler III.

“We recognize that readiness in our Army is linked to resiliency in the force,” Chandler explained. “If we have a more resilient Army, we’re going to have a much more ready force.”

Chandler said the Army’s ability to be as ready as possible is critical as the service continues to struggle with budgetary issues and force reductions.

“I think what’s important to recognize is that the Army is about people,” Chandler said during a sit-down interview with the Army News Service. “We need to help our people as much as we possibly can so that they can gain resilience and just do better in life, in their civilian jobs or in the Army.”

The Ready and Resilient Campaign combines and synchronizes efforts to help Soldiers, active duty, Reserve, and National Guard members, and Army civilians and families.

Chandler said the Ready and Resilient Campaign, or R2C, is a collaborative approach that is a more effective and efficient use of Army resources.

The R2C website points members to a multitude of services and resources. It highlights contacts for suicide prevention, sexual assault prevention and response, substance abuse, psychological health, post-traumatic stress disorder and traumatic brain injury.

The site is a convenient place to go for information, especially for Reserve or National Guard Soldiers who may live hundreds of miles from the nearest Army installation.

Chandler said a Soldier has a responsibility as an individual to seek help when needed.

He also said “battle buddies” have an important role to play in watching out for fellow Soldiers and intervening when problems arise. Leadership is critical as well, he said. Leaders must stay engaged and involved in the lives of Soldiers, they must also be able to recognize



Photo by Spc. Pastora Y. Hall

The Army’s Ready and Resilient Campaign is about strengthening Soldiers and their families. The Army has aligned and synchronized services to give Soldiers access to resources they need to strengthen readiness and resilience.

problems, and must be willing to intervene when they see problems.

Chandler said seeking behavioral assistance can help a member work through issues and allow the person to operate at an even higher level. He said through Army efforts, there is now less of a stigma associated with seeking behavioral health.

“This is not about weakness; this is about building strength,” he said. “It’s about being and living those Army values and being a professional, which is a sign of strength.”

The Army is committed to strengthening its force, he said, and can only be a better fighting force with improved readiness.

“We’re concerned about each and every single person that is in the Army, our Army family members and our Army civilians,” said Chandler.

“We’ve put together a campaign to improve our readiness and resilience and if you need help, if you know someone who needs help, if you’re interested in other areas of the campaign, we’ve got some great information out there,” he said. “Go to the Ready and Resilient Campaign website and see what’s out there and be an advocate for the program.”

Chandler said progress has been made in behavioral care, especially in medical advances in caring for traumatic brain injury and post-traumatic stress disorder.

See RESILIENCY on Page 14

Command Safety Gram

Ladder safety at home, workplace

When it comes to basic workplace equipment, it does not get much simpler than the ladder.

Because ladders are so simplistic, many people overlook their potential hazards.

Yet, falls account for 15 percent of workplace injuries and deaths.

Many of these falls are from ladders and they may have been prevented if a few basic precautions had been followed.

Ladder Hazards

Two questions that should be asked each time someone uses a ladder are:

- What is the condition of the ladder?
- Is the right ladder being used for the right job?

Inspecting the Ladder

When checking the condition of the ladder, keep these guidelines in mind:

- Rungs must be intact and free from grease or oil
- Make sure there are no splinters or sharp edges
- See that metal ladders are not dented or bent
- The ladders safety feet should be in place and in good condition
- All support braces and bolts must be secure
- Make sure ropes are not torn or frayed
- Make sure the hinge spreader works properly.



Choosing the Ladder

• Ladders have weight limits. Make sure the ladder is rated for the right weight

• Ladders also vary in length. Choose one that is high enough for the job, but not so high that it becomes a hazard

Using Ladders Safely

Some other things to remember include:

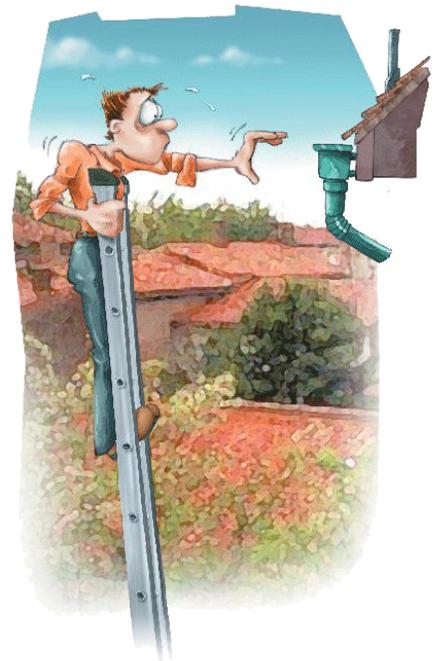
- Make sure the ladder's feet are parallel to the surface it rests against
- Make sure the base is tied or held and that the top is anchored
- Avoid the top two steps of a stepladder and the top four rungs on other ladders
- Always face the ladder while on it
- Place the ladder at a safe angle. The distance from the bottom of the ladder to the wall should be about a quarter of the ladder's working height
- Do not use ladders that have

been exposed to fire or corrosive chemicals

- Do not use a ladder for unintended purposes, such as in place of scaffolding
- Never allow more than one person on a ladder at a time
- Always be aware of the location of electrical wires and never use metal ladders around electrical exposures
- Use both hands when climbing a ladder
- Avoid excessive stretching or leaning

Choosing and using ladders wisely is a step in the right direction.

– *Courtesy of the US Army Combat Readiness/Safety Center.*



Deadline for comments and submissions for the May 16 issue is May 10.

Please submit to Jason B. Cutshaw at Jason.B.Cutshaw.civ@mail.mil.

SMDC conducts Town Halls in Huntsville and Colorado Springs



Photo by Carrie E. David

The U.S. Army Space and Missile Defense Command/Army Forces Strategic Command's new command sergeant major, Command Sgt. Maj. James N. Ross, introduces himself and tells the command's Redstone Arsenal employees a little about himself during a Town Hall meeting April 30 at the Von Braun III auditorium. He also spoke to employees on Peterson Air Force Base in Colorado Springs, Colo., at a Town Hall there today.

DEPLOYMENT from Page 4

deputy chief of staff G-8, said that everyone benefits when civilians deploy.

"When our Department of the Army civilians volunteer to directly support troops in theater, SMDC and the Army gains three-fold," Campbell said. "First, the returning civilian has seen firsthand what it takes to support combat operations, and has developed the skills and mentality geared toward effectively and efficiently providing that support.

"Second, that civilian serves to

offset an already heavily burdened military force, especially in the financial management arena," he added. "Last, but certainly not least, we just get a better trained and more confident DA civilian."

Sherode said that he is the only current SMDC link to the 402nd AFSB, although he has encountered a few former SMDC civilians and Soldiers at Camp Arifjan.

"I am going to represent SMDC and our G-8 office to the highest standards I can," Sherode said. "I want to thank my entire G-8 chain

of command and also Lt. Gen. Richard Formica for having the expeditionary mindset that most great leaders possess to allow me to take this opportunity."

Campbell said he had no reservations about Sherode deploying.

"The kind of people we send downrange to support the Warfighter is important," Campbell said. "Just being there, away from your normal daily routine can take a toll on a person. I had no doubt that Jimmie would excel in that type of environment."

JROTC cadets learn about SMDC mission

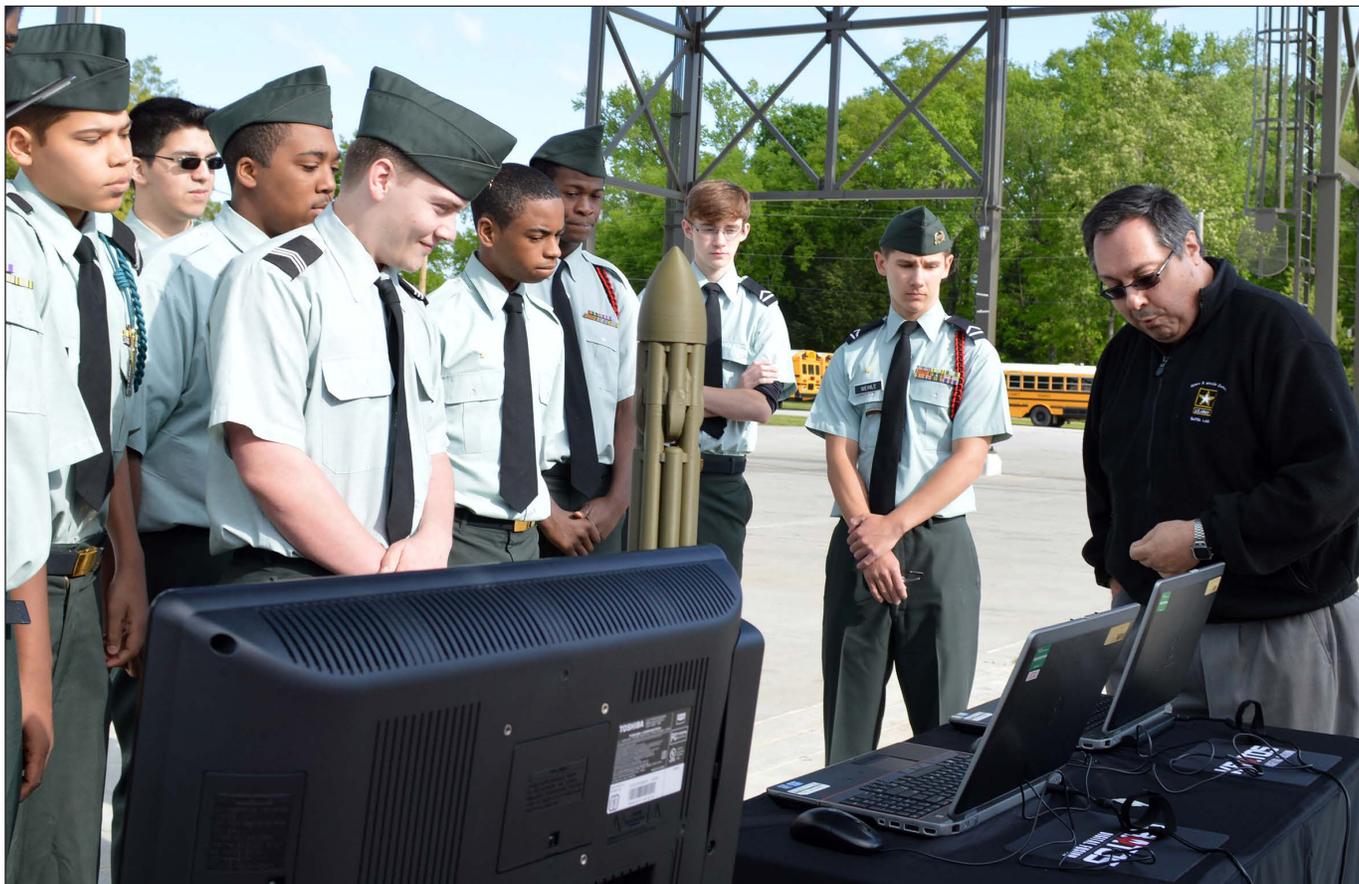


Photo by Dottie White

Ed Garcia, right, of the U.S. Army Space and Missile Defense Command/Army Forces Strategic Command Future Warfare Center speaks to high school cadets April 23 during Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps Day at Redstone Arsenal, Ala. JROTC Day's mission is to foster the JROTC Cadets into being productive citizens in their communities and to teach them the importance Team Redstone's people, mission, equipment and facilities play in supporting the U.S. Warfighter. Students from Hazel Green, Austin, Bob Jones, Johnson, and Athens high schools participated in the event which included displays and demonstrations from USASMDC/ARSTRAT; Better Opportunities for Single Soldiers, or BOSS; the Sergeants Major Association; U.S. Army Aviation and Missile Research Development and Engineering Center; Redstone Test Center; 2nd Medical Recruiting Battalion; and Program Executive Office

CADETS from Page 5

area of how lasers – and the different aspect of laser technology – can be used – potentially to defeat rockets, artillery and mortars – and what the effects of having that capability would have on the defense of an area,” said Adam Aberle, a supervisor general engineer with SMDC’s Technical Center Directed Energy Division. “What it means for SMDC is that you have future officers and leaders who are familiar with a new and revolutionary capability that we are trying to develop that currently the Army does not have.

“This is not a technology that we have today or access to in the near future, but it is something that when these young officers become majors and colonels, hopefully

that capability will be there and they will already be exposed and thinking about how they can understand the benefit and the real ‘value-added’ force multiplier function and capabilities that laser and directed-energy weapons systems may have for whatever mission they have at that time,” he added. “I fully believe that these young cadets expect in their military career that they will one day have a military laser weapon system as part of how they fight. It will be part of the ‘tool bag’ they will be given to use as they become senior officers and planners who put together campaign plans, and it will be a new tool for them to use as they defend the country.”

SMDC employee receives award



Photo by Michael L. Howard

Col. Eric D. Handy, chief of Training and Readiness Division, U.S. Army Space and Missile Defense Command/Army Forces Strategic Command, presents Eduardo G. Santos with the Joint Civilian Service Commendation Award during a ceremony at SMDC's Operations Headquarters on Peterson Air Force Base, April 16.

Fort Greely gets new fire station



Photo by Deborah Coble

(Left to right) Col. Tim Faulkner, deputy region director, Installation Management Command - Pacific Region; Command Sgt. Maj. Robert Gooden, garrison command sergeant major, Fort Greely; Lt. Col. Terry Clark, garrison commander, Fort Greely; Jim Degnan, fire chief, Fort Greely Fire and Emergency Services; Lt. Gen. Richard P. Formica, commanding general, U.S. Army Space and Missile Defense Command/Army Forces Strategic Command; and USASMDC/ARSTRAT Command Sgt. Maj. Larry S. Turner cut the ceremonial red ribbon April 17 at the new Fort Greely Fire Station.

CENTER from Page 6

ready missile defense forces, and, they provide local trainers capabilities to customize training objectives and undertake unique scenarios.

“The suites also provide a low-cost mechanism to build experience with the objective systems and then obtain suggestions from the Warfighter that help shape the requirements for future missile defense capabilities,” she added. “With their simulation capabilities, the suites allow interoperability in experiments with many other Department of Defense systems allowing for investigation of new cooperative solutions. These requirements are supported by our research, test and integration capabilities within the command and can be worked jointly with MDA and other services and agencies.”

MDA is a principle stakeholder in the Simulation Center and provides coordination with SMDC for the overall Simulation Center mission for providing high performance computing and joint project laboratories with focus toward ground, space and some sea- and air-based missile defense technologies. MDA also provides both sustaining and directed project-dedicated funding.

“The partnership between the Missile Defense Agency and SMDC has been instrumental in successful completion of recent war games activities and exercises across the globe,” said Nick Holland, MDA THAAD office.

“This foundation of success, and continued cooperation during ongoing operations, holds great promise for the future of this growing and dynamic mission area.”

For the customers, one of the Simulation Center's best attributes is subject matter experts with strong knowledge of state-of-the-art scientific computing in the areas of integrated security, hardware, software, storage and networks.

“Simulation Center personnel provided outstanding support during recent Warfighter exercises,” Holland said. “They’ve accommodated numerous changes as missions matured through planning and execution across four geographic combatant commands. Together we’ve achieved accreditation and authorities to connect, operate and test in every event as scheduled.

“The Simulation Center has established itself as a key member of team THAAD. The team's professionalism and hard work reflect great credit upon themselves,” Holland added.

As the Department of Defense demands more efficiency, the Simulation Center is positioned to provide cost effective high performance computers and networking needed to conduct accurate and realistic system engineering and testing for current and future critical missile defense capabilities.

CSM from Page 3

through your aggressive campaign of engagement with Soldiers and units that are better trained – more ready,” Formica added. “You can walk away today with a strong sense that you did things right. You made a difference not only in the lives of countless Soldiers and civilians here at SMDC/ARSTRAT, but truly for the past 35 years.”

Formica then welcomed Ross onto the team and said he looks forward to the future of SMDC.

“We know the Army doesn’t just let a great NCO depart without having another one in the wings. Quite frankly, that’s what makes our Army the best in the world, we have a professional NCO Corps that is the envy of our allies and is feared by our adversaries,” Formica said. “Command Sgt. Maj. James Ross and his family are no strangers to SMDC/ARSTRAT. He served previously as the command sergeant major for the 1st Space Battalion and later as the command sergeant major for the 1st Space Brigade. He comes to us now from his assignment as the command sergeant major for the 32d Army Air and Missile Defense Command, Fort Bliss, Texas.

“Command Sgt. Maj. Ross, Ashley, we know you will hit the ground running in this globally deployed, regionally aligned command, split-based between here and Colorado Springs, Colo., that provides space and missile defense capabilities to our Army, U.S. Strategic Command and the nation,” he added. “We thank you in advance for your leadership and service on behalf of the Soldiers, civilians and families of this command.”

Turner became SMDC’s senior enlisted advisor in June 2010, and as

he prepares to retire after 35 years of service, he thanked everyone in the command for supporting him and talked about the uniqueness of the command.

“Thank you, Lt. Gen. Formica, for your kind words. Let me say up front that it has been an honor and a privilege to serve as your command sergeant major,” Turner said. “When I arrived here on the 10th of June, 2010, I really wasn’t sure what a Space and Missile Defense Command was, or what its Soldiers did. As a combat airborne infantryman, we’re exposed to the culture and language of the country before we deploy. I sure could have used some exposure to SMDC before coming here.

“Talk about culture shock. Nothing in my 35 years of service – including multiple combat tours and jumping out of perfectly good air planes – had prepared me for a command with Soldiers and civilians in 11 different time zones,” he continued. “We operate from 21 locations around the world, which has to make us the most dispersed Army Service Component Command in the Army – I can literally pick up the phone and say ‘good morning, good afternoon and good evening’ to members of our command at virtually any time of day here in Huntsville.

“Once I arrived, it didn’t take long for me to realize just how important our mission is,” Turner said. “I’ve spent much of the last two years and 10 months educating my fellow senior enlisted leaders and Warfighters concerning what SMDC/ARSTRAT brings to the fight – and how absolutely vital our contributions are to mission success.”

He then took time to thank those who have supported him during his time in the Army and what the Army and his family have meant to him.

“When I raised my hand and enlisted 35 years ago this month, I didn’t fully appreciate it at the time, but the Army was a gateway to a better way of life,” Turner said. “I’m proud to say that I’ve given the Army my all for 35 years – that seems like a really long time, but it has passed quickly. At times I still feel like that lanky young private who was joining up in hopes of a better life. Other times I feel the wear and tear of 35 years of service to my nation.

“I could not have served without the love and support of my wonderful wife, Barbara. Together we’ve built the life and family that I could only dream of as a young man,” he added.

Ross, a native of Battle Creek, Mich., enlisted in the Army in September 1985 and has served in various locations such as Saudi Arabia; Fort Bliss and Fort Hood, Texas; Peterson Air Force Base, Colo.; among others.

He thanked Formica for the opportunity for him and his wife, Ashley, to serve in the command and thanked Turner for his assistance as he prepared to come aboard the command.

“Ashley and I are extremely excited about this incredible opportunity and look forward to integrating into the command, Redstone Arsenal, and also the great city of Huntsville and the surrounding communities,” Ross said. “At the outset, I’d like to congratulate Command Sgt. Maj. Larry Turner and his wife,

SMDC exhibit wins first place



Photo by Carrie E. David

The U.S. Army Space and Missile Defense Command/Army Forces Strategic Command Holocaust Day of Remembrance exhibit received first place in the Team Redstone static display contest. The display was the work of Ebonie McNeil, Joanna Brunson, KC Bertling, Kaye Blankenship, Sgt. 1st Class Reginald White, and Ed Kiker. The first place winner was announced during the Redstone Arsenal Day of Remembrance observance April 11 at the Bob Jones auditorium. This year's Day of Remembrance theme was, "Never Again: Heeding the Warning Signs." Members of the display team show off their first place certificate from Lt. Gen. Richard P. Formica, USASMDC/ARSTRAT commanding general. From left to right are Bertling, Brunson, McNeil and Blankenship. Not pictured are White and Kiker.

RESILIENCY from Page 8

He said more can be done and the Army is seeking to provide additional resources for behavioral care.

"I do believe that we are seeing more Soldiers that are coming forward to get care," Chandler added. "I think the most important and critical aspect of that is the engagement of the leader and having a non-judg-

mental approach."

He acknowledged the stresses faced by members, whether through deployments, separation from family or other factors, and that seeking help is a way to improve and strengthen oneself and stay "Army Strong."

"When we look at what we're ask-

ing Soldiers to do each and every day, being a Soldier in the United States Army is really probably the highest level of performance we can expect from a human being," he said.

To read more about the Army's Ready and Resilient Campaign, go to www.army.mil/readyandresilient.

CSM from Page 13

Barbara, for the past 35 years of selfless service leading Soldiers and taking care of their families. Ashley and I are extremely grateful for your assistance during this transition. Best of luck as you begin your next chapter. We wish you both God Speed and all the best in the years ahead."

Ross said he was proud to be a part of the SMDC team and looks forward to what the future holds.

"I am humbled by and grateful for the opportunity to serve as the 10th command sergeant major of SMDC/ARSTRAT. Lt. Gen. Formica, thank you for your faith and confidence," Ross said. "I'm committed to enhancing the great reputation of this command through a continued emphasis on educating the Army and joint senior enlisted leaders on the unique and substantial role our command has within the joint force, our Army, with U.S. Strategic Command, and the supported geographic combatant commanders across the globe.

"Although the command is split-based, multi-component, diverse and dispersed, I want to emphasize my focus on maintaining a 'One Command' mindset," he continued. "I will insist on close collaboration and teamwork from all organizations within this command with a never-ending commitment to those who are deployed and serving in harm's way.

"Without reservation, I can comfortably state that without the support of my wife, Ashley, and my three incredible children, Lillian, Jack, and Amelia, I would not be assuming this position today," Ross said. "Like many military families they have borne the brunt of my long hours, deployments and TDYs, yet they continue to empower me through their resiliency and love. Lastly, I'd like to recognize my parents, sisters, nephew and friends for being here today to support Ashley and me. It means a lot to us that you made the trip to celebrate this new journey."