



DEPT OF ARMY Troops increase by 22,000 A4

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2 minute briefs

Airfield conducts prescribed burn

The Hood Army Airfield Operations staff will conduct a prescribed burn at the airfield Saturday.

The Natural Resources Management Branch and Fort Hood Nature Conservancy asked fire staff, with support from the Fort Hood Fire Department, to conduct the prescribed burn starting at 8 a.m. The estimated completion time is around 1-2 p.m.

Post agencies will have varied hours for training holiday

Post agencies will have varied hours for the upcoming training holiday weekend. Call ahead to ensure these agencies are open.

Carl R. Darnall Army Medical Center's primary care clinics are open Friday. Active-duty sick call and appointments for TRICARE Prime enrollees are available from 7 a.m.-5 p.m. at the Thomas Moore, Bennett, and West Fort Hood health clinics. Walk-in sick call for active-duty servicemembers assigned to other clinics is available at any of these clinics.

Sports physicals and school immunizations will be available at the Thomas Moore Health Clinic from 8:30 a.m.-3 p.m. Saturday and Aug. 8. Call the Patient Appointment Service at 288-8888 from 7 a.m.-4 p.m. to make an appointment.

Thomas Moore Health Clinic walk-in service normally scheduled from 8-10 a.m. and 1-3 p.m. on Saturdays and Sundays will be closed Saturday and Aug. 8 due to the sports physicals and school immunizations clinic offered on those two Saturdays.

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Braverman assumes command of Darnall

BY VICKY M. MOUZE
CRDAMC PAO

Col. (Dr.) Steven E. Braverman took command of Carl R. Darnall Army Medical Center during a change of command ceremony at 9:30 a.m. Friday on Sadowski Field.

Braverman replaced Col. Casper P. Jones III, who will become the Director of Plans and Policy (J5) at the Joint Task Force National Capital Region Medical in Bethesda, Md.

Lt. Gen. Rick Lynch, commanding general of III Corps and Fort Hood, served as host.

He told the audience Jones was a leader who has "tremendously impacted" the healthcare and quality of life for Soldiers, Families and the community as commander of CRDAMC. Lynch praised Jones' significant accomplishments during his tenure, such as decreasing the amount of time to pick up prescriptions in the hospital's outpatient pharmacy.

"I remember when I was stationed at Fort Hood as a battalion commander and having to wait all afternoon to pick up a prescription. Now, 75 percent of the patients wait 30 minutes or less and 98 percent of the patients are serviced in less than one hour," Lynch said. "Jones is a great leader because he loves Soldiers and their Family members. He has my sincere admiration."

Brig. Gen. Joseph Carvalho Jr., commanding general of Great Plains Regional Medical Command and Brooke Army Medical Center in San Antonio, who officiated at the ceremony, told members of Braverman's new command they had

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Photo by John Byerly, DPTMS visual Information

Gen. Charles Campbell, FORSCOM commander, passes the 4th Inf. Div. command flag to Maj. Gen. David Perkins. Perkins took command of the 4th Inf. Div. Thursday. Maj. Gen. Jeffery Hammond, outgoing commander, looks on. Hammond will become the chief of staff at U.S. Army Forces Command, Fort McPherson, Ga.

Hood farewells 4ID

BY HEATHER GRAHAM
Sentinel News Editor

It was a day of goodbyes and a welcome for the 4th Infantry Division. Last Thursday, commander Maj. Gen. Jeffery Hammond said farewell to Central Texas and the Ivy Division and welcomed incoming division commander Maj. Gen. David Perkins.

At the same ceremony, the 4th Infantry Division cased its colors in its final move before relocating to Fort Carson, Colo.

Former 4th Inf. Div. commander retired Gen. Ben Griffin participated in the casing ceremony.

The move is part of the 2005 Base Realignment and Closures that moves all of the 4th Inf. Div. except the Combat Aviation Brigade.

The 4th CAB will remain at Fort Hood as a III Corps separate brigade. Hammond will next serve as chief of staff at U.S. Army Forces Command, Fort McPherson, Ga.

Perkins' last assignment was deputy chief of staff for strategic effects for Multinational Force-Iraq.

"It's truly a day of mixed emotions," Gen. Charles Campbell, FORSCOM commander, and reviewing

officer for the ceremony, said. "There is a sense of excitement of seeing the new team take over but a sense of sadness at leaving the old team."

Campbell said Hammond personified the 4th Inf. Div.'s motto, "Steadfast and Loyal," during his time in command. "He is a leader who is animated by an enduring truth to prepare and train Soldiers to fight and win America's wars."

Hammond expressed sadness at leaving the Ivy Division and Central Texas.

"We're hurting right now," Hammond said.

The outgoing commander said he, like the division, will move on with wonderful memories about the "humble Soldiers and Families who lead from the heart."

Perkins previously spent time in the division while it was at Fort Carson.

"(Perkins) is the right commander at the right time," Campbell said. "I have complete confidence in this command team."

Perkins told Hammond he left a mark on the hearts and minds of the division.

"Your caring and efforts are more than apparent," Perkins said. "We commit ourselves every day."

13th ESC Headquarters deploys more than 200 Soldiers to Iraq

BY SGT. JOHN D. ORTIZ
4th Sust. Bde. PAO

More than 200 Soldiers assigned to the 13th Sustainment Command (Expeditionary) Headquarters element said goodbye to their Families and friends Saturday at Kieschnick Physical Fitness Center enroute to a year-long deployment to Iraq.

Many Soldiers were accompanied by their children and significant others even though the ceremony began at 1:30 a.m. Most of the Soldiers sitting alone were single.

"It's hard being here alone," Spc. Dan C. Smith, 27, said. "My Family lives far away and I realize that my parents could not come, but I don't let it bother me too much."

Smith, a financial management specialist and a first-time deployer, said his Family has been calling his cell phone throughout the day.

"They are supportive of me as much as they can be through the phone," Smith said.

The day of deployment for single Soldiers is not about having the last home-cooked meal or even time to relax one last time; instead it is spent cleaning and clearing their barracks' rooms and talking on the phone.

"I spent all day cleaning every nook and cranny in my barracks'

room getting ready for barracks' management," Smith said. "In the end, I threw away a lot of clothes and a lot of stuff that I wasn't going to need."

Pfc. Zack Betzler, 20, spent the day talking on his phone and cleaning.

"Once I cleaned my barracks room, management came through and kicked us out around 7 p.m. Since then I have just been on my phone all night long with my Family," Betzler, an information technology specialist, said. "It's rough being here without them, especially my fiancé. I said goodbye to them when I was home on block leave."

"This being my first deployment, my stomach has been in knots all week," he said. "People tell you about their experiences, but you never know until you find out for yourself."

Single or married, even for Soldiers with significant others, a deployment ceremony is a chance to receive a grand send-off.

Speaking to the crowd, Col. Knowles Atchison, the 13th ESC deputy commander, said everyone should keep the fire burning bright for their Soldiers wellbeing.

"This is one team, one fight," Atchison said. "We are going to make history. We are going to be in charge of more than 16,000

troops and we are going to sustain and protect the force at the same time we are drawing Iraq down from 150,000 to 50,000 troops."

"We have to keep the fires burning bright," Atchison said. "Because God is with us, you're with us, and all of central Texas is behind us."



Photo by Sgt. John D. Ortiz, 4th Sust. Bde. PAO

Col. Fredrick Brown, the operations officer for the 13th ESC, verifies his carry-on bag is small enough to fit in the oversize compartment, where it will be stored during his 19-hour flight to Iraq.



Photo by Michael Heckman, Sentinel Staff

Maj. Gen. Jeffery Hammond, commander, 4th Inf. Div., holds the flag presented to him by Lt. Gen. Rick Lynch, III Corps and Fort Hood commander.

Memories relieve sadness of 4th ID's departure

BY MICHAEL HECKMAN
Sentinel Staff

Saying goodbye was difficult, but it was eased by memories of missions accomplished, courageous leadership in combat, brave Soldiers who died in the process and of a community that supported the 4th Infantry Division whether it was deployed or at home.

"I'm sad, as commander of III Corps and Fort Hood, because this organization, that has been so much a part of what we do, is leaving us tomorrow. And there's going to be a giant void," acknowledged Lt. Gen. Rick Lynch,

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