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Recruiting Command leadership changes

FORT KNOX, Ky. –“I will forever be in your corner; I will be cheering you on from a distance and I’m going to be celebrating your success,” outgoing Commander Maj. Gen. Thomas P. Bostick said near the end of his May 6 change of command remarks.

“This has been a team effort, pushing this command forward,” he said. “Our transformation while fighting a challenging mission required extraordinary service, sacrifice and leadership at the individual Soldier, civilian and family level that is difficult for most to comprehend.

“There’s a lot that can be accomplished with marketing, advertising, incentives and bonuses . . . , but nothing can be accomplished without great people. We have great people on this team. Your passion, your professionalism, your many sacrifices during a very challenging period in our nation’s history made the difference in Army recruiting.”

Though his more than three and a half year tenure followed a year of mission failure in 2005 and was marked by a growing Army that needed to sustain an all-volunteer force in an unprecedented war-time recruiting environment, Bostick brought optimism, energy and unparalleled leadership to USAREC, according to Lt. Gen. Benjamin C. Freakley, Commanding General of U.S. Army Accessions Command and Deputy Commanding General for Initial Military Training U.S. Army Training and Doctrine Command.

“Wherever he went, whether it was in the halls of congress or the halls of the Pentagon or, most importantly, in the small recruiting stations across America, Tom Bostick brought optimism to the force: ‘We can and we will do this,’” Freakley said.

He thanked Bostick and his wife, Renee, for their loyalty and dedication to the recruiting mission, and also thanked the entire USAREC team.

“As Fort Knox transforms to the Human Resource Center for Excellence, we will have as critical a role in the Army as we do today, and that role will only expand,” Freakley said. “The Army Force Generation program demands and depends on our ability to recruit train and man the force today and tomorrow. Commanders depend on quality Soldiers filling their ranks, the Army



depends on commanders bringing their best to the fight, and the nation depends on the military to ensure our way of life.

“Our Army is counting on each and every one of you in USAREC to do as you say and ‘Provide the Strength.’”

Joining USAREC from his most recent assignment as the Armor Center commanding general, Maj. Gen. Donald M. Campbell Jr. previously served in USAREC as deputy commanding general-west in 2004-2005.

Describing key assignments from Campbell’s 31-year career, Freakley said that Campbell knows what the Army needs in young people, he understands the significance of the recruiting mission and he’s the right commanding general to build upon the successes of the command and carry forward this great legacy.



Campbell thanked his “home team” – wife, Ann, and their children Craig and Leslie – on this their 23d move in the Army, though it was only down the street on Fort Knox.

“I’m thankful this is my third assignment as a general officer within this great military community – an honor rare to the Army,” Campbell said. “Citizens of this community are some of the most supportive I’ve ever witnessed.”

Campbell said that USAREC will continue to set the conditions for success by concentrating on four major pillars.

“First, we succeed or fail as a team.

“Second, our Soldiers, civilians and family quality of life are as important as the annual recruiting mission. We owe them professional development and personal growth

opportunities as well as superb family programs. Taking care of our people only makes us stronger.”

Third, Campbell said USAREC Soldiers must be disciplined and adhere to the Army Values because of their role as the Army’s trusted ambassadors to the American public.

“President Washington said, ‘Discipline is the soul of any organization,’ and ours is no different.

“Finally, we must clearly communicate and enforce standards. If discipline is the soul of any organization, I firmly believe standards are the heart.”

Campbell said he looks forward to the Recruiting Command’s bright future and all that can be achieved together as a team.