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Gen. James Rainey, commander of Army Futures Command, addresses AUSA's Coffee Series event Wednesday at the association's headquarters in Arlington, Virginia. (AUSA PHOTO)

# Transformation efforts look to 2040

**A**s the Army continues to enhance its capabilities for the future fight, the transformation is "bigger and more ambitious" than just modernization, said Gen. James Rainey, commander of Army Futures Command.

"The purpose of AFC, why we exist, is to transform our Army to ensure ... future readiness," Rainey said Wednesday at a Coffee Series event hosted by the Association of the U.S. Army.

Modernization is part of transformation, but modernizing without transforming could leave the service equipped but lacking the right leaders, trained units and "formational lethality," Rainey said.

Since taking the reins of Futures Command in October, Rainey said he has shifted the command's focus from delivering the Army of 2030 to include designing the Army of 2040.

"We have to get out further" to stay ahead of near-peer competitors such as China, he said. "We'll start with the environment first, and then we'll do research. We will develop concepts, and experiment with them."

To accomplish that mission, Futures Command needs the best people—those with either superior warfighting and leadership experience or outstanding technical expertise, Rainey said. "You can't do anything without people, and there's a competition for talent," he said.

The organization is also focused on improving integration. "We have a bunch of great things happening across our materiel and nonmateriel solutions, [but] there is an opportunity to be more integrated," particularly with industry and academia, Rainey said.

While the Army must remain ready, it's critical to not lose sight of longer-term goals, he said. To prepare for 2030 and 2040, the service must constantly reevaluate its requirements and capabilities "agilely, every year" in a campaign of continuous learning.

"We are the best Army in the world today, and AFC's piece of the team is to make sure we are the best Army in 2030 and the best Army of 2040," Rainey said.





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## AUSA vice president honored for leadership, impact

**R**etired Lt. Gen. Leslie Smith, the Association of the U.S. Army's vice president for Leadership and Education, is the recipient of the 20th Chemical, Biological, Radiological, Nuclear and Explosives Command's 2022 Defender of Liberty Award.

Smith, who joined AUSA in 2022, was honored Jan. 31 in a ceremony at Aberdeen Proving Ground, Maryland.

He served 35 years in uniform, including a final assignment as Army inspector general. From 2008 to 2010, he was the 25th chief of Chemical and commandant of the Army Chemical, Biological, Radiological and Nuclear School. He commanded the 20th Support Command in 2010, and in 2013 became the first chemical officer to command the Army's Maneuver Support Center of Excellence and Fort Leonard Wood, Missouri.

The Defender of Liberty Award is presented to leaders who have made a significant impact on the U.S. military's only multifunctional and deployable CBRNE command, according to the Army.



Brig. Gen. Daryl Hood, left, commander of the 20th Chemical, Biological, Radiological, Nuclear, Explosives Command, and Command Sgt. Maj. Jorge Arzabala, right, the command senior enlisted leader, present the 2022 Defender of Liberty Award to retired Lt. Gen. Leslie Smith at Aberdeen Proving Ground, Maryland. (U.S. ARMY/MARHSALL MASON)

"Smith is a pioneer in the U.S. Army Chemical Corps. A veteran of Operation Desert Storm and Operation Iraqi Freedom, Smith commanded the 83rd Chemical Battalion, 3rd Chemical Brigade and U.S. Army CBRN School," according to the Army. "Smith was one of the longest serving commanding generals in the 18-year history of the 20th CBRNE

Command. He also previously served as the command operations officer."

"As commanding general, Smith led the 20th CBRNE Command to full operational capability as a Joint Task Force-WMD Elimination Headquarters in 2007. The deployable and multifunctional headquarters was mandated by the 2006 Defense Quadrennial Review," the statement says.

## Progress in acquisitions speeds fielding of new systems

**T**he Army's top acquisition official says great progress is being made on transformational systems and aiding Ukraine.

"We've had some great successes," Doug Bush, the Army's assistant secretary for acquisition, logistics and technology, said at a recent news briefing. "This coming year is going to be even bigger."

In 2023, the Army intends to have 24 new systems for fielding or testing, he said. This includes the long-range hypersonic weapon, the Armored Multi-Purpose Vehicle and the Integrated Air and Missile Defense System.

"There are many reasons why this success is occurring, but chief among

them is our people," Bush said, which includes a workforce of 30,000 uniformed and civilian professionals. "They do great work, but they also work with many thousand more talented professionals at Army Futures Command and Army Materiel Command to actually make all this happen," Bush said. "It takes the whole Army team to do it, and right now I think the team is working really well."

Bush said he expects the fiscal 2024 budget that will be submitted to Congress later this year will include funding to ramp up programs for Army transformation, and that funding for Ukraine could be managed through supplemental budgets.



Soldiers maneuver an Armored Multi-Purpose Vehicle at the Army's Tropic Regions Test Center in Panama. (U.S. ARMY PHOTO)

The five-year defense budget, covering 2025 to 2029, will be important for setting future production schedules, he said.

## Winning essay from AUSA's JROTC scholarship program now available



AUSA's Lt. Gen. Theodore G. Stroup Jr. Achievement Award recognizes Junior ROTC cadets for their achievements. (U.S. ARMY/SARAH WINDMUELLER)

The winning essay from the 2022 Lt. Gen. Theodore G. Stroup Jr. Achievement Award recipient is available online.

Named for Stroup, a former Association of the U.S. Army vice president of Education who is now an AUSA senior fellow, the program recognizes Junior ROTC cadets for their achievements.

It also aims to “engage the next generation of Soldiers and DoD stakeholders at a young age, to promote their growth into mature members of the defense community and to build an awareness of the Association of the U.S. Army,” according to the association.

Cheyunne Ahn, a student at Southern High School in Santa Rita, Guam, won the 2022 award with her essay, “Analysis of ‘Lessons in Followership: Good Leaders Aren’t Always Out Front.’” Read it here.

In her essay, Ahn analyzes a commentary published in *ARMY* magazine titled, “Lessons in Followership: Good Leaders Aren’t Always Out Front.” The commentary, published in the June 2021 edition of AUSA’s

flagship publication, was written by Lt. Col. Amelia Duran-Stanton and Col. Alicia “Ali” Masson, who discuss how military leaders can become more well-rounded if they learn how to be better followers and know how to best lead and manage followers.

Maria Tortorelli, a student at Stuttgart High School in Germany, came in second place, while Chloe Barnes from Lakeridge High School in Lake Oswego, Oregon, was the third-place student.

This was the third year AUSA has held the essay contest, and it is open to JROTC students who are juniors or seniors. Each essay is accompanied by a letter of recommendation and must be focused on a matter relevant to current defense issues or military history.

With the help of Army Cadet Command, the contest is available to JROTC programs nationwide. Three winners are selected. The award comes with prizes of \$2,500, \$1,500 and \$1,000, and may include a two-year AUSA membership.

The 2023 program opens in February. For more information, click here.

# AUSA Extra

Voice for the Army –  
Support For the Soldier

**Gen. Bob Brown, USA Ret.**  
President and CEO, AUSA

**Lt. Gen. Leslie Smith, USA Ret.**  
Vice President, Leadership and Education,  
AUSA

**Luc Dunn**  
Editor

**Desiree Hurlocker**  
Advertising Manager

**Advertising Information Contact:**

Fox Associates Inc.  
116 W. Kinzie St. • Chicago, IL 60654  
Phone: 800-440-0231  
Email: [adinfo.rmy@foxrep.com](mailto:adinfo.rmy@foxrep.com)

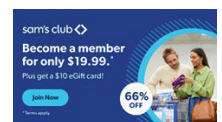
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## Spotlight on AUSA Association Partner: CAA

**F**ounded by World War II veterans in 1947, the Civil Affairs Association was established to advocate for a capable and adequate civil affairs force for the U.S. military.

“The association was also envisioned as a military professional organization that would serve as a forum for professionals to present and exchange their ideas on Civil Affairs,” the organization’s website says.

In addition to being a force multiplier, the civil affairs corps exists as a strategic land power capability to consolidate military and security gains into political and civil outcomes—before, during and after military action.

The association publishes *Civil Affairs Issue Papers* as its primary contribution to help civil affairs practitioners communicate their findings and recommendations to institutional and policy leaders.



Since 2019, these papers have been published in partnership with the Association of the U.S. Army.

Another communication platform is the association’s *Eunomia Journal*, an electronic publication fostering discussion of contemporary civil affairs

issues and promoting “the strategic use and understanding of CA by military commanders, policymakers, and partners,” according to the association’s website.

The association also has an annual scholarship program that provides grants to spouses or children of soldiers or Marines from civil affairs commands who were killed, wounded, injured or fell ill in support of the global war on terror.

For more information, please visit [www.civilaffairsassoc.org](http://www.civilaffairsassoc.org).

If your association is interested in partnering with AUSA, contact Susan Rubel at [srubel@ausa.org](mailto:srubel@ausa.org).

**Association Partnership** with AUSA is an opportunity for like-minded military service organizations to join AUSA in support of the Total Army—soldiers, DoD civilians and their families.

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## Honoring military traditions, ceremonies and functions

**D**uring times of war, certain things understandably take precedence.

At the height of the global war on terror, commanders at all echelons made decisions to prioritize their most limited and unbuyable resource—time. With limited time left to focus on anything outside what was most important, certain things simply failed to rise above the priority line.

This was unfortunately the case for many of the ceremonies and functions that represent the honor and traditions of our military.

Over the past decades, units postponed traditional gatherings like dinings-in, annual balls, induction ceremonies and unit activity days to make way for mandatory training requirements, theater-specific training and time to preserve family quality of life. Simply put, our Army was at war and focused its attention as such.

Despite the drawdown from decades of multitheater combat deployments, our Army is still very busy and most likely will continue to be for the foreseeable future. Hopefully, back-to-back combat rotations will remain in our past.

Even though the Army continues to maintain its presence globally deterring our nation's adversaries while simultaneously pursuing modernization goals, units have seen a little relief on the annual training schedule.

This has allowed the Army a little more time to focus on its most precious resource—people.

This past month, the Association of the U.S. Army's NCO and Soldier Programs team was invited to get a firsthand look at the Army's return to honor and traditions.

The legendary "Iron Rangers" of the 1st Battalion, 16th Infantry Regiment, 1st Brigade Combat Team, 1st Infantry Division, at Fort Riley, Kansas, started the new year



Retired Sgt. Maj. of the Army Daniel Dailey, center, participates in an NCO induction ceremony at Fort Riley, Kansas. (AUSA PHOTO)

off right with an NCO induction ceremony on Jan. 25, and we had the honor of taking part.

The induction ceremony is a celebration of the newly promoted joining the ranks of a professional NCO corps. Not to be confused with a promotion ceremony, the induction ceremony emphasizes and builds on the pride we all share as members of the most revered NCO corps in the world.

The importance of recognizing the transition from "being one of the soldiers" to a noncommissioned officer—a first-line leader—is celebrated during the induction.

The Iron Rangers put on an ex-



Newly promoted NCOs from the 1st Battalion, 16th Infantry Regiment, 1st Brigade, 1st Infantry Division are recognized in an induction ceremony. (AUSA PHOTO)

ample of "what right looks like" even though there is no official regulation for NCO induction ceremonies.

Units have always had slight differences in how they conduct these ceremonies, but many include similar elements, such as passing through the NCO arch, lighting three candles for the letters "N," "C" and "O" while reciting the contributions and roles of the noncommissioned officer, and of course—last, but certainly not least—reciting the NCO Creed.

I can vividly remember the day of my induction ceremony and proudly display the NCO Creed signed by myself and my battalion command sergeant major on my wall to this day.

There are times when some things must take precedence over others and times when you are able to make time to do the right thing, set the example and take care of your people.

The Iron Rangers, like many great units across our Army, did just that.

Thank you to the Iron Rangers for the privilege to participate in and honor the traditions of our great NCO corps.

**Retired Sgt. Maj. of the Army Daniel Dailey** is AUSA's vice president for NCO and Soldier Programs and was the 15th sergeant major of the Army.



## Chapter helps recognize outstanding blood donors

**M**arking National Blood Donor Month in January, the Association of the U.S. Army's Fort Leonard Wood-Mid Missouri chapter helped recognize three on-post organizations for their efforts in providing 100 or more eligible donors during a single-day blood drive.

Joining the Fort Leonard Wood Blood Donor Center's 100-Donor Club were Company D, 787th Military Police Battalion; Company A, 35th Engineer Battalion; and the installation's Sergeant Audie Murphy Club. Each received a "Giving 4 Living" streamer from the chapter. They also will have their organization's name, number of donors and the drive's date recorded on a plaque in the donor center lobby, and they each will receive a club membership certificate.

**Fort Leonard  
Wood-Mid  
Missouri**

"We can't say thank you enough to these organizations. Donor compassion is saving lives around the world. We can only collect blood from people who voluntarily give it, so thank you for helping us help others," said Capt. Marianne Rose, chief of the blood donor center, according to the Army.

The center conducted several blood drives in 2022, averaging about 35 eligible donors per drive.



Soldiers register to give blood in December at Fort Leonard Wood, Missouri. (U.S. ARMY PHOTO)

"It makes me proud to see so many young men and women donate to a cause that's bigger than themselves," Rose said. "Without them, we couldn't accomplish our mission."

The center collects blood for the Armed Services Blood Program, which has been DoD's official blood program since 1962. Collected blood may go to deployed soldiers around the world or be used at local military hospitals.

"Hitting this milestone represents

our soldiers' dedication to each other and the Army Values. It shows they want to be part of something bigger and are willing to take care of each other no matter what," said 1st Sgt. Joshua Jordan of Company D, 787th Military Police Battalion.

Capt. Autumn Mitchell, commander of the 35th Engineer Battalion's Company A, said her soldiers' efforts "speak volumes" about what it means to be a soldier. "We challenged our soldiers to live the Army Values, and they stepped up and demonstrated what kind of soldiers they want to be," she said, according to the Army. "Donating blood is something we all must do because it can make such a huge difference for people."

The Sergeant Audie Murphy Club is made up of soldiers of different ranks assigned to different units who all want to make an impact, said club President Sgt. 1st Class Joshua Newbury.

"I couldn't be more proud of our organization for stepping up. We have great command support and are planning on making regular donations to the Armed Services Blood Program," Newbury said.



Carl Norman, Fort Leonard Wood Blood Donor Center recruiter, prepares to update the 100-Donor Club board in the donor center's lobby. (U.S. ARMY/BRIAN HILL)





AUSA'S HOT TOPICS



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