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Lt. Gen. Laura Richardson, commander of U.S. Army North, speaks to troops deployed to combat the COVID-19 pandemic in Philadelphia. (U.S. ARMY/PFC. DANIEL ALKANA)

Richardson named to lead SOUTHCOM

Lt. Gen. Laura Richardson has been nominated to be the next commander of U.S. Southern Command and for appointment to general, a move that would make her just the second Army woman to reach the four-star rank.

If confirmed by the Senate, Richardson, who commands U.S. Army North at Joint Base San Antonio-Fort Sam Houston, would be the first woman to lead the Florida-based combatant command.

She would also be the only Army woman to serve as a four-star general since Gen. Ann Dunwoody, who attained the rank in 2008 and retired in 2012 after a 38-year career.

The nomination for Richardson, along with a nomination for Air Force Gen. Jacqueline Van Ovost to lead U.S. Transportation Command,

was sent to the Senate March 5.

On Monday, both women attended a White House event marking International Women's Day.

"Each of these women has led careers demonstrating incomparable skill, integrity and duty to country," President Joe Biden said. "And at every step, they've also helped push open the doors of opportunity to women in our military—blazing the trail a little wider, a little brighter for all the proud women following in their path and looking to their example."

A graduate of Metropolitan State College in Denver who commissioned as an aviation officer, Richardson has commanded from the company to theater Army levels.

Before taking command of Army North in July 2019, Richardson was the deputy commanding general of

U.S. Army Forces Command at Fort Bragg, North Carolina.

During her time there, Richardson also served as acting commander, making her the first woman to lead the Army's largest command.

She also served as commanding general of the U.S. Army Operational Test Command at Fort Hood, Texas, and was deputy commanding general of the 1st Cavalry Division, the first woman to serve in that capacity in a U.S. Army maneuver division.

During her career, Richardson has served in Iraq, Afghanistan, South Korea, Fort Campbell, Kentucky, Fort Leavenworth, Kansas, the White House, the U.S. Capitol and the Pentagon.

She is married to Lt. Gen. Jim Richardson, deputy commander of U.S. Army Futures Command.



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Cohesive teams, partners critical for Army intelligence

The Army's intelligence corps is focused on people, readiness, modernization and relationships with allies and partners as it prepares to compete in an increasingly complex environment.

"In the 31 years I've been in the Army, the strategic environment has never been more complex or, quite frankly, ... harder to assess," Lt. Gen. Laura Potter, the Army deputy chief of staff for intelligence, said Wednesday during The AUSA Noon Report, a webinar hosted by the Association of the U.S. Army.

Despite advances in counterterrorism capabilities, particularly after almost two decades of fighting in Iraq and Afghanistan, the U.S. and many of its allies face a "long, enduring challenge" against "persistent" threats, she said.

These challenges range from China, Russia and North Korea to climate change and natural disasters, Potter said. The Army also has learned critical lessons from the COVID-19 pandemic and how pandemics can "affect other nations and our own," she said.

Army leaders also continue to focus on information operations, whether it's illicit activity or misinformation and disinformation, Potter said.

"Information operations is a whole dynamic we have to spend a lot of energy on, and from an intelligence perspective can be very, very difficult to assess," she said.



Intelligence soldiers and units must be able to support commanders around the world while leveraging the latest technology. (U.S. ARMY/SGT. KRIS WRIGHT)

To prepare for the future battlefield, the Army's intelligence community is taking a close look at how it can best support the force, Potter said.

"It's our responsibility to make sure we can deliver intelligence at echelon," she said, supporting commanders in great-power competition while also being ready to respond in a crisis.

One key to the effort, in addition to building cohesive military intelligence teams, is determining what the Army needs its intelligence analysts to do to keep up in the 21st century, Potter said. The Army needs analysts who can sift through large volumes of data quickly, are savvy with emerging

technologies such as machine learning, and can interpret "vast quantities" of information, she said.

"If you think of the volumes of data that we have to analyze, the speed with which we will have to analyze it, and the way we have to synchronize for high-end conflict, we really need to look at what those analysts skills look like," Potter said.

Intelligence soldiers and units also must be able to support commanders—from combatant commanders to corps and division commanders—around the world, she said, while leveraging the latest technology.

Any equipment the Army puts in the field must be able to "do the sophisticated intel it needs to do against" peer adversaries," Potter said.

The Army also needs a "deliberate approach" to bring policy, technology and people together, she said, adding that it will improve information and data sharing while building trust with partners and allies—a "particularly important" pillar of the intel community.

"In every one of the theaters across the globe, what are we doing to build that person to person relationship?" Potter said.

Meet the AUSA headquarters staff

Angela King

Executive Assistant

Angela King has been with AUSA for eight years. She is the proud wife of a retired Army officer and mother to two wonderful adult children. In her spare time, Angela enjoys cooking, antiques, gardening and traveling. Her goal in life is to be a positive and helpful Christian example to everyone she meets.



AUSA advocacy efforts focus on readiness, modernization and people

By Mark Haaland

Although the Association of the U.S. Army does not expect the Pentagon to release its budget request for fiscal year 2022 until early May, congressional defense committees are hard at work holding hearings with national security and defense experts on topics such as emerging technologies, national security threats and fiscal challenges.

A factor adding some complexity to the work to finalize the fiscal 2022 budget requests for Congress to review is that the Office of Management and Budget does not have a confirmed director to lead the agency and work with the White House on final budget deliberations.

For the new fiscal year beginning Oct. 1, we do not expect a significant reduction in funding for DoD or the Army. The recently passed concurrent resolution provides \$777 billion for national defense, which is about 1.9% above the previous year's budget authority of \$763 billion.

What takes place in the appropriations process is yet to be determined, but the current position for budget preparation has defense funding at roughly the rate of inflation year over year.

Given some of the voices in Congress calling for significant reductions to defense in favor of increasing nondefense spending, we consider the concurrent resolution's funding level for national defense to be positive.

However, as recommended by the commission that reviewed the National Defense Strategy, DoD requires 3% to 5% annual budget increases to continue to grow readiness and modernize the military.

AUSA also considers the growth important for our armed forces.

In support for the Total Army, including families and Army civilians,



Sustained growth in defense funding is needed to grow readiness and modernize the military. (ARCHITECT OF THE CAPITOL PHOTO)

AUSA, along with the Enlisted Association of the National Guard of the United States, the National Guard Association of the United States and the Reserve Organization of America have joined our advocacy efforts.

We have agreed upon a set of common priorities that we are jointly advocating, amplifying our endeavor to convince Congress to provide the authorizations and appropriations needed for the Army to be ready to defend the nation.

These common priorities are available here, and you are welcome to add your voice with your representative and senator in support of the Army, soldiers, families and Army civilians.

Defense Secretary Lloyd Austin recently released a message to the force explaining his three priorities for DoD: defend the nation, take care of people and succeed through teamwork.

Our joint efforts with other associations and AUSA's 2021 Focus Areas align well with the priorities he sets out in his memo here.

As a member of The Military Coalition, AUSA is also advocating for important benefits for our service members and families, such as ensuring quality health care and providing incentives for small businesses that employ National Guard and Army Reserve personnel.

Mark Haaland is AUSA's Government Affairs Director.

AUSA Extra

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Support For the Soldier*

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PERK OF THE WEEK

AUSA's medical discount benefit includes discounts on lab tests and MRI/CT scans. If you have a high deductible

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Propulsion expertise



BELL V-280 VALOR

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Rolls-Royce is excited to join Bell and Team Valor to provide exceptional operational capability and affordability over the product life cycle to the U.S. Army for the Future Long Range Assault Aircraft (FLRAA) program. Bell and Team Valor will deliver a refined Bell V-280 aircraft design, building on years of experience and flight test, with Rolls-Royce providing propulsion expertise developed across more than six decades of industry-leading, powered-lift experience.

Museum honors service and stories of Army women

By Sgt. Maj. of the Army Daniel Dailey,
U.S. Army retired

March is Women's History Month, an annual celebration highlighting the contributions of women throughout history.

The annual marking of Women's History Month grew out of a week-long celebration of women's contributions to culture, history and society organized by the school district of Sonoma, California, in 1978.

Presentations were given at dozens of schools, hundreds of students participated in a "Real Woman" essay contest, and a parade was held in downtown Santa Rosa.

The idea expanded to communities, school districts and organizations throughout the country, and in 1980, President Jimmy Carter issued the first presidential proclamation declaring the week of March 8 as National Women's History Week.

The next year, Congress passed a resolution establishing the week as a national celebration, and in 1987, the National Women's History Project successfully petitioned Congress to expand the event to the entire month of March.

Countless women have contributed greatly to American history, culture and society. The celebration in March is about honoring those accomplishments, but, perhaps more importantly, educating future generations about the significant role women have played throughout the history of America and the world.

Army honors women

The Army has been officially honoring the significant role of women in service for some time longer.

On May 14, 1955, at Fort McClellan, Alabama, the Army paid special tribute to women in service by opening the Women's Army Corps Museum. It is still the only museum in the world dedicated to Army women,



The U.S. Army Women's Museum at Fort Lee, Virginia, highlights women's contributions to the Army from the Revolutionary War through today. (U.S. ARMY PHOTO)

honoring women's contributions to the Army from the Revolutionary War through today.

When the closing of Fort McClellan was announced, Fort Lee, Virginia, was chosen as the new home of the Women's Army Corps Museum, and the name was changed to the U.S. Army Women's Museum.

Groundbreaking for the current museum was held on April 9, 1999, and construction was completed in October 2000.

In 2018, the museum underwent an extensive gallery expansion and complete redesign.

Dedicated to service

Tracy Bradford, the museum's curator, stressed the importance of having a museum dedicated to the service of Army women.

"The U.S. Army Women's Museum collects, preserves, displays and teaches the history of women's contributions to the Army. We play an important role as an educational institution, providing military history training and instruction to soldiers, veterans and the civilian community," Bradford said.

"The museum honors women's contributions by sharing stories of their service from the Army's inception to

today's modern fighting force," she said.

When asked to name her favorite part of the museum, Bradford said, "Honestly, I love everything about this museum. One of the best parts of being the curator here is meeting the women showcased in this facility, many of them trailblazers, who are so humble. Although they've made history and led the Army forward as an institution, Army women often describe themselves as 'a soldier doing my job.'"

The U.S. Army Women's Museum is an excellent source for information about the service of Army women.

Its archive and artifact collection are among the most comprehensive and expansive collections in the world of primary and secondary documents pertaining to the history of Army women.

Unfortunately, the museum is currently closed because of the pandemic, but you don't have to wait.

You can visit the museum's website to learn more, submit a research inquiry or get updates on when it will reopen to the public.

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.

AUSA members deliver supplies to veterans in need

Members of the Association of the U.S. Army's Fort Campbell chapter recently partnered with two other local nonprofit organizations to deliver goods to local veterans and service members in need in Clarksville, Tennessee.

The donations filled 26 pallets and included items such as toothpaste and toothbrushes, dry shampoo, snacks, Gatorade, cleaning supplies, laundry detergent and more.

Charlie Koon, the AUSA chapter president, said the chapter partnered with YAIPaks Outreach and the Montgomery County Veterans Coalition to deliver the items, according to a local news report.

Fort Campbell

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Koon said that Mike Myer, an AUSA member in Kansas City, Kansas, manages the Overland Park Rotary Club Care Program that donated the items with support from Feed The Children.

"We're delighted to partner with amazing organizations like the Montgomery County Veterans Coalition that serve those who have served us so well," the chapter said in a Facebook post.



The donations included items such as toothpaste and toothbrushes, dry shampoo, snacks, Gatorade, cleaning supplies, laundry detergent and more. (LEE ERWIN/CLARKSVILLE NOW)

"A shipment like this, partnering with AUSA and YAIPaks, will make all the difference in the world," said Sherry Pickering, the coalition's executive director, in a *Clarksville Now* news article.

Sherry Nicholson, founder and CEO of YAIPaks Outreach, created the organization with a mission "to meet those that are neglected, hurting, or afflicted where they are in order

to provide support, comfort, and resources aimed at promoting positive life changes," according to the organization's website.

Thanks to the donation, "we are going to be able to add extra needed items into our Totes for Hope" program for veterans and domestic violence victims, Nicholson said. "It is all going to be a tremendous gift to those that we are serving."

Longtime Army civilian elected as chapter president

The Association of the U.S. Army's Monmouth chapter in New Jersey has elected Edward Thomas as its new president.

Thomas is a retired Army civilian who served as deputy to the commanding general of the U.S. Army Communications-Electronics Command at Aberdeen Proving Ground, Maryland.

Monmouth

Communications-Electronics Command at Aberdeen Proving Ground, Maryland.

"I'm excited to have this opportunity to work with the great executive team already in place within the Monmouth chapter," Thomas said.

Thomas has a long history of support to soldiers and Army acquisition programs. He spent 37 years sup-



Edward Thomas. (AUSA PHOTO)

porting Army communications and electronics programs, rising to serve in the senior executive service before retiring in 2011.

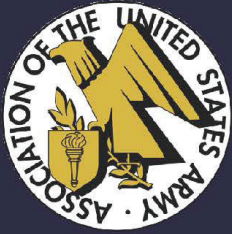
In 2019, Thomas was inducted into

the Army C5ISR Hall of Fame.

C5ISR is command, control, communications, computers, cyber, intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance.

He has been an AUSA member for over 30 years and has served as a board member in the Monmouth chapter and the MG Harry Greene, Aberdeen chapter.

"I know I have tough acts to follow after the great presidencies of retired Col. Samuel Fuoco and Kit Roache," Thomas said. "I'm just going to do my best to keep us moving forward in our work as a local voice for the Army and in our work supporting soldiers in the Monmouth area."



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