



Army Vice Chief of Staff Gen. Randy George, left, greets trainees in the Army's Future Soldier Preparatory Course during a visit to Fort Jackson, South Carolina. (U.S. ARMY/ALEXANDRA SHEA)

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## George nominated as next Army chief

**A**rmy Vice Chief of Staff Gen. Randy George has been nominated by President Joe Biden to be the Army's top officer.

If confirmed by the Senate, George would succeed Army Chief of Staff Gen. James McConville, who is retiring this summer after a four-year term.

Before being sworn in last August as the 38th Army vice chief of staff, George was the senior military assistant to Defense Secretary Lloyd Austin.

A prior enlisted soldier, George is a 1988 graduate of the U.S. Military Academy at West Point, New York. He commanded I Corps at Joint Base Lewis-McChord, Washington, from February 2020 to June 2021, and the 4th Infantry Division at Fort Carson,

Colorado, from August 2017 to October 2019.

As division commander, George led the 4th Infantry Division headquarters to Afghanistan in support of Operation Freedom's Sentinel. He also was a brigade commander in the division, leading his soldiers to Afghanistan in 2009.

The native of Alden, Iowa, also has served multiple deployments to Iraq.

George's nomination was received in the Senate on April 20, one day after he testified on Capitol Hill about the Army's readiness.

"Our Army must be ready for anything," George told the House Armed Services Committee's readiness subcommittee. "We must be ready to deter war and, if deterrence fails, to take the fight to the enemy anywhere

around the globe, even in the most hostile environments, just as we've always done."

George said the Army is supporting combatant commands with ready formations around the world, strengthening partnerships with the defense industry and modernizing the organic industrial base to increase production.

"We are deterring the pacing challenge, China, by exercising and campaigning across the Indo-Pacific theater and holding the line in the European theater alongside our NATO partners, all the while adapting in real time to lessons learned from the war in Ukraine," George said, adding that those lessons are being quickly incorporated into Army

See **George**, Page 6



# NOONREPORT

AN AUSA WEBINAR SERIES

## RECRUITING WITH SUCCESS

**MG Johnny K. Davis**

*Commanding General, U.S. Army Recruiting Command & Fort Knox*

Moderated by **Marshall M. "Will" Williams**

*Former Acting Assistant Secretary of the Army for Manpower & Reserve Affairs*



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## Army focused on continued quality-of-life improvements

**W**hile the Army is making progress on improving quality of life programs for soldiers and their families, there's more work to be done, two senior leaders said.

Lt. Gen. Kevin Vereen, deputy Army chief of staff for installations, G-9, said he and his senior enlisted adviser, Sgt. Maj. Michael Perry, pay close attention to many of the most pressing issues facing soldiers and their families, including food insecurity, aging infrastructure and access to child care.

These efforts are critical, as these programs directly impact the Army's readiness and ability to retain soldiers, the leaders said. "If our soldiers have problems, they can't focus on training," Vereen said Tuesday at a breakfast hosted by the Association of the U.S. Army as part of its Coffee Series.

Food insecurity is a challenge for some soldiers, Vereen said. "We know that our soldiers, in some cases our younger soldiers, struggle financially, and ... their income is not necessarily at a level where they compete with folks outside of the military, so there is food insecurity," Vereen said.

To address the issue, Vereen said the Army is not only providing programs and resources to soldiers, it also is partnering with industry and civilian organizations that want to help. "That's where we get a lot of our momentum, is really investing in the partnerships with industry to help us overcome some of the problems that the Army just does not have the capacity to be able to solve," said Vereen, who has been on the job since September.

New resources, such as programs to help educate soldiers on how to manage their finances, are underway, Vereen said.

AUSA played a role in that effort. Last year, the association pledged \$1 million to Army Emergency Relief to help soldiers struggling with



From left to right, retired Lt. Gen. Leslie Smith, AUSA's vice president for Leadership and Education; Lt. Gen. Kevin Vereen, deputy Army chief of staff for installations, G-9; and senior enlisted adviser Sgt. Maj. Michael Perry discuss critical issues facing soldiers and their families during an AUSA Coffee Series event in Arlington, Virginia. (AUSA PHOTO)

food insecurity and reinforce the importance of financial readiness and well-being through an incentivized financial training program.

Resilient and modernized installations are another concern for Vereen and Perry, from improving barracks and housing conditions to hardening the installations against enemy at-



Command Sgt. Maj. Jeremiah Inman, left, senior enlisted leader for U.S. Army Europe and Africa, is briefed on housing renovations by Rod Oshiro, director of public works at U.S. Army Garrison Wiesbaden, Germany. (U.S. ARMY/MICHAEL KENFIELD)

tacks or disasters such as hurricanes and tornadoes.

"We've seen attacks out there in the civilian sector on some of that key infrastructure, so when we have the ability to partner with industry and in our communities in order to create resiliency, what that ultimately does is ensures that those installations, many of which are power projection platforms, will have the ability to project power if and when we need, whether it's to defend the homeland or it's going to be beyond," Perry said.

When they travel to meet with Army communities and garrison commanders, Vereen and Perry said, they place special emphasis on making sure barracks are in good condition for soldiers, and that needed improvements are being prioritized along with new military construction.

"It's not anything that folks don't know. We're short in certain areas when you think about the capacity to be able to house all of our soldiers, and so barracks is number one," Vereen said. "We are on a full-court press to solve our housing."

## Paper: Army has ‘leading role’ in adapting for indecisive warfare

**D**espite advancements in technology, the world is entering a new era of conflict that will be defined by indecisive warfare, according to a new paper published by the Association of the U.S. Army.

In “Stalemate: Are Changes in Warfare Leading to a New Age of Indecisive War?” authors Maj. Gen. Christopher Smith, an Australian Army officer serving as deputy commanding general for strategy and plans with U.S. Army Pacific, and Maj. Ben Flores, who is serving as Smith’s executive officer, write that this new era of conflict will be defined by stalemate, close-quarter fighting and limited war aims.

“We are entering a new age of indecisive warfare ... in which only limited war objectives are possible,” Smith and Flores write. “While limited warfare is nothing new, these emerging changes to warfare run counter to some prevailing narratives about contemporary and future warfare, including rapid single campaigns, grand fait accompli and high-tech, knock-out blows culminating in decisive victory. These changes might lead nations to reconsider the relative utility of war.”

Smith and Flores write that six major features of warfare have emerged in the fighting in Ukraine and over the past several decades.

Warfare is taking place among bigger and denser populations; populations resist occupation at least as vigorously as at any time in the past, even when faced with a stronger and more advanced adversary; and there is greater restraint in the use of force, especially in the West, they write.

Additionally, the costs of maintaining armed forces and waging war have become oppressive; reconnaissance strike complexes—the combination of far-reaching sensors and long-range precision weapons—has made movement and maneuver especially



A soldier with the 8th Theater Sustainment Command fires his pistol Tuesday during Exercise Balikatan 2023 at Fort Magsaysay, Philippines. (U.S. ARMY PHOTO)

deadly; and there seems to be a pronounced advantage to the defender, particularly if they possess advanced reconnaissance strike capabilities, Smith and Flores write.

Future conflicts will be complicated by increased restraint in the use of force, Smith and Flores write, at least in the West. “Whereas the Russians have shown through their actions in Ukraine and Syria at least some willingness to use terror against the civilian population to achieve their objectives, the West is not as willing to utilize such tactics,” they write.

Moving forward, the Army will need to adapt to indecisive warfare, Smith and Flores write.

“While the functions of rapid seizure of limited territorial objectives and its counter, deterrence by denial, are joint tasks, land forces will inevitably play a decisive and essential role, even if those objectives are islands,” they write. “To that end, the U.S. Army should play a leading role ... to adapt to the challenges of this new age of warfare, including—perhaps particularly—for contingencies in the Indo-Pacific.”

Read the paper here.

# AUSAExtra

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Support For the Soldier

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### PERK OF THE WEEK



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## London Book Fair provides opportunities for collaboration

The Association of the U.S. Army's Book Program went international last week with a visit to the London Book Fair, where more than 25,000 publishing professionals gathered to learn, network and make deals.

Hundreds of publishers representing all sectors of the industry exhibited at the fair. They came from across the globe, with many hailing from the United Kingdom, which has a strong tradition of military history publishing and is home to several of AUSA's official partners.

I met with established partners like Casemate Publishers, Osprey Publishing and Amber Books to discuss current and future projects.

The great collection of military publishers also provided the opportunity to explore new prospects for collaboration. Watch for future columns to see how these opportunities bear fruit.

The fair featured more than 100 seminars across three days, with sessions devoted to publishing trends, author information and technology. Several sessions at the Literary Translation Centre were particularly informative given the AUSA Book Program's work on the *Foreign Mili-*



Joseph Craig, director of AUSA's Book Program, visits the United Kingdom's National Army Museum in London. (AUSA PHOTO)

*tary Studies* series with the University Press of Kentucky.

The overseas visit also provided an opportunity to connect with other military organizations.

The National Army Museum is in the Chelsea neighborhood of London. Its collections demonstrate the history of the British Army and show its connection to society from the 17th

century British Civil Wars through present day.

AUSA's Book Program traveled to Chelsea to meet with Matilda Greig, a historian and researcher at the museum. Greig is also one of the new managing editors at the *British Journal for Military History*, the scholarly journal of the British Commission for Military History.

We discussed how AUSA can be a resource for colleagues looking to publish new work.

I also visited the Defence Academy of the United Kingdom, west of London in the town of Shrivenham. The academy provides higher education to all three branches of the British Armed Forces, as well as members of the government and international students.

Niall Barr, head of the Defence Studies Department, provided a guided overview of the Joint Services Command and Staff College and other programs at the academy. We also discussed ways that AUSA and the Defence Academy can collaborate on publishing and programs.

To see the latest on those publications and programs, please visit [www.ausa.org/books](http://www.ausa.org/books).

**Joseph Craig** is AUSA's Book Program director.

### George

From Page 1

doctrine and training.

The Army's readiness posture today is strong, but it's not enough for the challenges of the future, George said, which is why the Army is transforming and modernizing.

"Our Army is also transforming, because, honestly, we don't have an option," George said. "Warfare is changing, and we must change because of it to ensure we stay ahead of our potential adversaries."

The Army also is focused on recruiting as it faces one of the toughest

environments in decades. Recruiting is a "critical readiness priority for us right now," George said.

"Our Army remains a great place to be, and I think our high retention rates speak to that. The trouble is many Americans don't realize it or believe it," George said, noting that rather than a "life setback," the Army is a "life accelerator," as was his experience when he enlisted as a private right out of high school.

Following a recruiting goal shortfall last year of about 15,000, George projected that this year's goal of 65,000 by Sept. 30 could fall short

by about 10,000 recruits.

"I would say right now we're probably projecting to be about 55,000," George told the panel, explaining that the Army set a recruiting goal of 65,000 new soldiers this year, which was higher than last year's goal of 60,000.

The Army is "a great team with an important mission and ample opportunity to learn, grow and make an impact," George said. "We have to get that story out, and we're pouring all of our energy into that effort, and we appreciate Congress' assistance in amplifying our call to service message."



## Chapter members bring AUSA mascot Sgt. R. Hero to life

Members of the Association of the U.S. Army's Redstone-Huntsville chapter went above and beyond to enhance attendees' experience by playing the part of AUSA mascot Sgt. R. Hero at the association's Global Force Symposium and Exposition in Huntsville, Alabama.

John Kuenzli, the chapter's vice president of retiree and veteran affairs, donned the Sgt. Hero costume on the first day of the conference, with coordination and handling provided by Marc Jacobson, the chapter's executive vice president.

"John knows many of the senior Army officers and contractors who were in attendance, so we arranged for him to be Sgt. Hero on day one of the symposium," Jacobson said, adding that Kuenzli was "just perfect" for the role. In character as the World



AUSA mascot Sgt. R. Hero greets soldiers and civilians during the association's Global Force Symposium and Exposition in Huntsville, Alabama. (AUSA PHOTO)

War II era Sgt. Hero, Kuenzli posed for dozens of photos with attendees and at exhibitors' booths, using sign language to initiate handshakes and fist bumps, Jacobson said.

"Playing Sgt. Hero was a blast. It's a great-looking mascot ... so many people were welcoming, giving high-

fives and taking selfies," Kuenzli said.

"Getting to interact with soldiers, senior leaders, vendors and supporting the overall effort of AUSA through the friendly face and veil of Sgt. Hero was awesome," Kuenzli said. "It's hot in there—but I'd do it again in a heartbeat."

## Eagle Chapters

**The following chapters attained Eagle status for March by showing positive membership growth. The number of consecutive months of growth since July 1, 2022, is shown in parentheses.**

North Texas-Audie Murphy (9)	Sunshine (6)	Thunderbird (5)
Magnolia (9)	SGM Jon R. Cavaiani (6)	Picatunny Arsenal-Middle Forge (5)
Texas Capital Area (8)	San Francisco (6)	Major General Harry Greene, Aberdeen (5)
Suncoast (8)	Northern New York-Fort Drum (6)	Greater New York-Statue of Liberty (5)
Major Samuel Woodfill (8)	Northern New Jersey (6)	Greater Atlanta (5)
Houston Metroplex (8)	Newton D. Baker (6)	First In Battle (5)
Fort Jackson-Palmetto State (8)	New Orleans (6)	Ethan Allen (5)
Arkansas (8)	National Training Center-High Desert (6)	Capital District of New York (5)
Allegheny-Blue Ridge (8)	Henry Leavenworth (6)	Arsenal of Democracy (5)
Milwaukee (7)	Greater Philadelphia (Penn and Franklin) (6)	Stuttgart (4)
Mediterranean (7)	Greater Augusta-Fort Gordon (6)	Redstone-Huntsville (4)
Las Vegas-John C. Fremont (7)	Des Moines Freedom (6)	PFC William Kenzo Nakamura (4)
George Washington (7)	CSM James M. MacDonald-Keystone (6)	Lake Cumberland-PVT Chris Guillen (4)
GEN Creighton W. Abrams (7)	Connecticut (6)	Isthmian (4)
Gem State (7)	Columbia River (6)	Francis Scott Key (4)
Fort Leonard Wood-Mid Missouri (7)	Coastal South Carolina (6)	Fort Campbell (4)
Big Bend (7)	Central Ohio (6)	Alamo (4)
COL Edward Cross (7)	Tobyhanna Army Depot (5)	Leonidas Polk (3)
Utah (6)		GEN John W. Vessey, Jr. (1)





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