Army Learns Lessons from War in Ukraine
Williams Takes 4-Star Command
Book Program
A Life of Service
Chapter Highlights
Central Texas-Fort Hood
Texas Capital Area

Swan retires as AUSA vice president

A fter more than 10 years of service, retired Lt. Gen. Guy Swan is retiring from the Association of the U.S. Army.

A 1976 graduate of the U.S. Military Academy at West Point, New York, and career armor officer, Swan retired from the Army in December 2011 and joined AUSA in January 2012 as vice president of education and executive director of what used to be known as the Institute of Land Warfare.

Swan will continue his relationship with AUSA by serving as a senior fellow.

In remarks Wednesday at AUSA’s national headquarters in Arlington, Virginia, Swan noted the warmth of AUSA’s “family atmosphere.”

He told friends and colleagues that “you ought to be very proud of being at AUSA. I have been, and I’ll continue to be part of the team.”

“I’ve learned more about the U.S. Army here in this job than I did in 35 years in uniform. I think for those that have served, you probably see that as well, that you see the breadth and depth of the United States Army here unlike what you see when you’ve got the nose to the grindstone trying to do your job in uniform,” Swan said.

Retired Gen. Bob Brown, AUSA president and CEO, praised Swan’s leadership as an Army officer and his commitment to AUSA’s mission of educating, informing and connecting with soldiers, families, civilians and veterans.

“He represents AUSA. He does it tremendously well,” Brown said, lauding Swan’s “lifetime of selfless service” and his impact on the Army and the nation.

At AUSA, Swan had wide responsibilities, including leading the association’s education and professional development programs. He also oversaw the creation of AUSA’s popular graphic novel series on Army Medal of Honor recipients and its “Army Matters” podcast and helped build its family readiness program.

Swan also established the AUSA fellowship program, which provides professional development opportunities for currently serving mid-level Army officers. Through the program, AUSA has hosted Army fellows since 2013, further connecting the association with those who serve.

See Swan, Page 3
Soft recoil technology is currently being tested by the U.S. Government.

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Wormuth: Army must learn from Russia-Ukraine war

Lessons from the war in Ukraine could help the Army better prepare for the future battlefield, Army Secretary Christine Wormuth said.

Speaking Tuesday at the Royal United Services Institute’s 2022 Land Warfare Conference in London, Wormuth said the service is committed to learning with “humility and seriousness.”

“I think future success on the battlefield may well depend on us having a very clear-eyed look at what lessons there are to be learned,” she said.

She also said the Army must ask itself “really probing questions” and not view the war as “a sort of opportunity to confirm what we’re already doing and to pat ourselves on the back.”

Already, some of Russia’s early failures in Ukraine have underscored the importance of leadership, discipline and training, Wormuth said.

They also have emphasized the crucial role played by the U.S. Army’s NCO corps, she said.

“There is a direct correlation between the quality of our NCO corps and the level of training and discipline in our U.S. Army ranks,” Wormuth said.

The Russians also have struggled to “adapt and show initiative at the tactical level,” and they also have struggled with logistics and sustainment, Wormuth said.

“You can be the best-equipped military in the world, but if you can’t sustain your forces, it doesn’t matter,” she said.

Strengthening the Army’s logistics capabilities is something the service is focused on, Wormuth said.

“As the battlefield becomes more transparent, supply lines and stockpiles are going to be more tempting as lucrative targets,” she said. “As a result of that, we have to not just be writing new concepts about logistics, we need to be training and exercising in a way that reflects the fact that we understand that logistics will be contested.”

The importance of secure communications and the rising threat of unmanned aerial vehicles also are concerns, Wormuth said, adding that the Army is “deeply committed” to working with its allies and partners to continue assisting Ukraine in defending itself as well as helping defend “every inch of NATO territory.”

Wormuth, who has extensive experience in DoD, said the Russian military has shown in the past that it learns from its failures.

“I would expect that they will reconstitute in a new, improved way in the coming years,” she said.

Wormuth also emphasized the importance of ground forces in “achieving decisive victory in conflicts.”

“The wars of the future are not going to be fought in one or two domains and are not going to be fought by one or two services,” she said. “They are going to be fought across multiple domains. They will require a joint force to prevail on the battlefield, and it will require a combined joint force.”

Swan
From Page 1

During the farewell, Brown presented Swan with a framed excerpt from a proclamation published in the Congressional Record that honors Swan for “a lifetime of commitment and service to the nation and to others.”

The proclamation signed by Sens. Jack Reed and James Inhofe also says that in 10 years at AUSA, Swan “responded to ever-changing interests and needs of the Army by expanding and improving AUSA’s support for professional development and education.”

While in uniform, Swan commanded at every level through Army service component command. He commanded U.S. Army North; the Military District of Washington and Joint Force Headquarters-National Capital Region; and the 7th Army Training Command in Europe.

He also was chief of staff and director of operations for Multi-National Force-Iraq during Operation Iraqi Freedom, commanded the 11th Armored Cavalry Regiment and was deputy operations officer for the 1st Armored Division during the first Gulf War.

Succeeding Swan as AUSA’s vice president for Leadership and Education is retired Lt. Gen. Leslie Smith, whose last assignment before he retired from the Army in August 2021 was Army inspector general.
Army Europe and Africa welcomes new commanding general

U.S. Army Europe and Africa welcomed a new commanding general Tuesday, as Gen. Darryl Williams assumed command from Gen. Christopher Cavoli.

Williams, who received his fourth star for the new assignment, comes to Europe after serving as the 60th superintendent of the U.S. Military Academy at West Point, New York, since July 2018.

“Leadership and service is both an honor and a privilege, and I am both honored and privileged to continue serving our Army and our nation,” Williams said during the change-of-command ceremony in Wiesbaden, Germany.

Cavoli and Williams begin their new jobs during a critical time in Europe, as NATO contends with Russia’s invasion of Ukraine and U.S. troops deploy to the region to bolster the alliance’s Eastern European flank.

The U.S. also is mulling changes to its force posture in the region in a bid to deter Russian aggression.

In his remarks, Williams emphasized the Army’s commitment to America’s allies and partners.

“We continue to stand by you, as you have stood by us for decades,” he said. “As our motto states, we are ‘Stronger Together,’ and we look forward to continuing to strengthen those bonds of friendship and interoperability.”

Before serving as West Point superintendent, Williams commanded NATO Allied Land Command in Izmir, Turkey.

He also was commander of U.S. Army Africa in Vicenza, Italy, before the command was consolidated with Army Europe, and served as deputy chief of staff for operations for Army Europe.
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Author recounts life of military service in new book

The Army has been through remarkable changes since the move to the all-volunteer force almost 50 years ago.

Retired Col. R.D. Hooker serves as a firsthand witness to those changes as he recounts his decades of service in the latest title in the Association of the U.S. Army’s Book Program, The Good Captain: A Personal Memoir of America at War.

Hooker enlisted in the Army in 1975 as a paratrooper in the 82nd Airborne Division, and after a couple of years headed to the U.S. Military Academy at West Point, New York, as a cadet. After graduating, he served for 30 years as an officer, commanding paratroopers around the world at company, battalion and brigade levels in peace and at war.

His other assignments include teaching at West Point and serving in the offices of the chairman of the Joint Chiefs, the secretary of the Army and the chief of staff of the Army. He also served on the National Security Council for multiple presidential administrations.

The AUSA Book Program recently sat down with Hooker to discuss his memoir and his dedication to the Army and the country.

**AUSA:** To begin, given that you retired from a distinguished 32-year military career as a colonel, what’s the significance of the title The Good Captain?

**Hooker:** As a young company commander, I overheard a junior NCO tell a soldier that the “CO is a good captain”—probably the most meaningful accolade I ever received in my long career.

**AUSA:** What inspired you to join the Army?

**Hooker:** My father’s example, the GI Bill and a desire for adventure.

**AUSA:** You’ve served with troops all over the world and had postings at West Point, the Pentagon and the White House. Which assignment are you most proud of?

**Hooker:** Probably battalion command in the 82nd Airborne, which included successful deployments to Kosovo and the Sinai.

**AUSA:** How did you balance the roles of officer and parent when your elder son deployed to Afghanistan?

**Hooker:** A wonderful and supportive wife, my faith and confidence in my son’s chain of command. It was the most difficult year of my life, but also very rewarding.

**AUSA:** What is the most important lesson today’s Army leaders can take from your life of service?

**Hooker:** Good leadership begins with love of soldiers. Without it, you’re in the wrong business.

To order a copy of The Good Captain, please visit www.ausa.org/books.

Joseph Craig is AUSA’s Book Program Director.
AUSA members honored for supporting soldiers, families

Officials at Fort Hood recently honored two members of the Association of the U.S. Army for their service to soldiers and families stationed at the Texas post and in the surrounding community.

Retired Maj. Gen. Robert Halverson, a board member with AUSA’s Texas Capital Area chapter, and Bobby Hoxworth, a life member of the association’s Central Texas-Fort Hood chapter, received the 2022 Fort Hood Good Neighbor award June 9.

“I want to thank you, because if not for you, there would be nobody out there in the capacity of what you do to help our families and our soldiers,” said Lt. Gen. Pat White, III Armored Corps and Fort Hood commanding general, according to an Army press release.

Halverson served 16 years on active duty, with tours of duty in Vietnam and Germany, before transferring to the Army National Guard in 1985.

In addition to his work with AUSA, he has served in various positions in the United Service Organizations.


“With so many giants sit in the room that have done so much for our community. It's truly an honor to be a part of that,” Hoxworth said.

Hoxworth is the CEO and president of First National Bank Texas, where he has worked since 1981.

He is an active member of the community and serves as treasurer for the Killeen Economic Development Corporation, the Fort Hood Regional Economic Development Foundation and the Heart of Texas Defense Alliance.

The Fort Hood Good Neighbor Program was created to recognize community members who have worked to enhance the well-being of the installation’s soldiers and families.

Eagle Chapters

The following chapters attained Eagle status for May by showing positive membership growth. The number of consecutive months of growth since July 1, 2021, is shown in parentheses.

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