



Defense Orientation Conference Association

Live: Virtual Conference

CONFERENCE OVERVIEW & AGENDA

Friday, July 17, 2020

8:00AM PDT to Noon PDT via Microsoft TEAMS

U.S. Army Futures Command – Modernizing Our Fighting Forces for Greater Lethality and Mission Success

Overview of Army Futures Command (AFC):

The Army established the Army Futures Command in June 2018 to consolidate its modernization efforts under one entity and it began initial operations in July 2018. The establishment of the Army Futures Command was the most significant Army reorganization effort since 1973. It is the fourth Army Command and is tasked with driving the Army into the future to achieve clear overmatch in future conflicts. It serves as the Army's future force modernization architect.

Focus/Objectives of AFC:

The command is focused on understanding the future operational environment and the full structure the Army needs in order to operate in that environment, tracking technological advancements among competitors, determining new operational concepts, and exploring appropriate capabilities. Recently, General Murray, AFC Commanding General, stated that the Command's focus "...is on delivering critical capabilities to our Soldiers at the speed of relevance."

While the focus of the Army has generally been on counterinsurgency operations the past 18 years, the character of war has been and will continue to change. With change, the Futures Command is addressing a convergence of factors, including technology advances that require the Army to change how they must fight. These technology advances include: Low-cost sensors; Precision-strike technology; Robotics; Biological threats; Artificial intelligence; Autonomous platforms; Directed energy and Quantum computing and information.

The objective of the AFC is to provide unity of effort and unity of command through integrating the Army's requirements and technology development communities within one command. AFC establishes a formal relationship with the stakeholders of the modernization enterprise. AFC is leveraging commercial innovation, partnership with academia, cutting edge science and technology, prototyping, and warfighter feedback. A best practice is to co-locate innovators with the customer.

Organizations within AFC:

Specifically, to address these technology advances and changes, the Command has set up the following organizations:

- The Army Applications Laboratory is responsible for coordinating outreach to businesses, and is located in Austin, Texas.
- Cross-functional teams are the eight teams responsible for identifying capability needs and developing requirements associated with the Army's six priorities. The teams are located in different parts of the country in areas relevant to their capability focus.
- Medical Research and Development Command is responsible for seeking and developing new medical technologies for use by the Army. This command is in the process of transferring from Army Medical Research and Materiel Command and is located at Fort Detrick, Maryland.

In addition to these organizations, the command has three major subordinate components, comprised of several existing requirements and technology development organizations. Specifically:

- The Futures and Concepts Center is responsible for identifying and prioritizing capability and development needs and opportunities. This organization subsumed the Army Capabilities Integration Center—formerly part of Army Training and Doctrine Command—on December 7, 2018 and is located at Fort Eustis, Virginia.
- Combat Capabilities Development Command is responsible for conceptualizing and developing solutions for identified needs and opportunities. This organization subsumed the Research, Development, and Engineering Command—formerly a part of Army Materiel Command—on February 3, 2019 and is located at Aberdeen, Maryland.
- Combat Systems Directorate is responsible for refining, engineering, and producing new capabilities. The directorate communicates with the program executive offices and program management offices reporting to the Assistant Secretary of the Army for Acquisition, Logistics, and Technology. The command is in the process of establishing the Combat Systems Directorate in Austin, Texas.

Moving Forward:

The AFC, although in its infancy, is laying the foundations now to make sure that the Army continues to modernize to meet future threats and to lead a continuous transformation process of Army modernization to provide future warfighters with the concepts, capabilities, and organizational structures they will need to dominate any future battlefield.

Conference Agenda:

Panel 1: Historical Perspectives and Establishment of the Army Futures Command

Lieutenant Colonel Arnel P. David is an Army Strategist and Civil Affairs Officer serving in the British Army as the U.S. Special Assistant to the Chief of General Staff and a member of the newly formed Strategic Analysis Branch. He is a coauthor of the book ***Military Strategy in the 21st Century: People, Connectivity, and Competition***. Previously he served in the Army Future Studies Group as the Chief of Staff. In addition, he was part of the Commander's Initiative Group Chief for Special Operations Joint Task Force – Afghanistan. He is a graduate of the U.S. Army Command and General Staff College Local Dynamics of War Scholar Program.

Colonel Ross Guieb currently serves as the Executive Director for the George H.W. Bush Combat Development Complex. Previously he served as the executive officer to the Commanding General (CG) Army Futures Command. On behalf of the CG, Colonel Guieb served as the primary liaison with the Offices of the Secretary of Army, the Chief and Vice Chief of Staff of the Army, the Assistant Secretaries, Administrative Assistant to the Secretary of the Army, Director of the Army Staff, the General Officer Management Office and Direct Reporting Units.

Panel 2: Current Operations, Mission, Programs Priorities, Challenges and Successes of the Command

Panelists TBD from the current AFC

Panel 3: The role of Industry/Academia in supporting the Command's efforts

Panelist TBD



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Friday, July 17, 2020

8:00 AM to 12:00 PM PDT via Microsoft TEAMS

Registration Form

Contact Information: Name (please print) _____

Tel: _____ Cell: _____ Email: _____

Registration: Confirmation will be provided by email with instructions. Registrations will be based on the postmark date of the registration payment. **Spouses/guests are welcome to participate with a member on a registered DOCA member's electronic device.** To register prospective members, please contact the DOCA office.

Registration Fee: \$200 per electronic device. Please make checks payable to DOCA or to pay by credit card please call DOCA with your card number. Please **do not email credit card** information. Mail your completed form to DOCA or contact DOCA to register by phone.

Registration includes: Access to **Microsoft TEAMS** for the virtual conference call.

Key Information

- The Agenda will be sent out no later than Monday, July 13, 2020.
- Final pre-Conference read-ahead material will be emailed on Tuesday, July 14, 2020.
- Once you have registered, you will receive an email with a link to the conference, detailed instructions on how to use Microsoft TEAMS, and a POC should you need assistance. A Microsoft TEAMS training and testing session is scheduled for Thursday, July 16, from 1:00-3:00 PM PDT. The test link will be sent with your confirmation.
- Please complete and send the enclosed registration form to DOCA by the end of **Wednesday, July 15, 2020.** To register over the phone, contact the DOCA office.
- **After July 15,** please contact the DOCA office to ensure access to Microsoft TEAMS.
- Important program announcements and updates will be provided via email as needed.

Please sign: _____

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