

United States Army, Alaska
Assumption of Command Ceremony
11 September 2009

Good morning (VIPs) General officers, Soldiers, family and friends of United States Army, Alaska. I would like to welcome COL Daly and his wife Dawn. Other special guests with us today include, MG Bill Troy, his wife Paula, and their youngest of two boys Garrett.

The musical heritage inherent to our ceremonies would not be complete without support of the 9th Army Band. Your presence inspires patriotism and elevates esprit de corps. As always, you look and sound fabulous.

To the Soldiers of this command, your continued support of Overseas Contingency Operations has been remarkable. A special Aloha to the leaders, Soldiers, and Family Members of the 1/25th Stryker Brigade Combat Team. Welcome back. Your contribution and service will have its place in history; you directly contributed to the transition of responsibility to Iraqi forces last June. I encourage you to take advantage of the reintegration process as you continue to redeploy. Please accept my personal thanks for your service and sacrifice.

Today we extend our thanks and gratitude to COL Daly, the interim commander for US Army, Alaska. Since his assumption of command in July, he oversaw the redeployment and reintegration of Task Force 49 and 6/17 CAV and maintained oversight of the redeployment of 1/25 Stryker Brigade. USARAK's 4/25 Airborne Brigade Combat Team continues to serve in support of Operation Enduring Freedom. We look forward to their safe return.

Eddiy, I thank you for a job well done. I have - and will continue to have the utmost confidence in your ability to provide leadership to this organization.

As we say thank you to one of the Army's exceptional leaders, we welcome Alaska's incoming Commanding General. MG Troy and his wife Paula bring a wealth of knowledge and experience to this command. Bill's operational experience as a brigade S4 during Desert Shield & Desert Storm, combined with his time as the Chief of Staff for MNC-I in 2004 have reiterated the fundamental importance of readiness. As the Deputy Commanding General for Support, for the 1st Cavalry Division, Bill oversaw the organization's recovery and reconstitution from Operation Iraqi Freedom in 2005.

As the Deputy Commanding General of 1st Corps, MG Troy gained experience caring for Families and preparing Soldiers for deployment. He will ensure the Soldiers and Family Members of this command have access to all available resources and programs quintessential to the redeployment, reset, and retrain cycles associated with today's deploying forces.

Again, thank you Eddiy and Dawn for the outstanding support and leadership provided to the Soldiers and Families of United States Army, Alaska. Bill and Paula, Rhonda and I would like to officially welcome you to the USARPAC One Team.

Army Strong