

Signal Regiment embracing changes

Signaleers,

Prior to assuming my position as deputy to the commanding general, I spent over four years running the Software Engineering Center at the Communications Electronics Command. We supported all the CECOM and associated PEO systems with software. The majority of those systems belonged to the Signal Corps. My experiences served as a learning introduction to Army software tools, and I had the opportunity to interact with various systems such as WIN-T, JWICS, ABCS, CNR, DCGS-A, CPOF, SINGARS, and others. When I became the SEC director we had a budget of \$800 million which grew to a staggering \$1.4 billion during my four plus years of leadership.

Two of our greatest areas of growth were in system support for the DCGS-A component, and the implementation of a field support directorate with over 700 Field Service Representatives and Field Software Engineers. While I received many accolades from my customers on the level of service

provided through these representatives, many commanders lamented the inability of their own formations to perform set up maintenance work on these vital signal systems. It seems like destiny that my next assignment would be with the command team at the then Signal Center of Excellence.

While I had a solid grasp on Signal systems, I did not yet know the Signal Regiment as well as I would have liked. Rightfully so, in the year that has followed, I have been continuously impressed by the breadth and depth of talent and knowledge I have encountered throughout all echelons of the Signal Regiment—officer, warrant officer and enlisted.

While still proud of the level of support my staff at CECOM was able to provide to the Army, I am now equally thrilled that the Signal Regiment is again embracing its role as both operator and maintainer of its equipment. For me, the primary reason for the Signal Corps' existence is that, when going to war, we begin by destroying the enemy's command and control infrastructure. Then our Signal Corps rebuilds the communications infrastructure for our network-dependent Army. The Signal Corps is a vital element of our Army today and will continue to be even more so in the future. Once established, the operation and maintenance of the network begins. Cyber space domination is a critical element in the equation required for operating and maintaining the networks. Cyberspace operations expand our responsibility for building and maintaining functional, reliable and secure networks.

The Signal Regiment has been and always will be necessary. There is no need to fear the emergence of cyber. As builders, operators and maintainers of the LandWarNet, the Signal Corps supports the Army portion of the DoD Information Network—which, together with offensive and defensive cyberspace operations, form the three components of Cyberspace Operations. As members of the Signal Regiment expand our ability to self-sustain, we will increasingly find ourselves even more vital to the conduct of military operations by giving our Army the needed network agility and security both on land and in cyberspace.

