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**PRESS RELEASE**

DATE: July 22, 2010

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**Fort A.P. Hill Installation-Community Council elects civilian co-chair**

**FORT A.P. HILL, Va.** – Fort A.P. Hill reinvigorated its Installation-Community Council, July 22, which included the election of a retired naval reserve captain to co-chair future meetings.

Navy Capt. (retired) James “Jim” S. Day, who has served as civilian co-chair with three Fort A.P. Hill commanders, said he looks forward to serving in that capacity again.

“I appreciate your confidence. I look forward to serving with Colonel Haefner,” Day said. “I look forward to continuing to serve Fort A.P. Hill and Caroline County.”

The Installation-Community Council promotes sustained positive relationships with the surrounding communities.

Day is actively involved in the local community from serving as vice-president of the Rappahannock-Fort A.P. Hill Chapter of the Association of the U.S. Army to serving on the Fredericksburg Regional Chamber of Commerce Military Advisory Council board of directors. He’s the co-owner of De Jarnette and Beale insurance agency in Bowling Green and has been a member of the Caroline Ruritan Club for 35-plus years. He’s lived in Bowling Green since 1970 and is married with three sons and seven grandchildren.

He stressed the importance of the council.

“I think it’s important for the civilian community to understand that there’s not many places in the world today that you can actually have dialogue with the military about how the training that’s being conducted may affect the civilian community,” he said.

Haefner echoed Day's remarks, adding that it's not the Army's council but a forum of community leaders committed to moving forward together.

Fort A.P. Hill is a regional training center, training almost 100,000 warfighters per year.

Retired after 31 years of service in the Navy and the father of a lieutenant commander, Day understands military training.

"I certainly don't want my son going into harms way without appropriate training," he said. "If we are going to send our folks into harms way we have to ensure they have the training and equipment to ensure their success and survival."

"The things that have been done at A.P. Hill in the last few months have saved lives," he added. "The training is extremely important."

The council provides a a forum for discussing issues of mutual concern and for sharing information. Its primary purposes are maintaining or improving military civilian relationships, promoting general welfare and prosperity within the region surrounding the installation, and addressing issues related to sustainability of Fort A.P. Hill's important mission of training the warfighters.

At the meeting, the council received an overview of the installation's mission as a regional training center, upcoming construction projects and Fort A.P. Hill's initiative on a Joint Land Use Study as well as an overview of the National Scout Jamboree.

In addition to representatives from the installation, the council includes an invited standing and rotational non-military group of about 30 people affiliated with regional business, civic, agricultural, religious, educational and governmental agencies from Caroline, Spotsylvania, King George and Essex Counties; City of Fredericksburg and Bowling Green, Port Royal and Tappahannock townships.

