

Chief of Chemical



Colonel (P) Leslie C. Smith

Army Chemical Review is dedicated to all Dragon Soldiers and friends of the U.S. Army Chemical Corps and Regiment. In June 2009, we are celebrating the 91st anniversary of the Chemical Corps; Regimental Week; and the Joint Chemical, Biological, Radiological, and Nuclear (CBRN) Conference. We have planned multiple great venues to move our Regiment and community forward (see the agenda on page 40). The National Defense Industrial Association, the Chemical Corps Regimental Association, and the CBRN School are focused on making this event special for all attendees. The Joint Conference and Regimental Week theme is “Full Spectrum CBRN Operations: Celebrating the CBRN Noncommissioned Officer.” Our entire team looks forward to your participation in the week’s activities.

This issue of *Army Chemical Review* continues to focus on our efforts to support the Nation and the Army. Since the last issue, we held U.S. elections, witnessed an increase in cross-border drug violence in Mexico, began sending more Soldiers to Afghanistan, witnessed North Korea launch another missile into the Pacific Ocean, and started building a CBRN capability with our Iraqi partners. In this era of persistent conflict and engagement, how do we continue to win the current fight and maintain the all-volunteer force? How do we keep our Soldiers, Civilians, and their Families in the military? How do we help reduce the stressors that we all face?

Each year we lose too many Soldiers to suicide. The Vice Chief of Staff of the Army, General Peter W. Chiarelli, made seven stops to seven posts in January to discuss the initiatives and concerns of our Soldiers, Civilians, and their Families. No Soldier, Sailor, Airman, Marine, Civilian, or Family member needs to suffer in silence. We have numerous systems and processes to help. Please assist the Army team by continuing to show your concern for the welfare and development of others.

As we continue to train Soldiers, Sailors, Airmen, Marines, and Civilians, we have many challenges to face as a CBRN community and as a Nation. Senior Department of Defense and Army leaders have asked us to think about how we transition from counterinsurgency operations to a more hybrid threat for warfare. We have seen this used during Russian operations in Georgia and during Hezbollah missions against Israel. How do we continue to deal with hybrid threats? How do we train Soldiers to deal with these unknown situations?

We also need to concentrate on bettering the partnership between our Services, components, and agencies. Although we train Chemical warriors from all Services at Fort Leonard Wood, we do not train together. There is no requirement to do so, but we have a vested interest in increasing our synergies and synchronization. The Nation expects us to deliver the capability, but does not dictate which Service provides it. In the next year, the Chemical Corps intends to partner with others in our community to build a chemical, biological, radiological, nuclear, and high-yield explosives (CBRNE) enterprise. This enterprise will combine the efforts of multiple organizations—the Defense Threat Reduction Agency, Edgewood Chemical and Biological Center, U.S. Army Nuclear and Combating Weapons of Mass Destruction Agency, Joint Requirements Office, Joint Program Executive Office, and others. We must all cooperate and collaborate to find solutions to meet the challenges of CBRN doctrine, organization, training, materiel, leadership and education, personnel, and facilities. I look forward to your thoughts on how we build this partnership in defense of the Nation.

I need your ideas on the above issues and your answers to the questions I have posed. You deal with these situations every day, and your insight is invaluable in developing solutions. Please continue to dialogue with me and other Corps leaders in the Chemical Knowledge Network at [https://www.us.army.mil/suite/portal.do?\\$p=409522](https://www.us.army.mil/suite/portal.do?$p=409522). I personally answer questions on ProtectionNet at <https://forums.bcks.army.mil/secure/CommunityBrowser.aspx?id=62418>, and I want to hear from you on how to make our Corps and Army better.

The front cover of this *Army Chemical Review* pays tribute to the core of our Army and Chemical Corps—the noncommissioned officer (NCO). We all have a story about our NCOs and the role that they play in development. My first NCO, then Staff Sergeant Charlie Crawford, epitomized the best I have seen in an Army leader. He showed me how to work on vehicles, talk with Soldiers, wear a uniform correctly, and deal with the host nation populace. If you are an NCO, remember the role you play in developing our Army and our Nation. The Army has recognized your importance by making 2009 “The Year of the NCO.” Take advantage of the education, fitness, leadership, and pride-in-service initiatives that the Army has developed. Thank you for continuing to accomplish the mission and prepare the next generation of Soldiers and leaders. Army strong!

***ELEMENTIS, REGAMUS, PROELIUM:
CHEMICAL CORPS: CAPABLE NOW!***

Regimental Command Sergeant Major

The commandant and I have been conducting full spectrum operations this last quarter. We have been able to visit many of our chemical, biological, radiological, and nuclear (CBRN) warriors throughout the Chemical Corps; and I must say that I am proud to serve with all of them. Our warriors are conducting combat operations in Afghanistan and Iraq, overseas training in various locations, and stability operations in the continental United States. Many units are conducting consequence management missions throughout the countryside. Our warriors are engaged in full spectrum operations while transforming the Army. Here at the home of the Dragon warrior, our leaders and Soldiers have trained thousands of warriors to supply our warfighting units with the best-trained Soldiers in the world. Our leaders here at Fort Leonard Wood are doing their part to grow the Army and sustain the operational training base. The commandant and I are very proud of each and every one of you for serving and supporting our great Chemical Corps. During our travels, we talk about how great it is to serve our warriors and their families.

Congratulations to our NCOs and their Families for their commitment to service and their sacrifice for our Nation. As we enter this special year, we want to tell our story publicly and recognize the contributions of our NCOs. It is particularly important to recognize the courage and dedication of our NCOs deployed throughout the world. We as a Corps want to highlight what the Army is doing to accelerate professional development, training, and educational programs that benefit NCOs. Our NCOs make it happen in the Chemical Corps. We have to tell our story. We have to share our experiences. We have to educate the public about how Army NCOs are professional trainers and experts in their craft, planning and conducting individual and collective training for their Soldiers and their teams.



**Command Sergeant Major
Ted A. Lopez**

“At the front of every Army mission in the United States or overseas, you’ll find a noncommissioned officer. They know their mission, they know their equipment, but most importantly, they know their Soldiers.”¹

*—Secretary of the Army Pete Geren
2008 Association of the United States Army
Annual Meeting and Exposition*

We are very excited that the mighty 48th Chemical Brigade is sponsoring this year’s Chemical Corps Soldier and NCO of the Year competitions. With full spectrum operations, the competitions will advance one more step toward the future. The Spartans will have CBRN NCOs running the competition from every battalion in the Chemical Corps. The brigade commander and command sergeant major have provided a plan that will truly challenge the physical and mental fitness of our CBRN warriors in technical skills and warrior battle tasks and drills. This year’s competition will take place a week early to provide the time and energy necessary to push our CBRN warriors to the limit. At the end of the competition, our NCO Academy (in particular, the Senior Leader Course) will conduct a traditional NCO induction ceremony to induct our newest NCOs into the Corps here at the home of the Chemical Corps.

I have had several briefings on robotics and how we can use this technology to improve our missions. If you would like more information on robotics, please contact—

Mr. Karl Cockrum
Robotic Systems Joint Project Office
CBRN Robotic Systems Support (Qualis Corporation) CDID, RDD
Fort Leonard Wood, Missouri 65473
Telephone: (573) 563-8277

(continued on page 4)

("Regimental Command Sergeant Major" continued from page 3)

We are not getting our CBRN warriors involved in the use of the CBRN Knowledge Network (<[https://www.us.army.mil/suite/portal.do?\\$p=409522](https://www.us.army.mil/suite/portal.do?$p=409522)>). I cannot stress enough the importance of our warriors using and accessing this brilliant Web site to stay current in the CBRN field.

To the Corps, thank you for serving. We are very proud of you! I ask each of you to provide me your thoughts in any areas where we can improve our Corps.

Thanks to our Families, Retirees, and Civilians for what you do.

Endnote:

¹C. Todd Lopez, "Army Secretary Announces 2009 Will Be 'Year of NCO,'" American Forces Press Service, U.S. Department of Defense, 6 October 2008.



The NCO Creed

No one is more professional than I. I am a noncommissioned officer, a leader of Soldiers. As a noncommissioned officer, I realize that I am a member of a time-honored corps, which is known as "The Backbone of the Army." I am proud of the Corps of Noncommissioned Officers and will at all times conduct myself so as to bring credit upon the Corps, the military service, and my country regardless of the situation in which I find myself. I will not use my grade or position to attain pleasure, profit, or personal safety.

Competence is my watchword. My two basic responsibilities will always be uppermost in my mind—accomplishment of my mission and the welfare of my Soldiers. I will strive to remain technically and tactically proficient. I am aware of my role as a noncommissioned officer. I will fulfill my responsibilities inherent in that role. All Soldiers are entitled to outstanding leadership; I will provide that leadership. I know my Soldiers, and I will always place their needs above my own. I will communicate consistently with my Soldiers and never leave them uninformed. I will be fair and impartial when recommending both rewards and punishment.

Officers of my unit will have maximum time to accomplish their duties; they will not have to accomplish mine. I will earn their respect and confidence as well as that of my Soldiers. I will be loyal to those with whom I serve—seniors, peers, and subordinates alike. I will exercise initiative by taking appropriate action in the absence of orders. I will not compromise my integrity, nor my moral courage. I will not forget, nor will I allow my comrades to forget that we are professionals, noncommissioned officers, leaders!