

Chief of Chemical and Commandant, U.S. Army Chemical, Biological, Radiological, and Nuclear School

Fellow Dragon Warriors,

As Regimental Command Sergeant Major Ted A. Lopez and I travel around the world conducting Chemical Regiment business, leaders at all points stop us to sing your praises. Whether it's escorting convoys in Iraq, conducting weapons of mass destruction—elimination operations in Korea, or supporting homeland defense operations, you continue to prove yourselves as units and individuals. We are proud of what you have done—and are doing—in support of our Nation and our Regiment. Keep it up!

Serving as the commandant of the U.S. Army Chemical, Biological, Radiological, and Nuclear School (USACBRNS) is an awesome and humbling experience. I would like to briefly review some of the milestones that we have achieved during the past year:

- **Regimental Campaign Plan:** The Regimental Campaign Plan, which was published in December 2010, charts a course of providing the latest equipment, tactics, techniques, and procedures and developing Soldiers and leaders toward an end state that will increase our capabilities. We are making excellent progress toward several of our interim goals. I invite you to keep up to date on this at the Chemical, Biological, Radiological, and Nuclear Knowledge Network (CKN) Web site at <https://www.us.army.mil/suite/page/CKN>.
- **Joint, Interagency, Intergovernmental, Multinational–Industry and Academia (JIIM-IA) Conference and Regimental Week 2011:** What a great conference we had here at Fort Leonard Wood, Missouri, in June 2011. It was great to see so many chemical, biological, radiological, and nuclear (CBRN) professionals in one place, sharing ideas, regaining common operational pictures, and reconnecting with old friends. Many of you have asked me about the new acronym *JIIM-IA*. Quite simply, this acronym is our way of acknowledging that the combating weapons of mass destruction enterprise encompasses much more than the Chemical Corps, but that we own a leading role in coordinating the efforts of the enterprise in support of the Nation's combating weapons of mass destruction objectives. We are looking forward to our next JIIM-IA Conference, which is scheduled for 25–29 June 2012 (see page 35).
- **CBRN response enterprise:** During the past year, half of the units in the Regiment have been racing to man, train, and equip for their new roles in the CBRN response enterprise. We have pressed hard to generate this new required capability, and I am proud to announce that, as I am writing this article, half of our Regiment has assumed their role in the CBRN response enterprise.

Another challenging year lies ahead. We will continue to support operations in Iraq and Afghanistan while remaining prepared to defend the homeland. In addition, we have been directed by the Army to join in the effort to design, train, and equip a force fit for the post-Operation Iraqi Freedom/Operation New Dawn and Operation Enduring Freedom era. The Army recently released Army Doctrine Publication (ADP) 3-0, *Unified Land Operations*,¹ which supersedes Field Manual (FM) 3-0, *Operations*,² and highlights several new operational concepts. Our challenge is to determine how to posture the Regiment with doctrine, organization, training, materiel, leadership and education, personnel, and facilities (DOTMLPF) solutions to support the Army and retain our leadership role in the JIIM-IA CBRN response enterprise throughout the next several years. A few of the latest initiatives related to these efforts include—

- **Doctrine reengineering 2015:** The release of APD 3-0 officially kicked off a major shift in Army doctrinal design. Gone are the days of bulky, unwieldy, overly proscriptive doctrinal manuals. Army keystone and capstone doctrine will consist of 16 ADPs, each of which outlines general concepts in 10 pages or less. CBRN doctrine will also undergo a shift so that it nests within the new doctrinal concepts and supports our evolving missions.
- **Corps redesign:** The Regiment must examine organizational capabilities and design in order to structure and enable our forces to meet the requirements of a new era.
- **Army Learning Concept 2015 implementation:** The USACBRNS will continue to refine training and instruction according to Army Learning Concept 2015. This program is designed to better prepare our professionals for new environments by taking advantage of previous learning experiences (such as those encountered in combat), recognizing generational learning differences, and making use of the latest information technologies.

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Colonel Vance P. Visser

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- **One Army School System integration:** The USACBRNS One Army School System pilot supports the full spectrum of CBRN course delivery requirements, courseware equivalency, and resource sharing for all components and will serve to completely integrate all Regular Army, U.S. Army Reserve, and Army National Guard Dragon warriors in their professional development training here at Fort Leonard Wood.

In closing, I would like to thank you for all that you do in support of the Nation and invite you to join us in examining, analyzing, and ushering in changes that will posture our Regiment for the future. Updates are available via the CKN.

Endnotes:

¹ADP 3-0, *Unified Land Operations*, 10 October 2011.

²FM 3-0, *Operations*, 27 February 2008.

Elementis, Regamus, Proelium!