
Farewell From

Brigadier General David Quantock

Where did the past two years go? By the time you read this issue of *Military Police*, the 51st Regimental Change of Command will have taken place and Brigadier General David Phillips and his wife, Dawn, will be firmly entrenched at the Home of the Regiment.

First, let me say “welcome” to the Phillips! David, Dawn, Melissa, and I have been longtime friends—since the days we caused chaos in the Military Police Captain’s Career Course at Fort McClellan, Alabama, in 1984. The school has never been quite the same since. After returning from his second tour in Iraq, where he led the way in our law enforcement efforts, David is exactly the right person at the right time to take this Regiment to the next level.

Second, I would like to thank Brigadier General Rod Johnson for his superb support at the Department of the Army (DA) Office of the Provost Marshal General; many of our goals could not have been accomplished without his team’s tremendous support and the great teamwork between DA and the U.S. Army Military Police School (USAMPS). Rod and his wife Marsha have both contributed greatly to our Regiment and continue to provide tremendous leadership from the seat of power in Washington, D.C.

Although much has been accomplished in these two years, rather than dwell on the past, I would like to spend a few minutes on our future. Past successes just allow future opportunities, which if not taken advantage of, will be lost.

First, we must remember that as a regiment that makes up 4.8 percent of the Army, we must do everything in our power to support the combatant commander. Only by supporting the brigade combat team, division, or corps commander will we continue to be the force of choice, able to enjoy our historic growth. To do that, we must fully **enable** police intelligence operations (PIO). PIO are not owned by Criminal Investigation Division agents; they are owned by every military police Soldier in a host nation police station, detention facility, continental United States (CONUS) police station, or Criminal Investigation Division detachment. PIO represent all of us linked by an enterprise, allowing us to use, share, and draw conclusions from data. To do that, we must focus on a material solution—one that is **not** stovepiped, but one that is an Army system supported and funded by institutions that are larger than the military police community—like the Distributed Common Ground System–Army (DCGS-A) intelligence system, an enterprise that can draw and leverage the goodness that all of us bring to the fight. The days of “cylinders of excellence” are over; the sooner we put those thoughts behind us, the sooner we can maximize our support to the combatant commander.

Second, we must be experts in our military police core competencies—law enforcement, internment/resettlement/corrections, and criminal investigation. That’s what makes us special. That’s what the Army wants us for. I am not saying that our five military police functions are null and void; I am saying that what the Army really needs and wants are those who can go anywhere in the world, under any conditions, and be critical enablers of rule-of-law operations. As we have found in Iraq and Afghanistan, it’s the security and establishment of the rule of law that is the most illusive. We are changing our curriculum at USAMPS to create these experts and, in the near future, to create opportunities for our officers and noncommissioned officers to have internships at major police headquarters for at least ninety days. But at the end of the day, you manage your own career. Make yourself an expert in your trade.

Third, your school has an expeditionary mind-set. Despite almost every bureaucratic reason for saying “no,” dedicated USAMPS Soldiers, civilians, and contractors have found a way to say “yes.” We have set records on the number of mobile training teams we have sent to the field, despite most of them coming “out of hide.” I want to say “thanks” to all those at USAMPS who have spent many days out on the road supporting our Soldiers—you have made the difficult look easy and the impossible just another challenge. I am proud to



have served with you. The challenge ahead is to continue to fight for resources and to maintain the momentum that all of you have created.

Fourth, I learned a long time ago that organizations grow, change, or fade away. Today, we are the DA Police Center of Excellence. In our future, I see USAMPs as the Department of Defense Police Center of Excellence. We have planted the seed with the stand-up of the DA Police Academy. This academy can be leveraged in many ways to supplement and complement law enforcement training throughout USAMPS and our Army. Other services are already interested in partnering with us; and in the next few years, I see all of the other services coming to USAMPS for the full suite of law enforcement/corrections/investigation training.

Fifth, we are Warrior Police. We must never forget that we are Soldiers first and foremost. We are a force that can fight and win on the battlefield. We are a force that is grounded in the Warrior Ethos, understanding that we might have to fight our way into a police station or conduct a deliberate attack against a Level II threat. Our next fight could be a major combat operation, with maneuver and mobility support operations and area security jumping to the forefront, so we cannot forget the “Warrior” piece of “Warrior Police.”

And finally, I want to say, “Thanks!” It takes teams of teams to accomplish the impossible during times like these. You all accomplish the impossible every day, selflessly serving your country—teams of Soldiers, DA civilians, contractors, and families all accomplishing the impossible. Thanks for what you all do every day and what you will all do in the future. See you all on the high ground!

WARRIOR POLICE!