

NOTES FROM THE DIRECTOR:

COL. TINA M. SCHOENBERGER



Welcome to Issue #27 of the CWMD Journal.

I am Col. Tina M. Schoenberger, and I have been serving as the USANCA Director since July 2023.

I would like to thank my predecessor, Col. Colin, P. (Pat) Nikkila for his outstanding leadership and significant contributions to nuclear and CWMD readiness throughout the Army and across the Department of Defense. Under his leadership, the Army implemented progressive and sequential Conventional Nuclear Integration (CNI) curriculum across all levels and cohorts of Army Professional Military Education while also supporting CWMD readiness initiatives in priority theaters and across the institutional Army. His efforts to reform the management and education of FA52, Nuclear and

Countering Weapons of Mass Destruction Officers will pay dividends for the entire DoD CWMD community and beyond. As you read on in this edition of the CWMD Journal, you'll see these efforts reflected in many of the key articles.

Prior to my arrival at USANCA, my most recent assignment was the Plans, Integration and Assessments Division Chief for U.S. Special Operations Command (USSOCOM) J10-Countering Weapons of Mass Destruction Directorate. In that capacity, I led efforts executing the Coordinating Authority for CWMD for the Commander of USSOCOM as well as CWMD planning support for the Office of the Secretary of Defense, Geographical and Functional Combatant Commands for campaign, contingency and crisis action planning to include the SECDEF's Functional Campaign Plan for CWMD. I know full well how large and diverse this community is, and how much potential it holds.

I want to begin by expressing how absolutely honored I am to be leading this organization at such a strategic inflection point for our community. USANCA is part of a tremendous Army-wide effort to posture the Army of 2030 for a strategic environment in which WMD considerations will be at the forefront. For the first time in my memory, all our strategic guidance—to include the recently published DoD CWMD Strategy and Biodefense Posture Review—are completely aligned and focused on deterring malign activity from WMD-armed adversaries. Our leaders have made our path forward very clear.

During my 90-day assessment I was happy to find that USANCA is fully integrated within the larger DoD-wide CWMD campaign that I participated in while at USSOCOM J10. As with all of your organizations, USANCA's strength is our people: our FA52 Officers stationed world-wide, and our connection to the CWMD enterprise. We are a unique organization and community filled with scientific and technical experts with unique

skill sets and years of tactical, operational, and strategic experience. Yet we are only one of a wide network of similarly organizations rowing along as part of a Department-wide campaign. It will take unified efforts from across this entire diverse enterprise to achieve the objectives our leaders have placed in front of us.

A world in competition and conflict continues to illustrate the critical nature of our community's mission and efforts. In my short time as Director, I have already been amazed by the dedication of stakeholders across the entirety of the nuclear and CWMD enterprise as they work to provide our leaders strategic deterrence options and actionable CWMD solutions. Everything we do here at USANCA—to include publishing this Journal—is focused on supporting, integrating, and underwriting your efforts.

Within Issue 27 and in all of our publications, we hope to expand conversation and dialog on subjects including integrated deterrence, active campaigning under a nuclear shadow, and innovations in nuclear and CWMD training strategies. I challenge all members of CWMD enterprise to consider how your work and efforts are contributing to these and other critical areas. Take the time to capture these thoughts and submit them for publication in the CWMD Journal. Insights that aren't captured or shared can never lead to lasting change.

I appreciate your hard work, dedication, and resolve. Your contributions to the collective conversation on nuclear, CWMD, and biodefense issues facing our nation are critical to inform meaningful change. Our leaders will need the collective wisdom of our entire community to meet the challenges of 2030 and beyond. ■

Below: U.S. Soldiers attached to the 1st Brigade, 101st Airborne Division, react to a simulated chemical attack during Combined Resolve 24-01 at the Joint Multinational Readiness Center near Hohenfels, Germany Oct. 30, 2023. Combined Resolve 24-01 is a reoccurring U.S. Army Europe and Africa training exercise, designed to prepare U.S. brigade combat teams, NATO allies and partners in support of NATO deterrence initiatives. Approximately 4,000 Soldiers from 14 nations participated in this event. (U.S. Army Reserve photo by Sgt. Kenneth Rodriguez)



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