

\* For WLC there will be no APFT and no HGT /WGT enrolment requirement. (This is the standard for all courses less than 8 weeks). You still have to ensure they meet the standard. If they don't, they should be flagged and not allowed to attend by YOU.

\* Will no longer be a live in course. Land Navigation, 96 hours FTX and 12 other non-testable tasks will be deleted.

\* WLC additions will be Inspections, D&C, Physical Fitness and Army writing.

#### USASMA Changes:

\*Will go from a tactical/operational focus to a strategic focus similar to what FG Officers get in PME.

\*Class 60 will be all resident. There is no option for non-resident, sister service. If you have NCOs scheduled to attend that are down range you need to start the process to send them back.

BNCOC and ANCOC – to ALC and SLC. Information is already out on this. We will work migrated tasks next week here at USAMPS and NCOA.

#### Notes from GEN Casey:

##### Key tasks in balancing the Army:

1. Complete growth of the Army. We are ahead of schedule.
2. Fix the BOG – Dwell issue. Goal is 1 yr deployed 2 yr home for active component and 1 – 4 for guard and reserve. Will achieve this in next 24 months.
3. Complete modular reorganization. We are 85% done now.
4. Fully implement the Armies Force Generation model by 2010.
5. Have forces that are prepared for full spectrum operations. “Agile, Disciplined Warrior team”

##### What to expect in 2009;

- Continued progress for family support programs.
- Comprehensive physical fitness programs that cover physical and mental fitness. He wants to target junior leaders with repeated deployments and casualties. Expect changes in PME.
- Emphasis on sexual assault and prevention. Army rates are double of the other services. “We have a problem and it is NOT that we just report better” Keep pushing the “I am Strong” campaign to combat sexual misconduct. In 2008, 1800 Soldiers were punished for sexual misconduct.
- Do not expect a drop in deployed strength until about the middle of 2010. In fact, we will see a slight increase as we shift forces from OIF to OEF.
- “We are never going back to a Garrison based Army” What he related to was all support systems we had in place were geared towards being home in the garrison

environment. All systems now are focused on being deployed and taking care of Soldiers and families for and while deployed.

- We must think different on how we train. 2/3 of the forces are combat veterans so he wants us to adjust training fit to the target audience. We have talked about the challenges we have in our junior NCO ranks so we will adjust.
- Reset: Must take first six months to take care of equipment, people and then train. He talked about over energetic commanders that want to get back into the fight and forget that they need to take care of the above. "NCOs and Officers working until 2100-2200 every night just following a deployment doesn't make sense"
- Warrior University has 14 colleges partnered now and growing. Credit for NCOES towards a degree.

As I go through al the other information I received I will share what you need to hear. Thanks for all you do and stay in contact.

## Notes from SMA Nominative Conference

Hope everyone had a great holiday.

Here are a few notes I took from the SMAs nominative conference that was just held at USASMA from 5-7 Jan.

### **Notes from SMA:**

SMA Preston wants CSMs/SGMs to go out into the community to tell their story and the NCO story. 2009 is the Year of the NCO and he wants us to push out and talk about it. All of us at the conference were tasked to do three outreach events a quarter. We (and so can you) registered with recruiting command who will push our information to our home town area recruiting BNs and home station Recruiting BNs. They will in turn invite us to speak at local events. He encourages all of us to get involved in this effort.

This is the Year of the NCO. The strategic communication plan is out. (I forwarded last night) SMA intent is to enhance Education, Fitness, Leadership, Pride, to Recognize and Inform.

Incorporate NCOs at all levels for recognition. An example is you will see NCOs as part of the Presidential Inauguration. Think about how to do this at your level.

SMA Preston is looking for two highly professional and competent MSGs or SGMs to serve as Liaisons at the House and Senate. If you have candidates, shoot me their information. It will be a 24 month tour. Must have combat experience, a good understanding of how the Army operates and the ability to articulate that to civilians.

Year of the NCO Web Site: <https://www4.army.mil/yearofhtenco>  
MSG Amanda Glenn is the point of information for this web site.  
[Amanda.glenn@us.army.mil](mailto:Amanda.glenn@us.army.mil)

The SMA wants us to bridge the training gap with NCOEDP. NCOES won't cover it all so we need to identify the deficiencies and train them in our units. He feels NCOEDP is one of those programs that have been placed aside and needs to be revitalized. I concur, you read my letter.

### Future NCOES revisions:

WLC Recommended and future changes are:

\* WLC will be a 140 hr, 15 day course. No more non-testable topics. All topics will have an evaluation or test linked to them.