



# S M D C / A R S T R A T



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Thank you all for taking the time away from your busy schedules to attend the Annual United States Army Space and Missile Defense Command / Army Forces Strategic Command Senior Enlisted Leaders Training Conference!

The purpose of the conference is to provide a forum for Senior Enlisted Leaders and Senior Noncommissioned Officers to interact and share your experience, exchange ideas, and discuss lessons learned throughout your careers.

Our theme this year is “The Profession of Arms; Space NCOs Training our Warriors,” and our goal is to gain a deeper understanding of the contributions Army space professionals provide to both our Army and the Combatant Commanders. This theme fits nicely with the first of our three core tasks: Providing trained and ready space and missile defense forces and capabilities to the COCOMs and to the Warfighter.

By the end of the conference we expect each of you to have a better understanding of and appreciation for where Space NCOs fit within the Profession of Arms, their significant contributions to the profession, and the training required to become an Army Space Professional.

As we evaluate what it means to be a member of the Army’s Space Profession, I think it’s important to consider General Dempsey’s comments. He recently noted, “you are not a profession simply because you declare



yourself to be a profession...you have to earn the title every day.” By this I think he means being considered professional takes far more than just being part of a profession.

His assessment holds true for our Space NCOs in USASMD C / ARSTRAT and I believe it holds true for all our fellow NCOs in the “space community.” You don’t earn the right to be considered a Space Professional just because you’ve been assigned to USASMD C/ARSTRAT or to JFCC-IMD, or Air Force Space Command. You earn your spurs through training, evaluation, certification, and hours upon hours of operational performance.

You either are or are not a Space Professional; it is not a “sometimes” thing. I believe that each of us is a professional and that each of us will strive to attain the high goals and standards of our profession on a daily basis. Hopefully this conference will help us better quantify the measures of a Space Professional, and their contributions to our Warfighters, our COCOMs and our nation.

I’m sure each of you will find this conference productive, beneficial and educational. I can’t stress enough the fact that success depends on you. Your input and expertise are absolutely essential for this conference to be successful.

Finally, I would like to take a moment to thank the 45th Space Wing for their generous support and hospitality in hosting the SELTC in their facilities.



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Now let's roll up our sleeves and get down to work!

The Sun Never Sets on USASMDC/ARSTRAT

Secure the High Ground.