



CONR - 1 AF/AFNORTH

Continental United States NORAD Region – First Air Force (Air Forces Northern)
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Tradition continues with Change of Command ceremony

TYNDALL AIR FORCE BASE, Fla. – A time-honored military tradition will continue when Air Forces Northern commander, Maj. Gen. Hank Morrow, utters the words, “Sir, I relinquish command” and turns over the top leadership job of the organization responsible for ensuring the air defense of the continental United States to Maj. Gen. Garry Dean during a ceremony here Nov. 12.

General Morrow assumed command of Continental U.S. North American Aerospace Defense Command - 1st Air Force (Air Forces Northern) during a similar ceremony Nov. 1, 2006.

During his tenure, the general has seen exponential changes and improvements to the vast mission under his command.

The Air Force Rescue Coordination Center began operations here under 1st AF in 2007, serving as the single agency responsible for coordinating on-land federal search and rescue activities in the continental U.S., Mexico and Canada. Prior to moving to Tyndall AFB, the center operated out of Langley AFB, Va.

Also under his watch, a new state-of-the-art Air and Space Operations Center opened June 1, 2007. The AOC manages day-to-day air defense and air sovereignty operations protecting the continental U.S. from airborne aggression.

One of General Morrow’s proudest accomplishments was the construction and completion of CONR-1st AF’s joint warfighting headquarters complex, boasting state-of-the-art technology and security, was dedicated March 13, 2009. The Killey Center for Homeland Operations is named after Maj. Gen. Philip Killey, the first Air National Guard general officer to lead an Air Combat Command Numbered Air Force in a federal mission- defending the continental U.S. from air attack.

Since Sept. 11, 2001, CONR-1st AF has been the lead agency for Operation Noble Eagle, an ongoing mission to protect the CONUS from further terrorist aggression from inside and outside the borders. CONR-1st AF units have executed more 54,000 sorties, prosecuted more than 400 tracks of interest, and have provided protection for the president, the space shuttle, United Nations General Assembly, both political conventions, State of the Union addresses, and Super Bowl games.

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MORROW**

General Morrow leaves Tyndall to become U.S. Defense Representative, U.S. Liaison Office, U.S. Central Command, Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates. He will serve as the U.S. Defense Representative and, as such, is the Chief of Mission's single point of contact for coordinating administrative and security requirements for all Department of Defense elements in the UAE. The general will also serve as the U.S. Central Command country representative, responsible for implementing and executing the Commander-in-Chief's theater engagement plan. As such, he is responsible for coordination of bilateral and multilateral operational plans and coalition contingency operations.

Gen. Victor E. Renuart Jr., North American Aerospace Defense Command and U.S. Northern Command commander, and Gen. William M. Fraser III, Air Combat Command commander will officiate the ceremony.

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EDITOR'S NOTE: Media wanting to cover the change of command ceremony must be at the Tyndall AFB Visitors Center **no later than 9:15 a.m.**, Thursday, Nov. 12, to be escorted to the flightline hangar. Because of the security sensitivities surrounding this event, vehicle traffic to and from the location will cease promptly, so it is critical that media representatives are on time to the Visitors Center for escort.