

Alan Estevez Nominated to be New Principal Deputy USD(AT&L)

The White House announced Sept. 21 that Alan F. Estevez has been nominated to be the new Principal Deputy Undersecretary of Defense for Acquisition, Technology, and Logistics. Estevez has served as Assistant Secretary of Defense for Logistics & Materiel Readiness (ASD[L&MR]) since August last year, following a series of Army and Office of the Secretary of Defense transportation and supply chain jobs. To date, a new ASD(L&MR) has not been named.

General Officer Announcement

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE NEWS RELEASE (AUG. 2, 2012)

Secretary of Defense Leon E. Panetta announced today that the President has made the following nomination: Air Force Maj. Gen. Christopher C. Bogdan for appointment to the rank of lieutenant general and for assignment as director, Joint Strike Fighter Program, Office of the Secretary of Defense, Arlington, Va. Bogdan is currently serving as deputy director, Joint Strike Fighter Program, Office of the Secretary of Defense, Arlington, Va.

Flag Officer Announcement

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE NEWS RELEASE (AUG. 6, 2012)

Secretary of Defense Leon E. Panetta announced today that the President has made the following nomination: Navy Rear Adm. (lower half) James D. Syring for appointment to the rank of vice admiral and for assignment as director, Missile Defense Agency, Fort Belvoir, Va. Syring is currently serving as program executive officer for Integrated Warfare Systems, Naval Sea Systems Command, Washington, D.C.

Via Takes Command of AMC, Becomes First 4-Star Signal Officer

ARMY MATERIEL COMMAND (AUG. 7, 2012)

Adoratia Purdy

MADISON, Ala.— Army Chief of Staff Gen. Raymond T. Odierno and Vice Chief of Staff Gen. Lloyd Austin, were in attendance at the promotion ceremony for Lt. Gen. Dennis L. Via, U.S. Army Materiel Command's deputy commanding general, at the Bob Jones auditorium here, Aug. 7.

Later in the day Via took command of Army Materiel Command, known as AMC.

Presiding over the ceremony, Gen. Ann E. Dunwoody, U.S. Army Materiel Command's outgoing commanding general, thanked all in attendance and described the event as a momentous occasion for the Army.

In addition, Dunwoody received thunderous applause from the crowd upon acknowledging what this promotion means to the Signal Corps.

"For those of you who may not know, one of the reasons this is such a historic day for our Army, is that Lieutenant General Via is the first-ever signal officer in the history of the Army to ever be promoted to a four-star [general]," said Dunwoody.

She went on to recount the numerous challenging assignments Via held throughout his career, from the commander of the 82nd Airborne Signal Battalion, to the commander of the 3rd Signal Brigade at Fort Hood, Texas, where he was also dual-hatted as the III Corps G6.

"I have learned when you have a guy as talented as Dennis you just don't want to waste him on one job," joked Dunwoody.

Dunwoody shared her thoughts on what Via will bring to Army Materiel Command and the Army.

"He has a caring personal leadership style that brings out the best in everyone. From the youngest private to the most senior officers, he has an absolute commitment to the highest standards of this Army's profession, and has the wisdom and the vision to see how the future can be different and better," said Dunwoody.

With his wife Linda and sons Brian and Bradley by his side, Via took the podium to thank his predecessor.

"Thank you for presiding at our promotion ceremony and I say our promotion ceremony because I clearly realize today is a shared celebration of personal investments made by many people in Dennis Via throughout my life and career of service in the United States Army," said Via.



Army Lt. Gen. Dennis L. Via was promoted to the rank of general Aug. 7 during a ceremony attended by friends, family, colleagues, and mentors. From left: Army Gen. Ann E. Dunwoody, AMC commanding general; Via; wife Linda Via. Via assumed command of the Army Materiel Command from Dunwoody later in the day. U.S. Army photo

A Martinsville, Va., native, Via was commissioned May 18, 1980, in the Signal Corps after graduating as a Distinguished Military Graduate from Virginia State University. He later earned a Master's Degree from Boston University, and is a graduate of the United States Army Command and General Staff College and the U.S. Army War College.

Via took a moment to thank mentors, peers, family, and friends, many of whom traveled extensively to be a part of the celebration.

A strong advocate of education, Via closed the ceremony by thanking his high school teacher and Army veteran Edward L. Fontaine for his support over the years. Via credits Fontaine with starting him on his Army career and working with Virginia State University guidance counselors to get Via enrolled as a freshman.

"Mr. Fontaine epitomizes that one person can make a difference in your life. I tell that story because it's not about me today—it is about the impact all of us can make on someone in our lives," said Via.

Via will serve as the 18th commanding general of AMC.

General Officer Announcement

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE NEWS RELEASE (AUG. 8, 2012)

Secretary of Defense Leon E. Panetta announced today that the President has made the following nomination: Army Reserve Col. Garrett S. Yee to the rank of brigadier general and for assignment as the deputy commander for mobilization (Individual Mobilization Augmentee), Surface Deployment and Distribution Command, Scott Air Force Base, Ill. Yee is currently serving as commander, 505th Theater Tactical Signal Brigade, Las Vegas, Nev.

Flag Officer Assignment

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE NEWS RELEASE (AUG. 14, 2012)

Secretary of the Navy Ray Mabus and Chief of Naval Operations Adm. Jonathan W. Greenert announced today the following assignment: Rear Adm. (lower half) Cindy L. Jaynes will be assigned as commander, Fleet Readiness Centers, Patuxent River, Md., assistant commander for logistics and industrial operations (AIR-6.0) Naval Air Systems Command, Patuxent River, Md. Jaynes is currently serving as assistant commander for logistics and industrial operations (AIR-6.0) Naval Air Systems Command, Patuxent River, Md.

Senior Executive Service Announcements

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE NEWS RELEASE (AUG. 16, 2012)

Secretary of Defense Leon E. Panetta announced the following Department of Defense Senior Executive Service appointments:

- Ross W. Branstetter III has been appointed to the Senior Executive Service and is assigned as general counsel, Missile Defense Agency, Fort Belvoir, Va. Branstetter previously served as attorney advisor (contracts), U.S. Air Force, Washington, D.C.
- Arati Prabhakar has been appointed to the Senior Executive Service and is assigned as director, Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency, Arlington, Va. Prabhakar previously served as partner, U.S. Venture Partners, Menlo Park, Calif.
- Jill Eileen Stiglich has been appointed to the Senior Executive Service and is assigned as deputy director, program acquisition and strategic sourcing, Office of the Under Secretary of Defense (Acquisition, Technology and Logistics), Washington, D.C. Stiglich previously served as supervisory contract specialist, Office of the Under Secretary of Defense (Acquisition, Technology and Logistics), Washington, D.C.

General Officer Assignment

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE NEWS RELEASE (AUG. 22 2012)

The chief of staff, Army announced today the following general officer assignment: Brig. Gen. Daniel P. Hughes, director, system of systems integration, Aberdeen Proving Ground, Md., to deputy commanding general, U.S. Army Research, Development and Engineering Command, Aberdeen Proving Ground, Md./senior commander, Natick Soldier System Center, Natick, Mass.

Flag Officer Assignment

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE NEWS RELEASE (SEPT. 21, 2012)

The Secretary of the Navy Ray Mabus and Chief of Naval Operations Adm. Jonathan W. Greenert announced today the following assignment: Capt. Lawrence B. Jackson, who has been selected for the rank of rear admiral (lower half), will be assigned as deputy commander, Military Sealift Command, Washington, DC. Jackson previously served as commander, Military Sealift Fleet Support Command, Norfolk, Va.

Former SAC commander Dies

AIR FORCE NEWS SERVICE (SEPT. 27, 2012)

FORT GEORGE G. MEADE, Md.— Retired Gen. Bennie L. Davis, former commander in chief of Strategic Air Command and director of the Joint Strategic Target Planning Staff, with headquarters at Offutt Air Force Base, Neb., died Sept. 23 in Georgetown, Texas. He was 84 years-old.



Retired Gen. Bennie L. Davis passed away Sept. 23, 2012, in Georgetown, Texas.

U.S. Air Force courtesy photo

Davis assumed his position as the SAC commander in chief and JSTPS director in August 1981. He was the commander in chief until Aug. 1, 1985, when he retired from the Air Force.

Davis, a native of McAlester, Okla., graduated from the U.S. Military Academy at West Point, N.Y. and was Vietnam combat-tested B-57 tactical bomber pilot.

As the SAC commander, he led the nation's major nuclear deterrent force with bombers, tankers, reconnaissance aircraft, and intercontinental ballistic missiles and coordinated United States nuclear war plans and developed the Single Integrated Operational Plan as the JSTPS director.

Davis was a command pilot with more than 9,000 flying hours. His military decorations and awards include the Distinguished Service Medal (Air Force), Silver Star, Legion of Merit, Distinguished Flying Cross with two oak leaf clusters, Bronze Star Medal, Air Medal with seven oak leaf clusters, Joint Service Commendation Medal, Air Force Commendation Medal, Presidential Unit Citation Emblem and Air Force Outstanding Unit Award Ribbon.