Greetings!

As I peel away another month from my desk calendar, I am reminded that my time as editor in chief is quickly drawing to a close. This is my last journal letter and, as I write, I find it is with bittersweetness. I am sad to say goodbye to the people who made this assignment a cherished memory and our readers and authors who have so graciously supported Military Review, but I am also excited about what lies ahead.

While here, I had the loyal support of the Military Review/Army Press staff and a command who granted me the freedom to reestablish the journal as a very relevant and necessary part of Army professional education and as an outlet for scholarly dialogue. I feel the journal has dramatically improved over the last three years, and I look forward to seeing how my successor will take it to even greater heights.

I plan to make the most of the few months I have remaining with Military Review and the Army Press by providing our readers with the most engaging and professionally written articles possible. The theme of this edition is “Army Firsts,” and as you can see by the cover, we took the liberty of showcasing one of the most exciting Army firsts—The Army Press.

This issue of Military Review presents many new approaches to current doctrine and concepts, and how understanding the past can help us understand the future, or the “new.” In this edition you will find articles about other Army firsts such as an article by Maj. Brian Hildebrand, who proposes that how well the Army uses decisive action through mission command is contingent on the ability of its leaders to integrate techniques for analyzing different aspects of the human domain into the military decision-making process. He presents a way to analyze the human domain by considering six interrelated social factors.

Another author, Brian Dunn, discusses a novel approach to providing flexible, tailorable, and low-cost support to U.S. Africa Command through the use of containerized mission modules that can be combined into mission-specific packages and transported on civilian container ships. And, Maj. John Bolton puts a unique spin on an old discussion by espousing organic fixed-wing aircraft assigned to Army aviation units to augment Air Force close air support.

Finally, an article I especially like is from Paul Kotakis celebrating the one hundredth anniversary of the Army Reserve Officers’ Training Corps (ROTC) program. This program has produced two chairmen of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, an astronaut, seven Army chiefs of staff, two secretaries of state, and a Supreme Court justice. Kotakis explains how, with over six hundred thousand graduates to its credit, Army ROTC has had a lasting impact on virtually all elements of American society.

Thank you again for your continued support; it’s been the best three years of my thirty-one-year career. It is with a heavy heart that I must bid you farewell. Please continue to follow us at http://usacac.army.mil/cac2/militaryreview/index.asp or http://armypress.dodlive.mil/.

Col. Anna R. Friederich-Maggard

A U.S. Army CH-47 Chinook is used to transport soldiers during a combined arms live-fire exercise at Ban Chan Khrem, Thailand, during exercise Cobra Gold, 19 February 2016.

(Photo by Lance Cpl. Eryn L. Edelman, U.S. Marine Corps)
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