



We need to communicate about the space and missile defense capabilities we provide in terms that the rest of the Army – and mankind in general – can more easily understand.

Words should be musical and meaningful and descriptive. So I am thinking about nicknaming the ASJ pub “Doc” for doctor. Publications should have personalities and, in its tenth year, the Army Space Journal’s characteristics are changing – maturing is the better word – to future needs. The vision is one of matching content with appearance and making it useful to readers. “Doc” seems like an appropriate title because it sets the mark to live up to in the coming years, beginning with 2011 which is the year our Army focuses on the Profession of Arms. The nut of professionalism is the ability to articulate confidence through actions and words – no less true for Soldiers and Civilians involved in providing space and missile defense capabilities to national security efforts. Since there is no title more recognizable for professionalism than the word doctor, “Doc” feels right to start the journey forward.

Likable and accurate words work because, together with other words, they tell stories, and well-told stories are pretty much what a publication is all about. I have heard LTG Richard P. Formica speak on several occasions since he became commanding general of United States Army Space and Missile Defense Command / Army Forces Strategic Command late last year. His basic words were music to this storyteller’s ears. His straightforward explanations lay out the design – yes, stories need design – for communication. First, the three core tasks of USASMD/ARSTRAT provide the thesis statements for anything we do and say. Second, we need to communicate about the space and missile defense capabilities we provide in terms that the rest of the Army – and mankind in general – can more easily understand. And, third, just because what we say and do is about operational efforts in space and missile defense doesn’t mean it is just about military operations in those areas.

Understanding the command’s three core tasks becomes central to the story:

- “Providing trained and ready space and missile defense forces and capabilities to the component commands and in support of the warfighter;
- “Building future space and missile defense forces;
- “Researching, testing and integrating space, missile defense, high altitude, directed energy and other related technologies.”

It was during an award ceremony in Colorado Springs that things began to jell in my mind about this. Formica said that people typically relate the first core task with the ARSTRAT mission and the later two beyond its scope, but that he would argue all three tasks apply to operational efforts. His point is that providing capability today is not a different effort from providing it tomorrow but, rather, operations today must remain unified with developments of future designs and technology in space and missile defense. Grasping this concept emphasizes the need for clear articulation of how space is vitally integrated into military operations – not just out of sight, out of mind – from the perspective of what it means to those in the fight. This applies equally to missile defense.

The first step toward the refined ASJ is the inclusion of the Army missile defense profession as part of our coverage and readership audience. From the standpoint of missile defense actually being part of the space mission area in terms of space force application, missile defenders have always been included. However, beginning with this mini-edition, the space and missile defense are both formally integral to the ASJ as they relate to the command’s three tasks. On a personal level, this translates to today’s need to return to the three core tasks that Formica has given, and answering the question of what is being provided, built and researched / tested / integrated – and to do so in common everyday language. When public relations trainers speak with executives about this sort of thing, they usually stress the importance of each individual maintaining a three-by-five card listing what he or she does to help the organization accomplish its tasks.

Look for the ASJ’s makeover in the first regular edition later this spring. The Army’s effort to focus its entire ground force – Soldiers and Civilians – on a professional ethic and perspective is a key to uniquely packaging the space and missile defense story. In many ways, the challenge for the ASJ publication itself is the same as it is for every individual member of the Profession of Arms involved in providing space and missile defense capabilities. It is extremely difficult to change the mindset. To use a former commander’s words, the tendency is to sound like a “self-licking ice cream cone” when talking about what space and missile defense professionals do for our Nation. The ASJ looks to reflect this personal maturation of the story. 

# Maintaining the Army as a Profession of Arms

To remain a strong profession in the face of today's challenges, Army leaders at all levels need a solid understanding of what it takes to earn our status. We then need to reflect on how well we are meeting these requirements, what strengths of the profession have sustained the Army, and what weaknesses and friction points need to be addressed. Toward this end, we need to agree on two important definitions:

**THE PROFESSION OF ARMS.** The Army is an American Profession of Arms, a vocation comprised of experts certified in the ethical application of land combat power, serving under civilian authority, entrusted to defend the Constitution and the rights and interests of the American people.

**THE PROFESSIONAL SOLDIER.** An American Professional Soldier is an expert, a volunteer certified in the Profession of Arms, bonded with comrades in a shared identity and culture of sacrifice and service to the Nation and the Constitution, who adheres to the highest ethical standards and is a steward of the future of the Army profession.

- The profession is "comprised of experts."
- "An American professional Soldier is an expert ... in the Army Profession of Arms"
- The Army profession and its professional Soldiers are "certified" in the "ethical application of land combat" and the "Profession of Arms"
- The Army and its professionals are "serving under civilian authority"
- The Army is "entrusted to defend the Constitution and the rights and interests of the American people"
- The profession practices the "ethical application of land combat power" and an American professional Soldier "adheres to the highest ethical standards"
- Each professional Soldier "is a steward of the future of the Army profession"

## THE PROFESSION

Expertise  
Trust  
Development  
Values  
Service



## THE PROFESSIONAL

Skill  
Trust  
Leadership  
Character  
Duty



# Army Space Cadre Symposium

- Aug. 1-5, 2011 in Colorado Springs, CO
- Open to all; Army Space Cadre members are priority
- Enhances the professional development and operational expertise of our Army Space Cadre
- Provides a forum to discuss issues that affect the Army and community
- Registration opens May 2, 2011
- Check for updates and agenda on our website

>>> <https://www.us.army.mil/suite/page/343526>



# Space Badge

- CSA approved adopting the Air Force Badge as a unique Army badge
- Changed to a Group 4 Badge
- Awards Regulation update submitted
- Transition is transparent to Soldiers
- Procedural guide on ASPDO website
- Over 1200 badges awarded to date to over 1000 Soldiers



>>> <https://www.us.army.mil/suite/page/343526>