

# Army promotions recognize growing importance of Space

COLORADO SPRINGS, Colorado — Nine Space Operations Officers were recently selected for promotion to the rank of lieutenant colonel. They are; MAJ Dennis Brozek, assigned to the 10th Mountain Div., MAJ Thomas James, assigned to FDIC-West, MAJ Robert Klingseisen, assigned to U.S. Strategic Command, MAJ Alan Personius, also assigned to U.S. Strategic Command, MAJ James Pruneski, assigned to G-8 in the Pentagon, MAJ Gordon Quick, assigned to 18th Airborne Corps, MAJ Clay Scherer, a student in advanced civil schooling, MAJ Andrew Weate, assigned to SMDC/ARSTRAT, and MAJ Sandra Yanna assigned to SMDC/ARSTRAT.

Recent Career Field Designation transfers (New FA40s): MAJ Kurt Hoch is assigned to 1st Space Brigade and MAJ Larry Roberts is assigned to SMDC Headquarters.

Additionally 12 individuals were selected for promotion to major. They are CPT James Bushong assigned to Fort Knox, CPT James Cook assigned to Fort Bragg, CPT Jeffrey Douds on his way to SMDC Headquarters, CPT Darin Eades will teach at Drexel University (assist PMS), CPT Curt Hewett assigned to Fort Bragg, CPT Andrew Hittner assigned to Fort Campbell (SSE), CPT Jason Kalainoff assigned to West Point, CPT Scott Moore will attend the Naval Post Grad School, CPT Stephen Murphy will teach at Dickinson College, PA (assist PMS), CPT John Rayburn assigned to Fort Leavenworth, CPT Sakura

Therrien assigned to West Point, and CPT Samuel Ybarra assigned to Fort Carson.

“These promotions are a huge vote of confidence for these fine Space Soldiers,” said COL Jeff Horne, SMDC Deputy Commander for Operations. “And it is a great recognition of the important contribution made by Space forces to the Army.”

MAJ Jay Driscoll the FA40 Assignments Officer echoed COL Horne’s sentiments saying, “This is a clear statement by the Army. It recognizes the need for FA40s at all levels throughout the force.”

Driscoll is an experienced Space operator,” said COL Jim Pierson, FDIC-West director. “He is exactly the man we need as the FA40 assignments officer at this point in time. His experience and institutional knowledge of the Space force will ensure that we are putting the right people in just the right assignments to support the force in any circumstances.”

Driscoll was an Army Space Support Team member, Company Commander of the Theater Missile Warning Company and the Battalion S-3 of the 1st Space Battalion. He also deployed to Iraq with the 10th Special Forces Group as the Joint Special Operations Task Force-North Space Officer. Driscoll has 14 years of active duty, four years in Space assignments and holds a Bachelor’s of Science degree in Business Administration from the University of Southern California.



Top: Members of the most recent Space Operations Officer Qualifications Course listen intently to the information being taught. Most of the FA40 material is technical and is presented in structured class situations. The current class is a real cross-section of the Army's functional areas bringing their unique experiences and viewpoints to the art of providing Space support to U.S. forces.

Bottom: COL Jeffrey Horne, SMDC Deputy Commander for Operations addresses soldiers as they begin their studies to become FA40 Space Operations Officers. Since the first class in August 2001, 109 officers have been trained as FA40s.

*Photos by Ed White*