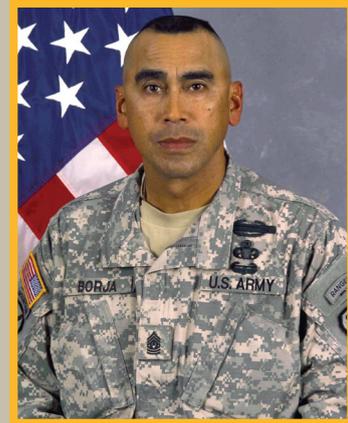




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Technological Advancements

Make Space the Best Job in the Army

The focus of this year's Army Space Cadre symposium was "Space, the Best Job in the Army." Looking back over my career as a Soldier, I've watched technology move forward at an astonishing pace. In thirty years, we've gone from mainframe computer systems hosted at colleges, universities and government facilities to advanced home computer systems – many of which have high speed internet access. The Army's rapid advance in the use of Space enablers has paralleled the progress of technology.

At the end of the Vietnam War, the Army used very few Space enablers. Military Satellite Communications was limited to a handful of 5 and 25 KHz transponders on Air Force satellite communications satellites and Navy satellite communications satellites which provided virtually no communications capability for the Soldier in the field. Almost all Intelligence, Surveillance and Reconnaissance data was collected by troops in the field, and topographical maps used to maneuver may or may not show the new manmade lake, destroyed bridge, or other obstacle currently in your path.

Today, we have more than 4 GHz of commercial satellite communications going into one combatant commander's theater of operations alone. We obtain Intelligence, Surveillance and

ROUND"

“Obviously, the roles and missions of Army Space Cadre members are varied and diverse. All require unique skills and highly specialized training, and all provide Cadre members with the unique opportunity to significantly contribute to the Warfighter’s ability to successfully execute mission objectives.”

Reconnaissance from multiple sources – commercial and military satellites, unmanned aerial vehicles and traditional reconnaissance methods – providing detailed and current information about our operating environment, we obtain instantaneous missile warning data from Space-based sensors, and we use global positioning satellites to navigate to precise locations around the globe and to track the location of friendly forces.

One could easily argue that Space enablers have become Space dependencies, but that is a discussion for a different day. Today, I’d like to address the critical contributions members (Officer, Enlisted and Civil Servant) of the Army’s Space Cadre makes on a daily basis in support of our Warfighters.

Members of the Army Space Cadre are involved in all aspects of the Army’s use of Space enablers. Cadre members help the Warfighter properly articulate, document, validate and advocate their requirements. Other Cadre members perform research and development in the search of new ways to meet these requirements, while still other Cadre members work in or with program offices and/or the Operationally Responsive Space office to develop and field systems to meet validated Warfighter requirements. Army Space Cadre members perform verification

and validation functions on newly launched Space enablers and ultimately serve as operational crew members providing Space and missile defense support to the Warfighter. Finally, Cadre members are embedded with the Warfighter, helping assure their access to and use of Space enablers.

Obviously, the roles and missions of Army Space Cadre members are varied and diverse. All require unique skills and highly specialized training, and all provide Cadre members with the unique opportunity to significantly contribute to the Warfighter’s ability to successfully execute mission objectives.

No matter what role or mission Army Space Cadre members perform, each Cadre member contributes to the Army’s ability to successfully fight and win the ground war. For Army Soldiers and Civilians serving in the Army’s Space Cadre, Space, really is the best job in the Army.

“SECURE THE HIGH 