Press Release

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Fort Drum Public Affairs

Senior Commander Transition Announced

Fort Drum, NY – Today the Army announced the next Senior Commander of Fort Drum & the 10th Mountain Division, Major General Brian J. Mennes. Both the current and incoming leadership are united in their commitment in keeping this post and Division our nation’s most ready, while working to maintain its relevance well into the future.

Major General Walter E. Piatt is awaiting the announcement of his next assignment and is pleased to have time to welcome his successor before the transition, knowing it will be integral to maintaining the Division’s incredible momentum.

"Our nation never has to ask the 10th Mountain Division if we are ready, they expect it. Few understand this better than Brian Mennes. He is a man of great experience and character, and we are incredibly fortunate to have a Soldier Leader of his caliber assume the responsibility of Commanding General," he added.

Major General Brian J. Mennes, currently the Director, Force Management, in the Office of the Deputy Chief of Staff for Operations, Plans & Training, stationed at the Pentagon, will take command of Fort Drum and the 10th Mountain Division this spring. The exact date is yet to be determined.

"From afar I have witnessed firsthand how much we've asked - and will continue to ask - of Fort Drum and the 10th Mountain Division. I am humbled to join a team with an incredible reputation and amazing support from the community and leadership of the North Country. Given the importance of this post and the fabled Mountain Division to our nation's defense I recognize the amazing opportunity Kellie and I have to join this team," said Mennes.

As a Buffalo native and a graduate of the United States Military Academy at West Point, Mennes has spent a good amount of time in New York, but has never been stationed at Fort Drum.

"To be counted among the Senior Commanders of the mighty 10th Mountain Division is to find yourself in the presence of the giants of leadership in our Army. I am humbled and grateful, motivated and energized. I cannot wait to join the Climb to Glory," said Mennes.

Media with inquiries regarding this press release should contact 10th Mountain Division Public Affairs, Major Harold Huff, 315-772-5924 (office), 315-836-6594 (cell) or email harold.huff16.mil@mail.mil.



