



**JOINT READINESS TRAINING CENTER
AND FORT POLK
PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICE
*Press Release***



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Fort Polk Deputy Commander to take command of new Army brigade

FORT POLK, La. – The Army announced today that Col. Kent Schweikert will be the first commander of the 4th Brigade, 10th Mountain Division which will activate here at Fort Polk in January 2005.

Colonel Schweikert, arrived at Fort Polk this past June after his assignment as the executive officer to the commander of Central Command, Joint Task Force North, in support of the war in Iraq. He is currently the Deputy Commander and Chief of Staff of the Joint Readiness Training Center and Fort Polk. Schweikert has over 23 years of military experience with numerous command and staff assignments in prestigious units like the 75th Ranger Regiment and the 101st Airborne Division.

“This is tremendous news for our team as a great soldier takes command of this unit,” said Brig. Gen. Michael D. Barbero, Commander, Joint Readiness Training Center and Fort Polk. “While we will miss the Schweikerts here in the headquarters, the fact that they will remain here is great news for JRTC and Fort Polk.”

The 4th Brigade, one of the Army’s new modular Brigade Combat Teams Unit of Action (BCT/UA), is designed to be a highly deployable unit that will enhance the Army’s ability to project power from U.S. bases while simultaneously preparing forces for full spectrum operations.

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