

I Corps bids farewell to CSM Troxell

Written by Carlos Cruz

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JOINT BASE LEWIS-MCCHORD, Wash. – Command Sgt. Maj. John W. Troxell relinquished responsibility as I Corps command sergeant major to Command Sgt. Maj. James P. Norman III in a ceremony at the Carey Theater Sept. 3.

The change of responsibility, originally planned to be outdoors but relocated due to rain, was conducted in a traditional manner with the passing of the Corps colors, representing the loyalty of the unit's soldiers, from Command Sgt. Maj. Troxell to I Corps commander Lt. Gen. Robert Brown.

Brown then passed the colors to Command Sgt. Maj. Norman, signaling to the soldiers of I Corps that their loyalty now belongs to the new command sergeant major.

"We surveyed 100 soldiers on the post to describe Sgt. Maj. Troxell in one word," Brown said during his remarks. "The most frequent word used was 'inspirational.' The second was 'charismatic.'"

Troxell, a native of Davenport, Iowa, and a 31-year veteran in the Army, accomplished many things during his time at I Corps, including the issuance of a new book of standards, (commonly referred to as the "Blue Book") the administration of the Ready and Resilient program, and the institution of the Mangudai Warrior Challenge.

"My fondest memory of my time here at I Corps is the whole time here," Troxell said.

Troxell and his wife, Sandra, will travel to South Korea this fall when Troxell assumes duties as the senior enlisted adviser of U.S. Forces-Korea, headquartered in Yongsan Barracks in Seoul, South Korea.

The soldiers of I Corps welcome their new command sergeant major, but must also bid farewell to their former command sergeant major.

"We really lose a great team with Sgt. Maj. Troxell leaving," Brown said. "But we gain a great team in return."

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Norman, a native of Compton, Calif., and a 32-year veteran in the Army, comes to I Corps from Fort Hood, Texas, where he recently served as the senior enlisted adviser to the commander of 1st Cavalry Division and also as the Fort Hood rear detachment command sergeant major.

“My wife, Jay, and I looked forward to moving back to the Pacific Northwest and we look forward to becoming part of the community,” Norman said.