



May 8 2015

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Obama nominates new chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff

By Cheryl Pellerin
DoD News, Defense Media Activity

President Barack Obama nominated May 5, Marine Corps Gen. Joseph F. Dunford Jr. to serve as the 19th chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, and Air Force Gen. Paul J. Selva to serve as the 10th vice chairman.

During an announcement in the White House Rose Garden, the president said that among military leaders, the chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff is the principal military adviser to him and his national security team.

Members of that team, including Defense Secretary Ash Carter, were in the audience.

"In recent years, I have been deeply grateful for the service of our chairman, Gen. Marty Dempsey, and our vice chairman, Adm. Sandy Winnefeld. Marty and Sandy will complete their terms later this year," Obama said.

Navigating urgent challenges

To Dempsey and Winnefeld, the president said he's relied on their advice, counsel and judgment as the nation has navigated the urgent challenges of recent years. Obama also thanked their families for decades of support.

"From ending our combat mission in Afghanistan to leading the

international coalition to destroy (the Islamic State in Iraq and the Levant), conducting humanitarian operations from typhoon relief in the Philippines to fighting Ebola in West Africa, and strengthening our security alliances from Europe to Asia at every step, you have been critical to our processes, and I have valued not only your counsel but your friendships," Obama said.

Introducing his choice to be the next chairman of the Joint Chiefs, Obama called Dunford one of the military's most admired officers.

"Fightin'" Joe Dunford

Dunford has served as commandant of the Marine Corps since Oct. 17, 2014.

Dunford is a Boston native, the son of a retired Boston police officer and Marine veteran of Korea, the president said, adding, "Joe followed in his father's footsteps and has distinguished himself through nearly 40 years of military service."

Dunford has commanded Marines in the field from the platoon level to a Marine expeditionary force. During the invasion of Iraq, he led Marines in the charge to Baghdad, Obama said.

According to a post on MarinesBlog, the official Marine Corps blog, it was in Iraq that he earned the nickname "Fightin' Joe," while serving in 2003 under Marine Corps Gen. James Mattis and leading

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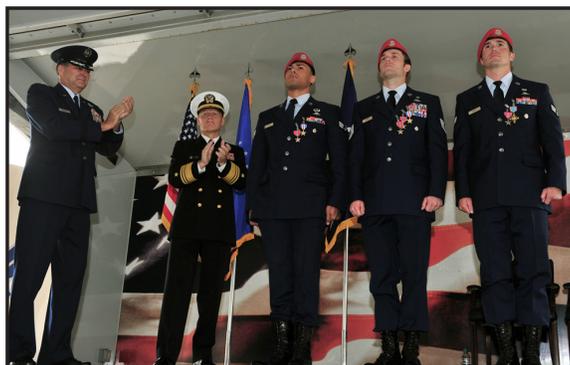
48-hour battle results in AF Cross, Silver Star medals

By Airman First Class Ryan Conroy,
1st Special Operations Wing Public Affairs

Three special tactics combat controllers were awarded the Air Force Cross and two Silver Star medals here May 6, for extraordinary heroism and gallantry in the face of danger while on a deployment to Afghanistan in September 2014.

The Airmen, all from the 21st Special Tactics Squadron, were recognized for their superior integration of air and ground power against armed enemies of the U.S. Lt. Gen. Bradley A. Heithold, the commander of Air Force Special Operations Command, presented Senior Airman Dustin T. Temple the seventh Air Force Cross since 9/11.

He also presented Tech. Sgt. Matthew J. Greiner and Senior Airman



Goodie J. Goodman the Silver Star medal -- the 31st and 32nd Silver Star medals for the special tactics community since 9/11.

"You are the guardians who run toward the sound of the guns and not away from them," Heithold said. "Your bravery, your intensity and your pure guts ... you epitomize what being an air commando is all about.

"Not everyone deserves to be called a hero ... you do," Heithold said. This is only the second battle, which the Air Force has been involved in, within the last 15 years that resulted in an Air Force Cross and multiple Silver Star medals.

For more on "48-hour battle" see page 2

Photo Perspective



A Canadian search and rescue technician jumps out the back of a C-130 during a joint exercise May 6, 2015. The exercise encouraged teamwork between the Canadian Royal Air Force, the U.S. Coast Guard, Portuguese Air Force and volunteers from the local Bombeiros, volunteer rescue personnel from the island. (U.S. Air Force photo/Staff Sgt. Zachary Wolf)



Members of the Bombeiros, a volunteer rescue force from Terceira island, secures a simulated victim during a joint exercise May 6, 2015. The exercise simulated victims trapped between a cliff and the ocean and encouraged teamwork between the Canadian Royal Air Force, the U.S. Coast Guard, Portuguese Air Force and the Bombeiros. (U.S. Air Force photo/Staff Sgt. Zachary Wolf)

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The three combat controllers were embedded with a U.S. special forces team in Helmand Province, Afghanistan, when their team infiltrated a well-known enemy staging point by helicopter on Sept. 27, 2014.

Their mission was to disrupt insurgent operations, including drug and weapons cache, and enemy command and control. Their unit came under heavy machine gun, rocket propelled grenades and small arms fire from approximately 100 insurgents who would not back down.

The combat controllers acted on instinct and training and immedi-

ately assessed the situation before jumping to action.

"It was unlike anything I could have ever imagined ... unlike anything you can prepare yourself for," Temple said. "It all came back to training for me at that point. I remember thinking back to those days in training that were really tough, and now I realize they were preparing me for something like this."

A teammate, Army Sgt. 1st Class Andrew Weathers, was gravely wounded by a sniper, and Temple put himself in the direct line of fire to drag his wounded teammate from a rooftop. At this same time,

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Base Announcements

Lajes Field Domestic Abuse Victim Advocate (DAVA) Services
The Air Force Credentialing Opportunities Online (AF COOL)
Program:

Base Honor Guard

Eagle Eyes

GTC Payment Options

Expanded Influenza Vaccine Available

New housing website

All members PCS'ing from Lajes Field with Privately Owned Vehicle (POV)

TMO Information

Civilian Personnel Newsletter

Non-command sponsored dependents memorandum

BAH Revalidation Required for All Airmen

65th Medical Group Closed for Training 2nd Tuesday of Each Month

MSP Career Development/Customer Service Closed Every Wednesday

TMO walk-in customer service hours: 0800-1400 M-Th, 0900-1400 F

JA Tax Center Opens

Protestant Service combined into one service at 1100

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Community Events

Wing Training Day/Walk a Mile Ruck March May 12

Wing Promotion Ceremony 29 May

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Island Events

Bullfight Schedule

Angra Chamber of Commerce Food Festival 24 April – 17 May

Movies:

Angra Theater (Located at Angra Cultural Center)

Praia Theater

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