



News Release

Maryland National Guard

Major General Bruce F. Tuxill, The Adjutant General



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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

Maryland National Guard Welcomes New Assistant Adjutant General for Army

BALTIMORE (March 17, 2004) – Maj. Gen. Bruce F. Tuxill, Maryland's Adjutant General, today announced the appointment of Col. Edward A. Leacock as the Assistant Adjutant General and Commander for the Maryland Army National Guard, headquartered in Baltimore.

Col. Leacock's most recent assignment was at National Guard Bureau as the Senior Intelligence Officer for the Army National Guard and assumes command of the Maryland Army National Guard from the acting commander Brig. Gen. Warner I. Sumpter.

Col. Leacock a Florida native will formally take command of the Maryland Army National Guard in March. Brig. Gen. Sumpter's new assignment is with the Department of General Services as the Chief of Police who will retire from the Maryland National Guard in December with 22 years of service.

"Today, we congratulate Warner Sumpter on a job well done," said Tuxill. "Gen. Sumpter has served his country and the Maryland Army National Guard for many years and his service reflects his commitment to the highest standards and dedication." He added, "we are fortunate to have Col. Leacock, a superb leader in his own right, assume command of this great group of men and women who make up the Maryland Army National Guard. There is little doubt that as we continue to wage the war on terrorism, we will be called upon with greater frequency, be it home or abroad. Ed Leacock is up to the task of command at this critical point in our history. He has both the proven leadership skills and real-world experience to take the Maryland Army National Guard to the next level. We look forward to great things from him during his tenure."

Sumpter, an Anne Arundel County native, took command of the Maryland Army National Guard in June 2002 and was promoted to brigadier general. He served in

Vietnam with the Marine Corp Force Reconnaissance unit. During his tenure as the Assistant Adjutant General for Army, he has been extensively involved with the training, mobilization and future deployments of the Maryland Army National Guard units in the war on terror. Sumpter's experience includes twenty-one years with the Maryland State Police serving as a patrol trooper and commander of the Special Weapons and Tactics unit and the Executive Protection Division and Aviation Division. Sumpter is highly decorated with more than 20 awards to his credit, including the Legion of Merit, Bronze Star Medal with Combat "V", Purple Heart Medal, and the Meritorious Service Medal and he is qualified military scuba diver and parachutist.

As the new Army commander, Leacock leaves his civilian position of Project Manager for Northrop Grumman Information Technology in Herndon, Virginia. He is a graduate of the Army Command and General Staff College, the U.S Army War College and the Senior Cryptologic Reserve Officers Course. A graduate from the University of New York with a bachelor's of science degree in Political Science, Col. Leacock also has a Masters degree from University of Maryland in Administration / Information Systems.

During his 31-year career, Leacock has served as commander of the 629th Military Intelligence Battalion during its deployment to Bosnia as part of Stabilization Force 7. On active duty he served as a Company Commander, Training Officer and systems Analyst with the Field Station in Berlin, Germany. In 1988 he joined the Maryland National Guard's 29th Rear Area Operations Center and then the worked as a Staff Officer for the 629th Military Intelligence Battalion.

Among his many honors, Col. Leacock has received the Army Superior Unit Award, Meritorious Service Medal with two Oak Leaf Clusters and Army Commendation Medal with one Oak Leaf Cluster and more than 20 other decorations and awards. He was also awarded the Col. Carl F. Eifler Award from the National Military Intelligence Association. He was promoted to colonel in June 2001.

The Maryland Army National Guard is comprised of the four subordinate Brigade size units and support staff. Nearly 6,200 full-time and traditional members are employed by the Maryland Army National Guard, contributing \$114 million annually to Maryland's economy.

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