

NGA Bids Fond Farewell to Director

By Shalina Warren

NGA said farewell to its Director, retired Air Force Lt. Gen. James R. Clapper Jr., in a ceremony at its headquarters in Bethesda, Md., on June 13. With five years at the helm, Clapper was NGA's first civilian head and also its longest-serving director.

Also on June 13, the Department of Defense announced the nomination of Navy Rear Adm. Robert B. Murrett, Director of Naval Intelligence, N2, Office of the Chief of Naval Operations in the Pentagon, as Clapper's successor. Murrett's appointment, which included a promotion to vice admiral, was confirmed by the Senate June 29. Lloyd Rowland served as NGA's Acting Director pending Vice Adm. Murrett's arrival on July 7.

Stephen A. Cambone, Undersecretary of Defense for Intelligence, presented the outgoing Director the Department of Defense Distinguished Civilian Service Award. "General Clapper pioneered the establishment of geospatial intelligence (GEOINT) as a critical component of the nation's defense, to the benefit of men and women serving in uniform, senior policy makers, the Congress and the President," the citation read. "He elevated and expanded GEOINT support in numerous areas, including the deployment of NGA personnel and assets alongside warfighters in support of Operations Enduring Freedom and Iraqi Freedom, the production of intelligence for strategic and tactical decision-making, and the production of intelligence and analysis in support of efforts to counter terrorism and the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction."

The guest speaker at the ceremony was former Director of Central Intelligence George J. Tenet. He said, "As an intelligence

officer, Jim has mastered the mundane and the extraordinary, the simple and the complex. He has done this with an eye to innovation and an ear to the voices of those he has led. He is a great leader that knows how to get the best from fantastic people."

Tenet also honored Clapper's wife Susan for her work on behalf of NGA families through the Family Advisory Board she helped establish and for her service on the Interagency Roundtable, which represents family support offices at 26 federal agencies. "Sue Clapper has always known that the backbone of our success is based on the strength of our families," he said.

Parting Remarks

In his departing remarks, Clapper said, "In looking back over the past five years, I am proudest of, and humbled by, the magnificent workforce of NGA. I include our government employees, contractors and military members." Clapper said he was also "proud of our progress in defining and growing the concept of geospatial intelligence as a new intelligence discipline." With the signing of the fiscal 2004 Defense Authorization Act, which renamed the Agency, GEOINT was formally recognized and defined in Title 10 of the U.S. Code, he noted.

Clapper also cited NGA's expansion of forward deployments in support of military operations, support the Agency provided when natural disasters struck at home and abroad, instantiating functional management of a larger National System for Geospatial-Intelligence, and incorporating advanced geospatial intelligence, airborne imagery and commercial imagery as major accomplishments.

Outgoing NGA Director, retired Lt. Gen. James R. Clapper Jr., gives his farewell remarks to NGA on June 13. Clapper had been NGA's Director since 2001.



Looking ahead, Clapper said consolidation of the Agency's Washington area facilities is "a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to facilitate organizational change, better support customers and inspire the workforce. Ultimately the new campus will be about the culture of NGA, not just a new campus complex. And, I might add, we must similarly address our facilities out West." Citing another "futurist issue," he said exploiting the potential of e-GEOINT "is as much a requirement as an opportunity. NGA must continue to move forward in seeking to enable geospatial intelligence by providing access to GEOINT through Web-enabled services."

In closing, Clapper challenged the workforce "to keep pressing on geospatial intelligence." He also cited a testimonial to the value of GEOINT from his nephew, Army Capt. Ryan Favitch, who was present. Quoting an e-mail Favitch had sent from Iraq, Clapper read: "I walk into tactical operations centers all over this country, and I see firsthand the tremendous impact NGA has had on soldiers on the frontline. The imagery enhancements from your organization keep the lives of service men and women, to include my own, safe on the battlefield."

Baker Award

In a ceremony June 27, Clapper received the Baker Award from Ambassador John D. Negroponte, Director of National Intelligence. The award is administered by the Intelligence and National Security Alliance and recognizes individuals who have made significant contributions to the Intelligence Community and national security. Previous awardees include Tenet, former Secretary of Defense William J. Perry, former National Security Advisor retired Air Force Lt. Gen. Brent Scowcroft and FBI Director William H. Webster.

Before becoming NGA Director on Sept. 13, 2001, Clapper was Vice President and Director of Intelligence Programs at SRA International Inc. His last military assignment was as Director of the Defense Intelligence Agency. Earlier assignments included a variety of intelligence-related positions such as Air Force Assistant Chief of Staff for Intelligence during Operations Desert Shield and Desert Storm and Director of Intelligence for three warfighting commands: U.S. Forces, Korea; Pacific Command and Strategic Air Command. While serving two tours during the Southeast Asia conflict, he flew 73 combat-support missions in EC-47s over Laos and Cambodia.

The National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency

NGA is a Department of Defense combat support agency and a member of the National Intelligence Community. The Agency's mission is to provide timely, relevant and accurate geospatial intelligence in support of our national security. The term "geospatial intelligence" means the exploitation and analysis of imagery and geospatial information to describe, assess and visually depict physical features and geographically referenced activities on the Earth. Geospatial intelligence consists of imagery, imagery intelligence and geospatial information.

Headquartered in Bethesda, Md., NGA has major facilities in the Washington, D.C., Northern Virginia and St. Louis areas with NGA support teams worldwide. Visit our Web site at <http://www.nga.mil>.