



NGA photo

► Iraq, U.S. Agencies Sign Memorandum

On April 7 in Baghdad, the Iraqi Directorate General for Intelligence and Security and the National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency formalized their geospatial intelligence partnership.

The Memorandum of Understanding signed between NGA and its counterpart represents the maturation of an important relationship between these organizations and nations. It underscores the tremendous progress the Iraqi government has made in advancing its GEOINT capabilities.

NGA has worked with the Iraq Ministry of Defence since 2007 to modernize its capabilities to create maps and charts and perform geospatial analysis critical to the safety and security of Iraqi forces. The new MOU reinforces the growing strength of Iraqi geospatial intelligence and provides the framework to continue NGA's support into the future.



NGA photo illustration

► Extended Learning Site Opens in Tampa, Fla.

The National Geospatial-Intelligence College formally opened its first Extended Learning Site at MacDill Air Force Base, Tampa, Fla., with a ribbon-cutting ceremony on March 24. The MacDill site is part of the agency's continuing drive to push GEOINT resources forward throughout the National System for Geospatial Intelligence.

The MacDill site will provide tradecraft and leadership training to NGA employees and other NSG members in the region. Personnel from many commands and agencies who attend training at the site will learn to apply GEOINT more effectively to make decisions critical to mission success. Additional sites are projected for other civilian and military locations in the near future.

► NGA Marks Earth Day With Tree Planting at New Headquarters

The National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers held a tree planting ceremony at the NGA Campus East near Fort Belvoir in Springfield, Va., on April 22, to celebrate Earth Day 2010. The ceremony marked the first plantings to restore more than 10 acres with formal landscaping and the planting of more than 3,200 trees and shrubs around the site. NGA facilities in the Washington, D.C., area are consolidating to the new headquarters.

NGA will also be planting 44,000 tree seedlings across the Fort Belvoir North Area, to make sure there is no net loss of trees on the post due to the construction. Other examples of green initiatives at the new headquarters include a pond that captures stormwater and reuses it for landscape irrigation, green roofs over the tunnels between the buildings, low volatile organic compound paints, recycling programs, an energy efficient lighting system and an innovative cooling system.



Photo by Larry Franklin



DIA photo

► Secretary Gates Announces Next NGA Director

On Feb. 22, Secretary of Defense Robert M. Gates announced that Letitia "Tish" Long, deputy director of the Defense Intelligence Agency, will become the next director of the National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency.

"Her more than 30 years of engineering and intelligence experience include service as the deputy undersecretary of defense for intelligence, deputy director of naval intelligence and as a coordinator of Intelligence Community activities for the director of central intelligence," Gates said.

Director of National Intelligence Dennis C. Blair stated, "Ms. Long's historic appointment reflects her 32 years of exceptional government service, including more than two decades in the Intelligence Community. She is highly respected throughout the Intelligence Community and Department of Defense."

Long will be the first woman to lead a major intelligence agency when she assumes her new post later this summer.

DIA Director Lt. Gen. Ronald Burgess announced on April 19 that Robert Cardillo, the DIA deputy director for analysis, will become deputy director of DIA when Long assumes her post at NGA. Previously, Cardillo served as director of NGA's Analysis and Production Directorate and Source Operations and Management Directorate.

Blair announced on April 21 that NGA Director Vice Adm. Robert B. Murrett will take over as ODNI director of intelligence staff later this year following the retirement of Lt. Gen. John F. "Jeff" Kimmons.