



Photo by Sgt. Chad T. Jones

Sergeant Major of the Army Jack Tilley talks to the soldiers participating in the Department of the Army NCO and Soldier of the Year Competition, Sept. 15 at Fort Lee, Va.

Sgt. Maj. of the Army Jack L. Tilley:

Preparing soldiers for success saves lives

Everywhere I've visited recently, NCOs are fully engaged with training and taking care of soldiers. This is a busy time for our Army and I don't see it letting up any time soon. But that doesn't mean that we lower our standards or cut corners. All that does is lead to unsuccessful missions and unsafe practices. We have to work smartly to ensure that our soldiers are successful and safe.

I encourage all of you to take the time to talk with your soldiers, make sure they understand the tasks and the overall mission. Time spent reinforcing tasks during training may save lives later on down the road.

This quarter's *Journal* offers some good training guidance for NCOs. The *NCO Journal* offers a primer for first sergeants and other senior NCOs who are preparing their soldiers for rotations at the Joint Readiness Training Center.

Setting our soldiers up for success is what we do. In this issue, the *Journal* offers a good primer on preparing for the Primary Leadership Development Course. For NCOs, the guidance is a good refresher and aid in setting their soldiers up for success at the course.

In line with developing future leaders, the *Journal* is also featuring a comprehensive review of leaders' books. They've even added in a couple of sample pages that NCOs can copy to get their leaders' books started.

The *Journal* just finished compiling the results from their recent readership survey. Check out the results to see who is reading the *Journal* and what they think of it. Always remember, this is your *Journal*. And, even though the survey is finished, the *Journal* staff still needs your articles, story ideas and feedback.

We never lose sight of the soldiers who are currently deployed. I know they are all looking forward to going home and reuniting with their friends and families. With that in mind, the *Journal* is offering the traveler's guide to Armed Forces Recreation Centers hotels worldwide. Both the AFRC hotels in Germany and Florida are undergoing major construction right now and will be reopened next year. Since AFRC accepts reservations up to a year out, it's a great time to start making plans.

*Sgt. Maj. of the Army Jack L. Tilley
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