



## Fort Hood Commander Praises Resilience of U.S. Troops

AUSTIN, Texas (Nov. 11, 2009) -- The reaction of the Fort Hood community to the recent tragic shooting there demonstrates anew that today's soldiers are the finest in U.S. military history, according to Brig. Gen. William Grimsley, the base's deputy commander.

"We will bury our dead and honor them. We will care for our wounded. We will apply the pressure bandage and go forward. The flag will go up at 6:30 a.m. tomorrow morning on base, and I can tell you we will be training," Grimsley said in a Veterans Day address to the Austin Economic Club.

The troops, reacting as trained, never lost sight of the fact they had a duty to perform, even though the killing of 12 soldiers and a civilian and the wounding of more than two dozen others was taking place on a U.S. military installation.

"It was a scene that would have been familiar to anyone who has served under fire. The move to establish control of the scene, taking care of the wounded, absorbing a blow and going on," said Grimsley, who recently returned from a third extended tour of Iraq.

Grimsley said that he believed today's soldiers – fighting in the longest war in U.S. history with an all-volunteer force – were the finest in our history.

The Brigadier General currently serves as Deputy Commander of the III Phantom Corps, headquartered at Fort Hood. Previous troop commands include: Deputy Commanding General 4<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division: Commander, 1<sup>st</sup> Brigade Combat Team 3<sup>d</sup> Infantry Division at Fort Stewart, Georgia.

BG Grimsley, who has served in several extended tours in Iraq, has also served as the Military Assistant to the Secretary of Defense, and as the Iraq Division Chief with the J5 Strategic Plans & Policy Directorate, and on the Joint Staff in the Joint Strategic Initiatives Group.

His awards and decorations include the Silver Star, Bronze Star, Purple Heart, Secretary of Defense Identification Badge as well as Joint Chiefs of Staff Identification Badge.

"It was an honor for General Grimsley to speak to the Austin Economic Club on Veterans Day," said executive director Jim Cardle. "His dedication to maintaining our freedom is an inspiration to all of us."

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