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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

Third Army welcomes a senior sapper to its ranks
Third Army – PAO

CAMP ARIFJAN, Kuwait – Maj. Gen. Gregg F. Martin arrived in Kuwait Wednesday, to assume his duties as a deputy commanding general, one of two deputies. Third Army welcomes a seasoned Iraq war veteran.

Martin commanded an expanded brigade of 13,000 Soldiers during the first year of Operation Iraqi Freedom. He served as the Fort Leonard Wood commanding general, the head of the Army Engineer School, a Corps of Engineers commander; in addition, he taught at West Point and received his doctorate degree in engineering management and public policy from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

A career engineer, Martin is coming from Fort Leonard Wood, where he was the Maneuver Support Center and Fort Leonard Wood commanding general, a job he held since Oct. 2008. His expertise in counter improvised explosive devices and construction will be a welcome asset to the Third Army team.

“This move is a tremendous honor, and is driven by the Army's efforts to build up U.S. Forces in Afghanistan, and draw down the U.S. presence in Iraq,” Martin said.

Maj. Gen. Peter M. Vangjel, the current deputy commanding general, is currently in Afghanistan in charge of the U.S. Army Central Coordination and Support Element-Afghanistan, a task force recently sent forward to coordinate and synchronize the troop build-up and assist USFOR-A in establishing the support infrastructure for the Afghanistan area of operations.

Martin is expected to focus on the responsible drawdown from Iraq, while Vangjel will continue to focus on the build-up in Afghanistan. In the past, Martin has emphasized that in order to get to the objective and accomplish the mission the Army needs you to adapt, innovate, and overcome. Important words, as Third Army continues to execute the challenging task of sustaining forces in theater; Martin is a welcome addition to the team.

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