



USJFCOM

United States Joint Forces Command

Ribbon cut for new SOCJFCOM headquarters

By Robert Pursell
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(SUFFOLK, Va. – Dec. 10, 2007) -- Government and military personnel, as well as Rep. Thelma Drake (R-Va.), gathered in Suffolk, Va. today for a ribbon-cutting ceremony to mark the opening of a new [Special Operations Command-Joint Forces Command \(SOCJFCOM\)](#) Headquarters.

SOCJFCOM is a sub-unified command of U.S. Joint Forces Command (USJFCOM) and serves as the DoD's primary joint special operations forces (SOF) trainer and integrator, supporting all geographic combatant commands and joint task forces.

Drake commended the SOCJFCOM employees and stressed the importance of their work.

"It's extremely critical to us that everyone work in a joint manner," she said. "We're very proud of that and know it can be difficult at times, but we know that your doing that and that your facility is training our special operations forces, our warfighters in order to go out and do what they do best. We're very proud and grateful to you for what you do."

Army Col. Wesley Rehorn, commander of SOCJFCOM, explained how the new facility, located inside the Joint Training and Exploration Center (JTEC), can benefit the command.

"This facility not only allows SOCJFCOM to be better located to integrate with the [Joint Warfighting Center](#) and the [Joint Concept Development and Experimentation \[Directorate\]](#), but also with [JCOA \[Joint Center for Operational Analysis\]](#)," he said. "With the change of the command's mission in 1997, SOCJFCOM has stayed at about the same manpower, even though we've had a larger role in the global war on terrorism and this new facility will allow us to expand to meet those requirements."

Previously, the command had worked on Naval Station Norfolk.

Drake, USJFCOM Deputy Commander [Army Lt. Gen. John R. Wood](#), and SOCJFCOM's Army Spc. Andrea Smiley cut the ribbon signifying the official opening of the Headquarters.

Wood also said the new location will help with mission success.

“It puts SOCJFCOM in the physical setting that’s worthy of the service they provide,” he said. “It’s near new buildings, a modern setting and much better with regard to their ability to execute their mission.

Other distinguished guests for the ribbon-cutting included the Director of Joint Training and Commander of the Joint Warfighting Center (JWFC), [Army Maj. Gen. Jason K. Kamiya](#), and the Deputy Commander of the JWFC, [Army Maj. Gen. John McClaren](#), as well as former commanders of SOCJFCOM, who helped cut the ceremonial cake.