



GFEBs Welcomes New Executive Sponsor

LTG Edgar E. Stanton III

KINGSTOWNE, Va. — On 22 August 2008, the Honorable Nelson Ford, Under Secretary of the Army, hosted a ceremony in the Pentagon Auditorium to honor the promotion of MG Edgar E. Stanton III to Lieutenant General (LTG). Earlier this summer, on 23 July 2008 LTG Stanton was assigned the position of Military Deputy for Army Budget. Through this assignment, he acts as an executive sponsor of the GFEBs Project and chairman of the GFEBs Executive Steering Committee (ESC).

LTG Stanton spoke to participants of the Release 1.3 Wave 1 Points of Contact (POCs) Kick-off Conference on 19 August 2008 and shared his thoughts on GFEBs. He expressed his excitement for the new system, citing that the replacement of STANFINS is overdue. He recognized the hard work of individuals across the US Army, saying, "We are working well in the current system, but we can do better."

"With GFEBs," LTG Stanton continued, "we will be better informed and Army leadership will have the capability to make the best financial decisions possible."

Having participated in system implementations throughout his Army career, LTG Stanton is aware of what it takes to have a successful Go-live. He stressed the importance of collaborative communica-



LTG Edgar E. Stanton III shows his support for GFEBs while presenting at the GFEBs POC Kick-off Conference.

tion and committed stakeholders to the successful implementation of the system. "We [GFEBs] need you [POCs and end users] to do this," LTG Stanton explained, "We need your talent, commitment and expertise in order for this system to thrive. It won't work without you."

LTG Stanton's executive sponsorship is vital to the success of GFEBs. He understands the importance of his position and has responded to the Project accordingly. "Bottom-line," he said, "GFEBs is my number one priority following the demands and needs of our organizations and soldiers during wartime."

LTG Stanton graduated from Florida State University with a Bachelor of Science (BS) degree in Business Administration and obtained a Master of Science

(MS) degree in Operations Research System Analysis from the Naval Postgraduate School. His military education includes the Finance Officer Basic and Advanced Courses, the Army Command and General Staff College, and the Army War College. He has served a variety of military and financial leadership roles throughout his 36 years in the US Army. Prior to assuming his current position, LTG Stanton held the position of the Director of Army Budget for four years.

In addition to listening to LTG Stanton speak at the POC Kick-off Conference, the GFEBs Times had the opportunity to sit down with him shortly before his promotion ceremony.

To read the full GFEBs Times interview with LTG Edgar E. Stanton III, visit: www.gfebs.army.mil/news/. ■

GFEBs Selected as Award Nominee:

GFEBs was selected as a finalist for the 2008 U.S. Army Acquisition Excellence Team Award: Information Enabled Army. The award recognizes Army acquisition professionals whose outstanding contributions and achievements reflect accomplishments made in direct support of Soldiers and the Army's Business Transformation initiatives. The award recipient will be announced at the annual Awards Ceremony on 5 October 2008.

For more information on the AAC award visit: http://asc.army.mil/events/aac_awards/2008/nominees.cfm

ASA (FM&C): Functional Guidance for GFEBs

KINGSTOWNE, Va. — On 28 July 2008 the Director of Army Budget, Office of the Assistant Secretary of the Army for Financial Management & Comptroller (ASA (FM&C)) held a Senior Executive Service (SES) induction ceremony for Ms. Kristyn E. Jones initiating her as the Director of Financial Information Management for ASA (FM&C). In this position, she directs actions to achieve financial business transformation Army-wide by sponsoring ongoing programs and projects, ensuring interoperability between Army and Defense financial systems, and incorporating advances in information technology, communications and government processes into Army financial systems. She is the Executive Secretary for the Executive Steering Committee (ESC) and provides functional guidance to the GFEBs Project.

Ms. Jones possesses an impressive background with a Bachelor of Science (BS) degree from the United States Military Academy and a Masters in Business Administration (MBA) from George Mason University. She is also a certified Defense Financial Manager and a graduate of the Federal Executive Institute. Throughout her career she has held a variety of positions within industry and the Department of Defense (DOD). After serving as a Military Intelligence Officer in the US Army, Ms. Jones performed leadership positions at two Fortune 500 companies, the Office of Naval Research and the DOD Business Transformation Agency (BTA). From June 2007 to 2008, she was assigned as the Special Assistant to ASA (FM&C) for Cost Culture Transformation in which she focused on identifying and implementing initiatives impacting people, process, and

technology that will enhance the Army's ability to manage costs and conduct more efficient and effective operations.

As Director of Financial Information Management, Ms. Jones maintains a clear vision for GFEBs and recognizes the importance of establishing a clear and concise message and disseminating it across the Army. "Strategic communications," Ms. Jones says, "is paramount in explaining GFEBs' purpose to all affected stakeholders and clarifying exactly how each installation will be affected by the implementation of GFEBs. All affected parties need to feel involved to ensure the system's success."

To read the full GFEBs Times interview with Ms. Kristyn Jones, visit: www.gfebs.army.mil/news/. ■

ON THE ROAD WITH GFEBs

Representatives from GFEBs will be attending several roadshows and conferences to provide overview briefings of the project and offer technology demonstrations:

**6-8
October**

2008 AUSA Annual Meeting,
Washington Convention Center, Washington, DC

**27-29
October**

Defense Finance Conference,
Sheraton, Crystal City, VA

Release 1.3 Points of Contact Kick-off

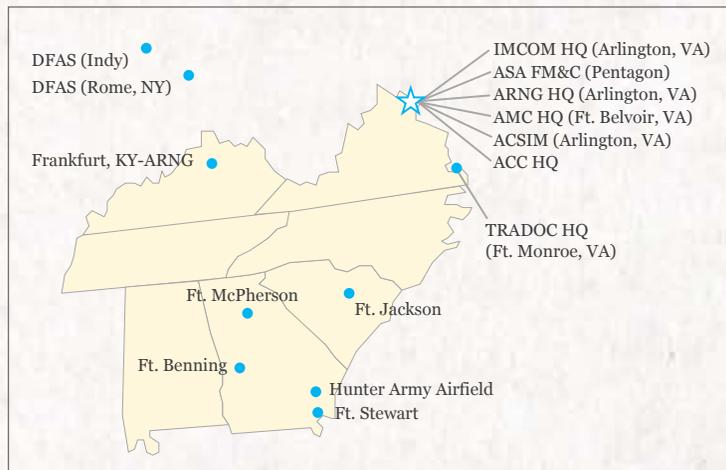
KINGSTOWNE, Va. — On 18 August 2008 GFEBs hosted the Release 1.3 Wave 1 Points of Contact (POC) Kick-off Conference at the GFEBs office in Kingstowne, Virginia, to commence key activities related to GFEBs deployment. This was the first of eight Wave-based kick-offs which introduce Army representatives to the GFEBs Project, summarize the activities necessary for deployment, and detail the roles and responsibilities of GFEBs POCs.

Over the next three years, the GFEBs Project will be deploying one of the world's largest enterprise resource planning (ERP) systems to over 79,000 users at over 200 locations around the world. To accomplish this task, GFEBs will incorporate a hybrid deployment strategy utilizing Waves, or groupings of Army organizations primarily based on their geographical location.

This allows GFEBs to deploy in an organized and economical fashion, one Wave at a time. Commands will identify key POCs that can assist the GFEBs Project with pre-deployment and change management activities that are required to ensure successful implementation.

POCs for Wave 1 serve as a conduit for delivering key messages about GFEBs to their organizations and helping to ensure a smooth deployment of the system.

These attendees included representatives from Air Combat Command (ACC HQ), Army Criminal Investigation Command (USACIDC HQ), Army Materiel Command (AMC HQ), Army Medical Command (MEDCOM), Army National Guard (ARNG HQ), Installation Management Command (IMCOM), Training and Doctrine Command (TRADOC),



Defense Finance and Accounting Services (DFAS) Indianapolis and DFAS Rome, Fort Jackson, Fort Benning, Fort Stewart, Fort McPherson, United States Property & Fiscal Officer (USP&FO) South Carolina, USP&FO Kentucky. GFEBs has experienced enthusiastic levels of participation from all Wave 1 organizations and POCs.

The four-day POC Kick-off Conference covered topics such as the History

of GFEBs, Advantages/Disadvantages of SAP, System Security, Deployment Best Practices, System Evolution, the Data Conversion, and the GFEBs Army Knowledge Online (AKO) Repository & SharePoint. Attendees later split into a Resource Management (RM) and a Directorate of Public Works (DPW) tracks, dedicating an entire day to POC functional knowledge of business processes impacting their specific areas. The integrated approach provided POCs the tools and knowledge necessary to answer questions about the job types they supervise.

Moving forward, GFEBs will notify installations of their Wave launch and request designees for GFEBs POC. Each Wave will have similar Kick-off Conferences approximately 10 months before Go-live at their location.

POCs facilitate the execution of Change Management and Deployment (CMD) activities across affected organizations as CMD Network members. They represent their organization's perspective and promote ownership and involvement in the change effort. Through open communication, teamwork, and camaraderie, POCs and the GFEBs office are working together towards a smooth and successful Release 1.3 Wave 1 Go-live on April 1, 2009. ■

Training Curriculum Deployed to 250 Release 1.2 End Users

KINGSTOWNE, Va. — For the past 15 months, the GFEBs Training team has worked diligently to complete the Release 1.2 GFEBs training curriculum and on 14 July 2008, training registration opened up to all 250 end users. End users logged on to the Army Learning Management System (ALMS) and registered for required Computer Based Training (CBT) and Instructor-Led Training (ILT) courses. Each end user was aligned to specific courses based on the role(s) they will perform when GFEBs goes live on 1 October 2008.

On 21 July, one week after training registration opened, the CBT courses were made available for end users to access on ALMS. Although most training for Release 1.2 is instructor-led, there are still a number of CBTs end users are required to take. CBTs include an overview course of the GFEBs Project and introductory courses on the business process changes that will occur following Go-live.

While end users were registering and completing their CBTs, the GFEBs of-

fice in Kingstowne played host to 20 Systems Applications and Products (SAP) instructors. The instructors, who have an extensive background in SAP training, went through a four week course on Army Financial Management and to become experts in their particular area of GFEBs. They participated in "dry-run" training sessions where the courses were taught to GFEBs Subject Matter Experts (SMEs). Four weeks later, the SAP instructors and other members of the GFEBs Training and Deployment Teams were off to start ILT training.

On Monday 4 August, ILT began in classrooms at Defense Finance and Accounting Service (DFAS), Indianapolis, Ft Jackson, South Carolina and GFEBs, Kingstowne. Classroom attendance was 94% in the first week of training. Gary Wetterhall, GFEBs Deputy Global Implementation Team Lead, recognized that "although there were some minor issues, we worked closely with on-site POCs to resolve initial problems. Overall, participa-

tion and user comments about ILT were positive."

Release 1.2 end users should feel confident working in the system when they finish training on 10 October 2008. The GFEBs Operations & Support Team will provide on-site support for three to six months after deployment to assist with issues that end users may encounter. A GFEBs Help Desk will also be available via phone and e-mail and refresher training will be provided with updates to existing training materials as GFEBs evolves.

Jerry Weidner, Director of Resource Management at Ft Jackson, was pleased with the overall outcome of training, stating that "GFEBs training had some obstacles at first that we had to overcome, but as the training progressed the issues were worked out, which allowed for successful completion of the training requirements. The hands-on exercises were extremely beneficial in seeing how the GFEBs business processes will actually be performed when Fort Jackson goes live." ■