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48th Chemical Brigade uncases colors in Liberia

By Capt. Chi L. Truong, 48th Chemical Brigade

MONROVIA, Liberia – At an early evening ceremony March 20, the 48th Chemical Biological Radiological Nuclear Brigade uncased its colors and assumed command of the Operation United Assistance mission from the 101st Airborne Division Air Assault.

“Today’s uncasing ceremony is a milestone in the history of the 48th CBRN Brigade since its activation at Fort Hood a little over seven years ago,” said Col. Sven C. Erichsen, commander of the 48th. “This marks its first operational deployment to Liberia, in support of Operation United Assistance, the U.S. effort to help Liberia rid itself of the Ebola epidemic. I can think of no more noble a mission to be a part of than this one.”

The 48th CBRN Brigade will ensure that the work 101st started is brought to completion, and the goodwill they’ve built with our U.S. and international partners is preserved.

Erichsen reminded guests, including Sheila R. Paskman, deputy chief of mission of the U.S. Embassy Monrovia, and Brig. Gen. Frank Tate, deputy commanding general of the 101st Airborne Division Air Assault, of how far Liberia has come in the past several months.

“As the Spartans of the 48th Chemical Brigade assume the mission from the 101st, Liberia is well on the road to recovery,” he said. “The actions of the 101st Screaming Eagles, their U.S. and international partners, and of the Liberians themselves to stem the tide of disease represent nothing short of a miracle.”