

U.S. ARMY

7th SIGNAL COMMAND THEATER

DR. JAMES E. CRONKHITE, DBA

Deputy To the Commander, 7th Signal Command (T)



Dr. James E. Cronkhite is currently detailed as the Acting Deputy to the Commanding General for 7th Signal Command (Theater) located at Ft. Meade, MD and is coming from the 106th Signal Brigade at Fort Sam Houston, San Antonio, Texas where he is the Deputy to the Commanding Officer. As the Deputy to the Commanding General, Dr. Cronkhite provides executive direction and leads staff activities executed on behalf of the Commanding General and supporting Signal Brigades, Regional Network Enterprise Centers, Stand Alone Network Enterprise Centers, and Local Network Enterprise Centers.

Dr. Cronkhite is a retired United States Marine Corps Chief Warrant Officer and has served in a variety of billets at the operational and strategic level since become a Department of Defense civilian in 2005. He has extensive experience in communications systems planning and engineering, LAN/WAN integration, satellite systems management, PPBE processes, governance structures, Chief Information Officer (CIO) activities, along with Theater Security Cooperation and strategic planning for cross-border secure communications initiatives with the Government of Mexico and the Commonwealth of the Bahamas.

Prior to his current assignment, he served as the Civilian Executive Officer for 106th Signal Brigade and directed staff operations in support of regional and theater IT initiatives. Previous assignments include Director for the Regional Network Enterprise Center Southern Germany while dual-hatted as the Civilian Deputy Battalion Commander for 52d Strategic Signal Battalion; Acting Chief Governance Division, Deputy Chief Cyberspace Current Operations Division, Deputy Chief IT Service Management Division, and the Branch Chief for C4 Future Operations and Plans at North American Aerospace Defense Command (NORAD) and U.S. Northern Command (USNORTHCOM); S-3A for Marine Wing Communications Squadron-38; First Marine Expeditionary Force G6 CENTCOM Plans Officer; and Marine Forces Pacific G6 Systems Planning Engineering Officer.

Dr. Cronkhite's operational deployments include Operation Tomodachi (2011), Support operations for the 2010 Winter Olympics, Hurricane Katrina Humanitarian Assistance Operations (2005), Operation Iraqi Freedom (2002-2003), Operation Desert Thunder (1998), Operation Restore Hope (1992), Operation Desert Shield/Desert Storm (1990-1991), and drug interdiction operations in Honduras and Columbia (1986).

Dr. Cronkhite graduated Magna Cum Laude from the University of Arkansas Grantham with a BS in Multidisciplinary Studies and a Master of Business Administration in Information Management. Finally, he graduated from Northcentral University with a Doctor of Business Administration specializing in Public Administration.

His publications include "Every Shooter is an IT Sensor". How Cloud Technologies and Artificial Intelligence can Transform IT Service Delivery; Signal Magazine, April 2024; The Mediating Influence of Culture and Behaviors of Stakeholders Relative to Clinger-Cohen Act Efficacy within Geographic Combatant Commands; ProQuest; 2020; and Information Sharing Challenges; interagency Board (IAB) for Equipment Standardization and Interoperability; 2014.

He is also a certified in Information Technology Infrastructure Library v3 Foundations and served as the Federal Co-Chair for the Information Management and Communications sub-group within the Interagency Board for Equipment Standardization and Interoperability.

He is married to the former Sylvia C. Merritt (Dr. Sylvia Cronkhite) and has four daughters: Jessica, Aisha, Brittany, and Sydnee. His current residence is San Antonio, TX.