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230th MP Warmasters welcome new commander

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MANNHEIM, Germany – Like every other unit, the history, traditions and accomplishments of the 230th Military Police Company are embodied in its colors.

But, as the colors of the “Warmasters” were passed during the unit’s change of command ceremony Jan. 28 in Sembach, Germany, there was a sense that something even more exceptional was being passed from outgoing commander, Capt. Joshua Larson, on to the new company commander, Capt. Nicholas Ingrao.

As the ceremony progressed, there were many attempts to define what it is that makes the 230th MP Co. so exceptional.

“Why are the Warmasters such an elite organization, respected and admired by so many?” asked Lt. Col. Samuel Harvill, the rear detachment commander for the 95th Military Police Battalion.

Harvill proceeded to list the many accomplishments of the company, each accomplishment not quite encompassing what he felt made the unit so special.

They conduct flawless community law enforcement, Harvill said, covering the largest area within the 95th MP Bn.’s footprint. They command and control one of the largest military

working dog kennels. But, despite all of their accomplishments, Harvill said, “I propose that these Soldiers, NCOs and officers standing before you are what make the Warmasters great, and at the top of the unit wire diagram is the commander.”

The troops of the 230th MP Co. are the heart and soul of their organization, and they are led from the front by their commander.

Addressing Larson, Harvill said, “Make no mistake about it, you made a difference in the lives of these Soldiers, NCOs and officers – personally and professionally.”

Larson addressed the troops in his farewell speech and reiterated Harvill’s theme of greatness among the Warmasters’s troops.

“You are the brigade’s reserve,” Larson told the Soldiers standing in formation. “You are the ones looked at and called upon first to answer any task that comes. It’s your dedication as leaders and Soldiers that has made this happen.”

Larson made a point to personally thank the dozens of Soldiers, NCOs and officers who have mentored and helped him during his time in command.

“You warriors standing on the floor are the most ferocious and resilient troopers I’ve ever been around,” he told them.

As Larson spent his last moments with his Soldiers, Harvill implored him to take a moment to look over the formation one last time.

“Take a mental snapshot of the formation before you,” Harvill said. “It is one that you will cherish for the rest of your life. You leave their ranks today, but you do not leave their hearts. Well done.”

Harvill also had nothing but words of encouragement for the unit’s incoming commander.

“No position as an officer is more rewarding than being a commander,” Harvill told Ingrao.

Larson was equally enthusiastic about Ingrao's new position as commander of the Warmasters.

"You're taking over the best company in the brigade," Larson said. "I have the utmost confidence that you will continue to improve and lead this company to greater things."

After such a fervent introduction to his new company, Ingrao addressed the formation and told them, simply, "I am both proud and humbled to be your commander."



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Pfc. Brayen Willis, a military police Soldier with the 230th Military Police Company, 95th Military Police Battalion, holds the company guidon during the "Warmasters" change of command ceremony Jan. 28 in Sembach, Germany. Among their many missions, the 230th MP Co. provides community law enforcement for 17 installations in the Kaiserslautern and Wiesbaden military communities.

(U.S. Army photo by Sgt. Adrienne Burns, 18th Military Police Brigade Public Affairs)



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Capt. Nicholas Ingrao, the incoming company commander for the 230th Military Police Company, 95th Military Police Battalion, passes the company's guidon to his first sergeant, 1st Sgt. Kelly Kowalski, during a change of command ceremony Jan. 28 in Sembach, Germany. Ingrao was the operations officer for the 95th MP Bn. prior to his assignment as the company commander of the 230th MP Co.

(U.S. Army photo by Sgt. Adrienne Burns, 18th Military Police Brigade Public Affairs)



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Capt. Joshua Larson, the outgoing commander of the 230th Military Police Company, 95th Military Police Battalion, along with his wife and daughter, accept well-wishes from friends following a change of command ceremony Jan. 28 in Sembach, Germany. Command of the 230th MP Co. was passed to Capt. Nicholas Ingrao.

(U.S. Army photo by Sgt. Adrienne Burns, 18th Military Police Brigade Public Affairs)