## BORGSCHULTE '91 BECOMES



An historic change of command took place on 15 August as the first woman Superintendent, Vice Admiral Yvette M. Davids '89, USN, was relieved by the first Marine Corps officer, Lieutenant General Michael J. Borgschulte '91, USMC, to lead the U.S. Naval Academy.

Borgschulte is a Naval aviator who served in three combat tours in Iraq and Afghanistan. He previously served as the deputy commandant of the Marine Corps for manpower and reserve affairs in Quantico, VA. He welcomed the opportunity to shape future generations of warfighters.

"The Academy exists not to pursue academic rankings or institutional accolades—yes, we have those—but to fulfill a sacred mission, and that's to develop the next generation of Navy and Marine Corps officers who will protect and defend the freedoms we as Americans so often take for granted," Borgschulte said.

"I do not take lightly the weight of this charge—to safeguard the Academy's proud traditions, while preparing future generations of officers for the challenges of an ever-changing and more complex world. We will cultivate a warrior ethos—



During a 15 August change of command ceremony, the U.S. Naval Academy's 65th Superintendent VADM Yvette M. Davids '89, USN, was properly relieved by LtGen Michael J. Borgschulte '91, USMC, in Dahlgren Hall.

"Leading as Superintendent of our beloved Naval Academy has been the privilege and adventure of a lifetime, and I know LtGen Borgschulte will lead this school honorably and faithfully into the future—a testament to the enduring strength and partnership of our Navy and Marine Corps team," Davids said during the change of command ceremony. "At this moment of transition, as we welcome this historic moment and our first Marine Corps Superintendent of the Naval Academy, I can't think of a finer Marine to take the helm of USNA."

The Honorable John Phelan, 79th secretary of the navy, commended Davids for her service as the 65th Superintendent. He said Borgschulte will continue to support the mission of the Naval Academy and develop future Navy and Marine Corps leaders as the 66th Superintendent.

"Vice Admiral Davids' experience, operational record and strategic mind made her the best fit for the job and will serve her and the Navy well in this future role," Phelan said. "Lieutenant General Borgschulte will build on the successes of Vice Admiral Davids and previous Superintendents by further cultivating a culture of winning and warfighting here at the Academy."

Vice Chief of Naval Operations and Acting Chief of Naval Operations Admiral James W. Kilby '86, USN, said the Naval Academy's core mission will endure.

"These grounds and this staff are the incubators that develop young midshipmen—morally, mentally and physically—who go on to lead Sailors and Marines in the fleet," Kilby said. "I'm appreciative of the work done by Vice Admiral Davids and look forward to working with Lieutenant General Borgschulte to execute this critical mission."

an unshakable belief in our ability to fight and win—because victory in combat begins long before the first shot is fired. It starts here, in Bancroft Hall, in the classrooms, in the labs and on the athletic fields."

During his career as an AH-1 Cobra pilot, Borgschulte flew more than 3,800 hours. His experience includes multiple combat deployments to Iraq and Afghanistan including three embarked aboard amphibious assault ships, and command at every level, most recently commanding Third Marine Aircraft Wing, the largest aviation unit in the United States Marine Corps.

Davids took the helm as the 65th Superintendent at the Naval Academy in January 2024. She returned to Annapolis after a career surface warfare officer including commanding Curts, Bunker Hill and Carrier Strike Group 11, deploying in support of Desert Shield/Storm, Iraqi Freedom and Enduring Freedom.

Her next assignment will be the deputy chief of naval operations for operations, plans, strategy and warfighting development, N3/N5/N7, Office of the Chief of Naval Operations at the Pentagon.