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syncTM Weekly highlights from the North Carolina Department of Commerce



(Left-right) N.C. Dept. of Commerce Legislative Director Rita Harris, Director of Foreign Operations Derek Chen and N.C. Defense Business Association Executive Director Joy Thrash

Commerce participates in Fort Bragg briefing

N.C. Dept. of Commerce Legislative Director Rita Harris and Director of Foreign Operations Derek Chen attended an event sponsored by the XVIII Airborne Corps and Fort Bragg, which included a command brief by LTG Frank Helmick. This brief provided information on Fort Bragg's mission, operations within the XVIII Airborne Corps, domestic missions, and how the corps is able to mobilize and deploy when crises occur or as directed by the Pentagon or FORSCOM.

In addition, Helmick cited numerous metrics related to Fort Bragg. The base supports the largest population of civilians and soldiers of any U.S. Army base in the world, and boasts the largest economic impact, which is estimated at \$9.3 billion annually. It also ranks number one among Army bases in terms of its libraries, airfields, railroad lines and retail facilities.

The group attended additional briefings on outload nodes, green ramp activities, and an airborne operations demo which included over 1,100 paratroopers and a heavy equipment drop.