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The Old Guard Monument

Left: Three Old Guard soldiers – a saluting sergeant in ceremonial Army blues, a fifer from the Old Guard Fife and Drum Corps, and a kneeling combat infantry soldier – replicate the monument at the ground breaking ceremony in November 2017.

Right: The 3rd U.S. Infantry Regiment (The Old Guard), celebrating its 234 years of service to the nation, was memorialized at the larger-than-life bronze monument's dedication ceremony May 1.

(Photos by Luc Dunn, AUSA News)

See story: The Old Guard Monument dedicated at Fort Myer, Page 17





ASSOCIATION OF THE UNITED STATES ARMY

2018 **FOCUS AREAS**

1. End sequestration and repeal the Budget Control Act of 2011.
2. Pass FY19 Defense Appropriations before October 1, 2018.
3. Increase Total Army FY19 base budget to \$150.1B (from \$148.4B in President's Budget Request).
 - Support full \$33.7B Overseas Contingency Operation (OCO) funding request.
4. Increase Total Army endstrength to 1,040,000 Soldiers by the end of FY21.
 - a. Regular Army=495,500; Army National Guard=344,500; Reserve=200,000
 - b. Endstrength increase must be accompanied by the additional resources required to recruit, train and equip Soldiers in all components.
5. Increase current Army readiness across Regular and Reserve components.
6. Increase Army modernization/investment funding to \$32.8B (from \$32.1B in PB) to close existing capability gaps and regain overmatch in all domains.
7. Support Army's Futures Command implementation.
 - Support legislation that will speed modernization while being peerless stewards of taxpayer dollars.
8. Shape implementation of FY17 NDAA Military Health System overhaul.
 - Monitor transfer of Military Treatment Facilities from Service control to Defense Health Agency control to ensure it continues to support a medically-ready Army and a combat-ready medical force.
9. Support the recruitment, talent management and retention of quality Army Civilians.
10. Support the military benefits and total compensation package necessary to maintain the All-Volunteer Force.
 - a. Military pay
 - b. Military healthcare
 - c. Military retirement
 - d. Non-pay and quality of life benefits



Focus Areas: Fund, maintain, sustain, modernize Army

View from the Hill

John Gifford
Director
AUSA Government Affairs

The Association of the U.S. Army's leadership recently approved the 2018 Focus Areas.

The Focus Areas mark a milestone for AUSA Government Affairs and are already improving our outreach on Capitol Hill.

This concise list of 10 major areas (See Page 2 of AUSA News) provides a conversation-starter as we visit members of Congress and their staffs.

On one single page, we have created a strategic document that outlines key actions required to fund, maintain, sustain and modernize the U.S. Army.

Your Government Affairs team sent the Focus Areas to every legislative director and military legislative assistant in every Congressional office. We also sent them to the key professional staff members on the Armed Services Committees and the Defense Appropriations Committees.

This outreach sparked multiple requests from the Hill for follow-up meetings to talk through the Focus Areas.

Thus, new doors are being opened and new relationships fostered with the staff members on Capitol Hill who do the hard work behind the scenes.

The foundation of the Focus Areas is that our Army requires timely and adequate resources to perform its assigned missions.

The Budget Control Act of 2011 and the sequestration mechanism within it have done deep damage to our national defense, and it needs to be repealed.

Also, Congress has repeatedly shown an inability to pass defense appropriations by the start of the fiscal year, and the multiple continuing resolutions



year after year have cost billions of dollars and slowed the progress of getting necessary capabilities to our soldiers.

Repealing sequestration and passing appropriations bills on time, along with providing the Army with an adequate portion of the defense budget, would go a long way toward restoring military readiness.

Our Army also needs more soldiers to keep our deployed units at full strength.

While recruiting is getting more challenging every year, growing the Regular Army by 4,000 soldiers per year through FY21 is achievable, and it will help ease personnel shortages without lowering recruiting standards.

For the reserve components, additional full-time support will help increase the readiness of our operational reserve.

Modernization was put on hold for several years as the Army prioritized highly constrained resources

toward current readiness to meet pressing missions. As resources increase, it is critical to invest in capabilities to regain overmatch.

The Army's Futures Command will also play an important role in streamlining processes, cutting bureaucracy and unifying the lines of responsibility into one command to improve the requirements-to-acquisition process.

The Focus Areas also address the military health system overhaul, Army civilians and military benefits.

AUSA will continue to monitor these issue areas and stand up for our members on Capitol Hill.

On the AUSA webpage (www.ausa.org), there is a downloadable copy of the Focus Areas.

We encourage you to read and understand them, so the next time you are recruiting a new member, you have a set of talking points regarding what AUSA is advocating for.

See you on the high ground.

Wilson, Petry appointed to AUSA Council of Trustees

AUSA Staff

Chief Warrant Officer 5 Phyllis J. Wilson and Master Sgt. Leroy A. Petry have joined the Council of Trustees of the Association of the U.S. Army.

Their April 30 appointments came at the same Council of Trustees meeting where Phebe N. Novakovic, General Dynamics Corporation chairman and CEO, was reappointed as council chairman, and Thomas W. Rabaut of the Carlyle Group was reappointed as deputy chairman.

Additionally, Frank St. John, a Lockheed Martin executive vice president who joined the council in January to fill a vacancy, was appointed to his own three-year term.

Four other serving council members were ap-

pointed to new terms. They are: Thomas Arsenault, BAE Systems; Leanne Caret, The Boeing Company; retired Maj. Gen. Patricia P. Hickerson, and retired former Army Chief of Staff Gen. Carl E. Vuono.

Retired Lt. Gen. Jack C. Stultz, who has served as vice chairman for National Guard and Reserve Affairs, was also appointed to a three-year term as a member of the council.

Wilson is a retired chief warrant officer 5 who was Command Chief Warrant Officer of the U.S. Army Reserve and a military fellow to Army Chief of Staff Gen. Mark A. Milley's Strategic Studies Group.

She was inducted last year into the Army Women's Foundation Hall of Fame.

Petry is a Medal of Honor recipient, receiving

the nation's highest award for valor for his actions in Afghanistan in 2008 while assigned to the 2nd Battalion, 75th Ranger Regiment.

On what was his seventh combat deployment, Petry and other Rangers came under fire while clearing a courtyard in Paktya Province.

In a fierce battle that involved the enemy lobbing grenades at the U.S. soldiers, Petry disregarded his own safety by picking up and throwing a grenade away from his fellow Rangers.

It exploded just as it was released, resulting in severe injuries, including amputation of his right hand.

He applied his own tourniquet before grabbing the radio to coordinate support for his unit.

He received the Medal of Honor in 2011 and retired from the Army in 2014.

Grassetti, AUSA Army fellow, promoted to lieutenant colonel at association headquarters



Lt. Col. Jessica D. Grassetti is joined by, left to right, retired Lt. Gen. Fredrick Hodges, presiding officer; sister Cristelle Koerper and children Michael and Isabella; and mother Judith. Her father, Frank, a retired Navy veteran, viewed the ceremony via live stream.

AUSA News

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Susan Rubel
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Defense Authorization Act clears HASC, goes to full House

Capitol Focus

Julie Cameron Rudowski
Assistant Director
AUSA Government Affairs

The fiscal 2019 National Defense Authorization Act cleared another hurdle May 10, when it passed out of the House Armed Services Committee on a 60-1 vote.



The legislation:

- Provides a 2.6 percent pay increase, which would be the largest since 2010
- Does not include any new health care fees for TRICARE beneficiaries
- Adds 4,000 soldiers to the Army's end strength
- Blocks scheduled cuts to housing allowances (BAH)
- Automatically covers service members who are enrolled in Servicemembers' Group Life Insurance (SGLI) at less than full coverage, for the full \$400,000 benefit
- Does not authorize an additional Base Realignment and Closure (BRAC) round but provides limited authority for the defense secretary to close or realign a military installation if the secretary receives a notification from the governor of a state or territory recommending the realignment or closure of a military installation in their state or territory
- Directs the Secretary of the Army to take steps to extend the life of Arlington National Cemetery
- Enhances ongoing military health system organizational reforms by ensuring no military treat-

ment facility will be closed or downgraded until the completion of the transition from the services to the Defense Health Agency

The panel also approved Committee Chairman Mac Thornberry's proposal that requires the Department of Defense to cut support agencies and activities by 25 percent.

Thornberry's original proposal would have eliminated many more offices.

Instead, the version lawmakers agreed on would require the chief management officer to either "validate the usefulness" of each back-office agency, or propose its elimination. The CMO would submit a report on the agencies to Congress by March 2020.

NOTE: The committee's approval of the legislation is just another step in the process. Before the bill becomes law, it will require debate and a vote by the full House.

After the Senate votes on its version of the policy bill, the two measures will go to conference committee to hammer out the differences. Both chambers will vote on the negotiated version and the final bill goes to the president for signature.

National Guard provides 39 percent of Army combat force

AUSA Staff

Overseas rotational deployments give Army National Guard troops a level of training it would be “difficult if not impossible” to get at home, said Lt. Gen. Timothy J. Kadavy, director of the Army National Guard.

The exercises improve interoperability with allies and partners in unified land operations and peacekeeping operations, Kadavy said at a recent breakfast hosted by AUSA’s Institute of Land Warfare.

But, he added, for the Army National Guard, it’s also about “sustaining readiness and developing the leadership within our formations.”

The overseas deployments provide “the type of collective training and leader development that enhances and sustains readiness but are difficult if not impossible to complete here at home.”

The numbers are big, he said. The Army National Guard has mobilized more than 20,000 soldiers for overseas missions this fiscal year and thousands more will mobilize by fall.

More than 800 Army Guard soldiers will support the Eighth U.S. Army and U.S. Forces Korea in more than nine exercises this year, and the Army National Guard will lead Pacific Pathways, an annual exercise with multiple allies in the Pacific area of operations in support of U.S. Pacific Command, Kadavy said.

The mission will be led by the Indiana National Guard’s 76th Infantry Brigade Combat Team.



Lt. Gen. Timothy J. Kadavy, director, Army National Guard, speaking at an AUSA Institute of Land Warfare breakfast, said overseas training sustains readiness and develops leadership ‘within our formations.’ (AUSA News photo by Luc Dunn)

“Army National Guard soldiers provide the United States Army with 39 percent of its combat force and constitutes the largest reserve force in all of DoD,” Kadavy said, pointing out that the National Guard comprises eight of the Army’s 18 divisions and 27 of the Army’s 58 brigade combat teams.

Combat training center (CTC) rotations doubled this year and, in the future, some 15 percent of the Guard will receive the high-intensity training annu-

ally as part of the Army National Guard’s 4.0 readiness plan.

“Just think about it, nearly 30,000 Army National Guard soldiers will have gained valuable CTC experience this year.”

Adding, “We’ve also placed our armored brigade combat teams and Stryker brigade combat teams on four-year training and readiness cycles to provide the Army the capacity and capability that it needs.”

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Lessons in Leadership highlights World War II, Vietnam, beyond

AUSA Book Program

Joseph Craig
Director
AUSA Book Program

John R. Deane Jr. had a remarkable career in the U.S. Army – fighting in World War II under Gen. Terry Allen, leading a German espionage team against the Soviets in the Cold War, and serving as commander of the 82nd Airborne Division and then U.S. Army Material Command.

His memoir, *Lessons in Leadership: My Life in the US Army from World War II to Vietnam*, is the latest addition to the AUSA book program.

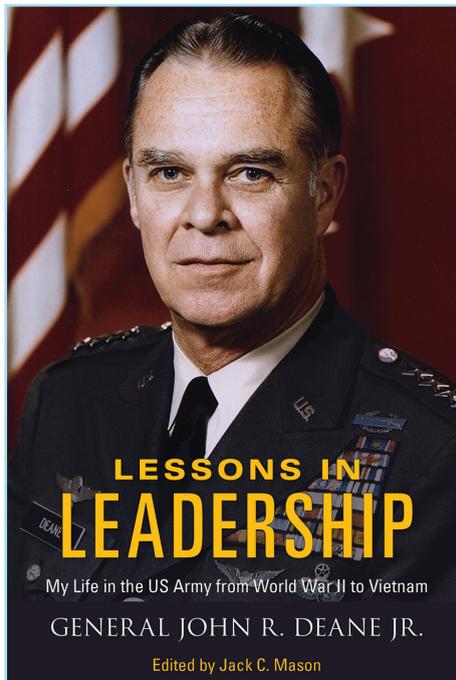
Edited by retired Col. Jack C. Mason, it recounts key events of the 20th century and offers observations of leadership and management through his work with some of the Army's most influential figures: James M. Gavin, William E. DePuy, William Westmoreland, and Creighton Abrams Jr.

AUSA sat down with Mason to ask a few questions about the book.

AUSA: In the foreword of *Lessons in Leadership*, you describe meeting the ninety-two-year-old Gen. Deane as his escort officer for a visit to Redstone Arsenal. What brought you from that point to editing his memoir?

Mason: At the end of his official visit to Redstone Arsenal, Deane offered to take my wife, Hope, and I out to dinner as his way of saying thank you. He had so many interesting stories to tell that we stayed at the restaurant for almost six hours. It was the start of our friendship with many emails and phone calls.

AUSA: What were some of the lessons Deane learned from serving under Gen. Terry Allen during World War II?



Mason: How could a young man like Deane, entering combat for the first time, not take lessons to heart from such a dynamic leader?

Allen's gifts as a leader lay not in his tactical or strategic ability, but how he communicated with his fellow soldiers.

Gen. George Marshall had his eye on Allen since their service together at Fort Benning and noted, "Allen is one of those very few who can enthuse all of his subordinates to carry through almost impossible tasks."

Deane kept in contact with him throughout his career and visited Allen on occasion until his passing in 1969. Deane's communication style with his soldiers closely mirrored Allen's who he described simply as "one of the greatest leaders I have ever known."

AUSA: Please explain why Deane sent Gen. Westmoreland a "deception plan" for the parachute jump he led in Vietnam.

Mason: Deane, against his protests, was forced to brief a previous parachute operation to other staffs.

Before the scheduled date of the jump, it was discovered that the plan had leaked and that all of the bar girls in the vicinity of the assault knew about it. When a new plan was authorized, Deane learned his lesson and prepared a deception plan with a fake location that he used for all briefings, including those for Westmoreland.

The actual plan was delivered to Westmoreland's headquarters during the midnight shift, a matter of hours before the jump, and sat in the "in" basket.

Unfortunately, when Westmoreland went to observe the jump, his staff took him 20 miles away from the actual location.

AUSA: You must have many favorite stories in the book. If you had to pick one, what would it be?

Mason: What amazes me is how lucky the Army was to have a battle group commander with Deane's background on site in Germany as the Berlin Wall was going up in 1961.

There is a picture in the book showing the aftermath of a confrontation between a rock-throwing crowd of West Berliners and an East German riot water cannon right at the Berlin Wall.

Then Col. Deane stood in front of the West Berlin crowd as the East German vehicle threatened him by shooting bursts of water on each side of him.

Deane didn't move and the confrontation ended as the East Germans backed off.

If the photographer had been on the scene just a couple of minutes earlier to collect that image, it would have become the iconic photo of the Cold War.

Lessons in Leadership is published by University Press of Kentucky. To order a copy, visit www.ausa.org/books

Army Reserve: Looking for 'tech-savvy talent' for critical jobs

AUSA Staff

The Army Reserve is taking a lesson from building a medical reserve force as it looks for tech-savvy talent to fill critical new jobs.

The best, most competent medical professionals available who don't need training were found at little or no cost to the Army Reserve in private practice, and the private sector is now where the Army Reserve is looking for highly skilled professionals in technology, Chief of Army Reserve Lt. Gen. Charles D. Luckey said recently during a breakfast hosted by the Association of the U.S. Army's Institute of Land Warfare.

Finding digital professionals now is "not altogether dissimilar to what the medical domain was in 1908" when the Reserve was established as a federal force, he said.

The Army Reserve needs someone available on demand but not every day, and needs someone who has maintained a high level of expertise, although not necessarily maintaining it at Army expense, he said.



Lt. Gen. Charles D. Luckey

Luckey said the Army Reserve is benefiting from a strong U.S. economy that is sustaining technology expertise so the military doesn't need to train from scratch.

"The Army Reserve is getting after that and has made some pretty good headway," he said.

Luckey noted that some forces have been moved to Mountain View, Calif., and Cambridge, Mass., and the Army Reserve's 75th Innovation Command, which was re-designated from the 75th Training Command in January, is looking at other locations across the country.

"The way we get into the door is we have Reserve soldiers working there," Luckey said, adding that while the Army National Guard is undertaking some of the same initiatives in the digital domain, the Army Reserve has more flexibility as a standing federal force.



AUSA News

ASSOCIATION OF THE UNITED STATES ARMY

Special Report: Soldier Winners

June 2018

Blackwolf 22 tank crew's 4 soldiers win 2018 Sullivan Cup

**Sergeant Major of the Army
Kenneth O. Preston, USA, Ret.
Vice President, Noncommissioned
Officer and Soldier Programs**

Greetings from the Association of the United States Army (AUSA), our Army's association for education and professional development, and a major supporter of the Army's Soldier for Life efforts.

The 4th Bi-Annual Sullivan Cup Competition took place April 30 through May 4 at Fort Benning, Ga., with 15 tank crews competing to be the "Best of the Best."

The Sullivan Cup is named for retired Gen. Gordon R. Sullivan, the 32nd Army chief of staff, and the former AUSA president and CEO.

The five-day competition allows the best tank crews from across the U.S. Army, U.S. Marine Corps and select international partners from around the world to demonstrate their levels of training and proficiency in tank gunnery and related armor crewman skills.

The winning tank crew (Blackwolf 22) that earned the 2018 Sullivan Cup was from B Company, 3rd Battalion, 67th Armored Regiment, 2nd Armored Brigade Combat Team, 3rd Infantry Division from Fort Stewart, Ga.

Each Regular Army division was invited to send one tank crew for every armored brigade combat team in its organization to compete in the Sullivan Cup, for a total of 10 crews.

These 10 crews came from the following divisions and Armored Brigade Combat Teams (ABCTs):

- 1st Infantry Division – 1st ABCT, C Company, 1-16 Infantry
- 1st Infantry Division – 2nd ABCT, C Company, 1-18 Infantry
- 1st Armored Division – 2nd ABCT, D Troop, 1-1 Cavalry
- 1st Armored Division – 3rd ABCT, B Company, 1-77 Armor
- 1st Cavalry Division – 1st ABCT, A Company, 2-12 Cavalry
- 1st Cavalry Division – 2nd ABCT, B Company, 1-8 Cavalry
- 1st Cavalry Division – 3rd ABCT, A Company, 3-8 Cavalry
- 3rd Infantry Division – 1st ABCT, B Company, 3-69 Armor
- 3rd Infantry Division – 2nd ABCT, B Company, 3-67 Armorg



The 'Best of the Best' – Tank crew Blackwolf 22, left to right, Pvt. Brandon Zacher, Cpl. Justin Harris, Staff Sgt. Johnathan Werner and Pvt. Dekken Sanders celebrate winning the Sullivan Cup following the five-day competition. (Photo by Leo Jenkins)

- 4th Infantry Division – 3rd ABCT, B Company, 1-68 Armor

The "OPFOR" (Opposing Forces) from the National Training Center at Fort Irwin, Calif., were invited to compete, sending their top crew from C Troop, 1st Squadron, 11th Armored Cavalry Regiment.

The U.S. Army National Guard supported the competition with a crew from D Company, 1st Squadron, 150th Cavalry Regiment, 30th ABCT, North Carolina Army National Guard.

The U.S. Marine Corps competed with a tank crew from the 2nd Tank Battalion, 2nd Marine Division.

Selected international partners were invited to send two tank crews. Both Australia and Kuwait competed this year, supporting the competition with two international crews.

Australia's crew hailed from B Squadron, 3rd/4th Cavalry Regiment of the Australian School of Armour; and the Kuwaiti crew hailed from the 35th Armor Brigade, Kuwaiti Land Forces.

The qualifications published by the Armor School to compete in the Sullivan Cup competition specify only qualified crews of four members who meet the prerequisites for conducting full-caliber live-fire training as specified in Training Circular 3-20.31 may compete.

The Armor School guidance further directs par-

ticipating units to allow only qualified battle-roster tank crews currently holding tank commander, gunner, driver, and loader responsibilities within their respective organizations to compete.

This year's winning tank crew was commanded by Staff Sgt. Johnathan Werner, with gunner Corp. Justin Harris, loader Pvt. Brandon Zacher, and driver Pvt. Dekken Sanders.

Making this crew and the tank crew's parent unit, 3rd Battalion, 67th Armor Regiment, 2nd Armored Brigade Combat Team, unique is the recent transition from an Infantry Brigade Combat Team to become the Army's 15th ABCT in the last 90 days.

While the top crew had only been together for several months while completing new equipment training and transition, Harris, the tank crew's gunner said, "It's been pretty intense [training] for the past roughly three months, but we gave it our all."

"This is stuff that we do on a day-to-day basis; tanker grade gunnery and maneuvering, this is our job," said Werner.

When asked about the competition's setup and execution, Werner said, "The way they facilitated the training, just by the book, the way they did the props for the gunnery, the way they did the STX (Situational Training Exercises) training and the stress shoot, it was a little more realistic for combat engagement."

see next page

Sullivan Cup from preceding page

The competition began on Monday, April 30, with 1st Squadron, 16th Cavalry Regiment of the 316th Cavalry Brigade at Fort Benning, doing a live-fire demonstration for the public at Red Cloud Range.

The live-fire event showcased combined arms operations with the integration of tanks maneuvering and engaging targets across a simulated battlefield, unmanned aerial vehicles providing surveillance, and mortar and artillery fires engaging targets, all simultaneously.

The first day of the competition included a stress shoot adapted specifically for tank crewmen and tank crews with their associated individual and crew served weapons. The timed stress shoot event took each crewmember through an obstacle course and onto a live-fire range.

On the range, each crewmember engaged targets with their 9mm pistols, moved to cover behind a tank where they engaged targets with an M4 rifle from the standing, kneeling, and prone firing positions.

Transitioning onto the tank, each crewmember engaged targets with the M240 machinegun from the loader's position and then as a crew, moved a simulated casualty away from the firing line to a safe location where their time stopped.

The second event of the first day was held in the Close Combat Tactical Trainer at the Clarke Simulation Center at Harmony Church.

Four tank crews at a time were placed in the corners of a virtual battlefield with a mission to move and seize a central objective held by other tanks.

Each of these events ended in a "last tank standing" scenario where the final event pitted the winners from each of the previous events against each other to determine an overall winner.

The next two days of competition were split between half of the crews on the gunnery range and half completing a series of maneuver STX.

Half of the competing tank crews completed six-day and four-night engagements on tank gunnery Table VI, commonly referred to across armor units as a tank crew qualification range.

These 10 engagements challenged the crews' ability to properly test, prepare, and align the fire control system's sighting and weapon systems for lethality across a broad spectrum of challenging ranges for each subsystem.

In addition to the expected 120mm main gun engagements, coaxially mounted 7.62mm machinegun, tank commander's 50 caliber machinegun and the loader's 7.62 machinegun, the selected 10 engagements challenged each crew to demonstrate their competency at engaging targets as a three-man crew, firing in a simulated chemical protective posture wearing protective masks, and engaging targets in a degraded posture without power controls, thermal sights and the assistance of a ballistic computer firing solution.

All 10 engagements, both day and night, included two or three enemy targets that represent a real-life

threat to the tank and crew on today's battlefield.

Incorporating the known capabilities of near peer competitors around the world, the tank crews were challenged with engaging multiple targets simultaneously with multiple weapon systems and ammunition.

For tank crews on the move and exposed to an enemy in a defensive position, 10 seconds is not a lot of time to acquire the targets, issue a fire command that coordinates the crew's efforts, and simultaneously bring the lethality of the tank's weapons systems to action.

Target acquisition, extended ranges out to two kilometers, first round hits, and operating as a crew were the significant challenges.

The gunnery range maneuver and engagement scenarios included a call for artillery fire support and a medivac evacuation for a crewmember.

While half of the crews were busy demonstrating their gunnery and maneuver proficiency on the tank range, the other half demonstrated their knowledge and skills in a series of STXs.

The tested tasks included preparing for combat operations, engaging opposing forces after occupying a hasty battle position, reacting to a simulated chemical, biological, radiological, nuclear, and explosives (CBRNE) attack, reacting to indirect fire, conducting an evacuation of a wounded crewman drill, breaking and reinstalling track on an M1 series tank, and performing preventive maintenance, checks and services.

The final event leading up to the awards ceremony was the "final charge."

The competing crews were staggered by their points' placement on the morning of the last day where each tank crew ran a 1.7-mile course to Brave Rifles Field. On the field and in the presence of hundreds of cheering fans, each crew member performed several tank-related mental and physical tasks.

In the end, all crews finished, and all were victorious at demonstrating the desire to win and the heart and courage of the American soldier, marine, or Australian or Kuwaiti military service member.

Brig. Gen. David A. Lesperance, commandant of the U.S. Army Armor School at the Maneuver Center of Excellence, spoke at the competition's closing ceremony and recognized the top three tank crews.

"Never in my wildest imagination would I have guessed that it would have delivered what it did for our Army today," said Lesperance. "They truly have identified the best tank crew and tank crews the Army has to offer today."

Finishing in second place was the crew (Devil 24) from C Company 1st Battalion, 16th Infantry Regiment, 1st ABCT, 1st Infantry Division.

Finishing in third place was the crew from the 2d Tank Battalion, 2nd Marine Division.

Next year the Armor School at Fort Benning, Ga., will host the Gainey Cup competition to recognize the world's best scout squads.

These professional development events are occurring every day all around the Army and across the nation.

If you are interested in any of the discussions in this article, in this publication, or in social media on our webpage, then you need to be part of the team and a member of the Army's professional association.

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Members of the winning tank crew team assemble an M2 .50 caliber machine gun during the competition. (Photo by Leo Jenkins)

Military culinary experts – No longer ‘spoons’ or ‘cooks’

**Command Sergeant Major
Troy J. Welch, USA, Ret.
Director, Noncommissioned Officer
and Soldier Programs**

Fort Lee, Va., hosted the 43rd Annual Joint Culinary Training Exercise (JCTE) in March. More than 220 military chefs from around the world competed in this six-day training exercise.

I was fortunate enough to spend a couple days observing our culinary experts in action.

The JCTE is the largest American Culinary Federation (ACF) sanctioned event in North America, with culinary specialists attending from across our armed forces and international partners.

The Army Food Program has endured its fair share of changes since my enlistment in 1977. Gone is the M1947 Field Kitchen Tent, the M2 Burner (old version), and the ever-faithful immersion heaters.

We've advanced to Mobile Kitchen Trailers (MKT), Containerized Kitchens and Sanitation Centers.

Our company-size dining facilities are a thing of the past. We now have consolidated dining facilities (some that are two stories). Not all are military operated, some are contracted instead.

What hasn't changed is the talent within our military ranks. They are no longer called “spoons” or “cooks.” They are culinary specialists, and rightfully so. There were sculptures out of chocolate and pulled sugar that rival the likes of Donatello. Yes, I said it!

Part of the competition was the MKT live cooking event. I dined with the teams from Fort Hood, Texas, and Joint Base Myer-Henderson Hall, Va. The meals they prepared utilizing field kitchen equipment were nothing less than five-star quality.

Fort Hood: Shrimp Bisque with pan seared scallop, pan seared duck breast with a red wine cherry sauce and caramel macchiato cheese cake.

Joint Base Myer-Henderson Hall: Carrot Ginger Soup topped with pickled fennel, Chicken Roulade with spinach, bacon and whole grain mustard and Pistachio Sponge and white chocolate mousse.

The Fort Hood team is a Cinderella story. Due to operational tempo they had little time to practice as a team.

In fact, the first time they prepared the meal utilizing field kitchen equipment was during the competition. Although the gold medal slipped away from them, they did receive the bronze medal for that day's competition.

The Joint Base Myer-Henderson Hall team was a joint team. Each member works in a different area in the Pentagon, or as an enlisted aide. They too came together with little time to practice as a team.

Their experience and well-developed plan of attack aided in their receiving the gold medal for that day's competition.



Over 220 military chefs showcase their talents with edible displays, live cooking events and team competitions during the 43rd Annual Joint Culinary Training Exercise at Fort Lee, Va. The six-day program had 450 events. These events are all designed to task the competitors and showcase their talents as individuals and team players.

Over 450 events took place during the exercise. If you have a passion for cooking, this is a must-see event in 2019.

Edible displays, live cooking events, guest chefs and team events are all designed to task the competitors and showcase their talents as individuals and team players.

A total of 332 gold, silver and bronze medals were awarded to 232 culinary specialists. Below is a listing of special awards:

- Judges Award for Best Overall Table (Gold) – Hawaii
- Best Exhibit for Culinary Showpiece (Gold) – Sgt. Klinton Bautista, Joint Base Lewis McChord
- Best in Class for Contemporary Cooking Category K Professional (Gold) – Staff Sgt. Michael Allen, U.S. Army Europe
- Best in Class for Contemporary Pastry Category P Professional (Gold) – Sgt. Samantha Poe, Joint Base Myer-Henderson Hall
- Nutritional Hot Food Challenge (Silver) – Sgt. Joshua Hoyt and Spc. Huy Nguyen, Fort Drum
- Military Hot Food Kitchen Competition (Gold) – Fort Drum
- International Team Winner (Gold) – Germany
- Student Team Skills Champion (Silver) – Coast Guard

- Army Enlisted Aide of the Year (Silver) – Sgt. 1st Class Matthew Flemister, U.S. Army Cyber School of Excellence and Fort Gordan

- Armed Forces Student Chef of the Year (Gold) – Pfc. Naya Pender, U.S. Army Europe

- Armed Forces Chef of the Year (Silver) – Sgt. 1st Class Steven Behr, Fort Carson

- Armed Forces Master Chef of the Year (Gold) – Staff Sgt. Marcopaul Susa.

- United States Army Culinary Arts Team – Pfc. Naya Pender, U.S. Army Europe, and Specialist Katelyn Tran, Fort Carson

- Judges Award for Best in Show – Sgt. 1st Class Lagena Boggs, Fort Drum

- Culinary Team of the Year Runner-Up – Coast Guard

- Culinary Team of the Year Winner – Hawaii

Because this event is sanctioned by the American Culinary Federation, each participant had the chance to earn ACF certifications. The competition is based on industry standards and therefore this credential helps the dining facilities where the competitors work.

It's a huge benefit for transitioning service members as they enter the civilian work-force.

Congratulations to all the participants. Keep on cooking!

1st Special Forces Group (Airborne) soldiers are top snipers

Staff Sgt. Christopher Harper

There are shooting and marksmanship competitions around the world, and then there is the annual United States Army Special Operations Command International Sniper Competition at Fort Bragg, N.C.

A 1st Special Forces Group (Airborne) – (1st SRG) (A) – sniper team earned overall first place honors in the ninth annual event after besting more than 40 special operations forces teams from around the U.S. military’s most elite units and international special forces teams.

According to United States Army Special Operations Command, the International Sniper Competition consisted of 22 events over five days and four nights of physically and mentally challenging precision fires.

Sniper teams converged on Fort Bragg in mid-March to compete in a challenging and combat-oriented competition.

“We started off poorly on the first day due to some sleep deprivation,” said Master Sgt. David, a Green Beret with the 1st SFG (A) and member of the winning sniper team.

Adding, “We really started clicking and things began to fall into place after we regrouped and got some rest between events.”

David competed with his teammate Sgt. 1st Class Cuong, also a Green Beret with the 1st SFG (A).

In the event there are high-level, world-class teams competing.

The United States Army John F. Kennedy Special Warfare Center and School and the 1st Special Warfare Training Group (Airborne) hosted the competition.

“It is the level of competitors, the cadre and the competition that make this event so unique,” David said. “At this level, all of these guys are the best of the best.”

The 1st SFG (A) sniper team outperformed special operations teams from the Naval Special Warfare Command, Marine Corps Scout Sniper School, U.S. Army Sniper School, 75th Ranger Regiment, and international teams from Germany, Ireland, Netherlands, France, Italy and Singapore.

David and Cuong are humbled to have come out atop the competition.

“These guys were so good we knew whoever was going to win was going to need to have a little bit of luck on their side,” said David.

“We are proud of Dave and Cuong,” said Command Sgt. Maj. Tony Labrec the 1st SFG (A) senior enlisted leader. “Their experience and professionalism will serve 1st Group for years to come as they pass on that knowledge to the Green Berets coming up behind them.”

(Editor’s note: Due to the mission of Special Forces soldiers, full names of members of the 1st Special Forces Group (Airborne) are not releasable.)



Sgt. 1st Class Cuong, 1st Special Forces Group (Airborne), communicates with his teammate Master Sgt. David during the United States Army Special Operations Command International Sniper Competition. (Photo by Sgt. 1st Class Jacob Braman)

Army/Air Guard winners join ‘All Guard’ Marathon Team



Florida National Guard Capt. Kimberly Quinn was named the overall female National Guard winner with an unofficial time of 3:11:29. (Photo by Sgt. 1st Class Jamie Titus)

Nebraska National Guard

More than 160 Army and Air National Guard soldiers and airmen from 45 states and two territories competed in the 41st Annual Lincoln National Guard Marathon in early May.

According to the National Guard marathon coordinator, Sgt. 1st Class Christopher Sterns, the competition is designed to promote physical fitness and military readiness in the National Guard.

The top runners will be selected to become members of the 2018 “All Guard” Marathon Team that travels to promote the National Guard and assist in recruiting and retention efforts across the United States.

Top winners

■ D.C. National Guard Capt. Kenny Rayner of Alexandria, Va., overall male winner with an unofficial time of 2:38:55.

■ Florida National Guard Capt. Kimberly Quinn of Gainesville, Fla., overall female winner with an unofficial time of 3:11:29. (See editor’s note below.)

■ Indiana National Guard Team was named the overall National Guard team winner of the marathon.

Sterns said the marathon promotes both local and national levels of the Army and Air National Guard to include the Military Competitions Programs.

The marathon program additionally encourages and enhances the National Guard retention program by instilling physical fitness, self-discipline and esprit de corps among National Guard members from all 50 states and U.S. territories.

“The Lincoln National Guard Marathon is an important event that brings soldiers and airmen together with the local community to promote health and fitness within the State of Nebraska,” Sterns said.

Adding, “As National Guard members it also instills camaraderie among the runners who come from all over the United States and territories to compete.”

Along with the traditional runners, 10 National Guard soldiers and airmen ruck marched the half-marathon distance in honor and memory of fallen and deceased service members from across all branches of the military.

(Editor’s note: Capt. Kimberly Quinn, the overall female winner, is a member of the Association of the U.S. Army’s First Militia Chapter, Gainesville, Fla.)

Soldiers from 3rd BCT, 101st Airborne Div., are Best Sappers

**Capt. Jonathon Bless
Public Affairs Officer
3rd Brigade Combat Team
101st Airborne Division**

Two soldiers of the 3rd Brigade Combat Team “Rakkasan,” 101st Airborne Division, proudly received the 2018 Best Sapper trophy, beating out 39 other teams from across the Army participating in the 2018 Lt. Gen. Robert B. Flowers Best Sapper Competition, a grueling three-day event.

Capt. Rudy Chelednik, commander, Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 3rd Brigade Combat Team, and Sgt. 1st Class Robert Clark, first sergeant for Company B, 21st Brigade Engineer Battalion, 3rd Brigade Combat Team, are no strangers to working together as a team.

“At the time [of our train-up], Sgt. 1st Class Clark and myself were a company command team,” said Chelednik.

“We definitely worked out together every day, and did the best we could with the time we had,” he said.

Clark described the competition, which consisted of moving a total of 73 miles through locations on Fort Leonard Wood and Lake of the Ozarks region in a time span of 50 hours.

Along the way, competitors conducted physically strenuous events coupled with tasks learned at the U.S. Army Sapper School.

“The events consisted of a nonstandard PT test, two road marches with engineering or sapper tasks split up in-between them, as well as waterborne operations, and culminating with the ‘X-Mile Run,’ which was an unknown distance run with some competitions in-between,” Clark said.

Clark further expanded on the specifics of the multiple engineering and Sapper tasks the competitors were faced with.

Tasks included, “Bridge abutment reconnaissance, bridge pylon reconnaissance, setting in and utilizing mine detectors to detect mines, clearing lanes through explosive means or mechanical means, using robots to traverse through a robotics course under the cover of darkness ... [and] all different types of breaching aspects,” recollected Clark.

Adding, “Each one of those lanes had physical aspects, so not only did you have to be technical, but you had to have that strength aspect to be able to continue towards the end of the mission.”

Capt. Donald Lew, the Sapper Training Company commander, was in charge of planning and overseeing this year’s Best Sapper Competition.

“We changed up a few of the events that we had in previous years, and introduced the first night HeloCast operation,” said Lew.

“A total of 37 out of 40 teams that started the competition completed the event and came through the castle,” he added.



Best Sappers honored: From the left, Command Sgt. Maj. Trevor Walker, U.S. Army Engineer School regimental command sergeant major; Sgt. 1st Class Robert Clark; Capt. Rudy Chelednik; the 50th Chief of Engineers, retired Lt. Gen. Robert Flowers; and Brig. Gen. Robert Whittle Jr., U.S. Army Engineer School commandant.

Bottom: Clark, left, and Chelednik compete in the 2018 Lt. Gen. Robert B. Flowers Best Sapper Competition, a grueling three-day event. (Photos by Michael Curtis)



Chelednik and Clark were ecstatic about winning the competition and were even more proud to have represented the Rakkasans and the 101st Airborne Division.

Clark commented that soldiers have told him they are proud to be a Rakkasan and to be part of a winning team.

He mentioned that even soldiers from other brigades have told him that seeing our team bring

home the win makes them proud to identify as 101st Airborne Division soldiers.

Clark said he hoped that the victory would continue to charge soldiers with the winning spirit.

“I told General Poppas that when he deployed he was going to miss us bringing home the trophy,” said Clark. “That’s the mentality the Rakkasans and 101st have to have, that if I want it, I have to believe that I can get it.”

The Army's Best Mortar Team is a 'tight knit' soldier family

David Vergun
Army News Service

A four-man team from the 82nd Airborne Division, Fort Bragg, N.C., captured the Best Mortar Team Trophy during the inaugural Best Mortar Competition held at Fort Benning, Ga.

The winning four-man team included Staff Sgt. James Pennington, Sgt. Ryan Mosser, Cpl. Jacob Nolan and Cpl. Alec Norton.

Earning the Best Individual Trophy was Sgt. 1st Class Yuslandy Figueredo, of the 198th Infantry Training Brigade.

Pennington said the soldiers on his team all love their jobs and realize the vital role mortars play in an infantry formation – that might have contributed to their success in the first-ever Best Mortar Competition.

“We’re getting paid to shoot rockets out of cannons. How cool is that,” Pennington said.

But what really propelled the team toward a win, Pennington said, is the fact that the team is “tight knit, like a family.”

He said each soldier understood each other’s strengths and weaknesses and worked to help each other overcome obstacles.

Mosser concurred with that assessment, and said that members of his team and the rest of his squad back at Fort Bragg are so close, they hang out with each other even after work.

“I’d trust my life with any of them,” Mosser said.

Mosser also said the stressors and challenges his team faced during the competition exceeded anything they do back at Fort Bragg during home-station, live-fire training.

The stress, he said, came from the piling on of a lot of strength and endurance events prior to the live fires.

The exhausted mortarmen, he said, had to focus on setting up and bore sighting their mortars “while gasping for air.”

Norton said that even though his team won the competition, nobody was perfect in his performance.

Every competing soldier slipped up occasionally, he said, and whenever that happened, his teammates were there to lift that soldier up.

Nolan said his team’s success at Fort Benning also drew from their persistence and a willingness to win.

“Soldiers in the 82nd don’t believe in quitting,” he said, adding that he was still very impressed by the skills and effort put out by soldiers from all of the teams, particularly the Rangers, who took second place in the competition, and were nipping at their heels the entire time.

All four members of the winning team said they would bring what they learned back to their unit and try to introduce more physical events into their mortar training plans.

The third place winner was the team from the 101st Airborne Division.



Best Mortar Competition Winners are, from left: Cpl. Jacob Nolan, Sgt. Ryan Mosser, Staff Sgt. James Pennington and Cpl. Alec Norton, 82nd Airborne Division. (Photo by Patrick Albright)

Best individual mortarman

Figueredo, the individual winner, said the most thrilling part of the event, besides team camaraderie, was scoring a direct hit on a tank with his first 60mm mortar round despite a strong crosswind, and watching the sparks fly from impact.

The lethality of the mortars is why their motto is “High Angle Hell,” he added.

Staff Sgt. Dustin Wimberley, an evaluator on the mortar live-fire range, said blowing things up is the best job in the infantry.



Sgt. 1st Class Yuslandy Figueredo, left, of the 198th Infantry Training Brigade, took Best Individual Trophy during the inaugural Best Mortar Competition. Presenting the trophy is Brig. Gen. Christopher Donahue, commandant of Infantry School. (Photo by David Vergun)

Wimberley captured first place in the individual category during a pilot mortar competition held in June.

Lt. Col. Samuel Edwards, commander of 1st Battalion, 19th Infantry, the unit hosting the competition, said he was impressed by the fortitude and tactical excellence of all of the competitors.

“One of the competitors was a private first class who graduated from basic training just two years ago,” Edwards said.

Adding, “In that short amount of time he attained an incredible level of proficiency.”

Brig. Gen. Christopher Donahue, commandant of the Infantry School, spoke at the awards ceremony. He said teams of mortarmen are now in Afghanistan and Syria supporting the mission.

The enemy is watching what those soldiers are doing, he said, and are “going to school” on ways to defeat them.

He noted, “Therefore, we have to constantly refine how we fight.”

Donahue encouraged soldiers to return to their units and invest the same rigor and standards to home-station training that they experienced during the competition.

This year, seven four-man teams from around the Army competed in the Best Mortar Competition.

Teams came from the 82nd Airborne Division, the 75th Ranger Regiment, the 10th Mountain Division, the 7th Infantry Division, the 1st Infantry Division, the 101st Airborne Division, and the 198th Infantry Training Brigade.

The competition evaluated the implementation of techniques and skills in accordance with the Army Mortar Doctrine training guidance, said Capt. Luis Rivas, lead planner for the event.

Indirect fire infantrymen provide critical capabilities to Army ground forces and as such, their proficiency contributes immeasurably to Army readiness, Rivas said.



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The Old Guard Monument dedicated at Fort Myer ceremony

The 3rd U.S. Infantry Regiment (The Old Guard) celebrated its 234 years of dedicated service to the nation at two ceremonies held May 1 at Joint Base Myer-Henderson Hall.

Attendees first witnessed an impressive ceremony in Conny Hall celebrating the 70th anniversary of The Old Guard's reactivation that included a performance by The United States Army Band, "Pershing's Own," and soldiers from the The Old Guard and its Fife and Drum Corps.

Col. Jason Garkey, the 81st regimental commander and the ceremonies' presiding officer, introduced honored guests Sen. Tom Cotton, R-Ark., and Rep. Warren Davidson, R-Ohio.

Both Cotton and Davidson served in The Old Guard and, while speaking at the ceremony, recalled their service in the Army and in The Old Guard.

"When we look at the 70th anniversary and look at the significance, it is not only to be here as a ceremonial unit, but as a response force to defend our seat of government against potential threats," said Garkey.

The Old Guard, the U.S. Army's oldest active infantry regiment, was reactivated at the outbreak of the Cold War on April 6, 1948 – when it was seen as an imperative defense force to protect the capital and our national leaders.

It also fulfilled the vision of representing the U.S. Army to the rest of the world, through performances for the president and foreign dignitaries, and ceremonies honoring departed service members in Arlington National Cemetery.

Garkey also noted that The Old Guard fulfilled its role of defending the homeland on 9/11.

"Unfortunately, the attack against the Pentagon resulted in a call to arms, and the regiment answered," Garkey said.

Adding, "We immediately changed from our ceremonial duties to homeland defense. The Old Guard spent over a month providing security, logistics, and medical support in the efforts of recovering from this violent attack."

Following the reactivation ceremony, attendees gathered at Summerall Field for the unveiling of the new Old Guard Monument, a project spearheaded by retired Col. James Laufenburg, the 74th regimental commander, who was inspired by what he saw as The Old Guard commander on 9/11.

After his retirement, Laufenburg worked tirelessly with others for almost 15 years to create a monument honoring the regiment's rich history and continuing service.

"Today I am proud to say to all of those who have given up their individual time to make this a reality – a job well done. Mission complete," Laufenburg said.

Laufenburg also recognized the Association of the U.S. Army and its George Washington Chapter for their support in bringing this project to fruition.

Barbara Mungenast, a sculptor from St. Louis, considered doing this project when she came to Fort Myer and observed Old Guard soldiers at ceremonies and at the Tomb of the Unknowns.



Col. Jason T. Garkey, 81st regimental commander, 3rd U.S. Infantry Regiment (The Old Guard), said, 'When you look at this monument and think of those years of service [234], each and every one of those contributes to the history of this monument, the pride and heritage we all feel was accurately captured.' (Photo by Abigail Kelly)

She then understood the important role of the regiment and began working on this work of art.

"The only guidance I gave Barbara ... was to create a piece of art that represents the past, the present and the future of this regiment," Laufenburg said.

The 12-foot bronze monument depicts three figures that embody The Old Guard – a saluting non-commissioned officer, a kneeling combat infantry soldier, and a fifer from The Old Guard Fife and Drum Corps.

The American flag on the monument touches every piece of the memorial – connecting them all together.

"When you look at this monument and think of those years of service each and every one of those contributes to the history of this monument,

the pride and heritage we all feel was accurately captured," Garkey said.

"It's a treasure," Col. Kimberly Peoples, the joint base commander said, noting that it captures the spirit of the Army.

"Certainly this monument has been long overdue, and we are thrilled to see it come to fruition. More importantly, we are humbled by what it represents," she added.

"We serve," Garkey said, "as a visible reminder of service to our nation for those who visit Washington," he said. "We offer a valuable touch point to remind our citizens of those soldiers serving in harm's way."

(Editor's note: Pentagon Staff Writer Abigail Kelly contributed to the story.)



Retired Col. James Laufenburg, 74th regimental commander who worked over 15 years to make The Old Guard Monument a reality, is awarded the Order of St. Maurice for his dedication and significant contributions to the infantry by Col. Jason T. Garkey, 81st regimental commander, right, and Command Sgt. Maj. Scott Beeson.

Army Signal Classification Challenge: Cut through the noise

Nancy Jones-Bonbrest
Army Rapid Capabilities Office

Digitally speaking, it's loud out there. Cell phones, satellite signals, radars and more are making the electromagnetic spectrum a crowded and congested space.

To cut through the noise and increase the speed at which electronic warfare officers (EWOs) can identify and react to these signals on the battlefield, the Army's Rapid Capabilities Office (RCO) is seeking new technologies that apply artificial intelligence and machine learning to paint a picture of the electromagnetic spectrum.

The RCO is inviting anyone with a possible capability to participate in the Army Signal Classification Challenge, that went live on Challenge.gov and FBO.gov on April 30.

Approved competitors will be allowed access to the training dataset consisting of over 4.3 million instances across 24 different modulations, which includes a noise class. The effort is seeking solutions that can perform blind signal classification quickly and accurately.

The RCO is hoping to reach highly skilled data scientists and innovation leaders who can bring machine learning algorithms and the supporting processes, methods and tools needed to improve the speed and agility of identification and classification of various signals within the electromagnetic spectrum.

"This is a competition to find the 'best of the best' in artificial intelligence and machine learning that can do blind signal classification," said Rob Monto, the director of the RCO's Emerging Technologies Office.

Specifically, blind signal classification requires little-to-no prior knowledge about the signal being detected in that specific instance. The solution would automatically classify the modulation, or change of a radio frequency (RF) waveform, as a first step towards signal classification.

"The challenge allows participants to submit their scores daily during the challenge to see how well they are performing," Monto said. "There will be a status leader board, so everyone will be updated automatically on how they are placing against others. This will help drive competition."

A total of \$150,000 will be awarded, with the winner receiving \$100,000, second place receiving \$30,000, and third place receiving \$20,000. The intent is to also include the potential for a follow-on opportunity for possible contract awards.

To participate in the first phase of the challenge, competitors can visit <http://www.challenge.gov/challenge/army-signal-classification-challenge> for an overview of the challenge.

From there, they will be directed to a third-party site to accept the terms and conditions prior to establishing an account and accessing the competition platform and test data sets.

The Army Signal Classification Challenge com-



The goal of the challenge is to attract a broad range of potential solutions in applying artificial intelligence and machine learning to signal detection to combat the growing complexity of the electromagnetic spectrum. (Image Courtesy of U.S. Army Research Laboratory)

petition will be open for approximately 90 days.

Participants will have at least 60 days to develop their models and work with the training data, with shorter timeframes allowed for each test dataset submission.

There will be two test datasets provided that will be the basis for judging submissions.

The first will be released approximately 67 days after the challenge launch, with a solution submission window of 15 days. A second, more complex test dataset will be released 84 days after the challenge launch, with a shorter submission window of only seven days.

Participants' overall challenge score will be based on a combined weighted score for both test datasets.

Participants will be able to see how they are performing in relation to others, in real time via the participant leaderboard. At the end of the competition the top three competitors who meet all the terms and conditions of the challenge will receive a monetary award.

The RCO is utilizing both Challenge.gov and FBO.gov to attract a broad range of potential solutions in applying artificial intelligence and machine learning to signal detection to combat the growing complexity of the electromagnetic spectrum.

Currently, the classic signal detection process is no longer efficient in understanding the vast amount of information presented.

This additional complexity involves identify-

ing the source and location of a potentially infinite number of electronic signals through various sensing means, which require new and innovative approaches to modern era signal problems.

While electronic warfare officers will remain in the driver's seat for pinpointing various signals, analyzing their impact, and making recommendations to their commanders, the use of artificial intelligence and machine learning can help soldiers to detect patterns and zero in on areas of significance while filtering out clutter.

The RCO recently delivered new electronic warfare prototype systems in response to an Operational Needs Statement from U.S. Army Europe.

Soldiers can use the equipment to implement electronic protection for their own formations, as well as to detect and understand enemy activity in the electromagnetic spectrum and disrupt adversaries through electronic attack effects.

The Army Signal Classification Challenge and other RCO initiatives could eventually enhance the initial prototypes while informing the Army's electronic warfare programs of record.

For more information: Those interested in participating in the Army Signal Classification Challenge can visit <http://www.challenge.gov/challenge/army-signal-classification-challenge>.

Also as of April 30, there was a link on Federal Business Opportunities.

Both links are available and accessible from the RCO's LinkedIn page.

CAPITOL HILL UPDATE

A listing of bills that AUSA is currently tracking

ACTIVE DUTY/GUARD & RESERVE ISSUES

House Action

H.R. 1384 (Reserve Component Benefits Parity Act) Cosponsors: 72

- Amends titles 5, 10, 37, and 38 of the United States Code to ensure that an order to serve on active duty under section 12304a and 12304b of title 10, United States Code, is treated the same as other orders to serve on active duty for determining the eligibility of members of the uniformed services and veterans for certain benefits and for calculating the deadlines for certain benefits.

- Introduced by Rep. Steven Palazzo, R-Miss.

- Referred to Committees: Armed Services; Veterans' Affairs, Oversight and Government Reform

- **Portions of the bill were included in the Fiscal Year 2018 National Defense Authorization Act**

H.R. 2099 (GI Bill Fairness Act)

Cosponsors: 1

- Amends title 38, United States Code, to consider certain time spent by members of reserve components of the Armed Forces while receiving medical care from the Secretary of Defense as active duty for purposes of eligibility for Post-9/11 Educational Assistance.

- Introduced by Rep. Mark Takano, D-Calif.

- **Referred to Committee: Veterans' Affairs**

H.R. 4633 (Credentialing, Educating, & Relevant Training Initiative For Your Heroes Act (CERTIFY)) Cosponsors: 10

- Permits individuals who are eligible for assistance under a Department of Defense educational assistance program or authority to use such tuition assistance for licensing and certification programs offered by entities other than an institution of higher education.

- Introduced by Rep. Steve Russell, R-Ark.

- **Referred to Committee: Armed Services**

H.R. 5038 (Reserve Component Benefits Parity Act) Cosponsors: 52

- Reduces the age at which a member of the Reserve Component is eligible to receive military retirement pay by three months for every 90 days mobilized under 12304b authority within a single fiscal year; mandates that officers and enlisted members of the Reserve Component receive a monthly allocation for each month they are deployed if they meet requirements written under current law; and, protects the level of pay for federal civilian employees who are members of the Reserve Component once they are mobilized by supplying a "reservist differential" payment that currently exist for other mobilization authorities.

- Introduced by Rep. Steven Palazzo, R-Miss.

- **Referred to Committees: Armed Services; Veterans' Affairs, Oversight and Government Reform**

Senate Action

S. 492 (Servicemember Retirement Improvement Act)

Cosponsors: 1

- Amends the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to allow members of the Ready Reserve of a reserve component of the Armed Forces to make elective deferrals on the basis of their service to the Ready Reserve and on the basis of their other employment.

- Introduced by Sen. John Cornyn, R-Texas

- **Referred to Committee: Finance**

RETIREE ISSUES

House Action

H.R. 303 (Retired Pay Restoration Act) Cosponsors: 91

- Permits additional retired members of the Armed Forces who have a service-connected disability to receive both disability compensation from the VA for their disability and either retired pay by reason of their years of military service or Combat-Related Special Compensation.

- Introduced by Rep. Gus Bilirakis, R-Fla

- **Referred to Committees: Armed Services; Veterans' Affairs**

H.R. 333 (Disabled Veterans' Tax Termination Act) Cosponsors: 37

- Permits retired members of the Armed Forces who have a service-connected disability rated less than 50 percent to receive concurrent payment of both retired pay and veterans' disability compensation

- Extends eligibility for concurrent receipt to chapter 61 disability retirees with less than 20 years of service.

- Introduced by Rep. Sanford Bishop, D-Ga.

- **Referred to Committees: Armed Services; Veterans' Affairs**

Senate Action

S. 66 (Retired Pay Restoration Act)

Cosponsors: 12

- Permits additional retired members of the Armed Forces who have a service-connected disability to receive both disability compensation from the VA for their disability and either retired pay by reason of their years of military service or Combat-Related Special Compensation.

- Introduced by Sen. Dean Heller, R-Nev.

- **Referred to Committees: Armed Services**

SPOUSE/FAMILY ISSUES

House Action

H.R. 578 (Military Residency Choice Act) Cosponsors: 7

- Amends the Servicemembers Civil Relief Act to authorize spouses of servicemembers to elect to use the same residences as the servicemembers.

- Introduced by Rep. Rob Wittman, R-Va.

- Referred to Committee: Veterans' Affairs

- **Passed by the House of Representatives and referred to the Senate for action**

H.R. 1796 (Lift the Relocation Burden from Military Spouses Act) Cosponsors: 39

- Authorizes the military department concerned to reimburse a member of the Armed Forces up to \$500 for "qualified relicensing costs" incurred by the member's spouse as result of a PCS across state lines. "Qualified relicensing costs" are the costs, including exam and registration fees, needed to secure a license or certification to engage in the same profession in the new state.

- Introduced by Rep. Elise Stefanik, R-N.Y.

- Referred to Committees: Armed Services

- **Language included in the Fiscal Year 2018 National Defense Authorization Act**

Senate Action

S. 2379 (Military Spouse Employment Act) Cosponsors: 3

- Improves and expands authorities, programs, services, and benefits for military spouses and military families.

- Introduced by Sen. Tim Kaine, D-Va.

- **Referred to Committees: Armed Services**

VETERANS' ISSUES

House Action

H.R. 3272 (Veteran Education Empowerment Act) Cosponsors: 92

- Directs the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to carry out a grant program to provide Veteran Student Centers at institutions of higher education to assist veterans in the pursuit of higher education.

- Introduced by Rep. Lois Frankel, D-Fla.

- **Referred to Committee: Veterans' Affairs**

H.R. 4571 (Fair Access to Insurance for Retired (FAIR) Heroes Act of 2017) Cosponsors: 7

- Expands eligibility for the TRICARE program to include certain veterans entitled to benefits under the Medicare program due to conditions or injuries incurred during service in the Armed Forces and to waive the Medicare Part B late enrollment penalty for such veterans.

- Introduced by Rep. Susan Davis, D-Calif.

- **Referred to Committee: Armed Services, Energy and Commerce, Ways and Means**

Senate Action

S. 591 (Military and Veteran Caregiver Services Improvement Act) Cosponsors: 34

- Expands eligibility for the program of comprehensive assistance for family caregivers of the Department of Veterans Affairs, to expand benefits available to participants under such program and to enhance special compensation for members of the uniformed services who require assistance in everyday life.

- Introduced by Sen. Patty Murray, D-Wash.

- Referred to Committee: Veterans' Affairs

- **Language included in S. 2193, Caring for Our Veterans Act of 2017**

S. 1198 (Veterans Care Financial Protection Act) Cosponsors: 3

- Protects individuals who are eligible for increased pension under laws administered by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs on the basis of need of regular aid and attendance from dishonest, predatory, or otherwise unlawful practices.

- Introduced by Sen. Elizabeth Warren, D-Mass.

- **Referred to Committees: Veterans' Affairs**

S. 2117 (Fair Access to Insurance for Retired (FAIR) Heroes Act of 2017) Cosponsors: 1

- Expands eligibility for the TRICARE program to include certain veterans entitled to benefits under the Medicare program due to conditions or injuries incurred during service in the Armed Forces and to waive the Medicare Part B late enrollment penalty for such veterans.

- Introduced by Sen. Bill Nelson, D-Fla.

- **Referred to Committee: Veterans' Affairs**

S. 2193 (Caring for Our Veterans Act of 2017) Cosponsors: 0

- Streamlines and strengthens veterans' healthcare services at the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) and in the community to ensure efficient, timely and quality care.

- Introduced by Sen. Johnny Isakson, R-Ga.

- Referred to Committee: Veterans' Affairs

- **Passed by Committee on Nov. 29, 2017 and referred to the full Senate**

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Patty Barron
Director
AUSA Family Readiness

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AUSA Hot Topic

Get new equipment into the warfighter’s hands faster

David Vergun
Army News Service

Two relatively new initiatives are cutting costs and reducing the time it takes to get new equipment into the hands of warfighters, said Army logisticians.

The initiatives are the Defense Innovation Unit – Experimental (DIUx), a mechanism for executing prototype contracts quickly, and additive manufacturing, a process that uses 3-D printers to produce metal parts that are traditionally machined on mills and lathes or forged.

The logisticians spoke at an Association of the United States Army Sustainment Hot Topic forum at the Virginia State University in Petersburg, Va.

Additive manufacturing

The Army is expanding its additive manufacturing capabilities, said Lt. Gen. Aundre F. Piggee, G-4.

“It makes no sense to produce spare parts 8,000 miles away from where the soldiers need them if we can print them on the battlefield,” he said.

The Army is serious about this endeavor and it is establishing an Additive Manufacturing Center of Excellence at Rock Island, Ill., to advance this technology, he said.

William F. Moore, assistant G-4, added that Army depots are ramping up additive manufacturing and by this summer, tactical machine shops will utilize this process as well.



Lt. Gen. Aundre Piggee, G-4, said at the AUSA Hot Topic that the Army is expanding its additive manufacturing capabilities. (AUSA News photo by Luc Dunn)

Richard Martukanitz, Ph.D., head of the Laser Processing Division, Applied Research Laboratory at Penn State University, said his lab is supporting big increases in Department of Defense requests for additive manufacturing in partnership with industry.

For the Army, he said his lab has produced an M1A1 Abrams tank turret, a process that normally requires a giant lathe and a lot of time. Also, his lab, working with Army researchers at Picatinny Arsenal, N.J., last year produced most of the components for a 40mm grenade launcher.

DIUx

Col. David Robinson, Army service lead and military director of Defense Innovation Unit – Experimental, said his command will have a “significant presence” with Army Futures Command when it is stood up later this year, because of its non-traditional approach to moving things quickly through the pipeline.

A recent DIUx Army prototype contract involved upgrades for Bradley Fighting Vehicles that will soon be delivered to the 1st Cavalry Division at Fort Hood, Texas, Robinson said he foresees more Army usage of DIUx in the future.

Instead of taking years to move from problem identification to prototype and contract closure, DIUx bypasses the traditional contracting process to get that timeline down to an average of 60 to 90 days, and sometimes less than 30, he said.

DIUx uses what is called Commercial Solutions Openings, a special type of Other Transactional Authority, authorized by Congress, that can identify commercial technologies that require little-to-no modification to apply to a DoD mission need, he said. Very little seed money for a project is used by DIUx, he said. Most of the cost is born by industry, which often includes non-defense industries or start-ups.

The way these industries generate revenue to support a DoD project is through the use of venture capitalists (VCs), he explained. Once the VCs know DoD is serious about a project, they put funding into it.



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Staff Sgt. Aaron Hale – war hero – honored for heroism

Chapter Highlight Emerald Coast

Members of the AUSA Emerald Coast Chapter, including retired 1st Sgt. Tom Rice, chapter first vice president, and his wife, Peg, attended the 50th Annual Celebration Ball, Naval School Explosive Ordnance Disposal, Eglin Air Force Base, Fla.

Army Lt. Gen. Reynold N. Hoover, deputy commander, U.S. Northern Command, was the guest speaker.

Prior to the event, the chapter and retired Brig. Gen. Michael Ferguson, Florida civilian aide to the secretary of the Army, presented Staff Sgt. Aaron Hale with an Army dress uniform for the occasion.

Hale, who served in the Navy before joining the Army, was an explosive ordnance disposal expert in Afghanistan and was permanently blinded while he was approaching an improvised explosive device to disarm it when it exploded.



Retired Maj. Bill Van Hoesen; retired Brig. Gen. Mike Ferguson, Florida civilian aide to the secretary of the Army; Staff Sgt. Aaron Hale; and retired 1st Sgt. Tom Rice, AUSA Emerald Coast chapter first vice president, at the Army dress uniform presentation for Hale.

Clifford Crivello, Army civilian employee, recognized

Chapter Highlight Redstone-Huntsville

Terri Stover
U.S. Army Security
Assistance Command

Navigating the budget process for any government system must be a daunting task, let alone making any significant change, but it appears it can be done.

Each year the Redstone-Huntsville Chapter of the Association of the United States Army recognizes local Department of the Army civilians who have demonstrated exceptional performance as members of the Army team.

Clifford Crivello was nominated for one such award for putting his mark on the foreign military sales (FMS) financial world.



Clifford Crivello

Crivello, resource manager for the U.S. Army Security Assistance Command (USASAC), made a suggestion to a \$100 million Army system and forged a way ahead on how to implement it.

Crivello led the successful implementation of the FMS administrative fund direct-change labor initiative for the entire FMS enterprise that began in 2014 and went live in 2017.

This capstone event resulted in the sustained multi-year coordinated effort across all levels of the Army to include the Assistant Secretary of the Army for Financial Management and Comptroller, Department of Defense Comptroller's Office, Defense Security Cooperation Agency (DSCA), Army Budget Office, Army Materiel Command (AMC), Army Training and Doctrine Command, Army Medical Command, and each Life Cycle Management Command under AMC.

The FMS administrative funds are managed by USASAC on behalf of AMC, and executed in the General Fund Enterprise Business System, the Army's financial system of record, on a reimbursable basis.

The reimbursable process in the past has caused up to a 65-day lag in funds reporting, which caused the FMS Enterprise to report execution of the process late to its Army FMS customers and DoD proponents.

However, based on Crivello's exhaustive research, he briefed AMC and DSCA officials about changing the current reimbursable process being used to execute FMS payroll, and demonstrated it would have no effect on the Army's ability to accurately record and report end-strength.

The briefing initiated the needed change in the ability to directly charge labor and work with the Office of Management and Budget and Treasury Department, and to authorize transfers within the FMS Trust Fund.

Crivello went on to remark that the "proposed changes will also improve Army audit-ability of [reimbursable] fund execution."

Through his outstanding coordination with higher headquarters, Crivello was able to get the approvals for fixing a slow and confusing system, thus bringing about much needed change.

In October 2017, a four-day summit was held at the USASAC headquarters with over 110 FMS claimants.

The summit explained the process of implementation and paved the way to provide full, active, live, accounting transparency to the AMC command staff and all of the claimants.

"Allowing FMS labor to be charged directly to the fund source will provide the security assistance community with improved accountability of foreign country funds entrusted to the U.S. Army," Crivello said at the summit.

"This direct charge effort was implemented successfully with zero financial accounting downtime, enhancing the Army's mission support to its foreign customers and reminding customers that the Army's reputation as an employer of the best civilian workforce in the world holds true," said Col. Phillip Chambers, USASAC chief of staff and Crivello's supervisor, stated.

Additionally, the material improvements made during the implementation of direct charge by the Army and foreign claimants directly led to a 100 percent success rate across the FMS Enterprise during the year end close of the fund.

"Crivello's efforts led directly to the full accountability of FMS administrative funding down to the penny. He has put his mark on the FMS financial world that will reap benefits for years to come," Chambers noted.

AUSA named 2018 Arlington Non-Profit Business of the Year

AUSA Staff

The Association of the U.S. Army was recognized May 2 by the Arlington, Va., Chamber of Commerce as the 2018 Non-Profit Business of the Year.

“These awards are earned by businesses that deliver exceptional quality of service to their customers, are industry leaders or offer a unique approach to delivery of goods and services. Each business displays an interest in and concern for the Arlington community,” according to the chamber.

The nomination for the award cites AUSA’s mission as being a voice for the Army, supporting soldiers, advancing national security and honoring those who have served.

While AUSA is a global association, it has many benefits for the Arlington community, hosting events in the Gen. Gordon R. Sullivan Conference and Event Center that economically and culturally contribute to Arlington.

AUSA is also a founding sponsor and co-lead sponsor of the Army Ten-Miler, a competition that starts and ends in Arlington with over 35,000 runners registered annually, and hosts Operation Deploy Your Dress, an annual event that provides free evening wear to military members and spouses.

Retired Army Lt. Gen. Patricia McQuiston, AUSA vice president for membership and meetings, said AUSA “is thrilled to get this recognition from our chamber.”

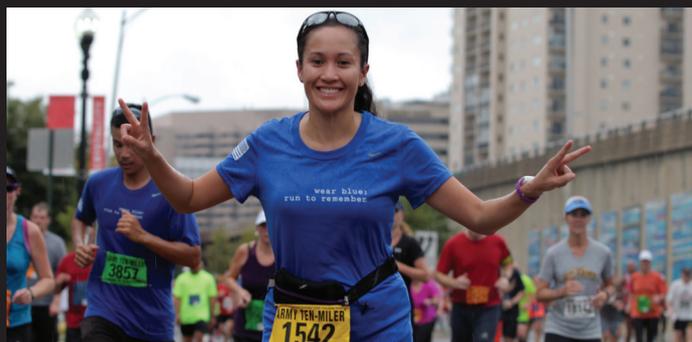
AUSA encourages its chapters to join their local Chamber of Commerce and pays the chambers dues for those who do join.

“Working with local chambers enables our chapter leaders to connect with community and industry leaders so they can provide information about America’s Army to the citizens they serve,” McQuiston said.



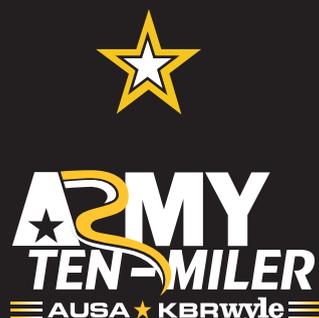
Retired Gen. Carter F. Ham, AUSA president and CEO, left, and association national headquarters staff employees, proudly display the plaque presented by the Arlington County, Va., Chamber of Commerce for ‘exceptional quality of service’ to its members and benefits to the Arlington community. (AUSA News photo by Luc Dunn)

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UNCW becomes AUSA Braxton Bragg Chapter subchapter

Chapter Highlight Braxton Bragg/UNCW

Christina Schechtman
University of North Carolina
at Wilmington

The University of North Carolina at Wilmington (UNCW) is now the first university subchapter of the Braxton Bragg Chapter of the Association of the U.S. Army (AUSA) in North Carolina.

AUSA, a nonprofit educational and professional development association, works to recognize, support and honor those who have served. The Braxton Bragg Chapter is one of the largest AUSA chapters.

The UNCW AUSA subchapter will work alongside the greater Wilmington community to provide

access to support services like educational scholarships, networking events and professional development opportunities for active duty soldiers, reservists, veterans, military spouses and their family members.

“This partnership will be a tremendous benefit to our military-affiliated students and service members in the area,” said Jess Boersma, subchapter president and associate dean in the College of Arts and Sciences.

He added, “We are always looking for ways to bridge the gaps between the community, the university and our military members. This subchapter will provide meaningful connections and unmatched resources to this integral population.”

As a subchapter of AUSA, UNCW will receive all of the benefits that an established and widely respected organization has to offer.

The subchapter will also be able to dedicate its focus entirely on its membership, ensuring it’s able to provide valuable services to its members.

“People might be surprised to know that AUSA is one of the largest military organizations in the world, but we have always been great admirers of the work they have done since its founding in 1950,” UNCW’s director of military affairs, Bill Kawczynski, said.

“They act on behalf of all those tied to the U.S. Army, and membership is a way to keep that connection to the life that soldiers had while they were in the military. It ensures that those bonds, those resources, don’t disappear when they leave the service.”

Members of the subchapter’s executive committee were sworn in April 19, following a Board of Trustees’ Military Affairs Committee meeting. The ceremony was officiated by retired Gen. Carter F. Ham, AUSA president and CEO.

The executive committee includes:

President: Jess Boersma, U.S. Army Special Forces veteran, UNCW faculty, Associate Dean for Student Success, Policy and Undergraduate Scholarship, College of Arts and Sciences.

Vice President: Rob Campbell, U.S. Army former 101st Airborne Division brigade commander, leadership consultant, author.

Secretary: Scot Kelly, U.S. Navy spouse, UNCW employee (Academic Affairs), student.

Military Liaison: Siobhan Norris, U.S. Army Military Police veteran, active duty spouse, UNCW employee (Military Affairs).

Legal Advisor: John Scherer, ROTC graduate, U.S. Army Judge Advocate General officer, UNCW general counsel.

The university was recently ranked 1st in North Carolina and 40th nationally on a list compiled by Military Times of the top four-year colleges for military-affiliated students, and 9th on the 2018 U.S. News & World Report list of “Best Colleges for Veterans in the South.”

Promoting an inclusive culture and fostering collaborative campus partnerships to enhance student support are key elements of the university’s Strategic Plan.



Retired Gen. Carter F. Ham, AUSA president and CEO, is with members of the University of North Carolina at Wilmington subchapter executive committee, now affiliated with the Braxton Bragg Chapter centered on Fort Bragg, N.C.

AUSA will award \$120,000 in scholarships to members

AUSA Staff

The Association of the U.S. Army will provide more than \$120,000 in national scholarships in 2018, with 22 scholarships awarded by AUSA and three administered by the association in conjunction with the Army.

The application deadline for the AUSA-awarded scholarships is July 31, with recipients announced in mid-November.

Each applicant must be an active member of AUSA.

Details on the scholarships and application process can be found here: <https://www.ausa.org/scholarships>

There are three new scholarship programs:

- Two scholarships of \$5,000 each will be awarded to eligible Senior ROTC and/or Junior ROTC cadets pursuing or completing a college degree. The Gen. Jack N. Merritt Scholarship is named for a former AUSA president who refined the association’s educational programs.

- Three scholarships of \$2,000 each will be awarded to recent college graduates to help pay the cost of their education. Applicants for the AUSA College Debt Reduction Scholarship must have completed a college or university degree within the past two years.

- Four scholarships of \$2,000 each will be awarded to pay for skill-certification programs. The

AUSA Professional Development Scholarship is available to transitioning soldiers, or a member of their family, who have completed a course from an accredited school.

AUSA has also expanded its Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) scholarship by offering additional money and awards, and will also award the SMA Leon Van Autreve Scholarship.

The SGM Larry Strickland Leadership Award and Scholarship and the SGM Dawn Kilpatrick Memorial AUSA Scholarship programs are awarded by the U.S. Army but funded by AUSA. These two scholarships are presented at the AUSA Annual Meeting and Exposition. (See ad on Page 8.)

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First Region Highlight

Command Sgt. Maj. (Ret.) Robert Van Pelt, left, stands with Master Sgt. Dainel McCoy, center, and Col. (Ret.) Dennis Dougherty, as McCoy receives the Mary G. Roebing Award at the First Region AUSA Distinguished Service Award Dinner, in Albany N.Y. McCoy was awarded the Mary G. Roebing Award for his commitment as a soldier and county legislator in improving the community and aiding veterans. (N.Y. Army National Guard photo by Spc. Andrew Valenza)



Association members tour historic WW II Fort Miles

Chapter Highlight Delaware

The Association of U.S. Army's Delaware Chapter conducted a general membership meeting following a tour of Fort Miles, a WWII Army coastal defense fort in Lewes, Del.

The tour included lunch, followed by the membership meeting attended by 28 members.

The chapter also presented a \$100 check to the president of the Fort Miles Historical Foundation, Dr. Gary Wray.

Photo: The attendees stand in front of the 16 inch gun, similar to those housed in one of the coast artillery bunkers at the fort.

This barrel was actually the middle gun on the Number 2 turret from the battleship U.S.S Missouri.



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★ Eagle Chapters ★

The following chapters attained Eagle Chapter status for April 2018 by showing positive membership growth since last month and since the start of the operating year (July 1, 2017). Membership growth for Eagle Chapter is measured by the sum of individual, life and community partner members. The number in parenthesis is the number of months so far this year the chapter has attained this status.

Arkansas (6)

Braxton Bragg (9)

Buckeye Landpower (9)

Central California (6)

Central Texas-Fort Hood (10)

Charleston (9)

Col. Edward Cross (9)

Corporal Bill McMillan-Bluegrass (7)

Fort Jackson-Palmetto State (7)

Fort Pitt (6)

Gem State (5)

George Washington (8)

Greater Los Angeles (6)

Joshua Chamberlain (2)

Leonidas Polk (5)

Massachusetts Bay (7)

Milwaukee (6)

Monmouth (6)

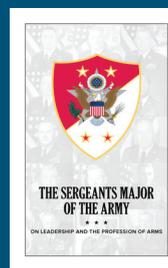
Robert E. Lee (9)

UAE (10)



INSTITUTE OF LAND WARFARE

Founded in 1988, AUSA's Institute of Land Warfare (ILW) is an authority on landpower—working to inform and educate AUSA's members, our local, regional and national leaders, and the American public on the nature and character of land warfare and the U.S. Army. Learn more at www.ausa.org/ilw.



AUSA BOOKS

The AUSA Book Program offers quality books about Army heritage, military theory and policy, and security in the modern world.

The Art of Command, Second Edition: Military Leadership from George Washington to Colin Powell edited by Harry S. Laver and Jeffrey J. Matthews (University Press of Kentucky, 6 December 2017)

Forward with Patton: The World War II Diary of Colonel Robert S. Allen edited by John Nelson Rickard (University Press of Kentucky, 25 July 2017)

Ranger: A Soldier's Life by Col. Ralph Puckett, USA Ret. (University Press of Kentucky, 11 March 2017)

The Iasi-Kishinev Operation: The Red Army's Summer Offensive into the Balkans edited by Richard Harrison, Ph.D. (Helion and Company, 6 September 2017)

Architect of Air Power: General Laurence S. Kuter and the Birth of the US Air Force by Brian Laslie, Ph.D. (University Press of Kentucky, 23 August 2017)

At the Decisive Point in the Sinai: Generalship in the Yom Kippur War by Maj. Gen. Jacob Even, IDF Ret., and Col. Simcha B. Maoz, IDF Ret. (University Press of Kentucky, 9 August 2017)

Lossberg's War: The World War I Memoirs of a German Chief of Staff edited by Maj. Gen. David T. Zabecki, USA Ret., and Lt. Col. Dieter J. Biedekarken, USA Ret. (University Press of Kentucky, 9 August 2017)

The Budapest Operation 1945: An Operational Strategic Study edited by Richard Harrison, Ph.D. (Helion and Company, 26 June 2017)

Sabers through the Reich: World War II Corps Cavalry from Normandy to the Elbe by William Stuart Nance (University Press of Kentucky, 18 April 2017)

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ILW SPEAKERS' BUREAU

Key to any of our events is securing well-informed speakers who can educate attendees and readily respond to any questions from participants. To that end, our Institute of Land Warfare Speakers' Bureau provides a group of men and women with diverse backgrounds in military history, ongoing national security concerns and anything in between.

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ILW PUBLICATIONS

The Institute publishes a wide variety of professional research papers, essays and special reports. The latest publications are listed below:

Regaining Tactical Overmatch: The Close Combat Lethality Task Force by COL Daniel S. Roper, USA, Ret. (Spotlight 18-2, April 2018)

The Sergeants Major of the Army: On Leadership and the Profession of Arms (2018) (ILW Special Report, February 2018)

Modernization for Industrial Age U.S. Army Installations by COL Patrick M. Duggan (Spotlight 18-1, February 2018)

Walks in the Midst of Trouble: Allied Patrols in War Zone C, October 1966 by John M. Carland (Land Warfare Paper 118, February 2018)

The Importance of Land Warfare: This Kind of War Redux by David E. Johnson (Land Warfare Paper 117, January 2018)

Securing the Army's Weapon Systems and Supply Chain against Cyber Attack by LTG Larry Wyche, USA, Ret., and Greg Pieratt (Spotlight 17-3, November 2017)

Fighting for the Land—from the Sea by Brian J. Dunn (Land Warfare Paper 116, December 2017)

Satellite and Ground Communication Systems: Space and Electronic Warfare Threats to the United States Army by MAJ Andrew H. Boyd (Land Warfare Paper 115, November 2017)

Army Faces



Army Places



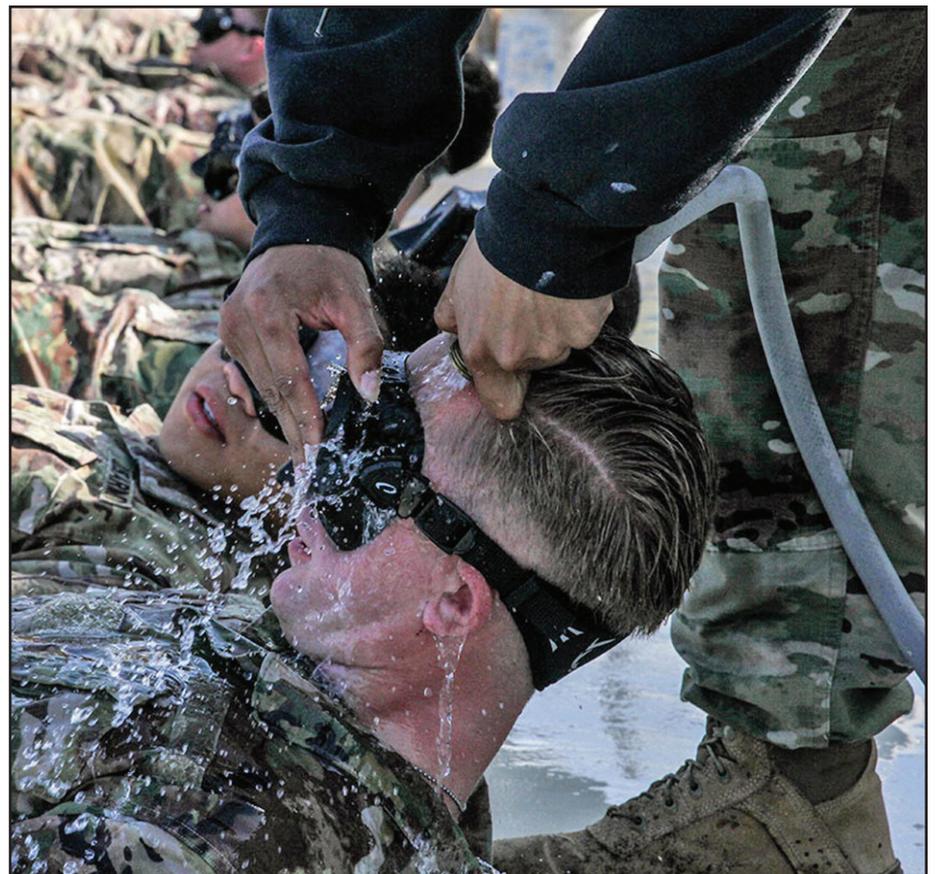
100-year-old Bataan Death March survivor Col. Ben Skardon, a beloved Clemson University alumnus and professor emeritus, celebrates arriving at the one-mile marker of the Bataan Memorial Death March at White Sands Missile Range, N.M. Skardon walked almost 7 miles to honor his brothers-in-arms who didn't return from the war. (Photo by Ken Scar)



A Paratrooper with Company A, 2nd Battalion, 503rd Infantry Regiment, 173rd Airborne Brigade, communicates via radio during a platoon level live-fire exercise at the 7th Army Training Command's Grafenwoehr Training Area, Germany. (Photo by Gertrud Zach)



A black racer snake slithers across the rifle barrel held by an Army National Guard sniper as he practices woodland stalking in a camouflaged ghillie suit during an exercise at Eglin Air Force Base. (Photo by Staff Sgt. William Frye)



Soldiers assigned to 1st battalion, 1st Special Forces Group (Airborne), demonstrate water survival techniques at Torii Station, Okinawa, Japan. (Photo by Spc. Aaron Agee)