

Senior Leaders President honors Veterans



"Our Nation's veterans represent the best of America. Generation after generation, men and women have answered the call to defend our country and our freedom, facing danger and uncertainty with uncommon courage."

— Donald J. Trump
President of the United States
Oct. 31, 2018, Washington

On Point Veteran's Day

November 11th is commemorated each year as Veterans Day, a celebration of the patriotism, service and sacrifice of all those who serve or have served in the U.S. military. The 2018 presidential proclamation designates the entire month of November as **National Veterans and Military Families Month**, celebrating military Families whose selfless service and sacrifice make the military the finest in the world. The U.S. has been at war for the last 17 years, and now has the largest population of young veterans since the Vietnam War. Veterans help connect the public with the Army and inspire the next generation to serve.



Military Family Month

Military Family Month was established by the Armed Services YMCA and is observed every November. The Army's number one priority is the readiness of Soldiers, civilians, and their Families. The Army recognizes and honors military Families for their numerous contributions.



First Corps Lt. receives Army's highest peacetime award



Secretary of the Army, Dr. Mark T. Esper, pins the Soldier's Medal on 2nd Lt. Robert McCoy, Nov. 1, 2018, at Joint Base Lewis McChord, Wash., for his acts of heroism during the Amtrak train derailment in DuPont, Wash., Dec. 18, 2017. (U.S. Army photo by Sgt. Erica B. Earl)

By Capt. Jennie Armstrong, 593rd Expeditionary Sustainment Command Public Affairs

JOINT BASE LEWIS McCHORD, Wash. - 2nd Lt. Robert McCoy thought Dec. 18, 2017, would be a normal day after physical training, but it turned into a day he will remember forever.

McCoy, an Army medical service officer assigned to the 56th Multifunctional Medical Battalion, 62nd Medical Brigade, received the Soldier's Medal from Dr. Mark T. Esper, Secretary of the Army, for his acts of heroism after the Amtrak train derailment in DuPont, Wash., Dec. 18, 2017.

"I am honored and humbled to be the recipient of this award," McCoy said. "December 18th was a hard day to endure. Many lives will be forever changed, including myself. I would like to take a moment to pay respect to those who had lost their lives and to those whose lives are for-

ever changed by the December 18 event."

On that day, Amtrak train No. 501, the inaugural train on the new high-speed rail line from Seattle to Portland, derailed on an Interstate 5 overpass near the Mounts Road exit next to Joint Base Lewis-McChord, killing three and injuring more than 60 people. The train was traveling on a corner at nearly 80 mph in a 30 mph zone. All but one of the train's 13 cars derailed in the crash.

"What he did that day truly honored himself, his unit and the United States Army," Esper said. "It is a true example of leadership. And I just want to thank him again for a job well done."

McCoy saw the train go off the overpass railway as it hit the concrete walls on the side and the wall exploded. There were people ejected from the train onto the pavement as well as passengers still trapped in the train cars.

FORSCOM in the news

Lt. Gen. Thomas S. James Jr. became the 39th First Army commanding general during **a recent assumption of command ceremony** on Rock Island Arsenal, Ill.



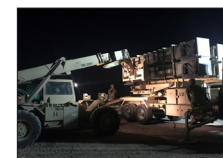
Fort Drum senior leaders recently **placed a wreath at the grave of an Italian soldier buried at the Prisoner of War Cemetery** on Fort Drum, N.Y.



FORSCOM recently conducted the **FORSCOM Small Arms Competition** at Fort Bragg, N.C., with **National Guard Soldiers earning overall best team.**



The 3rd Battalion, 2nd Air Defense Artillery, forward-deployed to Southwest Asia, **recently conducted night live-missile reloads at two Patriot air defense sites.**



Two units of the 101st Airborne Division (Air Assault) **recently concluded testing at Fort Campbell, Ky. of an upgrade to the Spider munition system.**



Meet your Army



1st Lt. Thomas Summerbell, fire support officer, 1st Armored Brigade Combat Team, 3rd Infantry Division, says he chose to serve to discover life outside of the Indian Reservation he grew up on in Nevada. He is extremely proud of his Paiute-Shoshone Tribe heritage and is thankful for the opportunities the U.S. Army has provided him. (Photo courtesy of the U.S. Army)

TOP SHOTS

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Right Sgt. Jacob Stromberg (right) and Spc. Lonnie Williams, Intelligence and Support Company, Headquarters and Headquarters Battalion, I Corps, set up a Secure Mobile Anti-jam Reliable Tactical Terminal system during Warfighter Exercise 19-1, a tactical command post exercise, Oct. 3, 2018, on Joint Base Lewis-McChord, Wash. (U.S. Army photo by Sgt. William Brown)

Left Troopers of the 3rd Cavalry Regiment, deployed in support of Operation Inherent Resolve, fire a Javelin anti-tank missile in Iraq, Oct. 4, 2018. (U.S. Army photo by 2nd Lt. Jamie Douglas)



Above Sgt. Clinton Scanlon (left), and Sgt. William Shealey, 3rd Brigade Combat Team, 82nd Airborne Division, treat a simulated casualty during the 2018 International Sniper Competition on Fort Benning, Ga, Oct. 15, 2018. (U.S. Army photo by Sgt. Michelle U. Blesam)



Above A paratrooper assigned to 1st Battalion, 508th Parachute Infantry Regiment, 3rd Brigade Combat Team, 82nd Airborne Division, conducts security during a squad level live fire exercise, Oct. 10, 2018, on Fort Bragg, N.C. (U.S. Army photo by Spc. John Lytle)

Left A tank crew assigned to 1st Armored Brigade Combat Team, 1st Cavalry Division, fires an M1A2 Abrams tank in Smardan, Romania during Justice Sword, Oct. 15, 2018. (U.S. Army photo by Spc. Hannah Tarkelly)



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This week's
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