

Senior Leaders Soldiers fight COVID-19

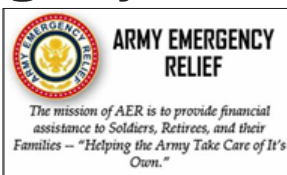


"They are at the tip of the spear in this fight. We are fighting for our neighborhoods. We are fighting to endure a very difficult and invisible enemy."

Hon. Ryan D. McCarthy
Secretary of the U.S. Army
March 31, 2020, Landover, Md.

On Point Army Emergency Relief

Army Emergency Relief (AER) is the Army's emergency financial assistance organization and a part of the Army Team. AER provides Soldiers and their Families with financial assistance to aid them in overcoming financial challenges. Since World War II, the Army and AER has worked together to provide nearly \$2 billion in assistance to four million Soldiers and their Families. The financial readiness of Soldiers and their Families is a priority for the Army as it has a direct effect on mission readiness. AER continuously evaluates, expands and improves its services to ensure that AER meets the financial needs of Soldiers and their Families.



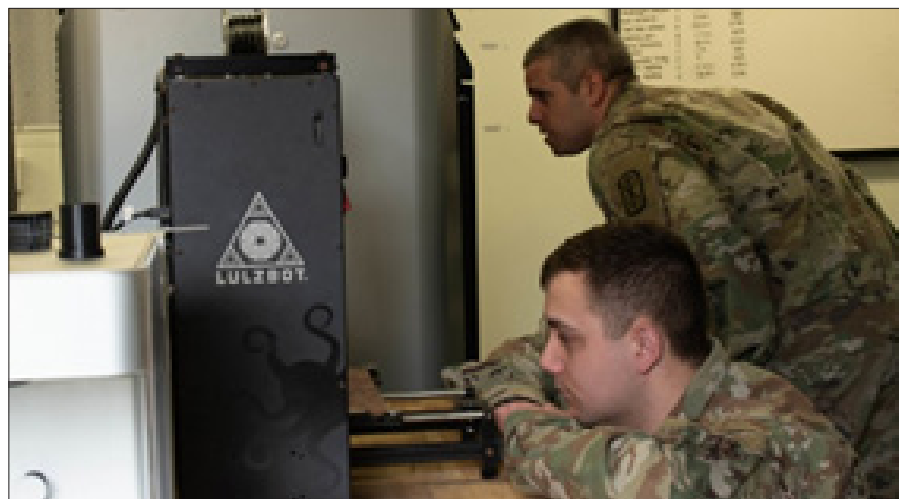
Modernization

U.S. Army Budget FY 2021

The Army's FY21 Budget supports the National Defense Strategy (NDS) requirements and provides detailed strategic guidance for DoD. NDS outlines the force needed to win future wars with next-generation combat systems, modernized doctrine and reorganized formations by 2028.



FORSCOM unit produces protective masks in coronavirus battle



Spec. Brian Fenimore-Klein (foreground) and CW2 Ivan Vazquez, 308th Brigade Support Battalion, 17th Field Artillery Brigade, monitor the 3-D printing progress of the N-95 respirator protective mask prototype at Joint Base Lewis McChord, Wash., April 1, 2020. (U.S. Army photo by Sgt. Casey Hustin)

JOINT BASE LEWIS MCCHORD, Wash., – 17th Field Artillery 'Thunderbolt' Brigade Soldiers assigned to 308th Brigade Support Battalion joined the fight against the COVID-19 pandemic at Joint Base Lewis McChord, Washington, on April 1, 2020, as they began using additive manufacturing to produce personal protective equipment.

In response to increasing cases of COVID-19 around the world and corresponding shortages of masks across the United States, JBLM is using their resources by producing these PPE prototypes in support of our medical professionals that operate our medical facilities and for Soldiers performing COVID-19 missions.

Using four 3-D printers — which commonly are used to create tools and parts for military vehicles — Thunderbolt Soldiers started production on personal protective equipment using the Rapid Fabrication via Additive Manufacturing on the Battlefield (R-FAB).

With this capability 308th BSB is capable of

producing 24 face shields per day with a goal of 100 per week — leaving room to account for the time required to perform machine maintenance, power generator services and for failed part print productions.

"The design and initial guidance for the personal protective equipment was shared with me by a retired warrant officer assigned to 1st Special Forces Group (Airborne)" said Chief Warrant Officer 3 Richmond Minton, I Corps Logistics Officer. "We then took the design and shared it with our subordinate units across I Corps."

When the initial guidance was given down to the subordinate units the Allied Trade Specialists, 91E, within the 308th BSB took on this challenge using the unit's R-FAB. "I'm not trying to make myself look good, I'm just trying to help people out," said Chief Warrant Officer 2 Ivan Vazquez, an Allied Trade Warrant Officer with the 308th BSB, 17th FA BDE, whose usual focus is metal working and fabrication.

FORSCOM in the news

SpC. Samuel Shepard, 9th Hospital Center, 1st Medical Brigade, **recently gave an update brief during a teleconference hosted by the President and SECDEF.**



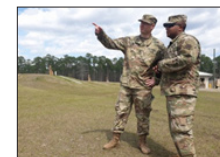
A Soldier from the 3rd Armored Brigade Combat Team, 1st Cavalry Division, **delivers lunch to Soldiers from his unit quarantined in the barracks.**



The 3rd Brigade Combat Team, 10th Mountain Division, **recently hosted last month EIB and ESB testing** where 156 Soldiers received the coveted awards.



Headquarters and Headquarters Battalion, 3rd Infantry Division, **recently conducted the Army's new marksmanship qualification standards.**



Soldiers with 2nd Armored Brigade Combat Team, 1st Cavalry Division, **recently mentored and advised Georgian Defence Forces** in Vaziani, Georgia.



Meet Your Army



Capt. Karmi Rivera, an plans and operations officer, First Army, has overcome asthma to become a mezzo-soprano (mid-range female voice), opera singer. (U.S. Army photo by Warren Marlow)

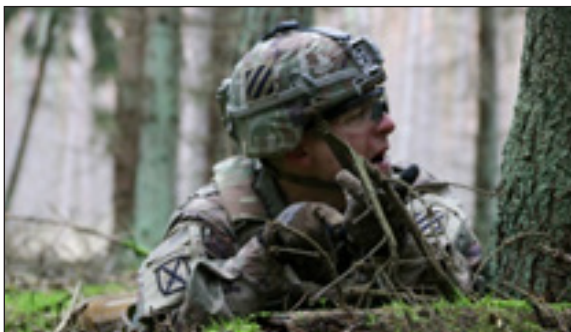
Readiness

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Left Pfc. Ryan Chisholm, M1 armor crewman, 1st Armored Brigade Combat Team, 1st Armored Division, uses personal protective equipment and practices social distancing while conducting access control point procedures at Fort Bliss, Texas, March 27, 2020. (U.S. Army photo by Staff Sgt. Kris Bonet)

Right AN M1A2 Abrams tank from B Company, 1st Battalion, 9th Cavalry Regiment, 2nd Armored Brigade Combat Team, 1st Cavalry Division, fires at targets during the Norwegian Company Combined Arms Live Fire Exercise in Pabrade, Lithuania, March 18, 2020. (U.S. Army photo by Sgt. Megan Zander)



Above Sgt. John Perez, Infantry fire-team leader, 3rd Battalion, 15th Infantry Regiment, 2nd Armored Brigade Combat Team, 3rd Infantry Division, leads his fire team at Drawsko Pomorskie Training Area, Poland, March 23, 2020. (U.S. Army photo by Sgt. Andres Chandler)



Above Soldiers with 1st Stryker Brigade Combat Team, 4th Infantry Division, conduct a live fire exercise of the Tube launched, Optically tracked, Wire (TOW) guided missile system from Stryker vehicles during training on Fort Carson, Colo., March 18, 2020. (U.S. Army photo by Sgt. Micah Merrill)

Left Sgt. 1st Class Darren Thomas (right), medical observer, coach/ trainer, 2nd Battalion, 362 Field Artillery Regiment, 5th Armored Brigade, First Army Division West, observes during a mass casualty exercise near Fort Bliss, Texas, March 17, 2020. (U.S. Army photo by Staff Sgt. Timothy Gray)



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