

TRACKS

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Efficiency in Small Arms shop

Firing range, cleaning line reduce time wasted, ensure Army readiness

by Jennifer Bacchus

ANAD PAO

The Small Arms Repair Facility enhanced the testing and final cleaning processes since opening for production in 2012. The changes make a significant difference in efficiency, safety and cost.

Firing range

According to Jeff Dodgen, a small arms supervisor, prior to 2012, when the Small Arms shop was located in Bldg. 129, employees could perform function fire tests, but could only test targeting and accuracy for pistols and rifles, which was about a third of the production in the shop.

This meant approximately two-thirds of the weapons produced had to be inventoried, packed up and moved to the outdoor firing range then tested, brought back and inventoried again.

The process involved six Small Arms employees, range control, depot security and, for certain weapons, depot paramedics.

"That was time-consuming," said Paul Barber, chief of the Small Arms and Fielding Operations Division.

Today, with an almost completely indoor process, the Weapons Value Stream saves time and money on their testing processes.

"It keeps the price down and our cost and quality keeps the customers coming back," said Dodgen.

Dodgen said there is no transport necessary for most testing processes, meaning no security or EMS requirements.

Additional time and cost savings arise from ammunition being on-site and ready to go for the weapons and combining some of the function fire tests with the targeting and accuracy testing, thus saving ammunition.

"Now, once we put the weapon on the test fire stand, we complete all function firing and targeting and accuracy in a single operation, as long as the weapon meets the DMWR testing requirements," said Dodgen.



U.S. Army Photo by Jennifer Bacchus

Employees in Anniston Army Depot's Small Arms Repair Facility disassemble and clean weapons which have been test-fired, in preparation for shipment to Soldiers.

"If you look at the old way, compared to the new way, I would say we have at least a 50 percent reduction in test fire operations."

Until the test firing moved completely indoors in 2013, Small Arms utilized six employees for the outdoor firing range and six on the indoor firing range. Today, there are four employees who test weapons on the indoor range.

"The cost reduction allows units to spend less money on their weapons and more on other necessities," said Barber.

Dodgen said the safety risks have decreased as well.

"The number of times we handle each weapon has been cut by about two-thirds,"

he said, adding there have been no safety incidents since 2013.

The processes have improved ergonomically as well.

According to Barber, the weapons go directly from the rack to the point of use, with few or no strenuous movements.

Once a month, the testing team still goes to the outdoor range to test targeting and accuracy on 10 percent of all M2 .50 caliber machine guns, verifying the results from the indoor range and fulfilling customer requirements.

• See **SMALL ARMS**, page 4

Hail and Farewell

A change of command ceremony is scheduled to take place July 1 between Lt. Col. Roshun Steele, the outgoing commander of the Anniston Munitions Center, and Lt. Col. Thomas Smith.

INSIDE TRACKS



New TACOM commander

TACOM held a change of command ceremony June 12 between MG Mitchell and BG Werner. See article on page 2.



Army's 245th birthday

ANAD honored the U.S. Army's 245th birthday with a cake cutting in the Nichols Dining Facility. See article on page 7.

NOTES

- COVID-19 resources
- Cafeteria menus
- And more

See info on page 7.

Michigan native takes command at Detroit Arsenal

Tank-automotive and Armaments Command bids farewell to MG Mitchell, welcomes BG Werner as CG

by Scott Wakefield

TACOM Public Affairs

Brig. Gen. Darren Werner, a Michigan native, assumed command of Tank-automotive and Armaments Command from Maj. Gen. Dan Mitchell June 12 at Detroit Arsenal, Michigan, in a virtual ceremony hosted by Gen. Gus Perna, commanding general Army Materiel Command from a temporary duty location in Washington, DC.

The requirement to hold a virtual ceremony was a result of continued social distancing and safety measures put in place in response to the Coronavirus Disease 2019 pandemic.

Maj. Gen. Brian Cummings, Program Executive Officer Ground Combat Systems, stood in for Perna locally during the ceremony.

Perna provided remarks following the passing of the unit colors and thanked the TACOM team for their resilience in the past few months for their hard work during the COVID-19 pandemic.

"I'm proud of your ability to be agile and adaptive against the enemy," Perna said, "As we fight against the virus, we found ourselves executing things in different ways."

Outgoing commanding general TACOM, Maj. Gen. Dan Mitchell passed the command to Werner after almost two years leading TACOM where he managed the development, acquisition, fielding, and sustainment for Soldier and ground systems for the Army's warfighters.

During his departing speech, Mitchell reflected on the accom-



U.S. Army Photo by Scott Wakefield, TACOM Public Affairs

Brig. Gen. Darren Werner, left center, the incoming commanding general of the U.S. Army Tank-automotive and Armaments Command, takes the unit colors from Maj. Gen. Brian Cummings, Program Executive Officer Ground Combat Systems, right center, who was standing in for Gen. Gus Perna, the commanding general of Army Materiel Command, during a June 12 virtual change of command ceremony at the Detroit Arsenal, Michigan.

plishments of his TACOM team, which include providing sustainment and maintenance readiness during record high equipment usage cycles and increased demand for repair parts.

He also touted the command's successes in improvement to TACOM's Performance to Promise and modernization goals.

"It's been an honor to have led this team of dedicated professionals," said Mitchell, "It's been the highlight of my career."

Mitchell's primary drive has been to develop and deliver read-

iness and help improve on the capabilities of TACOM and support the overall mission goals of AMC and the Army.

"Dan Mitchell and the TACOM team have improved supply availability for the United States Army for all of our weapon systems," said Perna, "They have revolutionized and reformed [processes] and increased our capabilities so much that our Army fleets intellect,

are at a readiness level that has never happened in my 34 years in service.



BG DARREN WERNER

Mitchell will stay in the AMC family as he becomes the commanding general Army Sustainment Command at Rock Island Arsenal, Illinois.

Perna also welcomed Werner to the TACOM and AMC family.

"Werner has the work ethic, the

drive, the determination and the persistence to the strategic level and take TACOM to the next level in support of our Army," Perna said.

Werner comes to the Detroit Arsenal after serving as the commanding general for the 13th Expeditionary Sustainment Command at Fort Hood, Texas.

He will now lead the supply chain and life cycle management and sustainment efforts for TACOM in support of active duty, reserve, and guard forces around the world.

"It is an honor to take over TACOM, the most important part of Army readiness that I have seen in my 32 years of service," said Werner, "This command has contributed to the readiness of our forces more than any command and some of you have been there the entire time."

Werner went on to say that he hoped to follow in the footsteps of Mitchell's accomplishments and continue to help improve the capabilities of TACOM and help better support the warfighters.

TACOM manages the Army's ground equipment supply chain, which constitutes about 60 percent of the Army's total equipment. If a Soldier drives it, shoots it, wears it or eats it, TACOM sustains it.

TACOM oversees six of the Army's manufacturing arsenals and maintenance depots across the United States, including Anniston Army Depot, which are part of the Army's Organic Industrial Base. The industrial artisans from the Army's OIB deliver when the Army needs equipment manufactured, repaired, upgraded or modernized.

TRACKS

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Commanding Officer.....Col. Marvin Walker
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Enjoy a safe holiday

by Col. Marvin Walker
ANAD Commander

Team Anniston,
It was an unusual spring and this summer is shaping up to be extraordinary as well. The last major event to change the world during my Army career was 9/11. Like this pandemic, our world changed forever that day.

So far, this year you have experienced changes in the way your children learn in school, changes in the ways employees work here on the installation and changes with the businesses in our communities.

We have seen unrest.
We have also seen hope.
Hope as our military and civilian medical forces work toward a cure, vaccine or medication for COVID-19.

Hope as we have maintained our ability to provide readiness to our war fighters, despite reduced staff.

Hope as businesses reopened and we rebuilt our sense of community.

This year, your plans for the Independence Day holiday may look different.

Your local community may not hold its typical annual events, such as fireworks displays.

You may not be able to travel or to hold the types of celebrations you are accustomed to having.

As we go into the holiday weekend, please

keep safety in mind – safety for yourself, your family and the safety of your coworkers.

This time of year often sees the greatest number of injuries from personal fireworks and grilling than any other time of the year.

Each individual on the installation plays an important role in our mission – ensuring the readiness of our Soldiers.



COL MARVIN WALKER

Last week, we celebrated the Army's 245th birthday. For nearly two and a half centuries, the U.S. Army has answered the nation's call. Since 1941, Anniston Army Depot has been part of supporting our nation's requirements.

Dedication and commitment is now synonymous with ANAD and your reputation precedes itself.

Almost two weeks ago, we welcomed the new TACOM Commanding General, Brig. Gen. Darren Werner. One of the things he highlighted during his dialogue with the depot and arsenal commanders was "take care of your people." As leaders, it is important to be aware of our actions and the impact it will have on others.

I am grateful for all that you do and, with your help, through the work you perform each day, we continue to support and ensure our military men and women have the equipment they need when and where they need it.

Enjoy your holiday weekend and return to us safely, so we may continue our mission for the war fighters.



Courtesy graphic

With many of the typical Fourth of July celebrations cancelled this year, the Independence Day holiday may look and feel different for many people.



U.S. Army Photo by Mark Cleghorn

Wayne Roberts from ANAD's Fire and Emergency Services Division takes the temperature of an employee returning to work from Weather and Safety Leave as Brittney Johnstone takes health screening notes.

Weather, Safety Leave employees welcomed back

from Staff Reports

ANAD PAO

Anniston Army Depot welcomed back more than 80 employees who had been on telework or Weather and Safety Leave Monday.

Additional employees will return throughout the next two weeks.

Returning employees cannot return directly to their work site. Instead, they will report to a health screening area.

There, according to Lt. Col. Peter Dinh, medical director for the Dear Occupational Health Clinic, a paramedic, a nurse and a paramedic with the Fire and Emergency Services Division will screen all returning employees.

Each employee will be given a form stating they are either "Clear to return to work" or

"Not clear to return to work."

Those who are cleared will proceed to their work site and present the form to their supervisor.

Individuals who are not cleared to return to work will return home and contact their supervisor for further instructions.

During the screening process, employees will remain in their vehicles.

The screening includes a temperature check, using a touchless thermometer, and a questionnaire which will check the employee for symptoms, such as cough, shortness of breath, fever, chills, muscle pain, sore throat and loss of taste or smell.

The form will be retained by clinic and fire department personnel for any employee who does not clear the screening.

From SMALL ARMS, page 1

Cleaning line

When weapons leave the firing range, they must be cleaned and inspected a final time before being shipped to the customer.

“We don’t want to send a dirty weapon to the Soldiers,” said James Johnson, a small arms supervisor. “We want to send a quality product.”

The line doesn’t run every day, only as needed to ensure performance to promise is met for each month’s production.

As a weapon comes into the cleaning line, it’s field stripped - taken apart to the level a Soldier in the field would typically disassemble it - for cleaning.

Afterward, the individual parts are loaded on a conveyor belt, which takes them to the various stations.

“The cleaning line is a more efficient and ergonomic process, over bay style weapons cleaning, because it brings the work to the employees,” said Barber.

Approximately four years ago, the M4 Carbine Rifle cleaning and final inspection areas were separate. The weapons would be cleaned and reassembled, then transported to another area for the final inspection.

“It can all be done at one time, this process reduces movement, time and personnel,” said Johnson, adding it can take as little as three minutes for a weapon to go from one end of the line to the other.

The first stations clean the weapon components in an environmentally friendly solvent. Each employee is assigned certain components to clean, so each part is washed properly.

After cleaning, the weapon components go into a shielded area where an employee air dries each piece. The parts must be completely clean and dry before moving on.

In the final step before reassembly, protective oil is brushed onto each part. The firearm is then reassembled and inspected.

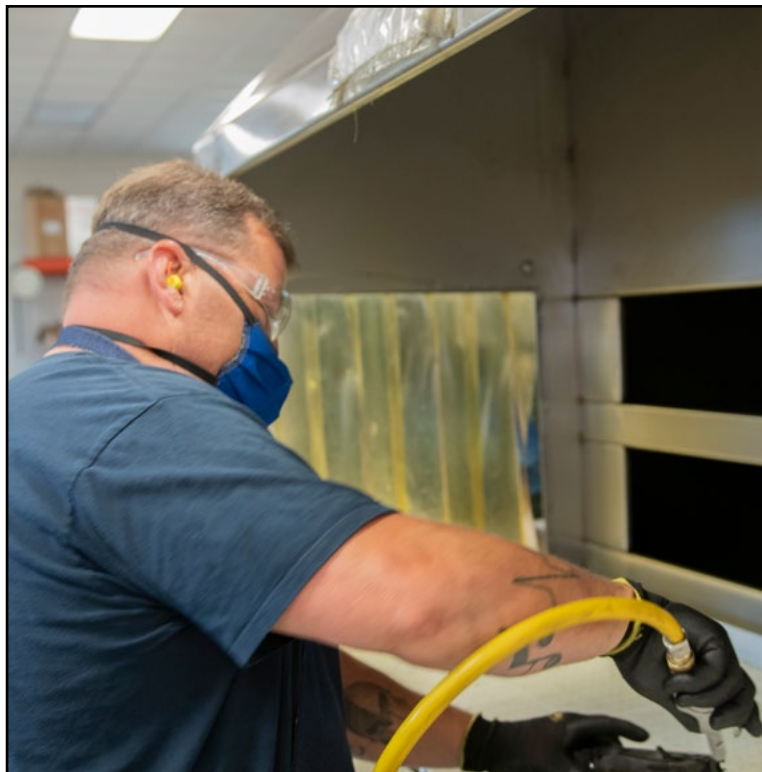
“Every weapon is checked for function and gauged to ensure it meets specifications,” said Johnson. “The final inspection process is our verification that the weapon is 100 percent mission capable, per the Depot Maintenance Work Requirement – how it’s supposed to be, quality before quantity.”

Safety is an important component of the cleaning line. In addition to the reduction in physical movements required, thanks to the ergonomic design of the line, employees are able to maintain at least six feet of distance from one another, ensuring additional safety during the current COVID-19 pandemic.



U.S. Army Photos by Jennifer Bacchus

Wendell Heath checks the targeting computer in preparation for test firing a M4A1 machine gun at Anniston Army Depot’s Small Arms Repair Facility. All test firing is performed in the same building where the weapons are overhauled, which saves the installation time and money.



Chris Cotten performs final cleaning procedures before the M2A1 is reassembled and inspected.



Gerald Byrdsong cleans a M2A1 .50 caliber machine gun at Anniston Army Depot.

Hydrate to keep cool in summer temps

by Charity Parris

ANAD Safety Office

It's the time of the year when it heats up outside and, sometimes, the temperature, along with the humidity, seems unbearable.

Unfortunately, it is just going to get worse, until around the end of August. We can still get our jobs done safely and have some fun in the sun by taking a few simple precautions.

Here, at Anniston Army Depot, we have procedures which go into effect when the heat is on.

Industrial Hygiene takes wet bulb readings throughout the day. The technical term is Wet Bulb Globe Temperature and it is a measure of the heat stress in direct sunlight.

Wet Bulb Globe Temperature takes into account: temperature, humidity, wind speed, sun angle and cloud cover. The heat index only considers temperature and humidity and is calculated for the shade. The military and the Occupational Safety and Health Association use the WBGT as a guide to manage workload in direct sunlight.

When the WBGT reading reaches 90 degrees, IH sends an email to the ANAD workforce.

When notified that the WBGT reading is at 90 degrees:

- Pace work, taking adequate rest periods in shade or a cooler environment.
- Use fans for ventilation and cooling, especially when wearing personal protective equipment.
- Wear light-colored, loose clothing, unless work is performed around equipment with moving parts.
- Keep shaded from direct sun where possible. For example, wear a hat outside.

- Drink plenty of water. In hot environments, the body requires more water. Avoid drinks with caffeine and a lot of sugar. Sports drinks are good, because they replace electrolytes the



U.S. Army Photo by Jennifer Bacchus

Coty Shears, left, and Joel Henderson take a break to hydrate in Anniston Army Depot's Nichols Industrial Complex. Employees should take precautions and hydrate in hot conditions to avoid heat injuries or illnesses.

body loses from sweating, but only drink those in moderation. Experts say water is better. Those on a low sodium or on a low carbohydrate diet, should consider sports drinks containing less sodium and carbohydrates. Remember, urine darker than lemonade is a sign of dehydration. The key is to start drinking water early in the day.

The best way to prevent heat stress is to learn to recognize the signs and symptoms of heat stress. There are four types of heat stress.

Heat Rash, sometimes called prickly heat, appears as clusters of bumps on the skin. These are caused when the skin stays moist, usually from sweating. Sweat can't evaporate from under clothing. Try to keep the area dry. Powders will help absorb the moisture, but never use ointments. Light colored loose-fitting clothing helps, but not in situations where the clothing might get caught in machinery.

Heat Cramps are also caused by sweating. The body loses salts through sweat, causing muscles to cramp; usually the muscles being used. This may cause pain or muscle spasms. Drink water or a cool beverage. You can work, but don't go right back to strenuous activity. Wait an hour or so. If the cramps don't subside, seek medical attention.

Heat Exhaustion is the next progression. Again, the body loses salts from heavy sweating. There are several signs a person might be suffering from heat exhaustion and person may have all or a few of these signs, including:

- Cool, moist skin
- Heavy sweating (clothes will be wet)
- Headache
- Nausea and maybe vomiting
- Dizziness or feeling light headed
- Weak
- Thirsty
- Irritable

- Fast heart rate

If someone shows these symptoms at work, move them to shade or somewhere cool, call 911 and have them drink plenty of water, but not too fast. They should not drink beverages with caffeine or lots of sugar.

The individual can be cooled by medical personnel with compresses, ice packs or wet rags placed around the neck, under the armpits and in the groin area to cool the body quickly.

Heat Stroke is the most serious form of heat stress and can be fatal. Once someone suffers from heat stroke, they are more susceptible to heat injuries and illnesses. An individual suffering from heat stroke has lost a lot of their body's water content and they are unable to regulate their core temperature.

An individual with heat stroke will stop sweating. Keep in mind, this person's clothing might be wet because they progressed from heat exhaustion.

Their skin will be dry and hot, because the body is unable to get rid of excess heat.

The symptoms are: confusion, fainting, seizures and very high body temperature. Call 911, as this can be fatal.

Move this person from the heat and place them in a cool, shady area or an air-conditioned room. Put a fan on this person, if available. Medical personnel may cool them by placing cold compresses, ice packs or wet rags in the area of the neck, armpits and groin, to cool them down quickly.

If they are conscious, give them water to drink. Stay with the person until help arrives.

Remember to stay hydrated.

ANAD has specific rules about drink containers. Closable-top drinking containers which cover the mouth area are allowed in work areas, to allow for proper hydration.

Examples are bottles where the mouth only contacts surfaces segregated from the ambient environment, such as twist-top plastic bottles. This exception does not apply to cadmium or hexavalent chromium regulated areas. No food or drink is permitted in regulated areas.

Unscheduled breaks will be permitted for individual employees as needed.

ANAD wants employees to be safe and healthy, both on and off the clock. Remember these rules when taking vacations.

Don't forget about children; make sure they drink plenty of fluids when playing in the sun.

Protect skin when outdoors by applying sunblock with an appropriate sun protection factor, or SPF, approximately 30 minutes before going out. Reapply often if sweating or in the water.

Have fun in the sun, but don't forget the simple precautions to protect yourself and your family.

Sources:

- OSHA.gov
- CDC.gov

ANAD accident blotter: April 2020

from Staff Reports

ANAD Safety Office

Incident Summary: The employee was using a pry bar on the vision block when the glass shattered, striking the employee in the forehead. Employee received stitches as a result and returned to work.

Safety Recommendations:

- Have a process engineer evaluate the process.
- To prevent shattered glass from flying and striking employees, use a piece of duct tape on the glass prior to prying (interim until the evaluation is complete).
- Update the JHA to reflect these changes and train all employees on the new process if necessary.

Engineering Recommendations:

- Process to be observed on the next periscope to be removed.
- Engineering concurs with the recommendation to use tape as a preventative measure.

Incident Summary: The employee was using a grinding machine on a part. When grinding is complete, the operator has to run the wheel to make sure the absorbed coolant is spun out of the wheel. If coolant is left in the wheel, the wheel gets heavy on one side and has to be discarded. The employee decided to wipe the part using a squeegee while the wheel was running. The wheel was approximately 8 inches above the part and the squeegee was approximately 6 inches in height. In the process of wiping the part, the employee's finger was cut on the wheel. The employee nicked a tendon.

Safety Recommendations:

- Retrain employees on the hazards of wiping a part while the wheel is in motion. Do not put hands near moving parts/wheel.
- Revise JHA if necessary.
- Have process engineer evaluate the process.

Incident Summary: Employee was sent to a different building to pick up a part. There, the employee was helping remove the driver's hatch door from a Stryker to use on a reset vehicle. The employee failed to push the hatch completely back to release pressure on the spring. While the employee was reaching for the hatch block, the spring released and struck the back of the employee's right middle finger causing

severe bruising. The employee was placed in a brace, given two weeks of light duty and instructed not to lift more than five pounds with the right hand.

Safety Recommendations:

- Retrain all employees how to properly remove the hatch.
- Remind all employees to always pay attention to hand and finger placement while removing parts.

Incident Summary: An employee was attempting to cut expanded metal on a turret bustle rack when the grinder kicked back, striking the employee in the hand on the right index finger.

Safety Recommendations:

- The supervisor needs to ensure the correct tool is available (smaller grinder).
- Update JHA to reflect the correct tool to use in tight corners.
- Retrain all employees on the use of grinders.

Incident Summary: The employee was cleaning out a hose. Prior to cleaning the hose, the employee sprayed it with WD-40. The employee used a bit with a wire brush on the end, made to clean the

hose. Employee stated the WD-40 gets on hands, even through the glove, so the employee picked up a rag and grabbed the hose with the rag. As the employee was cleaning the hose, the wire brush was entangled in the rag. The employee stated it happened so fast, and the rag was so tight, the drill had to be reversed to unwind the rag. The employee was sent to the clinic and diagnosed with a sprain/fracture of the knuckle. Employee was placed on restricted duty for 14 days with no use of the left hand.

Safety Recommendations:

- Conduct a 6-minute huddle and cover with employee the importance of not using rags around rotating equipment.
- Use a hand held wire brush to clean hose fittings.
- Have process engineer to evaluate the process.

Incident Summary: Employee was sitting in a chair when it broke, causing the employee to fall to the floor. The employee hit a knee and both hands on the floor. The chair broke where the main part holding the seat to the base is located. This part is aluminum and is covered by a plas-

tic piece, so no one could see how worn that particular part was, prior to the chair breaking.

Safety Recommendations:

- Inspecting chairs.
- Ensure chairs do not have broken or worn rollers or loose nuts or bolts.
- All chair legs should be in contact with the floor at all times.
- Do not lean so far back in your chair that the wheels or legs lift up off the floor.
- Never put all weight on the front edge of the chair, as the chair can slip from under you.
- Do not use chairs as step stools or ladders. Use an appropriate footstool or stepladder.
- If your chair starts to wobble or come loose, have it replaced.

Incident Summary: The employee was using a rubber hammer to tap in a bearing. Employee felt a sharp pain that ran from the elbow to the wrist. Employee was seen at the clinic and was told to rest the arm.

Safety Recommendations: Request an ergonomic assessment of this particular job and follow the recommendations.

Incident Summary: There are four fire bottles on the wall inside the tank, which must be capped and removed. While attempting to remove a fire bottle, which still had the safety pin in it, the fire bottle went off, and the pressure from the fire bottle knocked the employee down, causing some pain in the employee's neck and back and bruising of the chest. The employee was seen at the clinic and released.

Safety Recommendations:

- Train employees to stand to the side when performing this operation. If the fire bottle goes off, the employee is not standing in front of it.
- Modify your JHA to reflect the change in process.
- Have process engineer evaluate the process.

Engineering Recommendations:

- Ensure safety pin is fully seated and latched.
- Ensure cap is tightened.
- Be prepared for a faulty discharge. The cap will prevent the bottle from becoming a projectile, however, it will be loud, dusty and difficult to breathe.



notes from around the TRACK

Coronavirus resources

For up-to-date information on COVID-19, including preventing the spread of disease, visit the following websites:



• [cdc.gov](https://www.cdc.gov)
• phc.amedd.army.mil



Cafeteria menu

June 26 Snack line	July 10 Snack line	July 22 General Tso's chicken Pepper steak Fried rice Stir fried vegetables Egg roll
June 29 Snack line	July 13 Baked pork chop Roasted new potatoes Butter beans Glazed carrots Cornbread	July 23 Fried catfish Baked fish Baked beans Coleslaw French fries Hush puppies
June 30 Snack line	July 14 Meat loaf Mashed potatoes and gravy Green peas Fried okra Yeast roll	July 24 Snack line
July 1 Chicken or beef soft taco Spanish rice Mexican black beans and corn Tortilla salad	July 15 Chicken or beef soft taco Spanish rice Mexican corn Refried beans Tortilla salad	July 27 Hamburger steak Potatoes au gratin Field peas Fried okra Yeast roll or cornbread
July 6 Salisbury steak Rice and gravy Great Northern beans Fried squash Cornbread	July 16 Burgers and brats	July 28 Country fried steak Mashed potatoes and gravy Black eyed peas Collard greens Cornbread
July 7 Grilled chicken breast Scallop potatoes Green beans Fried okra Yeast roll	July 20 Baked lasagna Steamed broccoli Corn on the cob Side salad Garlic bread	July 29 Chicken or beef soft taco Spanish rice Mexican black beans and corn Tortilla salad
July 8 Spaghetti with meat sauce Mixed vegetables Corn nuggets Side salad Garlic bread	July 21 Hot dogs Chili, relish, sauerkraut, cheese Potato salad Baked beans French fries	
July 9 Fried chicken wings Baked beans Potato salad French fries or onion rings Yeast roll		



U.S. Army Photo by Mark Cleghorn

Anniston Army Depot Commander Col. Marvin Walker cuts the cake honoring the Army's 245th birthday in the Nichols Dining Facility.

Army 245th birthday honored with cake cutting

from Staff Reports
ANAD PAO

Anniston Army Depot Commander Col. Marvin Walker and Deputy to the Commander Tommy Carlisle presided over a cake cutting ceremony June 12 in honor of the Army's 245th birthday.

This year, the traditional Army Birthday events shifted to an all-digital execution, including those at the national level.

While Walker and Carlisle were able to hold the cake cutting at the Nichols Dining Facility, as usual, social distancing and appropriate pandemic protection efforts meant the use of face coverings and a reduced audience.

"It's a little different situation this year, with everything going on," said

Walker. "So, we are not going to celebrate quite the same."

Walker reminded employees that the Army birthday events honor the Soldiers and civilians who sacrificed for the country throughout its history as well as those who continue to do so today.

The United States wasn't yet a nation on June 14, 1775, when the Second Continental Congress voted to establish a Continental Army. At the time, the only source of defense people had was their local militia, which was made up of part-time citizen-soldiers, who were mostly untrained.

"It's a significant day, not only in the Army, but also in the nation's history, because it planted the seeds of the Continental Army as we fought for our nation's independence," said Walker.

GRILLING STATISTICS

from
NFPA

10,600 home fires are started by grills each year, on average

July is the peak month for grill fires, followed by June, May, and August



19,700

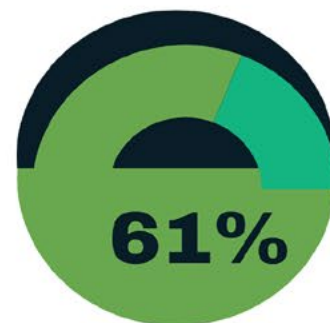
patients went to the ER per year because of injuries involving grills, including

9,500 thermal burns



64% of U.S. households own at least one outdoor BBQ, grill or smoker

Gas grills contribute to a higher numbers of fires than charcoal grills.



of households own a gas grill

