

February 2021
Magazine Vol. 4
36th Inf. Div.
TF Spartan



The Arrowhead

TASK FORCE SPARTAN



1200



PARTNERSHIP | DETERRENCE | READINESS
THE OFFICIAL MAGAZINE OF TASK FORCE SPARTAN AND THE 36 ISON

Contents

HIGHLIGHTS

IRON UNION 14

This recurring exercise, designed to strengthen military-to-military relationships, allowed the forces to train how they might address regional security.

PAGE 10-11



- 130TH FAB -

The 130th Field Artillery Brigade along with the 1st Battalion, 14th Field Artillery Regiment, joins with the Kuwait Land Forces Field Artillery Regiment for DASMAN SHIELD February 21, 2021.

PAGE 20-21

- 16TH TEB-

Task Force Iron Castle Engineers and Kuwaiti Land Force Soldiers from the Land Forces Institute collaborate on a forward operating base (FOB) construction project, allowing hands-on training focused on constructing a temporary fortified position.

PAGE 22-23

- 2/1 ABCT -

Task Force Spartan commander and other senior leaders visit with 2/1 ABCT during M1A2 Abrams gunnery near Camp Buehring, Kuwait, near Camp Buehring.

PAGE 24-25

- 28TH ECAB -

The 28th ECAB held an individual weapons qualification to maintain readiness and familiarize themselves with the new Army marksmanship test at a firing range near Camp Buehring.

PAGE 26-27



Contribute to The Arrowhead

Send us your great photos, articles, or ideas to the Arrowhead

-- usarmy.arifjan.usarcent.list.div-pao@mail.mil

-- taskforcespartan_oss@gmail.com

From the Top

COL Michael Hunt
Chief of Staff
Task Force Spartan

As we round out our first 90 days in theater, I'd like to take a moment to recap the long road and challenges we have endured as a unit and how these challenges can and will make us a stronger fighting force. Prior to arriving at the mobilization platform, 36ID went head to head with a pandemic-the likes of which this world hasn't seen in over 100 years. Execution of our premobilization training and 6 months of weekend drills were completed either virtually or under significant constraints. COVID-19 had already sunk its teeth into our formation as we headed to Ft. Hood. Our Soldiers always remained flexible and maintained a mission first attitude.



Upon arrival and execution of our Culminating Training Event, nearly 30% of our formation had contracted and recovered from the "Vid". In Spite of COVID, we marched onto the tarmac and loaded planes-there was a mission at hand and all continued to stay focused. Entire flights were locked down and populated in the confines of the ISOFAC (Isolation Facility)...Soldiers fought through their 14 days of quarantine-all the while, Soldiers remained highly motivated and ready to conduct the Relief in Place and begin the mission.

We have endured a pandemic, quarantines, restrictions of movements, a loss of one of our own and all the challenges of building our teams standing 6 ft. away, masked and the constant bath of hand sanitizer. Yet through it all, our 36ID Soldiers have outperformed every ARCENT expectation. This is a direct reflection of the tenacity and fortitude of every Soldier in this formation.

I would like to thank all of the Soldiers and their families in Task Force Spartan for the sacrifices both here and on the home front for the defense of this great nation. Take care of each other, remember who is in your squad, and continue your tremendous efforts throughout the theater.

"In Spite of Hell"

The Arrowhead TASK FORCE SPARTAN

Public Affairs Officer
Maj. Jessica Jackson

Deputy Public Affairs Officer
Capt. Allegra Taylor

Division Public Affairs Team

Sgt. 1st Class Suzanne Ringle
Staff Sgt. Mark Scovell
Staff Sgt. Daryl Bradford
Staff Sgt. Daisy Broker
Sgt. Samuel DeLeon

318-480-5313
Camp Arifjan, Kuwait

The Arrowhead magazine is an authorized publication for members of the Department of Defense. Contents of The Arrowhead are not necessarily the official views of, or endorsed by the U.S. Government, the Department of the Army or the Texas Military Department. The editorial content of this publication is the responsibility of the PA Officer.

Find Us Online

<http://www.usarcent.army.mil/Units/Task-Force-Spartan>

<https://www.facebook.com/TFSpartan>

<https://www.twitter.com/TFSpartan>

https://instagram.com/taskforcespartan_oss

<https://www.dvidshub.net/TFSpartan>

New Bigger arrowhead patch



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
HEADQUARTERS, 36TH INFANTRY DIVISION (FORWARD)
TASK FORCE SPARTAN
CAMP ARIFJAN KUWAIT
APO, AE 09306-0000

ACTF-OSS-CG

02 March 2021

MEMORANDUM FOR RECORD

SUBJECT: 36th Infantry Division Shoulder Sleeve Insignia

1. Effective immediately, I authorize the 36th Infantry Division 3" x 2" "T-Patch", available at Camp Arifjan, to be worn as an official Shoulder Sleeve Insignia for OCPs. If authorized the 36ID right shoulder Combat Patch, then both patches must be the same size.
2. This headquarters is submitting the new design for adoption as the official 36ID shoulder patch insignia to the U.S. Army Institute of Heraldry. The current 2.5"x1.5" patch has lost its definitive character as the arrowhead in production without the scalloped edges of the original design. The new design accommodates the more accurate depiction of the arrowhead.
3. The point of contact is the Task Force Spartan G1, LTC Queschae Blue-Clark at DSN 318-480-4173 or via email at queschae.b.blue-clark.mil@mail.mil.



PATRICK M. HAMILTON
Major General, USA
Commanding General

THIS IS MY SQUAD



The Army is adopting a new "People First" slogan and it is up to you to spread it. This month, don't forget your number one priority is looking after your battle buddy.

DONT FORGET TO FILE YOUR TAXES!

It is that time of year again when we start to run around in search of W-2s, receipts, and other documentations in the hope that this years filing will be stress free. Filing taxes does not have to be torture, the Defense Department has helpful resources for active-duty service members and their families, and it's all free through Military OneSource.

Call Military One Source at 800-342-9647, or visit: <https://www.militaryonesource.mil/all-the-ways/>.

The tax deadline for filing 2020 taxes is April 15.

Tax services for the military — also known as MilTax — is DOD's approved tax-filing and tax-support service — including tax preparation and e-filing software and personalized support to deal with issues such as deployments, combat and training pay, housing and rentals, multistate filings, and living overseas.

An advantage to the MilTax software is it's designed and tailored for the military community.





Tank you for your service

Story by Staff Sgt. Daryl Bradford, Task Force Spartan Public Affairs

When we were children, some of us only dreamed of seeing a tank up close. A lot of people get that opportunity at a museum or military installation with decommissioned vehicles, but few ever get to drive one.

“Who doesn’t like tanks?” asked Spc. Isaiah Cabrera, from Hemet, California, a tank driver with 1st Battalion, 6th Infantry Regiment, 2nd Brigade Combat Team, 1st Armored Division. “It’s a pretty cool job in my opinion.”

Cabrera has only been in the military for year and seven months, but is already living that dream of driving one of those powerful machines in the military for exercise Iron Union 14.

“Iron Union is the joint training operations between the UAE Land Forces and the United States,” said Cabrera. “I feel like I’m being a part of something bigger by being here, and it’s a huge experience for everyone to train with another nation’s army.”

Iron Union is a quarterly exercise between Task Force Spartan and UAE Land Forces that is designed to strengthen military-to-military relationships through a joint government approach to future, complex national security challenges.

Cabrera and other U.S. Soldiers from 1st Bn., 6th Inf. Reg., 2nd BCT, 1st Armored Div. out of Fort Bliss, Texas, are the service members participating in Iron Union 14, driving the U.S. Army’s primary combat tank, the M-1 Abrams.

Cabrera said he is excited to be at Iron Union and enjoys being in the Army.

Even though it is early in his career, Cabrera is intending to stay in the service for the long haul and wants to use his education benefits to pay for school eventually.

Cabrera feels he is on the right track to meet his goal but also recognizes the work load is sometimes a team effort

“My job with the unit is as a driver for the 3/4 tank,” said Cabrera. “I keep it on track, but with the TC and everyone else on the crew, it’s making sure everyone is on line — formation wise —and that everything goes smoothly.”

Cabrera realizing that his service is about a larger purpose, shows a professionalism that hasn’t gone unnoticed. His first sergeant has recognized it, seeing a potential for career growth.

“He used his knowledge and experience to maneuver his tank effortlessly, allowing his tank commander to complete the mission,” said 1st Sgt. Merrell Blake, first sergeant for Charlie Company, 1st Bn., 6th Inf. Reg., 2nd BCT, 1st Armored Div. “He has demonstrated the ability multiple times to be an effective leader. I have no doubt that he will make a great Non-Commissioned Officer one day.”

Iron Union is about moving, communicating, and sharing ideas with the UAE Land Forces, and Cabrera said he understands the importance of this.

“In the long run, if anything ever goes south they’ll be there,” said Cabrera. “And the same for us with them.”

Cabrera said he has learned some valuable lessons during his short time in the UAE for Iron Union 14.

“I’m able to see from their perspective — be in their shoes,” said Cabrera. “Training with another military for long hours builds me stronger knowing they are going through the same thing.”



Partnership

Jordan-

The Jordanian Director of Boarder Security met with Task Force Spartan recently. The DBS is a vital organization for the safety and security of Jordan and neighboring countries. The U.S. military has a long-standing relationship with Jordan to support mutual objectives and our growing partnership.

(Photo by Staff Sgt. Mark Scovell, TFS)



Iraq-

U.S. Army Col. Howard Lloyd, commander of the 28th Expeditionary Combat Aviation Brigade, presents awards to the Italian army's Airmobile Task Group Griffon, thanking them for their hard work and partnership. ATG Griffon serves in support of Operation Inherent Resolve as part of the 28th ECAB



Kuwait-

Maj. Gen. Patrick Hamilton, Task Force Spartan commander, and Australian Army Maj. Gen. Chris Field, deputy commanding general of operations for U.S. Army Central Command, meet the Kuwait Minister of Defense at a joint exercise called Al Tahreer, or The Liberation, Feb. 8, 2021, in Kuwait. The exercise was a celebration of the 30 years since Operation Desert Storm and the Kuwaiti Liberation from Iraqi occupation.

(Photo by Staff Sgt. Daryl Bradford, TFS)



Jordan-

U.S. Army 1st Lt. Stark offers advice to a Jordanian 3rd Border Guard Group soldier taking aim during a live fire training exercise in Southern Jordan, Feb. 17. U.S. Soldiers of 3rd Battalion, 126th Infantry Regiment, currently deployed in support of Task Force Spartan, have been working side by side with Jordan's newest soldiers of the 3rd BGG.

(Photo by Sgt. 1st. Class Suzanne Ringle, TFS)

Kuwait-

2nd Armored Brigade Combat Team hosted an Infantry Basic Officer Leader Course for Kuwait Land Forces Infantry and Armor officers in Kuwait, from the 14th to the 24th of February, 2021. KLF were instructed on squad level tactics to include: react to in-direct fire, react to contact, ambush, and flank maneuvers and actions. 2ABCT is deployed to Southwest Asia in support of Operation Spartan Shield.



Jordan-

130th FAB Chaplain celebrates interfaith Harmony- The Jordan Armed Forces and the Jordanian Interfaith Coexistence Research Center met in celebration of World Interfaith Harmony Week at the Prince Hassan Faculty of Islamic Science February 8, 2021. Leaders and representatives from various organizations spoke and joined in fellowship highlighting the importance of mutual respect, commonalities between major world religions and the unifying effect that comes through belief in God and love for others.



Progress

Iron Union 14 Task Force Spartan



Story and photos by Staff Sgt. Daryl Bradford, 36th Infantry Division

ABU DHABI, United Arab Emirates – Soldiers from the United States’ Task Force Spartan and the United Arab Emirates Land Forces gathered from Jan. 24 to Feb. 6, 2021, at Al Hamra Training Center in the United Arab Emirates for Iron Union 14, the first bi-lateral training exercise between the forces since the start of the COVID-19 pandemic.

This recurring exercise, designed to strengthen military-to-military relationships, allowed the forces to train how they might address regional security challenges. However, due to COVID-19, this year’s event came with its own challenges. “It’s been an interesting process,” said Capt. Ryan McGovern, the brigade planner for 2nd Brigade, 1st Armored Division, who had a big hand in planning this exercise. “I think the real challenge is being able to accomplish this in light of the COVID conditions. This is really the first bilateral maneuver exercise that ARCENT is doing under COVID conditions. Our mitigation measures have been effective. It’s a good indicator that the maneuver brigade supporting Task Force Spartan can conduct further exercises with bilateral partners both here in UAE and across the region.”

The UAE is a significant partner for the U.S. within the region, and exercises such as Iron Union demonstrate a commitment by all participating nations to promoting regional stability.

“It’s been great to work with the UAE Land Forces,” said McGovern. “Throughout the whole process we’ve taken deliberate actions on both sides, on the UAE Land Forces side and U.S. side, to mitigate the risk of COVID in this exercise.”

The training and planning are an opportunity for both countries to build tactical proficiency in critical mission areas, gain an understanding of each other’s forces, and support long-term regional stability.

“The benefits for our Soldiers and our partners are building those relationships,” said Lt. Col. Bryan Bonnema, the battalion commander for 1st Battalion, 6th Infantry Regiment, 2nd Brigade Combat Team, 1st Armored Division. “For our Soldiers in particular it’s important for learning the tactics, techniques, and procedures of our regional partners and being able to experience another culture.”

This recurring exercise, designed to strengthen military-to-military relationships, allowed the forces to train how they might address regional security challenges.



This exercise is important for many reasons: partnership, security, and interoperability being just a few. The underlying importance of these types of exercises is to deliver a unified message that relationships matter and training alongside partners sends a message of readiness and lethality in an effort to deter potential adversaries.

“We understand that security must be earned,” said Bonnema. “It takes hard work. We are putting in that hard work with our regional partners so we can increase our capacity, we can build those relationships, and we can be prepared to address regional security threats together.”

As Iron Union 14 came to a close, Maj. Gen. Patrick Hamilton, commanding general of Task Force Spartan, recognized the value in continuing to safely train with our partners.

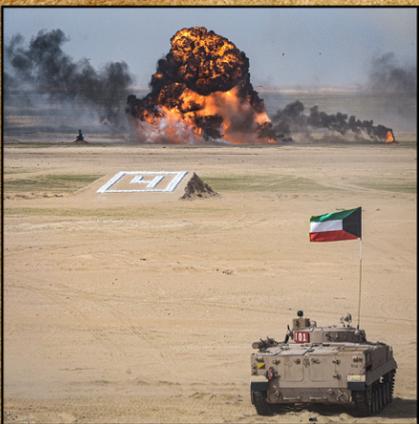
Even in the wake of COVID-19, the exercise will continue not only to shape security in the region but to continue to grow the bonds of military-to-military partnerships.

“As some COVID restrictions have eased and we’re able to conduct more face-to-face training, we’re seeing it’s as if we haven’t missed a beat,” said Hamilton. “I am grateful to our Emirati hosts this week and extremely impressed by their professionalism and dedication as a partner in the region. I look forward to many more of these opportunities in the future.”

AL TAHRER-21

30TH ANNIVERSARY

 KUWAIT LIBERATION 



During Kuwait's 30th Liberation Day Anniversary elements of Kuwaiti Land Forces and Task Force Spartan to include 2nd Armored Brigade Combat Team, 1st Armored Division, 16th Engineer Brigade, and 130th Field Artillery Brigade, participated in a bilateral gunnery exercise near Udari Range, Kuwait, February 23, 2021. Task Force Spartan breached a series of obstacles and laid down suppressive fire while the KLF engaged with, and destroyed all simulated enemy targets demonstrating the lethality of the KLF to engage with enemy force as well as the capability to coordinate and execute an advance on a target with partner forces. (Courtesy Photos)



Behavioral Health

If you are experiencing anxiety, depression, or just want to talk to someone, contact your local behavioral health resources center, Chaplain, or one of the numbers here: Military Crisis Line: 800-273-8255 | Military One Source Counseling: 800-342-9647 | TRICARE Nurse Advice Line: 1-800-TRICARE (Contact to be forwarded to a mental health professional)

Family Readiness Groups

FRG helps foster a sense of belonging to the unit and community, and provide for the needs of family members while their soldiers are deployed overseas. For them to accomplish this mission, FRG needs volunteers to help empower Soldiers, their Families and extended families to enable them to become more resilient. To contact your unit's FRG. 36th Inf. Div. FRG email: 36thIDFRG@gmail.com



Be a good battle buddy and do buddy checks.



WARRIOR OF THE MONTH

Staff Sgt. Jordan Summers

SSG Jordan Summers is the Senior Analyst for the TF Hellhound S2. He has lately and seamlessly taken on the role of NCOIC while our S2 NCOIC has been out of country since mid-January. His civilian job as an AMCOM G2 Intelligence Analyst and his previous experience in Iraq in 2011 with 20th Special Forces has made him an expert on ordnance, historical/cultural trends, classifications, and general S2 practices and procedures. He continually advises TF Hellhound members and their down-trace companies across OIR, OFS, and OSS.

SSG Summers is a third-generation service member and exemplifies the army values as he constantly mentors other Soldiers, participates in training events, and reviews intel products. He manages a team of analysts as they produce Hellhound's weekly GRINTSUM before it goes out to an audience of over 600 U.S. and partner forces around the globe. SSG Summers is also Hellhounds expert on OPSEC, INFOSEC, and Intelligence Oversight, teaching courses for the unit, and taking a lead role in ensuring an average of over 98% passing score on all the areas our S2 was responsible for during our February OIP inspection.

Thoughts from Our Military Equal Opportunity Team



Lt. Col. Pedro Agapay



Master Sgt. Stanford Autry



Sgt. 1st Class Scotty Scruggs

On behalf of the Task Force Spartan Military Equal Opportunity Office, we continue to have the honor of serving with America's fighting force as well as supporting their families. Our office has been working exceptionally well in promoting diversity and inclusion while maintaining a high standard of readiness. We support our leadership through training our forces periodically, coordinating across staff sections with public messaging (and a special Thank You Public Affairs Office), responding to crises, providing guidance in creating public events even under COVID conditions, aiding leaders in building stronger teams, and keeping the force informed about current events involved with Equal Opportunity. Much like the ancient Hoplites, our MEO Professionals help hold the phalanx together in the face of our adversaries.

This month, our MEO Advisors supported the quarterly Equal Opportunity Leaders' Course (EOLC) hosted at Camp Arifjan along with our partners in Area Support Group-Kuwait 335th

Signal Command, and the 1st Theater Support Command. The EOLC is designed to train Equal Opportunity Leaders (EOLs) for every company and battalion-level organization in the MEO Program and assist their leaders to ensure every Soldier is treated with dignity and respect regardless of religious faith, national origin, sex, color, race, and sex and that bullying, hazing, or discriminatory harassment does not occur within their ranks. Every Soldier who becomes an EOL is appointed on orders, receives quality training, and can put that training on their official records that can help their careers in the future. Our own Advisors coordinated the logistics, instruction, and support required for the 60-hour course for over 50 Soldiers; a classload that was never reached before. Four of our MEOAs (including the Program Manager) provided 20% of the instruction amongst the four deployed MEO offices. Welcome aboard "Hoplites".

This March, as we have done annually since 1987, we recognize Women's History Month to honor and celebrate the struggles, achievements, contributions women have made throughout the history of the United States. What began as Women's History Week in March 1982 followed by Presidential Proclamation 4903 became Women's History Month to be celebrated in March under U.S. Public Law 100-9. We can remember the contributions of women such as Elizabeth (1821-1910) and Emily Blackwell (1826-1910), two of the first known female American doctors who would encourage others to become doctors as well. We can also remember the hundreds of women who volunteered to learn to fly military aircraft during World War II as the Women Airforce Service Pilots and contribute to the war effort; they even trained at what later became William Hobby Airport in Houston, Texas. There are also American service members such as Marita Silverman (1945-), a woman of the Jewish faith, who joined the Army Nurse Corps and cared for the massive casualties of the Laos Invasion in 1971. It is efforts and contributions like the ones mentioned of those who served alongside those of a different sex, race, religion, color, national origin, and sexual orientation that continue to make America one of the greatest countries in the world. As we celebrate Women's History Month, we must look to celebrate our contributions and our diversity as we move forward in the 21st Century. Our office works to collaborate with our organizations to create a celebration event for all to participate and observe the contributions from people of many different backgrounds. Let us celebrate together.

On behalf of the Task Force Spartan Military Equal Opportunity Office, we are honored to continue serving with you and look forward to what we can accomplish together. Thank you and "In Spite of Hell".

Task Force Spartan MEO Office "Hoplites"

Thank you.

"In Spite of Hell".

**Need Help? Have a Question?
Contact Us:**

36th Inf. Div. Military Equal Opportunity Advisor/
Program Manager
Building TT-117, Camp Arifjan, Kuwait DSN:
318-430-6082

Email:
usarmy.arifjan.usarcent.mbx.tfs-eo@mail.mil
Website: <https://idhq.swa.army.mil/EO>

IN HONOR OF WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH

"In honor of Women's History Month and the upcoming Asian/Pacific Islander Month, the Task Force Spartan Military Equal Opportunity Program Manager would like to dedicate this "Thoughts" edition in memory of his grandmother, Maria. Grandma Mary passed away peacefully this past February at the young age of 98. She fought and survived the Japanese Invasion of the Philippines during World War II; was a teacher for many years; had 8 children (several who have already passed away); immigrated to the United States to care for her many grandchildren and great-grandchildren; prayed the Rosary daily; and watched as her grandson (the future Task Force Spartan MEO Program Manager) swore the Oath of Office over 20 years ago. Thank you Grandma Mary for helping to bring people in this world a little closer together"





130th FIELD ARTILLERY BRIGADE



The 130th Field Artillery Brigade along with the 1st Battalion, 14th Field Artillery Regiment, joins with the Kuwait Land Forces Field Artillery Regiment for DASMAN SHIELD February 21, 2021. This yearly event marked the liberation of Kuwait celebrating 30 years since Operation Desert Storm. The live fire exercise displayed the continued lethality and unity between U.S. and Kuwaiti forces within the region. Task Force Spartan continues to progress in its efforts to enhance cooperation and regional stability. (Photos by U.S. Army Capt. Patrick Montandon)

16th THEATER ENGINEER BRIGADE



Task Force Iron Castle Engineers and Kuwaiti Land Force Soldiers from the Land Forces Institute collaborate on a forward operating base (FOB) construction project, allowing hands-on training focused on constructing a temporary fortified position. The joint training effort, dubbed "Joint Training Red Palace" improves interoperability between U.S. and Kuwaiti forces and builds the relationships necessary for future operations together.

2nd ARMORED BRIGADE COMBAT TEAM, 1ST ARMORED DIVISION



1st Battalion, 35th Armored Regiment commander, Lt. Col. Carlos Flynn, 2nd Armored Brigade Combat Team commander, Col. Michael P. Wagner, Task Force Spartan commanding general, Maj. Gen. Patrick M. Hamilton, Army Central Deputy commanding general, Maj. Gen. Chris Field, and Vice Adm. Samuel Paparo, commander of U.S. Naval Forces Central Command, U.S. 5th Fleet and Combined Maritime Forces, pose for a picture in front of an M1A2 Abrams near Camp Buehring, Kuwait, February 17, 2021. 2ABCT is deployed to Southwest Asia in support of Operation Spartan Shield to support regional partners and sustain stability in the region. (U.S. Army Photos by: Staff Sgt. Michael West)

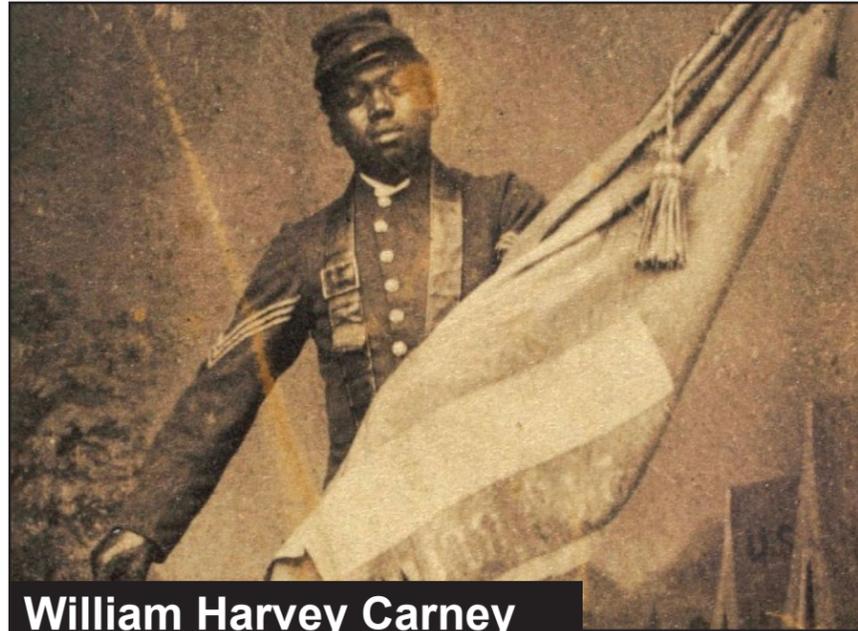


28TH EXPEDITIONARY COMBAT AVIATION BRIGADE



U.S. Soldiers with the 28th Expeditionary Combat Aviation Brigade fire M4 rifles and familiarize themselves with the new Army marksmanship test at a firing range in the 28th ECAB's area of operations in the Middle East. (U.S. Army photo by Spc. Jason Kopp)

Black History is American History



William Harvey Carney
first African-American
Medal of Honor recipient

The Medal of Honor (MOH) is the United States government's highest and most prestigious military decoration that may be awarded to recognize American soldiers, sailors, marines, airmen, and coast guardsmen who have distinguished themselves by acts of valor. The medal is normally awarded by the President of the United States, but as it is presented "in the name of the United States Congress", it is often referred to as the "Congressional Medal of Honor".



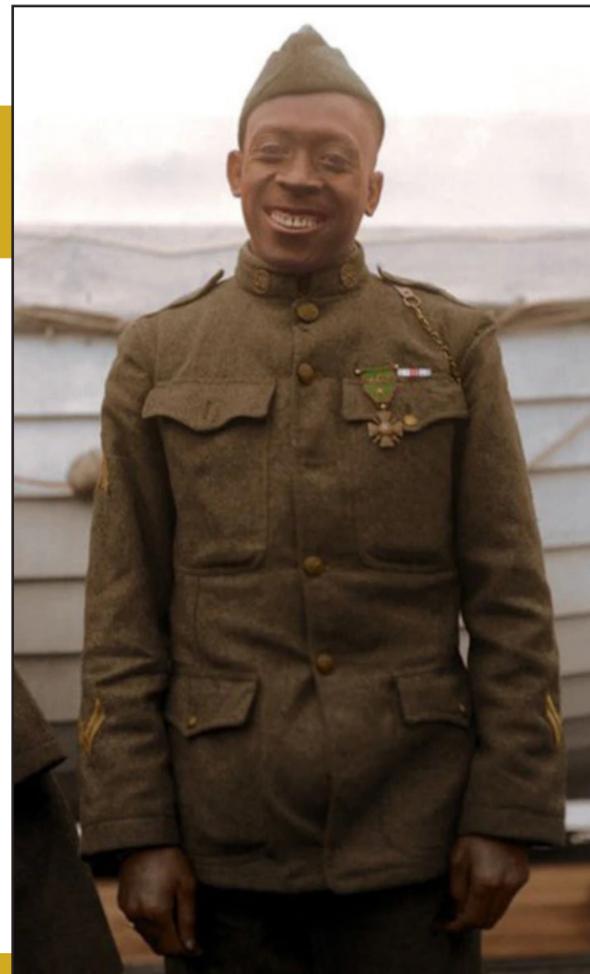
Civil War Medal of Honor

Henry Johnson the first American awarded French Medal

The Croix de Guerre may be awarded either as an individual award or as a unit award to those soldiers who distinguish themselves by acts of heroism involving combat with the enemy. The medal is awarded to those who have been "mentioned in dispatches", meaning a heroic deed or deeds were performed meriting a citation from an individual's headquarters unit. The unit award of the Croix de Guerre with palm was issued to military units whose members performed heroic deeds in combat and were subsequently recognized by headquarters.



French WWI Croix de Guerre Medal



To the Soldiers and Airmen of the National Guard

The story of the National Guard is the story of America. It is the story of the fight for independence, the fight against tyranny, the fight for democracy, and the fight for freedom. In each of these stories, you will find Black Americans, because Black history is American history.

It is the story of Salem Poor, who was born into slavery, purchased his freedom, joined the Massachusetts militia, and distinguished himself at the Battle of Bunker Hill.

It is the story of William Harvey Carney, who was born into slavery in Virginia, joined the 54th Massachusetts Volunteer Infantry Regiment, and ferociously battled the Confederate Army at Fort Wagner, becoming the first African-American Medal of Honor recipient.

It is the story of Henry Johnson, who joined the National Guard in 1917 and became part of New York's 369th Infantry Regiment - best known as the "Harlem Hellfighters." Sent to fight with the 16th Division of the French Army, Henry Johnson would prove himself a hero in the Argonne forest in hand-to-hand combat where he sustained 21 wounds himself and became the first American awarded France's Croix de Guerre with a golden palm.

Since the beginning of history, Black Americans fought for our Nation, even when they were denied rights, opportunities, and even basic humanity in the eyes of the law. They fought for the ideals President Abraham Lincoln named in the Gettysburg Address: "A new Nation, conceived in liberty, and dedicated to the proposition that all men are created equal."

Today, in many ways, our Nation still struggles to give all its citizens equal opportunities. But our story is not finished, and we can work together to write a history we're proud to leave behind. This Black History Month, let us learn the stories of the Black Americans who shaped our Nation, and ultimately became the Nation for which they fought.

Sincerely,


Tony L. Whitehead
Senior Enlisted Advisor
National Guard Bureau


Daniel R. Hokanson
General, U.S. Army
Chief, National Guard Bureau

Chaplains Corner



Chaplain Harold Bender
36th Infantry Division

An excerpt from "Win the Day: 7 Daily Habits to Help You Stress Less & Accomplish More" by Mark Batterson

Mark Batterson teaches a powerful lesson on the importance of perspective and the gift of a day.

It reads,

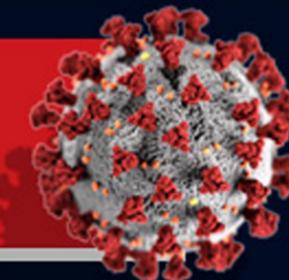
"On May 25, 1979, Denis Waitley was desperately trying to catch a flight from Chicago to Los Angeles. When he arrived at his gate, they had just closed the jetway. Denis begged them to let him on that airplane. No luck! Out of breath and out of patience, he made his way to the ticket counter to register a complaint and rebook his travel. While he was waiting in line, an announcement came over the airport intercom. AA Flight 191 to Los Angeles had crashed upon takeoff.

The engine on the left wing of that DC-10 separated from the airplane right after takeoff. The unbalanced aerodynamics caused the plane to roll, a roll from which it could not recover. All 271 people on board died in the crash. It was the deadliest aviation accident in United States history.

That near-death experience had a life-altering impact on Denis Waitley. Had he been on time, it would have been the last day of his life. Needless to say, he never registered his complaint. In fact, he never re-turned his ticket for Flight 191. He took his paper ticket and put it in a visible place in his office. On difficult days, the days when he felt like throwing in the towel, all it took was one glance at that ticket to regain perspective. That ticket was a constant reminder that every day is a gift."



COVID-19



VACCINE

MYTH

FACT

THE COVID-19 VACCINE WAS RUSHED, SO ITS NOT SAFE

THE COVID-19 VACCINE PROCESS WAS PRIORITIZED FOR DEVELOPING VACCINES DUE TO THE PANDEMIC

IF YOU TAKE THE COVID-19 VACCINE YOU WILL GET COVID-19

IT IS NOT POSSIBLE TO GET COVID-19 FROM THE MODERNA & PFIZER VACCINES

#KNOWTHEFACTS
WWW.CDC.GOV



Around the Force

130th Field Artillery Brigade members of the Kansas Army National Guard prepare to watch the Superbowl at the Joint Training Center in Jordan. The Kansas City fans within the brigade have anxiously been awaiting the big game! Nothing like enjoying football to build esprit de corps.



Task Force Iron Castle Engineers and Kuwaiti Land Force Soldiers from the Land Forces Institute collaborate on a forward operating base (FOB) construction project, allowing hands-on training focused on constructing a temporary fortified position. The joint training effort, dubbed "Joint Training Red Palace" improves interoperability between U.S. and Kuwaiti forces and builds the relationships necessary for future operations together.



Soldiers with 2-104th GSAB are keeping their medical skills fresh so they can save lives when needed. They recently trained on trauma assessment, chest tube placement and team trauma scenarios.



In celebration of Black History Month and the contributions of African Americans serving in the United States Armed Forces, some of the African American Soldiers of the Theater Engineer Brigade (TEB) that continue to serve our armed forces honorably gathered together.

Soldiers with Alpha Company, 628th ASB got a taste of the Arabian Gulf water, during a recent water purification exercise. Using a tactical water purification system, they can pump 250 gallons of drinking water per minute.



Task Force Spartan and U.S. Central Command leadership had lunch with Soldiers from Bravo Battery, 5th Battalion, 52nd Air Defense Artillery Regiment recently at Al Dhafra Air Base in the United Arab Emirates.





As Soldiers, we are resolute in our commitment to live the Army Values. We will uphold a command climate free of sexual harassment, sexual assault and retaliation where every member of the Army Team is treated with dignity and respect.

**TOGETHER,
THIS WE'LL
DEFEND.**

SEXUAL ASSAULT. SEXUAL HARASSMENT.
NOT IN OUR ARMY.

Join Us: [USArmySHARP](#)
WWW.PREVENTSEXUALASSAULT.ARMY.MIL
 DOD SAFE HELPLINE: 1-877-995-5247
WWW.SAFEHELPLINE.ORG



Sgt. 1st Class Mitchell Dorris
Sexual Assault Response
Coordinator (SARC)

Email:
Mitchell.w.dorris.mil@mail.mil

Phone: (254) 315-1115



**ARMY DIVERSITY
STRENGTH**
IN DIVERSITY

36th Inf. Div. Military Equal
Opportunity Advisor/Program
Manager
Building TT-117, Camp Arifjan,
Kuwait DSN: 318-430-6082
Email: usarmy.arifjan.usar-cent.mbx.tfs-eo@mail.mil
Website: <https://idhq.swa.army.mil/EO>



If you, or anyone you know has experienced or believe you've been a victim of discrimination based on Religion, National Origin, Sexual Orientation, Color, Race or any other discrimination; or have been a victim of bullying or hazing, we can assist.

IG TEAM

**36TH Infantry Division
Inspector General Team**



Col. Eric Martinson
Command Inspector General



Master Sgt. Frank Konarik
36ID IG Office NCOIC



Capt. Seulata Rodriguez
Deputy Inspector General



Sgt. 1st Class Shawn Sipes
Assistant Inspector General



Sgt. 1st Class Lisa Davis
Assistant Inspector General



WORLD WAR II

SERGEANT JAMES M. LOGAN

BORN: MCNEIL, TEXAS

ASSIGNED TO: 36TH INFANTRY DIVISION

CITATION

NEAR SALERNO, ITALY, 9 SEPTEMBER 1943

FOR CONSPICUOUS GALLANTRY AND INTREPIDITY AT RISK OF LIFE ABOVE AND BEYOND THE CALL OF DUTY IN ACTION INVOLVING ACTUAL CONFLICT ON 9 SEPTEMBER 1943 IN THE VICINITY OF SALERNO, ITALY. AS A RIFLEMAN OF AN INFANTRY COMPANY, SGT. LOGAN LANDED WITH THE FIRST WAVE OF THE ASSAULT ECHELON ON THE BEACHES OF THE GULF OF SALERNO, AND AFTER HIS COMPANY HAD ADVANCED 800 YARDS INLAND AND TAKEN POSITIONS ALONG THE FORWARD BANK OF AN IRRIGATION CANAL, THE ENEMY BEGAN A SERIOUS COUNTERATTACK FROM POSITIONS ALONG A ROCK WALL WHICH RAN PARALLEL WITH THE CANAL ABOUT 200 YARDS FURTHER INLAND. VOLUNTARILY EXPOSING HIMSELF TO THE FIRE OF A MACHINEGUN LOCATED ALONG THE ROCK WALL, WHICH SPRAYED THE GROUND SO CLOSE TO HIM THAT HE WAS SPLATTERED WITH DIRT AND ROCK SPLINTERS FROM THE IMPACT OF THE BULLETS, SGT. LOGAN KILLED THE FIRST 3 GERMANS AS THEY CAME THROUGH A GAP IN THE WALL. HE THEN ATTACKED THE MACHINEGUN. AS HE DASHED ACROSS THE 200 YARDS OF EXPOSED TERRAIN A WITHERING STREAM OF FIRE FOLLOWED HIS ADVANCE. REACHING THE WALL, HE CRAWLED ALONG THE BASE, WITHIN EASY REACH OF THE ENEMY CROUCHED ALONG THE OPPOSITE SIDE, UNTIL HE REACHED THE GUN. JUMPING UP, HE SHOT THE 2 GUNNERS DOWN, HURDLED THE WALL, AND SEIZED THE GUN. SWINGING IT AROUND, HE IMMEDIATELY OPENED FIRE ON THE ENEMY WITH THE REMAINING AMMUNITION, RAKING THEIR FLIGHT AND INFLECTING FURTHER CASUALTIES ON THEM AS THEY FLED. AFTER SMASHING THE MACHINEGUN OVER THE ROCKS, SGT. LOGAN CAPTURED AN ENEMY OFFICER AND PRIVATE WHO WERE ATTEMPTING TO SNEAK AWAY. LATER IN THE MORNING, SGT. LOGAN WENT AFTER A SNIPER HIDDEN IN A HOUSE ABOUT 150 YARDS FROM THE COMPANY. AGAIN, THE INTREPID SGT. LOGAN RAN A GAUNTLET OF FIRE TO REACH HIS OBJECTIVE. SHOOTING THE LOCK OFF THE DOOR, SGT. LOGAN KICKED IT IN AND SHOT THE SNIPER WHO HAD JUST REACHED THE BOTTOM OF THE STAIRS. THE CONSPICUOUS GALLANTRY AND INTREPIDITY WHICH CHARACTERIZED SGT. LOGAN'S EXPLOITS PROVED A CONSTANT INSPIRATION TO ALL THE MEN OF HIS COMPANY, AND AIDED MATERIALLY IN INSURING THE SUCCESS OF THE BEACHHEAD AT SALERNO.



WORLD WAR II

FIRST LIEUTENANT ARNOLD L. BJORKKLUND

BORN: CLINTON, WASHINGTON

ASSIGNED TO: 36TH INFANTRY DIVISION

CITATION

ALTAVILLA, ITALY, 13 SEPTEMBER 1943

FOR CONSPICUOUS GALLANTRY AND INTREPIDITY AT THE RISK OF LIFE ABOVE AND BEYOND THE CALL OF DUTY IN ACTION WITH THE ENEMY NEAR ALTAVILLA, ITALY, 13 SEPTEMBER 1943. WHEN HIS COMPANY ATTACKED A GERMAN POSITION ON HILL 424, THE FIRST PLATOON, LED BY 1ST LT. BJORKKLUND, MOVED FORWARD ON THE RIGHT FLANK TO THE SLOPE OF THE HILL WHERE IT WAS PINNED DOWN BY A HEAVY CONCENTRATION OF MACHINEGUN AND RIFLE FIRE. ORDERING HIS MEN TO GIVE COVERING FIRE, WITH ONLY 3 HAND GRENADES, HE CREPT AND CRAWLED FORWARD TO A GERMAN MACHINEGUN POSITION LOCATED ON A TERRACE ALONG THE FORWARD SLOPE. APPROACHING WITHIN A FEW YARDS OF THE POSITION, AND WHILE CONTINUOUSLY EXPOSED TO ENEMY FIRE, HE HURLED 1 GRENADE INTO THE NEST, DESTROYED THE GUN AND KILLED 3 GERMANS. DISCOVERING A SECOND MACHINEGUN 20 YARDS TO THE RIGHT ON A HIGHER TERRACE, HE MOVED UNDER INTENSE ENEMY FIRE TO A POINT WITHIN A FEW YARDS AND THREW A SECOND GRENADE INTO THIS POSITION, DESTROYING IT AND KILLING 2 MORE GERMANS. THE FIRST PLATOON WAS THEN ABLE TO ADVANCE 150 YARDS FURTHER UP THE SLOPE TO THE CREST OF THE HILL, BUT WAS AGAIN STOPPED BY THE FIRE FROM A HEAVY ENEMY MORTAR ON THE REVERSE SLOPE. 1ST LT. BJORKKLUND LOCATED THE MORTAR AND WORKED HIS WAY UNDER LITTLE COVER TO WITHIN 10 YARDS OF ITS POSITION AND THREW HIS THIRD GRENADE, DESTROYING THE MORTAR, KILLING 2 OF THE GERMANS, AND FORCING THE REMAINING 3 TO FLEE. HIS ACTIONS PERMITTED THE PLATOON TO TAKE ITS OBJECTIVE.

The Arrowhead | TASK FORCE SPARTAN



City of Wadi Musa in Jordan. (Photo by Staff Sgt. Mark Scovell, TFS Public Affairs)