

DANGER FORWARD

April 2023

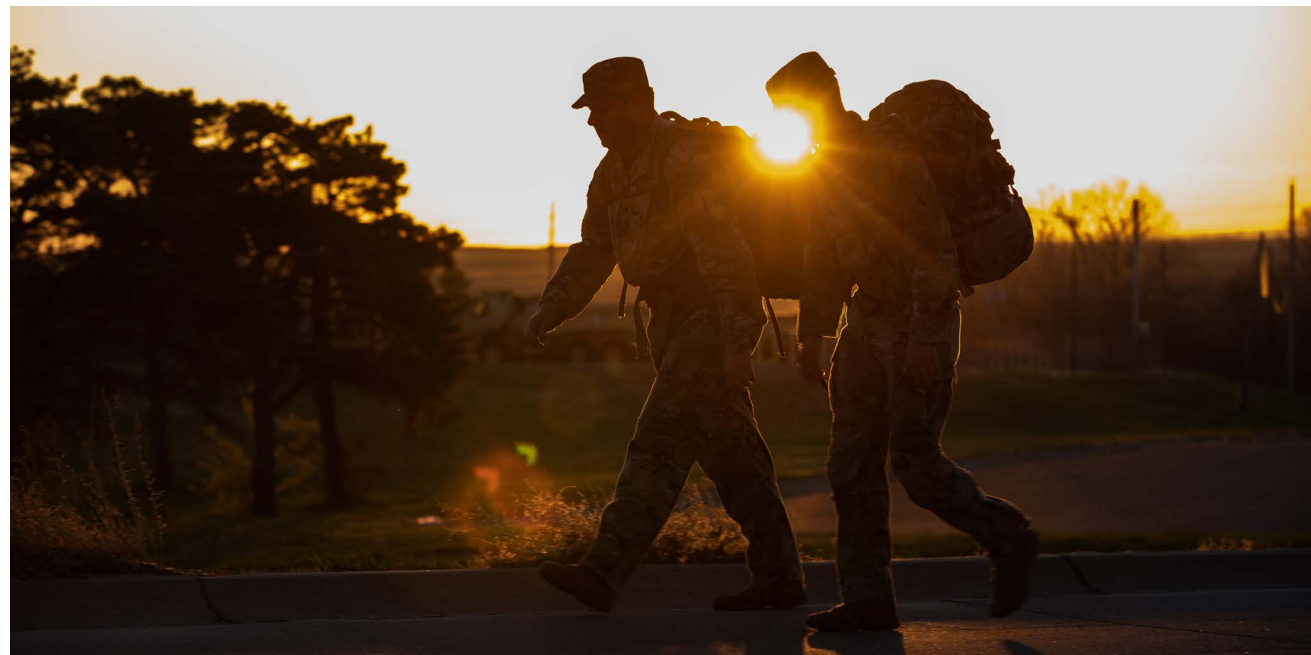


Cover photo by Marlin Watson

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Units Represented:



Danger 7 Sends



Dear Big Red One Soldiers, Families, and Friends,

Our Big Red One Team continues the Year of the Noncommissioned Officer, our year-long campaign that develops ownership in the NCO Corps and honors the accomplishments of our leaders.


As we inspire future leaders, we look back on this month and the multiple competitions our Soldiers and teams participated in. I couldn't be prouder of the Soldiers who represented the 1st Infantry Division in the Best Ranger, Sapper and Sniper competitions, and the Lacerda Cup combatives tournament. Not only are these great recruiting opportunities to highlight our people to the public, but they also showcase the caliber of Soldiers we have in the Big Red One to the rest of the Army. Join me in congratulating our competitors on a job well done!

We value all our people, whether they are participating in prestigious competitions or getting after their important jobs here at Fort Riley and abroad. Our success is due to the engaged leaders who value their Soldiers' time and the hard work they accomplish for our organization. Engaged leaders provide purpose, direction and motivation to our Soldiers, cultivating a culture of belonging in their units.

This sense of belonging is important as we recognize our children during the Month of the Military Child. Our leaders adhere to training schedules to ensure our Soldiers have maximum time to spend with their families as we honor our military children and the role they play in the armed forces community throughout April.

On behalf of the 1st Infantry Division and Fort Riley Commanding General, Maj. Gen. John V. Meyer III, and myself, we want to recognize our leaders who continue to support our Big Red One Soldiers and Families. We couldn't do what we do without engaged leaders who take care of our people and continue to develop our future leaders. Finally, we appreciate the support from our families, civilians, and local community here at the Center of Everything.

DUTY FIRST!


CHRISTOPHER L. MULLINAX
Command Sergeant Major, U.S. Army
Division Command Sergeant Major

Foreword

U.S. Army Soldiers assigned to the 1st Infantry Division are greeted by their families after returning to the United States. The 1st Infantry Division played a significant role in the Gulf War. The division earned a Valorous Unit citation for its participating in Operation Desert Storm and the Battle of Norfolk. (Photo courtesy of the Cantigny 1st Division Museum)



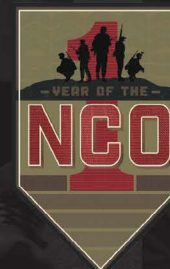
U.S. Army Staff Sgt. Carlos Morales, assigned to the 1st Infantry Division Band, 1st Inf. Div. reunites with his family at the Deployment Center on Fort Riley, Kansas, Jan. 31, 2023. The 1st Inf. Div. supported U.S. NATO Allies and partners during a year-long deployment in Eastern Europe. (U.S. Army photo by Pfc. Jordan Dymally)

WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU!

ARE YOU INTERESTED IN APPEARING IN FUTURE ISSUES OF **DANGER FORWARD?**

The editors of the 1st Infantry Division public affairs office are looking for submissions relating to the following topics:

YEAR OF THE NCO
LEADERSHIP
OWNERSHIP
READINESS
MODERNIZATION

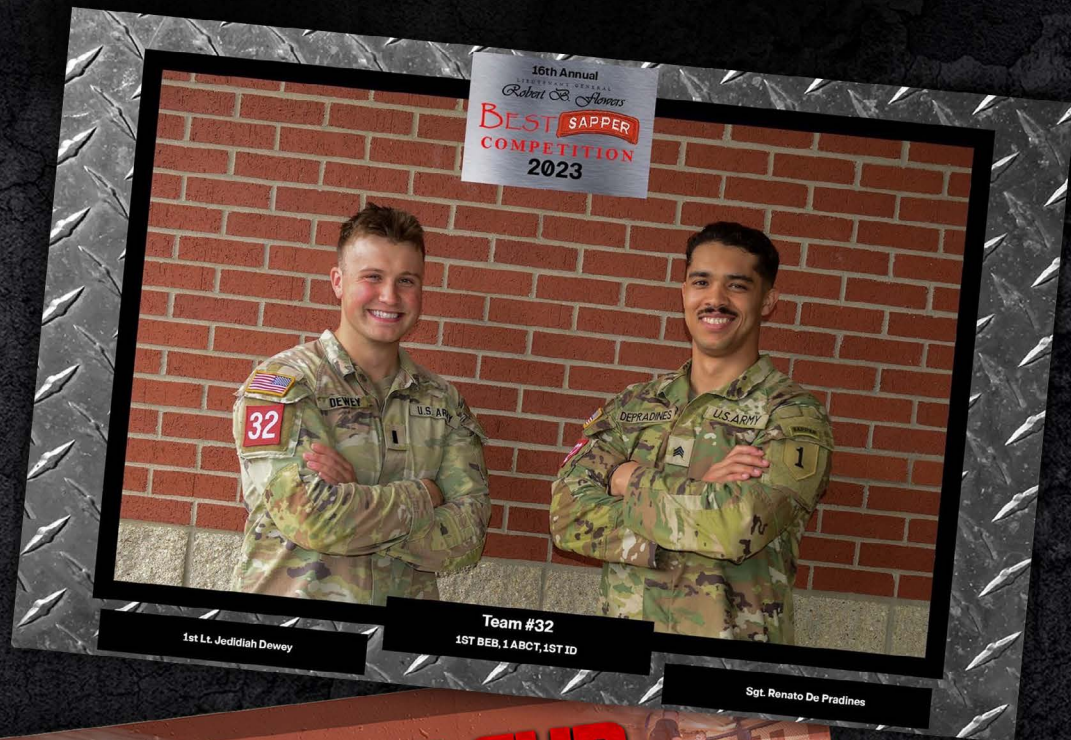


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Congrats

TO OUR **BIG RED ONE** SOLDIERS



PROTECT THE SEAM

1ID STRENGTHENS COMMAND RELATIONSHIPS

Story and photos by Pfc. Daniela Lechuga



U.S. Army Maj. Gen. John V. Meyer III, the commanding general of the 1st Infantry Division and Fort Riley and Command Sgt. Maj. Christopher L. Mullinax, the command sergeant major of the 1st Inf. Div. and Fort Riley, give advice about leader development at Victory Hall, Fort Riley, Kansas, March 31, 2023.



CSM Christopher L. Mullinax
CSM, 11D and Fort Riley





FORT RILEY, Kan. - The 1st Infantry Division hosted a 'Big Red One Year of the NCO' leadership professional development discussion panel at Victory Hall on March 31, 2023.

Commanders and senior enlisted advisors across the division gathered to discuss the 'Year of the NCO' campaign, the leader development process, the importance of command relationships between officers and noncommissioned officers and generational changes within the Army.

Maj. Gen. John V. Meyer III, the commanding general of the 1st Inf. Div. and Fort Riley, emphasized the importance of command relationships, from the platoon-level to the division, as the foundation for a successful unit.

"It's about trust; the trust between the officer and NCO is important and foundational," Meyer said.

Along with Meyer, the panel included Command Sgt. Maj. Christopher L. Mullinax, the command

ABOVE

U.S. Army Brig. Niave F. Knell (right), the 1st Infantry Division and Fort Riley deputy commanding general - support, and Col. John B. Mountford (left), the 1st Inf. Div. and Fort Riley deputy commanding officer - maneuver, take notes during a 1st Inf. Div. Leadership Professional Development forum, March 31, 2023, at Fort Riley, Kansas.

sergeant major of the 1st Inf. Div. and Fort Riley; Lt. Gen. (Ret.) Perry L. Wiggins, former commanding general of U.S. Army North; Command Sgt. Maj. (Ret.) James B. Champagne, a former command sergeant major of the 1st Inf. Div. and Fort Riley; and Command Sgt. Maj. (Ret.) Richard A. Young, former command sergeant major of the U.S. European Command.

Panel members emphasized the 1st Inf. Div.'s key to success comes through healthy relationships between NCOs and officers.

"The most important thing you can do is always 'protect the seam,'" Mullinax said. "Protect the

integrity of the relationship you should have. Find a way to work together, because it's what is right for your Soldiers."

The leaders shared advice and personal stories, drawing from their experiences ranging from the platoon to geographic combatant commands.

"Officers and noncommissioned officers depend on each other, and when that relationship is in sync, there is not a single mission out there that you can't accomplish," said Champagne.

Wiggins emphasized that the key to a successful NCO and officer relationship is trust and communication.

"Mutual trust is critical," Wiggins said. "Trusting in that individual, that they are technically and tactically confident, is key. Discuss roles and responsibilities so that there is no confusion. Once you do that, you have to cover their six. As officers, it's important that you should speak with clear communication."

Young discussed the nature of leadership, and mentioned communication is the foundation for leadership teams.

RIGHT

(Left to right) U.S. Army Maj. Gen. John V. Meyer III, the commanding general of the 1st Infantry Division and Fort Riley; Command Sgt. Maj. Christopher L. Mullinax, the command sergeant major of the 1st Inf. Div. and Fort Riley; Lt. Gen. (Ret.) Perry L. Wiggins, former commanding general of U.S. Army North; Command Sgt. Maj. (Ret.) James B. Champagne, former command sergeant major of 1st Inf. Div. and Fort Riley; and Command Sgt. Maj. (Ret.) Richard A. Young, former command sergeant major of the United States European Command, discuss the importance of command relationships between officers and noncommissioned officers at Victory Hall, Fort Riley, Kansas, March 31, 2023.

"You have to be on the same sheet of music. The one time they're not in sync is painful," said Young

"Leadership hasn't changed since colonial times," Young said. "How you execute that leadership has changed drastically, and that's the key thing to understand. Leadership teams are so important. You have to be on the same sheet of music. The one time they're not in sync is painful."

The panel also discussed leadership through generational changes in the Army as well as the



“Our job is to develop the next generation of leaders so that they are better than we were,” Mullinax said

development of the next generation of leaders to ensure future success.

“Our job is to develop the next generation of leaders so that they are better than we were,” Mullinax said. “The linkage of generations shows the continuity of the Army. Your role changes as the generation changes. Listen, learn, and act. Society changes, influence changes, but how do you handle generational change? Listen.”

Concluding the conference, Meyer expressed his appreciation for the efforts, professionalism, and dedication of the participating command teams and spoke on the pride of being part of the Army’s first division.

“If I went around this formation and asked all of you what’s the best team, squad, platoon, section, battery, company, troop, battalion, squadron, brigade or division of the United States Army, it’s this one,” Meyer said. “It’s the one you’re serving in right now, right here in Fort Riley, Kansas. The best formation is the one that you lead, the one that you are responsible for.”

Meyer challenged leaders to build formations that they would want their loved ones serving in and encouraged them to make changes that they believe should be instilled within their formations. “I challenge everybody, as we talk about NCO and officer relationships, ask yourself a ques-

tion,” Meyer said. “Do you want your son or daughter, husband, wife, brother, sister, niece or nephew, whoever, serving in this formation? If the answer to the question is yes, great! Let’s continue the hard work that we’re doing. If you say, ‘no, I don’t want my family member serving in this formation,’ you’ve got to ask yourself why. We’re the ones in a position to do something about it, so let’s make the changes necessary, and it starts with leadership to create a formation where we want our family members serving. So, thank you for everything you all do each day.”

Capt. Kamilah Cruz, a signal officer and company commander for Signal Intelligence Sustainment Company, Headquarters and Headquarters Battalion, 1st Inf. Div., who was in attendance and participated in asking questions during the discussion, expressed her thoughts regarding the information that was shared.

“Seeing both perspectives from Maj. Gen. Meyer to Command Sgt. Maj. Mullinax compared to previous commanders that were in the 1st. Inf. Div., I think it was very beneficial to see how their viewpoints were different,” Cruz said. “There was a shared understanding in ensuring

“I think it was amazing to see the different generations up there and how they reacted to each other then and how we react now, it hasn’t changed a lot,” Binggeli said

that the relationship between command teams needs to be solid.”

1st Sgt. Joseph Binggeli, a network communication systems specialist and first sergeant for SIS Co., HHBn, 1st Inf. Div., who works alongside Cruz, shared his thoughts as well.

“I think it was amazing to see the different generations up there and how they reacted to each other then and how we react now, it hasn’t changed a lot,” Binggeli said. “We’re still bonded the same. The commander and the first sergeant, NCO relationships with the officers, there’s an understanding of what we do, what they do, and that we’re a team and we work together to accomplish missions.”

The 1st Inf. Div. will continue to host LPD discussion panels throughout the year as the division continues to recognize the personal and professional contributions of the NCO corps to the Big Red One and the Army.

“There was a shared understanding in ensuring that the relationship between command teams needs to be solid,” Cruz said

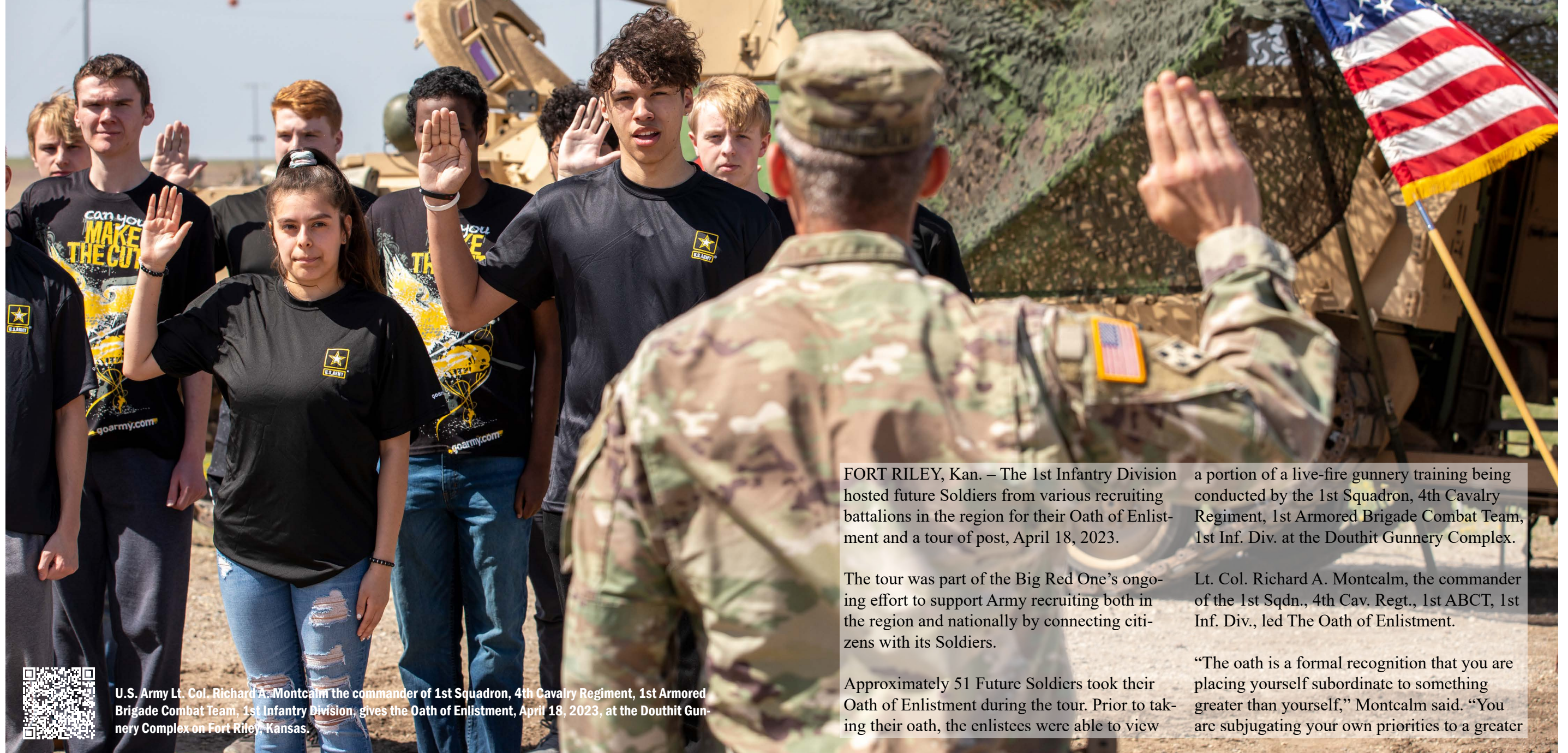
BELOW

1st Infantry Division command teams gather for a Leader Professional Development forum at Victory Hall, Fort Riley, Kansas, March 31, 2023.



1ST INFANTRY DIVISION SUPPORTS ARMY RECRUITING ENLISTS NEW SOLDIERS

Story and photos by Sgt. Jared Simmons



U.S. Army Lt. Col. Richard A. Montcalm the commander of 1st Squadron, 4th Cavalry Regiment, 1st Armored Brigade Combat Team, 1st Infantry Division, gives the Oath of Enlistment, April 18, 2023, at the Douthit Gunnery Complex on Fort Riley, Kansas.

FORT RILEY, Kan. – The 1st Infantry Division hosted future Soldiers from various recruiting battalions in the region for their Oath of Enlistment and a tour of post, April 18, 2023.

The tour was part of the Big Red One's ongoing effort to support Army recruiting both in the region and nationally by connecting citizens with its Soldiers.

Approximately 51 Future Soldiers took their Oath of Enlistment during the tour. Prior to taking their oath, the enlistees were able to view

a portion of a live-fire gunnery training being conducted by the 1st Squadron, 4th Cavalry Regiment, 1st Armored Brigade Combat Team, 1st Inf. Div. at the Douthit Gunnery Complex.

Lt. Col. Richard A. Montcalm, the commander of the 1st Sqdn., 4th Cav. Regt., 1st ABCT, 1st Inf. Div., led The Oath of Enlistment.

“The oath is a formal recognition that you are placing yourself subordinate to something greater than yourself,” Montcalm said. “You are subjugating your own priorities to a greater

Mayra Grima Topete, a new recruit who enlisted as a Small Arms and Artillery repairer, aims an M249 Machine Gun during a simulated convoy movement at the Seitz Regional Training Campus on Fort Riley, Kansas, April 18, 2023.



mission, the defense of our nation.”

Montcalm said the tour was an excellent chance for the division to connect to the community.

“Having a chance to tell our story directly from the mouths of the people that these [enlistees] are going to become in a few months or years is a very meaningful way to connect with them,”

“I can’t wait to see where the Army takes me,” Campos said

Montcalm said. “From a recruiting perspective, I don’t think there is any better way to convince somebody that there are tremendous opportunities in the United States Army than to let them hear it from the people who are working through it right now.”

After taking the oath, the enlistees were able to talk to Soldiers who matched or held similar career specialties to those that they were enlisting for, allowing them to see what a day in the life of a Soldier is like.

Other locations included in the tour were Sparetime Interactive Entertainment, Leonard Gym and the Seitz Regional Training Complex where the future Soldiers experienced true-to-life virtual reality machines that simulated convoying in Humvees through a hostile town and controlling M1A1 Abrams Tanks and M2 Bradley Fighting Vehicles.

Overall, enlistees enjoyed the tour. Melissa Campos, an Omaha, Nebraska native, was more enthusiastic than ever to join the Army.

“I can’t wait to see where the Army takes me,” Campos said. “It will allow me to serve something greater and be productive while I figure out what I want to do.”

Colin McQueen, a Washington, Kansas native, enlisted to become a UH-60 Helicopter Repairer.

“I’m grateful for opportunities like this,” McQueen said, “It is not something you get to do every day, it is a great honor. I’m absolutely grateful.”



U.S. Army Lt. Col. Richard A. Montcalm the commander of 1st Squadron, 4th Cavalry Regiment, 1st Armored Brigade Combat Team, 1st Infantry Division speaks to future Soldiers prior to giving the Oath of Enlistment, April 18, 2023, at the Douthitt Gunnery Complex on Fort Riley, Kansas. Montcalm enlisted approximately 50 new Soldiers into the Army as part of the 1st Inf. Div.'s ongoing efforts to support Army recruiting in the region.

U.S. Army Sgt. James Wright, a Combat Medic with the 1st Squadron, 4th Cavalry Regiment, 1st Armored Brigade Combat Team, 1st Infantry Division, speaks with Isantae Howard-Coleman, a future Soldier from Lonetree, Colo., April 18, 2023, at the Douthit Gunnery Complex on Fort Riley, Kansas.





April is

the month of the
MILITARY CHILD

I AM RESILIENT
I AM RESOLUTE
I AM RELENTLESS

I AM A MILITARY CHILD





THE BIG RED ONE

VISITS LITTLE SWEDEN

Story and photos by Staff Sgt. Evan Ruchotzke



Elias Logue, 12, prepares to high-five a Common Robotic System-Individual during a First Responder's Career Fair at Smoky Valley High School in Lindsborg, Kansas, April 26, 2023.



ABOVE

Spc. William Pennington, a combat engineer assigned to B Company, 1st Engineer Battalion, 1st Armored Brigade Combat Team, 1st Infantry Division supervises a group of students as they pilot a Common Robotic System-Individual during a First Responder's Career Fair at Smoky Valley High School in Lindsborg, Kansas, April 26, 2023.

LINDSBORG, Kan. --Soldiers from the 1st Infantry Division partnered with the Salina Army Recruiting Station to put on a static display demonstrating future career possibilities with the Army during a First Responder's Career Fair at Smoky Valley High School in Lindsborg, Kansas, April 26, 2023.

"The Army's helped me to be all I can be just by pushing my limits," said Staff Sgt. Leopoldo Delgado, a recruiter with the Kansas City Recruiting Battalion. "One thing I've recognized is that people who want to serve their country and want to be bigger than themselves follow the same path and motivation; that eagerness to be the best that they can be. So I'm glad we're out here to inform the public. Hopefully, we'll find that next generation of Soldiers ready to serve their country."

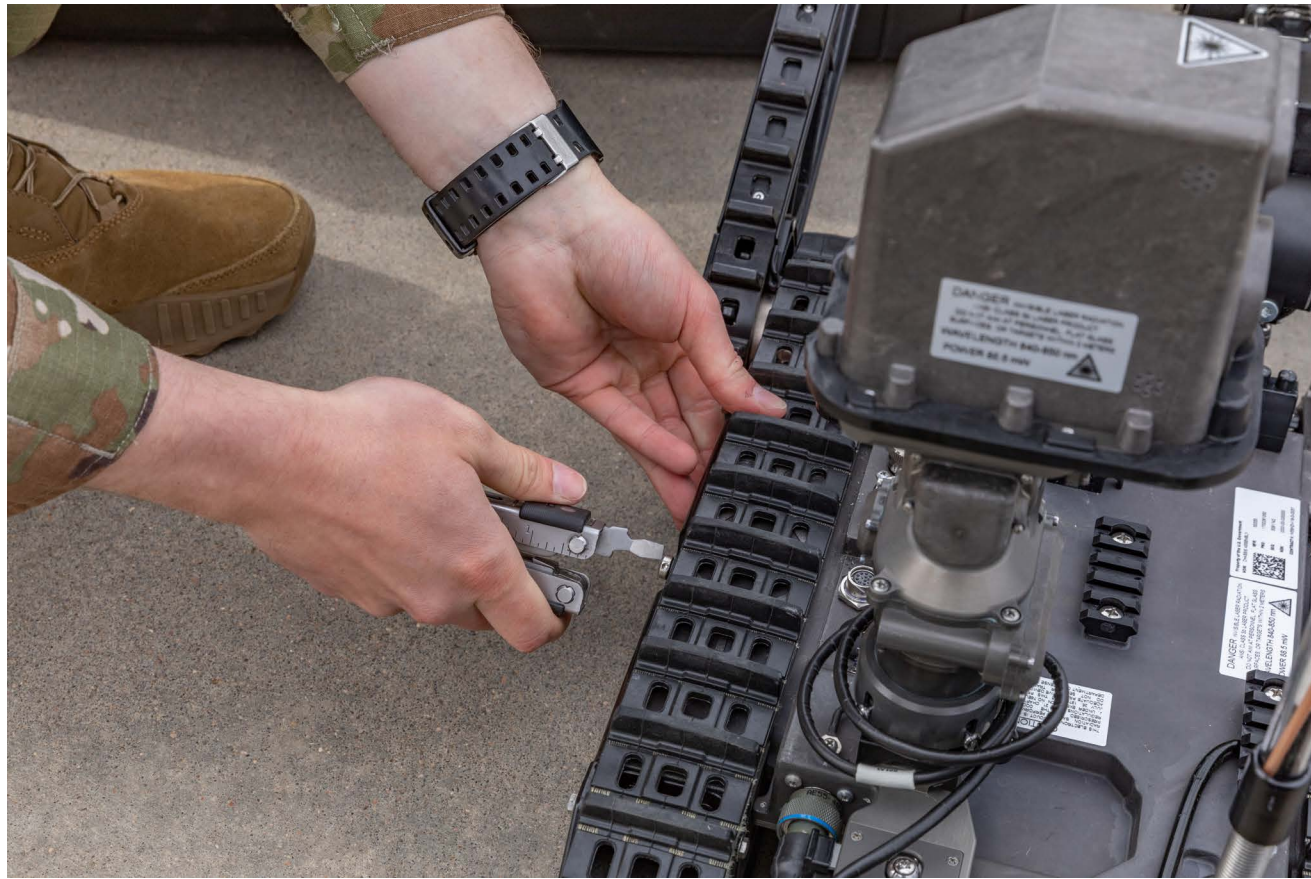
"Hopefully, we'll find that next generation of Soldiers ready to serve their country," Said Delgado

The fair was organized as part of a larger volunteerism and public service centered 'Community Service Day.' Students were given the opportunity to interface with various community services, including the McPherson County Sheriff's Office, Emergency Medical Services, the Fire Department and the U.S. Army.

Lindsborg, sometimes referred to as 'Little Sweden' is a city of less than 4000 people with



Pfc. Jared Howden, a combat engineer assigned to B Company, 1st Engineer Battalion, 1st Armored Brigade Combat Team, 1st Infantry Division assembles Common Robotic System-Individual during a First Responder's Career Fair at Smoky Valley High School in Lindsborg, Kansas, April 26, 2023.



ABOVE

Spc. William Pennington, a combat engineer assigned to B Company, 1st Engineer Battalion, 1st Armored Brigade Combat Team, 1st Infantry Division assembles Common Robotic System-Individual during a First Responder's Career Fair at Smoky Valley High School in Lindsborg, Kansas, April 26, 2023. The CRS-I enables dismounted forces to provide a capability for lower-level reconnaissance, surveillance, and target acquisition to enhance maneuvers and force protection.

a deep connection to its Nordic immigrant heritage. The town is home to a Swedish heritage museum, several Swedish restaurants; as well as the 1904 World Fair's Swedish pavilion. For its size, Lindsborg sends quite a few people into the Armed Forces, acknowledged Scott Lee, the Smoky Valley High School principal.

The Army demonstrated four different career opportunities for the children. Spc. William Queen, a combat medic specialist (68W) from Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 1st Engineer Battalion, 1st Armored Brigade Combat Team, 1st Infantry Division, set up a station where he was able to demonstrate the Army's Combat life

It was nice to get to take people who don't know a lot about the Army and then get to show them what we do,"

said Pennington

saving capabilities. Queen also allowed the students to try out various pieces of medical equipment, including tourniquets, combat bandages and nasopharyngeal airway tubes.

"We absolutely need these first responders to support our local and rural communities," said Lee. "Some of these jobs are hard to fill, so we want to



ABOVE

Pfc. Jared Howden, a combat engineer assigned to B Company, 1st Engineer Battalion, 1st Armored Brigade Combat Team, 1st Infantry Division demonstrates a Common Robotic System-Individual to David Moyer, 12, during a First Responder's Career Fair at Smoky Valley High School in Lindsborg, Kansas, April 26, 2023. The Career Fair was part of a larger day focused on community service and volunteerism at the school.

make sure the kids are aware of these jobs."

Four combat engineers (12B) with B Company, 1st Engineer Battalion, 1st Armored Brigade Combat Team, 1st Infantry Division were led by Spc. William Pennington who demonstrated the U.S. Army's technological capabilities by allowing the students to pilot a Common Robotic System - Individual, CRS-I, a small robot that enables dismounted forces to provide a capability for lower-level reconnaissance, surveillance, and target acquisition to enhance maneuvers and force protection.

"They were really excited about the robot," said Pennington. "They asked a lot of questions, but

it was nice to get to take people who don't know a lot about the Army and then get to show them what we do."

Additionally, two Mass Communication Specialists (46S) demonstrated Army video and photo technology while Delgado, a former Infantryman (11B), led a station on infantry skills and patrolling.

The event ended after 1:00 p.m., when the students returned to school to continue their activities for Community Service Day now with a deeper understanding of the duties of their public services.

"I think it was just great," said Melanie Falcon, a science teacher at Smokey Valley. "It's great for the kids to know these people are humans and that they're friendly. Now they know that when they're in a situation, they'll know who's going to be there to help."

HITTING THE FAR TARGET

1st Inf. Div. Soldiers of the 1-16 Inf. Regt. Conduct Sniper Training

Photo story by Spc. Charles Leitner and Pfc. Koltyn O'Marah



U.S. Army Pfc. Sebastian Stubblefield, an infantryman assigned to the 1st Battalion, 16th Infantry Regiment, 1st Armored Brigade Combat Team, 1st Infantry Division, aims through the scope of an M110A1 Semi-Automatic Rifle at a sniper range on Fort Riley, Kansas, April 18, 2023. Soldiers of the 1st Bn., 16th Inf. Regt., conducted qualifications to broaden their understanding of versatile weapons systems. (U.S. Army photo by Spc. Charles Leitner)



A U.S. Army infantryman assigned to the 1st Battalion, 16th Infantry Regiment, 1st Armored Brigade Combat Team, 1st Infantry Division, monitors a shooter at a sniper range on Fort Riley, Kansas, April 18, 2023. Spotters look down range through spotting scopes to give shooters correct adjustments to hit targets at center mass. (U.S. Army photo by Pfc. Koltyn O'Marah)



ABOVE

U.S. Army Spc. Shane Fipps (right) and Staff Sgt. Jeffrey Arsola (left), infantrymen assigned to the sniper section of 1st Battalion, 16th Infantry Regiment, 1st Armored Brigade Combat Team, 1st Infantry Division, spot targets at a sniper range on Fort Riley, Kansas, April 18, 2023. (U.S. Army photo by Spc. Charles Leitner)

BELOW

U.S. Army Spc. Jayzeen Lozada, an infantryman assigned to the 1st Battalion, 16th Infantry Regiment, 1st Armored Brigade Combat Team, 1st Infantry Division, aims down the scope of a M110A1 Semi-Automatic Rifle at a sniper range on Fort Riley, Kansas, April, 18, 2023. (U.S. Army photo by Pfc. Koltyn O'Marah)





U.S. Army Spc. Ryan Hart, an infantryman assigned to the sniper section of 1st Battalion, 16th Infantry Regiment, 1st Armored Brigade Combat Team, 1st Infantry Division, fires an M110A1 Semi-Automatic Rifle at a sniper range on Fort Riley, Kansas, April 18, 2023. (U.S. Army photo by Pfc. Koltyn O'Marah)



U.S. Army Spc. Luis Argueta, an infantryman assigned to 1st Battalion, 16th Infantry Regiment, 1st Armored Brigade Combat Team, 1st Infantry Division, fires an M110A1 Semi-Automatic Rifle at a sniper range on Fort Riley, Kansas, April 18, 2023. (U.S. Army photo by Spc. Charles Leitner)

LEGACY

DURABLE COMMANDER CARRIES ON LEGACY OF PAST HEROES

Story and photos by Sgt. Jared Simmons



U.S. Army Col. Ricardo Jones, the commander of the 1st Infantry Division Sustainment Brigade, 1st Inf. Div., speaks with members of the American Legion Wayne Miner Post 149 at the "Operation Hero Homecoming" memorial event, April 7, 2023, in Kansas City, Missouri. Jones, a Kansas City native, represented the 1st Inf. Div. at the memorial to show the division's support for the event.

KANSAS CITY, Mo. – As U.S. Army Col. Ricardo Jones, the 1st Infantry Division Sustainment Brigade Commander, looked upon a memorial he might as well have been looking in a mirror.

Adorning the Army's modern take on the uniform of America's greatest generation, Jones reflected with a mixture of melancholy and hope.

The memorial was created to recognize Pfc. Willy F. James Jr., a recipient of the Medal of Honor who was killed in action in the midst of saving his platoon leader's life while under intense enemy fire. Although this happened in the early months of 1945, it was a long 51 years until the United States government finally affirmed that James, along with six other African Americans, had been unjustly denied their Medals of Honor.

Jones attended the memorial ceremony as a 1st Infantry Division representative to show support for the event. Although James was not a 1st Inf. Div. Soldier, he demonstrated many of the great qualities that Big Red One Soldiers are expected to uphold, according to Jones.

"In the 1st Infantry Division we have a thing called the [Big Red One Charge]," Jones said. "B stands for brave, R for responsible and O for on point for the nation. I truly believe Pfc. James was brave, responsible and on point for the nation."

As Jones witnessed James' Medal of Honor being enshrined in the Black Archives of Mid-America, he interfaced flawlessly with everyone else around him. Onlookers might have dismissed it as a social aptitude that was inherent to all senior Army officers, but anyone speaking to Jones would quickly come to realize there was a much more to it.

Jones, much like James before him, was a native of Kansas City, Mo. Although Jones may not have had to face the same level of discrimination of James' era, he still had no shortage of difficulties.

"Growing up in KC was a struggle- especially fi-

nancially," Jones said. "I had to learn how to be a man quicker than I should have. I had to support my mother working from the age of 15."

Like many other children in urban America, Jones was born into a poor family with little in the way of opportunity. From a young age, however, he knew he wanted to get out of the situation he had been born into.

"Living where I did in Kansas City really forced me to think about a way out," he said. "It forced me to dream, to establish goals. I knew it was not the kind of place I wanted to stay in."

Jones' first encounter with death and violence was not a result of the military, but rather from growing up in Kansas City.

"My why has always been centered around providing a better life for me, my mother and others," Jones said

"When I was there, Kansas City was one of the top 10 murder capitals of the world," Jones said. "I was surrounded by gang violence and drugs." As a young man, Jones said it was easy to fall to peer pressure, especially without a father figure to help teach him what was right.

It was watching his mother struggle that was the defining moment for Jones. He knew he wanted to do something to help her while simultaneously serving others in the community as well.

"My why has always been centered around pro-

viding a better life for me, my mother and others," Jones said.

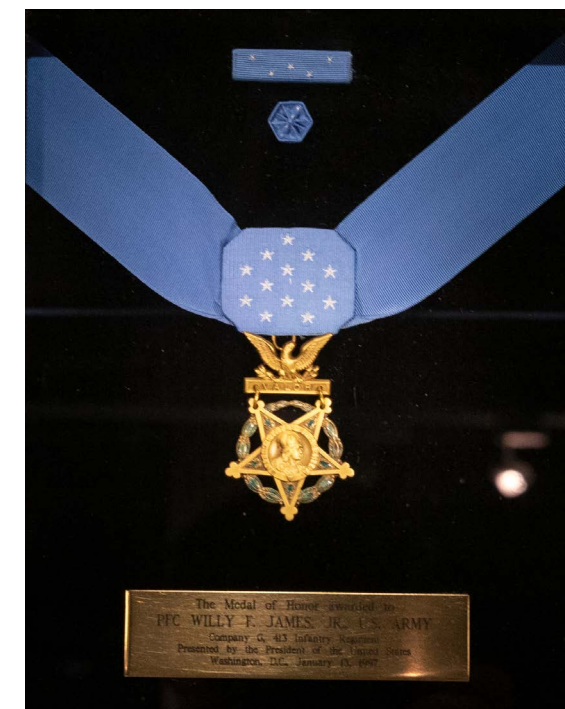
While Jones was a sophomore in Northeast High School, he had the opportunity to see Gen. Colin Powell speak at a convention in the city.

"From that moment I knew there was no doubt I wanted to join and be just like General Colin Powell," Jones said.

Enlisting right out of high school in 1998, Jones shipped to training as an automated logistics specialist. After training he went to college and commissioned as an active-duty officer from Lincoln University. "The Army has taught me servant-leadership and discipline," Jones explained, "Besides marrying my beautiful bride and having kids, I can think of no greater joy than serving my nation and being a part of something bigger than myself."

For Jones, bittersweet best described how he felt about finally moving on from the city.

"Getting out of the city left me with mixed emo-



ABOVE

The Medal of Honor belonging to U.S. Army Pfc. Willy F. James Jr.'s, April 7, 2023, at the Black Archives of Mid-America in Kansas City, Missouri. James' Medal of Honor was donated to the museum as part of a new display memorializing him for his actions during the second World War.



U.S. Army Col. Ricardo Jones, the commander of the 1st Infantry Division Sustainment Brigade, 1st Inf. Div., speaks with members of the American Legion Wayne Minor Post 149 at the "Operation Hero Homecoming" memorial event, April 7, 2023, in Kansas City, Missouri.

RIGHT

The 1st Infantry Division Commanding General's Mounted Color Guard leads a memorial procession for U.S. Army Pfc. Willy F. James Jr., a World War 2 Medal of Honor recipient, April 7, 2023, on the Paseo in Kansas City, Missouri.



“The foundation of your escape is centered in education, faith and hard work,” said Jones

tions,” Jones reflected, “Even though I was free, there were still many others back home that I wanted to get out too.”

Though Jones still has friends and family in the environment he left, his success served as a positive example for others. His brother enlisted in the Army after him and ultimately reached the rank of major before moving on. One of Jones’ nieces also attended Lincoln University and will soon graduate.

Finally, and perhaps most importantly, Jones inspired his mother to pursue and acquire a technical trade and further her education, one of her life-long dreams.

Jones stands as a beacon of hope to his home community. He is living proof that anyone can achieve success if they are willing to put the work in. In spite of all the odds being stacked against him, Jones persevered to overcome all obstacles and become the best he could be in the Army.

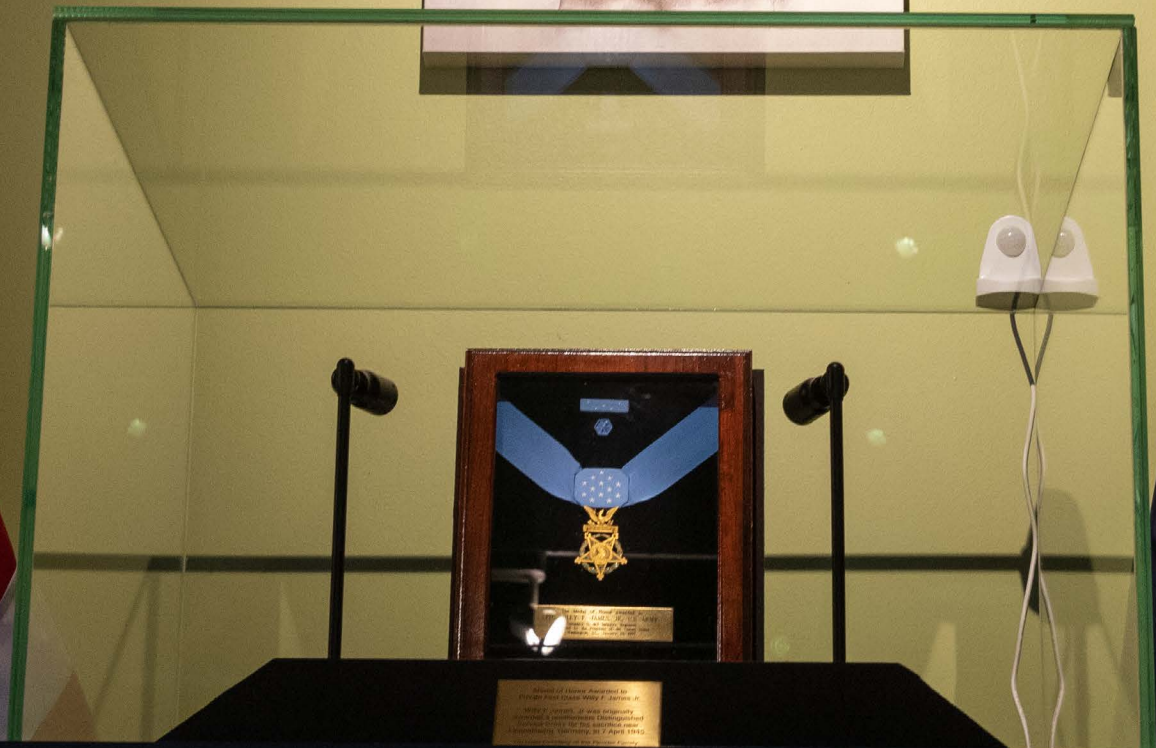
As long as Soldiers like Willy James and Ricardo Jones fight for what they believe in, there will always be hope for people in desperate situations. Just as James served his nation with honor and

distinction despite coming from a rough place and serving a country which did not seem at the time to care about him, so too did Jones overcome the cards he was dealt in order to serve his nation and community.

As for those still living in the environments that Jones was in many years ago, he has a message; “Dream big and start dreaming early. Surround yourself with men and women who are on the trajectory that you want to be on,” Jones said.

“The foundation of your escape is centered in education, faith and hard work. Every setback is a lesson learned if you are willing to be open minded. You must be willing to change things about yourself in order to become the best that you can be.”

U.S. Army Pfc. Willy F. James Jr., a World War 2 Medal of Honor recipient, is memorialized April 7, 2023, in the Black Archives of Mid-America in Kansas City, Missouri. James’ Medal of Honor was donated to the museum because he was native of the area.



This display was made possible by the generous donations and lead sponsor Robert & Kimberly GRAY. Additional funding was provided by the MOH PFC James Memorial Fund.



U.S. ARMY

SOLDIER REFERRAL PROGRAM

THE ARMY NEEDS YOUR HELP!



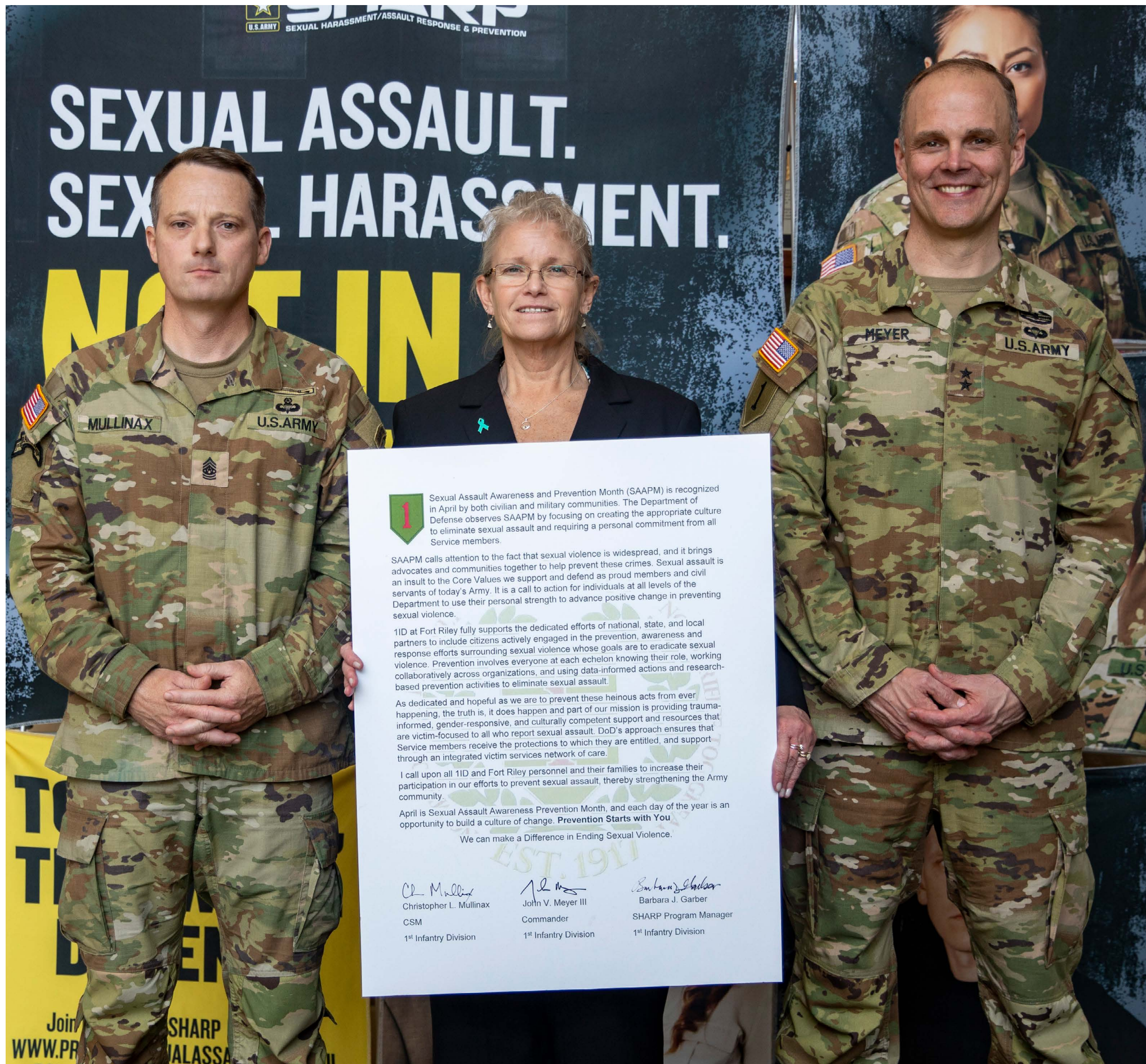
Tell your army story and earn a promotion/
promotion points and the army recruiting ribbon!

- A valid **referral** is someone who enlists and ships to Basic Combat Training (BCT).
- Soldiers **E-1 to O-10** can earn the Army Recruiting Ribbon when their referral ships to Basic Training.
- Soldiers **E-1 to E-3** can get promoted to the next rank in 60 days, when your referral ships to Basic Training.
- Soldiers **E-4 to E-5** can earn 10 promotion points towards the next rank.



Refer a friend.
If they enlist,
you may qualify for
advanced promotion.





1ST INF. DIV. LEADERSHIP SIGNS SAAPM PROCLAMATION

Photo story by Sgt. Alvin Conley and Pfc. Jordan Dymally



1 Sexual Assault Awareness and Prevention Month (SAAPM) is recognized in April by both civilian and military communities. The Department of Defense observes SAAPM by focusing on creating the appropriate culture to eliminate sexual assault and requiring a personal commitment from all Service members.

SAAPM calls attention to the fact that sexual violence is widespread, and it brings advocates and communities together to help prevent these crimes. Sexual assault is an insult to the Core Values we support and defend as proud members and civil servants of today's Army. It is a call to action for individuals at all levels of the Department to use their personal strength to advance positive change in preventing sexual violence.

1ID at Fort Riley fully supports the dedicated efforts of national, state, and local partners to include citizens actively engaged in the prevention, awareness and response efforts surrounding sexual violence whose goals are to eradicate sexual violence. Prevention involves everyone at each echelon knowing their role, working collaboratively across organizations, and using data-informed actions and research-based prevention activities to eliminate sexual assault.

As dedicated and hopeful as we are to prevent these heinous acts from ever happening, the truth is, it does happen and part of our mission is providing trauma-informed, gender-responsive, and culturally competent support and resources that are victim-focused to all who report sexual assault. DoD's approach ensures that Service members receive the protections to which they are entitled, and support through an integrated victim services network of care.

I call upon all 1ID and Fort Riley personnel and their families to increase their participation in our efforts to prevent sexual assault, thereby strengthening the Army community.

April is Sexual Assault Awareness Prevention Month, and each day of the year is an opportunity to build a culture of change. **Prevention Starts with You**

We can make a Difference in Ending Sexual Violence.

Ch Mullinax
Christopher L. Mullinax
CSM
1st Infantry Division

John V. Meyer III
John V. Meyer III
Commander
1st Infantry Division

Barbara J. Garber
Barbara J. Garber
SHARP Program Manager
1st Infantry Division

(Left to right) U.S. Army Command Sgt. Maj. Christopher L. Mullinax, the 1st Infantry Division and Fort Riley command sergeant major, Barbara Garber, the 1st Inf. Div. and Fort Riley Sexual Harassment/Assault Response and Prevention program manager, and Maj. Gen. John V. Meyer III, the commanding general of the 1st Inf. Div. and Fort Riley, stand after signing the 1st Inf. Div. Sexual Assault Awareness Prevention Month proclamation, March 31, 2023, at Fort Riley, Kansas. 1st Inf. Div. promotes an environment of mutual trust, where leaders and Soldiers are committed to upholding the safety, respect and dignity of every team member. (U.S. Army photo by Pfc. Jordan Dymally)



Barbara Garber, the 1st Infantry Division and Fort Riley Sexual Harassment/Assault Response and Prevention program manager speaks about the importance of Sexual Assault Awareness Prevention Month during a SAAPM proclamation signing, March 31, 2023, at Fort Riley, Kansas. 1st Inf. Div. observes SAAPM throughout April by promoting a culture that strives to eliminate sexual assault across the force and requiring a personal commitment from all Soldiers and civilians. (U.S. Army photo by Pfc. Jordan Dymally)



LEFT

Barb Garber, the Sexual Harassment/Assault Response and Prevention (SHARP) program manager of the 1st Infantry Division and Fort Riley, signs the 1st Inf. Div. Sexual Assault Awareness Prevention Month proclamation, March 31, 2023, Fort Riley, Kansas. (U.S. Army photo by Sgt. Alvin Conley)

BELOW

U.S. Army Command Sgt. Maj. Christopher L. Mullinax, the command sergeant major of the 1st Infantry Division, signs the 1st Inf. Div. Sexual Assault Awareness Prevention Month proclamation, March 31, 2023, Fort Riley, Kansas. (U.S. Army photo by Sgt. Alvin Conley)



U.S. Army Maj. Gen. John V. Meyer III, the commanding general of the 1st Infantry Division and Fort Riley, speaks about the importance of Sexual Assault Awareness Prevention Month during a SAAPM proclamation signing, March 31, 2023, at Fort Riley, Kansas. (U.S. Army photo by Sgt. Alvin Conley)

U.S. Army Soldiers assigned to the 541st Division Sustainment Support Battalion, 1st Infantry Division Sustainment Brigade, 1st Inf. Div., salute the flag during a physical training session at Fort Riley, Kansas, April 13, 2023.

The COOL OF THE EVENING

3RD SEAC & MEDAL OF HONOR RECIPIENT VISIT FT. RILEY

Story and photos by Spc. Charles Leitner



FORT RILEY, Kansas – The 3rd Senior Enlisted Advisor to the Chiefs of Staff, retired Sgt. Maj. John W. Troxell and retired Staff Sgt. Clinton Romesha, a recipient of the Medal of Honor, traveled to Fort Riley, Kansas, to meet with active duty Soldiers of the 1st Infantry Division, on April 12 and 13, 2023.

The pair engaged with Soldiers primarily to discuss leadership, what it means to be an

enlisted member of the U.S. Army and what makes the noncommissioned officer corps such an essential part of the Armed Forces.

“We are the first military that really embraced the noncommissioned officer,” said Romesha, who earned the Medal of Honor while serving as a cavalry scout with 3rd Squadron, 61st Cavalry Regiment, 4th Brigade Combat Team, 4th Infantry Division, for his actions during

the Battle of Kamdesh. “Because of that, you don’t have guys sitting around waiting for an officer to give you orders.”

Together, Troxell and Romesha have a combined fifty years of service in the U.S. Army. For both veterans, their proudest moments were accrued while watching their Soldiers show initiative in the absence of orders and rise to an occasion.

Back when Troxell was a brigade sergeant major, Cmd. Sgt. Maj. Christian Panquerne, command sergeant major of the 1st Engineer Battalion, 1st Armored Brigade Combat Team, 1st Inf. Div., was one of his team leaders.

Under Troxell, Panquerne became an NCO of the Year and, for the next twenty years, would forever have a pair of eyes watching him progress through the ranks of the NCO Corps.

U.S. Army Soldiers assigned to the 541st Division Sustainment Support Battalion, 1st Infantry Division Sustainment Brigade, 1st Inf. Div., perform preparation drills during a physical training session at Fort Riley, Kansas, April 13, 2023.



“I take more pride in knowing that I had an impact on that guy’s life than I did with any personal accolades I have,” said Troxell. “Knowing that [Panquerne] is going to be a leader in our force moving forward I know that Soldiers under him are going to be well taken care of.”

Ultimately, it doesn’t matter what the commander is looking to accomplish, acknowledged Romesha, if strong leaders are absent and directions aren’t being followed nothing is going to get done.

The Corps of noncommissioned officers is first and foremost in charge of the development of capable Soldiers. Creating strong Soldiers comes from enabling strong leaders;

individuals who lead from the front and put in the leg work to understand their role backward and forwards.

“Know the small little things because those small little things can add up to big things,” said Romesha. “If you’re too big to do the little things, you’ll always be too little to do the big things.”

As part of their two day trip to Fort Riley, Romesha visited Bravo Company, 1st Combined Arms Battalion, 63rd Armor Regiment, 2nd Armored Brigade Combat Team, 1st Inf. Div., where he served previously as a tank gunner, while Troxell met with platoon-level leaders.

At Barlow theatre, Troxell stood before a



ABOVE

“If you’re too big to do the little things, you’ll always be too little to do the big things,” said Romesha

room of noncommissioned officers in the 1st Inf. Div., as he pulled from a dense lexicon built upon 37 years of military experience. Words such as resolve, prepare, capability, transition, adversity, enthusiasm and performance reverberated against the walls as the group listened to the retired veteran.

Our noncommissioned officer corps and our petty officer corps in the Navy and Coast Guard is our greatest competitive advantage in any conflict,” said Troxell. “What we do to train and the trust

The former U.S. Army Senior Enlisted Advisor to the Chiefs of Staff, retired Sgt. Maj. John W. Troxell speaks with Command Sgt. Maj. Toriano G. Jackson, command sergeant major of the 541st Division Sustainment Support Battalion, 1st Infantry Division Sustainment Brigade, 1st Inf. Div., perform preparation drills during a physical training session at Fort Riley, Kansas, April 13, 2023.

we develop in our noncommissioned officers leads to empowerment. That empowerment leads to success on the battlefield.”

The pair reconvened at the Soldier Recovery Unit at Irwin Army Community Hospital. There they met with physical therapist assistants like Cody Ioeger, of the adaptive reconditioning program, a program designed to keep recovering Soldiers actively engaged in physical activities.

Troxell and Romesha took part in a career fair designed to aid Soldiers with their transition into civilian life. The event was attended by over 75 companies all looking to discuss future career opportunities available to military members.

The following day, Troxell conducted physical training alongside Soldiers of the 541st Division



Sustainment Support Battalion, 1st Inf. Div. Sustainment Brigade, 1st Inf. Div., where he continued to stress the importance of the NCO corps. According to Troxell, your resolve to instill within Soldiers the drive to do what's right must outweigh their desire to do what's easy or comfortable. Leading by example is as much about a person's presence as it is about their performance and persistence.

"The only difference between me and the

troops I visited was where our story took us, but at the end of the day we all did the exact same thing, we signed on that dotted line not knowing what the future would hold," said Romesha. "You could pluck me out and put anyone in uniform in that same spot and they would rise to the occasion."

Later that afternoon, Troxell would host a leadership professional development session where he continued to engage with officers and



ABOVE

The former U.S. Army Senior Enlisted Advisor to the Chiefs of Staff, retired Sgt. Maj. John W. Troxell shoots an air-powered BB gun inside the Soldier Recovery Unit, at Irwin Army Community Hospital on Fort Riley, Kansas, April 12, 2023. (U.S. Army photo by Pfc. Mackenzie Striker)

NCOs alike. Much like his emphasis on leadership within the ranks of military service, Troxell focused on the importance of molding oneself in such a way that prepares Soldiers for life outside of the 1st Inf. Div. uniform.

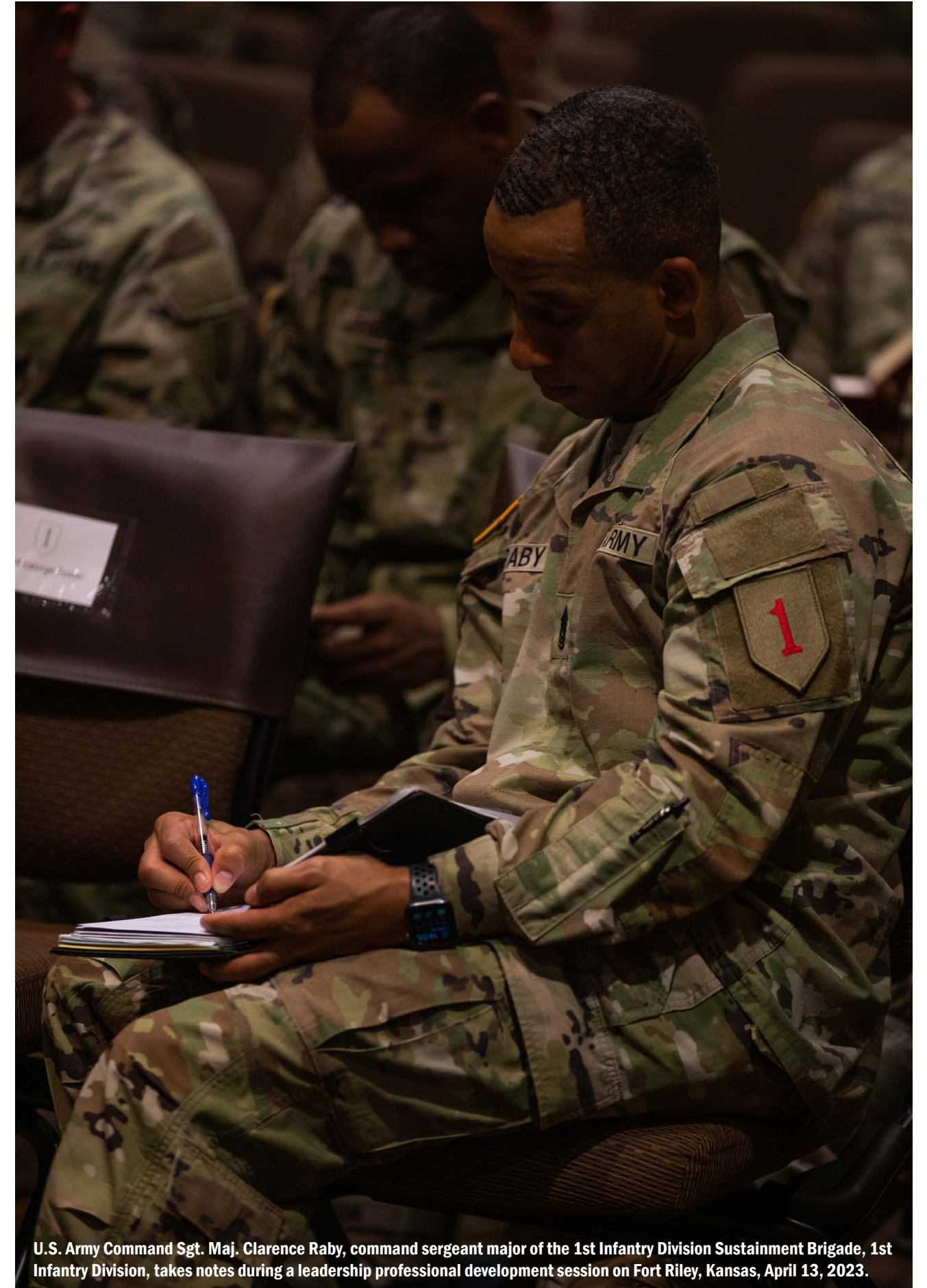
“Do not rest on your laurels,” said Troxell. “I hope the message Soldiers got is that we can’t forget what combat is all about and what is necessary every day to make sure you’re ready for the worst day of your life; in terms of your physical fitness, your technical and tactical proficiency, your mental and emotional wellness, as well as all the things that are necessary to build cohesive organizations that leverages diversity in order to build on battlefield proficiency.”

In the early hours of a combat veteran’s retirement years, a mix of kinetic memories often brings up questions. Answers to those questions only arrive after a long military career when the right to satisfaction comes only after years of caring for the well-being of others.

“Do not rest on your laurels,” said Troxell

Though Troxell and Romesha’s time in uniform has ended the desire to serve still lingers.

Eventually, the chapters in our lives will close and force us on to other things. Over time, those who didn’t become lost in the museum of their own legacy can look back on their years in service and enjoy the twilight of their retirement knowing that a successive legacy continues to pass through time.



U.S. Army Command Sgt. Maj. Clarence Raby, command sergeant major of the 1st Infantry Division Sustainment Brigade, 1st Infantry Division, takes notes during a leadership professional development session on Fort Riley, Kansas, April 13, 2023.



U.S. Army noncommissioned officers of the 1st Infantry Division listen to the 3rd Senior Enlisted Advisor to the Chiefs of Staff, retired Sgt. Maj. John W. Troxell at a leadership professional development session during a visit to Fort Riley, Kansas, April 13, 2023.

Year of the NCO
BOARD
QUESTIONS
of the month

1. What is the best protection against disease or Biological Warfare?
2. Name two ways of purifying water.
3. What are the colors for the heat categories?
4. How many yards should a latrine be built from the border of the Unit area but within a reasonable distance for easy access?
5. Where should you locate a latrine in relation to a mess hall? 6. What Publication covers Field Hygiene and Sanitation?
7. What should a Soldier do to properly keep his/her feet clean and dry?
8. What are the five F's in Field Sanitation?
9. What is Potable Water?
10. What is First Aid?
11. What should you do prior to leaving an unconscious casualty?
12. What Publication covers First Aid?
13. What measure is used to restore heartbeat?
14. What is the treatment for heat cramps?
15. What are the signs and symptoms of heat exhaustion?
16. Name the three categories of Heat Injury.
17. Should you give a casualty anything to eat or drink when treating or preventing shock?
18. How do you stop bleeding?
19. Name four common points for checking a pulse.
20. Where is a tourniquet applied?

ANSWER KEY:

1. Immunization and Personal Hygiene 2. Iodine tablets and boiling 3. Cat 1 - No Color; Cat 2 - Green; Cat 3 - Yellow; Cat 4 - Red; Cat 5 - Black 4. Thirty yards 5. At least 100 meters downhill or downstream. 6. TC 4-02.3 7. Wash feet daily, change socks as often as possible and use foot powder. 8. Fles, fingers, feces, food and fluids 9. Drinkable water 10. Immediate care given to a casualty before the arrival of Medical Personnel 11. Turn his/her head to the side to prevent choking should he/she vomit. 12. TC 4-02.1 13. Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation (CPR) 14. Move to shade, then loosen clothing and give cool water. 15. Headache, excessive sweating, weakness, dizziness, nausea, muscle cramps, pale, moist and cool skin, clammy skin. 16. Heat cramps, heat exhaustion heat stroke. 17. No 18. Apply a field dressing; Elevate the injured limb; Apply a pressure dressing; Apply a tourniquet. 19. The side of the neck, groin, wrist and ankle. 20. Around a limb, between the injury and the heart. Never place it directly on a wound, fracture or joint.

The
NCO
CREED



No one is more professional than I. I am a noncommissioned officer, a leader of Soldiers. As a noncommissioned officer, I realize that I am a member of a time honored corps, which is known as "The Backbone of the Army". I am proud of the Corps of noncommissioned officers and will at all times conduct myself so as to bring credit upon the Corps, the military service and my country regardless of the situation in which I find myself. I will not use my grade or position to attain pleasure, profit, or personal safety.

Competence is my watchword. My two basic responsibilities will always be uppermost in my mind—accomplishment of my mission and the welfare of my Soldiers. I will strive to remain technically and tactically proficient. I am aware of my role as a noncommissioned officer. I will fulfill my responsibilities inherent in that role. All Soldiers are entitled to outstanding leadership; I will provide that leadership. I know my Soldiers and I will always place their needs above my own. I will communicate consistently with my Soldiers and never leave them uninformed. I will be fair and impartial when recommending both rewards and punishment.

Officers of my unit will have maximum time to accomplish their duties; they will not have to accomplish mine. I will earn their respect and confidence as well as that of my Soldiers. I will be loyal to those with whom I serve; seniors, peers, and subordinates alike. I will exercise initiative by taking appropriate action in the absence of orders. I will not compromise my integrity, nor my moral courage. I will not forget, nor will I allow my comrades to forget that we are professionals, noncommissioned officers, leaders!

1ST INFANTRY DIVISION