

ANNISTON ARMY DEPOT

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OPERATION
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VJ Day celebrates end of war in Pacific

By Ed Wedge | Staff writer

Victory over Japan Day, commonly known as VJ Day, marks the end of World War II and Japan's surrender to the Allied forces on August 15, 1945.

Worldwide, countries commemorate this significant moment with various events, including parades, concerts, and ceremonies.

In the United States, cities often host gatherings where veterans are honored, and citizens come together to express gratitude for their sacrifice. American flags wave proudly, and communities unite to celebrate peace and freedom.

World at war

Just before 8 a.m. Sunday morning on December 7, 1941, Japanese carrier-based aircraft launched a surprise attack on the American naval base at Pearl Harbor, Hawaii.

The overwhelming strike crippled or sank the bulk of the nation's Pacific fleet, killing more than 1,100 sailors and Marines.

The bombardment damaged or sank eight of the Navy's battleships docked there, including the USS Arizona which was struck with eight armor-piercing bombs, one penetrating its deck and causing a large explosion that destroyed half of the ship.

Today, remnants of the attack are on exhibit at the Pearl Harbor National Memorial, including President Franklin D. Roosevelt's address to a joint session of Congress declaring war on Japan playing overhead and keepsakes, photos, and a bulkhead fragment of the USS Arizona.

According to Gossett, "this is the largest piece of the Arizona that

the Navy has granted any museum."

Local heroes

According to Sabra Gossett, museum collections manager, the modern warfare exhibit at the Berman Museum in Anniston "humanizes the war, telling the story of the three men from Calhoun County who were killed that day."

Reflecting on that fateful "date which will live in infamy," she spoke of how Seaman 2nd Class William Francis Roberts, Seaman 2nd Class Frank Weaver Hindman, and Seaman Apprentice George Washington Ingram enlisted into the Navy in 1940 almost a year prior to the attack.

The remains of Roberts and Hindman, who were on the Arizona, were never recovered, and today, are memorialized on the Courts of the Missing at the National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific.

Ingram was killed defending the Kaneohe Bay Naval Air Station during the ensuing raid.

Hindman

Little is known about Hindman other than he was born in Anniston, and after completing two years of high school, had dropped out and enlisted in the Navy on October 5, 1940.

Born August 10, 1917, in Oxford, Roberts graduated from the local high school in 1938 and enlisted in the Navy in October 1940.

The townspeople much admired Roberts.

See VJ DAY, page 5

Cover shot!

Soldiers with the Thomasville-based 1230th Transportation Company, 110th Combat Sustainment Support Battalion, 78th Troop Command, Georgia Army National Guard, conduct storage reform operations using medium tactical vehicles during Operation Patriot Press 2024.

Operation Patriot Press 2024 was established by the Army Materiel Command and was designed to promote readiness by providing real-world training for Army requirements and to achieve training towards Mission Essential Task requirements for Army active duty, Army Reserve, National Guard, and various other service branches.



TRACKS

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Guard unit provides support for Operation Patriot Press

By Sgt. 1st Class James Braswell | 124th Mobile Public Affairs Detachment

Two Georgia Army National Guard transportation units of the 78th Troop Command's 110th Combat Sustainment Support Battalion are on the road this month logging miles to Alabama, Kentucky, and Oklahoma in support of Army Materiel Command.

The Fort Eisenhower-based 1148th Transportation Company and the Thomasville-based 1230th Transportation Company, nicknamed the "Road Dawgs" and "Road Hawgs", provided ammunition transportation support in collaboration with the Joint Munitions Command during Operation Patriot Press 2024.

The exercise, established by AMC, is designed to promote readiness by providing real-world training for Army requirements and to achieve training towards mission essential task requirements for Army active duty, Army Reserve, National Guard, and various other service branches. Brig. Gen. Jason Fryman, commanding general, Georgia Army National Guard, believes this mission is important because it allows the Soldiers to put into practice what they learn during their training periods.

"Other elements go off to a collective training center to validate their training," Fryman said. "The [110th CSSB] leadership has tied the Soldiers into the biggest mission happening within their career field, and it's the best way to evaluate their mission essential tasks."

From July 13-25, the 1230th TC conducted container and ammunition storage reorganization at Anniston Army Depot, while the 1148th TC conducted cross-country ammunition distribution between McAlester Army Ammunition Plant, Oklahoma, and Blue Grass Army Depot, Kentucky.

The 110th CSSB units are two of 14 units participating in the exercise.

Command Sgt. Maj. Regina Stone, senior enlisted leader, 110th CSSB, said that she was grateful that the units were able to participate in the exercise.

"These Soldiers are getting the training that they need to be proficient at their jobs," Stone said. "Our battalion commander, Lt. Col. Jennifer Green, fought to get these Soldiers the opportunity to participate in this exercise, and it really gives me joy to see these Soldiers get this real-world training."

With real-world training, comes real-world challenges.

Throughout the exercise, Soldiers with both units solved problems through teamwork to accomplish their mission. First Lieutenant Tavia Florence, executive officer, 1148th TC, said that when some of the unit's vehicles had mechanical issues, the maintenance section rose to the occasion.

"Our recovery chalk has been on point due to the copious training they've completed," Florence said.

"Our commander comes from a maintenance background, and even he got greased up and dirty assisting with any mechanical issues our vehicles faced."

Throughout the exercise, Soldiers worked directly with their active-duty counterparts including the JMC civilian workforce.

Pfc. Honor Holloway, transportation specialist, 1230th TC, said that while there are differences in how the military and civilian employees operate, their experiences helped give her

a better understanding of the importance of safety.

"I've learned to make sure safety comes first," Holloway said. "To slow down, and make sure we do it right the first time.... so that we don't have problems on our mission."

"I've learned to make sure safety comes first. To slow down, and make sure we do it right the first time."

***- Pfc. Honor Holloway
1230th Trans. Co.***



Pfc. Rich Ubob, a transportation specialist with the Thomasville-based 1230th Transportation Company, lowers a trailer during OPP 24.

See PATRIOT PRESS, page 4



A depot employee loads a shipping container onto a trailer for the Thomasville-based 1230th Transportation Company.

PATRIOT PRESS - continued from page 3

Other units who took part in Operation Patriot Press 2024, included: the 163rd Ordnance Company, Army Reserve, California; the 18th Field Artillery Brigade, Army, North Carolina; the 1482nd, 1485th and 1486th Transportation companies, Army National Guard, Ohio; the 1742nd Transportation Company, Army National Guard, South Dakota; the 118th Transportation Company, Army National Guard, Utah; the 1710th Transportation Company, Army National Guard, Virginia; the 63rd Ordnance Company, Army, Washington; the 395th Ordnance Company, Army Reserve, Wisconsin; and the 415th Engineer Facility Detachment, Tennessee.

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Sgt. Deandre Harriell, a motor sergeant with the Thomasville-based 1230th Trans. Co., 110th Combat Sustainment Support Bn., 78th Troop Command, Georgia Army National Guard, pulls a tailpin from a trailer.

GAP update

from DRM

For eligible personnel to receive the maximum FY24 GAP payout, all metrics must be met. Everyone must do their part each day to achieve these goals, which are attainable and important in executing ANAD’s mission.

Productive Yield:
Direct Productive Yield:
1,570 or Greater – \$312.50
1,549-1,569 – \$225.00
1,527-1,548 – \$148.50
1,505-1,526 – \$74.25
1,504 or Less – \$0.00
Current hours – 1,567
Current payout – \$225.00

Indirect Productive Yield:
1,650 or Greater – \$312.50
1,631-1,649 – \$225.00
1,611-1,630 – \$148.50
1,591-1,610 – \$74.25
1,590 or less – \$0.00
Current hours – 1,646
Current payout – \$225.00

Performance to Promise:
98%-100% – \$625.00
94%-97% – \$475.00
90%-93% – \$350.00
Less than 90% – \$0.00
Current percentage – 98%
Current payout – \$625.00

Net Operating Result:
NOR loss -\$2.8M or less – \$625.00
NOR loss between -\$2.9M and -\$4.7M – \$450.00
NOR loss between -\$4.8M and -\$6.6M – \$300.00
NOR loss between -\$6.7M and -\$8.5M – \$150.00
NOR loss -\$8.6M or greater – \$0.00
Current loss – \$12.4M
Current payout – \$0.00

Continuous Process Improvement
75 – 100 audits passed - \$625.00
50 – 74 audits passed - \$500.00
25 – 49 audits passed - \$350.00
0 – 24 audits passed - \$0.00
Current number of audits passed – 114
Current payout – \$625.00

CURRENT TOTAL: \$1,700

VJ DAY - continued from page 2

In high school, he was an athlete and a member of the debate and glee clubs.

His high school principal said he was one of the finest youths he had ever taught.

That sentiment was echoed by the local drug store owner, the Anniston newspaper circulation manager and the auto mechanic shop manager where he worked as a clerk, a newspaper carrier, and mechanic respectively.

Roberts' burial site is located at the Oxford Memorial Gardens Cemetery in Oxford, Alabama,

Ingram

Ingram was killed in action in the defense of Pearl Harbor on December 7, 1941.

An American destroyer was built and named in his honor for his bravery. The USS George W. Ingram DE-62 was christened and launched on May 8, 1943.

Born in Rockport, Georgia, on Feb. 22, 1918, Ingram enlisted in the Navy as an apprentice seaman on March 18, 1941, at Birmingham.

He was assigned with Patrol Wing 2 on September 26 and was stationed at the Naval Air Station, Kaneohe Bay, Oahu, when the Japanese attacked the Kaneohe Bay Naval Air Station. The main center for land-based patrol bombers, the base was hit hard by several waves of enemy planes, that bombed and strafed planes, hangers, and men.

Ingram was among the first to rush to action during the initial attack. In utter disregard for his personal safety, he fought to repel the enemy and was subsequently killed.

Admiral Chester W. Nimitz, commander in chief, U.S. Pacific Fleet,

posthumously recognized Ingram for his heroics and commended his actions defending the naval air station.

He is buried in Plum Springs Baptist Church Cemetery #01 Old Eastaboga, Talladega County, Alabama.

Surrender

"The time between the bombing of Pearl Harbor and VJ Day was approximately three years and eight months," said Ray Barnett, museum curator, Anniston Army Depot.

VJ Day was when Japan's forces surrendered and effectively ended hostilities in the Pacific Theater. Japan's surrender followed the dropping of atomic bombs on Hiroshima and Nagasaki.

According to Barnett, Japan officially surrendered aboard the battleship USS Missouri on September 2, 1945. Representatives of Japan, the United States, the United Kingdom, the Soviet Union, and other allied nations signed the Japanese Instrument of Surrender, formally ending World War II.

War ends

According to the World War 2 museum, "as welcome as victory over Japan was, the day was bittersweet in light of the war's destructiveness. More than 400,000 Americans—and an estimated 65 million people worldwide—had died in the conflict."

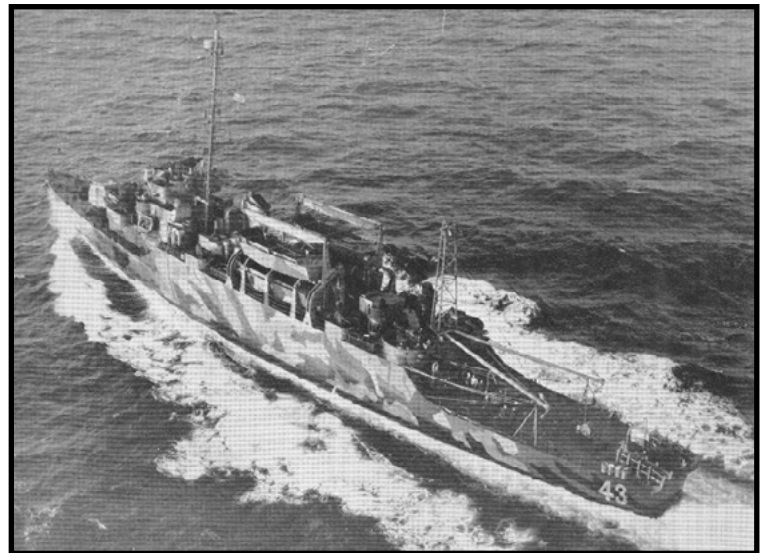
As historian Donald L. Miller, PhD, wrote in his book *The Story of World War II*, "It was too much death to contemplate, too much savagery and suffering; and in August 1945 no one was counting. For those who had seen the face of battle and been in the camps and under the bombs—and had lived—there was a sense of immense relief."

The war was over!

USS George Washington Ingram

Buckley Class Destroyer Escort / Charles Lawrence Class High-speed Transport:

- Laid down, Feb. 6, 1943, as the Buckley Class Destroyer Escort George Washington Ingram (DE-62), at Bethlehem Steel Shipyard, Hingham, Massachusetts.
- Launched May 8, 1943
- Commissioned USS George Washington Ingram (DE-62), Aug. 11, 1943, Lt. Cmdr. Ernest R. Perry USN, in command.
- Converted to a Charles Lawrence Class High-speed Transport at Tompkinsville, New York.
- Redesignated as (APD-43), Feb. 23, 1945.
- During World War II, the USS George Washington Ingram was assigned to both the Europe-Africa-Middle East and Asiatic-Pacific Theaters.
- Following World War II, the USS George Washington Ingram was assigned to Occupation and China service in the Far East for the following periods: Sept. 3 to Oct. 21, 1945.
- The ship was decommissioned on Jan. 15, 1947, at San Diego, California.
- Laid up in the Pacific Reserve Fleet, Columbia River Group, Bremerton, Washington.
- Struck from the Naval Register on Jan. 1, 1967.
- The USS George Washington Ingram was transferred



Courtesy Photo

Aerial view of the USS George Washington Ingram (APD-43) under way, date and location unknown.

to Taiwan, May 16, 1967, and was renamed ROCS Kang Shan (DE-43 / PF-43 / 343).

- Hull number was changed to 343, Sept. 19, 1967.
- Final Disposition, the ship was struck by Taiwan in 1978 and was scrapped in 1979.

To learn more about the Buckley Class Destroyer Escort/ Charles Lawrence Class High-speed Transport: <https://www.navsource.org/archives/10/04/04043.html>.

Go Team USA - Summer Olympics

By Ed Wedge | Staff writer

The Anniston Army Depot workforce no longer has to wait for the Summer Olympics, a global event igniting excitement and anticipation. The games kicked off in Paris on July 26th. According to French news agencies, leading up to the opening, the city buzzed with preparations, readied venues, and athletes training vigorously for their chance at glory. With a rich history of hosting this major sporting event, Paris is poised to showcase yet another world-class competition.

The French government and Olympic committee worked hard to ensure the games' safety and success. This dedication reassured the world as it looked forward to the wide array of sports, some of which include gymnastics, swimming, track and field.

Despite the distance, the Olympic spirit resonates deeply within the depot community.

Our support for the Summer Olympics is not just about observing the games, one employee remarked, the depot is dedicated to fostering a culture of health and wellness among its workforce, with the Olympics serving as a powerful reminder of our commitment to physical fitness.

Whether through participation in organized sports or engagement in fitness programs, depot employees are encouraged to pursue their athletic ambitions, embodying the Olympic values of excellence and perseverance.

Derek Simmons, quality inspector, remembers watching Michael Phelps break the world record in swimming back in 2008. He takes advantage of the gym's physical fitness equipment nearly every day, working to stay healthy and losing weight.

He said he would like to see the Olympics add football to the games.

"Softball is my favorite sport," chimed Teresa Blohm, supply

technician in engineering. "I really enjoy watching the heated competition. Still, I would like to see games for the kids.

While we watch the games from our homes, the public affairs staff encourages the workforce to reflect on the values that unite us all -- teamwork, determination, and a shared commitment to excellence.

Stand proud behind Team USA and rally them toward victory. Go, Team USA!



Photo by Lt. Col. Michelle Lunato

U.S. Army Staff Sgt. Rachel Tozier will represent the Nation at the Summer Olympics in Paris, France in Women's International Trap. This will be the first Olympics for the Pattonsburg, Missouri native who is a marksmanship instructor/competitive shooter for the U.S. Army Marksmanship Unit's Shotgun Team, which is stationed at Fort Moore, Georgia.

Heard around the depot...

TRACKS asks:

"With vacation season in full swing, have you already taken any trips this summer, or do you have any exciting plans coming up?"



"My family is planning a trip to Gulf Shores for some great food and fun at the waterpark."

BONITA TANNER

Optical Instrument
Repairer



"I've taken my family to Spring Valley Beach in Blountsville, Alabama.

"We have also been to New Orleans for a fun swamp tour and great dining experience. Later this month, we plan on going to Alabama Adventures water park."

CHRIS MOORE

Electronics Worker



"We went to Pennsylvania to the roots festival that is held in Philadelphia. It was a great music festival."

TARIN BAXTER

Electronics Worker



"We went to Panama City Beach for fun in the sun and surf. We also went to West Virginia to visit family."

SHAWNA VANCE

Chief, Managerial Accounting

DEIA Council wants you!

The DEIA (Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Accessibility) Council seeks volunteers to serve on its Special Observance Committees for the remainder of the calendar year.

Employees interested in participating should utilize the tier system pass-up process to submit their names and indicate which committee they would like to volunteer for.

The available committees are:

- Women's Equality Day
- National Hispanic Heritage Month
- National Disability Employment Awareness Month
- National American Indian Heritage Month

These committees promote awareness and inclusion within the workforce.



**Do you have a suggestion or story idea?
Call Public Affairs at (256) 235-6281**

Women's Equality Day



August 26, 2024

Luncheon Planned

What: Women's Equality Day Luncheon

When: August 28, 2024 from 12 p.m. to 1 p.m.

Where: Bldg. 1530

Speaker: Dr. Lois Keith, 9th National Chair, National Council of Negro Women

Menu: Spaghetti, Lasagna, Alfredo, Corn on the Cob, salad, Ranch Dressing, Italian Dressing, Garlic Bread, Cupcakes and Cookies, Tea, Lemonade and Water.

Ticket Cost: \$12

Tickets are available for purchase from EEO.
For more information, call (256) 235-6201.

No ticket sales after August 22, 2024.

See something, say something

If you see something
suspicious, report it
to security at
(256) 235-6222.



PROTECT PERSONAL IDENTIFYING INFORMATION (PII)

Always encrypt and mark as PII.
Only distribute to those with a need.

PII includes social security numbers, home addresses and
other information that is personal in nature.



Employee Spotlight

TRAVIS ALLISON - ASSAULT BREACH VEHICLE FIELD SERVICE REP



U.S. Army Photo by Ed Wedge

By Ed Wedge | Staff writer

Travis Allison, an assault breach vehicle field service representative, has been with the Anniston Army Depot for 22 years.

Not new to the depot, his parents worked here as well.

Following in his parent's footsteps, he said, "It's a great work opportunity" that he simply could not pass up.

"It's a diverse cross-section of guys," Allison said. "They're smart, intelligent, and have very good souls. [They're a] great group of guys to work with."

It's a relationship he attributes to the fact that most of his co-workers are from military families and they understand the Army system and are able to relate with the Soldiers.

In his words, he enjoys traveling and being with Soldiers.

Off the clock, Allison enjoys spending his time landscaping around his home and car detailing.