

# ARMY MEDICINE'S LEGACY OF CARE

# COMBAT READY CARE ... THIS WE'LL DEFEND!

YESTERDAY, TODAY, ALWAYS - SAVING LIVES SINCE 1775!



**JUNE 30 – JULY 06, 2025** 









The U.S. Army Medical Service Corps (MSC) was formally established in 1947, consolidating the Sanitary Corps, Medical Administrative Corps, and Pharmacy Corps. However, the Corps traces its roots back to the Sanitary Corps formed on June 30, 1917, during World War I.



On this day, MAJ Charles L. Kelly, commander of the 57th Medical Detachment (Helicopter Ambulance) in Vietnam was killed in combat. Kelly became legendary for his fearless dedication to rescuing the wounded under fire, establishing "DUSTOFF" as the enduring call sign and credo for aeromedical evacuation missions.



In the aftermath of the Battle of Gettysburg, Camp Letterman, a large tent hospital, was established on-site to care for the wounded Soldiers. The hospital, named after Army Medical Director Jonathan Letterman, treated over 32,000 wounded.

### **WEEK IN REVIEW**

### July 2, 1944

The Third Portable Surgical Hospital lands at Noemfoor Island, Dutch New Guinea, and set up the hospital same day, admitting casualties four hours after arrival.

The Army Reorganization Act of July 4, 1920 created a force structure of a small regular component and a large trained reserve. Three corps were established: Regular Army, Organized Reserve Component, and National Guard.

### **July 5, 1950**

Task Force Smith, a small American force deployed near Osan, Korea was the first U.S. unit to engage the invading North Korean army in the Korean War. The medical personnel of Task Force Smith faced significant challenges, including limited supplies, heavy casualties, and the need to treat the wounded while under fire, highlighting the need for better preparedness for future conflicts. The lessons learned influenced the development of the MASH (Mobile Army Surgical Hospital) units, which played a vital role in subsequent conflicts.

### July 6, 1950

The 8054th Evac Hospital arrives in Pusan, Korea playing a crucial role during the Korean War, evidenced by its 33,000 admissions by the end of the year.

### FEATURE - U.S. ARMY MEDICAL SERVICE CORPS (MSC)

## SO OTHERS MAY LIVE

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This was done to modernize the Medical Department with officers in diverse administrative and scientific roles, freeing up physicians for patient care.

Today, the MSC's mission encompasses sustaining readiness and conserving fighting strength in various operational environments. The Corps is home to a wide range of specialties that serve within the areas of Administrative Health Services, Medical Allied Sciences, Preventive Medicine Sciences, Behavioral Health Sciences, Pharmacy, Optometry, Podiatry, Aeromedical Evacuation, or Health Services Maintenance Technicians (e.g. Warrant Officers).

### 250TH U.S. ARMY MEDICINE EVENTS

Afternoon MEDCOM Cake Cutting JBSA Museum Tour July 25

Evening Reception/Celebration/ Cake Cutting - JBSA Resident

National Museum of Health and Medicine Display at DHHQ Salon A

Esprit De Corps PT - MEDCOM and MRC-W July 26

July 28 **DHHQ Cake Cutting** 

July 30 Twilight Tattoo (Fort Myer)

July 31 Night at the Museum nts are subject to change



Army Medicine has been integral to American independence since the very beginning. In July 1775, the Continental Congress established the "Army Hospital" to coordinate medical care for the Continental Army during the Revolutionary War. These early military medical personnel worked tirelessly to care for wounded Soldiers.

Today, the Army Medical Department continues to ensure the health and readiness of our forces, contributing directly to the lethality of our troops. Army Medicine has always been at the forefront of providing care and support for those who fight to secure our freedom, from the Revolutionary War to the present day





