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Advancing Today's Training Defeating Tomorrow's Threats

		1	
Command Message	Pg 3		April is SHARP month April 17 is SHARP 4K Run/1 Mile Walk April 23 is Denim Day
SHARP Month is Every Month	Pg 4		April 23 is Denim Day April 24 is Bring Your Child to Work Day May is Mental Health Awareness Month
PEO STRI Soldiers Attend MoH Plaque Unveiling			May 9 is Military Spouse Day May 17 is Armed Forces Day May 26 is Memorial Day
Army/Navy 75 th Anniversary MOU Proclamation Ceremony	Pg 6		June 14 is U.S. Army's 250 th Birthday June 14 is also Flag Day June 17, 18 is TSIS
	Pg 9		June 19 is Juneteenth Freedom Day
PEO STRI @ AUSA Global Force Symposium & Exposition			July 4 is Independence Day
	Pg 10		
STE CTF & PEO STRI Host STP 6A	Pg 12		INSIDE STRI is the authorized publication for military and civilian members of Program Executive Office Simulation, Training and Instrumentation (PEO STRI).
Awards for 2024.Q2 – 2025.Q1	Pg 14		It is published quarterly under authority of AR 360-1, and applies the Associated Press Stylebook industry standard.
			Contents of INSIDE STRI are not

ON THE COVER

Soldiers from III Armored Corps conducted training on STE core software March 25-27, to include Training Simulation Software (TSS) and the Training Management Tool (TMT) and then focused on NGC-specific capabilities, to include sustainment, supply, maintenance, transportation, intelligence operations, maneuver and fires functions.

INSIDE

[Photo by Scott Webb]

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> PEO STRI Public Affairs Donnie Ryan, PAO James Wolf | Arianna Aubuchon Michael Curie | Helen Angell | Scott Webb



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COMMAND TEAM



BG Christine Beeler *Program Executive Officer*



Mr. Lee James III, SES Deputy Program Executive Officer



SGM Tom Dow Jr. Senior Enlisted Advisor

Team STRI,

"This We'll Defend." Those words remind me that our purpose is timeless and clear: to fight and win our Nation's wars. I sign almost every email with that phrase, and I say it every time I speak publicly. It is the U.S. Army's motto.

"This We'll Defend" was the motto of the Continental Army and inspired them to win their battles and claim a hard-fought victory for America's independence. For 250 years, the Soldiers of the U.S. Army have honored that motto, fought bravely, safeguarded this country, protected its citizens, and upheld its values.

The Continental Army was established on June 14, 1775, and we are celebrating the 250th Army Birthday throughout 2025, reflecting on our proud heritage, rich history and legacy of service, sacrifice and dedication. From the Revolutionary War to present-day missions, our Soldiers have consistently demonstrated their resolve to defend freedom at home and abroad. We deserve to celebrate! The U.S. Army is one year older than the country we defend, and since 1775, Soldiers, Army Families and Army Civilians have supported our nation, mutually pledging to each other "our Lives, our Fortunes, and our sacred Honor." We bear true faith and allegiance to the country, and the U.S. Constitution. We live the Army values of loyalty, duty, respect, selfless-service, honor, integrity, and personal courage.

Throughout this year, there will be Army commemorative events in Philadelphia, Washington, New York City, at major sporting events like the Boston Marathon, Major League Baseball games, golf tournaments, rodeos, and of course, the Army-Navy game! "Go Army, Beat Navy!" Additionally, many broadcast networks and streaming services also featuring Army movies around our 250th Army Birthday.

Many of us will also proudly celebrate our birthday locally at the Army Birthday Bash on June 13 in Warfighter Park, and I hope you will join us. And of course, the AUSA Sunshine Chapter Army 250th Birthday Ball will be held on June 21 at the Dr. Phillips Center here in Orlando!

Not only is the Army turning 250 this year, but PEO STRI is 50 years old. PEO STRI evolved from Project Manager Training Devices (PM TRADE), which was formed in December 1974 and tasked with developing new training technologies and enhancing equipment to train U.S. soldiers. Based in Fort Benning, Ga., PM TRADE was consolidated with the Army Training Device Agency in 1976. During the late 1980s, PM TRADE moved here to Orlando, and in 1992 transitioned into the U.S. Army's Simulation, Training and Instrumentation Command (STRICOM), which subsequently became PEO STRI in October 2002.

I have a challenge for you and a way for you to earn your PM/PL shop some Org Day points! Take a picture of how you and your organization are celebrating the Army's 250th Birthday. Then send me the pictures to meet the challenge. Good luck!

No matter how or when you celebrate the Army's 250th Birthday this year, I hope that you will take time to reflect on our heritage, our values, our mission, our Soldiers, our veterans, and of course, each other. "This We'll Defend."

Regards, Brigadier General Christine Beeler U.S. Army



STRI Leadership Issues Proclamation for Army Sexual Harassment/Assault Response and Prevention Month

SENIOR LEADERS for PEO STRI official 2025 an Sexual Assault signed Awareness and Prevention Month (SAAPM) proclamation on April 2, reaffirming their commitment to the Army's Sexual Harassment/Assault Response and Prevention (SHARP) program to kick off the annual observance.

Brig. Gen. Christine A. Beeler, Program Executive Officer (PEO) for PEO STRI, Deputy PEO Lee A. James III, SES, and PEO STRI Senior Enlisted Advisor Sgt. Maj. Tom Dow all signed the proclamation in front of a large crowd of Soldiers and Army civilians in Warfighter Park outside PEO STRI headquarters to emphasize the importance of the SHARP Program.

"It is imperative that we prevent sexual harassment and retaliation in the Army, report it if we see it, and provide professional, compassionate, and comprehensive care and support to those affected if these incidents do occur," Beeler said. "These are our duties and responsibilities. We need to make sure that our actions are speaking for our commitment to sexual harassment and sexual assault prevention not just during April, but every day of the year."

The official 2025 SAAPM theme is "Building Cohesive Teams through Character, Trust and Resilience." Lee read the proclamation to the audience before all three senior leaders added their signatures.

The proclamation states, "We, the leadership and Soldiers of the U.S. Army's Program Executive Office Simulation, Training and Instrumentation (PEO STRI), hereby reaffirm our commitment to creating a safe, respectful, and dignified environment for all. We will not tolerate sexual harassment or assault and are dedicated to preventing these behaviors and supporting those impacted."

PEO STRI employees will observe "Teal Tuesdays" during the month April. Teal is the official color of SHARP and sexual violence prevention, symbolizing awareness, prevention, and support for survivors. T.E.A.L. stands for Togetherness, Empowerment, Advocacy, and Learning. Wearing teal is a way to show support for sexual assault survivors and raise awareness about this important issue.

On Thursday, April 17, PEO STRI will also host a 4K run and 1-mile walk to raise awareness of SHARP and promote camaraderie and esprit de corps. Additionally, Wednesday, April 23, has been designated as International "Denim Day" for Army Soldiers, civilians and contractors to wear jeans as a visible sign of support for sexual assault survivors and to raise awareness of the misconceptions surrounding sexual violence.

"This is a proclamation from your leadership team to all of you across the entire PEO," Beeler said. "We are dedicated to taking care of our workforce, making sure you have a professional environment to work in, and making sure you have access to the resources you need, should you need them. Don't ever hesitate to believe that Sgt. Maj., myself, Mr. James and all our leaders are committed to making sure that our workplace is the most resilient, safe, and effective workplace in the U.S. Army."





U.S. Army and PEO STRI are dedicated year-round to identifying, preventing, and addressing sexual violence. Assistance for those experiencing harassment or who have been assaulted is available 24/7. For more info on the Army's SHARP program, visit:

https://www.armyresilience.army.mil/sharp/

CALL 877.995.5247 TEXT 55-247 (in US) TEXT 202.470.5546 (outside US)

STRI SOLDIERS ATTEND MOH PLAQUE UNVEILING



PEO STRI's Maj. Joseph Lucas (left) and Maj. Dustin Freeman (far right) assisted with the unveiling ceremony for plaques honoring Medal of Honor recipients Sgt.1st Class Alwyn C. Cashe and Staff Sgt. Robert J. Miller, March 29, outside the Seminole County Courthouse in Sanford, Florida. The ceremony was led by 17-year-old William Watts of Longwood, Florida. [Photos by Donnie Ryan]

TWO FORMER SOLDIERS with

strong ties to Seminole County, Florida, who each received the Medal of Honor posthumously following their heroic service in the U.S. Army, were honored on March 29 with the unveiling of new plaques at the Seminole County Courthouse in Sanford, Florida, because of the efforts of a local 17-year-old working on his Eagle Scout project.

The names of Army Sgt. 1st Class Alwyn C. Cashe, who graduated from nearby Oviedo High School in 1988 and is buried in Sanford, and Staff Sgt. Robert J. Miller who is buried in Casselberry, Florida, now appear prominently outside the courthouse courtesy of William Watts, a local high school student from Scouting America Troop #854.

Watts' Eagle Scout project gathered interest from Soldiers and civilians assigned to the U.S. Army's Program Executive Office Simulation Training and Instrumentation (PEO STRI) in Orlando, Florida, as well as Seminole County government officials and other community leaders who attended the unveiling ceremony. The project also took more than a year of planning and fundraising.

"Getting to honor the sacrifice and heroism of Sgt. 1st Class Cashe and Staff Sgt. Miller and working with the families and the county on a way to honor these heroes has definitely been the best part of this project," Watts said. "I received a lot of support from the county and my community. The county commission was very supportive of the project and helped

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provide the support of a location for this memorial."

Watts said he has been interested in the military since a fourth-grade history lesson about World War II sparked an interest in the armed forces, especially the Army. He later learned Sgt. 1st Class Cashe, a local Medal of Honor recipient, was buried at nearby Restlawn Cemetery, a place where his troop distributed flags every Memorial Day.

"During my research, I learned of Staff Sgt. Miller, another Medal of Honor recipient from Seminole County," Watts said. "I saw a news story where his mother was bringing recognition to his heroics with a plaque at the local Veterans Affairs hospital. This prompted me to research how these men have been honored, and thought that I could do more."

Watts said he worked with a previous scoutmaster for approval of the project and then focused on getting the blessing of the Sanford County Commission. Once the country commissioners approved, he said he submitted the project to be reviewed by the Seminole District Eagle Review Board.

"Upon getting their approval, I reached out to the families; I did not want to approach the families until I knew that the project was possible," Watts said. "Both families gave their approval, and the process really began at that point."

One member of the Seminole District Eagle Review Board is Jeff Ketts, an Eagle Scout himself, an active scout leader and current Army civilian who works at PEO STRI. Ketts said he saw an opportunity to help Watts promote awareness and gather support for his project from the local Army workforce. When this young man presented this project to and indicated that he had spoken to the parents of both Medal of Honor recipients, I realized the importance of this project," Ketts said. "I wanted to make sure that William understood from the military point of view the importance of a Medal of Honor ceremony."

Ketts reached out to PEO STRI and Naval Support Activity (NSA) Orlando leadership last year to see if they would support having Watts attend the base colors ceremony. This process involved more than 20 emails to coordinate both Army and Navy approval and coordinate base access.

"I thought it would benefit him to see how PEO STRI does this during a morning colors ceremony," Ketts said, who has worked as an Army civilian and contractor for both the Army and Navy for more than 20 years, and his family's long line of military service includes the Navy, Army, and Coast Guard. "My family is a military family," said Ketts.

Watts showed up to morning colors at the NSA Orlando in his scout uniform on Jan. 31, 2024, ready to take part in the weekly Medal of Honor recognition ceremony. He read the medal citation for Cashe to a large crowd of Army, Navy, and Marine Corps service members, as well as civilian employees, who fully embraced his Eagle Scout project.

"Getting to read the citation to active-duty members as part of a regular ceremony honoring Medal of Honor recipients is something I will never forget," said Watts, whose experience with the U.S. Army had been limited to reading books and watching documentaries. "Afterwards, I realized I was a 16-year-old telling officers and grown adults to come to attention, that was awesome!"

MOH PLAQUE UNVEILING (CONT.)

Watts said the early stages of the project included working with the families of the two Soldiers and a local bronze foundry on the initial design for the plaques. The cost estimate was around \$12,000 for the plaques and needed to be collected through fundraising efforts. Watts said both his mother and father, an Eagle Scout himself and current scoutmaster of Troop #854, helped with fundraising.

"I reached out to local organizations to speak in an effort to fundraise, and my dad and I designed a challenge coin to sell as a way to raise funds as well," Watts said. "I attended various events around town and brought attention to the project.

Watts said he recorded a video to help get the word out to friends and family and his mother posted it to her social media sites. In addition to the support from family and local Soldiers and Army civilians, he was also able to gain the financial backing of V3 Capital, a local business pledging to match up to \$5,000 in donations.

"When half of the project money was raised, the foundry began casting the plaques," Watts said. "Thanks to the generous donation by V3 Capital, I was able to pay off the remaining balance for the plaques and begin plans for the unveiling ceremony."

The March 29 unveiling ceremony was attended by a large crowd of people including Soldiers and Army civilians from PEO STRI, county government officials, members of Troop #854 and Troop #529, family members of Cashe and Miller, and other invited guests.

As a show of local Army and PEO STRI support, Maj. Dustin Freeman read the medal citation for Cashe as part of the ceremony.

Freeman knew of Cashe's heroism having

later served in Cashe's unit, 3rd Battalion, 15th Infantry Regiment, in Iraq. Maj. Joseph Lucas, also from PEO STRI, read Miller's medal citation. Lucas also served in the 3rd Battalion, 15th Infantry Regiment in Iraq.

"I have also met people who knew Sgt.1st Class Cashe or Staff Sgt. Miller," Watts said. "I went to lacrosse camp at West Point last summer, and one of my coaches was in the Third Infantry Division in Iraq at the same time Sgt. 1st Class Cashe served."

Watts' scouting journey started 11 years ago when his father encouraged him to join the Cub Scouts while in elementary school. The Longwood, Florida, native is currently a junior at Lake Brantley High School and will graduate in 2026.

"Scouting has given me the ability to grow as a person and a leader," Watts said. "If you are planning on joining scouts it will definitely be a benefit to you and your community. Get your friends to join with you and you will have even more fun."

Watt's plaque unveiling ceremony was coordinated to take place just a few days after National Medal of Honor Day, celebrated each

year on March 25. A total of only 3,547 Medals of Honor have been awarded to 3,528 recipients, with 19 individuals recognized as double awardees. The first Medal of Honor was awarded in 1863, and there are 61 Medal of Honor recipients who are alive today.

Adding additional focus on Watts' local Eagle Scout project, the National Medal of Honor Museum in Arlington, Texas, officially opened its doors on March 25 after a three-year construction effort with a ribbon cutting attended by 32 Medal of Honor Recipients, national and military leaders, celebrities and musical guests.

DIAMOND ANNIVERSARY CEREMONY TEAM ORLANDO ARMY/NAVY MOU



March 20, 2025, marked the 75th anniversary of the signing of the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the Secretaries of the Army and Navy to work together on training devices and simulators. This historic MOU laid the foundation for the unique ecosystem we call "Team Orlando" and the development and fielding of training systems used by every Soldier, Sailor, Airman, Marine, and Guardian in today's military. Last week PEO STRI personnel joined our Navy brothers and sisters from The Naval Air Warfare Center Training Systems Division for a special ceremony and cake-cutting. The strength of the U.S. Department of Defense (DoD) and the U.S. Army is our unity and shared purpose, and this longstanding agreement illustrates our combined commitment to training the most lethal warfighters in the world. [Photo by Arianna Aubuchon]



STE LTS TEAM DEMOS LIVE TRAINING CAPABILITIES @ AUSA GLOBAL FORCE SYMPOSIUM & EXPOSITION

PEO STRI HOSTED a Synthetic Training Environment Live Training Systems (STE-LTS) direct fire booth during the 2025 AUSA Global Force Symposium & Exposition at the Von Braun Center in Huntsville, Alabama, from March 25-27 in Huntsville, Alabama. The three-day event highlighted how the U.S. Army and PEO STRI are driving transformational change with industry partners to ensure a modernized defense industrial base and an Army capable of conducting multi-domain operations.

Attendees ranged from Junior Reserve Officers' Training Corps cadets from Huntsville-area high schools to Sgt. Maj. of the Army Michael Weimer, and the PEO STRI STE-LTS team successfully demonstrated the range and proficiency of the STE-LTS Increment 1 suite of products to a variety of Army stakeholders.



STE-LTS provides force-on-force training by simulating weapons effects in combat scenarios with signal-based synthetic weapons in which Soldiers train against opposing forces with simulated weapons effects. By simulating the feel and realism that comes with live fire training, Soldiers can better prepare for the real-life encounters they may find in active combat.

"It is always important to demonstrate STE-LTS products at conferences and training events to highlight these new capabilities to senior leaders," said Michael T. Powell, PEO STRI's Product Manager STE-LTS. "These systems allow warfighters to train more realistically, filling a gap in the Army's current training inventory."

According to Powell, STE-LTS offers lightweight, environmentally friendly training devices that simulate live-fire effects without the associated costs and risks. Designed as a collective, multi-echelon platform, the system integrates live, virtual, and constructive training into a unified solution, enabling Soldiers to rehearse missions and hone skills in both operational and institutional domains.

Powell said the devices are designed to act as a collective multi-echelon training and mission rehearsal capability platform for the operational and institutional domains of training. It brings together live, virtual and constructive training capabilities into one unified STE product, capable of training todays' Soldiers into more lethal, effective warfighters, while providing realistic training without the environmental, extreme monetary cost and potential risk of human life.

"The Army needs to stop chasing overly complicated and expensive non-interoperable training systems," said Col. Thomas R. Monaghan, Jr., PEO STRI's Project Manager for Training Devices (PM TRADE). "We have proven technology that is ready now to put in the hands of Soldiers and will increase the lethality, mobility, and survivability of America's warfighters."

Monaghan said the outdated practice of white-carding battlefield effects during combat training center



Sgt. Maj. of the U.S. Army Michael R. Weimer stopped by the PEO STRI booth, March 26, to check out our Synthetic Training Environment Live Training Systems (STE-LTS) direct fire, indirect fire, placed and thrown objects on display during the 2025 AUSA Global Force Symposium & Exposition at the Von Braun Center in Huntsville, Alabama. {Photos by Arianna Aubuchon]

rotations is over.

"With the new STE-Live grenades, mortars, claymores, and stinger missiles, we have collective training devices that introduce a level of realism at combat training centers that I wish I had available as a former reconnaissance company commander in the 101st Airborne," Monaghan said. "These new training devices afford Warfighters the ability to get reps and sets in with all their organic weapons systems and not just a laser equipped M4."

According to Monaghan, PM TRADE's STE-LTS will eventually replace the longstanding

Multiple-Integrated Laser Engagement Systems (MILES), offering more realistic and accurate weapon effects for combat training centers and home station training. But unlike MILES, which functions similarly to large-scale laser tag, STE-LTS delivers immersive experiences that reflect the true dynamics of combat. The modernization of live training scenarios represents a shift in Army and PEO STRI training methodologies, offering a transformative capability that enhances realism, immersion and effectiveness in training exercises, better preparing Soldiers to become more lethal warfighters for tomorrow's battles.

STE CTF & STRI HOST STP 6A



The Synthetic Training Environment Cross Function Team (STE CFT) and PEO STRI hosted Soldier Touch Point 6A (STP6A) in Orlando, Florida, March 25-27. STP6A provided capability demonstrations, enabled discussions, and provided feedback on Next Generation Constructive (NGC) capabilities.

Soldiers from III Armored Corps conducted training on STE core software to include Training Simulation Software (TSS) and the Training Management Tool (TMT), then focused on NGC-specific capabilities to include sustainment, supply, maintenance, transportation, intelligence operations, maneuver and fires functions. The valuable feedback that III Corps staff members provided to the STE CFT and PEO STRI throughout STP6A will be utilized to refine and further develop NGC simulation capabilities.

[Photos by Kristopher Brewer of PM SE, & Scott Webb]





YEARS OF SERVICE AWARDS

5 YEARS

Antoinette Karnitz Yolanda Maddox Kate Morin Jonathan Pond Trevor Schwalm Adrian Solis Nicholas Steward Paul Thornton III Gregory Venable Yolanda White

10 YEARS

Jumana Angilella Daniel Hughes Sherrie Malaguti Erick Rivera Kenneth Roberts Christopher Tutten

15 YEARS

Alfredo Betancourt Wiliam Bogler Tanya Caceras Juanita Caraballo Hugo Carneiro **Brenda** Carter Jesse Delrio Jennifer Gillum Jason Grubbs **Ricardo Hall** Christopher Hammon **Bradley Horton** Mark Howton **Cheryl Jones-**Quagliata Aderian Kirk Vang Le **Tina McMillian Steven Meints Robert Parrish** Juan Pesante Nancy Rallis **Theodore Rognes** Eric Serrano **Brian Stockbridge Thomas Torres** Mary Vick **Glynn Vincent** Paul Washlesky

20 YEARS

Rosa Baez James Benoit Robert Hutchinson Danielle Kirzow Nathan Kraemer Thomas Link Jeffrey Norman Phong Pham Mark Poplin Michelle Roney Orin Smith David Snitchler Claude Tyler Ross Wafler

25 YEARS

David Amorello Jr. Frank Bridges Michael Gordon Abraham Horne Michael Kilcrease Paula Klotzbach Kien Le Keith Neilsen Kurt Posey Michael Sansone Armando Torres Sharmila Vaswani-Bowles

30 YEARS

Ronald Cohen Jeffrey Meister

35 YEARS

Michael Berry Mark Brandt Sr. Johnny Figueroa Kevin Hall Armando Hernandez Edward Hiser Kenneth Negron Caothang Nguyen John Nguyenduc James Todd Robert Wedgeworth Michael Willoughby



James Griffith

2024 TEAM OF THE 2ND QUARTER

JLCCTC CROSS DOMAIN SOLUTION TEAM

DANIEL HARTWELL MICHAELINE KOLBICKA YOLANDA MADDOX TOM ORME LUIS PEREZ CRAIG STATTON BRUCE VANREMORTEL STAN WANKLYN



2024 TEAM OF THE 3RD QUARTER

PM SE Live, Virtual, Constructive-Integrated Architecture (LVC-IA)

> JEFF CO Austin Crockett Josh Dailey Jimmy Dunn Laura Hinton Connie Perry Tom Torres Evan Waddy



2024 TEAM OF THE 4TH QUARTER



PL IPO INTERNATIONAL GROUND COMBAT TRAINING CENTERS INSTRUMENTATION SYSTEMS (CTC IS)

RICK ANDRADE KAREN HENDERSON TOM RAZABDOUSKI GILBERT RIVERA RAMON RODRIGUEZ TED ROGNES JOSEPH SHERWOOD MARGARET TALBOT-BEDARD

2025 TEAM OF THE 1ST QUARTER

PL TSO INVENTORY TEAM



CLINT AYERS TIM BERGHOLTZ FRANK BRIDGES CHIP BROWN STEVE BUSHWAY ANA CROSSWAY TOM DELOACH CHRIS DUNLAP **A**ARON EDWARDS **DENNY FLUHARTY** NORBERT GRANCHI MATT KELLER **CLAIRE LARSEN** SHONNA LAURY VICTOR LEWIS MARCUS LUNSFORD GEORGE MANSON JOHN MCCLOY

JOE MOREIRA **ERIC NANTZ RICH PEREZ** BILL POWELL JAYSON RAMIREZ **CONNIE REUTER** JOSH ROARK PEDRO ROSADOCASTRO **TJ SCHMITZ** DAVE SNITCHLER **BILL SNODGRASS** MARCIA STAVER **DARIN STEVENS TINA THOMAS ANGELA THOMPSON** SCOTT TURNER **JABARI WAITERS** STACEY YAMADA

EMPLOYEES OF THE QUARTER



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PM TRADE





2024 Q4 FRANK BRIDGES

PL TSO





2025 Q1 STEPHEN BUSHWAY PL TSO





14 June 1775 – 14 June 2025