



The Ordnance Corps Quarterly

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It has been an eventful quarter for the United States Army Ordnance Corps!

In concert with Fort Lee's week-long centennial events, the Ordnance team also celebrated some important milestones of our own. On July 12, we officially inducted the Hall of Fame

(HOF) Class of 2017, comprised of 16 esteemed Ordnance Professionals, and hosted a dinner in their honor. Earlier that day, HOF board members poured over dozens of candidates, and after an arduous review process, made their selections for the **Class of 2018**. I look forward to hosting an official induction ceremony in their honor in spring of 2018.

July 12th was marked by extreme heat and humidity, but that did nothing to dampen our spirits as we manned the shovel line for the **Ordnance Training Support Facility** groundbreaking ceremony. This Training Support Facility will provide a crucial resource for introducing Soldiers to the history, heritage, and pride of the U.S. Army Ordnance Corps.



Ordnance Corps, Fort Lee and other Army leaders shovel the first dirt for the construction of the new Ordnance Training Support Facility. (Photo by Chris Hart)

We stayed busy throughout the summer planning and executing the inaugural **U.S. Army Ordnance Crucible**. Ordnance Soldiers from across the Army competed in this DA level event for bragging rights

as "Team of the Year" in three unique categories: Ammunition Transfer Holding Point, Combat Repair Team, and Explosive Ordnance Disposal. Read more about this year's competition and the winning teams on **page 8** of this newsletter.

The U.S. Army Ordnance Crucible is just one example of how we align our priorities to support the operating force. The Chief of Staff of the Army's number one priority, READINESS, continues to drive our three major lines of effort: **Ordnance Training** and **Ordnance Propensity**, which I wrote about in my last two issues, and **Ordnance Capabilities Development**, which will be my focus in this one.

Why is 'capabilities development' a priority? The landscape of war is constantly evolving. To ensure our warfighters can fight and win in increasingly complex environments, the Army must anticipate changing operational conditions and future needs. This is especially critical in the sustainment arena due to the long lead times associated with procuring support materiel, updating doctrine, or recruiting and training personnel for new or redesigned organizations.

How are new capabilities developed? The Ordnance Corps assesses the need for new capabilities through a rigorous, ongoing, and repetitive Capabilities Needs Analysis (CNA) process. The CNA identifies the Ordnance Corps' current capabilities, defines them against anticipated operational scenarios, and then uses a screening method to identify potential gaps that require solutions. Solutions must take into account impacts across Doctrine, Organization, Training, Materiel, Leadership/education, Personnel, Facilities, and Policy (DOTMLPF-P). That's a lot to consider, but each of these elements must be addressed to develop truly successful, comprehensive solutions to support our four core competencies: Maintenance, Ammunition, Explosives Safety, and Explosive Ordnance Disposal.

The process. The Ordnance Corps works with our capability developers to identify gaps and develop solutions through a three phased CNA process.

- ◆ The first phase, Functional Area Analysis (FAA), identifies the tasks that must be performed to

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Chief's Corner

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achieve required capabilities, the future conditions in which to

accomplish that task, and the designated standards required to achieve future military objectives. The FAA phase asks the question - what **must** we do to accomplish the mission? The result is detailed tasks, conditions and standards.

- ◆ The second phase, Functional Needs Analysis (FNA), identifies, evaluates and assesses current and programmed capabilities to accomplish the tasks under the conditions and standards. The FNA phase asks the question - what **can't** we currently do to accomplish the mission? The result is the identification of potential critical capability gaps across the DOTMLPF-P domains?
- ◆ The third phase, Functional Solutions Analysis (FSA), identifies ideas for Non-Material Approaches (INMAs) and/or Ideas for Material Approaches (IMAs) that can solve or mitigate a gap. The FSA phase asks the question - Where do we focus future capability investments in order to provide recommended capability solution approaches to solve critical capability gaps?

The two-year CNA process identifies material and/or non-material solutions across the DOTMLPF-P domains. These capability solutions contribute to the Joint Capability Integration Development System (JCIDS) process. This process affects investment decisions and funding resources that provide future capabilities to the Warfighter.

What's in the pipeline? The **Metalworking and Machine Shop Set (MWMSS)** will be fielded in fiscal year 2018. The MWMSS was developed to bridge a capability gap identified in the Ordnance Corps' Allied Trades Specialty. This new equipment brings us in line with industry standards Computer Numerical Control (CNC) machining. Other solutions in the pipeline include the Next Generation Advanced Bomb Suit (left), the Next Generation Automatic Test System (NGATS) (top right), and an update of ATP 4-33 Maintenance Operations.



These are just a few of the things we are working on



to improve capabilities along our four core competencies: Maintenance, Ammunition, Explosive Ordnance Disposal, and Explosives Safety.

What does this mean for the Operational Army?

The Ordnance Corps is a force enabler and generator of combat readiness to the Joint Force Commander. Focusing on Ordnance capability development allows the Corps to ensure combat-force lethality.

What you can do to help. I am always looking for feedback from the field. When I visit your units, I hear your concerns and I relay them back to our logistics analysts and staff who participate in the CNA process. If I am not in your neck of the woods, and you identify a gap, or if you have a recommended solution, reach out to me through **Ask the Chief** or the **Quarterly Ordnance Connect**.



What I want to leave you with. The U.S. Army Ordnance School continues to work hard to provide Ordnance Soldiers with technology to WIN. We are committed to the mission of identifying, developing and demonstrating technology options that inform and enable effective and affordable capabilities for the Soldier. It's all a part and parcel with assisting our commanders in building and preserving READINESS!
Go Ordnance!

BG David Wilson
40th Chief of Ordnance



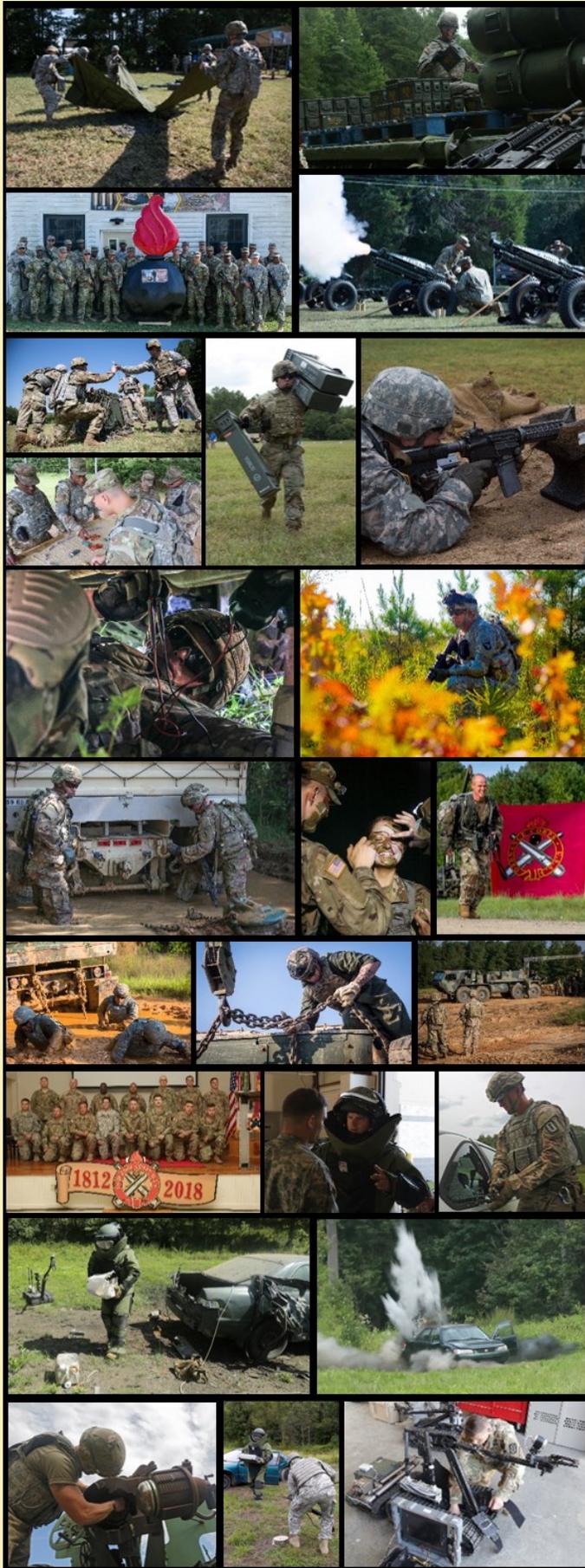


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Regimental Command Sergeant Major Highlights



Greetings from the Ordnance School where we continue to develop Soldiers, Leaders, and programs to enhance Army Readiness every day! We recently announced the winners of this year's competition for the Army Award for Maintenance Excellence (AAME). This competition, established in

1982, continues to promote excellence in unit maintenance procedures and unit readiness posture. You can see the complete list of winners and runners-up by reviewing ALARACT Message 066/2017. Six of our winners went on to represent the Army at the DoD "Phoenix Award" Maintenance Competition. We especially want to congratulate the Chief of Ordnance "Best of the Best" Maintenance Award winner: [Area Maintenance Support Activity-112 \(ground\)](#), 99th Regional Support Command, Lock Haven, Pennsylvania (USARC)!

We look forward to your unit's participation in this year's competition. Unit packets are due annually in November for consideration by the Phase I Board. For more information on AAME, go to: <http://www.goordnance.army.mil/AAME/aame.html>.

The Ordnance Personnel Development Office (PDO) team is continuously leading efforts to improve the career development of our Ordnance personnel. The PDO serves as the executive agent and advisor to the Chief of Ordnance for all personnel development matters for the Ordnance Branch. The PDO monitors and maintains the health of the Corps and recommends changes to support Army priorities. The PDO is responsible for the eight personnel development system life-cycle management functions for all Active, Reserve and National Guard Ordnance officers, warrant officers, enlisted Soldiers, and related civilian occupational series, including structure, acquisition, distribution, development, deployment, compensation, sustainment, and transition. Their involvement communicating with Ordnance Corps Soldiers positively affects the sustainment cycle and each life cycle function as they seek to improve the development and career management of our Corps.

Currently, the PDO team is reviewing and providing updates for chapters 1-3 of DA PAM 600-25, U.S. Army Noncommissioned Officer Professional Development Guide. This publication is

the regulatory guidance for Soldiers and NCOs providing them direction in mapping out their career. Promotion boards use DA PAM 600-25 for guidance when selecting and promoting Soldiers who have attained the career goals identified as high select for promotion.

We understand the importance of documenting experience and technical knowledge; a certification yields the most benefit to our maintainers. The PDO team is also expanding the list of Ordnance MOS credential opportunities by at least one certification per MOS, this year. Soldiers may view available programs at the credentialing opportunities online link (COOL) through the U.S. Army COOL website at <https://www.cool.army.mil/>.

At the senior NCO level, the PDO Sergeant Major attended the Leader Core Competencies (LCC) forum in Camp Williams, Utah. The working group discussed LCC implementation, LCC update, TRADOC/CAC TAC-BA rules, training strategies, trade space and course design. The PDO team is working with the CASCOM Training Directorate to finalize recommendations for improving LCC program of instructions affecting NCOES.

The Army Career Tracker (ACT) is becoming a paramount resource for leader and subordinate professional development counseling. Today's tech savvy Soldier has access to many features of Army Career Tracker (ACT); however, only 3.25 percent across all populations of enlisted, warrant officers, and officers have created an individual development plan (IDP). Professional development models (PDMs) are maps available on ACT and consists of duty/position opportunities available to each Soldier at each grade in their career. We will continue to highlight this interactive career path builder. I encourage you to be a key player in your own career; build your goals and start your individual development plan today. **Go Ordnance!**

"It's more than a motto; it's an attitude!"

CSM Terry Burton
13th Regimental Command Sergeant Major

Highlights from the Field

Ammunition and Explosives: The 221st Ordnance Company out of Fort Wayne, Ind. completed a pilot program ammunition crucible training exercise at Crane Army Ammunition Activity from July 13-16 for the Reserve Component. The invaluable tasks conducted by

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RCSM Highlights Continued from page 4

the 89B ammunition specialists were highlighted in a [news article](#) by Raeanna Morgan. "As an 89B, the main objective of the training is to make sure the ammunition is safe for the Warfighter, and safe prior to issuing the ammunition to incoming units," MSG Joseph Padilla of the Reserve Component Office of the Ordnance School at Fort Lee, Virginia, said. "It is broken down into three phases to help focus on mission essential tasks that the unit needs to be trained and evaluated on." The phases included, establishing the Ammunition Supply Point for the receipt of munitions; processing, inventorying and issuing the ammunition to the incoming units; and the final phase sling-load operations, emergency destruction of the ammunition supply point and load/unload operations.

The 49th OD CO (EOD) focused on EOD Team Leader Certifications and Team Member Integration Tasks at Demo Range 39. Soldiers refined their basic demolition and energetic tool skill sets and practiced stuck round procedures. Additionally, Soldiers performed post blast analysis and EOD procedures for an IED in specific training scenarios. The 49th is conducting this challenging, realistic training in order to provide highly trained Soldiers for expedient support of all stateside response, Very Important Persons Protection Support Activity (VIPPSA) missions, increase readiness and build the overall company METL proficiency.

The 789th OD CO (EOD) sent 11 Soldiers to Pre-Mission Training from June 5-24 at Fort Bliss, Texas in order to expand Soldiers' tactical



Soldiers of the 789th Ordnance Company (EOD) prepare to move vehicles through a VP with help from K9 and security at Fort Bliss, Texas.

skill sets and readiness for their upcoming deployment. The 789th OD CO (EOD) also conducted handheld detector and kit configuration techniques training from June 13-14 at Fort Benning, Ga. in order to maintain individual EOD Warrior Skills.

Mechanical Maintenance: In the photo below, SPC Abdulkeem Abdulhamed, a 91C assigned to the 10th Brigade Support Battalion, 1st Brigade Combat Team, 10th Mountain Division conducts a service on a MEP-805A Generator. SGT Gonzales (91D) instructs him on the proper procedures to conduct



Left to Right: SGT Wilfredo Gonzalez and SPC Abdulkeem Abdulhamed.

the service in accordance with the proper technical manual. SPC Abdulhamed works outside of his MOS in order to keep scheduled services up to date. His attention to detail greatly enhanced the 10th Brigade Support Battalion and 1st Brigade Combat Team, 10th Mountain Division to accomplish the mission.

Electronic Maintenance:

Soldiers from 317th Support Maintenance Company (SMC) Test, Measure, Diagnostic and Equipment (TMDE) section completed scheduled maintenance



Soldiers of the 317th SMC TMDE standing outside Camp Ederle at Vicenza, Italy.

calibrations on over 150 items from April 3-13 in Vicenza and Livorno, Italy footprint supporting 53 Army units and 8 civilian counterparts. The Area TMDE Support Team (ATST) in the photo above accumulated over 250 direct man-hours for this specific mission requirement to build continuity. The team also conducted calibrations on the 173rd Airborne Brigade's vehicle scales as well as the civilian post office customer shipping eight scales located at three different locations. Calibrations were also completed for the supply support activity (SSA) and the ammunition supply point (ASP) facility in Vicenza, Italy.



Regimental Chief Warrant Officer Highlights



Greetings Ordnance Team and Future Warrant Officers!

So what is an Ordnance Warrant Officer?

An Army warrant officer is a self-aware and adaptive technical expert, combat leader, trainer, and advisor. Through progressive levels of expertise in assignments,

training, and education, the warrant officer administers, manages, maintains, operates, and integrates Army systems and equipment across the full spectrum of Army operations. Warrant officers are competent and confident warriors, innovative integrators of emerging technologies, dynamic teachers, and developers of specialized teams of Soldiers. They support a wide range of Army missions throughout their career. Warrant officers in the Army are accessed with specific levels of technical ability. They refine their technical expertise and develop their leadership and management skills through tiered progressive assignments and education.

Where do Ordnance Warrant Officers come from? Great question! U.S. Army Ordnance Warrant Officers come from our Non-Commissioned Officer (NCO) ranks and we need the help of all leaders to ensure the Army has the best qualified candidates identified for our future boards. Commanders, NCOs,

and warrant officers must be actively involved in the recruitment and selection process for our warrant officer specialties and must look into their formations for those untapped and qualified resources we need.

Recruiting the most qualified and experienced NCOs from our formations is critical to maintain a healthy warrant officer accessions program. Leaders observe the performance of NCOs on a daily basis and know who to go to for technical advice, solutions and to get the mission done. Commanders at each level need to check their formations to see if their NCOs are being identified and mentored to become the next generation of warrant officers and ultimately our subject matter experts for the Army. Ask yourself, when was the last warrant officer packet reviewed in your company, battalion or brigade commands?

As trainers, warrant officers need to be developing and mentoring our Soldiers and NCOs to be the best in their respective Military Occupational Specialty (MOS). Remember, warrant officers are always looking for their replacements. Make sure your NCO's packet meets both the general and MOS specific prerequisites in order to be fully qualified to become a warrant officer and gets to the board error free.

All Ordnance warrant officer MOSs have specific minimum prerequisites that must be met to qualify an NCO for the warrant officer selection board. These prerequisites can be found by visiting the U.S. Army Warrant Officer Recruiting website at <http://www.usarec.army.mil/hq/warrant>.

NCOs must have a **minimum of 48 months** of experience in their primary Ordnance MOS documented on their NCO Evaluation Reports (NCOERs). NCOERs are used to evaluate performance, competence, and technical ability in specific key positions and in your career field generally. Leaders should make sure this is reflected in the evaluations and that MOS proficiency, performance, and potential for the NCO is documented. Each of our seven Ordnance warrant officer specialties comes from our enlisted Ordnance feeder MOSs and there are key areas we are looking for in performance and potential. Soldiers can be a leader and a technical expert in the motor pool; in



U.S. Army SSG James Howard, assigned to the 129th Combat Sustainment Support Battalion, 101st Airborne Division performs a vehicle diagnostics test.

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RCWO Highlights [Continued from page 6](#)

communication and electronic, missile, armament, service and recovery, and power generation shops; or in distribution platoons. Don't forget to capture technical proficiency along with leadership traits on every NCOER.

For the Army Reserve and National Guard formations, NCOERs and civilian appraisals also need to reflect MOS work being performed and key positions held so the accessions process can identify the required experience, performance, and potential of the candidate. NCOs in this category should also ensure that civilian experience, equivalent to our military experience, is documented and reflected in the accession packet. One other key note is to remember that all warrant officer applicants **must be graduates of Advance Leaders Course (ALC)** without exception. If you want a subject matter expert in your formation, you must invest in their career.

If Active Federal Service (AFS) time is over 12 years the NCOs will have to request an exception to policy. Don't let this prevent a fully qualified NCO from applying; keep in mind that we have an **extremely high approval rate for AFS exceptions for NCOs** with 12 to 16 years time in service who possess a superior record of performance and qualifications. If you fall into this category understand we are looking for the outstanding performance, high potential and physically fit. However, I can also guarantee a 100% non-selection on a packet that was never submitted.

The Enlisted Records Brief (ERB) is a key document and shows the overall picture of a Soldier under consideration. Ensure it reflects accurately your administrative data, training, experience, assignment history, and awards. Your personal appearance reflected in your DA Photo is key. NCOs must keep their ERBs up-to-date and leaders should be constantly reviewing them.

The resume allows you to tell the board about your career experiences and all the training that qualifies you as the right selection to become a warrant officer. Your resume needs to match the ERB and NCOERs on record and without errors. This is a great opportunity to provide more details on your qualifications that show the board why you are the right choice to become a future warrant officer.

General Administrative Requirements to become a Warrant Officer

1. U.S. Citizenship (**No Exceptions to policy**)
2. General Technical (GT) score of 110 or higher (**No Exceptions to policy**)
3. High school graduate or have a GED (**No Exceptions to policy**)
4. Final Secret Security Clearance - (**Interim clearances will not satisfy the requirement**)
5. Pass the standard 3-event Army Physical Fitness Test (APFT) and meet height/weight requirements.
6. Pass the commissioning physical for technical specialties.
7. All applicants must have 12 months remaining on their enlistment contract.
8. Active Federal Service (AFS): All applicants must have 12 years of AFS or less prior to their packet being boarded. Applicants must submit an **AFS Exceptions to policy request with the application** if they have 12 or more years of AFS.
9. Age Requirements: 46th birthday or less prior to their packet being boarded. Applicants must submit an **Age Exceptions to policy request with the application** if they exceed the age requirements specified.

Letters of recommendation are important and I will read every Ordnance packet. Leaders that are giving recommendations need to capture what qualifies the NCO to become a future warrant officer and talk about performance in the MOS. If the NCO requires an exception to policy, expand on why they should be considered over others that do not. Leaders need to ask those tough questions prior to giving a recommendation. When we have questions, we will contact the leaders that have given the recommendation to clear up any matters and provide feedback.

The U.S. Army Ordnance Corps is counting on leaders to identify and develop our NCOs to become future warrant officers. I truly appreciate the teams that have active recruitment processes in your formations and ask for you to provide feedback on your programs directly to me in order to share some best practices with the rest. **Go Ordnance!**

CW5 Norman May
10th Regimental Chief Warrant Officer



U.S. ARMY



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#ICYMI

The U.S. Army Ordnance Corps conducted the inaugural DA-level competition to determine the 'Best of the Best' in the fields of Ammunition, Maintenance and EOD. Ordnance professionals came from far and wide to compete for the title of Team of the Year (ToY) in three unique categories:

Ammunition Transfer Holding Point (ATHP), Combat Repair Team (CRT), and Explosive Ordnance Disposal (EOD). Each competition spanned 5 days of physically and mentally demanding challenges.

Congratulations to all the winners, and high praise to all the teams who competed. We hope to see you again next year! Check out our Facebook page for more action photos and videos!



More action photos /videos available @USAODS



The ATHP competition was held 7-11 August at Fort Pickett, Va. Five teams participated in the competition. The 426th Brigade Support Battalion, 101st Airborne Division out of Fort Campbell, Ky. was named the ATHP ToY.



The CRT competition was held 21-24 August at Fort Pickett, Va. Fifteen teams from as far away as Hawaii and Germany participated with the 3rd Special Forces Group out of Fort Bragg, N.C. winning the title of CRT ToY.



The EOD competition ran from 11-15 September at Fort A.P. Hill, Va. Five teams gathered from CONUS and OCONUS to participate. The 744th Ordnance Company (EOD), 52nd EOD Group out of Fort Campbell, Ky. won the ToY title.



Ordnance Officer Talent Based Branching Process



The U.S. Army Ordnance Corps Branch display at the U.S. Military Academy, West Point, N.Y. From left to right: EOD Talon and PackBot robots, bomb suit, Ordnance Corps information booth, M984A4 HEMTT Wrecker, Ordnance Branch Education display, and Ordnance trailer.

The Ordnance Personnel Development Office (OD PDO) completed the annual file review of over 6000 ROTC Cadets, and 1015 USMA Cadets to determine the best fit with Ordnance Talent Demands to be used during this years' branching process. This talent demand branching process, initiated in 2013 at USMA, and expanded to ROTC in 2016, results in better alignment of officers with the requisite talents, skills, and experience to a particular branch achieving better branch preference and satisfaction. OD PDO identifies our branch talent demands by Area of Concentration, or AOC. The Talent Priorities of an EOD Officer are different than those of a Maintenance and Munitions Management Officer. These talent priorities are certified annually by the Chief of Ordnance and approved by the CAC Commander to be used in our official branch education and talent demand branching process. This supports the Chief of Ordnance, CASCOM, and the TRADOC mission of proponency to Lead, Manage, and Shape Leader Development for the Army.

Mrs. Peggy Joyner
Personnel Development Specialist

OD CONNECT

Audio files archives available at:
<https://www.us.army.mil/suite/>

**Live Quarterly
Meeting**
Last Held on August 30th



Metalworking and Machine Shop Set (MWMSS)

The Ordnance Corps has been challenged with ways to stay abreast with the industry and civilian sector when it comes to performing Computer Numerical Control (CNC) machining, a critical capability for the Allied Trades MOS (91E). After years of collaborating with key leaders throughout the field, a solution to 91E equipment shortcomings is finally here. In Fiscal Year 2018, the Army will begin fielding the Metalworking and Machine Shop Set (MWMSS) throughout the force in an effort to bridge current equipment and metalworking capability gaps.

The MWMSS is a shelter-mounted shop set designed to modernize the Army's machining and welding systems to mitigate capability gaps in the current systems. The MWMSS has two standard systems: the Type I, and the Type II.

Type I will contain a Grinder, Lathe, Drill Press, Multi-Process Welding, Thermal Cutting equipment, Air-Arc Gouging, an air compressor, a mobile electric power (MEP) generator for shop power, an assortment of hand as well as air tools, and an Environmental Control Unit (ECU).



SSG (P) Kevin Flessert is giving a block instructions on how to perform manual and intuitive turning operations on the CNC Toolroom Lathe (TL-1) machine.

Type II augments Type I and will contain a Milling Machine, Band saw, Plasma table, an assortment of hand as well as air tools, and also an Environmental Control Unit (ECU).

These systems are both highly capable and highly mobile and present a combatant commander with a force multiplier in their ability to quickly and capably conduct battle damage repair in forward areas.

The MWMSS will become a vital asset to assist the Army in saving time and money on multiple repair parts that can potentially encumber

immediate availability and help increase combat readiness. The Ordnance School expects first delivery as early as 2QFY18 with the Field Maintenance Companies within the Brigade Support Battalions being the Army's top priority for issue to operating forces. There are also plans to issue the MWMSS to Engineer maintenance support units.

CW3 Clarence Anderson
Allied Trades Warrant Officer



The Type I system houses everything needed to perform the full duties of the Allied Trades Specialist (91E) MOS. The Type I and Type II systems are housed in 20-foot ISO containers making them highly mobile.



Georgia Army National Guard RTS-M's Culture of Safety

Accident prevention and safety are major concerns for military leaders. To mitigate the hazards of working with machinery, chemicals, and tools, Soldiers are required to:

- wear personal protective equipment,
- train on the equipment they will use prior to operation, and
- utilize risk management, and adhere to procedures conducive to safe operations.

At any unit, the commander is the senior safety officer, but the appointed safety program manager is the key person in a successful safety program. At the Regional Training Site – Maintenance (RTS-M) on Fort Stewart, Georgia, the safety program manager, SFC Roger Lott has, since 2014, transformed the RTS-M safety program into one of the best programs in the Georgia Guard, leading to recognition for best practices during the 2016 U.S. Army Training and Doctrine command accreditation.

The success of the RTS-M's safety program is all the more remarkable given its mission. The RTS-M provides Total Force Integration training and instruction to all components in the Army in technical fields such as allied trades, wheeled vehicle recovery and power generation equipment repair. Ensuring safety in the training environment requires assessment and communication of hazards not only to instructors but to a transient population of up to 350 students per year. How has this been achieved?

According to Lott, the essential element to the RTS-M safety program is creating a culture of safety within the unit. Simply put, a culture of safety is the attitude, beliefs, perceptions, and values that Soldiers share in relation to promoting a safe environment in the workplace. A successful culture of safety is part of the

organization, and at RTS-M Fort Stewart, is described as “the way we do things around here.” The RTS-M safety program is characterized by a mutual trust and a genuine concern for the care and safety of coworkers and students alike.

Within the RTS-M, safety communication occurs continually up and down the chain of command in order to analyze and optimize the program and share knowledge. Lott is at the core of the RTS-M safety program, continually studying processes and documenting safety deficiencies to prevent accidents through immediate corrective action. His actions and effective leadership as Safety Program Manager have paid off, as the RTS-M received the Georgia Army National Guard Bronze Safety Award in 2015, the Georgia Army National Guard Silver Safety Award in 2016 and the Georgia Army National Guard Safety Streamer in 2017. The RTS-M is awaiting inspection for the Georgia Army National Guard Commanding General's Safety Award.

BG Tom Carden, the commanding general of the Georgia Army National Guard, noted the importance of a safety culture during a recent visit to RTS-M.

“Safety culture protects and conserves the force and is perceived as integral to accomplishing daily missions, training, and contingency operations,” said Carden.

In summary, a culture of safety is a commitment to discipline. The commitment must be sustained and equally important to every member of the team. Every team member must recognize the establishment of safety as a priority within the organization. Empowerment and communication at every level must be encouraged to foster a culture of safety.

MAJ Robert Walker
Georgia Army National Guard



Countering Weapons of Mass Destruction

Army EOD Technicians serve as the Initial Response Force (IRF) for incidents involving Weapons of Mass Destruction (WMD) both at home and abroad. TRADOC Capability Manager Explosive Ordnance Disposal (TCM-EOD) ensures our force has the required, relevant, and up-to-date doctrine, training, and equipment necessary to perform these complex actions in support of our Nation's defense. Recently, an EOD platoon participated in DISTINCT FUSION 2017, a Defense Threat Reduction Agency sponsored Joint, Interagency Training Exercise. The exercise took place at the Defense Nuclear Weapons School, Kirtland AFB, New Mexico. During the exercise, we gained valuable insight into the training and equipment necessary to perform actions as an IRF. The teams were tested during a culminating training event - a scenario that required an extensive search of a large contaminated area in response to a simulated crash of an aircraft carrying four nuclear weapons.



An EOD Team searches scattered pieces of a Nuclear Weapon in a training event simulation.

The most valuable lesson learned throughout the training event was the need to conduct home station preparations for the complicated Countering-WMD mission. Emphasis on proper planning, realistic training, and equipment maintenance ensures every EOD team is capable of successfully responding to any incident, whether it's an Improvised Explosive Device (IED), Unexploded Ordnance (UXO), or a Nuclear Weapon. We will continue to test our Soldiers, gather valuable information, and recommend updates during DISTINCT FUSION 2018.

CPT Bill Smathers
TRADOC Capability Manager-EOD,



QASAS Support in Iraq

My deployment to Iraq as a Quality Assurance Specialist - Ammunition Surveillance (QASAS) has been packed with rewarding experiences. During this time, I've had the opportunity to work with several different units where cooperation has been instrumental in successfully addressing several challenges.

Upon initial surveillance, I found many Basic Load Ammunition Holding Areas (BLAHAs) placed on standing water. Improper drainage caused ruts and damage to the pads. The engineers improved the drainage in and around the storage cells. They also constructed an additional 20-cell BLAHA during my deployment.



Poor drainage and ruts impeded access to many storage locations.

Next, ammunition residue accumulation had reached carrying capacity. Working together with the units, we inspected and shipped the residue back to Kuwait.

Finally, surveillance revealed partially expended Guided Multi-Launch Rocket System (GMLRS) pods. These rockets are essential in theater, and expensive, so our care in their recovery and inspection is important. With our combined efforts, we were able to return many of them to service.

This job has been an amazing opportunity to collaborate with committed individuals and tackle real problems. These experiences have made my time in Iraq worthwhile.

Phillip R. Self
QASAS, Explosives Safety



A partially expended GMLRS rocket pod.



Chief of Ordnance's "Best of the Best" Maintenance Award



AMSA—112 (G) is located in Lock Haven, PA, under the 99th Regional Support Command, USAR Command.

During the FY16 Chief of Staff, Army Award for Maintenance Excellence (AAME) competition, Area Maintenance Support Activity (AMSA) - 112 (Ground) stood out above the rest. Not only did they win the U.S. Army Reserve TDA Category for the AAME competition but were also awarded the prestigious Chief of Ordnance's "Best of the Best" Maintenance Award.

AMSA - 112 (G) mission is to maintain readiness by providing Field Level Maintenance support to six assigned United States Army Reserve (USAR) units within their region, provide training to unit personnel, and prepare equipment for mobilization. During FY16 the 11 employees of AMSA - 112 (G) supported 109 pieces of equipment with 279 service and repair work orders. They assisted two Pennsylvania Equipment Consolidation Sites with their backlog by transferring equipment and completing 66 service work orders. Some employees went TDY to assist other AMSA shops with needed manpower. They remarkably obtained 1,484 days of "no lost time accidents" currently, over 1,722 days and counting.

During the FY16 AAME Phase II on-site evaluation, attention to detail, meticulous maintenance management, and outstanding talent management made them a clear winner. The facility was neat, clean, and highly organized. The employees were open, honest, extremely knowledgeable, and professional. They

were eager to improve and had a winning spirit. AMSA - 112 (G) fashioned an excellent hub for administrative procedures to monitor readiness and increase the maintenance posture of their supporting units. This was instrumental for the U.S. Army Reserve units within their region

Congratulations to the AMSA - 112 (G) for setting the standard in Maintenance Excellence!

David W Hausler Sr
AAME Program Manager



Left to right: Heavy Mobile Equipment Repairer (HMER) Cory Fisher, HMER Skyler Cohick, Work Leader Seth Conoway, Office Manager Tammy Romine, HMER Matt Hiller, HMER Ray Oberdorf, and Supervisor Brian Shook.

ACT NOW

The annual competition for the Chief of Staff, Army Award for Maintenance Excellence (AAME) is here again. The AAME recognizes exceptional accomplishments in maintenance excellence and nests with the Chief of Staff's #1 priority, READINESS. If you are following the Command Maintenance Discipline Program (CMDP), why not compete for the FY17 AAME competition. Simply open up the **AAME Program Guidelines**, create a narrative packet, and submit it through your chain of command.

Another benefit is during all phases of the competition, maintenance experts will provide feedback and best practices on ways to streamline and improve your policies and procedures. Remember that your entire staff will reap the benefits of doing well in the AAME. Why not get your Soldiers recognized by the Army's top leaders for the hard work they are doing?

The FY17 AAME Program Guidelines:
<http://tiny.cc/AMEE-Guidelines>



More info on the AAME competition and its history can be found at:
http://tiny.cc/OD_AMEE



American Body Armor in the Great War 1914-18

Metal used for protection against projectiles date to ancient times. The Medieval and Renaissance periods saw the apex of armor design and total body coverage. The use of armor by combatants faded during the 17th century, but at Jamestown, Virginia in 1607, a handful of the wealthiest English settlers wore armor.

The idea of armor was reborn during the Civil War when breast armor was available for purchase, though only a small number of Soldiers bought them. It was during WWI that every nation involved in the war started experimenting with head and body armor. In 1915, the French were the first to use a steel helmet known as the casque – a half-sphere which served as a cap lining. The British Brody Helmet soon followed and was adopted by the U.S. Army.

Body armor was used on all fronts from 1915 onward, but its use was experimental. Either the metal was too light, affording little to no protection, or too heavy and its wearer threw it away to gain

mobility. Body armor was only useful for sentinels or those engaged in short raids.

A small experimental lot of scaled waistcoats was produced by the Engineering Division of the Ordnance Department. This body armor, designed by Daniel Tachaux, was comprised of olive drab canvas covered with brown manganese steel scales. It measured 20”x15”x9” and weighed 4 lbs. The individual plates were 3”x2.3”. In tests conducted by American HQ in France, it withstood a .45 caliber pistol bullet at 850 fps velocity. Reports stated that the waistcoat offered “excellent qualities” and was “recommended as a body armor, thoroughly practicable, no inconvenience to wearer, comfortable, [and] silent.” It was not adopted because the war ended.

Bashford Dean, Curator of Armor at the Metropolitan Museum of Art, was commissioned a major and he designed experimental protective armor for possible adoption by the Ordnance Department. Three types of splinter goggles, designed to protect the eyes from splinters and fragments, were part of Dean’s work. All were made of pressed olive drab steel in the shape of an eye mask and each weighed 2 oz.

The large majority of the various armies wore no armor. The weight made it impractical considering it did not protect the wearer from most rifle, machine gun, and artillery ammunition. Still, designers continued trying to advance technology for the benefit of the Soldier in a modern war.

James Blankenship
Director, Ordnance Training and
Heritage Center



U.S. Experimental Splinter Goggles

1. The edges of the mask are perforated all around for sewing soft material to the inside of the mask for comfort of the wearer. The slits for vision are in a shooting star pattern. The mask is hinged in the center and can be folded up.
2. Bulging eyes and nose protection and two oblong slits for viewing with small slits below the larger ones, and a spring for attaching to the helmet.
3. Bulging eyes and a tube covering the nose (notice the thread for attaching soft material to inside of the mask for wearer comfort). Possibly meant for use with a gas mask.

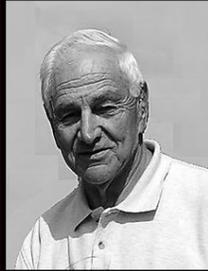


U.S. Experimental Body Armor

2018 Ordnance Corps Hall of Fame Inductees



Historical Category



Mr. Leo F. Hillard



Mr. Alan Richwald

Contemporary Category



MG Yves Fontaine



COL O.B. McCane



CW5 Willie M. Dickens



CW5 Kenneth E. Foster



CW5 Terry W. Hetrick



CW4 William R. Haynes



CSM Victor M. Blade



CSM Cynthia Hughes



SGM Mike Vining



Mr. William Melton



Mr. A. David Mills