



CALL TO DUTY

Newsletter of the Capital Campaign for the National Museum of the United States Army

The Army Historical Foundation • 2425 Wilson Boulevard • Arlington, Virginia 22201 • www.armyhistory.org

FORT BELVOIR DESIGNATED OFFICIAL FUTURE SITE OF NATIONAL ARMY MUSEUM

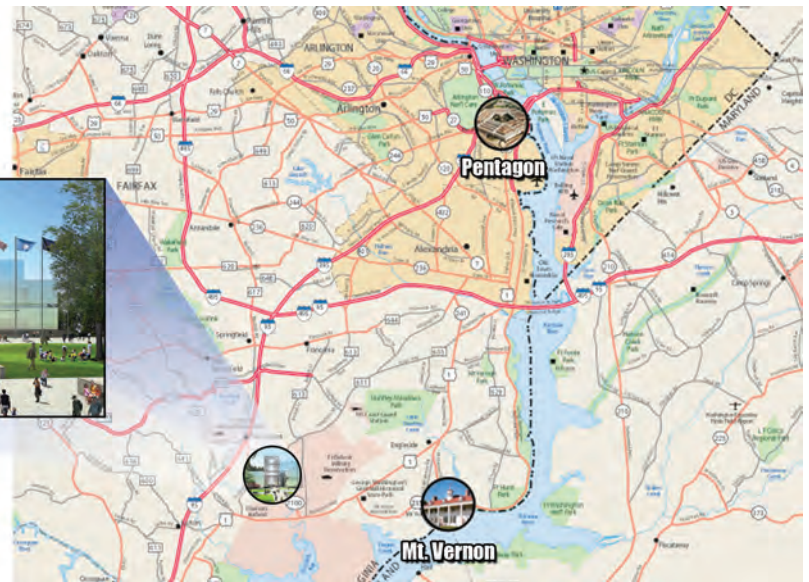
Secretary of the Army John M. McHugh has approved the Gunston location of Fort Belvoir's North Post as the official site of the National Museum of the United States Army after the completion of a comprehensive and thorough site selection process that concluded with a favorable environmental assessment of the area.

"In presenting the Army's storied 236-year history, this long overdue facility will offer the American people a unique opportunity to connect with our Soldiers and better understand and appreciate their many and glorious stories," McHugh noted.

To date nearly \$60 million in donations and pledges have been contributed toward the Museum's construction by various corporations, foundations, veterans service organizations, and over 85,000 individuals.

"Secretary McHugh's designation marks a significant milestone in our efforts to move forward with construction of the National Museum of the United States Army," said BG Creighton W. Abrams, Jr. (USA-Ret.), Executive Director of the Army Historical Foundation that is spearheading the Museum's capital campaign.

According to Abrams, the "preferred site" status of the Gunston location has now changed to the "official future site" of the Museum after the successful completion of the environmental assessment.



"We now have the green light. Our plan is to break ground next year to allow the Army's Corps of Engineers to begin construction," Abrams said.

Initial construction will include a multi-story main building with major galleries and exhibit halls, a theater, a Veterans' Hall, an Education Pavilion with an experiential learning center, and lobby with areas for visitor reception, food service, and retail sales.

Subsequent stages of the project will expand galleries and exhibits and develop outdoor adjacencies, to include an amphitheater, parade ground and re-viewing stands, and memorial garden.

"The Museum will be just 16 miles south of our nation's capital on 41 publicly accessible acres of Fort Belvoir along the Fairfax County Parkway via

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BG Creighton W. Abrams, Jr. (USA-Ret.)

either US Route 1 or I-95 — an absolutely ideal location. It will also stand six miles from Mount Vernon, home of George Washington, the Army's first Commander-in-Chief," Abrams added.

A SPECIAL MESSAGE TO OUR FOUNDING SPONSORS

Thanks to scores of Founding Sponsors and Museum supporters like Robert Workman of Seboeis Plantation, Maine (*Bangor Daily News*) and Alfred D. Dunn of Columbus, Georgia (*Ledger-Enquirer*) who responded to our call to action to help spread the word among their hometown newspaper editors about the National Army Museum, requests for press kits, and other information are keeping the *Call To Duty* staff extra busy.

At press time, reporters and editors from more than 20 states had contacted us in response to the post cards you mailed. Meanwhile, our daily clip file service indicates that many newspapers have included your postcard message as a "Letter to the Editor," complete with your name and hometown. We also appreciate that some of you were inspired to call us and request additional cards to mail to additional newspapers in your area.

According to Richard Couture, the Foundation's Deputy Director for Do-

nor Marketing, more than 82,000 individuals—a majority of whom receive this version of our *Call To Duty* newsletter routinely—have contributed directly to the Museum campaign. "We appreciate their passion for the project. Their personal support and commitment form the backbone of this campaign," said Couture, "and the fact that many of them are also responding to our request to help spread the word locally that America's Soldiers soon will be honored with a National Museum is especially gratifying."

It's never too late to spread the good news about the National Army Museum. So if you have not already, please reach out to your local newspaper or television station today and refer them to The Army Historical Foundation at www.army-history.org or ask them to call 703-562-4173.

Honoring soldiers

For over 236 years, we Americans have owed our freedoms to the men and women of the United States Army. Now, at long last, the American soldier will be honored with the National Museum

of the U.S. Army near our nation's capital.

Many members of our community have proudly worn the uniform of the U.S. Army. As a founding sponsor of the museum, I ask that you help make everyone in our community aware of this long overdue national project by running a story on plans to build and open this important new museum on June 14, 2015, the Army's 240th birthday.

For more information, please contact the Army Historical Foundation by calling 703-562-4173 for a press kit or visit www.armyhistorical.org.

Alfred D. Dunn
Columbus

Army museum

For over 236 years, we Americans have owed our freedoms to the men and women of the United States Army. Now, at long last, the American soldier will be honored with the National Museum of the U.S. Army near Washington D.C.

Many in Maine have proudly worn the U.S. Army uniform. As a founding sponsor of the museum,

I would like people to be aware of this long overdue national project. The plans call for it to be built and opened by June 14, 2015, the Army's 240th anniversary.

Robert Workman
Seboeis Plantation



*Army coins
make great gifts!*

This Veterans Day or during the holiday season, give those special Soldiers and Army veterans in your life the perfect gift—one of the first-ever, limited edition Army Commemorative Coins! Watch their eyes light up as they unwrap one of these impressive symbols of their military service to their country.

Or give one of the coins to the Army enthusiast or coin collector in your family who admires the courage of our Sol-

diers in their fight to protect our freedoms around the world.

These official U.S. Army Commemorative Coins are great mementoes and a great investment. You can choose between the \$5 gold coin, silver dollar, copper-clad half-dollar, or you can purchase the entire set. Best of all, a portion of the proceeds from the U.S. Mint's coin sales will help build the National Army Museum. But don't wait to place your

order! Supplies are limited and time is running out. By law, the U.S. Mint can produce and sell the coins during 2011 only. **Order yours today to make sure you don't miss out on this great opportunity to give your loved ones an important piece of Army history.**

To order your coins, call the U.S. Mint at 1-800-USA-MINT. Or you can order online by visiting www.usmint.gov/catalog.

VETERANS SERVICE ORGANIZATION INCREASES SUPPORT

The Military Order of the Purple Heart Service Foundation, Inc. (MOPHSF) further reinforced its support of the National Museum of the United States Army with an additional donation of \$275,000. This recent gift brings MOPHSF's total contribution to \$500,000 toward the organization's shared recognition in support of the Museum's Veterans' Hall.

According to MG John P. Herrling (USA-Ret.), Executive Director of the Capital Campaign for the National Museum of the United States Army, all Veterans Service Organizations, Military Associations, and veterans groups are being offered an opportunity to share recognition in sponsorship of the Museum's Veterans' Hall (see sidebar).

"To date, the MOPHSF and the Veterans of Foreign Wars are the first two of the country's major Veterans Service organizations to make this important commitment in honor of their members," Herrling reported in accepting the MOPHSF's contribution. "We hope other Veterans Service Organizations and Military Associations follow their lead to ensure our veterans and their families have this fitting, special place in the Museum to reflect, remember, and enjoy the enduring spirit of camaraderie."

The MOPHSF's partnership with the National Army Museum reaffirms the common goals of the museum campaign and MOPHSF: to honor those who have served in combat and instill an appreciation for U.S. Army history in the public.

"The MOPHSF is a great organization and it works hard to support Soldiers," emphasized BG Creighton W. Abrams, Jr. (USA-Ret.), Executive Director of The Army Historical Foundation. "We appreciate its continued support and look forward to sharing its notable story with visitors to the museum."

Officials from both the MOPHSF and the Capital Campaign for the National Museum of the United States Army agree the history of the Purple Heart award should be highlighted at the National Army Museum. The story of the award's development will be told in the Museum, accompanying a detailed facsimile of the original 1783 decoration, only three of which were initially awarded to noncommissioned officers of General Washington's Continental Army. Museum visitors will also be able to view a list of those who have received the award.

In commenting on the significance of the Purple Heart, Abrams noted, "The Purple Heart is the oldest military decoration still awarded and has the unique distinction of being created by the Army's first commander-in-chief." He continued, "The award is widely recognized and respected by Americans, and telling the story of its development is an appropriate addition to the future Museum."

Created by George Washington in 1782, the Purple Heart award, originally the "Badge of Military Merit," was established to recognize Soldiers who showed notable dedication and bravery; the honor, democratic in nature, in many ways embodied the spirit of the American Revolution itself. Washington's intent was to honor enlisted men and noncommissioned officers, departing from the old world tradition of recognizing only high-ranking officers. The original badge was a heart made of purple fabric



US Army photo by Sgt. Audrey Glynn.

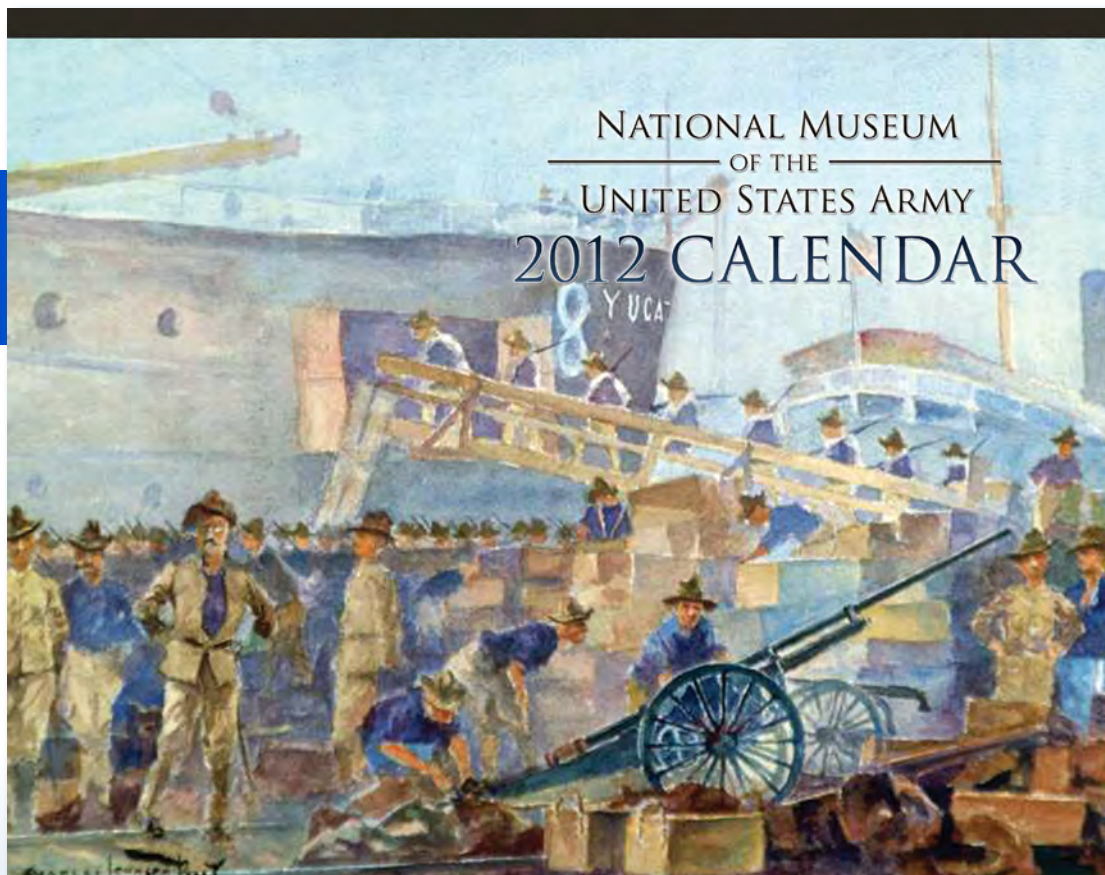
edged with lace and embroidered with the term "Merit."

The award lapsed for over 150 years, until General Douglas MacArthur spearheaded its revival in 1932 to commemorate the bicentennial of George Washington's birth. The merit badge inspired a new design, a heart-shaped medal picturing Washington's profile, hanging from a satin purple ribbon with white trim. At this time, it became known as the "Purple Heart." The directive allowed for retroactive recognition to 1917 for meritorious service and to Soldiers wounded or killed in battle. Following its reissue, MacArthur was awarded the first Purple Heart for his injuries received during his service in World War I.

In 1942, the Purple Heart medal was designated specifically for those wounded or killed in combat. With time, the qualifications expanded to include individuals wounded in terrorist attacks, friendly fire, and during peacekeeping missions.

The MOPHSF gift places them in the *Four-Star Circle of Distinction* reserved for donors of \$500,000-\$999,999. For more information about the Military Order of the Purple Heart Service Foundation, please visit www.mophsf.org.

ANNUAL CALENDAR FEATURES SO



This year's calendar cover features Charles Johnson Post's watercolor, "Embarking for Cuba." In his sketchbook, Post explained: "Colonel Roosevelt and Rough Riders hijack a transport at Tampa. Roosevelt directs loading of a dynamite gun which hurled an explosive torpedo."

The Army Art Collection and the *Registry of the American Soldier* are once again serving as the basis for the layout and design of The Army Historical Foundation's (AHF's) annual calendar that will soon be mailed to over 40,000 supporters of the National Museum of the United States Army.

Featuring paintings and sketches by past and present Army combat artists seems to resonate well with calendar recipients, according to Colonel Dave Fabian (USA-Ret.), AHF's Director of Communications.

"Linking Soldier artwork to a corresponding date on the monthly grid page and the faces of Soldiers who in some way have experienced what's depicted in the artwork provides a special

historical perspective," said Fabian, who selects the artwork and researches and chooses the photos of the Soldiers whose faces appear throughout the calendar pages.

"For this edition I began by selecting five or six pieces of artwork from each of the Army's major conflicts over our 236-year history, and then I tied one of the paintings or sketches specifically to a key date, event, battle, or theme that occurs during each of the twelve months," Fabian explained. "I selected a Korean War scene for July since that month marks *Task Force Smith*, a Vietnam piece for November because of the date of the *Battle of Ia Drang*, and a peaceful military cemetery scene for May as a tribute to our fallen Soldiers of

all wars," Fabian added as examples of what calendar recipients can expect.

Each calendar page also includes the photos of eight Soldiers selected from AHF's *Registry of the American Soldier* whose service histories link them in some way to the general theme or actual period of the artwork. Fabian said not every one of the eight Soldiers featured on the July calendar page participated in *Task Force Smith*, the first battle of the Korean War, but all whose photos appear served in Korea during the war years.

Certain months of the calendar salute specific groups of Soldiers, present and past—female Soldiers (March, which is Women's History Month), veterans of the China-Burma-India Theater

SOLDIER ART, REGISTRY HONOREES

(April), and veterans of the Army Air Corps/Army Air Forces (June). Fabian said he also included a page that salutes Soldiers who served in the states and overseas during the Cold War at the suggestion of Founding Sponsor William Sobolewski, of Camas, Wash.

“I got an e-mail from Mr. Sobolewski that said, ‘I am a member and financial contributor to the Army Museum. I recommend that you dedicate a month in your 2012 calendar to all who served during the Cold War era.’ That made eminently good sense to me. Those who served our nation during the Cold War era are no less deserving of our respect, appreciation, and recognition for their sacrifices and selfless service.”

Fabian said he had an easy time selecting the eight representative Soldiers, including Sobolewski, but a hard choice in choosing a Cold War-related painting. “It came down to deciding between a painting of a lookout tower along the Korean DMZ and Edward A. Reep’s “Freedom Bridge”

in Berlin. “After conferring with Sarah Forgey, the curator for the U.S. Army Center for Military History’s Army Art Collection, I selected the latter for the October page in the calendar.”

Since 2012 marks the 200th Anniversary of the War of 1812 and also includes the extended national sesquicentennial celebration of the Civil War, the calendar will also include artwork from both conflicts—H. Charles McBarron’s “The Battle of Chippewa” and Jefferson Chalfant’s “Rudolph Ellis of Philadelphia as Officer of the Day.”

Fabian says that while the annual

calendar is one of his favorite projects on behalf of the Foundation and the Museum, he isn’t the only person involved. “Randy Yasenchak, our graphic designer, does a fantastic job in designing and laying out the pages, and Kerri Kline, our associate director for programs, marketing and production, and Matt Seelinger, our historian, assist in the editing. I also get great cooperation on the artwork from Sarah Forgey and support from Pablo Jimenez-Reyes, the photographer for the Army Art Collection.”

Museum supporters can expect their 2012 calendars in mid-October.



October pages feature artwork and representative veterans of the Cold War, as recommended by Founding Sponsor William Sobolewski of Camas, Wash.



KONGSBERG PROTECH SYSTEMS SPONSORS KRAG RIFLE



Photograph courtesy of the National Firearms Museum.

Kongsberg Protech Systems will sponsor the Krag Rifle in a unique display at the National Museum of the United States Army. The Krag Rifle replaced the single-shot Model 1873 Springfield Rifle and was the Army's standard shoulder weapon in the War with Spain, Philippine Insurrection, and China Relief Expedition.

The Krag Rifle will be highlighted in the Museum's the *Nation Overseas* exhibit where visitors will learn about America's early entry onto the world stage and gain insight into then Secretary of War Elihu Root's reorganization of the Army in preparation for war in the 20th century. The Krag Rifle that will be displayed was recovered from the battlefield at San Juan Hill, a decisive battle of the Spanish-American War.

According to Rune Johannessen, Executive Vice President of Kongsberg Protech Systems, Kongsberg's history

with the US began with the US Army's contract for 500,000 Krag Rifles in 1893 and this relationship remains strong today as Kongsberg is the only provider of Common Remotely Operated Weapon Stations (CROWS) for the Army. "We are pleased to sponsor this display of historical significance to the country of Norway, to the evolution of firearms, and to the US Army," said Johannessen, "and to help illustrate how innovation can directly transform the battlefield."

Prior to the Krag Rifle, the Army was using a .45-70 caliber single-shot Springfield Rifle and the cartridges were packed with old-fashioned black powder. When fired, the Springfield Rifle had a strong recoil and would produce a large cloud of smoke giving away the position of the shooter. The Krag Rifle was considered a substantial improvement with a bolt-action that delivered a shot with smooth action using new smokeless powder ammunition. Additionally, the Krag was a

magazine rifle and enabled a Soldier to carry twice the amount of rounds as the heavier rounds required for the Springfield Rifle.

"Soldiers will tell you that in wartime their firearm is their closest companion," said MG John P. Herrling (USA-Ret.), the Capital Campaign's executive director, upon receipt of the \$150,000 gift. "The story of the Krag Rifle and its important innovations will be one to which every Soldier can relate."

Their gift places Kongsberg Protech Systems in the *Two-Star Circle of Distinction* reserved for donors of \$100,000 - \$249,000.

Kongsberg is an international knowledge-based group that supplies high-technology systems and solutions to customers engaged in the oil and gas industry, the merchant marine industry, and the defense and aerospace industries. For more information on Kongsberg Protech Systems, visit www.kongsberg.com.

2011 ORNAMENT AVAILABLE NOW

The National Museum of the United States Army is now offering the third in its series of holiday ornaments depicting Soldier images in US Army history.

This year's ornament features a "doughboy" Soldier from World War I. The watercolor and pencil drawing by Kerr Eby is based on his experiences as an enlisted Soldier serving in France. During his time at the front, Eby sketched images of his experiences, ultimately compiling them into a book of powerful prints entitled "War" (1936).

The ornament's obverse includes a quote by Erich Maria Remarque. Remarque was a Ger-



man writer most famous for his war novel, "All Quiet on the Western Front" (1929), which portrays the daily horrors of life in the trenches during World War I.

This attractive collectible is made by US craftsmen from solid brass and finished in 24 karat gold, measuring about 3 inches wide and 3 1/2 inches high. Each ornament is assembled by hand and packaged in a gift box with an enclosure card detailing its design. Cost is \$16.00. Order on-line through the Army Museum Shop at www.armyhistory.org or by calling (800) 506-2672.

JOHN F. HILLEN III HONORS DAD'S ARMY SERVICE, VALUES

Service. Sacrifice. Patriotism. Education. Those are the principles that Lt. Col. John F. Hillen, Jr. (USA-Ret.) instilled in his family and now form the foundation of their support of the National Museum of the United States Army.

Dr. John F. Hillen III, Lt. Col. Hillen's son, recently pledged \$50,000 in support of the National Army Museum in memory of his father who passed away in 2009. Hillen says his donation will celebrate his father's memory in a way that would be meaningful to him. "My dad would be thrilled to be involved in the Museum project," said Hillen during a recent telephone interview. "The Army was a big part of our lives and my dad was a proponent of Americans learning about their Army—how it is there for them, for their freedom, and protecting their way of life."

John Francis Hillen was an accomplished Soldier and scholar. Hillen joined the Army in 1959 and served as an Army Ranger and Green Beret. Hillen was awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross for his actions in Vietnam. Preparing for his tour in Vietnam, he discovered an aptitude for foreign language and he learned Vietnamese. In 1974 he pursued a master's degree in Middle East studies and he learned Far-

si before his assignment to Iran. Hillen also joined the Middle East Institute and other policy and scholarly forums. He retired from the Army in 1979, continuing his career working in the private sector until 1996.

Dr. John F. Hillen III attended Duke University on a ROTC scholarship and served as an officer in the Army for 12 years. Hillen noted that his time in the Army gave him an opportunity to both witness first hand and participate in historic events. While serving with the 2nd Armored Cavalry Regiment, Hillen was patrolling the German border when the communist's wall came down, and later he engaged the Iraqi Republican Guard as part of *The Battle of 73 Easting* during Operation Desert Storm, one of the largest tank battles since World War II.

Hillen also embraced his father's value of education and earned several advanced degrees, served in public policy research institutes, authored books and articles on international security, and is a leader in international business. Hillen combined his academic and policy skills with his experience as a Soldier while serving as the US Assistant Secretary of State for Political-Military Affairs from 2005 to 2007. Presently, Hillen is the President and Chief Execu-

tive Officer of Sotera Defense Solutions, Inc. headquartered in McLean, Va.

"Hillen's gift tracks well with our goals for the Museum—Inspire. Engage. Educate." said MG John P. Herrling (USA-Ret.) Campaign Executive Director. "The Army touches many lives and we appreciate the Hillens' service and their personal commitment to educating the American public about our Army even when they are no longer wearing the Army uniform."

Hillen commented that the United States has a large population while only a small percentage of citizens make up the Army. He believes the National Army Museum will serve as a place to keep the Army and the society it serves well acquainted with each other.

"The Museum will be an exciting place with compelling artifacts and riveting stories," said Hillen, "and I hope that visitors also take in an understanding that this isn't some kind of adventure movie. This is real life, past and present, and it starts with an individual's service and sacrifice."

Dr. Hillen's gift in honor of his father, Lt. Col. John F. Hillen, Jr. (USA-Ret.), will be prominently acknowledged in the Museum's *One-Star Circle of Distinction* reserved for donors of \$50,000 - \$99,000.



Lt. Col. Hillen in Vietnam 2004 and 1966.
Photos courtesy of his son, John F. Hillen III.

SAVE THE DATE!

The 1814 Society will host its annual event on October 28 and 29, 2011, in the Washington, DC area. The weekend's events begin with a cocktail reception on Friday evening featuring a guest speaker and a National Army Museum project update. Saturday, Matt Seelinger, Chief Historian for The Army Historical Foundation, will lead a staff ride to two nearby Civil War sites, Maryland's Monocacy National Battlefield and Washington, D.C.'s Fort Stevens.

Individuals are invited to join *The 1814 Society* with an annual gift of \$1,000 or more to the National Museum of the United States Army. For more information about this event or to join *The 1814 Society*, contact Beth Schultz at (703) 879-0006 or Beth.Schultz@armyhistory.org.

Reflections

World War I's "Hello Girls"

Chief Operator Grace D. Banker was one of the "Hello Girls" assigned to front line duty during the Battle of St. Mihiel (12-15 September 1918). U.S. Government Photo.



Not surprisingly, nurses were among the first women mobilized after the United States' entry into World War I in April 1917. However, a second lesser-known but equally important female contingent was recruited and organized later that year. These were the Army Signal Corps' "Hello Girls," the Army's first female combatants.

The "Hello Girls" emerged in response to General Pershing's national newspaper appeal for experienced, French-speaking telephone operators over age 25, many of whom would come from the ranks of the American Telephone & Telegraph Company.

With Allied and Axis forces mired in trench warfare in France, Pershing saw a need to initiate a bilingual

telephone system to improve battlefield communications between the front lines and American Expeditionary Force headquarters. These seasoned telephone operators would be ideally suited to operate the battlefield switchboards.

Over 7,000 women applied, but fewer than 500 were accepted. The women were sent to the Signal School at Camp Franklin, Maryland, adjacent Fort Meade, for both military training and radio and switchboard operator school. Upon graduation they were required to purchase their own uniforms (originally navy blue and later OD green) and issued dog tags and Signal Corps collar brass.

The "Hello Girls" earned promotions and were paid salaries comparable with their male counterparts. Only their rank insignias differed. An Operator First Class wore an armband with an outlined blue telephone mouthpiece. A Supervisor (platoon sergeant equivalent) wore the same armband with a wreath around the mouthpiece. A Chief Operator or 'Top' had the emblem with the mouthpiece, the wreath and blue lightning flashes shooting out above the receiver.

An initial detachment of 33 "Hello Girls" was issued gas masks and steel helmets and departed for Europe in early March 1918 and were soon operating AEF telephone exchanges in France and England. Others followed, and within months were assigned in Chaumont and

over 75 other cities in France and three cities in England.

Those sent to the front took incoming fire along with other allied soldiers. One group received citations for bravery for operating the switchboards during the *Battle of St. Mihiel*. When their building caught fire from enemy bombardment, they were ordered to leave. They remained, believing the order was issued because of their sex, until the fire became so intense that AEF Headquarters threatened to court martial them. They returned to duty in an hour after the fire was put out.

Following the armistice the "Hello Girls" returned home believing they would receive honorable discharges, veteran's status, and World War I Victory Medals. Instead, they were denied because Army regulations included no references to females as military members. Consensus was that the "Hello Girls" were civilian volunteers, despite the evidence of their bravery at the front and that one of their own, Chief Operator Grace Banker, was awarded the Distinguished Service Medal.

One of the operators, Merle Eagan Anderson, spent nearly fifty years advocating on behalf of the "Hello Girls." Her persistence was finally rewarded in 1978 when President Carter signed a bill awarding about 50 surviving "Hello Girls" veteran's status, honorable discharges, and World War I Victory Medals.

THE ARMY HISTORICAL FOUNDATION

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NATIONAL MUSEUM OF

THE U.S. ARMY

MG John P. Herrling (USA-Ret.)

DIRECTOR OF COMMUNICATIONS

COL David R. Fabian (USA-Ret.)

DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF COMMUNICATIONS

Susan Fazakerley Smullen

LAYOUT AND DESIGN

Randy Yasenchak

www.armyhistory.org

1-800-506-2672