

U.S. Army Medical Command/  
Office of The  
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# MEDCOM NOW

## Command unites Warrior services

A new command to provide sole guidance and policy for the Army's 36 Warrior Transition Units and the nine Community Based Warrior Transition Units was activated May 11 in the Pentagon courtyard.

"The Army remains committed to improving the care that we're giving to wounded, ill and injured Soldiers through the creation of the Warrior Transition Command," said Lt. Gen. Eric B. Schoomaker, Army Surgeon General.

For more information, [click here](#).



Sgt. 1st Class Jacque Keeslar presents the new Warrior Transition Command colors to WTC senior enlisted advisor Sgt. Maj. Ly M. Lac as Lt. Gen. Eric B. Schoomaker, Medical Command commander (far left), and new WTC Commander Brig. Gen. Gary H. Cheek await the transfer.

## *Scientists fight diseases in Africa*



Drs. Randy Schoepp and Joseph Fair run assays on suspected yellow fever samples at Kenema Government Hospital Diagnostic Laboratory in Sierra Leone.

Dr. Randy Schoepp of the Army Medical Research Institute of Infectious Diseases and Dr. Joseph Fair (formerly of USAMRIID) helped the west Africa nation of Sierra Leone improve its diagnostic laboratory capability.

They provided supplies and training to help staff at Kenema Government Hospital diagnose Lassa fever, yellow fever, Chikungunya, Rift Valley fever, and West Nile viruses.

"Until our recent site visit, there was no capability in Sierra Leone or the neighboring countries to diagnose yellow fever," Schoepp said, adding that samples had to be sent to either Ivory Coast or Senegal for confirmatory testing.

For more information, [click here](#).



A nurse helps a patient undergoing therapy at Walter Reed Army Medical Center in the 1950s.

## Walter Reed celebrates 100 years

Staff and patients at Walter Reed Army Medical Center celebrated the hospital's 100th anniversary on May 1.

Considered state-of-the-art in 1909, Walter Reed has kept pace

with change, spurred by the need to care for war-wounded Soldiers.

The Military Advanced Treatment Center and Warrior Clinic are among the newest innovations.

"Hundreds of thousands of people have passed through those

gates and have been healed," said Sherman Fleek, Walter Reed's command historian. "And not just the patients, the staff, too. These guys are doctors and nurses because it's in their blood."

For more information, click here.

## *SMA inspires troops during centennial*



"Happy 100th birthday!", says SMA Kenneth O. Preston at Walter Reed.

Sergeant Major of the Army Kenneth O. Preston, the Army's highest ranking enlisted Soldier, joined Soldiers at Walter Reed Army Medical Center for an early-morning run to recognize the medical center's 100 years of service.

"Your reputation and what you bring as an institution to our country, really is [indicative] of all of the things that are good about our nation, and what we want to provide to all of our warriors," he said.

For more information, click here.



## Program shapes up civilians

Civilian workers at Fort Lewis, Wash., measured their progress recently as

a fitness program that began in September concluded. Participants

whose supervisors agreed to three hours of regular exercise per week during

duty hours came to the fitness center for final measurements of blood pressure, cardio fitness, body fat and flexibility.

The feedback, said Cindy Branton, the Fort Lewis health promotion officer, was overwhelmingly positive.

“Statistics say if they’re exercising, employees are more productive,” Branton said. “They feel better, they’re healthier and they’re more productive the hours they are at work. And stress levels decrease.”

For more information, [click here](#).



Fort Lewis facilities coordinator Judson Lang tests the flexibility of Samantha Barnard.

## Hospital employee is racquetball star

Miguel A. Santiago Cruz, a training specialist at Darnall Army Medical Center, Fort Hood, Texas, is Puerto Rico’s racquetball champion and won two individual silver medals at the Pan American Racquetball Championship in Cali, Columbia, in April.

Santiago Cruz, who retired as a master sergeant after 27 years of military service, has been a member of the Puerto Rican Racquetball Team for 11

years.

He was introduced to racquetball by a fellow Soldier in Korea. Now, at age 50, he is on the USA Top 10 men’s national ranking for age 45-plus, and recently won the Texas state 50-plus championship.

“Racquetball is a sport you play for life. I grow with the sport, I want to play until I’m 70 or even 80 years old,” he said.

For more information, [click here](#).



Miguel A. Santiago Cruz wears two silver medals he won at the Pan American Racquetball Championship.

United States Army Medical Research Institute of Chemical Defense, Aberdeen Proving Ground, Maryland



## Hospital Management of Chemical, Biological, Radiological, Nuclear & Explosive Incidents Course

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This course was developed with hospital level objectives – clinical and non-clinical. It features interactive seminar discussions and dynamic exercises. The HM-CBRNE course is intended to help mitigate the existing gaps in support of hospital operations during a major WMD event. Additionally, it benefits all other routine and crisis hospital operations. It also provides a great opportunity to meet other professionals from across the nation who faces the same challenges you do.

To join us or to learn more about this opportunity, contact the Chemical Casualty Care Division. CME/CNE/CEU available.

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## June exercise will test Reserve medics

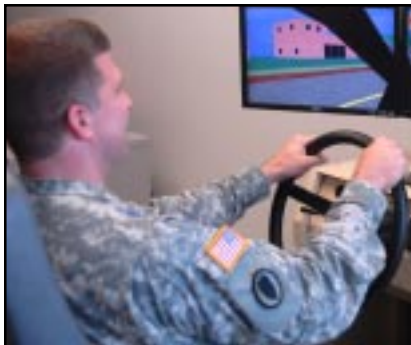


A simulated casualty is transported during a previous Global Medic exercise.

Army, Navy and Air Force Reserve medical personnel across the country will benefit from first-class training during Exercise Global Medic, conducted June 10-15 concurrently at Fort McCoy, Wisc., Fort Hunter Liggett, Calif., and Fort Gordon, Ga.

Scenarios will provide training opportunities on battle trauma, disease and non-battle injuries, combat stress casualties and medical evacuation using both strategic and tactical aircraft.

For more information, [click here](#).



Maj. Kenneth Ford tests the driving simulator at Fort Knox's new traumatic brain injury clinic.

## TBI clinic opens at Fort Knox

Fort Knox, Ky., MEDDAC has opened a clinic dedicated to patients with traumatic brain injuries. It features the latest equipment, including a biofeedback chair, a Wii Fit system, a driving simulation system and DynaVision for diagnosing and rehabilitating vision problems.

For more information, [click here](#).

## Unit keeps Soldiers healthy

The Army Center for Health Promotion and Preventive Medicine-South plays an important role in maintaining a healthy military population in the Southeast United States.

It performs screening tests on specimens collected from other

posts, controls pest populations and, most importantly, educates people on prevention methods.

The unit is relocating from Fort McPherson, Ga., to Fort Sam Houston, Texas this summer.

For more information, [click here](#).



Denny Kuhr, an entomologist with the Army Center for Health Promotion and Preventive Medicine-South, observes the wire connection on a probe calibration certification device under a microscope. The device measures the amount of spray a pesticide sprayer releases, ensuring the proper dosage is released.