



The Ordnance Corps Quarterly

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Chief's Corner

Greetings from the Home of Ordnance, and the Sustainment Center of Excellence!

Just a few short weeks ago, I was tremendously honored to assume the

roles of Commandant of the U.S. Army Ordnance School and 40th Chief of Ordnance. During the assumption of command ceremony, I received first the Ordnance School flag, and then the Ordnance Corps regimental flag from Major General Darrell K. Williams, Commanding General of the Combined Arms Support Command. As I took hold of each of those two flags, I was keenly aware of the responsibilities they symbolize.



The Ordnance School flag represents the most distributed training organization in TRADOC. With 32 enlisted specialties, 2 officer areas of concentration, 9 warrant

officer specialties, and 7 Additional Skill Identifiers (ASIs), the Ordnance School delivers quality instruction to the Total Force (Active, Guard, and Reserve) across 28 Ordnance training locations and an additional 17 Defense Ammunition Center (DAC) training sites! All-combined, dedicated instructors and training developers applied their expertise to deliver quality training to more than 136,000 students in FY16 (including distance learning).



The Ordnance Corps flag represents the pride of our regiment and our Ordnance Corps members around the world. Members of our esteemed Ordnance Corps, distributed across the Total



Maj. Gen. Darrell K. Williams, Commanding General, Combined Arms Support Command, passes the Ordnance Regimental Flag to Col. David Wilson signifying his assumption of responsibility as the 40th Chief of Ordnance and Commandant of the U.S. Army Ordnance School. Photo by Amy Perry/Fort Lee PAO.

Force, are applying their craft and delivering technical expertise in units and organizations around the world. Mastering our 'core competencies' is critical for delivering and sustaining combat power. We arm and maintain weapon systems and ensure explosives safety and explosive ordnance disposal. By doing so, we ensure the 'fight-tonight' readiness of an expeditionary Army. The Ordnance Corps flag symbolizes the outstanding Soldiers and Civilians who guarantee 'Service to the line, on the line, on time!'

In my dual role as Commandant of the Ordnance School and 40th Chief of Ordnance, I am equally honored and humbled to have the opportunity to shape and influence the future of our corps. The Chief of Staff of the Army's number one priority is **READINESS**, and **MAINTENANCE** is the cornerstone of **READINESS**! Like the commandants before me, my first order of business will be to lead a senior staff review of our current vision, mission and initiatives. The endstate: ensuring the energy and expertise of our outstanding Soldiers and Civilians are

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Colonel David Wilson, Commandant of the Ordnance School, and the 40th Chief of Ordnance.

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focused toward building and preserving readiness. We can do this by shaping and influencing:

- initial training of our young Ordnance professionals across our core competencies of ammunition, maintenance, Explosives Ordnance Disposal (EOD) and explosives safety;
- development of our Ordnance and multifunctional leaders;
- capabilities development including doctrine, materiel systems, and force design;
- strength management and professional growth that supports a healthy corps.

I have never been more proud to be a member of this great Ordnance Corps. In peacetime and war, Ordnance professionals have been champions of innovation and maintainers of arms and ammunition, providing combat power to our Army – always on time!

Again, I am thrilled to have the opportunity to lead this great organization - the United States Ordnance School - and to be the proponent for the regiment. Together, we will train Ordnance Warriors, shape Ordnance leaders, and deliver Ordnance capabilities that will build and preserve readiness. We are the Armament for Peace - delivering combat power through decisive action anywhere in the world!

Go Ordnance!

COL David Wilson
40th Chief of Ordnance



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Regimental Command Sergeant Major Highlights



Greetings Team from the Ordnance Corps foxhole!

It seems like we've 'blown' through the summer months. In August, we welcomed Col. David Wilson and his family to the Regimental Command Team as he assumed

the role of the 40th Chief of Ordnance. We look forward to working Ordnance initiatives that support READINESS.

Over the last quarter, I traveled to several installations to engage our troops. I have observed professionally conducted platform instruction, motor pool operations, and training exercises. I am nothing short of impressed and proud of you.

Visiting our Soldiers in a field environment gives me the opportunity to observe, first-hand, how they are sustaining readiness through the performance of their Core Competencies. It also gives me an opportunity to engage with leaders and receive feedback on how our Ordnance troops are doing. The positive feedback I receive makes me proud of our regiment and our Ordnance Soldiers' hard work and initiative.

Here are a few photo highlights from some recent visits - evidence that Soldiers and leaders are putting their technical and leadership skills to work to ensure our Operational Army units maintain a high state of readiness!



(Left) Specialist Kendrick Reed, a Radio and Communications Security (COMSEC) Repairer (94E), is replacing an Azimuth Drive Motor Cable. (Right) Private First Class Bradly Eldred, a Computer/Detection Systems Repairer (94F), is replacing High Voltage Power Cables.

Above, the 3rd Battalion, 2nd Air Defense Artillery Regiment's Intermediate Support Element (ISE) along with the Communications & Electronic (C&E) sections and their leaders cross-trained the 94F and 94E series to work alongside the 94S. These troops made practical application of the Skills Based Training they received in the schoolhouse to support maintenance in a tactical environment.

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Members of the Big Red One pose for a photo with Regimental Cmd. Sgt. Maj. Edward Morris (front, center) and members of Ordnance Personnel Development Office during their visit to Fort Riley, Kansas in July.



RCSM Highlights Continued from page 3



Above, the Pacesetter Soldiers of 541st Combat Sustainment Support Battalion (CSSB) are shown conducting ground guide training to support current and upcoming railhead operations in support of National Training Center and future world-wide deployment operations. The Pacesetters also provided a recovery team and contact truck to support rail load operations at Fort Riley railhead.

These are just a couple of examples of how Ordnance Soldiers are honing their craft while supporting an expeditionary Army and realistic training environments.

I look forward to visiting more of our troops at their installations in the next quarter. In the meantime, I encourage you to:

- stay connected with the Ordnance Corps by visiting our [Ordnance Corps Website](#), liking [USAODS](#) on Facebook, and periodically checking the [Army Career Tracker](#);
- take advantage of the Ordnance Corps Credentialing Programs by visiting the [COOL Website](#). This website will show all the available credentials and how they are funded;
- volunteer for a broadening assignment such as the (TWI) Training with Industry Program, AIT Platoon Sergeant, or Instructor.

Broadening assignments have made a significant impact in the selection process for the Sergeant First Class and Master Sergeant promotion lists. For more information on Broadening Assignments contact your Career Manager in the Ordnance School's Personnel Development Office. Their contact information is available on our [website](#).

Finally, I urge you to complete your Structured Self-Development Courses, because you can't progress in your career without them. For more on that, check out [page 10](#) of this newsletter.

I am truly excited about all the wonderful things Ordnance Corps Soldiers are doing every day. Thank you again for all that you do.

Go Ordnance!

CSM Edward C. Morris
12th Regimental Command Sergeant Major



Regimental Chief Warrant Officer Highlights



Greetings Ordnance Teammates!

Recently, I was sitting in my office reflecting on the numerous changes occurring in the warrant officer community. I found myself classifying some changes as good, some as bad, and some were quite confusing. I mentally scrolled through a

variety of social media posts that I have read over the last few weeks questioning the direction of the Warrant Officer Corps. I thought about hundreds of discussions I have had with senior leaders across the Army regarding the utilization and expectation of Army warrant officers. Quite honestly, I felt increasingly concerned as I sorted through a multitude of issues. As I leaned back in my chair, I reread the charter that defines the Ordnance Regimental Chief Warrant Officer's role. I cannot tell you how many times I have read it - but this time, it hit me - the central issue is about identity.

Our identity is our brand, and our brand is

Technical Expertise. Expertise is the reason we exist today. We can trace the roots of our profession back to the British Navy, two centuries before Columbus, when royal blood officers relied on senior sailors for technical expertise. These senior sailors were ultimately awarded a 'Royal Warrant,' as they managed the technical aspects of running a ship and operating the cannons. Fast forward to our modern Army, where rapid technological advancement over the last century has validated a need for a specialized expert in distinctively focused career fields.

A constant state of readiness is critical to the success of a truly expeditionary force. Advanced weapon systems provide our commanders with operational flexibility and a

competitive advantage over our adversaries, but only when those systems are properly employed and maintained. Warrant officers, as subject matter experts, provide the depth of technical expertise necessary to sustain readiness, maintain momentum, and deliver combat power to the point of need.

When the Warrant Officer Corps fails to recognize its identity, our brand suffers. In civilian industry, when a brand suffers it may very well result in significant financial losses for investors. I would argue that the same holds true for the United States Army. When warrant officers lose sight of their core identity - technical expertise - the Army struggles to maintain the necessary readiness required to execute unified land operations in an unknown, unknowable operating environment. From an expertise perspective, cost increases through misdiagnosing faults; replacing assemblies versus repairing components; failing to properly implement quality assurance/quality control procedures; inability to properly request, store and account for all classes of supply; lack of low density and specialized training of subordinates -

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CW5s Cato, Tonga, and Myers visit the 25th ID Brigade Consolidated Motorpool where CW2 Larson briefed them on a variety of ongoing maintenance initiatives to enhance Soldier performance and build sustainable readiness across the organization.



RCWO Highlights

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and the list goes on. The reality is, warrant officer expertise, or the lack of it, has a significant financial impact on our Army.

How did we get here? Our identity crisis is not because of our inability to take action, but because of our inability to take **appropriate** action. Our perceived pursuit of ‘*all things o-grade*’ has had, and will continue to have, a long-term detrimental impact on our warrant officers’ ability to provide the technical and tactical expertise the force requires from them. I recently heard an influential leader say, “we don’t need more majors; we need warrant officers who are technical experts, leaders, and advisors.” Do not lose sight of what that means. We are absolutely Soldiers, leaders, advisors, and commissioned officers upon promotion to Chief Warrant Officer Two. However, without technical expertise, we lose our uniqueness, our brand, our identity. In every regard, warrant officer initiatives must address gaps identified in the warrant officer’s ability to provide unmatched expertise. Similar to our officer and non-commissioned officer counterparts, our training, education and utilization policies must increase our value to the Army.

The identity crisis that most warrant officers face is a result of the environment in which they grew up. For many, that environment has been an Army at war with increased financial flexibility and reliance on

contracted logistics support. But, the Army of the future will be challenged by decreased sustainment footprints and fiscal constraints. This puts a greater demand on the warrant officer’s specialized skill set. As self-aware and adaptive technical experts, combat leaders, trainers, and advisors, warrant officers will administer, manage, maintain, operate, and integrate Army systems and equipment across the full spectrum of Army operations.

So how do we overcome the identity crisis that is negatively affecting our brand? We do this by truly mastering our craft and establishing ourselves as the Army’s premier land force technical and tactical experts. To this end, I highly encourage every Ordnance warrant officer to do the following:

- prepare your team to operate in the attack, with nothing but your equipment and personnel;
- identify developmental assignments within your specialty, and set a course that prepares you for each position;
- maximize self-development opportunities - focus on those areas that improve your technical competence and leadership attributes;
- seek specialty certifications;
- build relationships;
- provide legally, ethically, and morally correct advice to your commander;
- institute processes, standards, and disciplines that enhance mission accomplishment;
- understand the commander’s intent, vision, and organizational mission;
- be an expert Soldier, expert leader, expert technician and invaluable teammate;
- and always take care of your troops - ensure they are ready, resilient, prepared for any crucible.

Always remember, at the end of the day, your performance or lack thereof, affects the Army warrant officer brand.

In closing, I would like to thank you for everything you do on a daily basis in support of our Soldiers, Civilians, their Families, and our Nation!

Go Ordnance!

CW5 Richard C. Myers, Jr.
9th Regimental Chief Warrant Officer



Maj. Gen. Jeffrey Snow, USA Recruiting Command CG, addressed warrant officers from branch proponent offices, USAR, ARNG, and other key stakeholders during the three-day USAREC Warrant Officer Recruiting and Accession Summit at Fort Knox on August 2, 2016.



5911 initiative opens dialog with operational Army commanders

Colonel Sean P. Davis assumed command of the 59th Ordnance Brigade on June 17, 2016, at McLaughlin Fitness Center, Ft. Lee, Va. Col. Davis has served in the U.S. Army for over 24 years and he came to the 59th Ordnance Brigade after serving in the HQDA Deputy Chief of Staff, G-4. He previously served at Ft. Lee as the Combined Arms Support Command (CASCOM) Logistics Proponency Chief. On August 26th, the 59th Ordnance Brigade held a change of responsibility ceremony in honor of outgoing CSM Vincent D. Noble and incoming CSM Gabriel D. Harvey.

The 59th Ordnance Brigade trains Initial Entry Training (IET) students within its three battalions: 16th, 73rd, and 832nd Ordnance Battalions. These IET students are trained within the Career Management Fields of 89, 91, and 94. The brigade also supports professional military educational (PME) technical training for Ordnance officers, warrant officers, and non-commissioned officers.

With the onset of new leadership, Col. Davis has a



Colonel Davis, 59th Ordnance Brigade Commander, discusses Army values and the profession of arms with IET Soldiers in Ball Auditorium at Fort Lee, Va.

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vision to create dialogue and gain feedback from commanders at all levels throughout the operational Army regarding the performance of Ordnance Military Occupational Specialties (MOS) Soldiers in the field and to answer any requests

for information or support. Col. Davis' initiative, dubbed **5911 (fifty nine-one-one)**, will support commander-to-commander communication and information sharing throughout the Ordnance community. Col. Davis encourages commanders to provide feedback on the performance of Ordnance MOS Soldiers in the field, or to send information or support requests to the 59th Ordnance Brigade **via email**, with "5911" in the subject line, or by phone at (804) 765-9476.



MAJ Ryan Godbee
S4 Logistics Officer in Charge
59th Ordnance Brigade



RC training sites implement High Physical Demands Test (HPDT)

On July 1, 2016, the Reserve Component (RC) implemented High Physical Demands Testing (HPDT) at all of their Regional Training Sites-Maintenance (RTS-Ms). This brings RTS-Ms in line with Active Component (AC) training sites and supports the One Army School System mandate that RTS-Ms meet the same accreditation standards as their AC partners, who implemented the HPDT in June.

How does HPDT differ from the APFT? The APFT measures a Soldier's overall fitness. The HPDT is uniquely designed to assess a Soldier's ability to perform the *most* strenuous tasks *routinely* required by their specific Military Occupational Specialty (MOS). Passing the HPDT is now a requirement for MOS qualification. If a soldier can't pass,

they are given the opportunity to train up physically, and if they are still

unable to pass, soldiers could be reassigned to a different MOS.

Why is the HPDT so important? The implementation of High Physical Demands Testing supports the gender-neutral occupational standards required by the FY15 National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA). It also supports Army readiness by opening the door to our best talent, regardless of gender, while ensuring every Soldier is able to perform the physical requirements of their career field.

LTC Michael A. Bryant
Reserve Component Office



The 91B Wheeled Vehicle Mechanic HPDT includes the 'Team Lift and Carry.' A team of two, dressed in full battle gear, lift a 100 lb. General Mechanic's Tool Kit (GMTK) from a platform 4 feet high, carry it 25 feet, and return it to the same platform.

DYK?

- Under the One Army School System (OASS), RTS-Ms must meet the same accreditation standards as their AC partners.
- AC soldiers can attend courses at RTS-Ms. Those who do, receive credit equal to the AC course.
- There are **20 RTS-M** locations; there may be one near you!



EOD training at Captains Career Course

In fiscal year 2016, the Army Logistics University (ALU) made history by developing the Explosive Ordnance Disposal - Multifunctional Logistics Captain's Career Course (EOD LOG-C3). The EOD LOG-C3 is taught within ALU's Logistics Leader College. The course is 21 weeks in length, just like the traditional LOG-C3. The course content includes 7 weeks of common core curriculum (mandated by TRADOC for every Captain in the Army), followed by 14 weeks of EOD specific course material.

What makes the EOD LOG-C3 unique? This is the first professional military education course established to prepare officers for mission command of EOD and sustainment formations. Specifically, the EOD LOG-C3 augments sustainment training by educating 89E leaders in the warfighting principles of 'Protection' and 'Intelligence' in addition to the logistics warfighting tasks essential to the overall success of our Nation's forces. As a capstone event, EOD LOG-C3 students execute an individual Military Decision Making Process



(MDMP) project. This project develops a concept of support for a near-peer linear battlefield within an Armor Brigade Combat Team. The EOD LOG-C3 equips Explosive Ordnance Disposal Officers to perform multifunctional logistics responsibilities in both sustainment and EOD formations.

CPT Brian Ferguson
LOG-C3 Instructor



College credits for Ordnance School courses

In support of the Army's Soldier for Life Program, the Ordnance School works with the American Council on Education (ACE) to get its Advanced Individual Training (AIT) and functional courses evaluated for college course credits. In the last 18 months, the Ordnance School has hosted three teams of ACE evaluators.

These evaluators are professional educators with extensive experience in military training and/or vocational education. They review our Programs of Instruction, looking not only at course content but also at training methodologies and evaluation procedures. Courses with an emphasis on hands-on instruction and problem-solving practical exercises

typically earn the most college credit hours. Course length also impacts the amount of credit, with longer courses earning more than shorter ones.

ACE evaluated 11 Ordnance School courses, both Active Component and Reserve Component, last June. As a result, ACE awarded a total of 84 recommended college credit hours for these courses. The courses that earned the most credit hours were the 91H Track Vehicle Mechanic Course (12 hours each for the AC and RC courses) and the 94F Computer Detection Systems Repairer (12 hours).



The [ACE Military Guide](#) contains a searchable database for finding how many recommended college credit hours were awarded to specific military courses. Note that the ACE credits are *recommended* credit hours in specified areas (e.g., 3 semester hours in DC circuits in the baccalaureate/associate degree category for the 94F Computer Detection Systems Repairer Course). However, most colleges and technical schools will accept ACE credits.

Finally, keep in mind that *when* a Soldier took a course is important. If a course provides credits hours now - but had not been evaluated when the Soldier attended it - he or she may not receive those hours. A counselor in the local Education Center should be able to provide assistance with determining how many recommended college credits may have been earned through ACE-validated courses.

Dr. Richard B. Armstrong
Director of Training

Train with Industry!

Who: The **best and brightest* company grade officers, warrant officers and NCOs.

What: Work hand in hand with industry partners under a training and schools position for up to one year.

Where: Industry partners (matched by military occupation) include companies like Oshkosh, Caterpillar, Los Alamos Labs...

When: Application season ends 30 Nov 16 (Officer / Warrant Officer) and 9 Jan 17 (NCOs). Submit packets [via email](#) for pre-screen!

Why: Enhanced competence and capability through exposure to relevant commercial practices.

How? Check out our [TWI webpage](#) for the details!

**Commanders and Command Sergeants Major can help by endorsing only the best applicants.*



Ammunition Community of Practice



Have you joined the [Ammunition Community of Practice](#) (Ammo CoP)? Do you know what it is and who uses it?

The Ammo CoP resides on the Acquisition Community of Connection (ACC) [website](#). Its purpose is to share knowledge throughout the ammunition enterprise. The [Defense Acquisition University](#) (DAU) partnered with the [Defense Ammunition Center](#) (DAC) to assist with building and hosting the Ammo CoP. The CoP was deployed in November 2008 and a total of 6,777 ammo professionals have joined as of August 3, 2016.

Who uses the Ammo CoP? The CoP is for anyone who works with and/or around ammunition. It supports ammo professionals, Soldiers and Civilians. Non-members have limited access to certain areas of the CoP. Member names, profiles, and the “*Ask a Question*” feature are protected and can only be viewed by Ammo CoP members after they log in.

Why should you join the Ammo CoP? The CoP is available twenty-four hours a day, seven days a week. You can access the latest information on Safety, Operations, Publications, Ammunition Material, and much more. The Ammo CoP has web links to subjects such as the [Munitions History Program](#) and the [Yellow Book](#). (Did you know the Yellow Book also has an app?) In addition, it has links to training sites and three ammo training apps: [Ammo SCG](#), [ESQD Mobile app](#), and [Soldier Safety app](#).

Registered members also receive the Ammo CoP Newsletter, which presents the latest information to the Ammo Community and highlights new items on the CoP. For example, the newsletter recently notified members about the latest SAAS SCP-11 Migration and Explosive Safety policies released by USATCES.

How is the Ammo CoP used? For registered members, the CoP is used to collaborate and share knowledge. If you have a question, ask it - we may be able to provide an answer. If you have developed an SOP, best practice, or Tactics, Techniques, and Procedures that help you do your job, please post them on the Ammo CoP. The few minutes you take to upload your contributions could save others hours of work!



Mr. Bill Scott
Chief, Training Management Division
U.S. Army Defense Ammunition Center



Structured Self-Development

Currently, there are over 3,700 Ordnance Soldiers that cannot be promoted because they have not completed their education requirements. **Select Train Educate Promote**, aka STEP, requires Soldiers to complete Structured Self-Development (SSD) in order to get promoted. STEP is the promotion path that went into effect

in 2016. Under the STEP program, Soldiers will not be promoted until they complete SSD and the appropriate NCOES for their grade. The SSD is accomplished online by the user, at their own pace. Supervisors can monitor subordinates' SSD progress through the [Army Career](#)



[Tracker \(ACT\)](#) website. For more information about STEP, visit the [HRC website](#).

SFC Dustin Forgey
CMF 91 Career Manager

SELECT - TRAIN - EDUCATE - PROMOTE



COL Julian McAllister's M1832 Ordnance officer's dress coat



This well-preserved M1832 Ordnance officer's dress coat belonged to Colonel Julian McAllister and his hand-written name is still

evident on the white tag inside the neckline. The M1832 coat remained essentially unchanged until 1851. Because some of the buttons on his coat were of a later style, it appears that McAllister continued to wear this coat until the 1880's.

The 1839 regulations called for the coat to be "double breasted, [with] two rows of buttons, ten in each row, at equal distance." McAllister's coat was altered: the bottom button and button hole have been cut off, shortening the front of the coat. Why he did this is a mystery. A replacement "hook and bar style closure" was then added.

McAllister, an 1847 graduate of West Point, was commissioned a 2nd Lieutenant of Artillery. Fellow 1847 graduates included A. P. Hill, Ayres, Burnside, Gibbon, Griffin, Heth, and Willcox, all of whom gained fame during the Civil War.

McAllister served as an Ordnance officer during the



The Chapel of the Centurion appears behind oyster sellers plying their trade in the 1880's.



Colonel Julian McAllister's M1832 Ordnance officer's dress coat on exhibit at the 59th Ordnance Brigade Headquarters, Fort Lee, Virginia. The Ordnance button, inscribed "Ordnance Corps," dates c.1880 indicating that McAllister may still have been wearing his M1832 dress coat at that time.

Mexican War and transferred to the Ordnance Branch in 1848. His Ordnance assignments included Watervliet Arsenal (1848-52), St. Louis Arsenal (1852-53), Fort Monroe Arsenal (1853-57), Richmond Foundry (1857-58) and Benicia Arsenal in California (1858-60). He served as the commanding officer at Bernicia from 1861 to 1864 and from 1867 to 1884.

On June 22, 1855, while serving at Fort Monroe, McAllister was in the arsenal with two artificers mixing pyrotechnics when an explosion occurred. The building was completely destroyed and the two artificers perished. McAllister was severely burned but survived and continued his military career demonstrating strong personal resiliency.

In response to the tragic accident, McAllister initiated a campaign to raise funds to build a permanent house of worship at the post. It was completed in 1858 and is now known as the Chapel of the Centurion. It was the Army's oldest wooden structure in continuous use for religious services until 2011

when it was decommissioned as a result of the 2005 Base Realignment and Closure (BRAC).

A first lieutenant at the outbreak of the Civil War in 1861, he served as Chief of Ordnance in the Department of the Pacific, rising through the ranks until brevetted as a Colonel for faithful services, zeal, and ability. McAllister was promoted to full Colonel of Ordnance in June 1881.

From 1884, until his death, he commanded the New York Arsenal at Governor's Island and Sandy Hook Proving Ground. At the time of his death in 1887, he was 63 years old and the senior Colonel of Ordnance. He is buried in West Point Cemetery.

Mr. Jimmy H. Blankenship
Curator, Ordnance Training and Heritage Center