



From the Command Sergeant Major's desk

As a proud Soldier citizen of America, I'd like to open this edition of the *RedlegUpdate* by thanking everyone for their sacrifice and service to our great Nation!

I'm hoping you and your family enjoy a safe and happy Independence Day!

I thought I'd do something different for this month's update and speak about some little known Artillery NCO history.

On 26 December 1776, George Washington and the Continental Army just launched a successful surprise attack on the Hessian Detachment in Trenton New Jersey. The Army had marched and fought for 60 hours through snow, sleet, and hail. Their hands frostbitten, their feet lacerated; they were utterly exhausted.

As the Army started the long march back to the Delaware, Colonel Henry Knox (the first Chief of the Field Artillery) came across an Artillery cannon with a broken

axle. He told the SGT, SGT Joseph White, to disregard the cannon. SGT White explained to Colonel Knox that his cannon was the best piece in the regiment, and he was determined to bring it home.

SGT White and four other Soldiers struggled with moving the dead weight of the gun slowly to the river. The rear guard had passed them twice. Colonel Knox again recommended to SGT White and his crew that they leave the cannon. SGT White said he'd rather be taken by the enemy than to leave his cannon.

After finally getting the cannon across the river, Colonel Knox came to SGT White one last time. This time he asked SGT White, "Why did you risk everything for a cannon?" SGT White explained he wanted complete victory.

Colonel Knox would remember SGT Joseph White and when there weren't enough captains to command the cannons for the battle

of Princeton, he chose SGT White as the first SGT to ever command a howitzer crew.

SGT White, almost 240 years ago, epitomized everything about our NCO and Soldier Creed!

I share this because I find it important that we learn and understand our Noncommissioned Officer history.

On this 4th of July be proud of your country, proud of the Artillery, and proud of yourself. You're part of an honorable profession that has defended freedom and the American people for almost 240 years.

You represent what is most noble about our nation; courage, liberty, freedom, and unity!

Thanks for all you do for the Army and the Field Artillery!

KING OF BATTLE!!!

CSM Daniel Moriarty

FAST TRACK RECLASSIFICATION

Purpose: Founded in 2011, the *Redleg Update* provides past and present Field Artillery leaders with a monthly update of informational highlights to assist in their individual, collective and professional training efforts, as well as report on activities occurring throughout the Field Artillery community.

Official Distribution: The *Redleg Update* is distributed by the Commandant of the U.S. Army Field Artillery to key members of the Field Artillery chain of command across the U.S. Army. Past and current editions are also archived on FKN @

<https://www.us.army.mil/suite/files/34549741>

Daniel Moriarty

CSM Daniel Moriarty
Command Sergeant Major of the
Field Artillery

RFIs, Notes, and Notices: To submit a Request for Information (RFI), please email the POC listed below. The FA Commandant's Office will acknowledge receipt of RFIs within 24 hours and will attempt to provide an answer within 72 hours.

Points of Contact: We appreciate those who have provided announcements, notices, articles and lessons learned.

Additionally, if you have a story of interest or wish to initiate a discussion on any topic or issue facing the Field Artillery community, contact Mr. John Folland, (580) 558-0831, or the editor of the *Redleg Update*, Ms. Sharon McBride, Field Artillery STRATCOM officer, (580) 558-0836.

Hot Link Legend:

Green = Open Source on WWW
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on AKO/FKN

Fellow Redlegs, recently MILPER 14-148 was released to realign MOS 13T through reclassification efforts into MOS 13R for regular Army Soldiers as MOS 13T is over strength manning levels and MOS 13R is under strength manning levels.

The Army Career Tracker (ACT) is a single career management tool that will help you to:

1. This MILPER message is effective immediately and will expire NLT 90 days from release.
2. The Army continues to have overages in select MOS resulting in readiness issues across the force. This overage also impacts upward mobility for soldiers, preventing promotion into higher ranks and impacting assignment opportunities. As a result, U.S. Army Human Resources Command (HRC) is placing MOS 13T, Field Artillery Surveyor/Meteorological Crewmember, in the fast track program for a period of 90 days from the date of this message.
3. Soldiers currently serving in primary MOS 13T who meet the criteria in paragraph 4 below, are encouraged to volunteer for reclassification or reenlistment into MOS 13R, Field Artillery Firefinder Radar Operator. If the desired number of reclassifications out of MOS 13T is not achieved within 90 days of release of this message, HRC will execute DA directed reclassifications IAW the needs of the army.
4. The following prerequisites must be met to request reclassification from 13T to 13R:
 - a. Soldiers must be in the rank of Sergeant non-promotable and below.
 - b. Soldiers must not be under any suspension of favorable personnel action (flags) or have a bar to reenlistment imposed on them.
 - c. Soldiers must not have a medical readiness code of 3A or 3B. Soldiers must meet physical demands rating and PULHES as prescribed by Da Pam 611-21 for MOS 13R.
5. Soldiers who desire to reclassify into MOS 13R will contact their servicing career counselor, who will process a fast track request via retain.

6. Soldiers must successfully complete the 13R course conducted under the auspices of the U.S. Army Field Artillery School NLT 31 December 2016. HRC will coordinate all Soldiers for MOS 13R training.

7. Soldiers who have received an enlistment or reenlistment bonus for MOS 13T will not have to repay the unearned portion of their bonus upon reclassification.

8. Soldiers with questions regarding this message should contact their servicing career counselor. Career counselors with questions pertaining to this message will contact the retention and reclassification branch, HRC, EPMD using the following e-mail address: usarmy.knox.hrc.mbx.epmd-reclass@mail.mil or call the FA Enlisted Branch Career Managers @ 502-613-5931.

THE HISTORY OF THE



On July 4, 1776, the thirteen colonies claimed their independence from England, an event which eventually led to the formation of the United States. Each year on July 4th, also known as Independence Day, Americans celebrate this historic event.

Conflict between the colonies and England was already a year old when the colonies convened a Continental Congress in Philadelphia in the summer of 1776. In a June 7 session in the Pennsylvania State House (later Independence Hall), Richard Henry Lee of Virginia presented a resolution with the famous words: "Resolved: That these United Colonies are, and of right ought to be, free and independent States, that they are absolved from all allegiance to the British Crown, and that all political connection between them and the State of Great Britain is, and ought to be, totally dissolved."

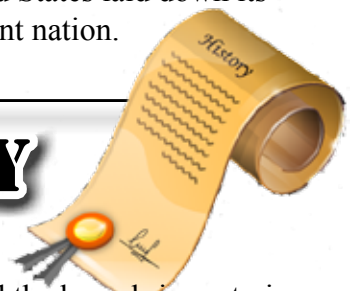
Lee's words were the impetus for the drafting of a formal Declaration of Independence, although the resolution was not followed up on immediately. On June 11, consideration of the resolution was postponed by a vote of seven colonies to five, with New York

abstaining. However, a Committee of Five was appointed to draft a statement presenting to the world the colonies' case for independence. Members of the Committee included John Adams of Massachusetts, Roger Sherman of Connecticut, Benjamin Franklin of Pennsylvania, Robert R. Livingston of New York and Thomas Jefferson of Virginia. The task of drafting the actual document fell on Jefferson.

On July 1, 1776, the Continental Congress reconvened, and on the following day, the Lee Resolution for independence was adopted by 12 of the 13 colonies, New York not voting. Discussions of Jefferson's Declaration of Independence resulted in some minor changes, but the spirit of the document was unchanged. The process of revision continued through all of July 3 and into the late afternoon of July 4, when the Declaration was officially adopted. Of the 13 colonies, nine voted in favor of the Declaration, two -- Pennsylvania and South Carolina -- voted No, Delaware was undecided and New York abstained. John Hancock, President of the Continental Congress, signed the Declaration of Independence. It is said that John Hancock's signed his name "with a great flourish" so England's "King George can read that without spectacles!"

Today, the original copy of the Declaration is housed in the National Archives in Washington, D.C., and July 4 has been designated a national holiday to commemorate the day the United States laid down its claim to be a free and independent nation.

THIS MONTH IN HISTORY "JULY"



1 July 1941, The War Department established the Field Artillery Officer Candidate School at Fort Sill.

2 July 1869, General Phillip Sheridan officially named Fort Sill in memory of his West Point Classmate, Brigadier General Joshua W. Sill, who was killed at the Battle of Stones River, Tennessee, 31 December 1862.

3 July 1968, General William C. Westmoreland, a field artillery officer and graduate of the Field Artillery School, became the 25th Chief of Staff of the U.S. Army.

6 July 1973, The Army activated the branch-immaterial Officer Candidate School at Fort Benning, Georgia, and the Field Artillery Officer Candidate School at Fort Sill closed its doors.

17 July 1902, An Act of Congress on 2 February 1901 divided the Artillery arm into Coast Artillery and Field Artillery.

30 July 1815, Thomas Jackson Rodman, a U.S. Army artilleryman, was born. He developed rifled wrought-iron artillery pieces used extensively during the American Civil War.