

UNITED STATES MILITARY ENTRANCE PROCESSING COMMAND

Messenger

SHARING INFORMATION TO REACH A VISION

VOL. 41, NO. 1

Moving to the

CLOUD



... enabling **Joint Legacy Viewer pilot**
and **MHS GENESIS**

Messenger

Sharing information to reach a vision

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NCO staff ride
Navy Chief Petty Officer Benjamin T. Wilder, Milwaukee MEPS medical NCOIC, discusses the latest and current USS Milwaukee, a littoral combat ship built by Marinette Marine in Marinette, Wisconsin. Read more about it beginning on Page 12

U.S. Military Entrance Processing Command

Col Richard T. Brady
Commander

Gaylan Johnson
Public Affairs Officer

Messenger

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Magazine Staff

Skip Wiseman, Editor
(847) 688-3680 or DSN 792-3680, Ext. 7226
E-mail: louis.wiseman.civ@mail.mil

Amy Gregorski, Cover Designer

Send submissions and changes to:
Commander
U.S. Military Entrance Processing Command
ATTN: MPA (Messenger)
2834 Green Bay Road, North Chicago, IL 60064-3091
E-mail: Messenger@mepcom.army.mil — Fax: (847) 688-2664

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Brady assumes command of USMEPCOM

By Skip Wiseman

USMEPCOM Public Affairs

Photos by Darrin McDufford

USMEPCOM Public Affairs

NORTH CHICAGO, Ill. – United States Military Entrance Processing Command welcomed a new commander at a May 24 change of command ceremony.

Marine Corps Col. Richard T. Brady assumed command, succeeding Navy Capt. David S. Kemp.

Brady will retain command of Western Sector, USMEPCOM until July 19. Kemp will assume duties with the Office of the Chief of Naval Personnel in Washington, D.C.

Stephanie P. Miller, Director of Military Accession Policy, Office of the Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense for Military Personnel Policy, officiated.

After citing Kemp's many accomplishments and efforts in the transformation area while in command, Miller focused her attention on Kemp's person-to-person relationships.

"Most importantly, she said, "you reset our relationships with recruiters and stakeholders. These efforts paid off in unprecedented trust and good will with our partners and stakeholders showing them that USMEPCOM is indeed a valued partner."

Miller then turned her attention to Brady.

"You bring to this leadership role a track record of excellence and a clear passion for the mission, the people and their families," Miller said.

Kemp thanked the staff at headquarters and the MEPS.

"You are the ones keeping this organization fair in the channel," he said. "I am truly grateful to you and thank you for your support, hard work and dedication."

Brady reflected on the command's past and future.

"For 43 years, USMEPCOM has been the pathway through which millions of Americans have been given the opportunity to serve in the armed forces," he said. "What we do and what we are will not change. We are, and we will remain, Freedom's Front Door."



Marine Corps Col. Richard T. Brady accepts the USMEPCOM guidon from Director of Military Accession Policy, Office of the Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense for Military Personnel Policy



Navy Capt. David S. Kemp, outgoing commander of USMEPCOM, administers the oath of enlistment to future Sailor Brandon Swanson of Libertyville, Illinois. Swanson reported to Boot Camp May 28. It was Kemp's last official act before relinquishing command.

USMEPCOM replaces physical servers with cloud-based servers

United States Military Entrance Command has its head in the cloud and plans to keep it there.

The command is replacing its physical file servers with cloud-based

servers. USMIRS is an armed forces, joint service component systems that supports the peacetime and mobilization mission of qualifying and enlisting applicants into the armed forces.

Rather than maintaining servers at its 65 military entrance processing stations and the headquarters, the servers will be transitioned to the “Gov Cloud,” provided by a government-approved and authorized civilian cloud computing provider.

“They won’t have their own USMIRS server at the MEPS any more,” Marty Allen, deputy director of USMEPCOM’s Information Technology Directorate (J-6), said. “They’ll still log into USMIRS, but instead of logging into their local USMIRS server that’s just down the hall, they’re connecting to a data center located elsewhere.

“Right now you have to be on the Recruiting Services Network to access USMIRS,” Allen said. “The vision is once it’s in the cloud, if you have the Web address, and you’re authorized access, you’ll be able to get it from your desktop, from your laptop, maybe even from your phone. It takes us to the future for mobile computing.”

Moving to the cloud clears the way for USMIRS 1.1 to replace the nearly 30-year-old legacy USMIRS system and paves the way for integrating with Military Health System GENESIS. MHS GENESIS is the Department of Defense’s new electronic health record.

In many ways, going from the legacy USMIRS to USMIRS 1.1 will be like going from driving a 25-year-old sedan to driving a brand new sports car.

Fielding USMIRS 1.1 requires integrating more than 25 applications with the new system. Most of the integration work is a J-6 responsibility. The directorate is working closely with the Defense Digital Service and Tandem, a Chicago-based civilian custom software developer.

“USMIRS 1.1 is being specifically built on a cloud-based platform,” Allen said. “It’s even on cloud servers while it’s in development. It’s being developed natively to be more user accessible and based on modern technology. It’s not like we’re building it in the basement here at the headquarters and then figuring out how we’re going to get it to the cloud. It’s being built in the cloud.”



Photo by Amy Gregorski

“

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One of the most exciting things is the ability to quickly adjust to meet the mission.

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Photo by Amy Gregorski

Allen said how humans interact with screens and systems wasn't a concern in the computer world when USMIRS was originally developed. Screen and field appearance and, navigation weren't really considered. The end user was not part of the design process.

"USMIRS 1.1 brings our applicant processing system up to modern day standards of human-system interface, so

data is entered in a way that makes sense," Allen said.

For example, even seemingly minor differences can have a huge impact. USMIRS 1.1 is mouse friendly; legacy USMIRS is not. With the new system, users can navigate screens in a manner to which they have become accustomed from the best websites available.

USMIRS 1.1 will also make things

simpler for the information technology professionals who maintain the system.

"Right now, we actually run and maintain 66 different legacy USMIRS," Allen said. "Detroit is not the same as Milwaukee, which is not the same as Chicago. They all run the same software, but each is its own system.

"If we make a change with the legacy USMIRS we've got to develop it and deploy it 66 times to make sure everyone is in sync," he said. "If we update USMIRS 1.1 we update it in one place, we update one item, and the entire command has that change immediately.

"One of the most exciting things is the ability to quickly adjust to meet the mission," Allen said. "Right now, in the morning when we only have the East Coast MEPS up and running, legacy USMIRS runs really well. It slows a little bit when the Midwest MEPS start business. When the Mountain Time Zone starts, it gets slower. By the time the West Coast is up and running, we have bottlenecks with the network and processing speed ability."

"USMIRS 1.1 will adjust capacity dynamically," he said. "It can automatically spin up new servers to provide for the increased demand.

"Hypothetically, in the morning we may be running USMIRS 1.1 off of four servers in the cloud to support the East Coast MEPS. Then when the Midwest MEPS come on line, we're running on six servers.

"By the time the Mountain and West Coast MEPS comes on line, we're running on 16 servers.

"Then in the evening, when the MEPS on the East Coast start to shut down, those servers will automatically shut down. We will have the ability to respond dynamically in real time to meet customer demands."

USMIRS 1.1 is currently being tested at the Milwaukee MEPS. When fully operational, it will most likely be deployed one USMEPCOM battalion at a time, however deployment plans are not yet finalized.

Kirchhoff's experience fits well with MHS GENESIS, JLV projects

Suzanne Kirchhoff is the medical program business manager for USMEPCOM's Medical Plans and Policy Directorate.

She manages the command's medical transformation efforts to take full advantage of the Department of Defense's new Military Health System GENESIS electronic health record and the Joint Legacy Viewer.

When fully deployed, MHS GENESIS, which features enhanced, secure technology to manage health information, will be the single health record for service members, veterans, and their families.

When USMEPCOM is integrated into MHS GENESIS, MEPS will initiate the electronic health record for each new member of the All-Volunteer Force, a record that will follow them from enlistment, through their careers, and finally into Veterans Affairs after their service is complete.

The JLV is a web-based, read-only health history information viewer from the Department of Defense, Department of Veterans Affairs and private sector partners.

Before creating GENESIS records, some applicant electronic medical records will be available for viewing via the JLV.

"Today in the MEPS, we administer medical screening examinations on all applicants for enlistment, recording their information on paper," Kirchhoff said.

"And at the end of the day, MEPS personnel transfer the written data into a computer. The goal is to input the information into the computer directly and avoid paper altogether."

Kirchhoff has been involved with every step of the MHS GENESIS and JLV initiatives, and thanks to her guidance and diligence MHS GENESIS is under contract with the Defense Health Agency and MHS GENESIS builder Leidos Partnership for Defense Health.

This means USMEPCOM's requirements are being addressed by MHS GENESIS's creators and managers.

It's a long road before the project is complete, but the changes will transform

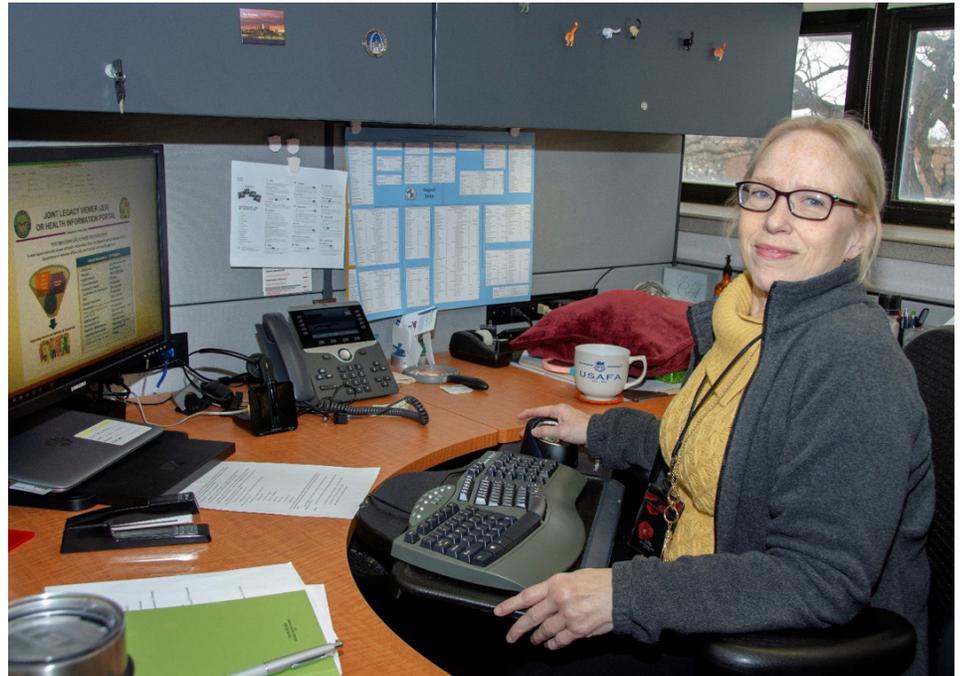


Photo by Amy Gregorski

Suzanne Kirchhoff

USMEPCOM's applicant medical screening process.

Kirchhoff's experience makes her ideally suited to manage these projects.

"My acquisition training gave me a varied background," she said. "I know how to do cost estimating, I know how to do project management. I know a little about testing and evaluation. I know about budget stuff."

"You have to know all those things when you're implementing a big program like this," Kirchhoff said. "One thing I've noticed I bring to USMEPCOM is perspective. I've had a lot of different jobs, I've done a lot of different things. And that helps because I have so much to look back on and gather."

"When you do a lot of things and you've been in a lot of environments, you can see there are different ways of doing the same thing," she said. "And that's probably my biggest advantage: I have a lot of perspective."

Kirchhoff's experience ranges from supporting satellite initiatives with NASA and the University of Maryland to working with the Army's chief scientist. Her favorite part of working for the government is the clear guidance and structure.

"I like the way things are laid out," she said. "There's a way of getting things done and there's documentation for it. When I realized the government had policies and everything was documented and all you had to do was find the documentation and follow it, I thought that was great."

She also appreciates the challenges projects like MHS Genesis and JLV present.

"It's fun to know there is a process, but it's great to know you're covering new ground and doing something different, too. It takes longer and it's harder, but it's more of a challenge and you have to use more of your own insights to do that. So I do enjoy that," Kirchhoff said.

"Right now I am working on how to best transition the USMEPCOM workforce into using these new tools with as little impact as possible," she said.

"I embrace change. I love it, but a lot of people don't," Kirchhoff said. "Some people find it difficult to abandon long-standing ways of doing things, especially if they've been doing the same thing, the same way, for a considerable period of time. I'm working to make learning new ways of doing business as easy as possible."

Joint Legacy Viewer pilot program begins at eight MEPS

The next step forward to all-digital processing by United States Military Entrance Processing Command has begun with Phase II of a pilot program for the Joint Legacy Viewer, known as JLV, at eight Military Entrance Processing Stations. The JLV will ultimately be deployed to all 65 MEPS.

Spokane, Washington, MEPS was the site for Phase I of the pilot program and also participated in Phase II.

Additional MEPS taking part in Phase II are Albany, New York; Anchorage, Alaska; Knoxville, Tennessee, Portland, Oregon; Seattle, Washington; Springfield,

Massachusetts; and Syracuse, New York.

The JLV is a web-based, read-only viewer of health history information retained by the Department of Defense, Department of Veterans Affairs and private sector partners.

It will be integrated with Military Health System GENESIS, which will initiate the electronic health record for each new member of the All-Volunteer Force when it is fully deployed.

The record will follow individuals from enlistment, through their careers, and finally into Veterans Affairs after their service is complete.

Phase II is limited to applicants with prior service, because they already have an electronic health record due to their earlier service.

The pilot will collect 150-200 records for review before it goes nationwide to all 65 MEPS for all prior service applicants.

The program will expand to all applicants after the nationwide test is concluded.

The JLV is an authoritative source of health information from DoD, the Department of Veterans Affairs and private healthcare exchanges.

Medical conditions that existed prior to service, known as EPTS, have cost millions of dollars due to enlisting people with pre-existing medical conditions that aren't compatible with a successful career in the armed forces.

The aptitude and moral screening process for applicants has long included authoritative information, while medical screening has relied on applicants' self-disclosure of their medical history.

The pilot program will determine the accuracy of responses on the prescreen form, validate how much time it will take the chief medical officer to use the tool, and establish how to incorporate the JLV into medical processing and how to communicate JLV findings to service medical waiver review authorities.

Access to authoritative medical information will yield better informed medical qualification decisions and give medical waiver authorities more complete medical histories of disqualified applicants so they can make more informed risk assessments and ultimately decrease medical attrition.

USMEPCOM's transformation efforts, which will ultimately lead to all-digital processing also includes converting a 40-year-old legacy USMEPCOM Integrated Resource System into a cloud-based scalable system called USMIRS 1.1, incorporating MHS GENESIS and JLV into daily operations and electronically transmitting all enlistment records to training centers.



Dr. Todd Peters, Knoxville MEPS chief medical officer, uses the Joint Legacy Viewer to verify a prior-service applicant's medical history during the prescreen process.

Navy recruits travel to Boot Camp with business envelope

Recruits are arriving at Naval Station Great Lakes without the traditional large manila envelope containing their enlistment records.

Beginning in early December, recruits now travel from one of the 65 Military Entrance Processing Stations throughout the nation, to boot camp at Recruit Training Command, Naval Station Great Lakes, Illinois, with a single business-size envelope easily placed in pocket or purse

The envelope contains only three items: a meal voucher, one copy of the recruit's orders with travel instructions



A Navy recruit alights from the bus under the watchful eye of a recruit division commander.



Recruits carry the bulky manila envelopes.

printed on the reverse side and the recruit's travel itinerary.

Thanks to a combination of advances in policy and processing, the Navy and the United States Military Entrance Processing Command have eliminated

the decades-old requirement that individual recruits carry the iconic large manila envelope full of records, referred to as a "shipper packet," in transit.

The move reduces the potential compromise of personal information due to loss of the packet, and will eventually result in a savings of millions of printed pages of paper.

The Air Force was the first service to go "packetless" when it instituted the practice in March 2018.

New EKG process cuts down on consults and saves time, money

Gone are the days when military applicants will be sent to cardiologists for an electrocardiogram.

USMEPCOM is taking advantage of a new service offered by Logistics Health Incorporated, or LHI, which provides EKG interpretation in a maximum of 72 hours.

According to T.C. Allen, assistant program manager for USMEPCOM at LHI, MEPS medical personnel take EKGs of applicants who have heart issues or are more than 40 years old.

The EKG is uploaded to LHI's online portal. LHI cardiologists interpret the EKG and electronically send the result to the MEPS chief medical officer in an average of 24 hours. The chief medical officer renders a decision or requests an in-person consultation.

The main benefit to the MEPS is "the cost saving, not needing that cardiology counsel," Lt. Col. John Balman, USMEPCOM Medical Plans and Policy Directorate chief of Clinical Operations Division, said.

A cardiologist consult costs around

\$300-\$400. Al Fuerte, USMEPCOM Medical Plans and Policy Directorate chief of Quality Management Branch, said. The LHI EKG process costs less than \$30.

Since USMEPCOM began using the service Oct. 1, 115 EKGs have been interpreted for MEPS throughout the command. The future of telemedicine looks even brighter once the command adopts Military Health System GENESIS and test results will all be in the same place.

Honolulu deploys team to Compact Agreement Treaty islands

By Navy Lt. Cmdr. Gina Baker
Honolulu MEPS Commander

Last year in Koror City, Palau, 25 Army applicants from Palau and the Federated States of Micronesia took their oath of enlistment.

Palauan Vice President Raynold Oilouch, U.S. Ambassador Amy Hyatt, family and friends of the applicants and other community members attended the ceremony.

Despite being a sovereign country, the people of the Republic of Palau, along with the Federated States of Micronesia and the Marshall Islands are authorized to join the All-Volunteer Force under the Compact Agreement Treaties with the United States.

The Honolulu MEPS supports the treaty through annual Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery testing and processing trips.

In coordination with the embassies, ministers of education, local schools and U.S. Army recruiters for proctor support, MEPS testing clerks travel to

the islands twice a year to administer the ASVAB. These testing trips are the only opportunity applicants have to test.

Months later, the applicants undergo medical examinations and process for enlistment when the Honolulu MEPS personnel return on an enlistment processing trip.

The Honolulu MEPS executes this mission by sending an officer in charge, a chief medical officer, a male and female medical technician and a human resources assistant.

In addition to the staff's personal luggage, three large pelican cases and three suitcases transport the medical and processing equipment and all applicant records, paperwork, nametags and processing lists.

Over about 10 days, and without much information technology or other support, the team completes all processing functions so the applicants may enlist.

The Honolulu MEPS has been responsible for this mission,



Applicants from Compact Agreement Treaty nations take the oath of enlistment to join the United States Military.

with an area of responsibility covering 14 million square miles, since the Compact Agreements were signed in the mid-1980s. That mission has come full circle for three people.

Don A. "Mr. Jay" Johnson, Honolulu MEPS lead human resources assistant, has been completing these trips and processing applicants since 2004.

In 2007, Lannie Garayol from Yap, Federal States of Micronesia, and Nakoli Sakaio from Majuro, Marshall Islands, both entered the U.S. Army after being processed for enlistment by "Mr. Jay."

Garayol is now a staff sergeant and an Army recruiter for Palau and all of the Compact Agreement countries. Sakaio is now a staff sergeant and also a recruiter for the Compact Agreement countries.

During the 2018 Palau trip, Garayol helped enlist 25 future soldiers in the same location. Sakaio, who enlisted eight years ago on the processing trip to Majuro, helped enlist 15 future soldiers on the most recent Majuro trip.

"Mr. Jay," who was present for both Garayol's and Sakaio's enlistment ceremonies, made the 2018 processing trip and attended 2018's ceremony as well.



Don A. "Mr. Jay" Johnson, Honolulu MEPS lead human resource assistant, flanked by Army Staff Sgt. Nakoli Sakaio and Staff Sgt. Lannie Garayol.

Monterey hosts Post Test Interpretation training

Three sessions of Post Test Interpretation proficiency training for the Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery Career Exploration Program were held Feb 26-28, March 12-14 and March 19-21 in Monterey, California.

ASVAB CEP is offered to high school and post-secondary students to help them explore and plan civilian or military careers that match their interests and abilities.

The training certified 170 education services specialists and other testing personnel assigned to United States Military Entrance Processing Command, and recruiting service ESS's and recruiters assigned to all five military branches to conduct interpretations and workshops with students, educators and parents.

The standardized training helps improve delivery of the CEP while sharing ideas about marketing the program.

Building relationships between organizations involved with the program enables proficiency in conducting interpretations and provides a "train the trainer" model.

Training sessions are conducted by area so all stakeholders in the same



April Wise, education services specialist for USMEPCOM's Eastern Sector opens her laptop at the Post Test Interpretation proficiency training.



Attendees at Post Test Interpretation proficiency training discuss the Career Exploration Program.

area of operation can attend together and discuss how to work together as a team. As a result, each attendee will understand his or her role in making the program successful.

People who complete the training are able to:

- Explain the ASVAB and how the various elements of the Career Exploration Program are applied to facilitate career literacy.
- Gain an understanding of the issues encountered in schools and during post-test interpretations and tools to overcome roadblocks.
- Develop a multi-stakeholder perspective in delivering the ASVAB CEP.
- Conduct a post-test interpretation.
- Use a standardized metric to determine proficiency of post-test interpretations.

- Discuss and plan activities and communication strategies to drive users to CEP websites.

After completing the training attendees will be able to:

- Conduct post-test interpretations covering required elements.
 - Conduct post-test interpretations for different audience profiles.
 - Understand how other people can contribute to the ASVAB CEP mission.
 - Answer common questions from the field concerning the ASVAB CEP.
 - Assess others proficiency in conducting post-test interpretations.
- Dave Serra of USMEPCOM's Operations Directorate Testing Division helped plan, develop and coordinate the first ever training event.



Attendees at Post Test Interpretation proficiency training listen to a presentation.



Arizona Sen. Martha McSally addresses Arizona educators about her experiences as young adult trying to figure out what she wanted to be when she grew up before eventually pursuing her dream of being a fighter pilot.

Senator attends ASVAB summit at Phoenix MEPS

The Arizona Career Exploration Summit, known as ACES, was held April 18 at the Phoenix Military Entrance Processing Station.

The event addressed the value of the Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery Career Exploration Program in Arizona high schools. Principals, educators and counselors from 40 Arizona schools attended.

Arizona Sen. Martha McSally; Stephanie Miller, Department of Defense director of military accession policy; Marine Corps Col. Richard Brady, USMEPCOM commander; Dr. Shannon Salyer, national program director of ASVAB CEP; Dr. Joseph Cuffari, Arizona policy advisor for Military and Veteran Affairs representing Arizona Gov. Doug Ducey; Navy Lt. Cmdr. Michael Dickerson, Phoenix MEPS commander; and leaders of USMEPCOM's 7th Battalion also attended.



Senator McSally greets Patricia Thompson, a human resources assistant at the Phoenix MEPS, during the senator's tour of the MEPS.



Stephanie Miller, Department of Defense director of military accession policy, delivers remarks at the Arizona Career Exploration Summit.

Headquarters, Chicago, Milwaukee conduct NCO staff ride

Noncommissioned officers from United States Military Entrance Processing Headquarters and the Chicago and Milwaukee Military Entrance Processing Stations conducted a staff ride at the Milwaukee War Memorial Center Jan. 18.

Selected participants presented briefings on historic military events and people. Area veteran mentors made presentations on their experiences in the military.

Army Command Sgt. Maj. Christian J. Carr, USMEPCOM senior enlisted advisor, Army 1st Sgt.

Helder D. Depina, USMEPCOM Headquarters first sergeant, and Army Master Sgt. Shenecqua T. Mouzon-Smith planned the event.

“We wanted to bring NCOs from each of our services assigned to this area to do a staff ride,” Carr said. “Staff rides are highly underutilized in the NCO world and it’s foreign to the other services. We thought it would be a good venue to provide some history, education and team building for Milwaukee, Chicago and the Headquarters.”

A staff ride is a historical study of a campaign or battle. They originated with the German army in the late 19th century.

The War Memorial Center is Wisconsin’s most visible memorial to all who have served in the U.S. armed services. It features displays on historical events from the Civil War to the present day.



Army Master Sgt. Richard D. Pina, USMEPCOM assistant inspector general, presents information about the Korean War.



Vietnam Army veteran George Banda speaks about his experience during the war. The photo on the top left is of Banda being presented the Purple Heart.



Marine Corps Gunnery Sgt. Christopher Young of the Human Resource Directorate (J-1) Military Personnel Section briefs on Wisconsin Marines who died in Operation Iraqi Freedom.



Navy Chief Petty Officer Benjamin T. Wilder, Milwaukee MEPS medical NCOIC, discusses the latest and current USS Milwaukee, a littoral combat ship built by Marinette Marine in Marinette, Wisconsin.



Vietnam Army veteran Mike Malloy discusses the life and career of Milwaukee native Army Gen. Douglas MacArthur



Army Sgt. 1st Class Danhay K. Bailey, USMEPCOM assistant inspector general, discusses the Korean War.

Fast start for Des Moines operations officer at the U.S. Cross-Country Championships

Navy Lt. j.g. Stanley Linton returned to familiar territory Feb. 3 to represent the Navy in his first U.S. Cross-Country Championships at the Apalachee Regional Park in Tallahassee, Florida.

Linton competed in NCAA Division 1 cross-country for Florida State University from 2014 to 2017. Linton competed for the Seminoles several times on their home course at the park.

Linton, operations officer at the Des

Moines MEPS, was selected to the All-Navy Cross-Country Team in September. Selection to All-Navy sports teams is very competitive due to the limited number of roster spots on each team. Applications are open to all sailors currently serving in the Navy.

Linton was one of seven sailors selected to compete at the U.S. Cross-Country Championships.

Linton quickly established his position

in the Senior Men's 10K behind the lead pack with Navy teammate, Lt. Cmdr. William Christian. Linton lost contact with Christian, who went on to finish 31st overall, after the first two miles. Linton, crossed the finish line in 31 minutes 57 seconds, averaging 5:09 per mile, and placed 37th.

Linton was uneasy about his first appearance at the U.S. Championship. "It was a great honor to compete on the big stage, but I've got a lot of work to do to move in the top 20," he said. "I came into the race with only six weeks of training, so I didn't have high expectations. It did give me a great indication of where my fitness is, and that's important."

Linton will next represent the Navy at the USA Half-Marathon Championships May 5. The race will be held in conjunction with the Pittsburgh Half-Marathon.

"My long-term goal is to run under 66 minutes in the half-marathon. That comes out to a 5:02 mile pace for 13.1 miles. If I can accomplish that goal, I'll be in a great position to run under 2 hours and 19 minutes in the full marathon," said Linton. The 2:19:00 Linton is referring to is the minimum standard for the Olympic Marathon Trials.

"Making it to the Olympic Trials has been on my mind for three years. It's the main goal I've been working toward," he said. "I'm planning on being there in 2020."



Navy Lt. j.g. Stanley Linton, Des Moines MEPS operations officer, competes at the U.S. Cross-country Championships.

NCO earns Army recognition

Army Col. Michael T. McTigue, commandant, and Army Command Sgt. Maj. Cory W. Gill, of the Adjutant General School and Regiment, formally recognized Staff Sgt. Alejandro Torres as the 2019 Adjutant General Corps Regimental Association NCO of the Year.

Torres serves as USMEP-COM Army Liaison in the Hu-

man Resources Directorate.

Torres was selected over NCOs competing from every Army major command. He will receive the coveted SGM Larry Strickland Medal for Distinguished Achievement and will be formally recognized at the 2019 Adjutant General Ball in Columbia, South Carolina, in June.



Col. Michael T. McTigue and Command Sgt. Maj. Cory W. Gill congratulate Staff Sgt. Alejandro Torres.

Albany MEPS petty officer competes for joint award

Navy Petty Officer 1st Class Onyeka E. Abadom of the Albany MEPS was one of five finalists for Joint Command Sailor of the Year.

Abadom is the United States Military Entrance Processing Command Junior Noncommissioned Officer of the Year.

“Even though Petty Officer Abadom wasn’t selected, I am super proud of him and the fact that for the first time in the history of USMEPCOM we had one of our sailors reach the top five in this competition,” Navy Capt. David S. Kemp, former USMEPCOM commander, said.

“The competition was truly one of the most competitive I’ve seen, with a distinct group of uniquely qualified, driven sailors across the joint arena,” said Navy Capt. Nicole-DeRamus-Suazo, chief of the Human Capital Division, Joint Staff Manpower and Personnel Directorate and commanding officer of the Joint Staff Navy Element, said in an email announc-

ing the results of the competition. “All of your sailors should be proud of their accomplishments and nominations.

“Fifteen commands, to include the Joint Staff, submitted nominees. The top five nominees were selected as finalists and boarded by five Navy Master Chiefs (with

prior advancement board experience) via video teleconference,” DeRamus-Suazo said. “The board members were genuinely impressed with the quality and caliber of the nominations, as well as the professionalism and preparation of the sailors who appeared before the board.”



Marine Corps Maj. Daniel P. Firestone, Albany MEPS commander, and Army 1st Sgt. Clara W. Walters, Albany MEPS senior enlisted advisor, congratulate Navy Petty Officer 1st Class Onyeka E. Abadom on competing for the Joint Sailor of the Year Award.



Sharing medical prescreen workload

A pilot program to speed up the medical prescreen review process was recently conducted by United States Military Entrance Processing Command. The pilot involved transferring medical prescreen information from Baltimore Military Entrance Processing Station to Eastern Sector headquarters to eliminate a backlog. If the program is implemented, files might be shared between two MEPS or between a MEPS and sector headquarters. The length of time allowed to review a prescreen file varies based on the number of pages. Sharing the workload between MEPS and/or sector headquarters will reduce the time between when recruiters submit the prescreen to the MEPS and when an applicant processes. A medical prescreen details the medical history of an applicant. Backlogs most often occur at high-volume MEPS or those experiencing staffing shortages.

ONE GIANT LEAP



WE CAME IN PEACE FOR ALL MANKIND



1969

5



2019



SCAN AND VIEW



MOMENTS IN HISTORY



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