

U.S. Army Aviation and Missile Command

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AMCOM selects new SAMD director

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As a young engineer, the opportunity to work on cutting-edge technologies and ensure the U.S. military had the best systems and technologies available drew Larry Gunter to Army civilian service nearly three decades ago.

Gunter has spent his entire 29-year Army career at Redstone Arsenal, Alabama, including the last five years as deputy director of U.S. Army Test, Measurement and Diagnostic Equipment Activity, and recently was named the new director of U.S. Army

Aviation and Missile Command Security Assistance Management Directorate.

"Larry Gunter is a proven leader of character – we have been lucky to have him in AMCOM and USATA and now even luckier to have him take the reins of SAMD," said Maj. Gen. Todd Royar, AMCOM commanding general.

Royar also expressed his gratitude to SAMD Deputy Director Rick Story, who served as the acting director for several months... **READ MORE**

New supplemental program equips supervisors with additional tools

New supervisors are taking part in an enhanced course geared toward creating effective leaders.

Designed to complement the Army's mandatory supervisor development course, the U.S. Army Aviation and Missile Command Supervisory Skills Development Program is



required for all supervisors within their first year in a management position.

AMCOM had a similar program that ran from 2012 to 2016 but it stopped after a leadership change... **READ MORE**

AMCOM G-1 updates MVP award program



In December, U.S. Army Aviation and Missile Command Commanding General Maj. Gen. Todd Royar wrote a column on "hunting the good" and making a conscious effort to highlight the positive things happening across the command.

A recently revamped program can help supervisors recognize excellence in their teams.

The MVP program is part of the AMCOM Award and Recognition Program and is just one of many employee-appreciation mechanisms.

Supervisors will continue to submit MVP selections just as they did before. Before now, board members would only meet quarterly to review packets.

Now, three director-level voting board members will review AMCOM MVP nominations monthly... **READ MORE**

Leading change

While it's probably been said just about every year in the past, it's just as true this year – if we want to stay relevant in the

future, then we must be not only willing to change, but to drive change within our organization.



I contend the best ideas usually come from you. You know your job better than anyone: what's good, what's not so good and how we can make it better.

Many of you already have led change not only within AMCOM, but are leading change across the entire Army. Did you know:

- individuals from the aviation and missile enterprises completed 82 value engineering projects saving the Army over \$200 million in 2020 alone?
- an AMCOM employee recommended changing how weapon systems readiness rates are reported in the Army, and those changes are being developed now?
- a set of AMCOM employees developed the system by which technical manuals are viewed for the entire Army?
- a set of AMCOM employees are leading the creation of a 3D Computer Aided Design model for a UH-60L –first of its kind across the entire Army?

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Those are just a few examples; there are more out there.

The point is that each of those started with an idea by someone in the workforce and is now having an impact Armywide.

I encourage you to raise the issue, recommend your great idea and have the courage to see it through.

Bottom line: you can lead change across our Army!
Army Strong!

Maj. Gen. Todd Royar AMCOM commanding general

AMCOM CG discusses vaccine distribution, workforce diversity during virtual town hall



The commanding general of the U.S. Army Aviation and Missile Command, Maj. Gen. Todd Royar, along with AMCOM Command Sgt. Maj. Mike Dove hosted a virtual town hall Jan. 28 from AMCOM headquarters at Redstone Arsenal, Alabama.

The monthly event began with people first, as the leaders recognized AMCOM employees worldwide who were recognized

as MVPs on their teams. They highlighted their individual accomplishments and thanked the workforce for their dedication to excellence.

The town hall also provided an update on new laptop distribution, budgeting and resources and changes to Army Regulation 670-1, which includes new guidance on Army uniforms and several other key changes.

However, the main topic was the anticipated COVID-19 vaccine arrival date and distribution plan.

Royar said AMCOM is following the same priority listing as the entire Department of Defense... **READ MORE**

AMCOM employee experiences history as part of Operation Warp Speed

A U.S. Army Aviation and Missile Command employee had a unique opportunity to contribute to the Operation Warp Speed mission on a 90-day detail assignment.

Lisa Simunaci, an inspector with the AMCOM Inspector General office, recently returned from Washington, D.C., where she assisted U.S. Army Materiel Command Public Affairs Team Lead Kim Hanson in providing public affairs support to the historic operation.

Although she was assigned as an inspector with the AMCOM IG office in the summer of 2020, Simunaci has an extensive public affairs background, having worked in that capacity at AMCOM, AMC and the U.S. Army Recruiting Command. She was asked to use that expertise as part of a small team at Operation Warp Speed.

"Operation Warp Speed was charged with accelerating the development and delivery of a safe and effective vaccine to the American people," said Simunaci. "Its goal to do that in less than a year was unprecedented – so the effort and pace were intense."

About 100 members of the DOD, including 75 service members from all branches and DOD civilians, shared that mission. The public affairs efforts included strategic messaging, media relations and virtual



community events that connected leaders with large groups that could help spread the message.

"With Operation Warp Speed, everybody heard, 'fast,' but fast doesn't always translate to safe... **READ MORE**





Awards ceremony lauds excellence in value engineering



U.S. Army Aviation and Missile Command Commanding General Maj. Gen. Todd Royar hosted a virtual Value Engineering/ Army Working Capital Fund Investment Program Awards Ceremony Feb. 8 from Bob Jones Auditorium at Redstone Arsenal, Alabama.

Value engineering is a concept that refers to doing more with less – getting the biggest bang for the buck or getting the maximum benefit while minimizing resources needed to accomplish a feat. The AWCF is a revolving fund used to finance the continuous flow of goods and services to its customers.

"Our programs have been recognized both nationally and internationally," said Tom Reynolds... **READ MORE**



AMCOM CG recognizes workforce

AMCOM Commanding General Maj. Gen. Todd Royar (left) and Command Sgt. Major Mike Dove took part in an awards ceremony to recognize employees of the Aviation Center Logistics Command at Fort Rucker, Ala., Feb. 2. Staff Sgt. Fernando Pedregotoscano (right) receives a coin from Royar for stepping outside his normal duties and positively impacting the battle rhythm of the Lowe Army Heliport over the past six weeks.

This month in history



Feb. 11, 1920: Gen. Daniel "Chappie" James Jr. was born in Pensacola, Florida. James was one of the original Tuskegee Airmen during World War II. He flew combat missions during the Korean and Vietnam Wars and was the first African American to achieve the rank of four-star general Sept. 1, 1975.



Feb. 13, 1991: Battery A, 21st Field Artillery Regiment, launched the first Multiple Launch Rocket System munitions to be fired in combat during Operation Desert Storm. MLRS units from other coalition members were also involved in Desert Storm and proved the value of the successful operation of the multinational system.



Feb. 27, 1981: The basic Stinger weapon system achieved its initial operational capability when the first six-team STINGER section in Europe received tactical hardware and could perform combat missions in the field.

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