

U.S. Army Aviation and Missile Command **FILIGHT**

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BEYA strengthens AMCOM's diverse workforce



The commander of the U.S. Army Aviation and Missile Command, or AMCOM, and the director of the AMCOM Logistics Center will meet in-person and virtually with hundreds of job candidates to continue to build AMCOM's diverse workforce.

During the 37th Annual BEYA Career Fair, Feb. 10 and 11, AMCOM commander, Maj. Gen. Thomas O'Connor, and AMCOM Logistics Center Director, Brian Wood, will meet in-person and virtually with graduating college students and other young professionals to discuss immediate job opportunities with AMCOM.

BEYA, which stands for the Black

Engineer of the Year Award and Be Everything You Are, has been an important venue for introducing the nation's minority STEM (science, technology, engineering and mathematics)-educated students to the workplace. During that time, the Army, including AMCOM, has partnered with BEYA to connect with the recent graduates in the science and technology fields. **READ MORE**

AMC EDCG offers career guidance to AMCOM employees

The Army Materiel Command's Executive Deputy to the Commanding General says she's proof that anything is possible.

Marion Whicker, AMC's EDCG, started her government service career as an Army intern, serving as a GS5 item manager, steadily progressed up the GS ranks, and was appointed to the Senior



Executive Service in 2018 -- in her words -- proving her theory that anything is possible.

Whicker spent the day with U.S. Army Aviation and Missile Command, or AMCOM, leadership, directors and employees, Jan. 13. During her visit, she candidly shared her reasons for joining government service and why she wanted to lead.

"I was one of 10 children who always had to fall in line. I wanted to make a difference," she said. Whicker also touched on the other perks of government service: 13 paid holidays each year, 2 ½ weeks of annual leave and... **READ MORE**

The big picture

Hello, AMCOM! February is Black History Month. This month and every month, we honor the courageous service of Black Americans to our

Nation. Black Americans make up about 19 percent of our total Army and serve at every level of military



leadership. This year marks the 75th anniversary of the Executive Order that desegregated our Armed Forces. But the truth of the matter is that while their contributions were not always recognized, Black Soldiers have served proudly in all our Nation's wars. To celebrate the contributions of Black Americans, U.S. Army Security Assistance Command will host the Black History Month Observance in the Bob Jones Auditorium on Feb. 22 from 10 to 11 a.m.

The new year is starting off to be a busy one for all of us. For AMCOM Logistics Center, this is the month they will implement the Supply Chain Optimization (SCO) initiative. Go Live started Jan. 30. As some of you know, this is a holistic approach to standardize and streamline the supply chain across the Army Materiel Command. In fact, it's an entire culture change. ALC will transition from our traditional item manager roles to more specialized roles and functions such as Supply Planners, Demand Planners, and Order Fulfillment Specialists. I realize this transition will pull people outside their comfort zones into something ...

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Pursuing the dream —the quest to become a medevac officer

Corpus Christi Army Depot has a relationship with the Texas A&M Corpus Christi U.S. Army ROTC program to cultivate future leaders.

On Aug. 29, soon after assuming command, CCAD Commander, Col. Kyle Hogan, administered the oath to five students of the TAMUCC U.S. Army ROTC program. A few weeks later, CCAD Sgt. Maj. Jon Trawick was invited to address the cadets on the importance of mutual respect between the officer and enlisted ranks.

Col. Hogan and Trawick recognize that investing in tomorrow's leaders is critical to the U.S. Army's success. Therefore, they strive to share the Army's

2nd Lt. Kamdyn Matthews received a letter of recommendation from CCAD commander, Col. Kyle Hogan, that helped achieve her dream of becoming a medevac officer.

possibilities for pursuing passions, discovering purpose, and building a lifelong community. There are 200 ways to serve as a Soldier in areas, such as science, cybersecurity, combat forces, aviation, medicine, and law — all of which are necessary for the Army to accomplish its missions.

On Dec. 18, a recent Texas A&M University Army ROTC... READ MORE



AMCOM Chief of Staff retiring after 29 years of active-duty service

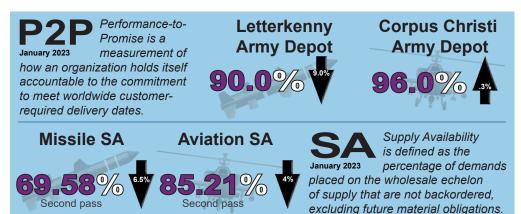
Growing up on a small farm in Kansas, Col. David Almquist dreamed of becoming a veterinarian. After all, he was surrounded by all sorts of animals and was keenly aware of the upkeep required to care for them.

However, life progressed and he grew older. He decided to follow a family tradition of service to his country. His service would take him all over the world in the cockpit of the admittedly awesome AH-64 Apache helicopter.

Almquist is retiring after 29 years in the Army. Almquist has served just about everywhere, from the small farm in Kansas to the rugged battlefields of Afghanistan, with his final assignment being the Chief of Staff at the U.S. Army Aviation and Missile Command.

Service to the nation came naturally to Almquist, given his family's strong military ties.

"There's a long-standing record of service in my family," Almquist said. "My great-grandmother served in the Army, and I had great uncles in... **READ MORE**



The big picture

continued from Page 1 ...new and unfamiliar. At the same time, the SCO initiative provides many benefits as well. For the Warfighters we support, this effort will result in more effective and efficient supply chain management support to them. For ALC employees, the reorganization and training provide new skills, a better understanding of ALC, and a better understanding of the SCO process. As important, new skills provide more opportunities for leadership and advancement in the organization.

Just a couple of weeks ago, AMCOM hosted Ms. Marion Whicker for the day. The Executive Deputy to the Commanding General of Army Materiel Command (AMC) *is responsible for materiel life cycle* management, acquisition support, personnel and resource management, industrial base operations, and enterprise integration for AMC. Ms. Whicker is no stranger to AMC. She served previously as the Executive Director of the Integrated Logistics Support Center with the U.S. Army Tank-automotive and Armaments Command. During her leadership development session with AMCOM employees, Ms. Whicker, who has been a member of the Senior Executive Service since 2018, shared that she started her government career as a GS-5 item manager. She said she found success by looking for and taking advantage of opportunities ... continued on Page 3



AMCOM provides lifesaving training and equipment

For anyone who's ever watched a medical show on television, you've probably seen someone shocked back to life after suffering some sort of emergency. The device being used is called a defibrillator and it can get a person's heart... **READ MORE**



Celebrating 65 Years of the Army in space: The launch of EXPLORER I



Late on the night of Jan. 31, 1958, it was party time in downtown Huntsville, Alabama. Thousands of local residents gathered on the square around the county courthouse amid the din created by blaring

sirens, blasting car horns, exploding fireworks, and the sounds of human jubilation. People waved their own homemade signs or held up placards provided by the city's... **READ MORE**

The big picture

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...to grow and advance in the organization. The SCO initiative presents similar opportunities for our employees to grow and advance as well.

At the end of the day, it is all about supporting the Warfighter. As we work through transitions and experience natural friction, always keep in mind that Soldier that depends on us to make it all happen. Regardless of what our structure looks like, we will continue to deliver aviation and missile readiness to the forward edge while we also set the conditions to sustain the enterprise of the future.

If you have questions on SCO or any other AMCOM program, I look forward to answering them during our AMCOM Town Hall on Feb. 21 starting at 9 a.m. If you are able, I invite you to attend in person as I enjoy talking to all of you. Those who choose may also attend virtually on MS Teams.

Thanks for all you do! This team continues to amaze me every single day!

Army Strong!

MG Tom O'Connor, Jr. AMCOM Commanding General



Feb. 2, 1901: The Army Nurse Corps became a permanent fixture of the Medical Department under the Army Reorganization Act passed by Congress. Nurses would be appointed to a three-year period of service. The Army Nurse Corps would play a major role in all U.S. conflicts from World War I to the present day with the Global War on Terrorism as well as humanitarian missions across the globe.



Feb. 4, 1941: The United Service Organizations Inc. (USO) was founded. The USO is a nonprofitcharitable organization that provides entertainment, social facilities, and other programs to members of the U.S. Armed Forces and their families. Founded during World War II, the USO's mission was to be the GIs' "home away from home," with entertainment for troops. Today, the USO serves in more than 200 locations around the world in 14 countries and 27 states.

This month in history

Feb. 11, 2020: The World Health Organization (WHO) officially named the novel coronavirus disease COVID-19. The virus was first detected in Wuhan, China, and rapidly spread across the globe. WHO guidelines state that when naming a virus, it may not include geographic locations, animals, individuals, or groups of people and must be pronounceable. The acronym for COVID-19 would follow: CO (corona), VI (virus), D (disease) and 19 represents 2019, the year it was discovered.



Feb. 12, 1973: The first American prisoners of war were lifted off from Hanoi Gia Lam Airport in North Vietnam to return home to the United States as part of Operation HOMECOMING. In accordance with the Paris Peace Accords that were signed on Jan. 27. all POWs on both sides were to be released within 60 days. Between Feb. 12 and Mar. 29, 591 American prisoners were released.



Feb. 24, 1991: Led by the United States, a massive coalition ground offensive began against Iraq after weeks of bombing campaigns. Coalition forces rapidly overwhelmed the outdated and poorly supplied Iraqi forces, making maior gains, as well as establishing a U.S. air base deep inside Iraq. Kuwait was liberated four days later and a majority of the Iraqi forces surrendered or were killed. A cease-fire was declared on Feb. 28th by President George Bush.

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