

# LEADERS FOR LIFE.

THE MAKING OF  
AN ARMY OFFICER.



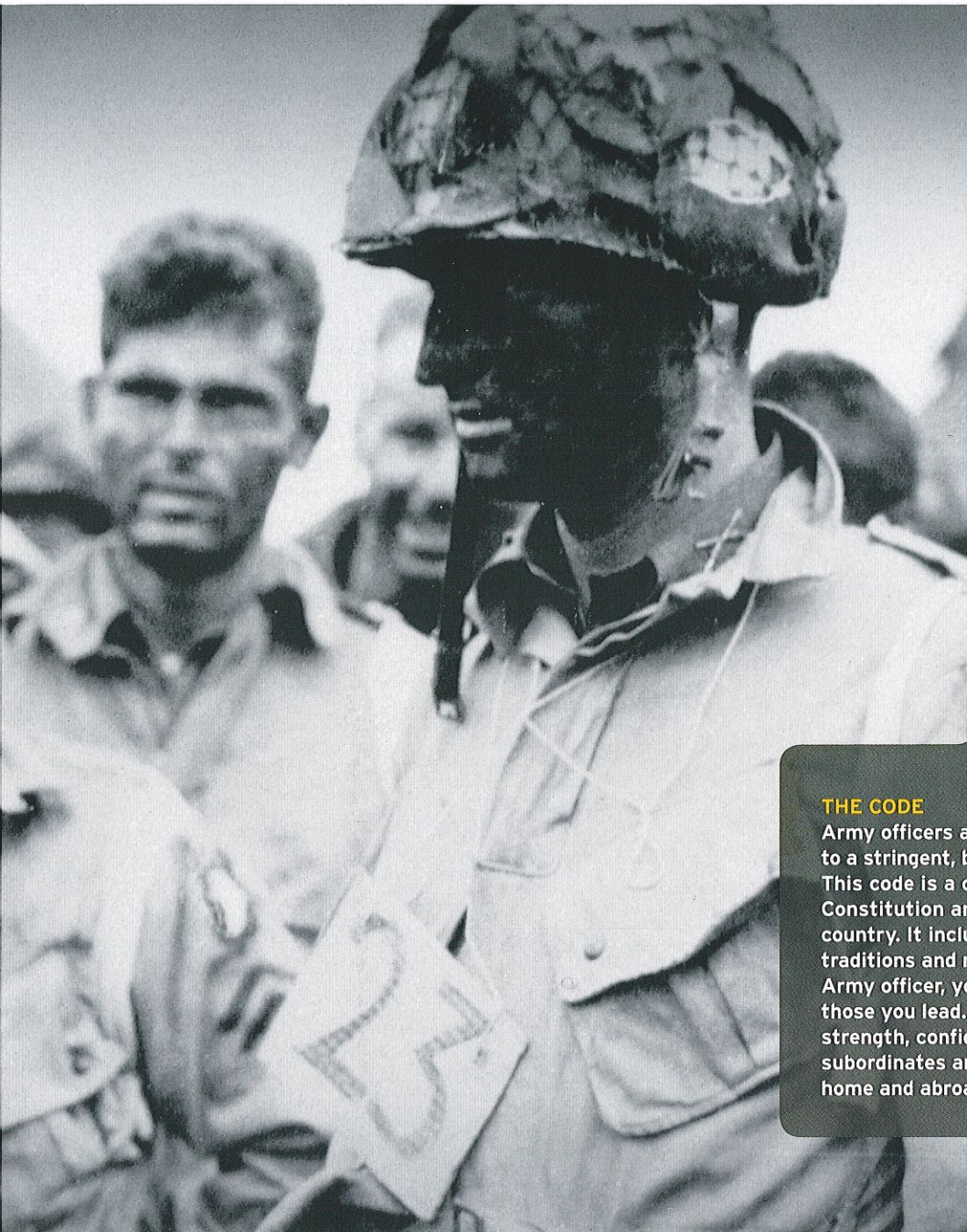
U.S. ARMY®

ARMY STRONG.®



**GEN. DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER – JUNE 6, 1944**

Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower gives the order of the day, "Full victory – nothing else," to paratroopers in England, just before they board their airplanes to participate in the first assault against the invasion of Europe.



## BECOMING AN OFFICER.

For more than 200 years, the U.S. Army has trained some of the world's most renowned leaders. From captains of industry to presidents of the United States, many began their paths as Army officers. Today, that same world-class training is creating the next generation of leaders. When you join this timeless tradition, you too will gain the skills and the strength to become one of them.

The path to Army officership begins with enrollment in one of four commissioning programs: at one of over 273 college ROTC programs or more than 1,100 ROTC partner/affiliate schools; the U.S. Military Academy at West Point; Officer Candidate School, or through a direct commission. In as little as 20 weeks, you will receive the world-class leadership training needed to lead a platoon and earn the rank of second lieutenant. This training will give you the strength and confidence to accomplish anything, both in the U.S. Army and in the civilian marketplace.

### THE CODE

Army officers are required to live according to a stringent, but respected, code of conduct. This code is a commitment to the U.S. Constitution and the well-being of the country. It includes both written rules and traditions and requires a sworn oath. As an Army officer, you will set the standard for those you lead. Your mission is to inspire strength, confidence and courage in your subordinates and represent our nation at home and abroad.

### AN OFFICER'S CAREER

The challenges and rewards offered to Army officers are abundant. You'll specialize in a general field of interest and take on different assignments as you are stationed across the U.S. and around the world. Each new assignment brings new opportunities, challenges, friends, colleagues and opportunities to grow. You'll not only develop as an officer, but as an individual and as part of a team.



## PATHS TO OFFICERSHIP

### OFFICER CANDIDATE SCHOOL (OCS)

If you have an undergraduate or graduate degree, you can become an officer through Army OCS. Once accepted, OCS offers 12 weeks of field training and leadership experience. To apply, you must be a U.S. citizen, a college graduate and meet the age requirements.

Learn more at [goarmy.com/ocs](http://goarmy.com/ocs)

### RESERVE OFFICERS' TRAINING CORPS (ROTC)

ROTC offers the best of both worlds, allowing you to attend the college or university of your choice while taking courses that prepare you to become an Army officer when you graduate. The length of your ROTC program can vary from two to four years, based on class ranking at time of enrollment.

Learn more at [goarmy.com/rotc](http://goarmy.com/rotc)

### UNITED STATES MILITARY ACADEMY AT WEST POINT (USMA)

Created solely to educate and train students to become Army officers, West Point has produced some of the finest young leaders in the country. Its academic program core consists of 31 courses, and admission is highly competitive. High school juniors with outstanding academic credentials may apply.

Learn more at [www.usma.edu](http://www.usma.edu)

### DIRECT COMMISSIONS

If you're a doctor, lawyer, nurse or chaplain, or have skills needed in many other priority-fill branches, you may apply for a direct commission based on those skills, experience and professional qualifications without attending USMA, ROTC or OCS. The Army is always looking for those with skills and experience to fill key positions.

Learn more at [goarmy.com/careers/direct.jsp](http://goarmy.com/careers/direct.jsp)

**MANILA, PHILIPPINES – SEPTEMBER 1945**  
Sgt. Lillian M. Bankherd becomes the first enlisted woman to receive a direct commission in the SWPA theater. Here, she receives the coveted gold bar from Capt. Mary Anderson.



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## OFFICER CAREER FIELDS

There's more than one way to serve as an officer in the U.S. Army. Within the basic officer career fields listed below, there are more than 25 branches available. So you can become Army Strong in the career that speaks to you. Later, as you progress in your career, you may apply for selection in the Special Operations Forces branches or in more than 16 Functional Area (FA) branches. For a complete list, refer to Department of Army Pamphlet 611-21, Military Occupational Classification and Structure.



### MANEUVER, FIRES AND EFFECTS (MFE)

As an officer in the MFE field, you are tasked with protecting lives through the actual or perceived use of weapons and movement against the enemy. Examples of branches in this field are Chemical Corps, Infantry, Aviation and Field Artillery.



### FORCE SUSTAINMENT (FS)

Support, train, supply and maintain fellow U.S. Army Soldiers. This is the mission of those serving in the Army's Force Sustainment Branches. In this field, officers may specialize in several branches, including Ordnance and Finance.



### OPERATIONS SUPPORT (OS)

As part of OS, officers can pursue positions in Military Intelligence or the Signal Corps. Both disseminate information critical to military operations. This field also has the most functional areas available for the next phase of your Army career.



### SPECIAL BRANCHES

Branches requiring special degrees, certifications or endorsements fall into this category. Career paths within special branches include Judge Advocate General, Chaplain Corps, Army Nurse and more.



### SPECIAL OPERATIONS FORCES (SOF) BRANCHES (NON-ACCESSION)

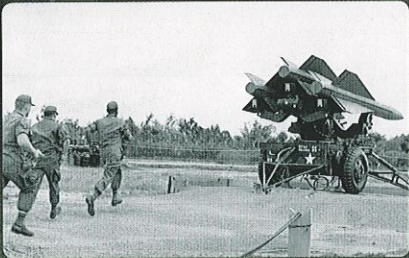
After you have served in your basic branch, you have the opportunity to grow as a Soldier and move into branches that require experienced leaders with special skills.

# AIR DEFENSE ARTILLERY ON THE CUTTING EDGE OF COMBAT.

It's one of the most high-tech and modern forces in the Army. To be an officer in this branch, you need to constantly evolve and strive to stay ahead.

Second lieutenants in the Air Defense Artillery defend civilians, Soldiers and assets from enemy missiles and aircraft. As an officer, you will become an expert in the tactics, techniques and procedures for the employment of air defense systems. In addition, you may be assigned to a corps or theater missile defense unit in charge of safeguarding military assets and populated areas.

As part of your duties and training, you will also gain expertise in one or more of the following systems: the PATRIOT Missile System, the Bradley-Linebacker System, the Man Portable Air Defense System and/or the AVENGER System.



**VIETNAM - JULY 1967**  
Launcher crewmen approach the Hawk missile launcher during a crew drill at Quang Trang.



## ARMOR

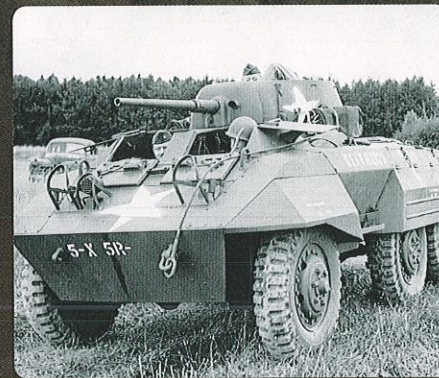
### HIT THE BATTLEFIELD WITH 70 TONS OF STEEL.

It began as the horse cavalry in the early history of our nation. Known as the "Combat Arm of Decision," Armor has served throughout history as the spearhead of the greatest Army in the world. Today, Armor remains the most effective and versatile force in the U.S. Army because it continually evolves to meet ever-changing requirements. Officers who join the Armor branch will train on either Abrams Tanks, Bradley Fighting Vehicles, Stryker Mobile Gun Systems or High-Mobility Multipurpose Wheeled Vehicles.

As an Armor officer, you will lead the finest Soldiers in the world, manage dynamic maintenance programs and execute first-class training. Armor lieutenants may be assigned to Abrams tank units, Bradley scout platoons, Stryker Mobile Gun Systems or other reconnaissance organizations equipped with varied vehicles. Scouts and tankers often work together as a combined arms team while performing their unique missions. Scouts operate well in advance of the unit main body, gain and maintain initial contact with enemy forces, develop the situation through action, relay critical information and act as the commander's "eyes and ears." Upon contact, tankers use maneuver, firepower and speed to destroy enemy forces.

**MARCH 1944**

Designed by the Ordnance Department, the Armored Car M8 was the latest combat vehicle addition to U.S. Army mechanized equipment. It combines the speed and maneuverability of an automobile with the punch and armored protection of a light tank.





## AVIATION

### THE MOST ADVANCED WAY TO FLY.

As an Army Aviator, you will lead outstanding Soldiers who possess some of the most highly technical skills in the Army. An Aviation officer flies and fights in the most advanced aircraft in the world, operating across the full spectrum of Army operations as an essential member of the combined arms and joint teams.

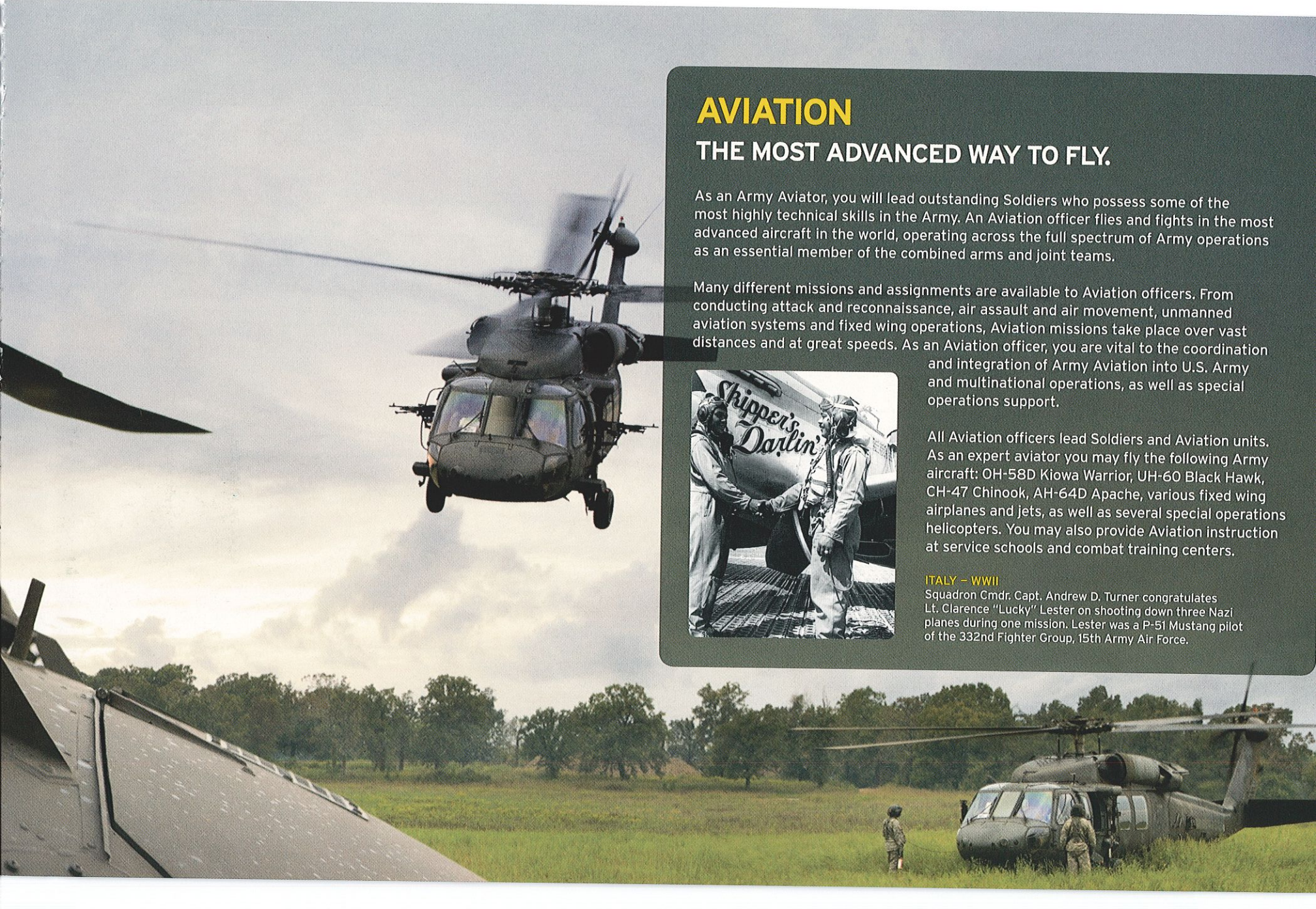
Many different missions and assignments are available to Aviation officers. From conducting attack and reconnaissance, air assault and air movement, unmanned aviation systems and fixed wing operations, Aviation missions take place over vast distances and at great speeds. As an Aviation officer, you are vital to the coordination and integration of Army Aviation into U.S. Army and multinational operations, as well as special operations support.



All Aviation officers lead Soldiers and Aviation units. As an expert aviator you may fly the following Army aircraft: OH-58D Kiowa Warrior, UH-60 Black Hawk, CH-47 Chinook, AH-64D Apache, various fixed wing airplanes and jets, as well as several special operations helicopters. You may also provide Aviation instruction at service schools and combat training centers.

#### ITALY – WWII

Squadron Cmdr. Capt. Andrew D. Turner congratulates Lt. Clarence "Lucky" Lester on shooting down three Nazi planes during one mission. Lester was a P-51 Mustang pilot of the 332nd Fighter Group, 15th Army Air Force.



# CHEMICAL CORPS

## SPECIALIZED WEAPONS ARE OUR SPECIALTY.

Challenging doesn't even begin to describe the job of an officer in the Chemical Corps. In this branch, you will train in the detection and identification of Chemical, Biological, Radiological and Nuclear (CBRN) weapons, reconnaissance, decontamination and smoke operations.

The mission of officers in the Chemical Corps is to protect our country from CBRN threats, as well as Weapons of Mass Destruction (WMD). As a CBRN officer, you will command or serve as a platoon leader of a chemical unit while employing state-of-the-art CBRN defense systems. You will also plan, coordinate and direct operations, including vulnerability assessment, multi-spectral obscuration, sensitive site exploitation and assessment, CBRN reconnaissance, CBRN decontamination and CBRN force protection. Soldiers in this branch are additionally responsible for combating WMD, which includes nonproliferation, counter proliferation and consequence management.

### GREENLAND - 1960

An officer tests the M17 protective mask in the Arctic. The M17 became the primary protective mask for the Army from the 1960s-1990s.



## CORPS OF ENGINEERS

### BUILDING FAR MORE THAN EXPECTED.

The second oldest regiment in the Army, the Corps of Engineers is one of the most dynamic branches in the Army. As an officer in this branch, you can lead various engineer units, including Sapper, Stryker, Bradley, Construction, Geospatial, Dive, Bridge, Power, Rescue and Training. From conducting reconnaissance to constructing roads to analyzing terrain data and more, the roles of engineers across these units are as varied as they are crucial to the U.S. Army.

The Corps of Engineers helps the Army and the nation build structures, develop civil works programs and work with natural resources. They also provide combat support on the battlefield, assuring mobility of the force and enhancing its protection. Described as the "stagehands of battle," military engineers are the ones who commanders turn to for solutions to their toughest problems.

Of course, training provided for officers in the Corps of Engineers directly translates into the civilian sector. In fact, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers is one of the world's premier design and construction agencies, comprised of more than 30,000 civilian and 750 military engineers.

#### MEZY, FRANCE – JULY 1918

Companies A and C, 6th Engineers, under Maj. T.B. Larkin, construct a trestle and crib bridge. The bridge opened to traffic in 36 hours.



## FIELD ARTILLERY

### PUTTING STEEL ON TARGET.

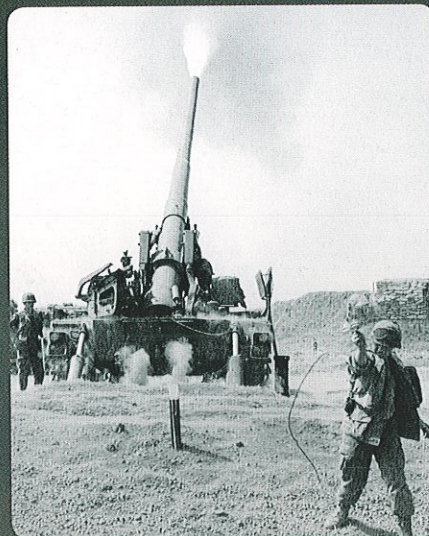
As an officer in Field Artillery, you will become a combined arms expert, controlling long-range weapons while coordinating with Armor and Infantry forces. Leaders in this branch may also coordinate their strikes with tactical air, naval gunfire and Army aviation weapons.

These officers are on the battlefield responding with long-range precision weapons against distant targets. They neutralize or suppress the enemy by cannon, rocket or missile fire.

Lieutenants who begin in Field Artillery may command cannon and rocket platoons prior to leading Field Artillery batteries. Additional duty positions include fire support officer and fire direction officer. Eventually, you could become a maneuver battalion fire support officer as you advance your career.

#### SONG BE, VIETNAM – JANUARY 1968

A 175mm gun, the M-107 has a maximum range of 22 miles. Here, it is in the process of being fired during Operation San Angelo.



## INFANTRY

### DEFENDING THE FRONT LINES OF HISTORY.

To be an Infantry officer is to be at the core of the Army's fighting force. In this position, you will be a leader in the main land combat force of the U.S. Army. You will serve as a platoon leader and eventually as a company commander. You will ensure that your troops work together for a common goal. You will also share in their challenges and in their victories.

Whether in times of peace or in times of combat, an Infantry lieutenant is self-disciplined, confident and intelligent. Infantry officers are expected to make quick decisions, take initiative and adjust to constantly changing environments.

Most civilians picture Infantry when they think of the Army. It's no surprise, considering this branch dates back to 1775, when a resolution of the Continental Congress created the first Infantry companies.



#### MANHEIM, GERMANY - FEBRUARY 1945

Pfc. Clifford Taylor of the 413th Regiment, 104th Infantry Division, awaits orders to go into battle.



# MILITARY POLICE CORPS

## PROTECTING THE PRESENT. HONORING THE PAST.

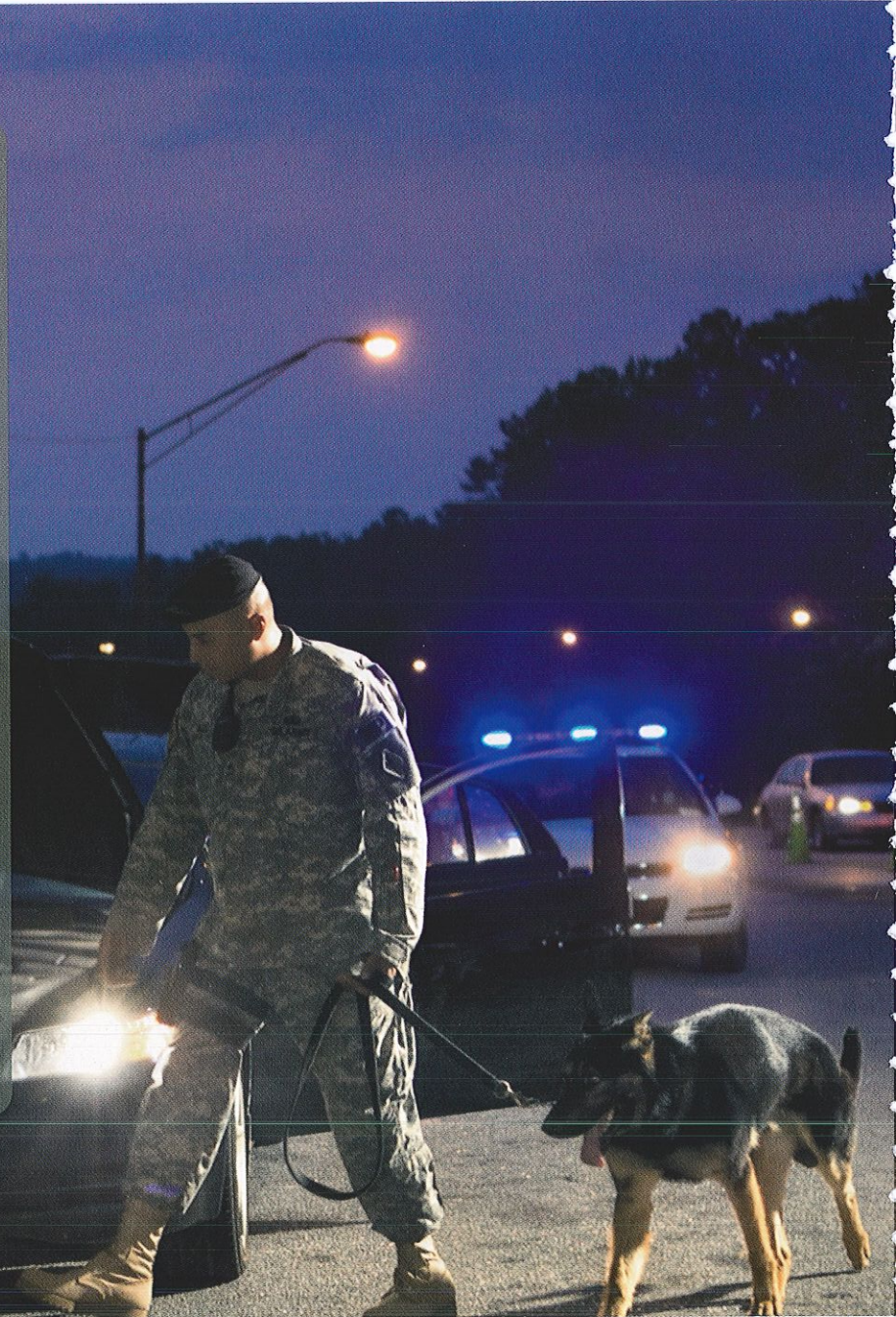
The Military Police (MP) Corps has a long and distinguished history in the U.S. Army. Officially established in 1941, the MP Corps' lineage can be traced all the way back to the American Revolution.

Officers in the MP Corps manage five primary functions to support Army and Joint Operations worldwide: Law and Order, Police Intelligence Operations, Internment Resettlement, Area Security, and Maneuver and Mobility Support. These functions cover every aspect from law enforcement at the installation to security of U.S. Forces and civilians on the battlefield. MP officers also perform criminal investigations.

Expected to detect and deter any enemy activity near military command posts or other Army territory, the MP is the most demanded resource for major combat, stability, expeditionary, civil assistance and homeland consequence management operations. When assigned to this branch, your training begins with the Military Police Basic Officer Leaders Course, where you will experience physical training and learn leadership skills, tactics, maintenance and supply. You'll then be given the opportunity to study civil and military law, weapons training and communications skills. You can also take airborne, air assault and ranger training to aid in your MP career.



**SALZBURG, AUSTRIA – MAY 1946**  
42nd Division MPs heavily guarded the courthouse of the Salzburg War Crimes trial, including this Staff Sgt. in charge of prisoner escort.



## ADJUTANT GENERAL CORPS

### MANAGING THE WORLD'S LARGEST GROUND FORCE.

The Adjutant General Branch is the human resources functional component within the Force Sustainment community of the Army. It is the second oldest existing branch of the U.S. Army, crucial to its seamless operation.

The primary mission of this branch is to coordinate timely and effective manning and personnel support for commanders. This enhances the readiness and operational capabilities of the total force across the full range of military operations.

As a leader in the Adjutant General's Corps, officers are assigned to a duty position that will allow maximum exposure to a wide range of human resource programs. You can expect entry-level human resources management assignments at company, battalion and brigade level, along with leadership responsibilities. In this career field, you will help Soldiers with the tasks that affect their welfare and assist commanders by keeping Soldiers combat ready. You will also be involved in unit readiness, morale and Soldier career progression. In many cases, the duties of an Adjutant General officer are similar to that of a human resources executive in the civilian world.

#### NORTH AFRICA – SEPTEMBER 1943

Maj. Westray Battle Boyce,  
Women's Army Corps (WAC)  
Theater Staff Director,  
is shown reading the orders  
replacing men in the AG's  
office with enlisted WACs.



## FINANCE CORPS

### THE NUMBERS BEHIND THE OPERATIONS.

The Army's Finance Corps is a Combat Service Support branch responsible for sustaining operations through purchasing and acquiring supplies and services. As an officer in this branch, some of the many duties you may regularly perform include paying commercial vendors, paying Soldiers and civilians for their service, balancing and projecting budgets, calculating travel and transportation allowances, preparing and distributing reports and financial statements, and managing other financial matters that keep the Army running. Other finance duties available consist of providing cash operations, both U.S. and foreign, to support multi-force and multi-national missions across the globe; directing disbursement, receipt, and deposit of public funds as an agent of the U.S. Treasury Department; and interpreting financial laws.

Finance officers may be assigned to any unit, anywhere in the world. Some of the unique duty positions to which you may be assigned include disbursing officer, commander of a financial management company, deputy (or assistant) chief of staff, resource management, budget analyst, management analyst, program analyst and auditor.



**TOKYO, JAPAN –  
FEBRUARY 1947**

Two enlisted men of the 240th Finance Dispensary Section count out U.S. currency for distribution to U.S. occupation forces in Japan.



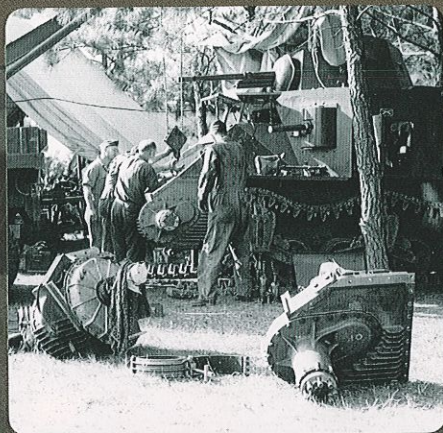
## ORDNANCE CORPS

### EXPERTS IN WEAPONS AND AMMUNITION.

The second largest branch in the U.S. Army, the Ordnance Corps, is in charge of a wide range of weapons systems. More specifically, officers in this branch ensure that weapon systems, vehicles and equipment are ready and available, as well as in perfect working order, for combat commanders anytime, anywhere.

At the Ordnance Basic Officer Leaders Course, you will learn leadership skills, tactics, maintenance and operational aspects of weapons and vehicles used in an Ordnance platoon. Your training will take place in classrooms and in the field.

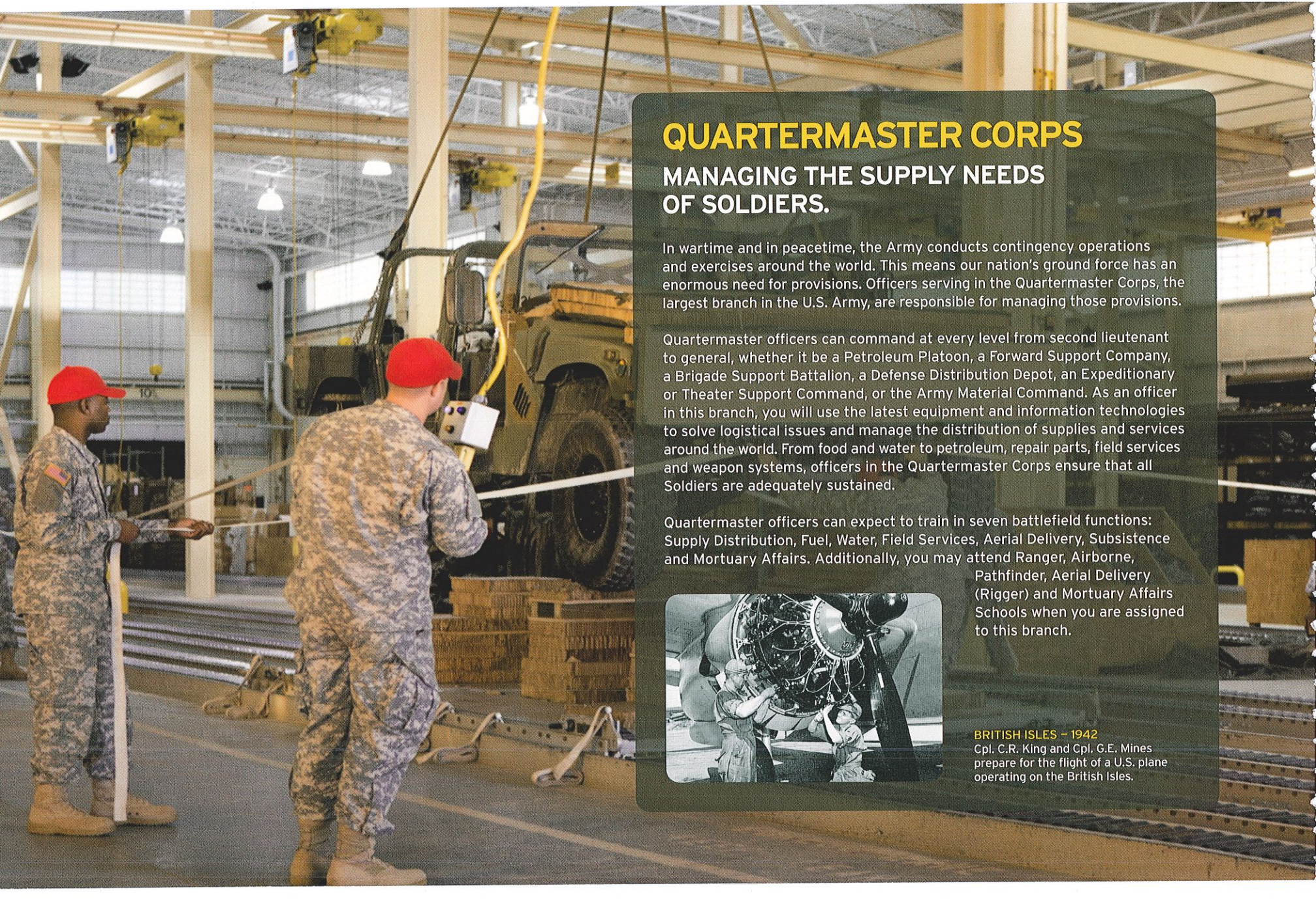
There are three main divisions in the Ordnance Corps: Material Maintenance Management, Munitions Material Management and Explosive Ordnance Disposal. As an officer in this branch, you may manage vast amounts of supplies and Soldiers or serve in a staff position.



1940

The Provisional Ordnance Battalion, 3rd Army, uses a wrecker to repair a medium tank in the field.





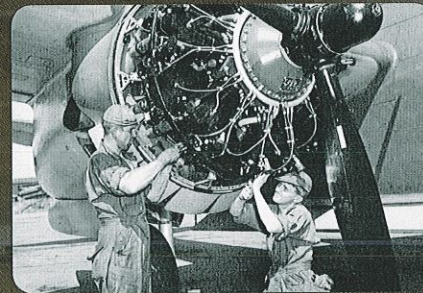
## QUARtermaster CORPS

### MANAGING THE SUPPLY NEEDS OF SOLDIERS.

In wartime and in peacetime, the Army conducts contingency operations and exercises around the world. This means our nation's ground force has an enormous need for provisions. Officers serving in the Quartermaster Corps, the largest branch in the U.S. Army, are responsible for managing those provisions.

Quartermaster officers can command at every level from second lieutenant to general, whether it be a Petroleum Platoon, a Forward Support Company, a Brigade Support Battalion, a Defense Distribution Depot, an Expeditionary or Theater Support Command, or the Army Material Command. As an officer in this branch, you will use the latest equipment and information technologies to solve logistical issues and manage the distribution of supplies and services around the world. From food and water to petroleum, repair parts, field services and weapon systems, officers in the Quartermaster Corps ensure that all Soldiers are adequately sustained.

Quartermaster officers can expect to train in seven battlefield functions: Supply Distribution, Fuel, Water, Field Services, Aerial Delivery, Subsistence and Mortuary Affairs. Additionally, you may attend Ranger, Airborne, Pathfinder, Aerial Delivery (Rigger) and Mortuary Affairs Schools when you are assigned to this branch.



**BRITISH ISLES - 1942**  
Cpl. C.R. King and Cpl. G.E. Mines prepare for the flight of a U.S. plane operating on the British Isles.

# TRANSPORTATION CORPS

## MOVING THE FORCE.

Getting from point A to point B isn't always an easy task. That's where the Army's Transportation Corps comes in, using strategy and planning to make their move. This branch enables this nation to transport its Soldiers, as well as their supplies and equipment, where they need to be.

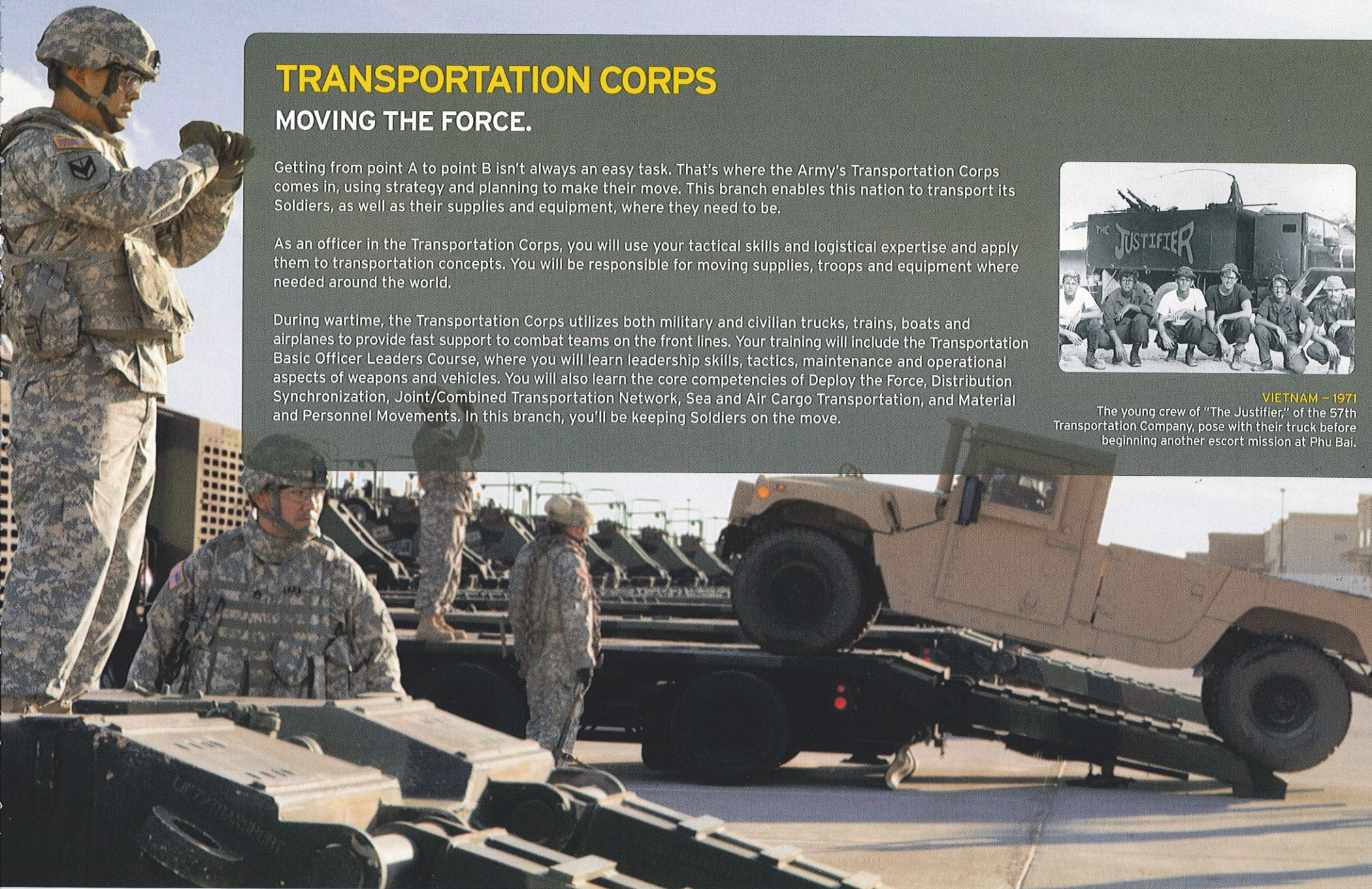
As an officer in the Transportation Corps, you will use your tactical skills and logistical expertise and apply them to transportation concepts. You will be responsible for moving supplies, troops and equipment where needed around the world.

During wartime, the Transportation Corps utilizes both military and civilian trucks, trains, boats and airplanes to provide fast support to combat teams on the front lines. Your training will include the Transportation Basic Officer Leaders Course, where you will learn leadership skills, tactics, maintenance and operational aspects of weapons and vehicles. You will also learn the core competencies of Deploy the Force, Distribution Synchronization, Joint/Combined Transportation Network, Sea and Air Cargo Transportation, and Material and Personnel Movements. In this branch, you'll be keeping Soldiers on the move.



**VIETNAM – 1971**

The young crew of "The Justifier," of the 57th Transportation Company, pose with their truck before beginning another escort mission at Phu Bai.





## MILITARY INTELLIGENCE

### KNOWING THE ENEMY INSIDE AND OUT.

As an officer in one of the largest branches in the U.S. Army, you will work with high-tech Military Intelligence (MI) equipment in areas such as communications, all-source intelligence analysis, computer warfare digital imagery and satellite data. You may specialize in such areas as counterintelligence, human intelligence, signals intelligence and all-source intelligence. You will do so to determine the plans, intentions and capabilities of enemy forces, as well as reduce the uncertainty of enemy, terrain and weather conditions for a commander.

Military Intelligence officers are always in the know. With extensive training and expertise in intelligence, counterintelligence, electronic warfare, interrogation, reconnaissance and surveillance, officers in this branch are critical to military leaders. MI officers are always out front, providing essential intelligence and, in many cases, saving Soldiers who are fighting on the front lines.



#### SIGNAL SECURITY AGENCY - 1945

The Signal Security Agency was responsible for all Army Signals intelligence and communication security during WWII.



## SIGNAL CORPS

### MASTERS OF COMMUNICATION.

From the front lines to the White House, officers in the Signal Corps are always on top of the latest technology. They're the first link in an intricate chain of command and are responsible for all systems of communication for the entire Army.

Your training will begin with the Signal Basic Officer Leaders Course, where you'll master tactical and technical leadership skills in preparation for your first assignment. Then, as a Signal platoon leader or Staff officer, you'll be in control of high-tech electronic equipment ranging from switching systems to satellite communications systems. You'll also be responsible for planning, employing and operating voice, video, imagery and data distribution systems and networks across the globe. With the Signal Corps, the Army continues to be the best-informed, best-prepared fighting force in the world.



**NEW MEXICO - 1916**

During Pancho Villa's raid of Columbus, New Mexico, the Signal Corps deployed this radio tractor to pursue Villa into Mexico and maintain communication between Columbus and Gen. Pershing's headquarters.

# ARMY MEDICAL DEPARTMENT (AMEDD)

## THE BEST CARE BEGINS HERE.

As an officer in one of the six corps encompassed by the Army Medical Department, you'll be a member of one of the best health care teams in the world.

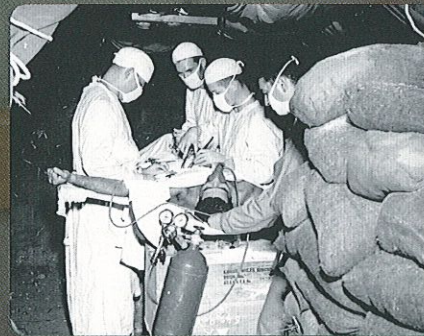
In the **Medical Corps**, Army physicians and surgeons work in some of the finest medical facilities, including Brooke, Walter Reed, Madigan and Tripler Army Medical Centers. Positions exist in patient care, teaching, research and management.

In the **Army Nurse Corps**, nurses are given opportunities not readily available in the civilian world. When you become an Army nurse, you will have many opportunities for professional growth, including clinical specialty courses.

As a practitioner in the **Army Dental Corps**, dentists will find chances to expand their careers in all specialties, including preventive, surgical and restorative dentistry.

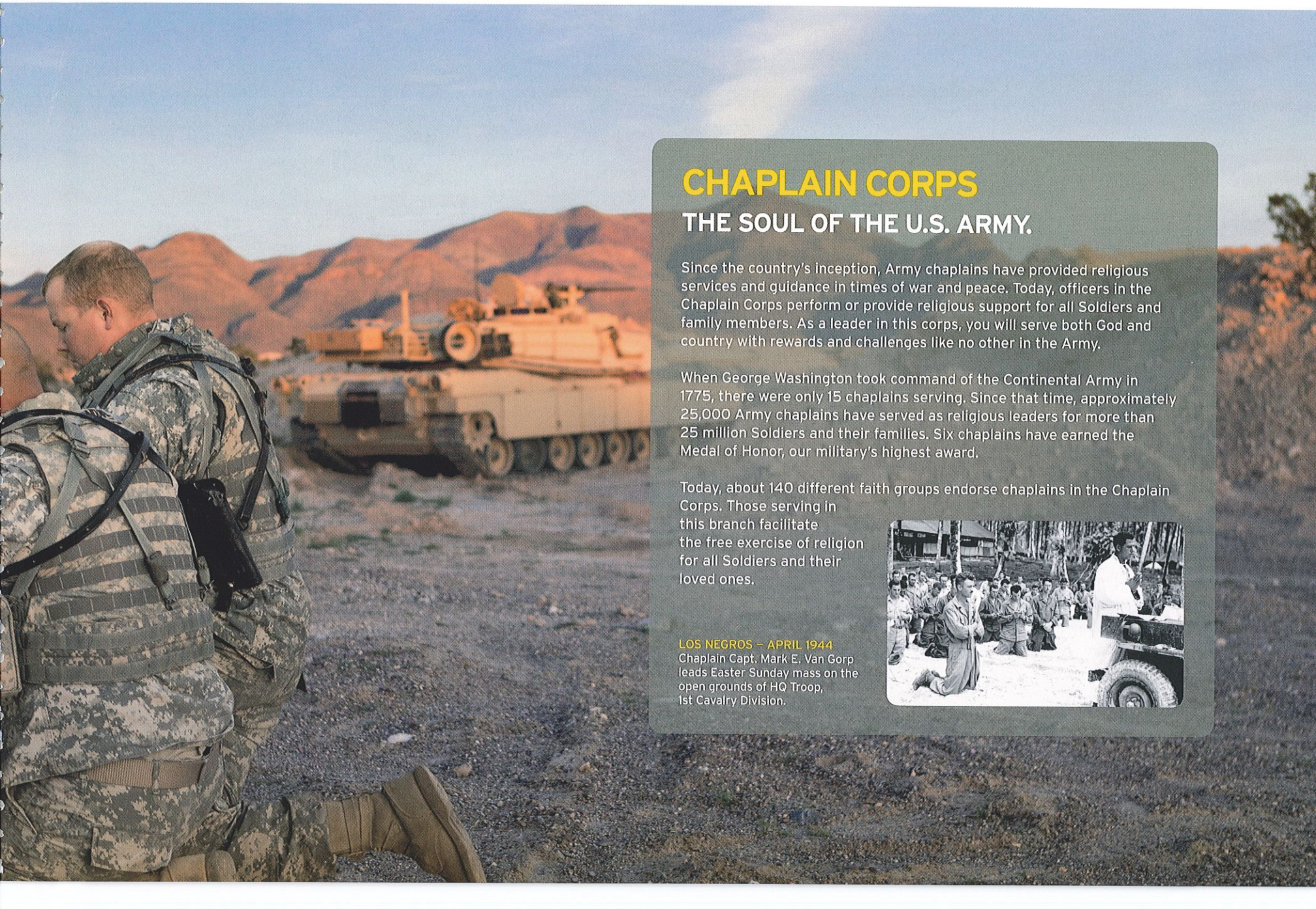
The **Army Medical Specialist Corps** and the **Medical Service Corps** span a wide range of allied health services from physical therapists, dieticians and pharmacists, to psychologists and more.

Finally, the **Veterinary Corps** focuses on medical and surgical care, food safety and defense, and biomedical research and development. This translates into the care of not only working animals and the pets of service members, but also into the overall health of Soldiers and the public.



**BOUGAINVILLE ISLAND, SOUTH PACIFIC  
– NOVEMBER 1943**

Units in the U.S. Army Medical Corps perform their duties under difficult circumstances, such as this emergency operation in a dugout located deep in the jungle.



## CHAPLAIN CORPS

### THE SOUL OF THE U.S. ARMY.

Since the country's inception, Army chaplains have provided religious services and guidance in times of war and peace. Today, officers in the Chaplain Corps perform or provide religious support for all Soldiers and family members. As a leader in this corps, you will serve both God and country with rewards and challenges like no other in the Army.

When George Washington took command of the Continental Army in 1775, there were only 15 chaplains serving. Since that time, approximately 25,000 Army chaplains have served as religious leaders for more than 25 million Soldiers and their families. Six chaplains have earned the Medal of Honor, our military's highest award.

Today, about 140 different faith groups endorse chaplains in the Chaplain Corps. Those serving in this branch facilitate the free exercise of religion for all Soldiers and their loved ones.

#### LOS NEGROS – APRIL 1944

Chaplain Capt. Mark E. Van Gorp leads Easter Sunday mass on the open grounds of HQ Troop, 1st Cavalry Division.



## JUDGE ADVOCATE GENERAL CORPS WORK FOR THE STRONGEST LAW FIRM.

It's not just the strongest law firm. The Judge Advocate General's (JAG) Corps was established in 1775, making it the oldest law firm in the nation. As a JAG attorney and officer, you'll serve as prosecutor or defense counsel in international, operational, labor, contract, environmental, tort and administrative law. You'll provide military, state and federal legal services for the U.S. Army and its Soldiers. You'll also have immediate experience, handling real cases and significant legal issues.

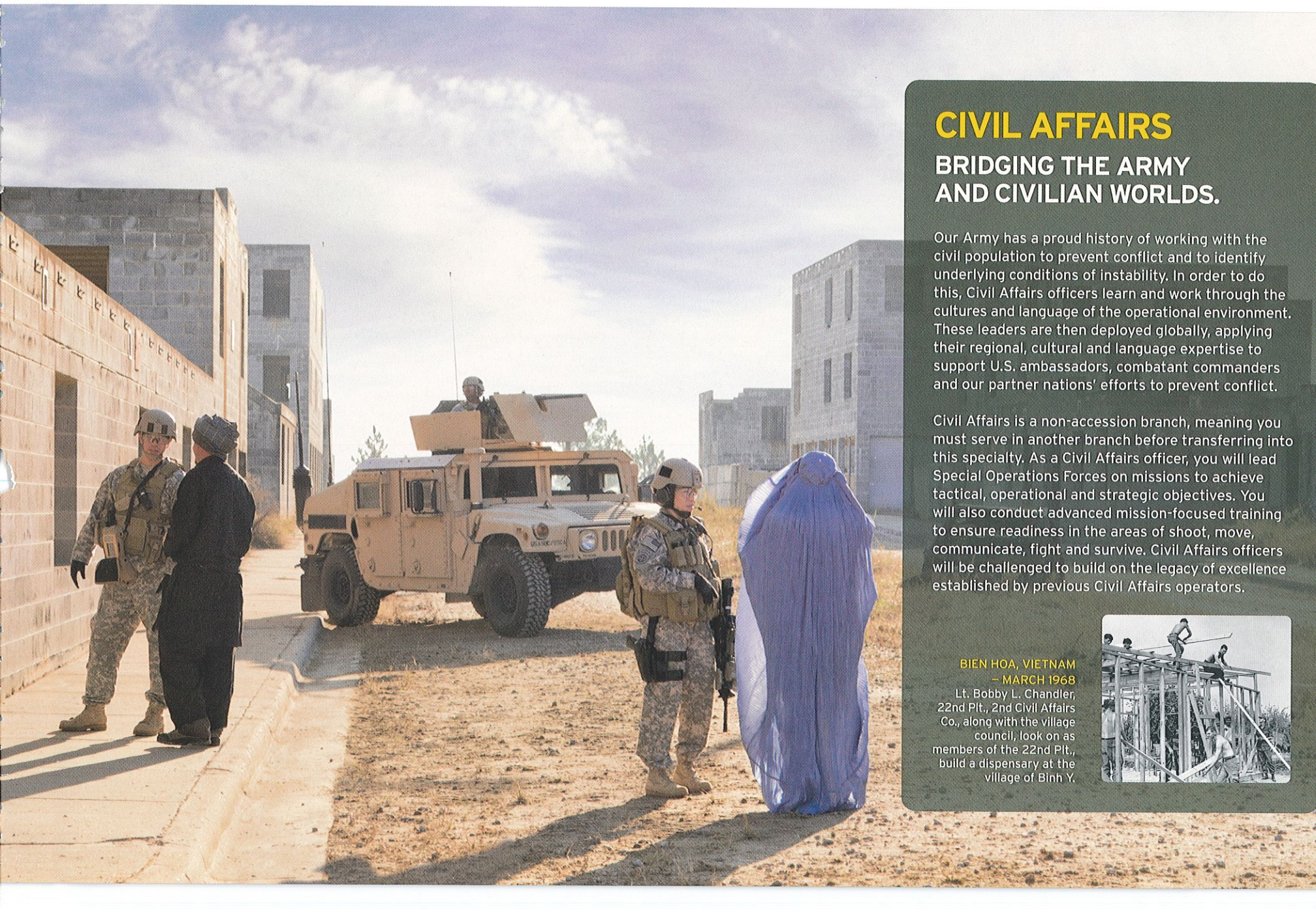
To become a JAG attorney, you must first pass the Bar Exam after attending an American Bar Association accredited law school. You must also be admitted to practice law before the highest state or federal court. Those who enter the JAG Corps will receive a direct commission as a first lieutenant and will reach the rank of captain within six to nine months.



### DACHAU, GERMANY - AUGUST 1945

Chief Prosecutor William Denson asks prosecution witness, Tech. Sgt. Adrian Robertson, to identify photographs he took during the liberation of Buchenwald.





## CIVIL AFFAIRS

### BRIDGING THE ARMY AND CIVILIAN WORLDS.

Our Army has a proud history of working with the civil population to prevent conflict and to identify underlying conditions of instability. In order to do this, Civil Affairs officers learn and work through the cultures and language of the operational environment. These leaders are then deployed globally, applying their regional, cultural and language expertise to support U.S. ambassadors, combatant commanders and our partner nations' efforts to prevent conflict.

Civil Affairs is a non-accession branch, meaning you must serve in another branch before transferring into this specialty. As a Civil Affairs officer, you will lead Special Operations Forces on missions to achieve tactical, operational and strategic objectives. You will also conduct advanced mission-focused training to ensure readiness in the areas of shoot, move, communicate, fight and survive. Civil Affairs officers will be challenged to build on the legacy of excellence established by previous Civil Affairs operators.

#### BIEN HOA, VIETNAM — MARCH 1968

Lt. Bobby L. Chandler, 22nd Plt., 2nd Civil Affairs Co., along with the village council, look on as members of the 22nd Plt., build a dispensary at the village of Binh Y.



A Humvee is parked in a desert field. A soldier is visible in the turret. Two soldiers in camouflage uniforms are talking to two women wearing headscarves. Another soldier is standing to the right. A satellite dish is visible in the background.

## MILITARY INFORMATION SUPPORT OPERATIONS

### THE ART AND SCIENCE OF PERSUASION.

As an officer in Military Information Support Operations (MISO) you will be highly sought after and actively engaged in achieving U.S. objectives around the globe. As a master of influence, you will serve at multiple levels in support of both military commanders and U.S. ambassadors. You will also leverage a variety of concerted media and emerging technologies to change behaviors and perceptions in critical global locations.

MISO officers receive a variety of training including foreign languages, cross-cultural communications, social psychology and additional training within the Special Operations community, the Department of State Foreign Service Institute and the commercial sector. These training opportunities all exist to help you better assess foreign target audiences and craft successful strategies. Note that MISO is a non-accession branch, so officers must first serve in another branch before transferring into this career field.

#### CHIẾU HỘI (OR "OPEN ARMS") PROGRAM, VIETNAM - MARCH 1966

MISO personnel prepare information for distribution via SORTIES (leaflet drops), newspapers, and radio broadcasts.



## SPECIAL FORCES VERSATILE AND AGILE.

As a Special Forces officer, you will harness the talents of your Operational Detachment-Alpha, or "ODA," as you master the art and science of unconventional warfare. Those serving in Special Forces combine warrior and interpersonal skills to accomplish our nation's objectives.

SF is a non-accession branch, meaning you must serve in another branch before transferring into this specialty. To become a member of this exciting and challenging branch, you will need to volunteer for Special Forces Assessment and Selection. Once selected, your rigorous training will involve language and cultural education, and a Special Forces Qualification Course. Upon graduating from this course, you will earn the right to wear the highly coveted Green Beret – a mark of excellence, a symbol of distinction and a badge of courage.

Special Forces live with their indigenous brothers-in-arms throughout the world as the sentinels of freedom, embodying their motto, "De Oppresso Liber" or "To Free the Oppressed."



**THAILAND –  
NOVEMBER 1967**  
Sgt. 1st Class Larry Dickinson, chief medic of Det. B4610, 46th Special Forces Company, examines a baby during civic action programs in Nam Pung Dem.

## LOGISTICS

### AN ADVANCED ROLE THAT GETS RESULTS.

One of the U.S. Army's newest Functional Areas (FA), Logistics, combines the areas of Quartermaster, Ordnance and Transportation. Because of the advanced expertise and training needed to become a logistics officer, this FA is only open to those holding the rank of captain and higher in the Army.

Created due to an increasing need for multi-skilled leaders, officers serving in Logistics are focused on the complete picture of supply, maintenance and transportation. This is in direct response to the multifunctional needs of today's modern battlefield.

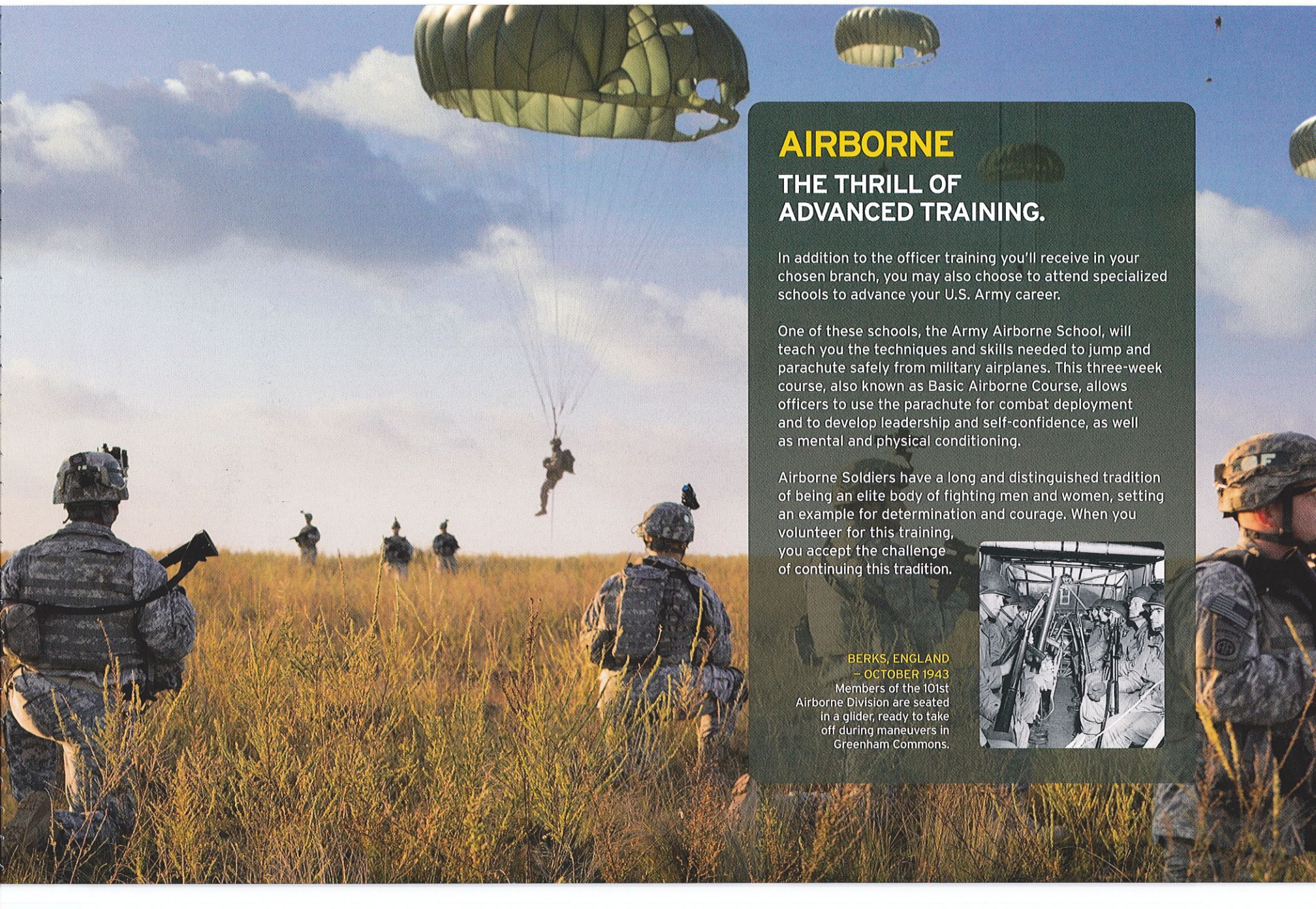
To become a logistics officer, you must first complete advanced officer training. During this training, called the Combined Logistics Captains Career Course, you will learn to anticipate the needs for brigade combat teams and brigade support battalions. The establishment of this FA continues the Army's progress toward achieving a cadre of multi-skilled leaders.

Serve in one of more than 16 Functional Areas, including Logistics (described here), to Acquisitions to Public Affairs to Foreign Area Officer. For the full list, refer to DA PAM 611-21.

#### ALASKA – 1945

K rations are unloaded from the hold of the UST Zeilin, a 21,900-ton transport ship.





## AIRBORNE

### THE THRILL OF ADVANCED TRAINING.

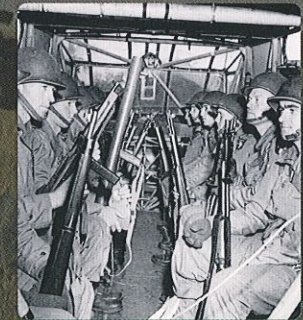
In addition to the officer training you'll receive in your chosen branch, you may also choose to attend specialized schools to advance your U.S. Army career.

One of these schools, the Army Airborne School, will teach you the techniques and skills needed to jump and parachute safely from military airplanes. This three-week course, also known as Basic Airborne Course, allows officers to use the parachute for combat deployment and to develop leadership and self-confidence, as well as mental and physical conditioning.

Airborne Soldiers have a long and distinguished tradition of being an elite body of fighting men and women, setting an example for determination and courage. When you volunteer for this training, you accept the challenge of continuing this tradition.

**BERKS, ENGLAND**  
— OCTOBER 1943

Members of the 101st Airborne Division are seated in a glider, ready to take off during maneuvers in Greenham Commons.



# CAVALRY

## A LONG-STANDING ARMY TRADITION.

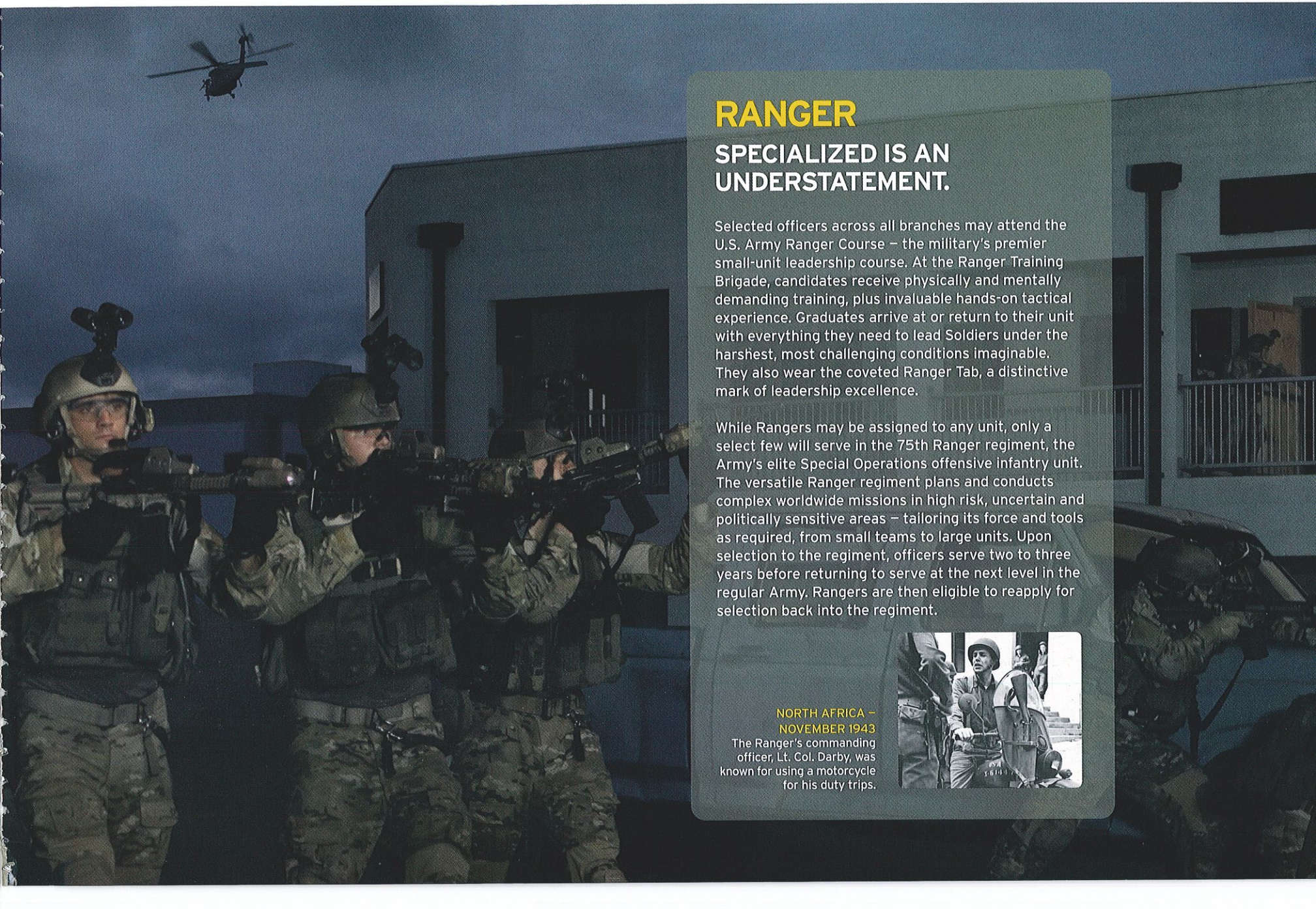
A special assignment within the Armor branch of the U.S. Army, the Cavalry has a long and rich history. Officers in this field are responsible for being the eyes and ears on the battlefield. Cavalry is considered a specialized school and offers expert training in leading forward reconnaissance, conducting counter reconnaissance and reporting enemy movement and activities.

To become a Cavalry officer, it is recommended that you complete the Army Reconnaissance Course and the Cavalry Leaders Course, where you will learn leadership skills, tactics, maintenance and operational aspects of weapons and vehicles used in a reconnaissance platoon. You will be responsible for collecting data to classify routes, tunnels and bridges. You will supervise scout vehicle crews and recovery operations. You will also be part of one of the Army's oldest and most respected assignments.

WWII-ERA, ca. 1940

The 13th Cavalry Regiment motorcyclists pose with unloaded Thompson machine guns.





## RANGER

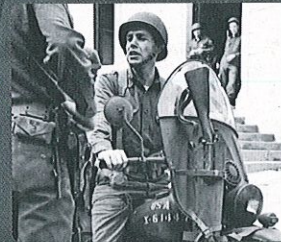
### SPECIALIZED IS AN UNDERSTATEMENT.

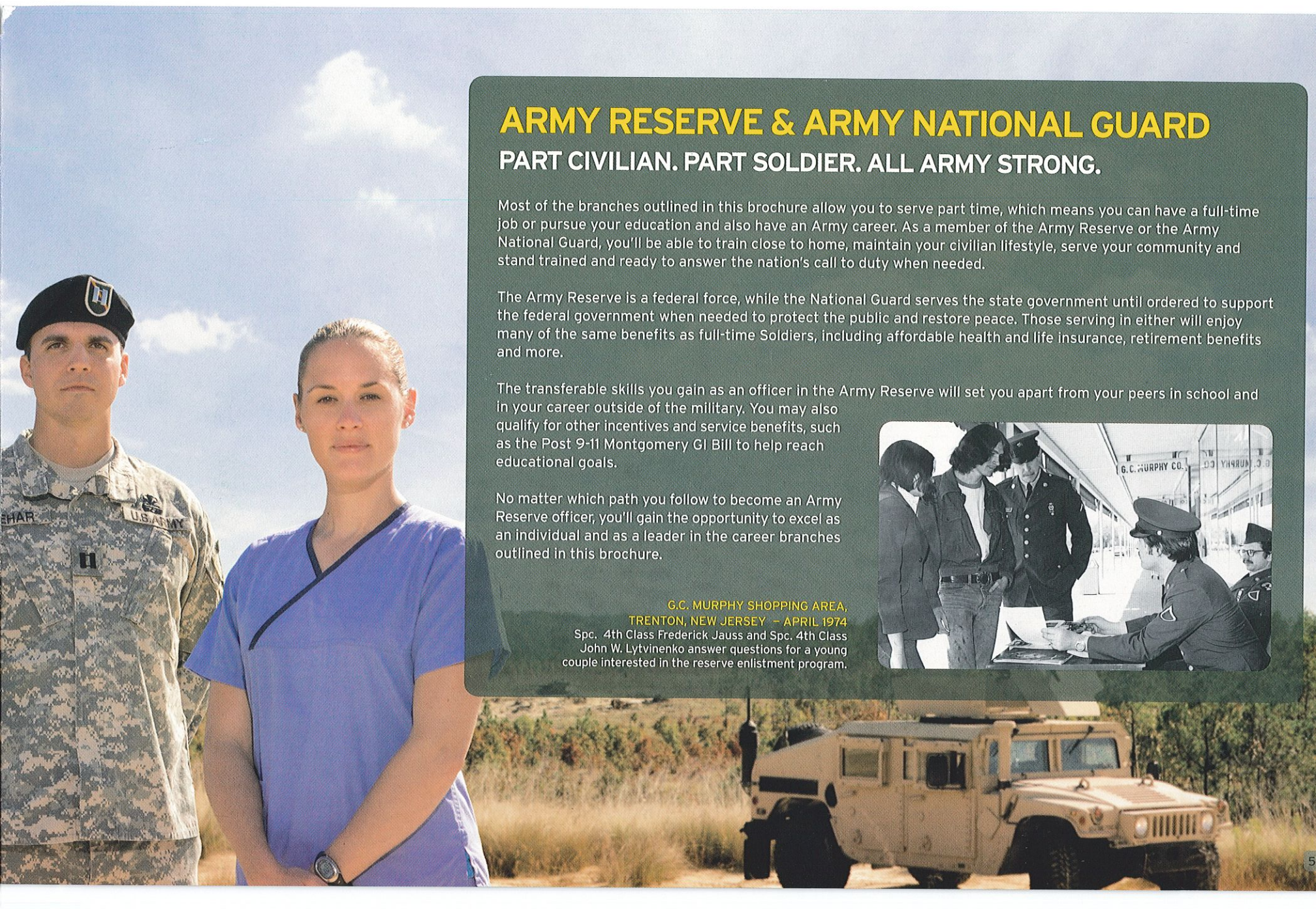
Selected officers across all branches may attend the U.S. Army Ranger Course – the military’s premier small-unit leadership course. At the Ranger Training Brigade, candidates receive physically and mentally demanding training, plus invaluable hands-on tactical experience. Graduates arrive at or return to their unit with everything they need to lead Soldiers under the harshest, most challenging conditions imaginable. They also wear the coveted Ranger Tab, a distinctive mark of leadership excellence.

While Rangers may be assigned to any unit, only a select few will serve in the 75th Ranger regiment, the Army’s elite Special Operations offensive infantry unit. The versatile Ranger regiment plans and conducts complex worldwide missions in high risk, uncertain and politically sensitive areas – tailoring its force and tools as required, from small teams to large units. Upon selection to the regiment, officers serve two to three years before returning to serve at the next level in the regular Army. Rangers are then eligible to reapply for selection back into the regiment.

#### NORTH AFRICA – NOVEMBER 1943

The Ranger’s commanding officer, Lt. Col. Darby, was known for using a motorcycle for his duty trips.





## ARMY RESERVE & ARMY NATIONAL GUARD

### PART CIVILIAN. PART SOLDIER. ALL ARMY STRONG.

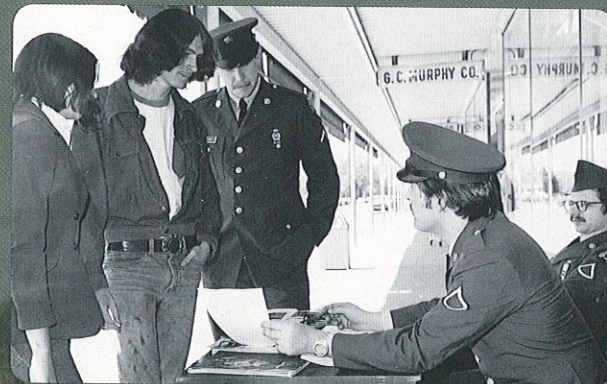
Most of the branches outlined in this brochure allow you to serve part time, which means you can have a full-time job or pursue your education and also have an Army career. As a member of the Army Reserve or the Army National Guard, you'll be able to train close to home, maintain your civilian lifestyle, serve your community and stand trained and ready to answer the nation's call to duty when needed.

The Army Reserve is a federal force, while the National Guard serves the state government until ordered to support the federal government when needed to protect the public and restore peace. Those serving in either will enjoy many of the same benefits as full-time Soldiers, including affordable health and life insurance, retirement benefits and more.

The transferable skills you gain as an officer in the Army Reserve will set you apart from your peers in school and in your career outside of the military. You may also qualify for other incentives and service benefits, such as the Post 9-11 Montgomery GI Bill to help reach educational goals.

No matter which path you follow to become an Army Reserve officer, you'll gain the opportunity to excel as an individual and as a leader in the career branches outlined in this brochure.

**G.C. MURPHY SHOPPING AREA,  
TRENTON, NEW JERSEY – APRIL 1974**  
Spc. 4th Class Frederick Jauss and Spc. 4th Class  
John W. Lytvinenko answer questions for a young  
couple interested in the reserve enlistment program.







## CAREER PROGRESSION

An Army officer's career usually begins at second lieutenant. His or her performance is then regularly reviewed based on the officer evaluation system. Officers are given specific, regular feedback along with professional opportunities to establish expectations and consistent advancement through the Army's ranks.



### SECOND LIEUTENANT

The first rank in an officer's career, this phase develops primary branch skills and offers quality Army experience through basic course and on-the-job training.



### FIRST LIEUTENANT

Officers in this rank apply their previous training and learn how to lead other troops within their branch.



### CAPTAIN

In this rank, officers may acquire command experience or become qualified in a functional area.



### MAJOR

At this level, you are considered a key staff officer and have advanced expertise in your branch and functional area.



### LIEUTENANT COLONEL

The equivalent of upper management, you may command your own battalion, be a general staff officer or lead numerous other assignments.



### COLONEL

Brigade command or a high-level staff position in one of your functional areas will be your focus at this level.



### GENERAL

From division commanders to post commanders, generals develop strategy on how the Army operates.

**For more information on ranks and promotions, or on becoming an officer, visit [goarmy.com](http://goarmy.com)**