

Team Redstone Celebrates Juneteenth

The Aviation and Missile Command hosted the Team Redstone Juneteenth celebration June 21 in the Bob Jones Auditorium on Redstone Arsenal, Alabama.

Every year, the numerous commands and federal agencies located throughout Redstone Arsenal volunteer to each host a monthly cultural observance. This year AMCOM chose to host the Juneteenth

Celebration, with the AMCOM Employee Diversity Board taking the lead to plan and execute the event.

Juneteenth is the newest federal holiday; President Joe Biden signed the Juneteenth National Independence Day Act into public law June 17, 2021. It commemorates the date on which the final group of enslaved people in Confederate Texas received the news that they were freed by executive order in 1865 — more than two years after President Abraham Lincoln issued the Emancipation Proclamation Jan. 1, 1863.

This year marked the first AMCOM cultural observance held in person after



were displayed in the lobby. Local Huntsville historian William Hampton served as the keynote speaker and took the attendees on what he called, "a little stroll back through history." Starting with the years leading up to the civil war, to the Emancipation Proclamation, Juneteenth and finally, the ratification of the 13th Amendment. "There was no one moment when freedom came to the enslaved in the United States," he said. **READ MORE** nearly three years of virtual events due to the global pandemic. In keeping with the celebratory nature of the event, as well as the ability to once again gather together, the planning committee wanted to capture a festive atmosphere. As attendees entered the auditorium, they were greeted with a selection of live saxophone music played by local musician Tommy Friend, and cake punch and balloons

View the AMCOM hosted Team Redstone Juneteenth Celebration <u>View Here</u>



Halfway through 2023

July is upon us and that brings up different things for different people. For some, it's the middle of summer — you're taking some time off, spending weekends on the water, endlessly mowing



the lawn, or enjoying the A/C while binge watching a new series.

For others, it's time of reflection. You start to realize that the year is halfway over —it's time to recommit to those resolutions you set back in January. Maybe it was a personal goal to live a healthier lifestyle or a professional goal to enroll and complete some training classes.

I say there is room for both ways of thinking. Take your leave, enjoy your summer and make the memories; but when you come back, come back with a refreshed and renewed outlook on your resolutions. If you didn't make any in January, it's not too late to finish 2023 by advancing the ball down the field and making a difference in yourself and/or your career.

July also reminds us that our founding fathers had a goal of independence and establishing a new nation and we celebrate their success each year on July 4th. Additionally, this month we celebrate 26 years as a command. AMCOM was officially activated on July 17, 1997 as Aviation and Troop Support Command merged with Missile Command. That merger was part of the 1995 Base Realignment and Closure commission's report. Our Army leaders first saw the benefits of combining missile and aviation assets during the war in Vietnam and those benefits are even more relevant today.

However, it is the people in this command who truly make the difference. Whether you have been part of Team AMCOM for 26 years or 26 hours, what you do matters and you are an integral part of the AMCOM team. Thank you for what you do each and every day. Your efforts help make the difference for those warfighters in the field. Be all You Can Be!

> Maj. Gen. Tom O'Connor Jr., AMCOM Commanding General



Army OIB modernization efforts continue across enterprise

The Army is currently in year two of its largest modernization planning effort in nearly forty years, with the goal to overhaul and update its organic industrial base over the next 15 years.

To keep that process on track, the OIB task force meets biannually to identify, prioritize and review requirements and efforts. Known as the OIB Modernization War Game, the fifth meeting was held at Redstone Arsenal, Alabama, in the Aviation and Missile Command headquarters June 13-15.

Leaders from depots, arsenals and ammunition points throughout the Army gathered to share ideas and challenges, as well as provide updates.

In addition to tracking the ongoing initiatives and requirements, the task force also focused on funding, which includes finding alternative



mechanisms to fund projects, such as partnerships with industry and academia.

"We are working with Manufacturing Innovation Institutes to see industry best practices and how those can be incorporated into government operational standards and policies," said Stephanie Hoaglin, deputy director of the task force. "We want to ensure we are ready for tomorrow's fight, not just today's."

The commander of Army Materiel Command, Gen. Charles Hamilton, echoed Hoaglin's comments.

"We have to figure out a better way to work with industry — to give them the predictability and make the right investments in the defense industrial base," he said.



called "the nation's insurance policy," Hamilton told the task force the onus is on everybody in the room, including him, to hold one another accountable and ensure they meet the modernization milestones without falling into the status quo or becoming complacent.

The Army's OIB is charged with manufacturing, sustaining and resetting Army equipment... **READ MORE**

Regarding the OIB, which he

Missile systems expert assigned to 405th AFSB selected as AMCOM LAR of the Year

The U.S. Army Materiel Command logistics assistance representatives assigned to the 405th Army Field Support Brigade in Europe have been extremely busy over the past 15 months supporting U.S. and NATO operations in direct assistance to Ukraine.

With all that work it's nice to be recognized, and Will Owens knows this better than anyone. The 405th AFSB LAR who primarily supports the Army Prepositioned Stocks-2 program and the 5th Battalion, 4th Air Defense Artillery Regiment was recently selected as the U.S. Army Aviation and Missile Command 2022 LAR of the Year.

"I just found out last week," Owens said. "It's a huge honor; it's the biggest thing that's ever happened to me in my career."

With over 40 years of experience working on missile systems, Owens' primary mission is to advise the commanders and units he supports "whether that be wrench turning or training," he said.

A top-tier expert in his field, Owens is qualified on the Hawk.... READ MORE



'Everyone has a voice,' depot commander provides parting words



Stepping into Col. Rick Allbritton's office, you are met with an assortment of souvenirs adorning the walls representative of his prestigious Army career spanning more than three decades.

Amongst the myriad of framed photos and plaques, he is quick to point out one memento to visitors: a simple yellow post-it note with the words 'listen to all of them' neatly printed on it in black marker.

"After about a month-and-a-half of taking command of Letterkenny Army Depot, I wrote myself that note," Allbritton reflected. "I made it to remind myself that everybody has a voice on the depot, every voice matters, and... **READ MORE**

AMCOM employee recognized with top AMC award

Army Materiel Command recently recognized 10 employees for their outstanding contributions to the AMC mission by presenting them with the 2022 Louis Dellamonica Award.

The award is presented to both military and civilian employees below the rank of general officer and Senior Executive Service level who meet and exceed certain criteria.

This year's Aviation and Missile Command recipient was Tildon "Kye" Allen, who currently serves as the deputy to the commander for the Aviation Center Logistics Command at Fort Novosel, Alabama.

"I'm humbled and even though it's an individual award, it really ... READ MORE





July 1, 1863: The Battle of Gettysburg begins between Union and Confederate forces. It would become one of the largest battles of the Civil War, lasting three days and resulting in more than 165,000 casualties between the two armies. By the end of the battle, Confederate Gen. Robert E. Lee and his forces were forced to retreat to Virginia. Gettysburg would prove to be the turning point in the Civil War



July 2, 1964: President Lyndon B. Johnson signed into law the Civil Rights Act of 1964. In this historic moment, the Civil Rights Act prohibited racial discrimination in employment and education. The law also outlawed racial segregation in public places such as schools. parks, buses, etc. The bill also laid the groundwork for other legislation, including the Voting Rights Act of 1965.

REAL AND ALLER

This month in history

July 7, 1976: The United States Military Academy allowed women to enroll for the first time in the history of the school. Established in 1802 by Congress, USMA's purpose was to educate and train young men in the theory and practice of military science. In 1976, 119 women enrolled and four years later, 62 female cadets graduated and were commissioned as second lieutenants.



July 17, 1997: The U.S. Army Aviation and Missile Command was formed on a provisional basis by merging the U.S. Army Aviation and Troop Command and the U.S. Army Missile Command. By Permanent Order 344-1, Dated Dec. 9, 1996, the U.S. Army Materiel Command directed that AMCOM be established at Redstone Arsenal, Alabama on a permanent basis, effective October 1. Today, AMCOM is still headquartered at Redstone Arsenal and is composed of six major organizations.



July 26, 1776: The U.S. Postal Service was established by the Continental Congress. Benjamin Franklin was named as the first postmaster general, laying the groundwork for much of the modern day's postal system. Today, there are 40,000 post offices and the postal services delivers more than 200 billion pieces of mail each year.

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