



Runners from around the world participate in the 2023 Army Ten-Miler, hosted by the U.S. Army Military District of Washington, in Arlington, Virginia. (U.S. ARMY/SGT. DEONTE ROWELL)

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AUSA is lead sponsor for Army Ten-Miler

The Association of the U.S. Army is now the sole lead sponsor for the Army Ten-Miler as the race prepares to mark its 40th anniversary Oct. 13 in Washington, D.C.

Priority registration for the race is now open, and general registration opens at 8 a.m. Eastern Feb. 7.

The Army Ten-Miler is the world's third largest 10-mile race, and this year it is set to return to its full capacity of 36,000 in-person runners. All race proceeds benefit Army Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation programs.

AUSA also is the founding sponsor of the Army Ten-Miler. The inaugural race on Oct. 14, 1985, had 1,379 finishers.

"The Army Ten-Miler is a special race that brings together tens of thousands of people to celebrate the Army and those who serve in it," said retired

Gen. Bob Brown, AUSA president and CEO. "AUSA is proud to be a founding sponsor of the Army Ten-Miler, and this year, as the race marks its 40th anniversary, AUSA is thrilled to be the sole lead sponsor of this fantastic, community-building event."

As the founding sponsor in 1985, AUSA has had a sponsorship role every year since, said Maya Johnson, deputy race director for the Army Ten-Miler. "We are tremendously grateful for AUSA's long-standing support of the Army's Race and appreciate the organization stepping up this year to serve as the sole lead sponsor of the 40th Army Ten-Miler," Johnson said. "They recognize and help us fulfill our mission to support Army outreach, build morale and promote physical fitness."

This year, the race is part of the new Armed Forces Series Challenge,

which involves completing five military races—the Army Ten-Miler, Air Force Marathon, Coast Guard Marathon, Marine Corps Marathon and Space Force T-Minus 10 Miler—held between April and December. Runners who complete all five races earn a unique challenge medal.

Priority registration is open to active-duty, National Guard and Reserve personnel, ROTC and service academy cadets, and runners who have finished seven or more Army Ten-Miler races. General registration is open to the public, and runners must be at least 13 years old on race day.

Registration also is now open for the 2024 Virtual Army Ten-Miler Race. Virtual runners must complete their race between Oct. 13 and Dec. 31.

For more information and to register, visit www.armytenmiler.com.



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Vietnam Medal of Honor recipients Donlon, Taylor die

Retired Col. Roger Donlon and former Capt. Larry Taylor, two recipients of the Medal of Honor for actions during the Vietnam War, have died.

Donlon, 89, died Jan. 25. Taylor, 81, died Jan. 28.

Donlon received the Medal of Honor, the nation's highest award for valor, for his actions in July 1964 near Nam Dong, Vietnam.

His actions are chronicled in a 2021 graphic novel that's part of the Association of the U.S. Army's series on Medal of Honor recipients.

In the predawn hours of July 6, 1964, Donlon and his 12-man Green Beret team from 7th Special Forces Group, along with the 300 South Vietnamese and 60 Nung fighters at the camp, were attacked by a reinforced Viet Cong battalion of nearly 900 fighters.

At the initial onslaught, Donlon ran through a hail of gunfire and exploding grenades to stop a three-man enemy sapper team from breaching the main gate, his award citation says.



Former Capt. Larry Taylor speaks during his Hall of Heroes induction ceremony in September at Joint Base Myer-Henderson Hall, Virginia. (U.S. ARMY/KEVIN FLEMING)



Retired Col. Roger Donlon addresses a Vietnam War commemorative event in 2016 at AUSA headquarters in Arlington, Virginia. (AUSA PHOTO)

He reached a 60 mm mortar position even though he was wounded in the stomach by a grenade blast. "When he discovered that most of the men in this gun pit were also wounded, he completely disregarded his own injury, directed their withdrawal to a location 30 meters away, and again risked his life by remaining behind and covering the movement," the citation says.

Donlon suffered a concussion and serious wounds to his left shoulder when a mortar exploded nearby, and was wounded again in the face and body by another mortar shell.

At dawn, the enemy forces withdrew, leaving behind 54 of their dead.

All the surviving members of Donlon's team were at the White House on Dec. 5, 1964, when President Lyndon Johnson presented him with the Medal of Honor.

Heroic rescue

Taylor, an Army aviator, received the nation's highest award for valor on Sept. 5, more than 55 years after his heroic actions.

Taylor was a first lieutenant and a team leader of a helicopter light-fire team with 1st Squadron, 4th Cavalry, 1st Infantry Division on June

18, 1968, "when he heard a whisper coming through his radio, 'We're surrounded,'" President Joe Biden said during the Medal of Honor ceremony.

The four-man team was surrounded by nearly 100 enemy soldiers. Taylor and his wingman raced toward team and radioed them to mark their location with flares.

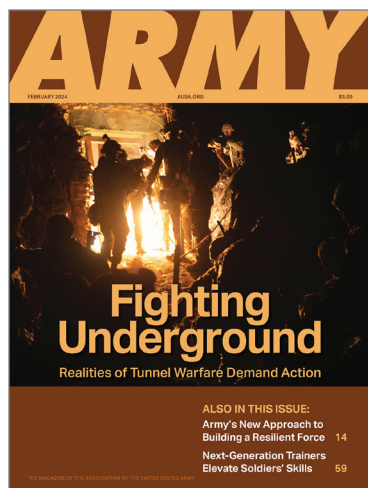
Using the illumination as a reference point, Taylor and his wingman strafed the enemy with miniguns and rockets. "Then Lt. Taylor heard a sound that only meant one thing—his helo was hit," Biden said. "And it was hit again and again and again."

With both helicopters nearly out of ammunition and the enemy closing in, Taylor learned that a plan to rescue the soldiers with a UH-1 Huey helicopter had been canceled because it was deemed too dangerous.

"Taylor landed his Cobra under heavy enemy fire and with complete disregard for his personal safety," according to the White House. The team climbed aboard, grabbing on to rocket pods and skids, and Taylor flew them to safety.

Taylor said he was just doing his job, according to *Stars and Stripes*. "I knew that if I did not go down and get them, they would not make it."

ARMY magazine February issue



AUSA Basic Members can now view a selection of articles from the February issue of *ARMY* magazine. To read the articles, [click here](#).

Weimer: Army working to improve quality of life for soldiers, families



Sgt. Maj. of the Army Michael Weimer, right, shakes a soldier's hand during a visit to Fort Cavazos, Texas, formerly known as Fort Hood. (U.S. ARMY/PFC. JULIAN WINSTON)

The Army is committed to improving quality of life for soldiers and their families, an endeavor that requires “predictable funding and pay,” Sgt. Maj. of the Army Michael Weimer told a congressional panel Wednesday.

In his first testimony on Capitol Hill since becoming the Army's top enlisted soldier in August, Weimer told members of the House Armed Services Committee's quality of life panel that “continuing resolutions and flat budgets do not support predictability for soldiers and their families” and exacerbate quality of life issues.

Since the Oct. 1 start of fiscal 2024, the Army and the DoD have been operating under a continuing resolution, a stopgap measure that keeps funding at the previous year's levels and prohibits new program starts.

Noting the “immeasurable weight” borne by the families of soldiers, including more than 140,000 who are deployed or on notice as crisis response troops, Weimer pointed to the \$3.4 billion investment being made in military housing, including barracks.

The Army, he said, is “resolute” and focused on fostering a professional and safe culture and ensuring

that child care centers are staffed and families can easily navigate the care they need through the Exceptional Family Member Program. The service also is working to make sure spouses have what they need to stay employed.

“Over 431,000 spouses play a crucial role in our soldiers' readiness and lethality,” Weimer said.

Testifying alongside his counterparts in the Navy, Air Force, Marine Corps and Space Force as well as the senior enlisted adviser to the chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff about recruiting and retention, Weimer pointed to the success of the Future Soldier Preparatory Course in helping recruits increase their test scores and physical fitness.

The course has passed and shipped to basic training 95% of participating soldiers since it was created in August 2022, he said.

Addressing the availability of mental health resources for soldiers, Weimer gave his assurance that the Army has tackled and “made tremendous progress” on lessening the stigma associated with seeking help, along with ensuring that once scarce resources are available for soldiers who need it.

AUSAExtra

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Support For the Soldier*

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PERK OF THE WEEK

All AUSA members, not just military veterans, can join the Armed Forces Vacation Club and enjoy



up to seven-night resort vacations in suites around the world. You can also use your member price to buy a gift certificate for non-members to use. For more information, visit www.afvclub.com and choose “AUSA” for your membership eligibility.

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Use your AUSA member discounts for fitness programs

For many people, the new year is a time to start healthier habits.

As we enter February, I want to highlight discounts on fitness programs that you can use through your membership in the Association of the U.S. Army.

FightCamp

One new AUSA member benefit partner is FightCamp. I just purchased mine, and I'm excited to get started with this fun way to work out and train like a fighter.

FightCamp is a connected at-home boxing gym that provides access to world-class boxing and kickboxing trainers, premium equipment and performance-tracking technology. The program has a growing library of boxing, kickboxing, strength and conditioning and recovery workouts designed to keep you engaged, focused and in the zone.

The system shows your stats in real time and includes punch tracking technology that calculates the speed and intensity of every strike. It is designed to help you develop confidence and strength—both mentally and physically.

Members normally save 10%, but because of FightCamp's love for the Army community and our love for our members, in honor of Valentine's Day, FightCamp is giving away the Ultimate FightCamp Bundle. This includes trackers, quick wraps, boxing bag, gloves, bag ring, premium flooring and one year of membership—a total value of \$1,274.

Enter to win the Ultimate FightCamp Bundle by sending an email to jack@fightcamp.com and copy me at srubel@ausa.org. Include a short description of why we should choose you as the winner.

We'll pick a winner on Valentine's Day and notify them on Feb. 15.

Additionally, the AUSA member discount doubles to 20% during the



FightCamp is a connected at-home boxing gym that provides access to world-class trainers, premium equipment and performance-tracking technology. (COURTESY PHOTO)

month of February. Try it for free for two months. Click [here](#) to purchase at 20% off.

Orangetheory Joins Active&Fit

A popular fitness benefit among AUSA members is Active&Fit, a members-only benefit where for \$28 a month, you can join any of the top gyms in the program. You can switch easily from one brand to another, there are no long-term contracts and cancellation is easy.

Work out at Gold's today and LA Fitness next month, or visit a 24/7 Workout Anytime when you're traveling. Right now, the \$28 enrollment fee is waived.

There also are premium gym discounts, including Pure Barre, F45, Row House, CrossFit, yoga studios, boxing gyms, Pilates studios and more. Some members have asked about the extremely popular Orangetheory Fitness—they were not yet participating when we announced this member benefit but have just

joined the network.

Premium studios have a different discount structure than the \$28 standard gym program, and because many are franchises, discounts will vary by location. I compared my local Orangetheory pricing going direct and through Active&Fit and was impressed with the savings.

To see participating gyms in your area, click [here](#). Once you've done your research, you can join by visiting www.ausa.org/gym. You'll need to log in to the AUSA website to participate—the gyms require this extra step for security.

HUSK

Another members-only partner that offers a different approach to gym discounts is HUSK, formerly GlobalFit's Gym Network 360. HUSK provides discounts that you get directly from the gyms.

The HUSK Marketplace provides gym discounts, virtual subscriptions, discounts on fitness products, nutrition counseling with registered dietitians, mental health services with licensed therapists and physical therapy with certified professionals. Visit www.ausa.org/husk to learn more.

Susan Rubel is AUSA's Association and Affinity Partnerships director.

Fall for a Flexible Fitness Program



Camarillo addresses modernization at chapter luncheon

Despite the challenges of operating without a full-year budget, the Army is moving forward with its sweeping modernization and transformation efforts, Army Undersecretary Gabe Camarillo said.

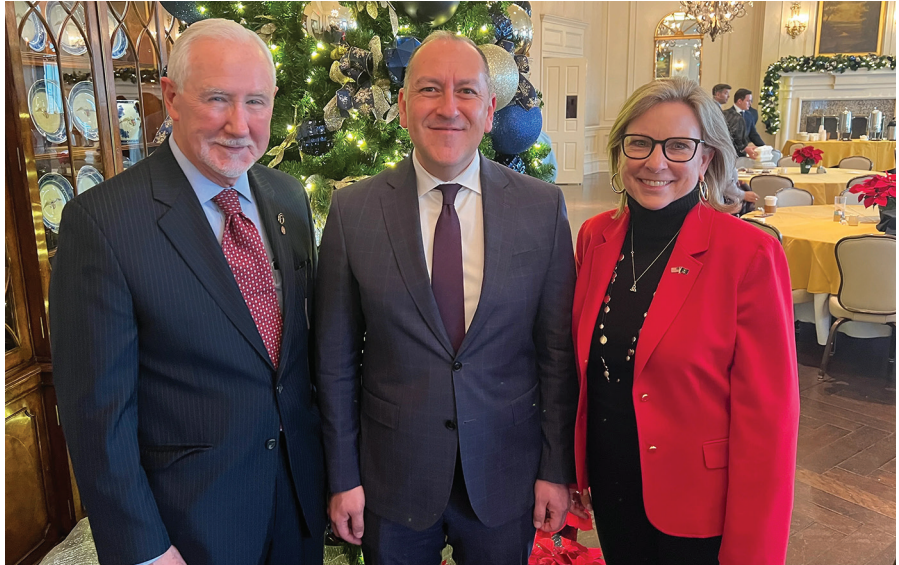
Speaking at a luncheon and membership meeting hosted by the Association of the U.S. Army's George Washington chapter, Camarillo warned of some of the impacts of a continuing resolution, which is a stopgap measure that funds government agencies at the previous year's levels. The measure also prevents any new starts to programs.

George Washington

As an example, the Army would be unable to start six procurement programs, fund five production rate increases and begin 33 military construction projects, including five barracks, Camarillo said during the event at the Army Navy Country Club in Arlington, Virginia, that was attended by more than 150 military and defense industry leaders, Army recruiters and ROTC cadets.

He also discussed the importance of passing the supplemental defense budget, which includes \$3.1 billion for the Army's organic industrial base. Camarillo emphasized that this funding also would benefit local economies with millions of dollars in investment.

Modernization programs that are currently moving forward include the Army's Strategic Mid-Range Fires system, originally known as the Mid-Range Capabilities system, which entered mid-tier acquisition rapid prototyping in November. The service plans on delivering one battery per year between fiscal years 2024 to 2026, Camarillo said. The Army also has completed production qualification testing for its Precision Strike Missile Increment 1 and intends to begin fielding the system in June, he said.



Attending a luncheon and membership meeting hosted by AUSA's George Washington chapter are, left to right, Dick Winter, the chapter president, Army Undersecretary Gabe Camarillo and Karen Lowe, the chapter's executive vice president. (AUSA PHOTO)

Additionally, the Army plans to begin fielding the M10 Booker Combat Vehicle in fiscal 2025 with one company set, pending a successful initial operational test and evaluation this year, Camarillo said.

Regarding the Army's digital transformation efforts, Camarillo said the Army is looking to take a

more definitive step in digital engineering, including specific training for personnel and tailoring approaches to commodity areas with industry.

Lessons from the war in Ukraine are helping inform the Army's modernization plans, Camarillo said, including the value of virtual maintenance and 3D printing. The Army also has an increased awareness of the threat of unmanned aerial systems, stressing the need for innovative approaches and a layered defense capability.

Finally, while the Army has the best armored vehicles in the world, it is imperative that the service's vehicle platforms become lighter, more mobile, decrease logistics burdens and integrate active protection systems, Camarillo said.

Dick Winter, the AUSA chapter president, thanked Karen Lowe, the chapter's executive vice president, for securing Camarillo as guest speaker for the event; chapter members Miranda Jones, Kerri Kline and retired Col. Doug Morrison for their volunteer support; and the U.S. Army Band Brass Quintet for providing a musical medley.



Army Undersecretary Gabe Camarillo discusses the service's modernization efforts at an event hosted by AUSA's George Washington chapter. (AUSA PHOTO)

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