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Daniel Inouye received the Medal of Honor for actions during World War II. (AUSA GRAPHIC)

Graphic novel highlights WWII hero

The Association of the U.S. Army has released a new graphic novel as part of a series highlighting Medal of Honor recipients.

Medal of Honor: Daniel Inouye features the story of 2nd Lt. Daniel Inouye, who witnessed the attack on Pearl Harbor and volunteered to serve in the 442nd Regimental Combat Team, one of the most decorated units in World War II.

AUSA launched its Medal of Honor graphic novel series in October 2018, producing four issues and a paperback collection. Four new issues will be released this year.

"We are especially excited about this new series of graphic novels because the stories deserve to be better known," said Joseph Craig, director of AUSA's Book Program. "When you mention Daniel Inouye, most

people will think of him as the elder statesman. In *Medal of Honor: Daniel Inouye*, we get to tell the tale of his WWII actions, which could come straight out of Hollywood."

On April 21, 1945, Inouye led an assault on German defenses near San Terenzo, Italy, during the final weeks of the war.

Under a hail of automatic weapon and small-arms fire, Inouye led his platoon as they captured an artillery and mortar post and moved to within 40 yards of the hostile force, according to his Medal of Honor citation.

With complete disregard for his safety, Inouye crawled to one of three enemy machine gun nests and hurled two grenades, destroying the position.

Before the enemy could react, he stood up and neutralized a second machine gun nest before he was

wounded by a sniper's bullet.

Inouye kept fighting, engaging other enemy fighters at close range until an exploding grenade shattered his right arm.

He fought through the intense pain, refusing evacuation and continuing to direct his platoon until the enemy resistance was broken, according to the citation.

Inouye, who lost his right arm, spent almost two years recovering in Army hospitals.

He entered politics upon his return to his native Hawaii and in 1962 became the first Japanese American elected to the U.S. Senate.

On June 21, 2000, Inouye was presented the Medal of Honor by President Bill Clinton for his service during World War II.

He died in 2012.

See **Graphic novel**, Page 3



THE AUSA NOON REPORT

Stay connected with AUSA at home with our new virtual series featuring guest speakers from Army leadership discussing key defense industry topics.

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*Assistant Secretary of the Army
(Acquisition, Logistics, & Technology)*

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CHALLENGE ACCEPTED

Virtual birthday celebrations planned as Army turns 245

The Association of the U.S. Army and its nine regions and 122 chapters will mark the Army's 245th birthday with a virtual celebration June 12 featuring a keynote address by retired Gen. Carter Ham, AUSA president and CEO.

The event, which begins at 7 p.m. Eastern Daylight Time, will also feature toasts from senior Army leaders, a cake-cutting ceremony and a virtual tour of the National Museum of the United States Army at Fort Belvoir, Virginia.

Musical entertainment will be provided by retired Sgt. 1st Class Jamie Buckley, a country music recording artist.

Since its official establishment on June 14, 1775, the Army has played a vital role in the growth and development of the United States.

AUSA, the Army's professional association, is proud to celebrate this legacy of service.

The association is encouraging all chapters to get involved and invite their Community Partners to join in



Since its official establishment on June 14, 1775, the Army has played a vital role in the growth and development of the United States. (U.S. ARMY/SPC. ALYSSA MADERO)

as well.

Click here for a template to help get the word out. To register, click here.

The Army will be celebrating the milestone birthday with its own series of events, including a virtual 2.45-

mile run challenge from Sgt. Maj. of the Army Michael Grinston and a wreath-laying ceremony at Arlington National Cemetery.

For more information on the Army's birthday events, click here.

Graphic novel

From Page 1

AUSA's first graphic novel was *Medal of Honor: Alvin York*, commemorating the centennial of York's heroic actions in World War I.

It was followed by graphic novels on Maj. Audie Murphy, the most highly decorated soldier in American history; Green Beret legend and Vietnam War hero Staff Sgt. Roy Benavidez; and Spc. Sal Giunta, the first living recipient of the Medal of Honor since Vietnam.

AUSA also released a paperback collection of all four graphic novels in 2019.

This year's graphic novels, in addition to Inouye, will highlight Sgt. Henry Johnson, the Harlem Hell-fighter who fought in World War I; Dr. Mary Walker, a Civil War surgeon and the only woman to receive

the Medal of Honor; and Cpl. Tibor Rubin, the Holocaust survivor who later fought in Korea.

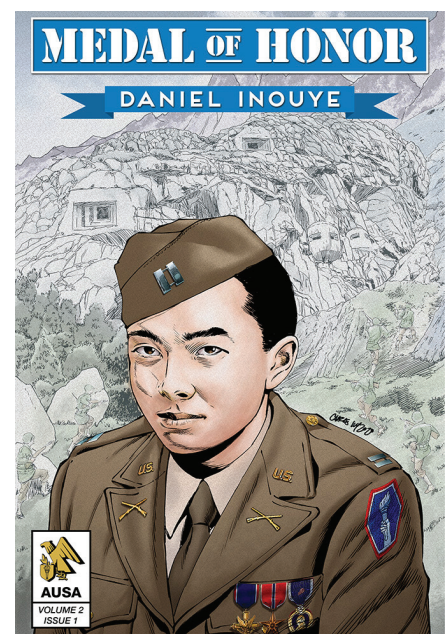
All four of them "have equally remarkable, yet quite distinctive, stories of valor," Craig said.

Each graphic novel is created by a team of professional comic book veterans.

The script for the graphic novel on Inouye was written by Chuck Dixon, whose previous work includes *Batman*, *The Punisher* and *The 'Nam*.

Pencils, inks and the cover were done by Christopher Ivy, who has worked on *G.I. Joe*, *Avengers* and *Flash*.

Colors were by Peter Pantazis, who has worked on *Justice League*, *Superman* and *Wolverine*, and the lettering was by Troy Peteri, who previously worked on *Spider-Man*, *Iron Man* and *X-Men*.



To download *Medal of Honor: Daniel Inouye* and for more on the series, visit www.ausa.org/moh.

Senior leaders encourage ‘dignity, respect’ amid nationwide protests



Master Sgt. Acie Matthews, of the Minnesota National Guard, engages with protesters at the Minnesota state capitol on Monday. (ARMY NATIONAL GUARD/STAFF SGT. LINSEY WILLIAMS)

Senior Army leaders are reinforcing the importance of listening to and taking care of each other amid protests nationwide.

“Over the past week, the country has suffered an explosion of frustration over the racial divisions that still plague us as Americans,” Army Secretary Ryan McCarthy, Chief of Staff Gen. James McConville and Sgt. Maj. of the Army Michael Grinston wrote in a letter to the force. “And because your Army is a reflection of American society, those divisions live in the Army as well.”

“We feel the frustration and anger ... even though we can never fully understand the frustration and life experiences of people of color, in or out of uniform. But we do understand the importance of taking care of people, and of treating every person with dignity and respect.”

Thousands of Americans have participated in protests across the country after the May 25 death of George Floyd, who died after he was restrained by Minneapolis police officers.

About 30,000 National Guard troops have been mobilized, and they have responded “with the utmost skill and professionalism,” Defense Secretary Mark Esper said.

“I’ve always believed and continue

to believe the National Guard is best suited to perform domestic support to civilian authorities in these situations in support of law enforcement,” he said.

There’s no need to deploy active-duty soldiers to aid in the response, he said.

The option to call in active-duty forces for a law enforcement role should only be used “as a matter of last resort and only in the most urgent and dire of situations,” Esper said. “We are not in one of those situations now. I do not support invoking the Insurrection Act.”

He added that military personnel took an oath to uphold the Constitution.

“My hope is that instead of the violence in the streets, we will see peaceful demonstrations that honor George Floyd, press for accountability for his murder, that move us to reflect about racism in America, and that serve as a call for action to come together to address this problem once and for all,” he said.

McCarthy, McConville and Grinston called on Army leaders “of all ranks” to “listen to your people, but don’t wait for them to come to you. Go to them. Ask the uncomfortable questions. Lead with compassion and humility and create an environment in which people feel comfortable expressing grievances. Let us be the first to set the example. We are listening.”

AUSAExtra

*Voice for the Army –
Support For the Soldier*

Gen. Carter F. Ham, USA, Ret.
President and CEO, AUSA

Lt. Gen. Guy C. Swan III, USA, Ret.
Vice President, Education, AUSA

Luc Dunn
Editor

Desiree Hurlocker
Advertising Production and
Fulfillment Manager

Advertising Information Contact:
Fox Associates Inc.
116 W. Kinzie St. • Chicago, IL 60654
Phone: 800-440-0231
Email: adinfo.rmy@foxrep.com

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PERK OF THE WEEK

Discount at PODS

AUSA members receive discounts on PODS—Portable On Demand Storage—units. Portable storage containers are delivered to you, loaded at your pace, and kept in your driveway, stored with the company or moved both locally and long distance. Plus, as an essential business, they perform no-contact deliveries. Members save 10% off initial delivery, first month’s container rental, and long-distance transportation with promo code AUSA at www.ausa.org/pods.

AUSA delays registration for 2020 Annual Meeting

Registration for the Association of the U.S. Army's annual meeting is delayed as the association continues to plan for the October event amid the COVID-19 pandemic.

Registration, ticket sales and hotel reservations for the 2020 AUSA Annual Meeting and Exposition are now delayed until Aug. 3. The meeting is scheduled for Oct. 12-14 at the Walter E. Washington Convention Center in Washington, D.C.

AUSA continues to plan the annual meeting and is studying a range of possibilities to ensure a safe and effective event.

"We are monitoring the ongoing conditions resulting from COVID-19 and making carefully considered decisions," said retired Lt. Gen. Patricia McQuistion, AUSA's vice president for membership and meetings.



AUSA continues to plan the annual meeting and is studying a range of possibilities to ensure a safe and effective event. (AUSA PHOTO)

AUSA will adhere to guidelines from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the government and health department and consult with conference stakeholders and partners.

"The health, safety and well-being of our members and invited guests remain our highest priorities," McQuistion said.

The AUSA Annual Meeting typically draws more than 32,000 attendees and more than 680 exhibitors, making it the largest landpower exposition and professional development forum in North America.

For more information, visit the AUSA Annual Meeting and Exposition site here.



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Congress prioritizes defense authorization, funding bills

By Mark Haaland

Despite working remotely because of the ongoing pandemic, Congress has been quite busy with COVID 19-related stimulus packages and debating what to do next.

Congressional leadership intends to return to some sense of normalcy this month.

Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell has made the National Defense Authorization Act a priority, with plans for the Senate Armed Services Committee bill to be debated on the Senate floor in late June.

SASC subcommittee markups, which are closed to the public except for the personnel subcommittee markups, will take place Monday and Tuesday, with the full committee markup planned for Wednesday.

House Speaker Nancy Pelosi has stated that the annual defense legislation will be a priority, and the House Armed Services Committee will begin subcommittee markups the week of June 15.

Government Affairs

These markups are open to the public and viewable online. The HASC bill could go to the House floor in early July, but we are waiting for leaders to announce the schedule.

Regarding appropriations, House Majority Leader Steny Hoyer has announced the House plans to complete all 12 appropriation bills before leaving for the August recess.

The Senate has not announced a schedule for its appropriations work, but Senate Appropriations Committee Chairman Richard Shelby has said that he and the subcommittee chairs were determining funding amounts for each appropriation.

In most years, the House Armed Services Committee marks up its version of the National Defense Authorization Act in May prior to the Memorial Day holiday, while the House Appropriations Committee passes its defense bill before the July 4 holiday.



AUSA's advocacy aligns with the Army's priorities for 2020: Putting people first, continuing to grow readiness, and modernizing to build overmatch capability. (U.S. ARMY/PATRICK ALBRIGHT)

This year, the COVID-19 crisis has led to delays in defense-related legislation in both the House and Senate.

The House is also implementing some new procedures to minimize COVID-19 health risks.

For example, virtual markups are being tested, and two virtual rehearsal hearings are required before any virtual markups take place.

This will likely cause some delays as lawmakers become comfortable with the new processes and procedures.

The House also conducted its first-ever vote by proxy in May. This newly implemented process allows a representative to cast his or her vote in person and cast votes for up to 10 other representatives.

This is intended to help ensure members' health and safety, but House Republicans oppose proxy voting and have filed a lawsuit to overturn the resolution.

If proxy voting is overturned, all legislation passed using proxy voting would be reversed.

AUSA efforts

The Association of the U.S. Army continues its efforts to support the Total Army by engaging Congress, either directly or as a coalition with other defense-related associations.

Our advocacy aligns with the Army's priorities for 2020: Putting peo-

ple first, continuing to grow readiness, and modernizing to build overmatch capability. AUSA's 2020 Focus Areas can be found here.

For example, the association has supported the extension of Title 32 deployment orders for National Guard soldiers and airmen during the pandemic, as well as providing these troops with health care benefits for six months following any COVID-related deployment.

A new AUSA concern on behalf of DoD and the Army is a request by 29 members of the House that the HASC reduce DoD funding for fiscal 2021.

The intended outcome of the request is to reduce DoD funding in response to the pandemic.

However, great-power competition is not going away. If anything, adversaries will seek opportunities to leverage COVID-19 to the detriment of the United States.

In addition, this year's defense budget request is a flat-line budget with no real growth, yet senior DoD leaders have cited the need for 3% to 5% growth each year for the military to maintain its edge and continue its modernization efforts.

Look for more updates on these important issues in our next column.

Mark Haaland is AUSA's Government Affairs Director.

Apply now for scholarships, online classes, telemedicine

By Susan Rubel

Like many of you, members of the Association of the U.S Army's national staff continue to work from home during the pandemic.

We've learned some lessons about how much we can accomplish from our home offices and had opportunities for professional development with many courses, seminars and workshops available online.

This is also the perfect time for members to apply for more than

Member Benefits

\$325,000 in national scholarships that AUSA will award this year.

The deadline is June 30, so act now.

Trident University

Three of the scholarships AUSA members can apply for are full ride scholarships to Trident University.



Apply now for more than \$325,000 in national scholarships that AUSA will award this year, including three full ride scholarships to Trident University. (U.S. ARMY PHOTO)

Trident also provides members a substantial discount on their classes, and they waive the enrollment fee.

With a rich tradition of serving the busiest of working adults—the women and men in military service and their families—Trident is uniquely positioned to serve individuals who

must balance family and work commitments while striving to earn a quality education.

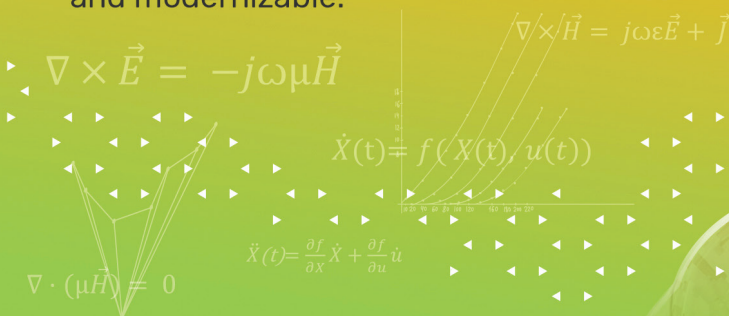
All AUSA members, regardless of military service, receive the veteran rate at Trident—up to 39% off standard tuition rates.

See **Benefits**, Page 8

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Benefits

From Page 7

Trident is regionally accredited and offers flexible, high-quality and innovative academic programs. They offer 100% online courses with 24 degrees and more than 60 concentrations to choose from.

Visit www.ausa.org/trident to take advantage of your member discount and www.ausa.org/scholarship to apply for a scholarship.

edX online classes

During the quarantine, I'm taking a "Negotiations" class from the University of Michigan.

This is a great free opportunity for me, as I'm responsible for negotiating AUSA's affinity contracts.

That course and many more are free at edX. If you want a certificate to show you've completed the course, there's a cost of \$49—and you can save 20% with code EDXAUSA.

edX is the leading nonprofit online learning destination, founded by Harvard and MIT.

Whether you want to advance in your career, pursue graduate-level credentials or are simply interested in learning, edX has the courses and programs you need to succeed.

Telemedicine

Another service that has seen increased demand during this pandemic is telemedicine.

Your own health insurance program may offer telemedicine, but if it doesn't, we've got you covered.

AUSA members have 24/7 access to a doctor anytime, anywhere in the U.S., with no "per visit" fee.

You can talk to a doctor by phone or online to get a diagnosis, treatment options and prescriptions sent to your pharmacy if medically necessary.

Physicians are state-licensed and board-certified, with an average 20

years of practice experience.

Upon request, Teladoc can share visit information with your doctor.

Battle Digest changes

June marks a big change in one of our more popular member benefits, *Battle Digest*.

AUSA members have had access to free digital copies of each issue as they are released. The current issue is the final issue members may access for free, but you'll continue to receive 20% off print subscriptions.

Visit www.ausa.org/battle to download "The Battle of Verdun" and learn more about World War I and how German Gen. Erich von Falkenhayn's failed strategy of attrition, along with problems in mission command, created one of the bloodiest battles in history.

Susan Rubel is AUSA's Affinity Programs Director.



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Army family recognized for community volunteer efforts

The Northern New York-Fort Drum chapter of the Association of the U.S. Army recently announced that Staff Sgt. Casey Raines and his family are the chapter's Volunteer Family of the Year.

Raines, a member of the 91st Military Police Battalion at Fort Drum, New York, was recognized along with his wife, Brittany, and their six children, Kamden, Mason, Brooklyn, Caleb, Caiden and Bentley.

"The Raines family demonstrates the heart of a strong community," said Joseph McLaughlin, the chapter's vice president.

The family was recognized in part for founding "Warm Up Watertown," a project that aims to provide warm clothing for those in need during the winter months.

They collect scarves, hats and other items to distribute, then hang them in locations around Watertown, New York, with a sign asking people



Staff Sgt. Casey Raines, center, his wife, Brittany, and their children. (COURTESY PHOTO)

to take what they need.

The family also assists with the local Back to School Brigade, which provides students with essential school supplies.

Raines has received a volunteer recognition certificate from the 91st MP Battalion, and Brittany leads a Soldier and Family Readiness Group

for the unit.

Their children have also been commended for their community involvement.

Kamden and Brooklyn have received Fort Drum Girl Scout volunteer appreciation awards, and Caleb has been recognized as a Cub Scout volunteer of the month.

AUSA member sworn in as civilian aide to Army secretary

A longtime member of the Association of the U.S. Army's Fort Rucker-Wiregrass chapter was recently appointed as the civilian aide to the secretary of the Army for Alabama (South).

Mike Schmitz, a former mayor of Dothan, Alabama, was sworn in by Army Secretary Ryan McCarthy during a virtual ceremony May 21.

"Having four brothers and a father who all served in the military, I have

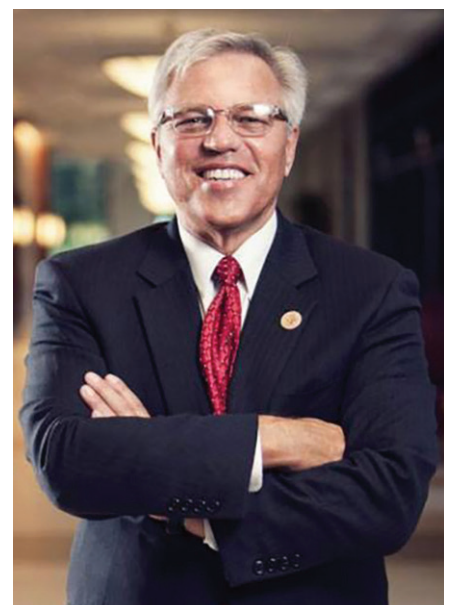
seen the challenges that they and their families faced as they dedicated their lives to serving our country," Schmitz said. "I am looking forward to serving as a voice for families like theirs as I continue to tell the story of the U.S. Army and its impact on the great state of Alabama."

CASAs serve an important role for the Army by promoting good relations between the service and the public and advising the Army secretary on regional issues.

Schmitz, who has served on the board of AUSA's Fort Rucker-Wiregrass chapter for 15 years, said volunteering with the association has increased his passion for Fort Rucker and the military community.

Maj. Gen. David Francis, Fort Rucker's commanding general, said Schmitz is a good choice for the CASA position.

"Mike has been a friend to Fort Rucker for many years, and I look forward to working with him in his new role," Francis said. "I know his appointment will only strengthen the already incredible bonds between Fort Rucker and the Wiregrass."



Mike Schmitz has been appointed as the civilian aide to the secretary of the Army for Alabama (South). (COURTESY PHOTO)



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Didn't catch it? The video will be posted to our YouTube page the following day.

JOIN LIVE TO PARTICIPATE IN THE Q&A

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