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Gen. Paul Funk, commander of the Army Training and Doctrine Command, discusses recruiting efforts at the Association of the U.S. Army's Coffee Series event. (AUSA PHOTO)

Army faces many recruiting challenges

The general officer in charge of recruiting the next generation of soldiers said the shrinking pool of young people who are eligible to serve represents “a problem in our nation.”

Gen. Paul Funk, commander of the Army Training and Doctrine Command, said the two biggest hurdles to qualifying young people for service are obesity and addiction, which he considers “national security issues that we’ve got to address.”

But ahead of those two issues and, more important, is a prevailing lack of willingness to serve.

More than 50% of young people “have never considered service to the nation,” Funk said June 2 at a breakfast meeting hosted by the Association of the U.S. Army as part of its Coffee Series.

“If you want to ask me what the biggest challenge facing our nation today is, it’s the propensity to serve, it’s down at its lowest level,” he said.

Funk sounded the alarm on the poor physical condition among young people, projecting that the physical and mental demands of war in 2030 will require fit soldiers who can do tough work and possess deep mental resilience and physical endurance.

Funk also talked about the gulf between the Army and the American people.

He said 83% of people who are joining the Army have a relative who served, noting that while that may sound great, it’s creating a “warrior class” that is not necessarily desirable.

“We want to be America’s Army, which means we have to get out

and tell our Army story all over the country, we’ve got to reconnect with the American people in terms of people that know a service member, that have actually seen or spent time with someone in a great Army,” Funk said.

Even among the young people who want to join because of a relative’s service, he said, there are only “a few hundred thousand that are even qualified to serve, so we’ve got a problem in our nation.”

These challenges are compounded by efforts in the private sector to attract workers with some of the same benefits the Army offers, such as education benefits, bonuses, higher wages, medical and dental plans and college repayment programs.

“We’re competing with all kinds of great industry partners,” Funk said.



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Historic 11th Airborne Division reactivated in Alaska

The historic 11th Airborne Division is back on the Army's active rolls.

With a focus on operations in extreme cold weather and high altitudes, the division was reactivated Monday during ceremonies at Alaska's Fort Wainwright and Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson.

Commanded by Maj. Gen. Brian Eifler, the 11th Airborne Division is the Army's only Arctic airborne division, taking the place of U.S. Army Alaska as the service works to build a force that is more appropriately manned, trained and equipped for the Arctic environment. The move is part of the Army's January 2021 Arctic Strategy.

With a "proud history of valor during World War II" and a "proud history of experimentation," the 11th Airborne Division will lead the way as the Army sharpens its Arctic warfighting capabilities, Army Chief of Staff Gen. James McConville told reporters before the activation ceremony.

"We expect them to live up to the legacy of those who've gone before, we expect them to be masters of their craft ... [and] we expect them to develop innovative ways of operating," he said.

'Sense of identity'

The Army also is looking at the Arctic "very differently" as it prepares to operate in harsh weather and high-altitude, mountainous terrain, McConville said.

"We have to make sure the units have the capabilities, and that gives them the confidence to be special," he said in an Army press release. "They have the right vehicles to operate in the coldest climate. They have the right equipment and the right clothing. All those things come together to give them a sense of identity."

During the division activation ceremony at Fort Wainwright, the Army's 1st Stryker Brigade Combat Team, 25th Infantry Division, was reflagged



Wayne Porter, a veteran who was assigned to the 11th Airborne Division before its deactivation in 1958, places a shoulder sleeve insignia on Spc. Jihad Yarber during the division's reflagging ceremony at Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson, Alaska. (U.S. AIR FORCE PHOTO)

to become the 1st Brigade Combat Team, 11th Airborne Division.

The brigade will be converted to an infantry brigade combat team with a "strong air assault capability but also the ability to maneuver in the Arctic," McConville said.

Over the summer, Strykers from the brigade, which McConville described as "first-generation," will be turned in, he said. The Army is in the process of acquiring cold-weather all-terrain vehicles and cold-weather gear for the brigade, he said.

In a separate ceremony Monday at Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson, the 4th Brigade Combat Team (Airborne), 25th Infantry Division, was reflagged as the 2nd Brigade Combat Team, 11th Airborne Division.

In all, the Army has about 11,600 active-duty soldiers in Alaska.

Storied history

The 11th Airborne Division was first activated at Camp Mackall, North Carolina, on Feb. 25, 1943, according to the Army.

Commanded by Maj. Gen. Joseph Swing, the division included the 511th Parachute Infantry Regiment, the 187th and 188th Glider Infantry Regiments, the 457th Parachute Field Artillery Battalion and the

674th and 675th Glider Field Artillery Battalions.

The division's performance in the North Carolina Knollwood Maneuvers in the winter of 1943 convinced the War Department of the value of division-sized airborne units, and Swing wrote "War Department Circular 113," which became the bible for U.S. airborne operations, according to the Army.

During World War II, the division fought in the Philippines, from Leyte to Luzon, where it spearheaded the Sixth Army's attack, jumping into Tagaytay Ridge and fighting to liberate Manila, according to the Army.

In 1950, the 187th Glider Infantry Regiment and the 674th Airborne Field Artillery Battalion became the 187th Regimental Combat Team and fought for two years in Korea, according to the Army.

The 11th Airborne Division deployed to Germany early in 1956, then deactivated Aug. 1, 1958.

It reactivated at Fort Campbell on Feb. 1, 1963, and became the 11th Air Assault Division (Test) to develop and refine air assault tactics and equipment for a new helicopter-borne Army.

Upon completion of that mission, the 11th Air Assault Division was inactivated on June 29, 1965.

AUSA webinar highlights leadership lessons from George Washington



Gen. George Washington is shown at the center of *The Death of General Mercer at the Battle of Princeton* by John Trumbull. (COMMONS PHOTO)

Before becoming America's first president, Gen. George Washington found success on the battlefield by winning over his troops with empathy, retired Lt. Gen. James Dubik said during a webinar hosted by the Association of the U.S. Army.

Washington's empathy for his soldiers distinguished his American style of leadership, Dubik, an AUSA senior fellow, said during the Wednesday webinar, part of the association's Noon Report series.

"[Washington] was empathetic toward the people that he led. He did that even before the Revolutionary War," Dubik said. "But during the war, he realized that as a leader, 'I must treat soldiers as citizens, not just subjects.'"

The self-taught leader also had "a broad set of political tools, economic tools [and] managerial tools, Dubik said during his presentation titled "Washington's War: Lessons in Leadership for a Modern Army."

"It was the set of attributes that he developed over time," he said. "As a leader, you want to be able to reach into your set of tools, your set of behaviors, your set of skills, and pull out the right skill for this situation."

As a wartime leader, Washington was successful because he understood war, Dubik said.

"War is not just fighting. You have

to fight a war as well as wage war, and Washington was involved in all of this," he said.

Faced with a Continental Army that was on the brink of dissolving, Washington had to keep morale and "the spirit of revolution up" by picking strategic battles and partnering with the French.

"The war was a coalition of coalitions, it's not just American and French," Dubik said. "Each of the colonies provided their own militia forces under their own terms, with their own support and their own pay systems and their own terms of enlistment, so he was really running a coalition of the willing with the militia and the regular Army, plus an ally, a combined operation."

When asked what leadership lessons soldiers can learn from Washington, Dubik emphasized personal growth over time.

"[Washington then] would not have been selected as commander in chief at all. So, I started asking myself, where did he get this maturity?" Dubik said. "He learns management of large organizations. He also learns the importance of the relationship of politics to economics, to society. ... So, he slowly moves as a better manager, as a better economist, as a better political leader, from his own affairs to the affairs of the state."

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Williams to serve as Hampton University president

Retired Lt. Gen. Darrell Williams, former director of the Defense Logistics Agency and a life member of the Association of the U.S. Army, has been selected to be the next president of Hampton University.

Williams, who graduated from the private, historically Black university in Virginia in 1983, was selected for the job in March. On July 1, he will succeed William Harvey, who retires after leading the university for 44 years, the university said.

“In the military, it was all about our young troops at the pointy end of the spear,” Williams said. “At an academic institution, everything is about our students and their academic experience. I will be laser-focused on providing our students both the academic and whole life experience that they deserve.”

Williams, who attended Hampton

University at the encouragement of his high school guidance counselor, who was a Hampton graduate himself, said he loves his alma mater.

Arriving on campus in 1979, “I never looked back,” Williams said. “It was the absolutely right decision for me.”

Hampton University is also where Williams met his now-wife, Myra. The couple has been married since 1987.

“I know that a lot of the things that she did as a military spouse are also going to dramatically benefit our university and all of the young stu-



Retired Lt. Gen. Darrell Williams. (HAMPTON UNIVERSITY PHOTO)

dents,” Williams said about his wife, a career educator who also is a 1983 Hampton graduate.

Lessons from his 37-year Army career and his time in the corporate world—Williams has been a vice president at Leidos since September 2020—will serve him well as president of Hampton, Williams said.

“I consider myself a person who has a great educational and academic curiosity, and I plan to bring that to the university,” he said.

The Army also taught him how to achieve results, Williams said.

“In the military, and certainly in the Army, the kinds of things we do, it’s a no-fail mission,” he said. “I clearly understand the importance of producing results.”

He added, “I look forward to propelling Hampton into its next era of greatness.”

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Housing registration opens for 2022 Annual Meeting

Housing for the Association of the U.S. Army's 2022 Annual Meeting and Exposition opened at noon Eastern today.

This year's in-person annual meeting will take place Oct. 10–12 at the Walter E. Washington Convention Center in Washington, D.C.

The three-day event will feature keynote speakers from the Army, DoD and industry leaders, as well as professional development forums, awards presentations, networking opportunities and more than 700 exhibits spread over five halls.

Online registration for the annual meeting is scheduled to open in July.

AUSA has negotiated discounted hotel rooms for attendees and exhibitors through the association's official Housing Bureau, Convention Management Resources.

Housing registration will be available here beginning at noon Eastern today.



Soldiers, AUSA members, defense industry representatives and more gather at the 2021 AUSA Annual Meeting and Exposition. (AUSA PHOTO)

Attendees and exhibitors also may book by phone by contacting the AUSA Housing Customer Contact Center between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m. Eastern time Monday through Friday.

Call (855) 971-2295 from the U.S.

and Canada. If calling from outside the U.S. or Canada, dial (202) 831-0980.

For more information on the AUSA Annual Meeting and Exposition, click here.

AUSA extends deadline for scholarship applications

The deadline to apply for more than \$340,000 in national scholarships from the Association of the U.S. Army has been extended to June 30.

AUSA is awarding 44 scholarships in 2022, and three are administered by the association in conjunction with the Army.

For applications, eligibility rules and requirements, click here. Those selected to receive an AUSA national scholarship will be notified by Oct. 15.

To be selected for any of the AUSA national scholarships, applicants must be active AUSA members.

Membership is not a prerequisite for the Army scholarships administered by AUSA.

The national scholarships include awards for science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) programs, and general studies.

In the STEM category, AUSA will

award 10 Delta Dental Oral Health and Wellness Scholarships valued at \$2,000 each; two Joseph P. and Helen T. Cribbins Scholarships valued at \$10,000 each; and six Nicholas D. Chabraja Scholarships valued at \$5,000 each.

AUSA's general studies scholarships consist of the SMA Leon Van Autreve Scholarship Program; General Jack N. Merritt Scholarships; debt reduction for completed degrees; three full scholarships for undergraduate or graduate degrees offered by Trident University; and five scholarships sponsored by Condor Outdoor Products.

In honor of Leon Van Autreve, the fourth sergeant major of the Army who was instrumental in establishing the NCO education system, eight scholarships are available: one for \$25,000, one for \$10,000, one for \$5,000, and five for \$2,000, for a to-

tal of \$50,000.

Two \$5,000 scholarships will be awarded in honor of the late Gen. Jack Merritt, a former president of AUSA.

For young professionals with debt from recently completed college courses or professional certifications, eight \$2,500 scholarships are available.

Three full-ride scholarships valued at up to \$48,000 each will be awarded for Trident University.

The five scholarships sponsored by Condor Outdoor Products and the company's CEO Spencer Tien are worth \$10,000 each and can be awarded to help AUSA members pursuing a degree in any field.

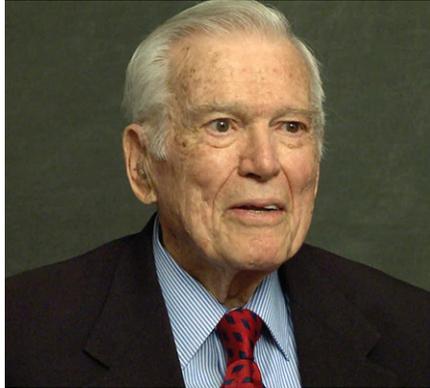
AUSA also administers the following Army scholarships: the SGM Larry Strickland Memorial Fund and Scholarship, the SGM Dawn Kilpatrick Memorial AUSA Scholarship, and ROTC scholarships.

Vietnam veteran, AUSA author and longtime member dies

Retired Maj. Gen. Ira “Jim” Hunt, a longtime member of the Association of the U.S. Army who was chief of staff of the 9th Infantry Division during the Vietnam War, has died. He was 97.

After graduating from West Point in 1945 and commissioning as an engineer officer, Hunt was initially stationed in Germany, repairing bridges and building housing for displaced persons in war-torn Europe, according to the West Point Center for Oral History, which posted on Facebook about Hunt’s death.

Hunt returned to West Point in 1950, where he taught cadets in the Department of Mechanics. He taught thermodynamics at the Naval Academy for a year before receiving a Freeman Scholarship to study engineering in Europe, where he earned his first doctorate, according to the West



Retired Maj. Gen. Ira ‘Jim’ Hunt.
(WEST POINT CENTER FOR ORAL HISTORY PHOTO)

Point Center for Oral History.

“After assignments studying the shoreline of the Great Lakes, building highways in Korea, developing processes to survey land from satellites, and planning operations in Cold War Europe, he was deployed to Vietnam as Chief of Staff in the

9th Infantry Division in 1968-69,” according to the West Point Center for Oral History.

In a 2015 interview with the center, Hunt said, “We had a lot of enemy. ... The purpose of the war in Vietnam for the Americans, the Vietnamese and the North Vietnamese, the same. You want to get the maximum number of people under your control, and the maximum amount of land.”

Hunt, who also served as deputy chief of staff for training and schools at the Army Training and Doctrine Command, retired from the Army in 1978. His awards and decorations include the Silver Star, the Legion of Merit and the Distinguished Flying Cross.

Hunt is the author of *The 9th Infantry Division in Vietnam: Unparalleled and Unequaled*, a title in the AUSA Book Program.



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Army seeks extra funding for modernization, maintenance

After many delays, Congress is finally poised to start making decisions on the 2023 Army budget.

The ambitious plan calls for the House and Senate Armed Services Committees to write their separate versions of the annual National Defense Authorization Act over the next two weeks, displaying a burst of activity after months of policy and budget delays.

There are several critical decisions to be made. One of the most important for the Army is whether lawmakers will approve any of the \$5.1 billion in funding required for unfunded priorities.

The base Army budget requested by the White House is \$177.5 billion.

Government Affairs

The Army's supplemental request asks for an additional \$2.4 billion for modernization, which would pay for upgrades and accelerate delivery of some equipment and systems.

To improve maintenance, make industrial base improvements and pay several construction projects, the Army is asking for \$2.1 billion.

Also on the unfunded priority list is \$738 million for people-related projects, such as soldier and family housing, fitness facilities and soldier



Soldiers with the 4th Infantry Regiment are given instruction on the Project Origin robotic combat vehicle on Monday in Hohenfels, Germany. (U.S. ARMY/SPC. CHRISTIAN CARRILLO)

protection items, and a request for \$592 million to support homeland security contingency operations.

Lawmakers have expressed bipartisan support for increased defense spending, but all of the services have similar requests for extra funding.

Congress has not yet reached the point in 2023 budget negotiations to have set spending caps.

Ideally, Congress would approve the 2023 defense policy and funding bills by the Oct. 1 start of the fiscal

year, but this is not assured because of the difficulty in reaching bipartisan agreement. The task is always a bit more complicated in election years.

Mid-term elections in November are expected to get wide attention because of the possibility that control of both the now-Democrat-controlled House and Senate could be won by Republicans.

As you are aware, it is very important that the appropriations process and the National Defense Authorization Act move forward because the Army and our nation face numerous challenges.

To help encourage Congress to make progress on these issues and others, we encourage our members to contact your elected officials in the House and Senate to express your views.

Here are links to reach your representatives and Senators.

We will continue to monitor these and other developments closely as we advocate for the Total Army with Congress.

Mark Haaland is AUSA's Government Affairs Director.



AUSA members are encouraged to contact lawmakers regarding passage of legislation to fund the Army and its priorities. (ARCHITECT OF THE CAPITOL PHOTO)

Chapter presents scholarships to three new lieutenants

The Northern New Jersey chapter of the Association of the U.S. Army recently presented three new lieutenants with \$1,000 scholarships in recognition of their commissioning from the Scarlet Knight ROTC Battalion at Rutgers University in New Brunswick.

Retired Col. Dennis Dougherty, the chapter's vice president for ROTC Affairs, presented the awards May 17 to 2nd Lts. Daniel Boorboor, Alexandra Simonian and Toniann Sloop.

Northern New Jersey

Simonian, who decided to join ROTC as a way to meet new people, said the program has taught her a lot over the past few years.

"ROTC has given me leadership skills, time management skills ... and, most importantly, it's allowed me to be a part of something that's bigger than myself," she said in a video testimonial.



Retired Col. Dennis Dougherty, second from left, vice president for ROTC Affairs at AUSA's Northern New Jersey chapter, presents scholarships to, from left to right, 2nd Lts. Daniel Boorboor, Alexandra Simonian and Toniann Sloop. (AUSA PHOTO)

Brig. Gen. Timothy McLaughlin, assistant adjutant general of the New Jersey National Guard, was the guest speaker at the commissioning ceremony.

Scholarship awards are presented

annually by the chapter to cadets who best display potential leadership for his or her career as an Army officer.

The award is named in memory of Col. Stanley Lapidow, a former chapter member.

Veterans' career group becomes Community Partner

Eagle Talent Career Group, a company specializing in connecting employers to veterans seeking employment, is the newest Community Partner of the Association of the U.S. Army's Braxton Bragg chapter in Fayetteville, North Carolina.

On May 11, retired Command Sgt. Maj. Andrew McFowler, the chapter's past president, presented a plaque to

Braxton Bragg

retired Maj. Gen. Rodney Anderson, who helped found the Eagle Talent Career Group. Anderson is an AUSA life member and executive committee adviser for the chapter, and McFowler sought to thank him for his contributions to AUSA and its mission of supporting soldiers, families, veterans and Army civilians.

Anderson served 33 years in the Army, and "his wide range of positions prepared him well for the success of Eagle Talent Career Group,"



Retired Command Sgt. Maj. Andrew McFowler, right, past president of AUSA's Braxton Bragg chapter, presents a plaque to retired Maj. Gen. Rodney Anderson, who helped found the Eagle Talent Career Group. (AUSA PHOTO)

the chapter said in a Facebook post.

Anderson and retired Chief Warrant Officer 3 Curtis Brown founded Eagle Talent Career Group with the goal of understanding employer requirements and connecting them to

the best-qualified candidates. The company provides professional services to connect employers to career seekers, including consultation, mentorship and guidance for veterans.

For more information, click here.



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