The Marshall Medal is one way to publicly thank Army families who have been so important to the Army,” said retired Gen. Carter Ham, AUSA president and CEO. (U.S. ARMY/SGT. ELIZABETH HARRIS)
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DoD announces big changes for troops, bases in Europe

The nearly 4,500 soldiers of the 2nd Cavalry Regiment will return to the U.S. as part of a sweeping reduction in the number of U.S. troops stationed in Germany.

Speaking at a press briefing Wednesday, Defense Secretary Mark Esper said other Stryker brigade combat teams will begin “continuous rotations farther east in the Black Sea region to enhance deterrence and reassure allies along NATO’s southeastern flank” as part of the changes.

Some moves could begin within weeks, Esper said.

In all, about 11,900 service members will be repositioned, with 6,400 troops returning to the U.S. and nearly 5,600 moving to other parts of Europe, Esper said.

The plan will cut the number of U.S. troops in Germany to 24,000, a 12,000-troop reduction that Esper said is designed to “strengthen NATO, enhance the deterrence of Russia.”

“It is important to note that in NATO’s 71-year history, the size, composition and disposition of U.S. forces in Europe has changed many times,” Esper said at the Pentagon briefing. “As we’ve entered a new era of great-power competition, we are now at another one of those inflection points in NATO’s evolution, and I am confident the alliance will be all the better and stronger for it.”

The Pentagon also plans to consolidate and move various headquarters.

This includes moving U.S. European Command and Special Operations Command Europe from Patch Barracks in Stuttgart, Germany, to Mons, Belgium, where NATO’s Supreme Headquarters Allied Powers Europe is located. EUCOM has been at Patch Barracks since 1967.

DoD also plans to rotate the lead element of the Army’s newly reactivated V Corps headquarters to Poland, Esper said. The Army announced the activation of the corps headquarters in February, almost seven years after it was inactivated. The unit is now standing up at Fort Knox, Kentucky.

Soldiers with 3rd Squadron, 2nd Cavalry Regiment, ride in a Stryker infantry carrier vehicle during the Bull Run 12 exercise near Jaglowo, Poland. (U.S. ARMY/CPL. JUSTIN STAFFORD)

Other moves include moving an Air Force fighter squadron and elements of a fighter wing to Italy, while canceling plans to relocate about 2,500 airmen from Mildenhall, U.K., to Germany.

“Our aim is to implement these moves as expeditiously as possible,” Esper said, pledging that DoD is focused on “being fair to and taking care of our service members and their families.”

Esper estimated the shift will cost billions of dollars over several years to complete.

The new home of the 2nd Cavalry Regiment was not announced.

Soldiers with 3rd Squadron, 2nd Cavalry Regiment, ride in a Stryker infantry carrier vehicle during the Bull Run 12 exercise near Jaglowo, Poland. (U.S. ARMY/CPL. JUSTIN STAFFORD)

Esper said the decision will be made by the Army in consultation with Congress. Adequate housing, child care, medical care and other quality of life amenities to support troops and their families will be factors in the decision, he said.

The 2nd Cavalry Regiment has been stationed at Rose Barracks in Vilseck, Germany, since September 2006. At the time, the brigade was the first Stryker unit in Europe, moving there from Joint Base Lewis-McChord, Washington.

Bringing the unit home will allow the Army to rotate Stryker units into Europe, Esper said. The Army already rotates brigade combat teams to South Korea and Europe on nine-month deployments, and “we’re finding they’re deploying at a much higher level of readiness,” Esper said.

While deployed, the units also are sustaining much higher levels of focus, and the ability to rotate units gives DoD and commanders more flexibility, he said.

Overall, the U.S. is keeping more than 24,000 troops in Europe, Esper said.

“We’re moving forces out of Central Europe, Germany, where they’ve been since the Cold War, and we’re now moving, we’re following, in many ways, the boundary east, where our newest allies are,” he said.
New AUSA book discusses changing character of modern warfare

By Joseph Craig

Military science has a well-known dictum that the nature of warfare is constant, but the character of war—the ways and means in which it is fought—is always changing.

This is a central theme of Vom Kriege (On War), the famous work by the 19th-century Prussian general and military theorist Carl von Clausewitz.

Clausewitz wrote in a time where armies moved at the speed of pack animals and firearms had an effective range of a few dozen yards. So even he might be surprised at how much the character of warfare has changed in the modern era.

Beyond Vom Kriege: The Character and Conduct of Modern War, the latest addition to the Association of the U.S. Army’s Book Program, examines the changing face of contemporary warfare, military theory and national security.

Author R.D. Hooker-Jr., who served 30 years in the Army, brings firsthand experience to the subject.

AUSA: The essays in Beyond Vom Kriege are informed by your extensive experience. Which moments from your Army career had the biggest impact on your thinking about strategy?

Hooker: As a captain I completed a doctoral program in international relations at the University of Virginia, followed by a year as a White House fellow with the National Security Council.

Those experiences, plus three years teaching in the social sciences department at the United States Military Academy, provided the foundation and impetus for my study and practice of strategy.

AUSA: The title of the book references Carl von Clausewitz’s classic treatise on war. What would he find most surprising about 21st-century warfare?

Hooker: I think Clausewitz might be surprised at how relevant and applicable much of his thinking remains today.

But I am also sure that despite his awareness of science, the lethality of modern technology and, above all, nuclear weapons, would amaze him.

AUSA: What role does idealism play in American strategy?

Hooker: Idealism is important and is usually cited as justification for most, if not all, of our military interventions.

But in my humble opinion, we tend to fight for our interests, real or perceived, most of the time.

AUSA: What lessons from post-Cold War conflicts will best prepare the Army for near-peer competition?

Hooker: I believe we made a mistake in orienting the Army so strongly on counterterrorism and counterinsurgency after 9/11.

We took down our armor and artillery communities and eliminated short-range air defense altogether. Battalion and even brigade commanders never really learned how to conduct high-intensity, major theater war.

For me, the key lesson is that we must never lose sight of the most dangerous threat, even as we must contend with the lesser ones.

Al-Qaida and ISIS never posed existential threats. China and Russia do.

To order a copy of Beyond Vom Kriege, please click here.

Joseph Craig is AUSA’s Book Program Director.
The Association of the U.S. Army has announced the recipients of its 2020 National Awards, which honor individuals for their selfless service and dedication to the Army and its soldiers.

“We at AUSA are really proud of this year’s National Award recipients,” said retired Gen. Carter Ham, AUSA president and CEO. “From a group of extraordinary nominees, we have selected recipients whose selfless service and unparallel accomplishments best exemplify the ideals we celebrate at AUSA.”

The awards will be presented at the AUSA Annual Meeting and Exposition. The event, which was converted to a virtual event because of COVID-19 health and safety concerns, will take place Oct. 13–16.

While AUSA will not be able to recognize this year’s recipients in person, “we will find a way to appropriately acknowledge these great people as we transition this year’s Annual Meeting to a virtual platform,” Ham pledged.

**Abrams Medal**

The General Creighton W. Abrams Medal for exceptional service to the U.S. Army will be awarded to retired Gen. Richard Cody and his wife, Vicki.

Cody, a 1972 West Point graduate and master aviator who retired in 2008 as the Army vice chief of staff, is known as a soldier’s soldier and an aviator’s aviator, serving more than 36 years in uniform and commanding at all levels and serving in six of the Army’s combat divisions.

After retiring from the Army, Cody served for 10 years as a senior vice president at L3 Technologies.

He also is chairman of the board for Home for Our Troops, a nonprofit founded in 2004 that provides new, specially adapted, mortgage-free homes to wounded troops.

To date, the group has built more than 295 homes nationwide, with the goal of building a home for every qualified veteran, according to the group’s website.

Cody also serves with other organizations, including the Intrepid Fallen Heroes Fund, the George C. Marshall Foundation and Hope for the Warriors, and he is the founder and lead pilot for Operation Flying Heroes, which provides flights for wounded Iraq and Afghanistan veterans.

Vicki Cody is an Army spouse and mom, with two sons serving as pilots in the Army. She is a coach and mentor for other Army spouses and an advocate for Army families.


Her memoir, *Army Wife: A Story of Love and Family in the Heart of the Army*, was published in 2016 and it received the 2016 USA Best Book Award for narrative non-fiction and was a finalist for the 2016 Foreword Indies Book of the Year in the military/war category.

**Bainbridge Medal**

The Sergeant Major of the Army William G. Bainbridge Medal for contributions to the Army Noncommissioned Officer Corps will be awarded to retired Command Sgt. Maj. Lance Lehr of AUSA’s General of the Army Omar N. Bradley chapter in El Paso, Texas.

Lance’s love of soldiers is what pushes him every day to do something to make soldiers’ time in El Paso and Fort Bliss better,” said John Baily, AUSA’s Fourth Region vice president-educate, who nominated Lehr for the award.

As president of AUSA’s General of the Army Omar N. Bradley chapter, Lehr focused on taking care of enlisted soldiers at Fort Bliss, Baily said.

“He has worked tirelessly to help develop an understanding between the El Paso community and the Fort Bliss soldiers,” Baily said. “He wants to help the community understand the needs of the soldiers and their families and how the community can meet these needs.”

Lehr regularly conducts NCO professional development sessions with
From previous page

units on Fort Bliss, recently helping the 1st Armored Division’s 2nd Brigade Combat Team prepare for a rotation at the National Training Center at Fort Irwin, California.

He is also a founding member of the Alliance for Regional Military Support, which works to support troops at Fort Bliss and nearby White Sands Missile Range and Holloman Air Force Base.

Among the issues he’s most focused on are troops’ quality of life concerns and post-service employment and education opportunities.

During his tenure on the El Paso Veterans Affairs Advisory Committee, Lehr got the city to change its hiring policies to make sure veterans are included in the interview process and produced a survey to better understand the needs of local veterans.

“Lance has worked hard to educate employers about the value of service members who are separating or retiring from the service,” Baily said.

Drexel Biddle Medal

The Major General Anthony J. Drexel Biddle Medal for outstanding contributions to the Association of the U.S. Army will be awarded to Mary Trier, president and CEO of Capital Communications & Consulting.

Trier has been actively involved with AUSA since her time in the Army’s Program Executive Office-Simulation, Training and Instrumentation, or PEO-STRI, where she was a liaison between the organization’s leadership and AUSA’s Sunshine chapter.

After retiring, Trier became involved in the Orlando, Florida-based chapter’s activities, rising to become chapter president from 2008 to 2010.

During her two-year term, the chapter was twice named Best Chapter in the national category of its size.

She served as Third Region president from 2012 to 2016, traveling extensively to visit the region’s chapters, spearheading numerous fundraisers and programs for soldiers, and ensuring close communication between local chapters and AUSA’s national leaders.

She currently serves as AUSA’s South-Florida state president, remains active in the Sunshine chapter and was recently named a board member for the Gary Sinise Foundation’s Orlando chapter.

“Her sincere honesty and concern for the soldiers and AUSA membership were consistently evident in all her actions while serving as the Sunshine chapter and Third Region president,” members of the Sunshine chapter wrote in her nomination.

She is highly respected and dedicated and has served as an adviser and confidant, said Kris McBride, the current Third Region president.

“Mary’s heart is in this, and it shows in everything she does,” McBride said.

Cribbins Medal

The Joseph P. Cribbins Medal for exemplary service by a Department of the Army civilian will be awarded to Mark Sullivan of the U.S. Army Financial Management Command.

Sullivan began a new career as an Army civilian in 2009.

In his current job, he helps plan and execute military pay actions supporting contingency operations, develops Armywide policies and procedures, and coordinates with the Defense Finance and Accounting Service and various organizations within the Army.

He also helps ensure wounded soldiers assigned to Warrior Transition Units receive the correct pay and entitlements and is regularly tapped as a subject-matter expert on finance issues by senior leaders inside and outside of the Army.

Sullivan recently developed a four-day course for human resources professionals across the Army on the new Integrated Personal and Pay System, or IPPS-A, teaching the training pilot class at four installations to validate the course material.

Sullivan is no stranger to AUSA, serving as treasurer and secretary of the Korea chapter from 2009 to 2016.

During that time, he organized cross-country runs and fitness challenges in the local community, free movie nights at the post exchange theater and delivered free pizza to soldiers during the holidays.

After returning to the U.S., Sullivan became involved in AUSA’s Indiana chapter, organizing its an-
nual golf outing and soldier and NCO breakfast.

He coordinated the chapter’s drive to collect clothes and food for homeless veterans in the area and organized Operation Indiana Care Package, an effort that in the past two years has sent more than 800 care packages to troops deployed overseas.

Sullivan also volunteers with other local groups, tirelessly working to improve his local community.

Dixon Award

The John W. Dixon Award for outstanding contributions to national defense from industry will be awarded to Eileen Drake, CEO and president of Aerojet Rocketdyne, a Sacramento, California-based company that develops and manufactures advanced propulsion and energetics systems.

Aerojet Rocketdyne is an AUSA National Partner and active participant in AUSA events and at the national and chapter levels.

Under Drake’s leadership, the company also supports Operation Gratitude and the American Red Cross’ Service to Armed Forces program.

A former Army officer and aviator, Drake is a proud supporter of the Army’s mission and soldiers and has built strong relationships with Army and DoD leaders.

Her commitment has been steadfast during the COVID-19 pandemic, as she led a comprehensive response to ensure employees could stay safe and continue working.

“Throughout these years, Eileen has never forgotten her roots as an Army aviation officer, and she continuously applies the experience of her personal service to our company’s pursuit of excellence,” John Schumacher, senior vice president for Communications for Aerojet Rocketdyne, said when nominating Drake.

“Eileen’s personal example inspires our employees to serve those who serve by producing the most reliable technology efficiently and on time,” he said.

McLain Medal

The Lieutenant General Raymond S. McLain Medal, given to a current or former member of the National Guard for advancing a seamless and component-integrated Army, will be awarded to retired Command Sgt. Maj. Karen Craig.

Craig, who served in the Army and Army National Guard for 35 years, is a longtime supporter of state and national advocacy for enlisted troops, first joining the Enlisted Association of the National Guard in Arizona and then AUSA’s Arizona Territorial chapter.

She remained an active member of both organizations while she continued to serve in uniform, culminating as the senior enlisted soldier for the Arizona Army National Guard.

After her retirement in 2009, Craig joined the Phoenix Veterans Affairs Healthcare System, where she continues to work today.

A member of AUSA since 1997, Craig facilitated an agreement, signed in December 2017, between AUSA and EANGUS to form a partnership to support the National Guard.

She is active in efforts to advocate for better benefits for Guard troops and has been president of EANGUS since August 2018.

Craig also is an active community volunteer, including with the local food bank, the Arizona Special Olympics and the committee that plans the Phoenix Veterans Day parade.

“With her steadfast belief in USA’s vision, mission and goals, Karen’s enthusiasm as an action-oriented volunteer, and her total dedication to soldiers and their families are truly remarkable attributes that have had far-reaching impact across America’s Total Army and within the Army’s professional association, AUSA,” said retired Col. Jeanne Blaes, president of AUSA’s Arizona Territorial chapter, who nominated Craig.

Rudder Medal

The Major General James Earl Rudder Medal, given to a current or former member of the U.S. Army Reserve for advancing a seamless and component-integrated Army, is awarded to retired Lt. Gen. Charles Luckey, who retired this summer after a 43-year career.

For the past four years, Luckey was chief of the Army Reserve and commander of U.S. Army Reserve Command.

During his tenure, Luckey “moved the Army Reserve to a new state of operational readiness, transforming the posture and capability of its forces ... to a component that is ready to quickly respond to evolving threats from multiple sources, including peer and near-peer competitors,” said Stephen Austin, of the Office of the Chief of the Army Reserve, who nominated the general for the award.

Luckey developed and oversaw Operation Cold Steel, the largest and most comprehensive individual and crew-served weapons gunnery training exercises in the history of the Army Reserve, Austin said.

Cold Steel expanded the component’s collective training capability and increased Army Reserve and Army National Guard integration in numerous training exercises.

See National Awards, Page 9

The awards will be presented at the AUSA Annual Meeting, to be held virtually from Oct. 13–16. (U.S. ARMY/SGT. TRESA ALLEMANG)
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He postured the Army Reserve to respond quickly to natural disasters in support of local authorities, and when the COVID-19 pandemic revealed a shortage of medical personnel in hospitals across the country, Luckey created a new unit made up of medical and support soldiers.

The Army Reserve generated 17 and deployed 15 of these Urban Augmentation Medical Task Forces, mobilizing nearly 3,000 soldiers in less than 72 hours to support hospitals in the hardest hit parts of the country.

Volunteer Family of the Year Award

The AUSA Volunteer Family of the Year Award for promoting the well-being of soldiers and their family members is presented to the family of Staff Sgt. Casey Raines of the 91st Military Police Battalion at Fort Drum, New York.

Raines, his wife, Brittany, and their six children—Kamden, Mason, Brooklyn, Caleb, Caiden and Bentley—dedicate countless hours to their community.

As a family, the Raineses set up, sort and distribute donations every summer for Operation Homefront’s Back to School Brigade, which collects backpacks filled with school supplies for military kids.

The family of eight also helps with Operation Homefront Holiday Meals, sorting food items, loading bags and distributing them to families in need.

In October 2018, the Raines family founded Warm Up Watertown.

The family collects scarves and hats, and during the cold winter months, they hang the collected items on light poles, benches and other locations around Watertown with a note asking those who need them to take them.

Individually, Casey Raines volunteers with the North Country Spouses’ Club, his company Soldier and Family Readiness Group and the Fort Drum Girl Scouts. He also is a wrestling coach with the Indian River Pee Wee Wrestling Club.

Brittany Raines collects and distributes donated toys to children of Fort Drum soldiers every holiday season, is a leader in the Soldier and Family Readiness Group for the 91st MP Battalion, serves as community outreach coordinator for the North Country Spouses’ Club, is active with the Fort Drum Girl Scouts, and volunteers with several other groups in the area.

The Raines children, who range in age from 13 to 5, volunteer as well, including in church, Girl Scouts, Boy Scouts and the USO.

The family was nominated by AUSA’s Northern New York-Fort Drum chapter.

AUSA National Service Award

AUSA is honored to present its National Service Award to Robert Irvine, renowned chef, fitness authority and philanthropist who is an active supporter of the troops and the military.

Irvine, who is known for his pioneering cooking shows Dinner: Impossible and Restaurant: Impossible, has hosted or appeared on numerous Food Network and ABC shows, written four books on food and nutrition, launched the digital Robert Irvine Magazine, and in 2014 founded The Robert Irvine Foundation.

Through the foundation, Irvine raises money to support veterans and active-duty service members by funding programs to address visible and invisible wounds.

Key programs include funding the training of service dogs, serving meals to troops and their families, funding counseling for first responders, providing mobility devices to wounded veterans and issuing grants to veterans in need, according to the foundation’s website.

Irvine actively participates in troop rallies held by the Gary Sinise Foundation, regularly tours with the USO to visit deployed troops, and is a member of the board of directors for the USO’s DC-Metro chapter.

His restaurant, Fresh Kitchen by Robert Irvine, is a popular lunch spot in the Pentagon.

Irvine, who joined the British Royal Navy when he was 15 and learned to cook during his service, often says he’s proud of the work soldiers do in defending America—and he’s happy to give back.

“I want the men and women who wear the cloth of our nation to know that people care ... that we support them, their families and the mission,” Irvine said on a visit to Dover Air Force Base, Delaware, last fall.
Chapter awards education grants during virtual ceremony

The Indiana chapter of the Association of the U.S. Army recently awarded grants to eight deserving students during its annual Education Grant Luncheon.

The June 18 event also served as the chapter’s celebration of the Army birthday, which was June 14, and AUSA’s July 5 anniversary.

Held via Zoom teleconference, the virtual luncheon was attended by chapter board members, awardees, parents and guests, corporate sponsors, Indiana University ROTC representatives and more.

“All our grant recipients participated in the Zoom event with at least one of their parents, if available, and we were able to hear about their educational goals for the future,” said Cynthia Gatto, the chapter president.

The grants recognize outstanding scholars and leaders for achievements and accomplishments in their communities. Each awardee received a $1,500 grant.

Brig. Gen. Mark Bennett, commander of Army Financial Management Command, was the keynote speaker.

“He inspired the grant awardees with his comments about how a life of service to others is well worth living, [adding] that they were not the leaders of tomorrow but the leaders of today,” Gatto said.

Bennett also emphasized the importance of Army history and understanding the past in order to foster pride and respect for accomplishments and traditions.

All certificates and checks were mailed following the virtual ceremony so that grant awardees could plan for the upcoming academic year.

Eagle Chapters

The following chapters attained Eagle status for June 2020 by showing positive membership growth. The number of consecutive months of growth since July 1, 2019, is shown in parentheses.

Arsenal of Democracy (11)  Fort Sheridan-Chicago (9)  A.P. Hill Rappahannock (7)
Coastal South Carolina (11)  Las Vegas-John C. Fremont (9)  Florida Gulf Stream (7)
Rock Island Arsenal (11)  Tucson-Goyette (9)  Greater Atlanta (7)
Korea (11)  Pikes Peak (9)  St. Louis Gateway (7)
West Point Area (10)  Picatinny Arsenal-Middle Forge (8)  Greater Kansas City (7)
Capital District of New York (10)  Francis Scott Key (8)  PPC William Kenzo Nakamura (7)
Northern New York-Fort Drum (10)  Tri-State (8)  Utah (7)
Major Samuel Woodfill (10)  Fairfax-Lee (8)  GEN Creighton W. Abrams (7)
Allegheny-Blue Ridge (10)  Central Virginia (8)  Massachusetts Bay (6)
Fort Rucker-Wiregrass (10)  Suncoast (8)  Northern New Jersey (6)
Greater Augusta-Fort Gordon (10)  Chattahoochee Valley-Fort Benning (8)  New Orleans (6)
Marne (10)  Magnolia (8)  Thunderbird (6)
Fort Jackson-Palmetto State (10)  Leonidas Polk (8)  Fort Riley-Central Kansas (6)
Texas Capital Area (10)  North Texas (8)  GEN John W. Vessey, Jr (6)
Greater Los Angeles (10)  Des Moines Freedom (8)  San Diego (6)
Joshua Chamberlain (9)  SGM Jon R. Cavaiani (8)  First In Battle (5)
Dix (9)  San Francisco (8)  Isthmian (4)
Greater New York-Statue of Liberty (9)  Cowboy (8)  GA Omar N. Bradley (4)
George Washington (9)  Col Edward Cross (7)  Fort Huachuca-Sierra Vista (4)
Fort Campbell (9)  Fort Pett (7)  Topeka (3)
Redstone-Huntsville (9)  CSM James M. MacDonald-Keystone (7)  UAE (3)
First Militia (9)  Greater Philadelphia (Penn and Franklin) (7)  Hellenic (3)
Braxton Bragg (9)  MG Harry Greene, Aberdeen (7)  Alamo (2)
Arkansas (9)  GEN Joseph W. Stilwell (2) 
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