Biden shifts US troops in Europe to defend NATO states

WASHINGTON – President Joe Biden ordered U.S. troops already based in Europe to shore up the defenses of nations bordering Ukraine. Biden directed Secretary of Defense Lloyd J. Austin III to move forces within the U.S. European Command’s area of operations to the Baltic Republics, Poland and Ukraine's southeastern flank. DOD officials said the forces will move within a week and are temporary. In addition, Austin ordered 8,500 service members to a heightened state of readiness should NATO activate its Rapid Reaction Force.

405th AFSB LOGCAP provides services to exercise in Africa

COTE D’IVOIRE, Africa – As the program management office for the Logistics Civil Augmentation Program on the African continent, the 405th Army Field Support Brigade was tasked with providing base life support services this month for U.S. Africa Command’s premier and largest annual special operations exercise. “LOGCAP is the most robust solution for contractor provided base life support services under a single umbrella,” said James Wilkerson, a LOGCAP support planning and operations contractor who is based out of Djibouti, Africa.

AMCOM hosts modernization summit, showcases new tech

REDSTONE ARSENAL, Ala. – Subject matter experts from throughout the Army, industry and academia gathered both in person and virtually for the first Organic Industrial Base Modernization Summit Feb. 8-11. The goal of the event was to look at how emerging technologies are being implemented at Letterkenny Army Depot and Corpus Christi Army Depot. Col. Richard Martin, deputy director for AMC’s OIB Modernization Task Force, spoke at the summit about OIB modernization efforts.

Three ways Black Soldiers played pivotal role in Army Logistics

FORT SHAFTER, Hawaii – Black Americans have served and sacrificed in every conflict in the history of the United States, contributing greatly to the U.S. Army and the freedom of our nation. The development and advancement of Army logistics can be attributed in great part to Black Soldiers. Many of the fundamentals of Army logistics today can be traced to the Services of Supply branch of the Army during World War II. Historians across disciplines have researched these contributions and the results are not only fascinating, but ones to be celebrated.

Army housing survey helps improve quality of life on post

ROCK ISLAND ARSENAL, Ill. – This is the final call! The Army’s survey gives people living in on-post housing an opportunity to have a direct link to those in charge of housing, to be able to share what they think of their current home, and to suggest how to make things better. The Army is investing billions of dollars into transforming barracks and on-post housing at installations globally to provide Soldiers and their Families with quality, safe and secure housing, and a better quality of life. Tenants have until Feb. 24 to complete the survey.
People First – Quality of Life Updates

Civilian Aide to the Secretary of the Army visits Fort Hamilton

FORT HAMILTON, N.Y. – The Civilian Aide to the Secretary of the Army for New York South, Steve Castleton, joined Fort Hamilton’s garrison leadership team to recognize employees during a quarterly all-hands awards ceremony at the Community Club here Feb. 18. The ceremony and discussion is part of overarching Installation Management Command’s Service Culture initiative, which focuses on impactful workforce engagement to include recognition and dialogue, which, in turn, enables them to best support the military community.

Fisher House provides place to rest, recover

FORT GORDON, Ga. – Fort Gordon’s Fisher House is currently one of 91 homes across the United States and Europe, and one of only two in Georgia. Operating under Fisher House Foundation, Inc., the program is a nonprofit organization that provides military families a comfortable place to stay free of charge while a loved one is receiving medical treatment. Located at (or close to) military and VA centers, Fisher Houses have up to 21 suites with private bedrooms and bathroom.

Fort Hood elementary students win big in ‘Recycle Bowl’

FORT HOOD, Texas – In the hallways of Hettie Halstead Elementary in Copperas Cove, Texas, and Oveta Culp Hobby Elementary at Fort Hood, you will find the student councils dedicated to teaching their peers, educators and community about environmental sustainability. As part of the Greater Fort Hood Area Recycle Bowl, students created a system for their schools to collect recyclables from classrooms and administrative areas, while competing for the $200 prize and bragging rights as the top recycle champion within Central Texas.

SRU gardening program helps soldiers connect with the earth, themselves

ARLINGTON, Va. – Soldiers at the Fort Bragg Soldier Recovery Unit in North Carolina have found gardening to be a unique and useful form of therapy. The SRU has been running a gardening program for recovering Soldiers, and they’re gearing up for a busy planting season. At the program’s height, there are 10 to 12 members of the SRU coming in regularly to garden, and they have about 50 square feet of space to work with. The SRU staff and Soldiers both enjoy the fruits (and veggies) of their labor.

Garrison leadership celebrates partnership with local elementary school

FORT STEWART, Ga. – There was excitement in the air at Hinesville’s Waldo Pafford Elementary School Feb. 14 as students and faculty gathered with the Fort Stewart Garrison command team and prominent members of the local community to celebrate the school’s 21st birthday and a grant received from the Choose Kindness Foundation in conjunction with the ribbon cutting of their brand new digital sign.
USAG Fort Devens creates sustainable ranges with CSU’s help

DEVENS, Mass. – Colorado State University has a long-standing relationship with the Army doing environmental work across the United States. Over the last 30 years, the program has grown, and CSU has developed specialized courses such as environmental management of military land as part of their agricultural program. This program has enabled Fort Devens to restore and sustain over 2,800 acres of accessible maneuver land.

Contributions of the 108th US Colored Troops at RIA

ROCK ISLAND ARSENAL, Ill. – Going back a little over a century, contributions can be traced that Black American Soldiers made at Rock Island Arsenal during the Civil War. The United States War Department issued General Order 143 in 1863, which established the Bureau of Colored Troops, which began recruiting Black American men to serve in all branches of the U.S. Army.

Army transportation: ' If we don’t move, nothing happens'

FORT LEONARD WOOD, Mo. – Fort Leonard Wood is home to the 58th Transportation Battalion, the Army’s only motor transport operator advanced individual training unit. Headquartered out of Fort Lee, Virginia, the battalion is responsible for training Soldiers to become Army Motor Transport Operators through a six-week, three day introduction to the roles and responsibilities of an Army Motor Transport Operator.

Garrison’s Green Boot program integral in climate strategy

WIESBADEN, Germany – The U.S. Army Garrison Wiesbaden Commander Col. Mario Washington visited Headquarters and Headquarters Battalion, U.S. Army Europe-Africa offices Feb. 16 to present signs signifying their participation in the Green Boot Program. The program is part of the garrison’s overall initiative to encourage units to decrease their energy use.

405th AFSB celebrates Black History Month

KAISERSLAUTERN, Germany – The 405th Army Field Support Brigade joined the nation in celebrating the history and accomplishments of Black Americans during an observation and recognition event at the brigade’s main conference room Feb. 22 in honor of Black History Month. “It goes without saying that Black History is indeed a part of American history. It is your history. It is my history. It is our history,” said Capt. Thomas Simmons.

Two Soldier-athletes compete in Nordic combined

BEIJING – Two Nordic Combined Soldier-athletes assigned to the World Class Athlete Program were named to Team USA for the sport, and competed in the Beijing 2022 Winter Olympics. Spc. Benjamin Loomis and Spc. Jasper Good both were named to the team of four, joining civilian athletes Taylor Fletcher, and Jared Shumate.