

May 2025



e-Letter



Division in Vietnam



60th Anniversary of the
1st Brigade's Arrival in Country

Report to Members

- **Week of the Eagles 2025** schedule changes are occurring. First, its in June this year and not the end of May when it normally is. This is because the Division has two BDEs deployed overseas, and one at JRTC during the end of May. They must also send a significant number of troops to the Capital for the celebration and parade for the Army's 250th Birthday on June 14th. Detailed information can be found online at the Assn website at screamingeagle.org
- **101st Airborne Division Change of Command:** The 101st Airborne Division will change command on May 30th at 9:30 am on the Division Parade Field at Fort Campbell. MG Brett G. Sylvia will relinquish command to MG David W. Gardner. You will be able to view the Change of Command on Facebook live by going to the 101st Airborne Division Facebook page. <https://www.facebook.com/101st>
- **Upcoming Association Elections:** Each year our Association elects junior Governors for each of the Brigades that make up our Association. The previous Junior Governor becomes the Senior, completing the two-year term. You will receive reminders as we move into this important event to cast your votes, which you may do in person at the Annual Reunion, or via electronic means through our website. This is the opportunity to make your voice heard and choose the direction of the Association. Please take part in the process.

Airborne! Air Assault!

Randal Underhill

Executive Director

Bart Di Giovanni

Public Affairs & Relations Committee Chairman

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2025 CALENDAR

Red Fridays (RED = Remember Everyone Deployed.)

Wear a red on Friday to show support of deployed service members.

May

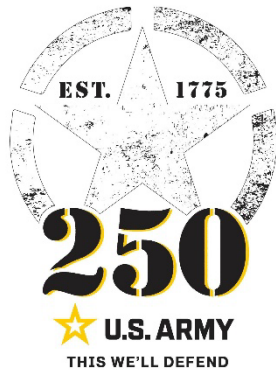
17 - Armed Forces Day
26 - Memorial Day
30 - 101st Airborne Division Change of Command

June

6 - 81st Anniversary D-Day Invasion of France, 1944
9 - Week of the Eagles 2025 Begins
12- Women Veterans Day
14- 250th Anniversary of the U.S. Army/ Flag Day
27 - PTSD Awareness Day

July

4 - Independence Day
19 - Room Block at Reunion Hotel Closes
25 - National Hire a Veteran Day
27 - National Korean War Veterans Armistice Day
28 - National Buffalo Soldiers Day
29 - National Chaplains Corps Anniversary



Week of the Eagles 2025

Week of the Eagles is the 101st Airborne Division's open house week that is set aside each year for Soldiers, Veterans and their families to celebrate and honor the Screaming Eagles and the Division's history and Air Assault Culture. This event is normally the week going into the Memorial Day Weekend. This year, the event was moved due to conflicts with operations and training to the week of June 9th through June 15th.

The Division will form on the Division Parade Field on Wednesday, 11 June to award the Commander's Cup and present individual awards at 4 pm.

The open house for units will be Monday through Thursday, from 9 am until 5 pm. The 327th Infantry Regiment will hold their DMOR and HMOR Ceremony at the Bastogne Memorial at 10 am on Thursday, June 12th. The 506th Infantry Regiment will hold their DMOR and HMOR Ceremony at the Currahee Memorial at 2 pm on Thursday, June 12th.

The Division will host the Air Assault Demonstration on Saturday, August 14th at 10 am at the Sabalauski Air Assault School followed by a concert by Andy Ross and the 101st Division Band. **Please remember that the REAL ID is now in effect and required to get onto the Fort Campbell installation. If you have a DOD ID Card that will also gain you entry.**

UPCOMING ASSOCIATION EVENTS

- **Memorial Day** (Wreaths placed at 101st Airborne Division Monument at Arlington National Cemetery) – May 24, 2025. Washington, DC. Hosted by the National Capital Chapter. POC: Bob Ponzo, Tel: (540) 659-7212, email: oznopsf@gmail.com
- **Annual Reunion 2025** – August 18-23. Orlando, FL POC: Randal Underhill, 931-431-0199. The registration fee covers the hospitality room, membership breakfast meeting and memorial dinner. Hotel Reservations must be made no later than July 19, 2025. You may call (800) 204-7234 to make direct reservations or use the link [Rosen Centre Hotel - Reservations - Room Availability](#)

Keeping up with the Active Army:

New Ammo for New Targets

The From pistol rounds to artillery shells, the Army is developing a host of new ways to destroy targets large and small.

The service is working on one-way tracer rounds for current standard rifle ammunition and reduced-range training rounds for some of the same cartridges. Additionally, the service is testing proximity fuses for grenade launcher rounds that would help defeat enemies behind barriers and blast drones out of the sky. Meanwhile, on the larger end of the caliber spectrum, Army scientists are building new rounds for the 120mm tank rounds they expect will be needed to defeat enemy armor.

Airburst options and proximity sensing are being developed in a selection of rounds between the 20mm and 40mm range. The round development will give soldiers in both air defense and other units ways to knock out aerial drones. The airburst option for 30mm rounds is key to the "Maneuver-Short Range Air Defense System" the Army is deploying to various units. The 40mm round is used both in the M320A1 individual grenade launcher and the mounted MK19 belt-fed grenade launcher.

The Army is also developing a day and night 40mm training round to help improve accuracy in the dark. Another approach to defeat drones is to find ways to jam and disrupt signals; or using lasers to melt a drone's guts to drop it out of the sky.

Developers are also working on improved airburst rounds for the Apache attack helicopter. This isn't necessarily for drone defense but it's sometimes more effective for destroying incoming targets of any type.

Tracers have long carried the adage that they "work both ways," meaning shooters can see their rounds out, but the enemy can see where they're originating. The one-way luminescent tracer, or OWL, round is still in development, with the Army focusing on 5.56mm and 7.62mm, its most widely used small arms rounds.

The ballistics of the OWL rounds must match what soldiers shoot with standard rounds because with new optics, soldiers need to know how to put rounds on target and adjust rounds. Ballistic mismatches will affect accuracy.

The Army is also pushing for more at-home station training, which means more rounds fired on the service's many ranges. However, many of those ranges were built only to accommodate the 5.56mm round, which requires 500 meters or less. But the 7.62mm, .50 caliber and 6.8mm all shoot much farther and with much more energy. Reduced-range rounds for these calibers will allow soldiers to train at their home station ranges with their full complement of squad, platoon and even some company-level weapons.

(information condensed from an article in Army Times)

Secretary of Defense – Pete Hegseth

Screaming Eagle!

Did you know Secretary of Defense, Pete Hegseth served with the 3rd Brigade of the 101st Airborne Division during their 2005-2006 deployment. During this time, he held roles as an Infantry Platoon Leader in Baghdad in 2005 and as a Civil-Military Operations officer in Samarra in 2006.