

Womens Equality Day: U.S. Army pays tribute to women, Soldiers and civilians

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August 26 of each year is designated as Women's Equality Day in the United States. Instituted by U.S. Congresswoman Bella Abzug and first established in 1971, the date commemorates the certification of the 19th Amendment 92 years ago in 1920, culminating many years of women struggling for the right to vote. As we acknowledge women's struggles and celebrate their right to vote, we also recognize women in the Army for their tremendous contributions and relentless spirit in helping to keep this nation free.

A tri-signed letter was signed by the Secretary of the Army, the Chief of Staff and the Sergeant Major of the Army encouraging units, agencies and Army activities to plan and execute appropriate commemorative activities to celebrate Women's Equality Day and to recognize the many significant contributions of women in the Department of the Army.

The Army will pay tribute to women by telling their stories in command information products at all levels. Army installations throughout the world will also honor them through local events.

Throughout our history, from the Revolutionary War to the current conflicts, women have made sacrifices for our nation and serve in the Army as valuable Soldiers and civilian employees in nearly every imaginable field. Over the past ten years of continuous combat, our Army has proven itself in some of the toughest environments we have ever faced. In the face of this adversity, women have displayed unparalleled ingenuity, flexibility and adaptability, embodying mental and physical toughness and courage under fire. We can be certain that when our freedom is threatened, women will be equal to any task. In celebrating Women's Equality Day, we emphasize the value the Army places on diversity. Women in the Army experience a level of equality and opportunities that exceed those available in the larger civilian community. Opportunities for career advancement are plentiful for women in the Army family. We are Army Strong because we embrace the strengths of diverse people in an inclusive environment.