

# United States Army Ordnance Corps



# Heritage & Values

# Army Values



“Values are intangible. While we cannot see or touch them, we can sense solid values in others. They, in turn, can sense them in us.”

*Gen. John A. Wickham Jr.  
30th Chief of Staff of the United States Army*

**Loyalty:** Bear true faith and allegiance to the U.S. Constitution, the Army, your unit, and other soldiers.

**Duty:** Fulfill your obligations.

**Respect:** Treat people as they should be treated.

**Selfless Service:** Put the welfare of the nation, the Army, and your subordinates before your own.

**Honor:** Live up to all the Army values.

**Integrity:** Do what's right, legally and morally.

**Personal Courage:** Face fear, danger, or adversity (physical or moral).

# Ordnance Corps Heritage & Values

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On May 14, 1812, the Ordnance Department was formally organized by Congress as part of the preparations for the second British war. That war saw the department assume responsibility for arms and ammunition production, acquisition, distribution, and storage in a much broader geographical base than in the War of Independence.

The years following the War of 1812, were a period of transition for Ordnance. It was merged with the Artillery in 1821 as an economy measure. It soon became apparent that artillery men temporarily detailed to Ordnance duty were often not qualified to handle procurement and other Ordnance assignments. As a result, the Ordnance Department was reconstituted in 1832.

With the reconstitution of the Ordnance Department came new responsibility, research and development, and system of field service. Put to the test in the Mexican War, these initiatives were developed and became the foundation for the massive logistics efforts of the future.

The War Between the States posed a stern test for the Ordnance Department. With few exceptions, most of the Ordnance facilities in the South were seized by the Confederacy before the bombardment of Fort Sumpter; and throughout the war Ordnance installations were primary targets for operations on both sides. During the war, Ordnance men successfully brought about massive procurement of weapons and supplies and effective field support for fast moving armies.

In 1874, the Sandy Hook Proving Ground was established in New Jersey. This gave the Army its full-scale testing facility. In the War with Spain in 1898, the Ordnance Department first deployed materiel overseas, and provided complete close combat support.

In World War I, the Ordnance Department mobilized an immense industrial base, developed weapons-systems in cooperation with the allies, organized a variety of Ordnance training facilities, and established large overseas supply depots.

World War II saw an even more dramatic expansion of the Ordnance mission of production, procurement, maintenance and training. Solving the problems of conducting a war spanning two oceans and the participation in the creation of the first nuclear weapons, marked Ordnance's giant step into a new age.

In both Korea and Vietnam, the Ordnance team provided supply and maintenance characteristic of its tradition of "service to the line, on the line, on time," and was active in the development of rockets, guided missiles, and satellites.

The Army reorganization in 1962 disestablished most of the Army technical services, including the Chief of Ordnance and his staff. During the late 1970s, it became apparent that this new structure, while functionally effective, did not sustain the proud heritage of the corps. It did not provide a home base or centralized leadership for Ordnance personnel serving in units throughout the world. As a result, on October 1, 1985, the Commanding

General, Ordnance Center and School, officially became the Chief of Ordnance when the Chief of Staff of the Army approved the incorporation of the Ordnance Corps into the U.S. Army Regimental System.

With the advent of the modern U.S. Army Regimental System, the Ordnance Corps is organized under the whole branch regiment concept. The Chief of Ordnance serves as the Regimental Commander while the Office Chief of Ordnance serves as his operational headquarters for the Ordnance Corps.

Most recently, in 1990 and 1991, the Ordnance Corps provided key combat service support elements in Saudi Arabia as part of Operations Desert Shield/Desert Storm. The continuing emphasis on readiness, doctrine, and training paid off as Ordnance personnel amply fulfilled their tradition of providing service to the line, on the line, on time.

Under the guidance of the Chief of Ordnance, the Ordnance Corps will continue to support the development, production, acquisition, and sustainment of weapons systems, ammunition, missiles, electronics, and ground mobility materiel during peace and war to provide combat power to the United States Army.





## The Ordnance Regimental Crest

The flaming bomb with crossed cannons is the oldest military device of the U.S. Army. Adopted in May 1833, it was first used by the Ordnance Department on a button. The flaming bomb with crossed cannons was also used by the Artillery until 1834, when they adopted their traditional crossed cannons.

The flaming bomb first appeared by itself in 1848. Before its adoption by the Army, the flaming bomb was the insignia of the British Grenadier Guards, Royal Horse Artillery and the Royal Engineers. Today, it represents the armament of days gone by, while the energy it connotes is applicable to our modern weapons.

The Ordnance escutcheon, consisting of crossed cannons, the flaming bomb and a connoneers' belt over and across the cannons, embossed with the words "Ordnance Department U.S.A." was also adopted in 1833. In 1950, the wording was changed to read "Ordnance Corps U.S.A." The belt represents the traditional association between munitions and armament. The white background symbolizes the peace in our motto "Armament for Peace."

The Ordnance Corps family has long understood the special trust and responsibility it bears in providing the Armament for Peace. Generation upon generation of ordnance providers have understood the values that have been nurtured and maintained in order to ensure that our nation has a credible shield of freedom. We are proud of those Ordnance professionals who have embodied the values shared by the U.S. Army. We share some of them with you:

**Loyalty:** Bear true faith and allegiance to the U.S. Constitution, the Army, your unit, and other soldiers.

Colonel George Bomford was born in 1780 and graduated from the United States Military Academy in 1805. During the period of 1821-32, when Ordnance missions were placed under the Artillery, he signed his correspondence as “Brevet Colonel on Ordnance Service.” As Chief of Ordnance from 1832 to 1848, he recognized the need for, and fought successfully to obtain, a permanent Ordnance staff in an independent Ordnance Department. He was known as the “father” of the Ordnance Department, serving in it from 1812 to 1848. Being well informed in the manufacture of ordnance materiel, he played an active role in determining ordnance designs and specifications. He designed the Columbiad, the Army’s first gun capable of firing a heavy projectile. He wrote the first set of regulations for the Ordnance

Department and demonstrated exceptional ability for businesslike administration. He always insisted that the main purpose of the Ordnance Department was to make provisions for the future. Colonel Bomford died, while Chief of Ordnance, on March 25, 1848. He was inducted into the Ordnance Hall of Fame in 1969.

**Master Sergeant Hugh E. Martin** was born in 1903 and enlisted in the Regular Army on October 15, 1925, beginning an Ordnance career which was to last until his retirement from active duty nearly 25 years later—on March 31, 1950. While assigned to the Publications Section of the U.S. Army Ordnance Center in 1940, he developed the idea for a technical magazine to be published by the Center which would be specifically geared for the assistance of Ordnance sergeants in the field. His idea was accepted and the first issue of the “Ordnance Sergeant” was published in January 1941. Publication continued on a monthly basis through October 1945. Master Sergeant Martin died on August 4, 1959. He was inducted into the Ordnance Corps Hall of Fame in 1971.

**Doctor Robert H. Goddard** was born in Worcester, Massachusetts on October 5, 1882. Known as the father of U.S. rocketry, he began to speculate on a means of reaching the fringes of outer space through the use of rockets while a student at Worcester Polytechnic Institute. By 1909, he had already anticipated achievements such as staged rockets, manned and unmanned spacecraft, and the establishment of a manned station on the moon. Between

1914 and 1916, he elaborated on the fundamental theory of rocket flight and experimented with small solid-propellant rocket motors. He began developing liquid rocket fuel and in 1926, he launched the world's first liquid-propelled rocket. He demonstrated that rockets operated more efficiently in a vacuum than in atmosphere and developed the theory of rockets composed of several stages as a means of reaching the moon. During World War II, the U.S. Navy employed him to develop rocket motors and jet-assisted take-off devices for aircraft. He was engaged in this work until his death in 1945. In 1962, the National Aeronautics and Space Administration dedicated the Goddard Space Flight Center at Greenbelt, Maryland, to Dr. Goddard in recognition of his efforts in pioneering rocket development. He was inducted into the Ordnance Hall of Fame in 1977.

**Duty: Fulfill your obligations**

**Ordnance Sergeant Lewis Leffman** was born in Hanover, Germany in 1798. As a private, he fought with the Hanoverian Army in the Battle of Waterloo, and was subsequently a member of the 60th Regiment (Royal Americans) in the British Army. By 1824 Sergeant Leffman had come to the United States and enlisted in the Second Regiment of Infantry, U.S. Army. He continued to serve with loyal dedication for over 55 years until he was retired for age in 1879, by which time he

was more than 80 years old. For many years he held the rank of Ordnance Sergeant, the most senior noncommissioned officer grade in the Ordnance Corps and one which could be earned only after many years of outstanding service. He was posted to Fort Mackinac, Michigan from 1840 until 1844, and in 1845 was transferred to Fort Niagara, New York, where he remained for the next 35 years. From 1850 until 1860 he was the only soldier at Fort Niagara and effectively in command of his post. During the Civil War, he kept the fort in a high state of readiness, preparing it for a possible attack by Confederate forces who had clandestinely made their way into Canada, and who had already raided a nearby community in Vermont. When the attack finally came by boat across the Niagara River in 1864, he directed the cannon fire which turned them away. In 1879, by special act of Congress, Ordnance Sergeant Leffman received the first retirement pension ever given to an American Army enlisted man. He died in 1885 at the age of 87. He was inducted into the Ordnance Corps Hall of Fame in 1991.

**Captain Frank Gyovai** was born in Sovereign, West Virginia in 1920 and entered the Army before the outbreak of World War II. As a private he went to the Philippines in January 1941 and served as a tracked vehicle mechanic with the 17th Armored Ordnance Company. Following the Japanese invasion of the islands in December 1941, his unit supported the Philippine Provisional Tank Group. He played a major role in repairing and returning tanks to battle. This was particularly difficult after his unit found

itself fighting a defensive battle on the Bataan Peninsula, cut off from their source of supply. He was one of many thousands forced to undertake the infamous Death March which began on April 10, but he escaped. For a year and a half, he was a guerilla fighter on the Island of Luzon. In December 1943 he won a battlefield commission as a lieutenant and was made supply officer for his guerilla unit. He continued to gather food, arms, ammunition, and medical supplies for his group and others fighting the Japanese. He also conducted reconnaissance activities and passed useful information through the guerrilla chain of command and ultimately to the American authorities at the Pacific Command. He left the Philippines in 1945 but continued to serve in the Pacific until 1947 when he left the Army. He died in 1984. He was inducted into the Ordnance Corps Hall of Fame in 1991.

**Respect: Treat people as they should be treated**

Sergeant Major Charles E. Stanton was born in Butler, Tennessee on June 22, 1950 and entered the Army on December 5, 1968. He spent much of his early career in Vietnam as a recovery specialist and senior track mechanic. Later assignments took him to Germany, Italy, and a number of stateside units. He served as Motor Sergeant, Battalion Maintenance Sergeant, First Sergeant, and Sergeant Major. He attended the U.S. Army Sergeants Major Academy in 1989. His time at the Academy, combined with an innovative style and a genuine concern for a more

creative learning environment for the soldier, helped him in his efforts to restructure the Noncommissioned Officer Academy instructional format. His work became the cornerstone of the Small Group Method of instruction. He commanded the Advanced Noncommissioned Officers Course at Aberdeen Proving Ground, Maryland, from 1990 to 1992. He greatly improved the ability of the Ordnance Corps to adapt quickly to the new technology being introduced. Sergeant Major Stanton died on active duty in May 1993 as the Sergeant Major of the 8th Support Group, Camp Darby, Italy. He was inducted into the Ordnance Corps Hall of Fame in 1995.

**Lieutenant Colonel Luta McGrath** was born in Beattyville, Kentucky on November 21, 1907 and attended the Universities of Virginia and Maryland. She began her career in the Woman's Army Auxiliary Corps (WAAC) in 1943 and had many assignments in the field of Ordnance. In June 1948, the entire western section of Berlin was blockaded by the Soviet Union. Due to the importance of this mission, she was called upon to plan and organize the storage, handling, and airlift of precious ammunition into West Berlin to disrupt this Soviet blockage. She will be remembered most for her unselfish efforts in support of the Ordnance Ladies Association. This association is a means by which Ordnance wives can socialize and work together on a common interest and with a common bond of fellowship. With the disestablishment of the Chief of Ordnance in 1962, the Ordnance Ladies Association was the structure that kept Ordnance families in touch with

other Ordnance families. She served on the Executive Board of this organization in 1967-68 and 1978-79. During many of these years Colonel McGrath maintained the roster of all Ordnance officers (active, inactive, and retired) and widows residing in the Washington, D.C. area. She was inducted into the Ordnance Corps Hall of Fame in 1985.

**Selfless Service: Put the welfare of the nation, the Army, and your subordinates before your own.**

**The Women Ordnance Workers (WOW)** created a new way of life whereby the women who raised the post World War II baby boom generation also provided most of the labor for producing the materials of war. After Japan bombed Pearl Harbor the young men of America poured out of factories to line up at the recruiting offices. The young women of America lined up at the factories and arsenals to fill the traditional male jobs left vacant by those who went off to war. Those who were involved in the production of military hardware became known as WOWs. These women, symbolized by Rosie the Riveter, wore hardhats and coveralls, and operated the heavy cranes, milling machines, and countless other heavy tools. The WOWs also bagged gunpowder, made weapons, crated ammunition, and did whatever else was asked of them. The WOW bandana became a well-known

symbol of the 85,000 women who worked directly for the Ordnance Department.

**Colonel Isaac N. Lewis** was born in New Salem, Pennsylvania on October 12, 1858 and graduated from the United States Military Academy in 1884. His most notable contribution was the invention, development, and full-scale production of the world's first lightweight machine gun for aircraft. Other contributions were a patented depression position finder, a plotting and relocating system for seacoast batteries, a time-interval clock and bell system of signals of artillery fire control, a quick-firing field gun and mount, a quick-reading mechanical vernier, a patented electric car lighting system, a windmill electric lighting system, and a patented gas-propelled torpedo. On June 7, 1912 he and two military aviators made history by firing a machine gun from an airplane for the first time. The Army failed to envision the usefulness of the new weapon, which he had offered to the service virtually free of charge. The Marine Corps, however, accepted his offer. He was unable to secure the approval of the war department, so after his retirement in 1913 he went to Belgium to build a factory for the production of his machine gun. He operated this factory until 1920. During the early part of World War I, Lewis machine guns were delivered to the Allies at a rate of 3,500 per week. After much controversy, the war-proven gun was accepted by the government and the Lewis machine gun totally changed the deployment of automatic weapons on the battlefield. Colonel Lewis died in New Jersey on November 9, 1931. He was inducted into the Ordnance Corps Hall of Fame in 1993.

## **Honor: Live up to all the Army values.**

**General Johnnie E. Wilson** was born on February 4, 1944, in Baton Rouge, Louisiana, the second of 12 children. In the early 1950s his family moved to Lorain, Ohio, where he completed high school in 1961. Together, with two friends, General Wilson enlisted in the Army and became a supply clerk. Following a reenlistment for Special Forces and promotion to staff sergeant he applied for Officer Candidate School and graduated in May 1967 from the Ordnance Corps Officer Candidate School at Aberdeen Proving Ground, Maryland. Following tours at Fort Bragg, North Carolina, Vietnam and as a student in the Ordnance Officer Advanced Course he enrolled in the University of Nebraska to complete his undergraduate studies. He participated in student government and as president of his military fraternity. He was also involved in working with underprivileged children in the inner city. Following several tours in Germany, as well as numerous assignments in the United States and completion of advanced military schooling, he became the Chief of Ordnance in July 1990 where he became heavily involved in the combat service support efforts for Operation Desert Shield and later Desert Storm. Following assignments as the Chief of Staff of the Army Materiel Command and Deputy Chief of Staff for Logistics for the United States Army; he was promoted to his current four-star rank as the Commanding General of the U.S. Army Materiel Command. In addition to his role as the senior Ordnance

officer on active duty, he has been a leader in mentoring minority junior leaders. He is a part of a history making trio of African-American four-star officers serving at the same time along with General Lloyd W. Newton, U.S. Air Force, and Admiral J. Paul Reason, U.S. Navy.

**Brigadier General Horace Porter** was born in Huntingdon, Pennsylvania on April 15, 1837 and graduated number three in his class from the United States Military Academy in 1860 as a Brevet Second Lieutenant of Ordnance. He was General George G. McClellan's Chief of Ordnance until 1862, when he transferred to the Western Theater to serve in a similar capacity for General George H. Thomas, Commander of the Army of the Cumberland. He distinguished himself in combat several times during the War Between the States and on June 26, 1902 he was awarded the Medal of Honor for gallantry at Chickamauga, Georgia on September 20, 1863. He rallied enough soldiers to hold the ground at a critical moment when the lines were broken under heavy fire - long enough to facilitate the escape of numerous wagon trains and firing batteries. In 1864 he joined the staff of General Ulysses S. Grant and later served as Secretary to President Grant from 1869 to 1873. His book, "Campaigning with Grant" is considered by many to be a classic in military campaign writing. He resigned from the Army on December 31, 1873 to become Vice President of the Pullman Car Company. He died on May 29, 1921. Brigadier General Porter was inducted into the Ordnance Hall of Fame in 1969.

## **Integrity: Do what's right, legally and morally.**

**Brigadier General Adelbert R. Buffington** was born on November 22, 1837. He graduated from the United States Military Academy in 1861 and was assigned to the Ordnance Department. His design for a depressing carriage for seacoast cannon evolved into the disappearing seacoast gun carriage employed throughout the Army and the world. He was responsible for several inventions which dealt with small arms, cannon, and explosives. He was the Chief of Ordnance from April 5, 1899 to November 22, 1901. He also is known for being the first to propose a semiautomatic rifle design. At one point in his career he was court martialed for disobeying a direct order. He was found guilty of not preferring charges against an enlisted man. He knew the enlisted man was innocent and noted that to carry out the order would be an affront to his integrity. He retired on November 22, 1901 and died on July 10, 1922. He was inducted into the Ordnance Corps Hall of Fame in 1969.

**Major General Alexander B. Dyer** was born in Richmond, Virginia on January 10, 1815. He served as Chief of Ordnance from 1864 to 1874. He had previously been offered the position in 1862 by President Abraham Lincoln, but due to his respect for the General James W. Ripley, the incumbent, he declined. One of his most significant contributions to Ordnance was, when serving as the Commander of Springfield Arsenal, increasing the

daily output of rifles by 400 percent, to nearly 1,000 rifles per day. Later, he designed and developed the “Dye-Artillery Shell” one of the most effective shells of the time. During the first part of his tenure as Chief of Ordnance he was able to provide sufficient munitions to the Union Army to end the war. In the post-war era, an era noted for extensive corruption, in spite of numerous attacks from unscrupulous persons, his devotion to duty, steadfast loyalty, and basic honesty was recognized by all. General Dyer died in 1874 while on active duty. He was inducted into the Ordnance Hall of Fame in 1984.

**Personal Courage: Face fear, danger, or adversity (physical or moral).**

**Staff Sergeant Emil Rainen** was born in Michigan in 1916, attended high school and technical school there, and entered the Army in the spring of 1941. Following training as an infantry and ordnanceman, he was assigned to the 732nd Light Maintenance Company of the 32d Infantry Division. By the fall of 1942, he found himself in New Guinea during the bitter fighting for the strategic Pacific Island. In December 1942 he volunteered to go into no man’s land under enemy fire to determine the manufacture of three enemy anti-aircraft guns, count the ammunition for these weapons, dismantle them, and bring back their breech-blocks. In the course of this mission, he killed several enemy personnel. For this

exploit, he was awarded the Silver Star. On a later occasion on Saidor beachhead, he and several buddies captured and repaired a Japanese machine gun and used it against enemy planes during a raid. He also captured enemy personnel following the seizure of Saidor by American forces. For 14 months toward the end of the war, he served as an artillery repair instructor at the Ordnance School, Aberdeen Proving Ground, Maryland. He returned to civilian life following World War II. He was inducted into the Ordnance Corps Hall of Fame in 1988.

**Hulon Brocke Whittington** was born in Bogalusa, Louisiana on July 9, 1921. After enlisting in the Army in August 1940 he participated in the invasions of North Africa and Sicily, and earned the Silver Star, the Bronze Star, the Purple Heart with oak leaf cluster, the French Croix de Guerre with Palm and Star, the Belgian Croix de Guerre, and the Belgian Fouraguerre for heroism in Sicily and in France during 26 months of combat. On July 29, 1944, while attached to the 41st Armored Infantry, 2d Armored Division, near Grimesnil, France, Sergeant Whittington, then a squad leader, assumed command of his platoon when the platoon leader and platoon sergeant became missing in action. A strong enemy attack began around midnight and carried away some small American outpost positions. Sergeant Whittington reorganized the defense and, under fire, courageously crawled between gun positions to check the actions of his men. When the advancing enemy attempted to penetrate a road block he had been responsible for organizing, Sergeant Whittington

completely disregarding intense enemy action, mounted a tank, and by shouting through the turret, directed it into position to fire point blank at the leading Mark V German tank. The destruction of this vehicle blocked all movement of the remaining enemy column consisting of over 100 vehicles of a Panzer unit. The blocked vehicles were then destroyed by hand grenades, bazooka, tank and artillery fire, and large numbers of enemy personnel were wiped out by a bold and resolute charge inspired by Sergeant Whittington. When the medical aid man had become a casualty, Sergeant Whittington administered first aid to his wounded men. The total number of enemy killed in this action was well over 250. For his courage and actions he was awarded the Medal of Honor. He later declined to receive the honor from President Harry S. Truman at the White House on the grounds that he wanted his fellow patients at Brooke Army Hospital in San Antonio to be present at the ceremonies. Sergeant Whittington was also awarded a battlefield commission to second lieutenant on July 31, 1944, but was wounded on August 6, 1944 and evacuated to the rear and then back to the United States before the action could be made a matter of record. He was later commissioned a first lieutenant of Infantry. While in Vietnam in 1963 he suffered a heart attack. He retired in March 1963. In failing health, Major Whittington took his own life in Toledo, Ohio on January 17, 1969.

## **A brief history of the Ordnance Center & School**

The Ordnance Corps was founded in 1812, but the Ordnance School has only been around since the first part of this century. Before that, ordnance training was conducted on-the-job by experienced ordnance officers and enlisted personnel. As ordnance materiel became more sophisticated and the Ordnance Corps mission more varied, the Army recognized the need for formal training.

The first ordnance school, the Ordnance School of Application, opened at Sandy Hook Proving Ground, New Jersey, on February 28, 1902. That first school trained only officers. It wasn't until the United States became involved in World War I that formal training began for enlisted personnel.

A second school for officers, the Ordnance School of Technology, was opened in 1906 at Watertown Arsenal, Massachusetts. Before 1917, only officer training was conducted by the Ordnance Department. There was little need to formally train enlisted men since most of the field repairs on the relatively simple equipment could be performed by those who used it. Arsenals handled most major repairs.

By the time the United States entered World War I in 1917, however, new developments more sophisticated weaponry required a large number of personnel trained specifically as ordnance technicians.

The programs at Sandy Hook and Watertown were closed in 1917. Several new programs at midwestern universities and manufacturing plants taught enlisted men of the Ordnance Department about field maintenance. The Ordnance School of Application was transferred to Aberdeen Proving Ground, Maryland, in April 1918 and both officer and enlisted personnel received training there. Then, in 1919 the program was terminated but resumed soon after. Then the Aberdeen programs were transferred to Watertown which had reopened the Ordnance School of Technology. The two programs were merged into the Ordnance School. The Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) began offering courses to supplement the program at Watertown. These continued until the mid-1930s.

The Ordnance Operations Maintenance and Repair School at Raritan, New Jersey, was the one remaining arsenal program from World War I. In 1921 it became the Ordnance Specialists School, and in 1931 the Ordnance Field School.

In 1932 the Headquarters for the Ordnance School was shifted from Watertown to Aberdeen. The first part of the officers course remained at Watertown and MIT, while the second part returned to Aberdeen. Not until 1936 was the Watertown/MIT portion of the course also returned to Aberdeen.

From the time the first ordnance school opened, the Ordnance Corps leadership had hoped to have one

combined school for all ordnance training. In July 1940, it finally happened. All three schools—the two for officers and the one for enlisted personnel—were combined into one school at Aberdeen.

A year and a half later, when World War II erupted, the Ordnance School faced one of its toughest challenges. In January 1941, the Ordnance Training Center was established at Aberdeen under the Chief of Ordnance. The Ordnance School was placed under this agency. In the five-year period that followed, the school graduated 14,428 officers, 13,549 officer candidates and 44,916 enlisted men.

After the war, the officer candidate training was discontinued (later to be re-established for the Korea and Vietnam conflicts).

The Korean War again put a heavy training load on the Ordnance School. From 1950 to 1953 the Ordnance Training Command was organized at Aberdeen for the duration of the Korean War. The Ordnance School operated under its aegis.

From 1955 to 1962, the school concentrated on improving its training. Field simulations added realism to officer courses. An extensive guest speaker program was instituted.

After a major Army reorganization in July 1962, the newly renamed Ordnance Center and School was placed under the Continental Army Command at Fort Monroe, Virginia.

For a relatively short period, from January 1973 to December 1979, the Ordnance School was merged with the Chemical Center and School. The Chemical School moved from Fort McClellan, Alabama, and the combined school handled all ordnance, nuclear, biological, and chemical training and combat developments.

It wasn't until 1976, however, that the combined school became known as the Ordnance and Chemical Center and School. The name was changed after the Army increased its emphasis on nuclear, biological and chemical training. A study of the 1973 Mideast War showed that such training would be crucial to winning the next war. As emphasis on chemical training continued to grow, the Army decided to move the Chemical Center and School back to Fort McClellan, and the school at Aberdeen became the U.S. Army Ordnance Center and School (USAOC&S).

In 1983 the Chief of Ordnance position was reestablished and the Office, Chief of Ordnance, assumed responsibility for overall coordination of Ordnance Corps proponent issues for all Ordnance Corps soldiers at the two primary training centers and schools at Aberdeen Proving Ground and Redstone Arsenal, Alabama.

In 1994 a major reorganization of the U.S. Army Combined Arms Support Command moved the personnel involved in combat developments and training development to Fort Lee, Virginia. Today, USAOC&S is the center for mechanical maintenance for the U.S. Army

and selected training for the U.S. Air Force and Marine Corps. Training is provided for Initial Entry Training soldiers, noncommissioned officers, warrant officers and officers, as well as international training.

## The Ordnance Center & School Crest



The U.S. Army Ordnance Center and School Crest, by its escutcheon in two colors, depicts the merger of the Officers' School (Aberdeen) and the Enlisted Men's School (Raritan) in 1940. Crimson and yellow are the present-day colors of the Ordnance Corps. At the lower left of the shield is the lamp with its flame of knowledge, representing an institution of learning. At the upper right the bomb with its energy yet to be released represents the untrained student body. The mission of USAOC&S, to impart knowledge to its students, is given in the motto "Addere Flamman," "To Add the Flame." The result is shown by the flaming bomb, the sign of ordnance service. The flaming bomb is in the original colors of the Ordnance Department, scarlet and black. The piping represents the braid once worn on the enlisted men's garrison caps.



## 61st Ordnance Brigade Lineage & Honors

Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 61st Ordnance Brigade has a proud history dating back to 1943 as Headquarters Detachment, 158th Ordnance Battalion, located at Camp Joseph T. Robinson, Arkansas.

The battalion performed a wide variety of ordnance missions in the Asiatic-Pacific Theater during World War II. The unit was inactivated January 25, 1949 in Japan. On October 8, 1952, the unit was activated as Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 61st Ordnance Group.

In June 1958 the unit was re-designated as Headquarters and Headquarters Detachment, 61st Ordnance Group and inactivated again on March 25, 1963, at Fort Bliss, Texas.

On November 20, 1986, the unit was re-designated as Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 61st Ordnance Brigade. The 61st Ordnance Brigade currently has two assigned battalions, the 16th Ordnance Battalion with its headquarters located at the Aberdeen Area of Aberdeen Proving Ground; and the 143d Ordnance Battalion, with its headquarters located at the Edgewood Area of Aberdeen Proving Ground.

The 61st Ordnance Brigade exercises command and control of all assigned, attached, and temporary duty personnel serving at the Ordnance Center and School.



## 16th Ordnance Battalion Lineage & Honors

The unit was constituted January 9, 1942 in the Army of the United States as Headquarters and Headquarters Detachment, 16th Ordnance Battalion and activated on January 10, 1942 in Hawaii.

The unit was inactivated on April 19, 1945, on Iwo Jima.

On March 24, 1954 the unit was allotted to the Regular Army and activated on April 26, 1954 at Fort Dix, New Jersey. It was inactivated on January 21, 1956, at Fort Wadsworth, New York.

The headquarters was transferred on November 14, 1986, to the United States Army Training and Doctrine Command and organized at Aberdeen Proving Ground, Maryland.

**CAMPAIGN CREDIT:** World War II Air Offensive and Operations directed toward mainland Japan.

**DECORATIONS:** Meritorious Unit Commendation (Army)



## 143d Ordnance Battalion Lineage and Honors

The unit was constituted on December 2, 1943, in the Army of the United States as Headquarters and Service Company, 143d Ordnance Base Automotive Maintenance Company, and activated on December 18, 1943, in Flora, Mississippi.

On October 20, 1986 it was inactivated as Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 143d Ordnance Battalion and allotted to the Regular Army and concurrently transferred to the United States Army Training and Doctrine Command and organized at Aberdeen Proving Ground, Maryland.

**CAMPAIGN CREDIT:** World War II, Rhineland, Central Europe.

**DECORATIONS:** Meritorious Unit Commendation (Army), Streamer embroidered *EUROPEAN THEATER*.

## *Above and beyond the call of duty . . .*

Since the first of our nation's memorable struggles in the American Revolution, many United States honors and decorations have been awarded to Army Ordnance soldiers. Soldiers of the Ordnance Corps have served gallantly in action, with dedication in peacetime, and with patriotism always.

Fifteen Ordnance Corps officers and noncommissioned officers have been presented the Medal of Honor for gallantry "above and beyond the call of duty."

**Brigadier General Horace Porter:** At the Battle of Chickamauga, in September 1863, he rallied fleeing soldiers to hold the ground at a critical moment when the lines were broken under heavy fire long enough to make possible the escape of numerous wagon trains and artillery batteries.

**Major General Oliver Otis Howard:** During the Battle of Fair Oaks on June 1, 1862, he led a charge by a portion of his command, the 61st New York Volunteer Infantry, and was wounded in the right arm. Having bound the arm with his handkerchief, he resumed action. He was forced out of action when his elbow was shattered by a second bullet.

**Major William S. Beebe:** On April 23, 1864, he gallantly led a successful assault on a heavily fortified Confederate position at Cane River Crossing, Louisiana.

**Major Hulon Brocke Whittington:** As a sergeant attached to the 41st Armored Infantry, 2d Armored Division, he assumed command of his platoon when the platoon leader and sergeant became missing in action on July 29, 1944 near Grimesnil, France. He organized the defense against heavy enemy fire and, without regard to his own safety, mounted a tank to direct point blank fire against an advancing Panzer unit of some 100 vehicles. He then directed the actions of his men in destroying most of the enemy column resulting in 250 enemy dead. When the medical aid man was wounded, he took over administering first aid to his own wounded men.

**Ordnance Sergeant John Kelly:** While serving as a corporal with Company I, 5th U.S. Infantry on September 9, 1874, he was cited for gallantry in action against Indians at Upper Washita, Texas.

**Ordnance Sergeant Albert Knaak:** While serving as a private with Company B, 8th U.S. Cavalry in the Arizona Territory he was cited for bravery during scouting operations and actions during the period from August to October 1868.

**Ordnance Sergeant Michael McGann:** While serving as First Sergeant with Company F, 3rd U.S. Cavalry on June 17, 1876, he was cited for gallantry in action against Indians on the Rosebud River in Montana.

**Ordnance Sergeant John Mitchell:** While serving as First Sergeant with Company I, 5th U.S. Infantry between August 9 and 11, 1874, he was cited for gallantry in action

in an engagement with Indians at Upper Washita, Texas.

**Ordinance Sergeant Solon D. Neal:** While serving as a private with Company L, 6th U.S. Cavalry on July 12, 1870, he was cited for gallantry in action on the Little Washita River, Texas.

**Ordinance Sergeant Timothy Spillane:** While serving as a private with Company C, 16th Pennsylvania Cavalry between February 5 and 7, 1865, he was cited for gallantry and good conduct in action, and for bravery in a charge and reluctance to leave the field after being twice wounded.

**Captain Frederick E. Toy:** While serving as First Sergeant with Company G, 7th U.S. Cavalry on December 29, 1890, he was cited for bravery at Wounded Knee Creek, South Dakota.

**Ordinance Sergeant Henry Wilkens:** While serving as First Sergeant with Company L, 2nd U.S. Cavalry he was cited for bravery in several actions with Indians on Little Muddy Creek, Montana on May 7, 1877 and at Camas Meadows, Iowa on August 20, 1877

**Ordinance Sergeant Moses Williams:** While serving as First Sergeant with Company I, 9th U.S. Cavalry on August 16, 1881 in the foothills of the Cuchillo Negro Mountains, New Mexico, he rallied a detachment, skillfully conducted a running fight lasting about three or four hours, and by his coolness, bravery, and unflinching devotion to duty by standing by his commanding officer in an exposed position under a heavy fire from a large party of Indians saved the lives of at least three of his comrades.

**Ordnance Sergeant Milden H. Wilson:** While serving as a sergeant with Company I, 7th U.S. Infantry on August 9, 1877 at Big Hole, Montana, he was cited for gallantry in forming his company from a line of skirmishers and deploying them again under a galling fire, and for carrying dispatches at the eminent risk of his life.

**Ordnance Sergeant Zachariah (or Zachary T.) Woodall:** While serving as Ordnance Sergeant with Company I, 6th U.S. Cavalry on September 12, 1874 on the Washita River, Texas he was in command of 5 men and carrying dispatches. They were attacked by 125 Indians and in the ensuing all-day battle he was severely wounded.



# The Chiefs of Ordnance

Colonel Decius Wadsworth, 1815-1821

From 1821 to 1832 the Ordnance Department was merged with the Artillery in the interest of economy. The Ordnance Department was re-established in 1832.

Colonel George Bomford, 1832-1848

Colonel George Talcott, 1848-1851

Colonel Henry Knox Craig, 1851-1861

Brigadier General James W. Ripley, 1861-1863

Brigadier General George D. Ramsay, 1863-1864

Brigadier General Alexander B. Dyer, 1864-1874

Brigadier General Stephen V. Benet, 1874-1891

Brigadier General Daniel W. Flagler, 1891-1899

Brigadier General Adelbert R. Buffington, 1899-1901

Major General William Crozier, 1901-1918

Major General Clarence C. Williams, 1918-1930

Major General Samuel Hof, 1930-1934

Major General William H. Tschappat, 1934-1938

Major General Charles M. Wesson, 1938-1942

Lieutenant General Levin H. Campbell, Jr., 1942-1946

Major General Everett S. Hughes, 1946-1949

## **Chiefs of Ordnance (Continued)**

Major General Elbert L. Ford, 1949-1953

Lieutenant General Emerson L. Cummings, 1953-1958

Lieutenant General John H. Hinrichs, 1958-1962

Major General Horace F. Bigelow, 1962

From 1962 to 1983 the Office of the Chief of Ordnance was abolished and all ordnance-related administrative functions were performed by other Army agencies. In 1983, the position was re-established as a proponent agency for all ordnance-related occupational specialties and career management fields. On May 9, 1986 the Ordnance Corps officially joined the Army's regimental system and the Office of the Chief of Ordnance was re-established as the head of the Ordnance Corps.

Major General William E. Potts, 1983-1986

Major General Leon E. Salomon, 1986-1988

Major General James W. Ball, 1988-1990

Major General Johnnie E. Wilson, 1990-1992

Major General John G. Coburn, 1992-1994

Major General James W. Monroe, 1994-1995

Major General Robert D. Shadley, 1995-1997

Brigadier General Thomas R. Dickinson, 1997-1998

Major General Dennis K. Jackson, 1998-



## **The Ordnance Corps Flaming Bomb**

The flaming bomb became the Ordnance insignia in May 1833. Now, as then, it symbolizes the energy of those who wear it. It is the oldest military insignia of the United States Army and, before its adoption by the Ordnance Corps, it was the insignia of the British Grenadier Guards, the Royal Engineers, and the Royal Horse Artillery. Before World War II, a bomb with widespread flame was in general use. Since then, the streamlined bomb has been the official insignia.

## **The Ordnance Soldier's Creed**

**As an Ordnance soldier of the United States Army, I will utilize every available talent and means to ensure that superior mobility, firepower and communications are advantages enjoyed by the United States Army over its enemies. As an Ordnance soldier, I fully understand my duty to perform under adverse conditions and I will continually strive to perfect my craft. I will remain flexible so that I can meet any emergency. In my conduct, I will abide by the soldier's code. In my support mission in the field, I will always be tactically and technically proficient. As an Ordnance soldier, I have no greater task.**

# The Ordnance Corps Regimental Prayer

Our Father, we pray for the strength of mind, heart and body to continue to serve our Army and our nation. Help us remember and emulate the heritage of excellence set by those who established, nurtured and led the Ordnance Corps before us. May the shell and flame continue to light the way towards selfless service, dedicated professionalism and passionate patriotism as we support our nation's role as a leading force toward peace and liberty in the world.

Oh Lord, we ask that you provide us the wisdom to continually take charge of change and shape the Ordnance Corps to provide service to the line, on the line, on time. Guide us as we seek to establish our heritage of courage and honor through our daily duties. Give us the strength to accept our responsibility to our fellow soldiers as we seek to fix and arm the force.

Oh God of our fathers, bless our efforts to provide the "Armament for Peace" and protect us if we must answer the call to arms to defend our faith, our liberty and our freedom. Teach us not to mourn those who have died in the service of the Corps, but rather to gain strength from the fact that such heroes have lived. Teach us to stand together in Your Name so that we may remain strong and that the Ordnance Corps shall remain the architect for readiness for our Army and our Nation. Amen.

*(Adopted 1994, MG Coburn, E.C. Starnes, Author)*

# The Ordnance Corps Song

## *“Arms for the Love of America”*

*The Ordnance Corps song was written by Irving Berlin and dedicated to the Ordnance Corps on Army Ordnance Arsenal Day on June 10, 1941.*

**On land and on the sea and in the air**

**We've got to be there - We've got to be there**

**America is sounding alarms**

**We've got to have arms - We've got to have arms**

**Arms for the love of America**

**They speak in a foreign land, with weapons in every  
hand**

**Whatever they try we've got to reply in language they  
understand**

**Arms for the love of America**

**And for the love of every mother's son**

**Who's depending on the work that must be done**

**By the man, behind the man, behind the gun**

**They're in the camps and in the training schools**

**Now give them the tools - They've got to have tools**

**We've called them from the factories and farms**

**Now give them the arms - They've got to have arms**

*The Ordnance Corps Song (Continued)*

**Arms for the love of America**

**We've got to get in the race - And work at a lively pace**

**They say over here we've got nothing to fear but let's  
get ready just in case**

**Arms for the love of America**

**And for the love of every mother's son**

**Oh the fight for freedom can be lost or won**

**By the man, behind the man, behind the gun.**

# The Ordnance Corps Hall of Fame

The Ordnance Corps Hall of Fame was established on May 9, 1969 and memorializes persons who have made a positive, significant contribution to the U.S. Army Ordnance Corps. Its members are honored with a permanent display at the Ordnance Museum at Aberdeen Proving Ground, Maryland.

Since its inception, the Hall of Fame has grown not only in membership, but also in its value to the Ordnance Corps. In addition to giving permanent recognition to those personnel who have made significant contributions to the Ordnance mission of the U.S. Army, it preserves a substantial amount of historical information about the Ordnance Corps and its distinguished contributors. Promotion of greater awareness is one of the goals of the Ordnance Corps Hall of Fame.

Since before the Civil War, the members of the Hall of Fame, through technological advances rarely dreamed of by man, served their country and the Ordnance Corps proudly. Looking briefly at the accomplishments of only a few distinguished members, it is easy to see the vast contributions made to the Ordnance Corps. From the development of small arms to the exploration of rocket propulsion, members of the Hall of Fame are remembered for their contributions. In 1969, Mr. Robert P. Parrott, who invented the Parrott Gun - the first rifled cannon, was

inducted into the Hall of Fame. Mr. J.C. Garand, the inventor of the M1 rifle and Dr. Werhner von Braun, whose work in the technical advancements of rocketry led to the liquid fueled rocket engine and ultimately to manned space flight were inducted in 1973. Mr. J.M. Browning, inducted in 1974, invented, perfected, and supervised the production of numerous small arms, and is responsible for the superiority in small arms weaponry enjoyed in the United States today. Mr. R.J. Gatling, the “Father of the Machine Gun,” was also inducted in 1974. Walter J. Christie, inducted in 1975, invented the first amphibious tank and was a pioneer in the development of self-propelled artillery. The “Father of U.S. Rocketry”, Dr. R.H. Goddard, was inducted in 1977. The Hall of Fame also includes three Congressional Medal of Honor recipients.

Inductees are chosen solely on their significant contribution to U.S. Army Ordnance and each selectee is able to stand up to close scrutiny. Attainment of high rank or position is not necessarily indicative of a significant contribution to Ordnance. Likewise, rank, sex, ethnicity and/or religion are not discriminators.

## Memorialization

*Many of the buildings in which students train today are named for members of the Ordnance Corps who contributed greatly to the growth and development of the Corps, the Army, and the Nation.*

**Simpson Hall, Building 3071.** The building that now serves as the Headquarters for the United States Army Ordnance Corps was named for Brigadier General Bethel Wood Simpson, who served as Assistant Commandant of the Ordnance School from 1932 to 1936 and later as Commanding General of the Ordnance Replacement Training Center at Aberdeen Proving Ground, Maryland, from February 1942 until October 1942. He then activated and commanded the Ordnance Replacement Training Center at Santa Anita, California, from October 1942 to June 1944.

**Cohen Hall, Building 5014.** Home of the Metalworking Services Department, Cohen Hall was named for Chief Warrant Officer 2 Bernard Cohen. A veteran of World War II and the Korean War, he earned the Bronze Star with “V” for valor for his recovery of a tank that had been abandoned in enemy territory; and a second Bronze Star for his fabrication of a device that prevented track laying vehicles from sliding on icy Korean mountain trails. Following retirement from the Army, he was a civilian employee of the Ordnance Center and School from 1956 to 1976. He designed the Metal Body Repair Course and updated the Welding Course. He was inducted into the Ordnance Corps Hall of Fame in 1981

**Hatcher Hall, Building 5016.** Now home to the Weapons Department, Hatcher Hall was named for Major General Julian S. Hatcher, a native of Virginia and graduate with honors of the United States Naval Academy in 1909. After 14 months in the Navy, he transferred to the United States Army Coast Artillery Corps. In 1913 he was detailed to the Ordnance Department. His many comprehensive books and informative publications on firearms were widely used by military and civilian agencies, particularly the Federal Bureau of Investigation. He was the first Commanding General of the Ordnance Training Center at Aberdeen Proving Ground, Maryland, from January 1, 1940, to June 1, 1942. He retired in 1946 and died on December 4, 1963. He was inducted into the Ordnance Corps Hall of Fame in 1971.

**Pierce Hall, Building 5046.** This major training building was dedicated to Brigadier General John R. Pierce, Jr., who commanded the United States Army Ordnance Center and School upon his retirement in 1973. A veteran of World War II and Vietnam, he was noted for moving training out of the classroom and into the shops in order to more closely approximate actual conditions. This hands-on approach to training is still used at the Ordnance School today. He was also known for his efforts to improve the living conditions of soldiers and their families. He died in August 1983. He was inducted into the Ordnance Corps Hall of Fame in 1998.

**Downer Hall, Building E-4301.** Home to the Advanced Individual Training Division of the Wheel, Track & Recovery Department, Downer Hall was named in

honor of Lieutenant Colonel Harry Downer. Upon his retirement he had 51 years of federal service. Commissioned in World War II, he also served in Korea and retired as a lieutenant colonel in 1957. In 1958 he came to the United States Army Ordnance Center and School as an instructor, and later became a doctrine specialist. He is considered the originator of quantitative, qualitative personnel requirement information which drives the military occupational skill basis. Downer Hall is the largest mechanical maintenance training facility under one roof and the largest single story building east of the Mississippi River.

**Rozier Hall, Building 5100.** This facility is the home of the Tactical Support Equipment Department and houses both advanced individual and professional development training in Quartermaster/Chemical and Utilities Equipment Repair. It is named for Major General Jackson E. Rozier, Jr. Prior to his final military assignment as the Director of Supply and Maintenance with the Office of the Deputy Chief of Staff for Logistics, Department of the Army, he served in several key assignments to include Commanding General and Commandant of the United States Army Ordnance Center and School. He was inducted into the Morgan State College ROTC Hall of Fame and named “Alumnus of the Year” in 1982, the Historical Black College Hall of Fame in 1984, the Morgan State College Athletic Hall of Fame in 1991, and the Ordnance Corps Hall of Fame in 1993. He died on October 29, 1994.

**Dickson Hall, Building 3074.** Home of Metalworking Services Department and Dickson Hall Auditorium, this building was named for Brigadier General Tracy C. Dickson, an 1892 graduate of the United States Military Academy. As the Commanding Officer of Sandy Hook Proving Ground, New Jersey in 1914 and President of the Ordnance Board from April 1914 to August 1915, he achieved fame for his metallurgical developments in the field of gun construction. His research profoundly influenced the technological advancement of gun construction. The present techniques of gun manufacture are largely due to his expert guidance. He retired on September 30, 1932 and died on May 17, 1936. He was inducted into the Ordnance Corps Hall of Fame in 1969.

**Vincent Hall, Bldg 3073.** Home today to the Command and Staff Department for the United States Army Ordnance Center and School, the building is named for Brigadier General Thomas K. Vincent. Born in Dayton, Ohio, on October 3, 1895, he received a Bachelor of Science degree in Mechanical Engineering from the Kansas Sate Agricultural College in 1916 and a Bachelor of Science degree in Engineering from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology in 1932. He graduated from the United States Army Ordnance School at Watertown Arsenal, Massachusetts, in 1927. He served as the Commander of the United States Army Ordnance School at Aberdeen Proving Ground, Maryland, and retired as the Commander of Redstone Arsenal, Alabama in 1954.

**Hughes Hall, Building 3072.** The current home of the Directorate of Instruction for the United States Army Ordnance Center and School, this building was named for Major General Everett S. Hughes, a 1908 graduate of the United States Military Academy. He served as an Ordnance officer with the Mexican Expedition under General John J. Pershing in 1916. He also served in France with the American Expeditionary Force. During World War II he was appointed Ordnance Officer of the European Theater of Operations and in October 1942 he became the Chief of Staff there. General Dwight D. Eisenhower appointed him as a special assistant. He served as Commander of United States troops in Rome after its capture and later as the Inspector General of the European Theater of Operations and a planner for D-Day. Shortly after his return from Europe in 1946 he was appointed Chief of Ordnance. Many of the procedures he implemented for ammunition production are still in effect. He retired in 1949 and died on September 5, 1971. He was inducted into the Ordnance Corps Hall of Fame in 1984.

## A SOLDIER'S REQUEST

Treat me with respect, Sergeant  
For no heart in all the world  
is more loyal than the heart of an American soldier.

Do not break my spirit with your words, Sergeant  
For I will do what you demand.  
Your guidance, patience, and understanding  
Will more quickly teach me to be, know, and do.  
Speak with me often, Sergeant  
For the praise and counseling you give is expected.  
I am an American soldier expecting to be trained.  
Discipline must be part of my life.

Train me for the elements, Sergeant  
For I must learn to fight and win.  
In the heat, the cold, the wet, and the desert  
Those who would be our enemies will use the elements.  
I must be prepared.

I ask no greater glory, Sergeant  
Than to defend our country and our way of life  
Against all enemies, both foreign and domestic.  
Allow me that privilege, Sergeant.  
Train me.

Provide me the necessities of food and drink, Sergeant.  
Train me to be self-sufficient  
That I may lead the way and stand ready, willing and able

To protect you with my life  
Should your life be in danger.

Train me, Sergeant  
That one day I too can be called “Sergeant,”  
Trainer of soldiers  
The Backbone of the Army.  
Train me to accept those responsibilities that are yours.  
Train me to train my soldiers  
To be the greatest defenders of freedom in the world.

Sergeant, train me to be a sergeant.  
I shall leave this Army knowing  
With my last step and my last breath  
That my fate was safest in your hands.

Sergeant, train me  
That I too can earn the title

**“SERGEANT”**

# NOTES

# Go Ordnance!

United States Army Ordnance Corps  
Corporate Affairs Office

E-Mail: [estarnes@ocs2.apg.army.mil](mailto:estarnes@ocs2.apg.army.mil)

Ordnance Corps Home Page: <http://130.114.88.10>