



U.S. ARMY's 240th BIRTHDAY/FLAG DAY

On June 14th, Soldiers, their Families and citizens of our great nation will celebrate the U.S. Army's 240th birthday as well as Flag Day, which commemorates the adoption of the United States flag. One of today's most formidable ground forces in the world sprang from relatively modest means in 1775 after Congress adopted "the American continental army", accepting responsibility for approximately 15,000 Soldiers from New England. However, the number of volunteers available to counter British forces nearly doubled in one month as professors, doctors, blacksmiths and other patriots with a breadth of skills and a desire to sow the seeds of liberty took up arms.

Today, the Army stands strong as a highly-skilled force through its valiant service and sacrifice during its storied history. The Army Reserve, as the premier life-saving and life-sustaining Citizen-Soldier force for the nation, is proud to serve as the Army's enabling force as we face an unstable, unpredictable, increasingly complex global security environment during the next decade and beyond. The celebration of two iconic representations of our nation's might, ingenuity, and valor on the same day is more than a pleasant coincidence — it characterizes the inextricable relationship between our Army and our prosperity and freedom.

As we honor the founding of our nation's Army, we salute the selfless service of yesterday and today's Soldiers, veterans and those who demonstrate their unwavering support to them and their Families daily, we must remain focused on our future as we maintain our strategic advantage in a complex world.

Twice the Citizen, Army Strong!

JEFFREY W. TALLEY
Lieutenant General, US Army
Chief of Army Reserve/Commanding
General, US Army Reserve Command

PHYLLIS L. WILSON
Chief Warrant Officer Five, US Army
Command Chief Warrant Officer

LUTHER THOMAS, JR.
Command Sergeant Major, US Army
Army Reserve Command Sergeant Major

JAMES B. BALOCKI
Command Executive Officer
US Army Reserve