

CURRICULUM ON MILITARY KNOWLEDGE

STRAND M9: US ARMED FORCES

Level 11

This Strand is composed of the following components:

- A. Purpose of the US Military Branches
- B. Trends in the US Military
- C. History of the US Military Branches



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C. HISTORY OF THE US MILITARY BRANCHES

Standard #2: Students learn duty, service, and responsibility as a citizen of their school, their community, the State of California, and the United States.

OBJECTIVES

DESIRED OUTCOME (Leadership)

Cadets gain an appreciation for what the branches of the US Military have contributed to our national historical experience, and their development into what they are today.

Plan of Action:

- 1. Recite basic history of the United States Army
- 2. Recite basic history of the United States Air Force
- 3. Recite basic history of the United States Navy
- 4. Recite basic history of the United States Marine Corps
- 5. Recite basic history of the United States Coast Guard
- 6. Recite basic history of the United States Space Force
- 7. Recite basic history of the National Guard
- 8. Name three famous military theorists and what they contributed to military doctrine

C1. US Army History

Though towns and states had militia forces as early as the 1600's, the acknowledged first muster of a militia unit which traces down the centuries to the Army National Guard today was in Salem, Massachusetts on December 13th, 1636.

The US Army formally got its start on 14 June 1775, which is celebrated as the US Army Birthday, and Flag Day. The Second Continental Congress formed the Continental Army as a means for the 13 unified American colonies to fight the forces of Britain. Congress unanimously elected George Washington as Commander-In-Chief, and he would lead the colonies to victory and independence.



After several years of unrest in the American colonies, the <u>American War for Independence</u> broke out in Massachusetts in April 1775. Colonial militia harassed British Army forces, starting a war that would last for eight years until ended officially by the Treaty of Paris in 1883. General Washington led the Continental Army, aided by militias from the 13 colonies. Significant American commanders were Washington, a veteran of the French & Indian Wars, Majors General William Alexander and Benedict Arnold, Nathanael Greene, and Horatio Gates. Commanders on the British side were General Thomas Gage, Sir William Howe, Sir Henry Clinton, and finally Sir Guy Carleton at the end of the war. Significant battles included the Siege of Boston (including the Battle of Bunker Hill); the Battles of Trenton and Princeton, which took place after Washington crossed the Delaware River on Christmas 1776 and defeated Hessian troops; the Battle of Germantown, PA, won by the British; and the Battle of Saratoga, won by American forces under Horatio Gates, with heroic measures taken by later traitor to the Americans Benedict Arnold. The final battle that secured victory for the revolutionary forces was the Battle of Yorktown in 1881, led by General Washington and Comte de Rochambeau (with 4500 French troops) against British and German troops led by General Lord Charles Cornwallis. (Wallace, 2020)



The Revolutionary War 1775-1781 Lexington, Massachusetts, April 19, 1775

Next time you execute a File from the Left, Column Left, think about the Revolutionary War. In those days, drill was the way armies moved troops efficiently around the battlefield. General Washington hired Baron Friedrich von Steuben to train the Continental Army in drill at Valley Forge. He wrote our first drill manual – called the Blue Book – in 1778. It helped the Americans win the Revolution! After the Revolution, the Army was small – varying in size from 595 when Washington was inaugurated to maybe 10,000 at its height where there were needs to thwart British aggression from Canada and battles with Native American tribes. When problems with the British escalated into the War of 1812, a total of about 60,000 men served in the regular Army during almost three years of war.

The War of 1812 (1812-1814) was brought on by British restrictions on US trade and by British and Canadian support for North American Indians trying to resist westward expansion. The US Army started the war by launching an attack on British forces in Ontario, Canada. They were defeated and surrendered Detroit. The Navy won a major battle on Lake Erie in 1813, but in 1814, British forces raided the Chesapeake Bay, then captured Washington DC, where they burnt down the Capitol and the White House. The Navy then won the Battle of Plattsburgh on Lake Champlain in New York, and The Star-Spangled Banner was written during bombardment of Fort McHenry. Diplomats ended the war with the Treaty of Ghent in December 1814, but word didn't arrive in the US, and future president Andrew Jackson and his troops beat the British in the Battle of New Orleans in January 1815. (History.com Editors, 2019)





After the War of 1812, the Army primarily supported westward expansion and fought to subdue the Native American tribes who objected to the take-over of their territories and way of life. The Army was spread throughout the states and territories at over a hundred small forts and posts.

In 1846, the United States went to war with Mexico. For the first time, state militias did not play a significant role in this war, which was primarily fought by regulars from a much-expanded federal Army of over 30,000, with another 60,000 volunteers. The junior officers who fought and gained combat experience during the Mexican War would be the top commanders 15 years later during the Civil War.



The <u>Mexican War</u> was started by an expansionist president (Polk) who wanted to add territory to the United States. He wanted to add Texas, which had become independent of Mexico in 1836, to the US, along with California, New Mexico, and the rest of the Southwest. He tried to purchase the lands, but when that was rejected, he moved Army troops into Mexican territory. The troops, under the command of General Zachary Taylor, were attacked by the Mexican Army, who Taylor defeated at the battles of Palo Alto and Resaca de la Palma. Taylor, along with forces led by Col Stephen Kearny and Commodore Robert Stockton conquered Mexican areas north of the Rio Grande River, then moved into Mexico. Gen Winfield Scott landed in Veracruz and took over the city, and proceeded toward Mexico City, where they laid siege to Chapultepec Castle. US Army forces had a hard fight against the forces of General Santa Anna, but won handily wherever they went. Finally, the Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo ended the war, establishing a new Mexican-American border along the Rio Grande River, annexing Texas, and an agreement to sell California and what is now the Southwestern United States for \$15 million. (History.com Editors, 2019)

In 1860 and 1861, 11 states seceded from the Union, and President Abraham Lincoln and his generals led the Union Army of over a million men (and some women) against President Jefferson Davis and the generals of the Confederate States of America, with up to about 500,000 men. From 1860 to 1865, America experienced its bloodiest conflict as armies from the North and the South fought campaigns in the east from Washington DC and Pennsylvania down to Georgia and Florida and in the west, primarily along the Mississippi River.

It's hard to make a history of the <u>American Civil War brief</u> – it was a long, bloody, and personal war that tore America apart. It took place in two major theaters of operation, and involved huge armies that fought brutal campaigns. There were so many famous and significant battles that listing them doesn't even scratch the surface of what happened. If you ever become a student of US history, especially military history, there are many opportunities to visit Civil War battlefields, in person or even virtually, to learn more about how the war was fought. All the soldiers in the Civil War were Americans, and all the prominent officers with military experience had graduated from West Point. Undoubtedly General Robert E. Lee, who led the Army of Northern Virginia (Confederate Army), was the top strategist and general of either side. But he was up against an unsurmountable situation where his enemies in the North had more resources, available men to be soldiers, and technology to advance their cause. Still, Lee and his compatriots were tough fighters and determined to win to preserve their way of life, and fought valiantly for four years against superior armies.

The war started with two theaters of operation – the East and the West, divided by the US Army Institute of Heraldry into 25 campaigns. These campaigns consisted of battles that lasted from two days to a couple months, though the Petersburg Campaign at the end of the war consisted of nine months of mostly trench warfare. The war in the east, fought by General Lee's Army of Northern Virginia against a series of Union commanders, was the main effort for both sides, as it was near the capitals and major population centers of the Union and Confederacy. The Army of the Potomac, though rich in resources, lacked good high-level leadership, and President Lincoln ran through a



series of mostly unsuccessful generals from 1861 through 1863, until he finally promoted Ulysses S. Grant into the position of General in Chief and leader of the Army of the Potomac in March 1864. Grant, who had won the Vicksburg Campaign in the West, was put in charge of all the Union armies, but focused on the Overland and Petersburg Campaigns that brought an end to the war by 1865.

The war in the west (in the 19th Century, what we consider the Midwest was thought of as the West) focused on the major rivers of the middle part of the country – the Mississippi, Tennessee, and the Cumberland Rivers. Many major battles were fought in Mississippi, Alabama, Georgia, Tennessee, and even Kentucky. After separate armies fought battles through 1861 to 1863, the northern armies were consolidated into the Military Division of the Mississippi under first Grant, then Sherman when Grant was promoted to General in Chief. With the northern parts of the theater subdued, Sherman marched to the Atlantic through Georgia, then up into South and North Carolina.

The Eastern Theater was essentially in a stalemate until 1864, while the Union was winning the war in the west. In 1864, the Union finally found its footing under Grant, with unconditional surrender of the Confederate armies taking place in Appomattox Courthouse in May 1865.

The Civil War was a generational war for the US Army. Many new strategies, tactics, and technologies were developed during the war that began to change warfare, and it was such an extensive war that organizational structure of the Army transformed as well. Prior to the Civil War, military business was primarily low-level: companies operating on their own in remote outposts, forming regiments during wartime, then disbanding them. The Civil War saw the permanent strategic general staff, and foresaw the War Department's growth into the huge overhead it would later become. The Army collapsed back down to a small element after the Civil War, but the seeds were sown for future strategic operations.

After the Civil War, the US Army continued to fight Native Americans during the Indian Wars, and turned outward again in 1898 for the Spanish-American War and the Philippine-American War.



"Remember the Maine!" was the war cry of the <u>Spanish-American War</u>. In 1898, Cuba was a part of Spain, but there was a lot of American money tied up in the sugar business there. Cuban revolutionaries waged a guerrilla war to try to win independence from Spain, and American newspapers supported their cause. The battleship USS Maine was sent to Havana as an outward sign of protection of American citizens and property. On February 15, 1898, the Maine was sunk in the harbor – and thus the battle cry was born. But the US Army wasn't ready for war.

Meantime, Spain declared war, and the US Navy engaged Spanish forces in Guam and the Philippines. The war remained primarily a naval operation. The Army put together a force of 28,000 regulars and about untrained 300,000 militia (National Guard) volunteers. The major Army action took place in Cuba, including Lt Col Teddy Roosevelt and the "Rough Riders." The force attacked San Juan Hill and Kettle Hill. The Spanish surrendered. America came out of the war with occupation of Guam, the Philippines, and Puerto Rico. (ushistory.com, n.d.)



The turn of the century brought better organization and professionalism to the US Army. Secretary of War Elihu Root reorganized the War Department, creating for the first time a General Staff in 1903. He also set up an integrated system of postgraduate military education for officers that we still enjoy today. Root's improvements ensured that failures in coordination of strategic planning with tactical operations that had happened during the Spanish-American War would not be repeated.

Congress authorized formation of the US Army Reserve on April 23, 1908. Just three years before California authorized formation of the California Cadet Corps!

The United States initially stayed out of the First World War, which started in Europe in 1914, until we finally became involved in 1917 after German submarine aggression in the Atlantic started taking its toll on our maritime



resources. We entered the war rapidly, though, giving much-needed relief to the allied forces of Great Britain and France. The battles in France in 1917 and 1918 were costly, practicing tactics that should have been revised after the invention of machine guns, but hadn't been.

The trench warfare of *World War One* seems incredible, outrageous, and appalling when looked at through the lens of hindsight. Why would generals stick to strategies that killed and wounded literally millions of men on both sides? Why would soldiers repeatedly clamber out of trenches into machinegun fire, gaining territory that could be measured in feet and yards – not miles? This had been going on in France since the beginning of the war, and the American Army found themselves in the middle of it on the battlefields of France in 1918. The American Expeditionary Force (AEF) under General John Pershing, fought alongside British, Canadian, Australian, and French armies in the Aisne Offensive, the Battle of Saint-Mihiel, and the Meuse-Argonne Offensive in the Fall of 1918. With over a million soldiers in France, the AEF used French and British equipment. Upon arrival in theater, they entered into training conducted by experienced Allied officers and NCOs, usually taking about six weeks. Because of their inexperience, the Allies were hesitant to use American units - they preferred to use them as replacements. But Pershing refused this strategy, and by mid-1918, the AEF finally started to play a more significant combat role. Their very presence on the battlefield helped turn the tide of the war, and the Germans surrendered in November. The AEF's most significant contributions were in the Battle of San Mihiel and the Meuse-Argonne Campaign. (Wawro, 2018)The AEF sustained about 320,000 casualties: 53,000 battle deaths, 3,000 noncombat deaths, and 204,000 wounded. (Service, 2019) The 1918 influenza pandemic saw the death of more than 25,000 men from the AEF in the Fall of 1918, with another 360,000 gravely ill.



The First World War was called "the War to End All Wars." It wasn't, obviously. In just 21 years, Europe would again be involved in total war, which expanded throughout much of the globe. World War II involved more soldiers in the US Army than any other war, and shaped the political dynamic of the world's countries to this day. The United States came out of World War II as a global power, and plunged almost immediately into the Cold War, which pitted East (Russia, China) against West (USA, Western Europe).

About 11 million soldiers served in the US Army during World War II, more even than in the American Civil War. Though conducting operations worldwide, the majority of Army operations were in Europe and North Africa, since the Pacific Campaign was more Navy/Marine Corps centric. The Army also consisted of the Army Air Force, since the US Air Force didn't break off as a separate service until 1947. Even before Pearl Harbor, the Army was growing, as leaders saw probable involvement in the war that already raged in Europe and Asia. On the home front, thousands of (mostly) men went through training to prepare for combat at new bases all over the country, and eventually shipped overseas to North Africa (then Italy), and England. In England, they prepared for the invasion of France, which happened on D-Day: June 6th, 1944. From D-Day through April 1945, the US Army operated in three forces: Army Ground Forces (Infantry, Armor, Airborne, 'Cavalry, and Mountain Divisions), Army Service Forces (Engineers, Quartermaster (logistics), Medical, Signal, Chemical Warfare, Ordnance, and Military Police), and Army Air Forces. Of the 91 Divisions (a Division was the smallest type of unit that could operate independently, supporting itself), 69 operated in the European and the Mediterranean Theaters and 22 were deployed to the Pacific. (Historyshots.com, 2020). The Army actively campaigned in North Africa, then Sicily and Italy from 1942 through Italy's capitulation in 1943, then continued fighting German forces in Italy through the end of the war. From D-Day, Army units fought their way through France and Holland in combined operations with British, Canadian and French forces, and across the Rhine River into Germany in late March. They linked up with Russian forces near the Elbe River in late April, and linked up with the allied armies in Northern Italy in early May. On 8 May, Germany surrendered.

In the Pacific Theater, the American Army, in conjunction with Marines, engaged Japanese armies in an island-hopping campaign that saw allied progression toward the Japanese home islands from 1942, when much territory was lost to the Japanese. Though much of the fighting in the Pacific was borne by the US Marine Corps, Army divisions did play a significant role in the Philippines, the Aleutian Islands and Guadalcanal in 1942 and 1943, in New Guinea and the Solomon Islands 1943-1944, and in the Western Pacific (Marianas Islands, Philippines, and Ryukyus in 1944 and 1945). American forces were preparing to invade Japan in the summer of 1945, when we dropped atomic bombs on Hiroshima and Nagasaki, and Japan surrendered in August.

The US Army we have today was largely developed during World War II. Many of the "service forces" – what we now call combat support or combat service support forces, came into existence based on the needs identified then, and organizational structure, though it always varies a little due to new ideas, is largely the same. The size of the regular Army and the synchronization with the Army Reserve and Army National Guard, has stabilized as well.

In 1950, the United States found itself at war again, this time in Korea. A war fought by United Nations forces against the Communist armies of North Korea and China with Russian assistance. The Korean War ended with an armistice. Korea was divided into North and South with a Demilitarized Zone dividing the two still.







Korean War: The Japanese had occupied Korea since 1910. At the end of World War II, the US repatriated all Japanese back to Japan and started working to help Korea set up a new government. The Korean territory was administratively split between the Soviet Union controlled area in the north and the US controlled area in the south at the 38th Parallel, which falls between Seoul and Pyongyang. In June 1950, the (North) Korean People's Army invaded, and drove

south. General MacArthur brought in US forces from Japan, but they weren't very effective, and KPA victories continued. By August, the KPA was stopped north of the "Pusan Perimeter", Pusan being a major port through which all logistics and incoming troops flowed, in the very south of the country. General MacArthur counterattacked by sea at Incheon, consolidated and recaptured Seoul, and drove north. The KPA had many casualties and captured soldiers, but caused great damage to UN forces and civilians as they retreated north. UN forces crossed the 38th parallel on October 1st with the goal of occupying all of North Korea. North Korea appealed to help from China and the Soviet Union, and on October 25, Chinese forces entered the battle. Soviet and US Air Forces battled for air superiority while UN (mostly US and ROK) forces suffered on the ground, especially in the winter. With heavy fighting, the front ebbed and flowed mostly north of Seoul until Summer 1951. Peace negotiations started in July 1951, and heavy fighting continued without much strategic advantage. Finally, in late 1951 the two sides agreed to separate the forces with a demilitarized zone (DMZ), and started working on enforcing the armistice. They couldn't agree to repatriation of the prisoners of war, especially Koreans. The ROK didn't want to force POWs to return to North Korea, since many KPA soldiers were South Koreans who had been forced to fight in the KPA and didn't want to go to North Korea. Some Chinese Communist soldiers, too, didn't want to return to China. Communist infiltrators in the POW camps in South Korea created havoc, and hundreds of prisoners died. Heavy fighting continued through 1952. Negotiators worked out the issues of the POW exchange, and in July 1953, the armistice was agreed to. (Millett, 2020)

The conflict in Vietnam was another war in which we won battles but not the war. It was also the first war that Americans experienced on their television sets. TV brought the war into America's living rooms, and the war mixed with social unrest to create a period of anti-national sentiment that continues in some ways today.

Vietnam War: By the early 1960's, the US Army had thousands of military advisors in Vietnam, working with the South Vietnamese Army. In 1964, US Army combat units entered the country for the first time, with troop levels up to 184,000. US forces battled the North Vietnamese Army in conventional and unconventional warfare against guerrillas (Viet Cong, or VC). There was fighting in Laos and Cambodia as well. US forces often won the battles, but the North was winning the war, which was very unpopular back in the USA and internationally. Casualty lists were high, and the public did not support the war. Atrocities on both sides, along with negative media coverage, gave the public a negative picture of the conduct of the war. After 1969, the Army of the Republic of Vietnam (ARVN) took on more of the fighting, and the US gradually withdrew until US forces were out of the country in 1972.



Between 1965 and 1990, the US Army led a number of 'expeditions' in the Western Hemisphere. US forces went into the Dominican Republic in 1965, Grenada in 1983, and Panama in 1989. These skirmishes backed up US foreign policy trying to win the Cold War against Communism, solidify US power in the Western Hemisphere, and stabilize regimes supportive of US interests.

The US Army has been operating in the Middle East since 1990, when we staged forces in Saudi Arabia to counter Saddam Hussein's invasion of Kuwait. This was called Operation Desert Storm. The brief fighting in 1991 was followed by tense relations and enforcement of a "no-fly zone" over the southern part of Iraq where Shi'ites protested against the Iraqi government, and over the most northern portions

of Iraq where Kurds were at risk of retaliation by Saddam Hussain's forces. Various operations took place in the area between Operation Desert Storm and the US & Coalition invasion of Iraq in 2003. From 2003 to 2011, many US Army forces operated in Iraq, initially as an invading force and later working with a new Iraqi government trying to stabilize the country. Simultaneously, US forces operated in Afghanistan working to train and support the Afghan government and prevent the Taliban from taking power in the country.

The <u>Global War on Terrorism</u> is an international military campaign against terrorism wherever it's found, launched after the attacks of September 11, 2001. This led to the US Army, along with other US military branches and coalition partners leading offensives against insurgents in Afghanistan and Iraq, and Special Forces operations that killed Osama bin Laden and against terrorism in other countries of the Middle East and Africa. Since the enemy in this case doesn't present itself, for the most part, as a conventional army, the response and tactics to fight them are often different from what the Army has done in other wars. Much of the Army's mission in Iraq and Afghanistan has been an attempt to build and support a national government, including military and police forces, that could eventually assume the mission for defense against terrorism within their territories. That has not achieved success in those countries for various reasons, and the relationship between the US and those countries continues to be complex. Looking just at the history of the US Army in this context, we have spent billions of dollars and lost thousands of US soldiers, and experienced losses of local civilians (enemy and friendly) in the hundreds of thousands.



The US Army flag displays a blue replica of the War Office Seal set on a white field. Beneath the seal is a broad scarlet scroll bearing the inscription in white letters, "United States Army". Beneath the scroll, in blue numerals, is "1775", the year in which the Continental Army was created with the appointment of General George Washington as General of the Army. All of this is on a white background.

The flag was officially adopted by President Dwight D. Eisenhower on June 12, 1956, via Executive Order10670. (President, 1956)

The U.S. Army flag was dedicated and unfurled to the general public on June 14, 1956 at Independence Hall, Philadelphia, on the 181st anniversary of the establishment of the U.S. Army by the Continental Congress.

The concept of campaign streamers began during the American Civil War, when the War Department instructed regiments to inscribe the names of their meritorious battles on their national colors. The Army has defined an official campaign as a particular combat action or series of actions that has historical significance or military importance to the U.S. and the



Army. In 1890 the War Department directed that regimental honors be engraved on silver rings placed on the staffs of regimental flags. In 1920 the War Department ordered that each regimental color would bear streamers, in the colors of the campaign medal ribbon, for each campaign in which the regiment had fought. The creation of the Army Flag provided a means to display all the Army's campaigns (190 as of 2019).



Prior to the establishment of the Department of the Army Emblem, there was no official display item to identify the Army. The Army seal traditionally had been used to authenticate documents only and was not authorized for display. In recognizing the need to provide a display item, The Secretary of the Army approved the design as the official emblem to represent the Army on 29 January 1974.

The symbolism for the elements of the Army emblem is the same as for the Army seal with the above deviations and additions: The colors of the design elements are those traditionally associated with the ideals of the U.S. and of the Army. The flags are in proper colors.

Blue symbolizes loyalty, vigilance, perseverance & truth. **Red** denotes courage, zeal and fortitude. **White** alludes

to deeds worth of remembrance. **Black is** indicative of determination and constancy. **Gold** represents achievement, dignity and honor.

The official song of the United States Army is sung at most ceremonies. Army soldiers stand at Attention for the singing of the Army Song, and are expected to sing along:

who have fought to victory We're the Army and proud of our name We're the Army and proudly proclaim

First to fight for the right, And to build the Nation's might, And The Army Goes Rolling Along

Proud of all we have done, Fighting till the battle's won, And the Army Goes Rolling Along. C2. US Air Force History



U.S. AIR FORCE

The United States Air Force was officially formed on September 18, 1947, but had been building as part of the US Army since 1907. Created initially as part of the Army's Signal Corps, the "Aeronautical Division" formed and acquired an airplane by 1908. (Air Force News, 2020) The first air combat unit of the US Army was designated the 1st Aero Squadron in 1913.



World War I saw the initial building of an air force. The Army Expeditionary Force (AEF) formed pursuit, bombardment, and observation units, along with construction, supply, and replacement (training) units. At the end of the war there were 185 aero squadrons and another several hundred air support type units, to include balloon companies. By November 1919, all had been demobilized, and officer strength went from over 19,000 to about 1100, enlisted strength from almost 180,000 to 8500.

During the 1920's, the Air Service was a combatant arm of the Army, and was generally spread out among Army commands in a generally support role, focused on pursuit and observation. The title changed to Air Corps in 1926, but remained an arm of the Army, with an Assistant Secretary of War for Air. Finally, in 1935, the General Headquarters Air Force became operational and assumed command and control over Air Corps units, with Wing Headquarters in Virginia, California (March Field), and Louisiana.

Throughout the period between World War I and World War II, air power slowly became acknowledged as a significant part of a military's capabilities. The growth of military aviation advanced immeasurably between the wars, but most initiatives took place in other countries. Germany and Japan built much larger and more capable air forces, with generally better planes and more experienced pilots than the US. Air power pioneers such as Brigadier General Billy Mitchell fought to improve the status of aviation in the US Army, and to prove its worth as a fighting force.

Brigadier General Billy Mitchell commanded all American air combat units in World War I. After the war, he pushed for continued growth in air power in the US military, and angered a lot of Army leaders while doing it. He was even court-martialed for insubordination after accusing Army and Navy leaders of an "almost treasonable administration of the national defense." Mitchell was convinced that air power would make battleships obsolete (and he was right), but the Navy wouldn't listen to him. In 1921, he coordinated tests on bombing naval ships, including the German battleship Ostfriesland, which was sunk during a test in July. There was a lot of controversy about the tests, but it was clear that bombing by aircraft could sink battleships. This helped increase funding and priority for air forces as the military refashioned itself between the world wars. (Hickman, 2020)

World War II saw air power come into its own, and it played a significant role in all theaters of operation during the war. The Army Air Corps would grow to 2.25 million men and women and over 63,000 aircraft by the end of the war.





Because of the vast distances and island engagements, air power was a significant part of ongoing combat operations in the Pacific Theater during World War II. The Army Air Corps played the same role in the Mediterranean Theater. In Northern Europe, until D-Day in 1944, our only significant way to engage in combat with Germany was through air power, and the 8th Bomber Command conducted massive bombing campaigns against France and Germany from 1942 through the end of the war, especially starting in early 1944, getting ready for D-Day. Strategic bombing was a primary tactic during World War II, especially for allied and German forces. Many cities were devastated by bombing, and thousands of civilians were killed by bombs in England, Germany, Poland, Russia, Japan, and China. Strategists after the war generally concluded that you can devastate an enemy by conventional (not

nuclear) bombing, but you cannot win a war without follow-up troops on the ground. This has not stopped strategic bombing as a tactic, but the massive killing of civilians that we saw during World War II is no longer often carried out by the world's major air forces.

The Air Force effectively ended World War II in August 1945 by dropping two atomic bombs on cities in Japan. This led directly to Japan's unconditional surrender and occupation, and opened the nuclear age.

The National Security Act of 1947 became law on July 26, 1947. It created the Department of the Air Force, headed by a Secretary of the Air Force. Under



the Department of the Air Force, the act established the United States Air Force, headed by the Chief of Staff, USAF. On Sept. 18, 1947, W. Stuart Symington became Secretary of the Air Force, and on Sept. 26, Gen. Carl A. Spaatz became the USAF's first Chief of Staff. (Air Force News, 2020)

The role of the new USAF in breaking the Soviet blockade of Berlin in 1948 demonstrated the value of air capabilities in this new "Cold War" with the Soviet Union.

The war in the air over Korea was fought initially by F-80 Shooting Stars and F-84 Thunderjets, F-51D Mustangs, and B-29 Superfortress bombers. USAF propeller planes flew against North Korean planes (Yakovlev and Ilyushin prop planes supplied by the USSR). With the US winning that battle, the USSR started flying missions for the North Koreans (as did China), using Russian aircraft with North Korean





markings. The US had to improve its capabilities, and did with F-86 Sabres, which performed well throughout the war. The Korean War was the first war fought by jet aircraft, and saw the introduction of air-to-air refueling. The USAF transitioned in late 1951 and 1952 to smaller aircraft, as B-29s proved too vulnerable to being shot down or damaged by MiG-15s. Forward Air Controllers (FACs) made their debut during the Korean War, spotting targets and providing on-the-spot current intelligence and coordination for incoming aircraft. Tactical air control took place both on the ground and in airborne command posts. (Dorr, 2014)

The hydrogen bomb and long-range rockets accelerated the arms race between the superpowers in the 1950s. The Air Force's Strategic Air Command (SAC) became an important instrument of American defense strategy. SAC's arsenal of bombers (B-52 Stratofortress) was joined in the 1960s by the intercontinental ballistic missiles (Titan and Minuteman). Together with the Navy's missile-launching submarines, they form America's nuclear deterrent "triad."

The US Air Force grew to dominate the skies during World War II, and ever since has been the premier air force in the world, enjoying air superiority in every war since. That's not to say we can always control the skies (though usually we do); our aircraft can be targeted by other aircraft and ground-based air defense, and air forces from Russia and China are technologically similar. But because of the quality of our aircraft, excellent training of our crews, and numerical superiority, we have, so far, brought tremendous advantage to any fight.



Still, the air war over Vietnam was intense, with very competent air defense assets downing many US planes. The US used B-52 bombers to destroy targets in North Vietnam; though the B-52s flew high enough to avoid the air defense, other aircraft didn't. Over 1400 US warplanes were shot down during the war. Concentrating on two major cities, US bombing concentrated on Hanoi and Haiphong. Like happened in European cities bombed during World War II, the experience strengthened the will of people to resist. (Trueman, 2019) Though the US Air Force wasn't invincible, they were quite effective, especially in infrastructure destruction and support of ground forces. For political reasons, air power was constrained by rules that did not allow the Air Force to fully engage with all its capabilities,

lessening the effect of what they were able to accomplish.

Since 1975, the Air Force has been integrally involved in all US military operations, from the Gulf War in 1991, Bosnia and Kosovo in the 1990s, and in support of the War on Terror from 2001 onward. Enjoying air superiority in all these missions, and adding the capability of unmanned aerial vehicles (UAVs, or drones), the Air Force can reach out globally.





The Air Force today is a huge organization of thousands of units spread worldwide. It is organized functionally with Major Commands, each of which head up the different missions performed by the Air Force. Some of these are geographical, like Pacific Air Forces, or US Air Forces in Europe; some of them are functional, like Air Force Special Operations Command, Air Mobility Command, or Air Combat Command. There are about 330,000 airmen on active duty, 64,000 of which are officers, 265,000 enlisted. There are about 70,000 airmen in the Air Force Reserve, and about 106,000 in the Air National Guard. The Air Force flies over 5000 aircraft and

California Cadet Corps

Strand M9: US Armed Forces



operates 85 air bases, 82 small bases, and numerous bases in the Air National Guard and Air Force Reserve. (USAF, 2020) The Air Force has continued to expand its weapons systems, leading the world in military technologies such as smart bombs, "stealth" aircraft, space-based systems, and UAVs.







U.S. AIR FORCE

C3. US Navy History

The US Navy was 'born' on October 13, 1775, in Philadelphia, where the Continental Congress voted to outfit two sailing vessels, armed with ten carriage guns and swivel guns, and send them to intercept transports carrying munitions to the British Army in America.

The British held complete superiority at sea, and their ability to blockade the American colonies' trade and to attack coastal settlements was a huge threat to the colonies. Some of the colonies had already armed small fleets to defend themselves (though not authorized as privateers by Congress). The New England colonies (more tied to trade and the sea than the southern colonies knew they had to take the next step toward breaking away from Great Britain. They'd already authorized the Continental Army, and it was time to start building a naval capability as



well. During the remainder of the Revolutionary War, the US had more than 50 armed vessels of various types. They seized British supplies and harassed the Royal Navy, capturing almost 200 British vessels, and forced the British to expend more effort to protect their convoys and trade ships. (Naval History & Heritage Command, 2017). Commodore John Manly and John Paul Jones were early naval heroes against the British.

The issues that arose from US vs British naval operations helped bring France – a foe to Britain in their own right – into the war on the side of the colonies. In the Battle of the Chesapeake 1781, the French fleet defeated the British fleet, and prevented the Royal Navy from rescuing the British Army from the Yorktown Peninsula, forcing General Lord Cornwallis to surrender to General Washington, effectively ending the war.

After the Revolution, Congress disbanded the Navy until 1794, when the need arose to defend US trade ships against Barbary pirates in the Mediterranean. The Tripolitan (or First Barbary) War was a conflict between the US and Tripoli (Libya) where US forces refused to pay extortion money to prevent pirates from attacking US ships. Ships were captured by pirates and their crews were enslaved – often for years - until someone paid the ransom. A naval blockade and an attack from a mostly mercenary force led by US Marines (on "the shores of Tripoli" as stated in the US Marine Corps Hymn) led to a treaty in 1805.

In the early 19th Century, US trade ships were harassed by Royal Navy ships, who impressed US seamen (forced them to work on British ships) and hassled American ships. The US declared war on Britain in June 1812. Much of the war was fought at sea, and the British blockaded all major American ports.

The USS Constitution, a frigate which had already fought against pirates off Tripoli, came up against many British ships during the War of 1812. She destroyed the British frigate Guerriere, and the Java. Her victories did much to rally the



American public's morale, and raise the reputation of the US Navy. (military.com, 2020) You can see and tour the USS Constitution to this day (in person or virtually) – she remains an active ship in the US Navy, berthed in Boston Harbor, and is the oldest commissioned warship still afloat. Her nickname is "Old Ironsides," not because she's made of iron (she's actually made of very thick, hard oak), but because her wooden hull was so dense, sailors saw cannonballs bounce off it as if it was made of iron.



Between 1815 and the start of the Civil War in 1861, the Navy grew and gained experience sailing ships around the globe, assisting or making treaties, aiding US commerce and trade, and conducting scientific expeditions. The major foe during this time were pirates. The Naval Academy was established at Annapolis, Maryland in 1845. The Navy transported troops to Veracruz during the Mexican War, and Admiral Perry sailed into Tokyo Harbor in 1853, opening up Japan for trade and diplomatic relations.

During the Civil War, both the Union and Confederacy operated navies off the Atlantic coast. Though the Union Navy wasn't very big – only about 12 ships available to operate in US/CS waters – they were bigger than the Confederate Navy, which was developed by former US Naval men who chose to back the Confederacy. The US Navy blockaded the major Southern ports fairly effectively, seizing ships and preventing trade and



military actions. This harmed the Confederacy greatly, as the level of industry in the south was fairly low, and they depended on trade from abroad for both military supplies (guns, ammunition) and normal commerce. There wasn't much confrontation between the two navies, but the Civil War did see the introduction of metal ships with the Merrimack and the Monitor, and the first use of a submarine as a weapon. It also saw the end of sailing ships as warships, with steam powered ships taking their place.

A more strategic effect on the war took place with naval operations on the Mississippi River. Admiral Farragut was able to breach the defenses of New Orleans, and Union forces captured the city in April 1862. When General Grant captured Vicksburg, the Union controlled the Mississippi from New Orleans to Vicksburg, effectively splitting the Confederacy and cutting off the ability to share agricultural exports from Texas, Louisiana and Arkansas with the rest of the Confederacy. This marked a turning point in the war. (Encyclopaedia Britannica, 2020)

Again, after the Civil War, the Navy stagnated, drawing down into a small force. This force was able to successfully overcome the Spanish in the Caribbean during the Spanish-American War, and annihilated the Spanish Pacific fleet at the Battle of Manila Bay in 1898. The destruction of the USS Maine in Havana Harbor led to war being declared. Ironically, the ship was likely destroyed due to an internal fire, not an attack by the Spanish, but that didn't come out at the time, and the newspapers inflamed the American public, calling for war against Spain. "Remember the Maine!" was the war cry of this war.



In the first decades of the 20th Century, the Navy finally began to grow and modernize. President Theodore Roosevelt ordered the 16 battleships of the Atlantic Fleet on a cruise around the world in 1907-1909, which made great impressions of US sea power. The Navy fought no major battles during World War I, but it nonetheless grew in size, and performed significant transportation and support or defensive missions. Naval aviation gained a bigger foothold as a combat force, and contributed a

squadron of bombers to the battlefield in France. The Navy was also the first branch of the armed forces to allow enlistment of women in a non-nursing capacity, as clerks, during World War I. The first aircraft carrier was launched in 1922. In 1940, Congress authorized a 70% increase in Navy ships.

The US Navy was a major player in World War II, with more than 3 million men and women in uniform and thousands of ships, from aircraft carriers and battleships to PT Boats. After losing significant assets in the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor in December 1941, and in the Philippines and South Pacific, the Navy managed to hang on and regroup and defeat Japanese forces at the Battle of Midway in June 1942. At the same time, the Atlantic fleet provided sea and air power in support of operations in North Africa, Sicily, and Italy in the Mediterranean Theater, convoy escort and antisubmarine warfare in the Atlantic.

The Pacific War – primarily fought by the Navy and Marine Corps (though 22 Army divisions were also engaged in some of the battles), successfully hopped US forces among various islands en route to Japan, skipping over bases with significant Japanese infantry forces. Significant battles included the Battle of the Coral Sea, the Battle of Midway, the Battle of the Philippine Sea, the Battle of Leyte Gulf – one of the decisive naval victories of the war – and the Battle of Okinawa.

Submarine operations in both the Atlantic and Pacific played a significant role in the war. Though they comprised less than 2% of the US Navy, they sank more than 30% of Japan's Navy. (u-s-history.com, Unk) Submarines during World War II were essentially surface ships that could submerge for a limited time – they couldn't do long cruises underwater like subs can today. German subs were technologically superior to allied subs.

D-Day on June 6, 1944 was the largest sea invasion in history, with 133,000 troops arriving on Normandy beaches by sea (American, British & Canadian). The sea invasion, Operation Neptune, involved 6939 vessels. (AFP, 2019)



Changing technologies and tactics signaled the end of the battleship and the ascendancy of aircraft carriers. Postwar, the Navy acknowledged the need for fleets to be able to control the seas around the



world, with nuclear capability enhancing missiles from both surface ships and submarines. Nuclear fueled subs give the ability to submerge for months, and deploy anywhere needed. By 1970, the Navy had a fleet of nuclear-powered submarines capable of launching Intercontinental Ballistic Missiles (ICBM) while submerged. This is very difficult to track and defend against, and became a key component of the US strategic deterrence forces. (Encyclopaedia Britannica, 2020)

During the Vietnam War, the Navy contributed with both carrier-based aviation forces and artillery support with naval guns, and the 'brown water navy.' The brown water fleet operated in small boats on rivers, supplying and supporting ground troops and disrupting the movement of enemy supplies. This new mission projecting small pockets of power in coastal areas was and is needed in many missions we engage in around the world.





The Navy's ability to project power around the globe and provide lethal missile and heavy gun capability in addition to aviation assets make it an ideal mobile force. The Navy has been heavily involved in post-Cold War joint operations with the other US military services, giving combatant commanders the forces needed for any mission. This includes Special Forces in the form of Navy SEALS (Sea-Air-Land), participating in significant strike missions around the world, such as the killing of Osama bin Laden in Pakistan in 2011.

The US Navy is the parent service to the US Marine Corps, and during wartime, the US Coast Guard. The Navy is structured in six fleets around the world.







C4. US Marine Corps History

After the initial formation of the US Navy in October 1775, the Continental Congress passed a resolution on 10 November 1775 to raise two battalions of Marines for service as landing forces with the fleet. This marks the birthday of the United States Marine Corps. The first Marine Commandant set up shop in Tun Tavern in Philadelphia, and appointed Robert Mullan, the proprietor, as the chief Marine recruiter. There were only about 131 officers and 2000 enlisted marines. The USMC was disbanded after the war in 1783.





The Marines took part in many

operations against the Barbary pirates from 1801 to 1815 – and include the line "to the shores of Tripoli" in the Marine Hymn. Lieutenant Presley O'Bannon helped capture the fortress at the capitol city of Derna, Tripoli (now in Libya). Prince Hamet presented his personal sword to Lt O'Bannon after the victory at Derna. Marine officers still wear a replica of the Mameluke Sword.

During the Mexican War, Marines seized enemy seaports on both the Gulf and Pacific coasts. A battalion of Marines joined General Winfield Scott's army at Pueblo and made their assault on Chapultepec Palace, a large complex overlooking Mexico City. The Marines were placed on guard duty at the Mexican Presidential Palace, hence the phrase "The Halls of Montezuma" in the Marine Corps Hymn. 90% of Marine Officers and Non-

commissioned officers were casualties during the battle of Chapultepec. What the Marines call the 'Blood Stripe' is worn today on the dress blue trousers to commemorate those casualties.

During the Civil War, the Marine Corps played only a minor role. Their most important task was blockade duty.

Following the Spanish-American War (1898), the Marines performed with valor in Cuba, Puerto Rico, Guam and the Philippines. Marines saw action in:

Philippine Insurrection (1899-1902) Boxer Rebellion in China (1900) Nicaragua (1899, 1909-1910, 1912-1913) Panama (1901-1902, 1903-1904) Dominican Republic (1903-1904, 1916-1924) Cuba (1906-1909, 1912, 1917) Mexico (1914) Haiti (1915-1934)

During World War I, Marines fought as part of the Battle of Belleau Wood in June 1918. On June 6, Marines led a counteroffensive to drive four German divisions out of the woods, losing 1000 casualties





on just the first day. After three weeks, the Americans (Army and Marines) prevailed, at a cost of nearly 10,000 casualties. (History.com Editors, 2019) "The victory at Belleau Wood had saved Paris, and the French were delirious with joy. The French parliament declared July 4th a national holiday to honor Americans in France. In a parade in Paris, the Marine Corps flag was hailed with enormous cheers of "Vive les Marines!" The French government renamed Belleau Wood "Bois de le Brigade de Marine," and decorated both the 5th and 6th Marine Regiments with the Croix de Guerre. During the Belleau Wood fighting, 2d Battalion, 5th Marines lost 19 officers and 615

Marines. Secretary of the Navy Franklin Delano Roosevelt, inspecting the 5th Marines after the battle, decreed that enlisted Marines would from now on wear the eagle, globe and anchor on their uniform collar. Belleau Wood demonstrated that the Marine Corps could fight against a well-trained and equipped European army and prevail." (McBreen, 1994)

During World War II, the Marine Corp grew from under 20,000 to 475,000 by 1945, with about 600,000 men and women serving during the war. The Marine Corps played a central role in the war in the Pacific. Marines were involved in heavy fighting during these battles:

Guadalcanal – AUG 1942 to FEB 1943 Bougainville – NOV 1943 to NOV 1944 Tarawa – NOV 1943 Guam – JUL to AUG 1944 Tinian – JUL 1944 Cape Gloucester – DEC 1943 to APR 1944 Saipan – JUN to JUL 1944 Peleliu – SEP to NOV 1944 Iwo Jima – FEB – MAR 1945 Okinawa – APR to JUN 1945



By the end of the war, the Marine Corps expanded from two brigades to six divisions five air wings, and supporting troops, totaling about 475,000 Marines. In addition, 20 defense battalions and a parachute battalion were raised. Nearly 87,000 Marines were casualties during World War II (including nearly 20,000 killed), and 82 were awarded the Medal of Honor.



US Marine Corps Memorial in Washington DC, depicting Marines planting the US Flag on Mount Suribachi, Iwo Jima, March 1945. Public Domain Photo

During the Korean War, the Marine Corps engaged in heavy fighting throughout the war. Starting by holding the defensive perimeter around Pusan in 1950, through the landing at Incheon, to the Battle of Chosin Reservoir in 1950, the Marines fought up and down the Korean Peninsula. In 1953, they fought battles known as the Nevada Cities Campaign, named after outposts codenamed Reno, Vegas, and Carson. This fighting continued until the armistice. Almost 200,000 Marine Corps Reservists were called up to fight in the Korean War, many of them World War II vets. Over 30,000 were killed or wounded, and 42 were awarded the Medal of Honor.

Marines were in Vietnam from 1954 through 1975. A few served as advisors and liaison officers during the 1950s and early 1960s, but the first Marine Corps units arrived in Vietnam in 1965. By the end of the year there were over 40,000 Marines in Vietnam, at Da Nang, Chu Lai, and Marble Mountain. Despite operational success, the Vietcong insurgency remained, and the US was not winning the hearts and minds of the local people.

In 1966, US forces grew, seeing the entire 1st Marine Division in country on counterinsurgency missions. They worked with South Vietnamese militia. Troop strength kept growing, to over 70,000 by the end of 1966, with the 3rd Marine Division fighting a more conventional campaign against the North Vietnamese Army while the 1st Division continued counter-guerrilla operations in the south.

1967 saw continued heavy fighting in the north of South Vietnam near the Demilitarized Zone, including major engagements. 1968 started out with the Tet Offensive, a massive, spread-out attack against 105 cities and towns across South Vietnam on a major Vietnamese holiday – Tet (Lunar New Year). There were also attacks on the major cities in the north of South Vietnam, including Da Nang, Khe Sahn, and Hue. The attacks were repulsed at great effort and cost. The uprising by South Vietnamese that the North hoped would happen did not. By April, the US had prevailed, but American public opinion had turned against the war.

In 1969, the Marine Corps began withdrawing units from Vietnam. By the end of the year, the 3rd Marine Division was home in Okinawa. Marines in Vietnam continued the fight, with a massive battle in early 1969 in the A Shau and Da Krong Valleys. Marine Aviation was a major component of the success.

In 1970, the US policy changed, and started turning over responsibility for the fight on the ground to the South Vietnamese. This was known at "Vietnamization." By mid-1971, no Marine Corps ground units were left in Vietnam. Advisors still played a role assisting the South Vietnamese forces.

A peace treaty was signed in Paris in January 1973. US forces pulled out of the country, and North Vietnam returned all the US prisoners of war. Fighting resumed in both Cambodia and South Vietnam. Marines executed a non-combatant evacuation of the US Embassy in Phnom Penh, Cambodia, and three

weeks later, did the same in Saigon. Hundreds of Americans and Vietnamese civilians were able to quickly depart the country on helicopters as the North Vietnamese Army conquered the South.

Nearly 500,000 Marines served in Southeast Asia from 1965 to 1975. Of these, 13,000 were killed and 52,000 wounded. (Division, 1984) 58 Marines were awarded the Medal of Honor.



Between Vietnam and the Gulf War, Marines resumed their expeditionary role, participating in:

- Iran hostage rescue attempt, 1980
- Beirut, Lebanon, 1983
- The invasion of Grenada (Operation Urgent Fury), 1983
- Invasion of Panama (Operation Just Cause), 1989

The Iran hostage crisis was a diplomatic crisis between Iran and the United States where 52 U.S. diplomats were held hostage for 444 days from November 4, 1979 to January 20, 1981, after a group of militants took over of the American embassy in support of Iran's revolution. Finally, with the Iranians showing no signs of releasing the hostages, Carter decided to take a risk. On April 11, 1980 he approved a high-risk rescue operation, called "Desert One," that had been in the works for months. Though the

odds were against its success, the president was devastated when he had to abort the mission due to three malfunctioning helicopters. When another helicopter crashed into a C-130 transport plane while taking off, eight servicemen were killed and three more were injured.

On October 23, 1983, the Marine headquarters building in Beirut, Lebanon was bombed, causing the highest peacetime losses to the Corps in its history; 241 American Servicemen died (220 Marines, 18 Navy personnel, 3 Army Soldiers).



The Invasion of Grenada, Operation Urgent Fury, was an invasion of the island nation of Grenada in the Caribbean by the United States and several other nations in response to the illegal execution of Grenadian Prime Minister Maurice Bishop. On October 25, 1983, the United States landed ships on Grenada, defeated Grenadian and Cuban resistance and overthrew the military government of Hudson Austin.

The United States invasion of Panama, codenamed Operation Just Cause, was the invasion of Panama by the United States that deposed general, dictator and *de facto* Panamanian military leader Manuel Noriega in December 1989, during the administration of U.S. President George H. W. Bush.

On August 1990, the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait set in motion events that would lead to the largest movement of Marine Corps forces since World War II. Operation Desert Shield was the deployment into the Persian Gulf. On January 16, 1991, Operation Desert Storm was launched with the air campaign. The ground attack began in February 24 and lasted 100 hours.

The War on Terror was a campaign initiated by the United States government under President George W. Bush and followed by many countries around the world which includes various military, political, legal, religious, and personal actions taken to "curb the spread of terrorism," following the September 11, 2001 attacks on the United States. The Marine Corps continues to demonstrate their ability to fight the battles anywhere in the world - be it Iraq, Afghanistan or any other nation that supports world terrorism. Marines were a significant part of the forces sent to Iraq and Afghanistan throughout the War

on Terror, and conducted many operations against insurgent forces in those countries, along with training Afghan and Iraqi military and police forces.

The Marine Corps is a separate military service within the US Department of the Navy, charged with providing marine troops for seizure and defense of advanced bases and with conducting operations on land and in the air incident to naval campaigns. Large Navy vessels have Marine Detachments aboard. The Corps specializes in amphibious landings and short-term combat.

The Marine Corps is composed of two operating forces, the Fleet Marine Force, Pacific (FMFPAC) and the Fleet Marine Force, Atlantic (FMFLANT), along with recruiting, training, logistics, installations, schools, and the Marine Corps Reserve. (Encyclopaedia Britannica, 2020)



C5. US Coast Guard History

The US Coast Guard was formed by President Woodrow Wilson on January 28, 1915, by combining the Revenue Cutter Service and the Life-Saving Service and calling them the Coast Guard. Taking on different names (see list below) and a myriad of missions, and falling under various federal agencies, the Coast Guard has served America since at least 1790. The Coast Guard's birthday is considered to be 4 August, 1790.

Organizations that have been rolled into the Coast Guard's mission over the years:

System of Cutters Revenue Service Revenue Cutter Service Life-Saving Service Revenue Marine Lighthouse Service Bureau of Navigation Steamboat Inspection Service Bureau of Marine Inspection and Navigation Steamboat Inspection Service



Organizations that have Served as the Higher Headquarters of the Coast Guard:

Treasury Department Department of the Navy (during periods of war) Department of Transportation Department of Homeland Security

The United States Coast Guard carries out three basic roles, which are further subdivided into eleven statutory missions. The three roles are:

- Maritime safety
- Maritime security
- Maritime stewardship

The eleven missions are divided into homeland security missions and non-homeland security missions:

- Ports, Waterway & Coastal Security
- Drug Interdiction
- ★ Aids to Navigation
- ★ Search and Rescue
- ★ Living Marine Resources
- ★ Marine Safety
- Defense Readiness
- Migrant Interdiction
- ★ Marine Environmental Protection
- ★ Ice Operations (ice breaking)
- Other Law Enforcement



Homeland Security

★ Non-Homeland Security

The Coast Guard's official history began on 4 August 1790 when Congress authorized construction of ten vessels to enforce federal tariff and trade laws and to prevent smuggling. (Military.com, 2020). Over the years, the Coast Guard has been charged with enforcing many (often controversial or unpopular) laws, such as Embargo & Enforcement Acts in 1807, the slave

trade after it became illegal to import slaves in 1808, the law forbidding importation of Chinese labor in 1862, unauthorized killing of fur seals in Alaska I 1868, monitoring icebergs, port security (Captain of the Port), Prohibition, the Whaling Convention Act, Northern Pacific Halibut Act, Whaling Treaty Act, enforcing the Dangerous Cargo Act and the Motorboat Act, Cuban Boatlift/migrant interdiction, enforcement of the Water Quality Act, the Federal Boat Safety Act, the Federal Water Pollution Control Act and the Ports and Waterways Safety Acts, the Fishery Conservation and Management Act, and the National Narcotics Act. The Coast Guard has had to be a very flexible service, as it has been called on many times to add or pass off missions, put emphasis in different areas, even take direction from different elements of the federal government.

The Coast Guard has come up against many foes who are trying to profit from illegal activities along our coasts – smugglers, drug runners, privateers, pirates, and ships of foreign governments that want to harass US maritime operations or blockade our ports. Much of this work has been done on American shores, but the Coast Guard has supported operations on foreign shores as well, all over the world.

The Coast Guard has been involved in many aspects of life-saving missions, including flood relief, ocean weather stations, search and rescue of ships and boats after accidents or wartime attacks, ice breaking,



enhancing safety with navigation and weather aids, migrant interdiction. Many Coast Guardsmen have given their lives over the years trying to save mariners or civilians who are in harms way.

The Coast Guard has been ahead of the other US military services in diversity. They allowed African Americans to enlist before all the other services, and encouraged women to enlist during World War II.

Major events in Coast Guard History:

Sinking of the Tampa – Sep 1918 WWI. A single torpedo from the German submarine UB-91 sank USCGC Tampa while on convoy duty. The dead included 111 Coast Guardsmen, four US Navy men, a captain of the British Army, ten seamen of the Royal Navy, and five civilian employee dockworkers. The sinking of Tampa was the single largest US naval combat loss of the war.



Prohibition (Volstead Act) 1920-1933: Outlawed production, sale and transport of alcohol within the US. Enforcing this legislation became a primary mission of the Coast Guard until the legislation was repealed.

1927 Mississippi River Flood: 128 Coast Guard boats transported food and medical supplies, including 12,000 units of Typhoid serum, to interstate flood areas. They rescued over 43,000 people, distributed 750 tons of clothing, 400 tons of fuel, and 2500 tents.



Vietnam War: The Coast Guard deployed over 8000 Coast Guardsmen during Vietnam, and conducted significant support missions for the Navy and other services. Missions conducted included interdiction of resupply by sea of Viet Cong and North Vietnamese forces, aviation search & rescue, supervision of Army stevedores in offloading explosives from Merchant Marine ships, port security, operation of LORAN Stations to aid navigation, and marking channels and harbors. They operated patrol boats, high endurance cutters, buoy tenders, and cargo vessels.

Migrant Interdiction:

Cuban Boatlifts (1980, 1994): In 1980, Cuba allowed people who wanted to leave Cuba to do so on personal craft from Mariel Harbor. The US Coast Guard rescued boats that needed help, inspected boats for safety, and processed refugees. Calling up 600 reservists, the Coast Guard processed 125,000 refugees in April-May 1980. In 1994, another 38,000 Cubans attempted to sail from Cuba to Florida in whatever boat they could get, often homemade rafts. The Coast Guard mobilized to conduct search and rescue operations. Cubans rescued at sea in



1994 were taken to the US Navy Base at Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, where they were processed as refugees and eventually most were allowed into the US.

The Coast Guard has also been involved with migrant interdiction of Haitians, illegal immigrants coming across the border with Mexico, as well as the smuggling of Chinese and other Asian immigrants into the US.





Guard was called to respond to major flooding on the Mississippi, Missouri, and Illinois Rivers that closed over 1000 miles of river to navigation and claimed 47 lives. 380 active duty, 352 CG Reserve, 179 CG Auxiliary, and 5 CG civilians ran Operation Buckshot to counter levee breaks, help with sandbagging, water rescues, evacuation of flood victims, and aerial surveillance of levees. They also assisted by transporting food, water, sandbags, and homeless animals that had been displaced by the floods.



Hurricane Katrina: The Coast Guard participated in the massive relief effort from the effects of Hurricane Katrina in 2005. More than 2400 Coasties conducted search, rescue, response, waterway reconstitution and environmental impact assessment operations. The Coast Guard rescued more than 33,000 people and assisted in evacuating 9400 patients and medical personnel.

Operations Desert Storm, Kosovo, OIF, OEF: The Coast Guard has participated in small ways in each of the combat operations the US military has conducted in recent years.

They have contributed to training, technical expertise, security, and coastal patrolling, intelligence and cyber operations. The Coast Guard provides expertise on harbor defense and port security within US Central Command's area of responsibility.

The Coast Guard is currently operating under the Department of Homeland Security, with about 40,000 on active duty and about 7000 in the Coast Guard Reserve. The Coast Guard Auxiliary, a volunteer uniformed auxiliary service that supports Coast Guard missions except for direct law enforcement or military engagement. There are about 26,000 members of the US Coast Guard Auxiliary, contributing over 3.8 million hours of service each year. (Coast Guard Auxiliary, 2020)

One Coast Guardsman, Signalman First Class Douglas Munro, has received the Medal of Honor. He was killed while evacuating Marines on Guadalcanal during World War II.



C6. History of the US Space Force

The U.S. Space Force (USSF) is a new branch of the Armed Forces. It was established on December 20, 2019 with enactment of the Fiscal Year 2020 National Defense Authorization Act and will be stood-up over the next 18 months. The USSF was established within the Department of the Air Force, meaning the Secretary of the Air Force has overall responsibility for the USSF, under the guidance and direction of the Secretary of Defense. Additionally, a four-star general known as the Chief of Space Operations (CSO) serves as the senior military member of the USSF. The CSO is a full member of the Joint Chiefs of Staff. This works like the Marine Corps being a separate branch, but still under the Department of the Navy.

While the launch of the U.S. Space Force propels the United States into a new era, the Department of the Air Force has a proud history and long-standing record of providing the best space capabilities in the world.

On Sept. 1, 1982, the Air Force established AFSPC, with space operations as its primary mission. Cold War-era space operations focused on missile warning, launch operations, satellite control, space surveillance and command and control for national leadership. In 1991, Operation DESERT STORM validated the command's continuing focus on support to the warfighter through the use of GPS to enable the famous "Left Hook," proving the value of space-based capabilities.

In the aftermath of the 9/11 terrorist attacks, the president directed military action against Afghanistan and Iraq. AFSPC provided extensive space-based support to the U.S. Central Command commander in areas of communications; positioning, navigation and timing; meteorology; and warning. In 2005, the Air Force expanded its mission areas to include cyberspace. In concert with this, the Air Staff assigned responsibility for conducting cyberspace operations to AFSPC through Twenty-Fourth Air Force, which was activated in August 2009.

In July 2018, the Air Force cyber mission transferred to Air Combat Command, which generated the greatest capacity for an integrated Information Warfare capability within the Air Force. This move allowed AFSPC to focus on gaining and maintaining space superiority and outpacing our adversaries in the space domain.

With the enactment of the FY20 NDAA, AFSPC was re-designated the U.S. Space Force on Dec. 20, 2019, granting Title 10 authorization to the U.S. Space Force, established under the Department of the Air Force. (US Space Force, 2019)



C7. History of the National Guard

The National Guard traces its lineage back to the first militia regiments formed in the American colony of Massachusetts in 1636. The colony's militia was organized into three permanent regiments. For the most part, these regiments and other militia units were used as needed to fight or protect against the Native American tribes. While the British Army also contributed to this role, much of the fighting was localized and left to the militias. This fighting went on throughout the colonies in large and small conflicts. In 1754, one of the larger campaigns erupted into the French and Indian War. The British recruited regiments of "provincials" from the militia, bringing to the Army skills the British didn't necessarily have in frontier warfare. Major Robert Rogers of New Hampshire formed a regiment of "rangers" – "Rogers' Rangers – who performed reconnaissance and conducted long-range raids against the French and their Indian allies. George Washington, and many of the men who would later lead the Continental Army, fought in the French and Indian War as well. Much of the War for Independence was fought by militia units, and most of the Continental Army was recruited from the militia. The Continental Army was usually better trained, but wasn't big enough to bear the load required to fight the British. Militia units would be called up when their local area was threatened, and often banded together to form temporary armies, and to join with the Continental Army to fight the British.

When the United States gained its independence, the various colonial militias became state militias. They mostly acted locally, but were occasionally called up by the federal government for larger conflicts. The founding fathers and most of the US didn't support having a large standing army, and preferred to call on the militias when they needed armed forces. For wars and fighting during the 18th and 19th Century, militia units provided the majority of soldiers. In World War I, 40% of the Army Expeditionary Force in France was National Guard. 18 of the 72 Army divisions in World War II were National Guard. The Korean War was the last major war fought by significant numbers of National Guardsmen. By the time the Vietnam War came in the 1960's, military policy was to fight with the active Army, and few Guard units were used. In Desert Storm, support units were called up, but not many combat units were. Over the many years of fighting in Afghanistan and Iraq, many National Guard units, including combat divisions, were deployed.

The militia units were formed and managed by local and state government, and even formed by private individuals – who usually received some kind of government endorsement and funding. Officers were appointed because of who they were, not based, necessarily, on experience, training, or ability. Each state was able to call on its militia units when they needed to, just as the Governor can call on the National Guard today.

Meanwhile, the National Guard has been busy on the home front as well. States call up their National Guard forces to combat natural disasters, civil unrest, and support for other emergencies like the COVID-19 Pandemic in 2020. The California National Guard has supported all these missions and more, providing a trained and ready force to the governor in times of emergency. Wildfires, earthquakes,







floods, riots, security operations, border control – any time the state needs forces, they call on the National Guard!

The term 'National Guard' was first used in New York in 1824, and became the standard for all the state militias in 1903 when Congress passed the Militia Act of 1903, which established the creation of the National Guard of the United States as the primary organized reserve force for the US armed forces.

The National Defense Act of 1916 updated the Militia Act of 1903, expanding the Army and the National Guard, and creating the Reserve Officers' Training Corps (ROTC). At that point, units from the various states' militias were organized into the Army National Guard of each state, and authorized 48 days of drill and 15 days of training per year, funded by the federal government. This was an increase from no drill funds and 5 days of annual training. The National Defense Act of 1916 also authorized the President to mobilize the National Guard in case of war or other national emergency, which he did for the Pancho Villa Expedition and World War I. The creation of volunteer units to augment the Army during crisis ended with this legislation. Though the National Guard traces its history back to 1636, the National Guard as we know it was really solidified in 1916.



Today, the National Guard stands ready to support the nation and their state. While people are more mobile now than they were a few generations ago, the Guard is still present in many local communities. Soldiers and airmen often commute farther than their hometown to join a unit they want to serve with, and recruits have many choices of job to choose from. Most units 'drill' one weekend a month and participate in collective training for two weeks sometime during the year. They're well paid, well equipped, and are relevant to the Army and Air Force in addition to their state mission.



C8. Military Theorists

Military theory is best developed by directly experiencing war and recognizing strategies or methods for improving warfare. Yet, as academic military theorists know, insight can also be developed by simply witnessing and studying war from afar. Whether generated through observation or direct experience, both viewpoints can offer unique perspectives and theses on warfare that can assist in comprehending leading military strategies and philosophies. Great generals are almost always students of strategic and tactical theory, and value the thoughts, theories, and principles of military theorists. Although the theorists named here developed their theories long ago and before most modern technology, the theory remains surprisingly valid. The below six influencers of military theory remain leaders in the field with diverse insights that can help today's professionals gain a more holistic understanding of military theory. (Norwich University Online, 2018)

Sunzi (or Sun Tzu), a military strategist and general who served the state of Wu (China) in about the 6th Century BCE, is traditionally considered the author of *The Art of War*, but the work is more likely to have been written early in the 4th Century BCE, at a time when China was divided into six or seven states that often resorted to war with each other in their struggles for supremacy. *The Art of War* is a systematic guide to strategy and tactics for rulers and commanders. Whoever the original author of the book was, it's likely others added to its core precepts over the first centuries of its use. The book discusses various maneuvers and the effect of terrain on the outcome of battles. Sun Tzu believed that the best victory is that which required no battle. His work focused on



alternatives such as stratagem, delay, the use of spies and alternatives to war itself, the making and keeping of alliances, the uses of deceit and a willingness to submit, at least temporarily, to more powerful foes. It stresses the importance of accurate information about the enemy's forces, dispositions and deployments, and movements. This is summarized in the axiom "Know the enemy and know yourself, and you can fight a hundred battles with no danger of defeat." It also emphasizes the unpredictability of battle and the use of flexible strategies and tactics. The book's insistence on the close relationship between political considerations and military policy greatly influenced some modern strategists. Sunzi's principles have been studied by many military strategists worldwide for centuries, and are still considered as timeless truths by students of war. Mao Zedong and the Chinese communists took from *The Art of War* many of the tactics they utilized in fighting the Japanese and, later, the Chinese Nationalists. (Kuiper, 2009)

Sunzi Quotes (Pasha, 2019):

- "He who knows when he can fight and when he cannot, will be victorious."
- "There is no instance of a nation benefitting from prolonged warfare."
- "Keep your friends close, your enemies even closer."
- "Treat your men as you would your own beloved sons. And they will follow you into the deepest valley."
- "You have to believe in yourself."
- "Do not repeat the tactics which have gained you one victory, but let your methods be regulated by the infinite variety of circumstances."
- "If the enemy opens the door, you must race in."
- "Don't flail against the world, use it. Flexibility is the operative principle in the art of war."



Carl von Clausewitz (1780-1831) was a Prussian soldier who had extensive combat experience against the armies of Revolutionary and Napoleonic France. He first entered combat at the age of 12 as a cadet, then eventually received recognition as a general. After warfare, Clausewitz became a prominent military intellectual in Berlin and wrote On War, which is considered by many to be one of the most influential works of military philosophy in both Western & Eastern thought.

Written after being stunned by Napoleon's dominance in Europe, On War is largely inspired by Clausewitz's military experience and analysis of the new warfare of large-scale Nation States. Within *On War*, Clausewitz highlights the

classic issues of combat, formations, and character of commanders and the troops and stresses the moral aspects of war for all involved in a conflict. He also argues that moral forces can often matter more than physical forces, which remains an intriguing notion within military thought. Due to such interesting insights, strategies presented in On War have been applied to politics, science, and business, and the book itself has been held in high regard by the likes of the Duke of Wellington, Vladimir Lenin, Mao Zedong, George S. Patton, Dwight D. Eisenhower, and Colin Powell.

Von Clausewitz Quotes (AZ Quotes, 2007):

- The enemy of a good plan is the dream of a perfect plan.
- War is not an independent phenomenon, but the continuation of politics by different means.
- No campaign plan survives first contact with the enemy.
- Criticism exists only to recognize the truth, not to act as judge.
- It is even better to act quickly and err than to hesitate until the time of action is past.
- There is only one decisive victory: the last.

United States Naval Officer and historian **Alfred Thayer Mahan** (1840-1914) is considered by many within military history as one of the essential military theorists of the nineteenth century. After graduating the U.S. Naval Academy, Mahan was commissioned as a lieutenant in 1861 and served the Union during the Civil War as an officer aboard several ships. He was promoted to Captain in 1885, and eventually became an instructor at the U.S. Naval Academy located in Annapolis, Maryland. In 1890, Mahan published *The Influence of Sea Power upon History, 1660–1783*, as a groundbreaking analysis of how naval power led to the dominance of the British Empire.



In 1892, he wrote the volume *The Influence of Sea Power upon the French Revolution and Empire, 1793–1812*, which further highlights naval powers, specifically examining its success during the French Revolution. One of Mahan's revolutionary theories was that the decline of competing navies, combined with the eventual control of the seas by the British, created the pathway for Britain's domination as a global military and economic power. Mahan then extended this argument to note that this theory could also be applied by America to further dominate foreign overseas markets.

Mahan Quotes (AZ Quotes, 2020):

- Force is never more operative than when it is known to exist but is not brandished.
- War, once declared, must be waged offensively, aggressively. The enemy must not be fended off; but smitten down.



Giulio Douhet (1869 -1930) was an Italian army officer and author of *The Command of the Air*. Despite never having flown himself, his book is considered one of the most important books on airpower today. Prior to Douhet's publication, the use of airpower in war had not been fully understood or appreciated. Having witnessed the brutality of trench warfare and its relative indecisiveness, Douhet conjectured that future wars could be decided quickly by airpower. Published in 1921, The Command of the Air introduced strategic bombing, the need for an independent air force, and the controversial use of bombing on civilian populated areas to fracture their belief in their country and

overall wellbeing. While these concepts would eventually lead to the development of the Air Force, Douhet's philosophies were slow in gaining influence, particularly within the United States, Britain, and France. Although implementation was gradual, by 1928, many of Douhet's strategies were implemented by the United States, especially his concept of strategic bombing.

Douhet Quotes (AZ Quotes, 2020):

- In order to assure an adequate national defense, it is necessary and sufficient to be in a position in case of war to conquer the command of the air.
- I have a mathematical certainty that the future will confirm my assertion that aerial warfare will be the most important element in future wars, and that in consequence not only will the importance of the Independent Air Force rapidly increase, but the importance of the army and navy will decrease in proportion.
- Would not the sight of a single enemy airplane be enough to induce a formidable panic? Normal life would be unable to continue under the constant threat of death and imminent destruction.
- To have command of the air means to be able to cut an enemy's army and navy off from their bases of operation and nullify their chances of winning the war.
- The one effective method of defending one's own territory from an offensive by air is to destroy the enemy's air power with the greatest possible speed.

As a prominent British naval historian and military strategist, **Julian Corbett** (1854 – 1922), wrote a number of books. His most famous was Some Principles of Maritime Strategy (1911), which helped shape reforms of the Royal Navy. Though he never served in the Navy, Corbett became one of the leading intellectuals of naval practices due to his intriguing theories and publications. Corbett focused largely on maneuvering naval assets for tactical advantage, control of the sea, and control of the lines of communications. He also emphasized the importance of achieving victory while preserving as many costly assets as possible, a theory which forms the foundation of today's naval warfare. It's also important to note that Corbett saw beyond just naval battles, believing in the politics in war, particularly diplomacy and the formations of alliances.



Baron Antoine Jomini (1779-1869) was a Swiss officer who served as a general in Napoleon's Army before later joining the Russian Army in 1813. Jomini initially started his military career after writing Treatise on Major Military Operations, which caught the attention of Marshal Ney, one of Napoleon's top commanders. Jomini served at the Battle of Ulm in December of 1805 and was then commissioned as a colonel. In 1806, Jomini published his analysis of the impending war with Prussia, which inspired Napoleon to bring him onto his military staff. Jomini's work during this time, particularly in the Battles of Jena and Eylau, earned him the Legion of Honor. Along with Clausewitz, Jomini is considered one of the most prominent and influential strategists in the revolution of warfare during the Napoleonic Wars.



Jomini's military strategies were considered so important that they were heavily leveraged during the American Civil War and became doctrine at the United States Military Academy at West Point. In particular, Jomini spoke in terms such as bases, strategic lines, and key points, offering simple advice to put superior combat power at the point of greatest importance. Jomini took the view that keeping casualties low should be a solemn duty of the commander and that war was not an exact science, so it shouldn't be considered as such. Many of the theories proposed by these military strategists are focused on war in its totality, which includes politics, diplomacy, morality of action, economies, and the morale of the people. As a result, a number of these strategies have and can continue to also be implemented within the realms of economics, business, and

politics, providing those in each industry with insight on how to improve leadership and management, as well as how to identify opportunities to strategically form alliances to achieve short- and long-term goals.

Jomini Quote (AZ Quotes, 2020):

• Logistics comprises the means and arrangements which work out the plans of strategy and tactics. Strategy decides where to act; logistics brings the troops to this point.

Images of Sun Tzu, von Clausewitz, Mahan, and Jomini from Free-images.com. Image of Douhet from:

https://www.bing.com/images/search?q=douhet&id=823C792799A207B3AF006CDE17FC7D8DCCEC27B 4&form=IQFRBA&first=1&cw=1117&ch=843

Image of Corbett from:

https://www.bing.com/images/search?q=julian+corbett&qs=MM&form=QBIR&sp=1&ghc=1&pq=julian+ corbett&sc=8-14&cvid=28D9FBCC4E36406EAD1E71ECE4CF6F83&first=1&cw=1117&ch=843

Recommended Readings by Norwich University:

<u>5 Major Battles of Non-Western Military History</u> <u>How Roles Have Changed for Women in the Military</u> Civil War – Tale of Two Titans

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