



*THE SUN NEVER SETS ON THE 10TH MOUNTAIN PATCH*

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The Annual Remembrance is a solemn day in 10th Mountain Division. It is the day we set aside to remember those who fell while serving in this division. Thank you for joining us on this somber day.



U.S. Army photos by 1st Sgt. Daniel Bryan



# OUR LEGACY

## LT. GEN. GEORGE P. HAYS



Lt. Gen. George P. Hays, like many senior World War II officers first learned the art of war as a junior officer in World War I. But even as a first lieutenant, Hays first stood out among his peers for actions he took on the battlefields of France mid-July one-hundred years ago, but his legacy would endure far beyond his death.

On 14-15 July, 1918, 1st Lt. George P. Hays was serving with the 10th Field Artillery, 3rd Division near Greves Farm, France.

At the very outset of the unprecedented artillery bombardment by the enemy, his line of communication was destroyed beyond repair. Despite the hazard attached to the mission of runner, he immediately set out to establish contact with the neighboring post of command and further establish liaison with two French batteries, visiting their position so frequently that he was mainly responsible for the accurate fire therefrom. While thus engaged, seven horses were shot under him and he was severely wounded. His activity under most severe fire was an important factor in checking the advance of the enemy.

Foreshadowing his days leading a light division Hays commanded the 99th Field Artillery (Pack) from 1940 to 1941; among his subordinates was Capt. William Orlando Darby, who went on to found the U.S. Army Rangers as well as serve under Hays during the final days of WWII. While commanding general of the artillery for the 2nd Division he was assigned to Italy as temporary artillery commander of the 34th Division in the assault on Cassino. As commander of the 2nd Division's Artillery he landed at Omaha beach on June 7th and immediately took his guns into the fight. Taking over command of the 10th Mountain Division at Camp Swift, Texas, Hays was uniquely qualified. What follows is the highlight of his career. The Northern Alpines and the Po Valley onto final victory.

Then with the war over the 10th was disbanded and Hays took command of the 4th Infantry Division. Then the 6th Army. Then in 1947 Gen. Hays was appointed deputy military governor for Germany. Three months later, he became commanding general of the Office of Military Government for Germany with station at Berlin. He was designated Deputy High Commissioner for Germany in December, 1949, and in April, 1952, became commander of the U.S. Forces in Austria, with station at Salzburg. Retiring as a Lt. Gen., Hays had received the Distinguished Service Medal, Silver Star with Oak Leaf Cluster, Legion of Merit, and the Bronze Star Medal. His foreign decorations include the British Companion of the Bath, the French Legion of Honor and Croix de Guerre with Palm, the Italian War Cross, and Montenegro's Prince Danilo Medal. He would live until 7 Aug 1978.

Today he is interred in Arlington Cemetery, and the 10th Mountain strives to continue his legacy. Climb to Glory.



# ANNUAL REMEMBRANCE



The [10th Mountain Annual Remembrance](#) is a somber day for the division. It is the day set aside to reflect and remember those who have made the ultimate sacrifice. While every loss is heartfelt, this year a special tribute was made to remembering Spc. Alexander Missildine, who was killed by an IED while deployed with 3BCT in October. There was also a special tribute made to remember the loss of the previous Mountain 6, Maj Gen Jeffrey Bannister, who recently passed away of natural causes. 10th Mountain Division will never forget the sacrifice that Soldiers made in service to the nation. Climb to Glory!



U.S. Army photo by 1st Sgt. Daniel Bryan

The new 'Hall of Heroes' touchscreen display lets families search for their Soldiers and even shows them where their plaque is in Memorial Park.



This year's unveiled plaque is in commemoration Spc Alex Missildine, who was killed in action October 2017 while deployed to Iraq.

# 86TH IBCT XCTC ROTATION



*U.S. Army photos by Spc Jerod Hathaway*

The 86th Infantry Brigade Combat Team is one of ten National Guard and partner Nation's armies that participated in the U.S. [Army's Associated Unit Program \(AUP\)](#) pilot this last month. The AUP is designed to pair National Guard and Reserve Components with Active Duty units in an effort to leverage experience and resources to ensure the highest level of readiness occurs. Under this pilot program the 86th IBCT is paired with the 10th Mountain Division, in part because of its close proximity in Vermont and because of its Light Infantry and Mountaineering heritage and mission set.

The 10th Mountain Division's 1st Brigade Combat Team also participated in this xCTC rotation, ensuring a realistic threat throughout, as the rotation's opposition force.

The concept of the AUP allowed 10th Mountain to bring its 86th IBCT into the Fort Drum training area and create the bonds and experience that will benefit both in future training and missions.





U.S. Army photos by Spc Jerod Hathaway

The 86th Infantry Brigade Combat Team conducted their [xCTC rotation](#) on Fort Drum with a total of nine other National Guard and foreign national units this month. Joint and realistic training is key to ensuring the U.S. Army National Guard forces are ready to execute any mission. The use of Fort Drum for this pilot xCTC rotation highlights the installation as the premiere choice for Army training in the Northeast and sets the units that train here above the rest due to the extreme of conditions, terrain and experienced opposition forces from the 10th Mountain Division.



‘Ready Now’ is how Soldiers of the 86th IBCT described their training. From day to night operations, the 86th maintained their tempo as they trained against the 1st BCT of 10th Mountain Division for two-weeks. Here, the Soldiers conducted a battery defense in chemical protection equipment against opposition forces.



*U.S. Army photos courtesy of Joint Readiness Training Center Ops Group*

2nd Brigade Combat Team conducted their month-long decisive action rotation 18-08 at the Joint Readiness Training Center at Fort Polk, Louisiana. Soldiers from the Commando brigade endured hot and humid weather, and long days of dismounted operations while combating the 'Geronimo' opposition force. Directly following 2nd Brigade's EDRE exercise, the culmination of this JRTC rotation establishes the Commando Brigade as one of the most Ready Now units in the U.S. Army.





U.S. Army photo by Pfc Tiffany Mitchell



U.S. Army photo by Pfc Tiffany Mitchell

10th Combat Aviation Brigade conducted a [change of command](#) on Sexton Field between the [out-going Col. Clair Gill](#) and the [incoming Col. Darrell Doremus](#).



U.S. Army photo by Spc Jerod Hathaway



U.S. Army photo by Pfc Tiffany Mitchell

Before Col. Gill relinquished command, he took one [final flight](#) while piloting a Blackhawk over Fort Drum. As he touched down, firetrucks ceremoniously sprayed water over the top of his aircraft.

[6th Squadron, 6th Cavalry Regiment](#) redeployed from Korea after a nine month tour. Families and leaders alike were present to welcome them home.



*U.S. Army photo by Staff Sgt James Avery*

1st Brigade Combat Team was honored to spend the day with Gold Star Families during the division's Annual Remembrance. At a remembrance ceremony at Memorial Park, the Gold Star Family walked with the brigade's colors. Gold Star Families also had dinner with Medal of Honor recipient Gary Beikirch, a Veteran of the Vietnam War, who shared with the audience that, "The true Soldier doesn't fight because he hates what's in front of him, but rather because he loves what's behind him."



*U.S. Army photos by Sgt Keegan Costello*



In addition to the support that 1BCT provided to 2BCT's SEDRE to Fort Polk, they also fully supported the xCTC National Guard rotation on Fort Drum for ten National Guard units from across the nation. Providing an elevated exercise tempo as the rotation's 'opposition force,' 1BCT Soldiers lived in the woods to ensure the National Guard could train against an opponent that behaved like an adversary they could encounter on real-world missions around the globe. Dressed in non-standard uniforms, the 1BCT Soldiers also learned how potential opponents may act against a developed military.



3rd Brigade Combat Team, "Patriots" conducted their uncasing ceremony and bid farewell to their brigade Command Sgt. Maj. Ronald Bly and welcomed Command Sgt. Maj. Kenneth Franco. In a moment of silence, the brigade remembered Spc Alexander Missildine, who was killed in action while deployed to Iraq. "We had wished to bring everybody home, but our thoughts and prayers remain with Alex Missildine and his family," Col. Sullivan said. "His memory continues to sustain us, and we are committed to being there for his family into perpetuity."



Sgt. 1st Class David Mathis rejoined the Patriot Brigade for the first time after being evacuated during a deployment to Iraq after an IED attack that cost him both of his legs. He finished the last mile of the brigade run with Col. Sullivan, who described running with Sgt. 1st Class Mathis as humbling.



U.S. Army photo by Sgt. Liane Hatch

Logistics never stops. 10th Sustainment Brigade was a constant force of support to the Commando Brigade during their SEDRE to Fort Polk, Louisiana. Providing sustainment from mechanics, materials, convoy expertise and teams of knowledgeable Soldiers, [the SEDRE was a sure success](#) from the woods of Fort Drum to the shores of Texas because of the assistance from the Muleskinners Brigade.



U.S. Army photo by Sgt. Liane Hatch

Muleskinners sustainers teamed up with mechanics from our 3rd Brigade at Fort Polk to overcome a safety recall of Humvee tires by replacing every tire in 2nd Brigade before they began their rotation at JRTC.



U.S. Army photo by Sgt. Keegan Costello

While supporting the SEDRE, the Muleskinners coordinated logistics movements across the country with knowledgeable Department of the Army civilian staff that support U.S. Forces.



Soldiers from DIVARTY, deployed to Iraq, conduct medical training to show Iraqi Soldiers how to perform combat lifesaving measures. Joint training like this ensures basic battlefield competencies across partner nations and builds professional relationships across branches and ranks.



*U.S. Army photo by Pfc Marcos Zeleda-Rodas*

Soldiers from the 91st Military Police Battalion, 16th Military Police Brigade conducted the Emergency Vehicle Operation Course certification as part of Guardian Academy in order to provide law enforcement support to the 10th Mountain Division and the Fort Drum community.



# RIVERFEST



U.S. Army photo by Michael Strasser



This month, the Soldiers and Families of 10th Mountain Division and Fort Drum were graciously invited into the Alexandria Bay community to celebrate Riverfest. [Riverfest](#) is an annual summer celebration where attendees can tour the St. Lawrence River and walk the grounds of Boldt Castle on Heart Island. The 10th Mountain Division is incredibly fortunate to call this North Country community its home.





# MOUNTAIN MUDDER



U.S. Army photos by Pfc Tiffany Mitchell



U.S. Army photo by Michael Strasser

The 10th Mountain [‘Mountain Mudder’](#) is an event hosted by the Fort Drum Better Opportunities for Single Soldiers program. The annual event has Soldiers navigate obstacles across the installation for over ten miles. Obstacles included mud pits, cargo nets, pipe crawls and a run across Remington Pond.





# MOUNTAINFEST & SALUTE TO THE NATION



*U.S. Army photos by Michael Strasser*

[Mountainfest](#) is a staple of the 10th Mountain Division and the Fort Drum community. Each summer, the gates of Fort Drum are opened to the community and all are invited to attend the display of state flags, guest speakers, car shows and live music. This event is just one way that the 10th Mountain Division and Fort Drum say thank you to this great place.



*U.S. Army photo by Spc Jerod Hathaway*

No Mountainfest is complete without live music. Special thanks to this year's artist's, Chris Jansen and David Lee Murphy.



*U.S. Army photo by Sgt. Keegan Costello*

The Black Dagger showed off their aerial skills as they jumped into Division Hill during the Salute to the Nation at Mountainfest.



# COL NAUMANN MOUNTAIN SALUTE



U.S. Army photos by Sgt. Keegan Costello

10th Mountain Division held a [Mountain Salute](#) ceremony June 25, 2018 at Fort Drum, in honor of Col. Scott M. Naumann's hard work while serving with the 10th Mountain Division. In addition to serving as the Division's Chief of Staff, Col. Naumann also served as the 1st Brigade Combat Team commander. Following his time in the 10th Mountain Division, Col. Naumann and his family will be moving to Fort Bliss, Texas to share his leadership with the First Armored Division. Best of luck Sir, and Climb to Glory!





# LGBT RECOGNITION EVENT



U.S. Army photo by Sgt. Keegan Costello



U.S. Army photo by Sgt. Keegan Costello

This month, the U.S. Army recognized the [LGBT](#) community within its ranks. The 10th Mountain Division hosted its annual [LGBT Pride Month Observance](#) June 25, 2018 at Fort Drum, New York. The guest speaker for the event was Master Chief Petty Officer Dwayne D. BeebeFranqui.

## VOLUNTEER OF THE MONTH



U.S. Army photo by Sgt. Austin Parker

This month's [Volunteer of the Month](#) ceremony featured Fort Drum Friends, Family and Soldiers from across the 10th Mountain Division. We're always thankful for everything that our great volunteers accomplish out of the goodness of their hearts and for their love of this community and its Soldiers. Fantastic work to all who were recognized and we look forward to seeing your great works in the future!



# BRONZE STAR RECIPIENTS



*U.S. Army photo by Staff Sgt. James Avery*

Soldiers from the 1st Brigade Combat Team were awarded the Bronze Star Medal with Valor and the Army Commendation Medal with Valor for heroic actions under fire against the Taliban while serving in Afghanistan. Brig. Gen. Patrick Donohoe was on hand to award and recognize these valiant Soldiers. They truly represent the best of what it means to be a Mountain Soldier.

The accounts of their life-saving actions in battle are outlined in three captions.

Account 1.

[1LT Wojtasinski, SPC Cook, SPC Shoemaker, and SSG Aetonu](#) of A Company were awarded for valorous action on the night of 26 October 2017 while conducting a clearance operation in Helmand Province. After beginning to clear a series of compounds, Taliban fighters pinned down their Afghan National Army Partners. 1LT Tyler Wojtasinski, exposing himself to accurate small arms fire, held off an enemy advance that came within 25 meters using his M4 and hand grenades. His actions covered the unit's retrograde to a safer position and subsequent MEDEVAC of multiple casualties. During the retrograde, an ANA Soldier was wounded by a pressure plate IED. SPC Braden Cook and an NCO from the ODA team braved this assault to retrieve the wounded Afghan Soldier while the Taliban engaged with mortar fire.

Meanwhile, SSG Kevin Aetonu and SPC Myles Shoemaker were working their way from compound to compound. The Afghan forces around them had begun to abandon the fight, leaving security positions. SSG Aetonu identified a rooftop that would provide good fields of fire. SPC Shoemaker took an M240B from an ANA soldier who had retreated from his position, and followed SSG Aetonu onto the roof. The roof was void of any cover. SPC Shoemaker fired on advancing Taliban fighters with SSG Aetonu marking targets until the weapon was no longer operable. 1LT Wojtasinski joined these two and the team fired on the enemy until Joint Tactical Air Controllers could direct Aerial strikes on the Taliban positions. 1LT Wojtasinski, SPC Cook, and SPC Shoemaker were awarded with the Bronze Star Medal for Valor, and SSG Aetonu was awarded the Army Commendation Medal for Valor.



# BRONZE STAR RECIPIENTS



## Account 2.

A week later, PFC Jared James of B Company was conducting a clearance operation when his unit was engaged by Taliban fighters in Kunduz Province. PFC James ran through enemy fire to unhitch a trailer that was preventing a HMMWV from moving from the enemy's kill zone to the casualty collection point. He then ran back through enemy direct and indirect fire to man a MK 48 machine gun in the open turret of an RG-33. Despite rounds striking the vehicle, PFC James continued to provide suppressing fire, lethally engaging over 30 Taliban fighters who were attempting to advance on the established HLZ. For his actions, PFC James was awarded the Army Commendation Medal for Valor.

## Account 3.

On 3 February 2018, SPC Zachary Taylor, a medic from A Company, put himself in danger to save the life of an Afghan Soldier. Taliban fighters had barricaded themselves inside a compound, and wounded the two Afghan Soldiers who entered. SPC Taylor and the ODA Team medic sprinted to retrieve the casualties, despite heavy enemy fire. SPC Taylor entered the compound, and despite enemy grenades detonating within meters of his position, dragged the more urgent casualty out of the kill zone. As he moved his casualty back to the casualty collection point, the firefight intensified around him.

SPC Taylor dragged the Afghan soldier 50 meters through enemy fire to perform initial lifesaving treatment. When grenades and other fire began to reach the compound, he transported his patient another 200 meters to the MEDEVAC HLZ. There he performed 12 needle decompressions, sealed multiple thoracic wounds, helped establish two interosseous access sites, packed an arterial bleed, and performed ventilations to stabilize the Afghan Soldier. Once he carried his patient onto the MEDEVAC helicopter, Taliban fighters began directing RPG fire at the position. SPC Taylor took up his weapon and returned fire, allowing the helicopter to safely egress. For his actions, SPC Taylor was awarded the Army Commendation Medal for Valor.






# SOCIAL MEDIA LINKS

Want to see more from the 10th Mountain Division and Fort Drum? View our social media sites below.

## Units

### 10th Mountain Division

-  Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/10thMTNDIV/>
-  Twitter: <https://twitter.com/10MTNDIV>
-  Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/fd10thmtn/>

### 1st Brigade Combat Team

-  Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/1BCT10MTN/>
-  Twitter: <https://twitter.com/1BCT10MTN>

### 2nd Brigade Combat Team

-  Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/2BCT10thMTN/>
-  Twitter: <https://twitter.com/2BCT10thMtnDiv>

### 3rd Brigade Combat Team

-  Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/10thMTNPatriots/>
-  Twitter: [https://twitter.com/3\\_10MTNPatriots](https://twitter.com/3_10MTNPatriots)

### 10th Combat Aviation Brigade



-  Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/10thCAB/>
-  Twitter: <https://twitter.com/10thCAB>

### 10th Sustainment Brigade

-  Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/10thMountainDivisionSustainmentBrigade/>
-  Twitter: <https://twitter.com/10thSBDE>

## Fort Drum

### Fort Drum

-  Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/drum.10thmountain/>
-  Twitter: <https://twitter.com/drum10thmtn>
-  Flickr: <https://www.flickr.com/people/drum10thmountain/>

### Fort Drum Museum

-  Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/FortDrumMuseum/>

### Fort Drum FMWR

-  Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/DrumFMWR/>

### Fort Drum BOSS

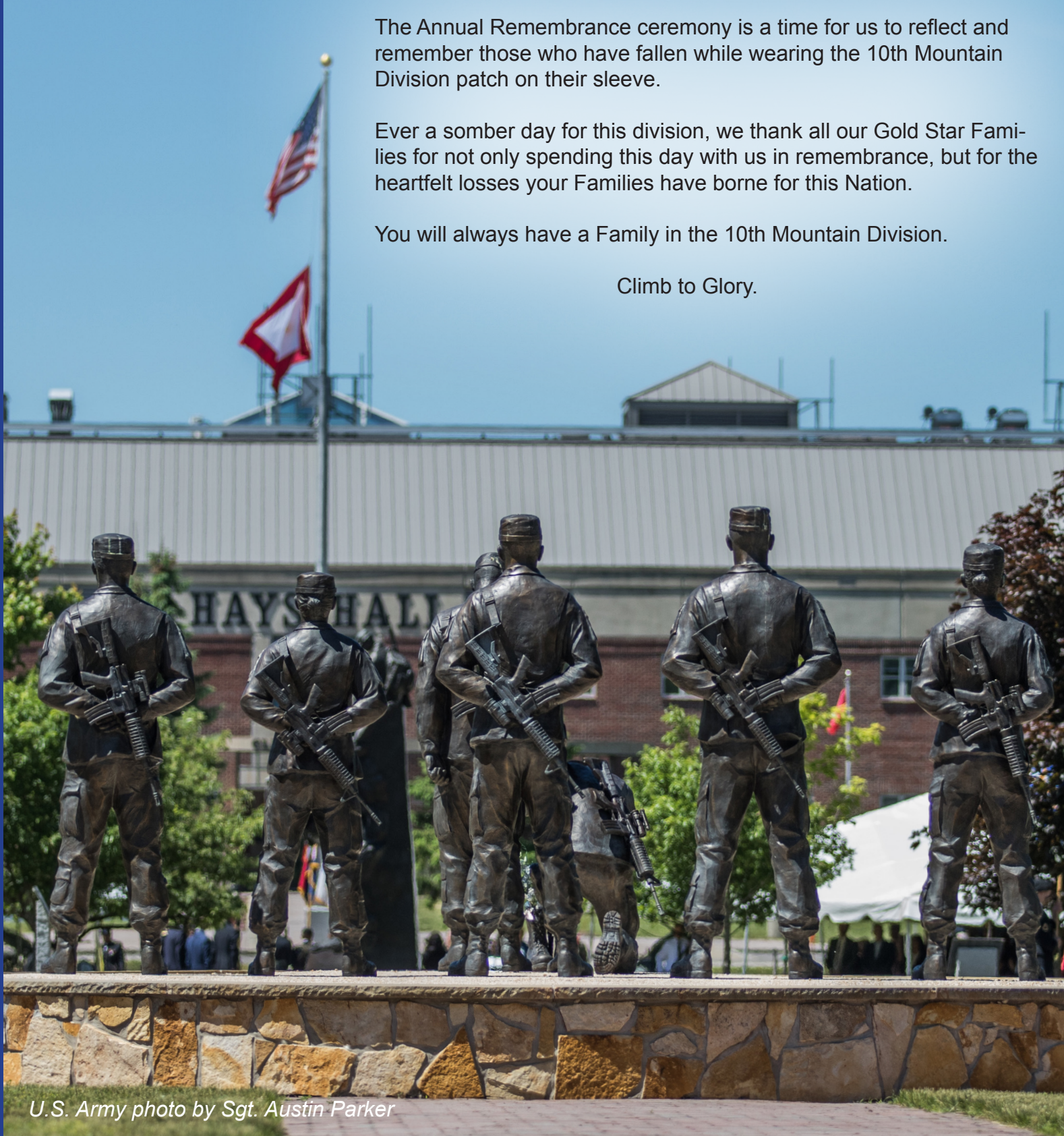
-  Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/bossfortdrum/>

The Annual Remembrance ceremony is a time for us to reflect and remember those who have fallen while wearing the 10th Mountain Division patch on their sleeve.

Even a somber day for this division, we thank all our Gold Star Families for not only spending this day with us in remembrance, but for the heartfelt losses your Families have borne for this Nation.

You will always have a Family in the 10th Mountain Division.

Climb to Glory.



*U.S. Army photo by Sgt. Austin Parker*



***READY NOW, RELEVANT TOMORROW***

