

ANNISTON ARMY DEPOT

TRACKS

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COMBAT MULTIPLIER

Depot welcomes New Year!

Always ready, sustaining weapon systems for nation's warfighters, allies

COMBAT VEHICLE CENTER OF THE FREE WORLD

PAY TABLE - ANNUAL SALARY FOR GENERAL SCHEDULE EMPLOYEES - 2024

Salary Table 2024-BH
Incorporating the 4.7% General Schedule Increase and a Locality Payment of 17.91%
For the Locality Pay Area of Birmingham-Hoover-Talladega, AL
Total Increase: 5.15%
Effective January 2024

Annual Rates by Grade and Step

Grade	Step 1	Step 2	Step 3	Step 4	Step 5	Step 6	Step 7	Step 8	Step 9	Step 10
1	\$ 25,924	\$ 26,794	\$ 27,655	\$ 28,514	\$ 29,374	\$ 29,877	\$ 30,731	\$ 31,590	\$ 31,625	\$ 32,428
2	29,150	29,843	30,809	31,625	31,982	32,923	33,864	34,805	35,746	36,687
3	31,806	32,866	33,926	34,986	36,046	37,106	38,166	39,226	40,286	41,346
4	35,703	36,893	38,083	39,272	40,462	41,652	42,841	44,031	45,221	46,411
5	39,946	41,277	42,608	43,939	45,270	46,602	47,933	49,264	50,595	51,926
6	44,529	46,013	47,498	48,982	50,467	51,951	53,436	54,920	56,405	57,889
7	49,482	51,132	52,781	54,431	56,080	57,730	59,379	61,029	62,679	64,328
8	54,799	56,625	58,452	60,278	62,104	63,931	65,757	67,584	69,410	71,237
9	60,526	62,543	64,560	66,578	68,595	70,613	72,630	74,648	76,665	78,683
10	66,652	68,874	71,095	73,316	75,538	77,759	79,981	82,202	84,424	86,645
11	73,230	75,671	78,112	80,553	82,993	85,434	87,875	90,316	92,756	95,197
12	87,773	90,699	93,624	96,549	99,475	102,400	105,325	108,251	111,176	114,102
13	104,374	107,853	111,333	114,813	118,292	121,772	125,251	128,731	132,210	135,690
14	123,339	127,450	131,562	135,673	139,785	143,896	148,008	152,119	156,231	160,342
15	145,078	149,913	154,749	159,584	164,420	169,255	174,091	178,926	183,762	188,597

Cover shot!

Rex Brown, small arms repairer, conducts a final inspection of the M240 machine gun prior to shipment and delivery to infantry line units serving stateside or abroad.

(U.S. Army photo by Mark Cleghorn)



TRACKS

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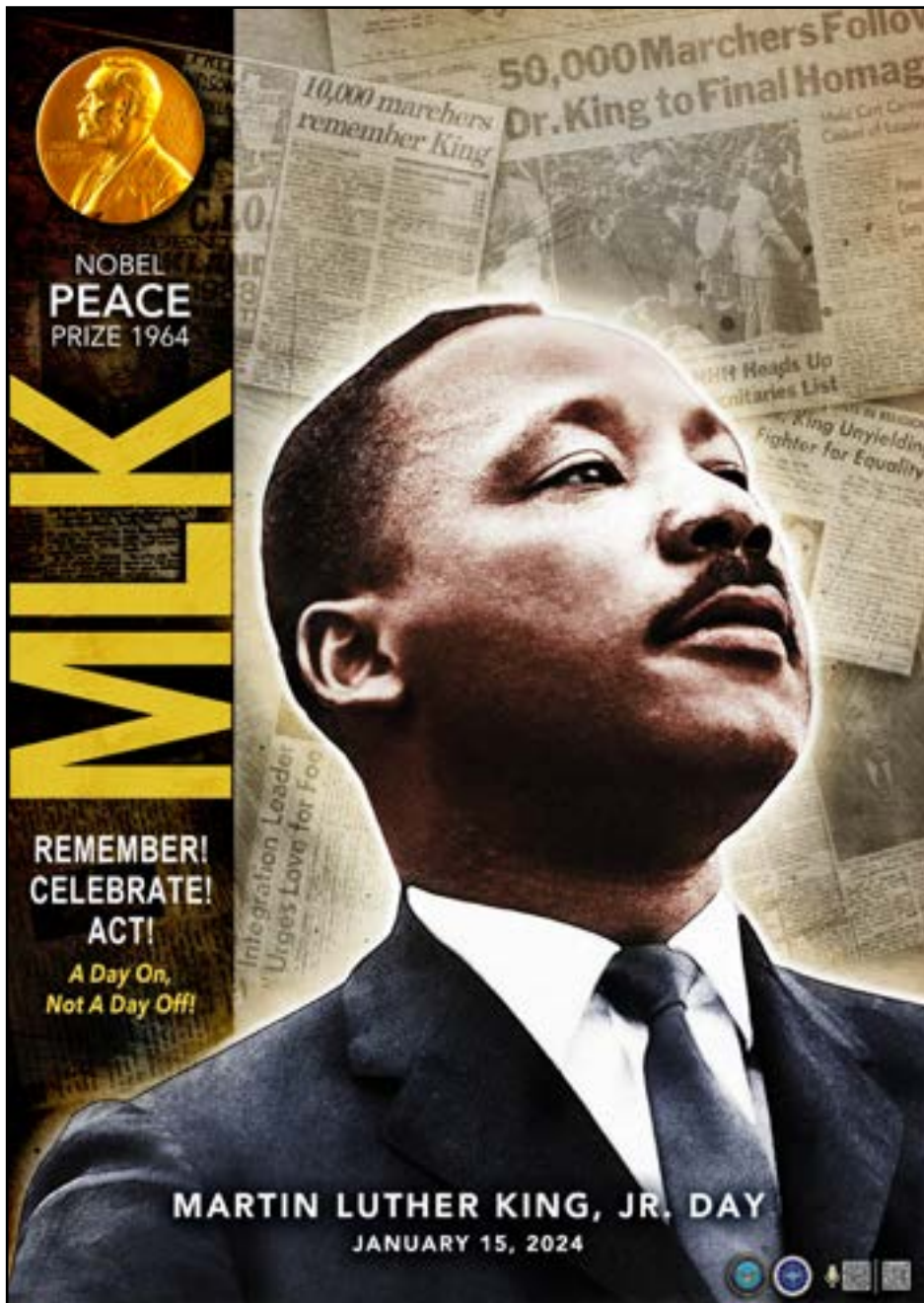
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Public Affairs Officer - David San Miguel
Staff Writers - Christian Pettus and Ed Wedge

Depot joins DOD's observance of

“
Life's most persistent and
urgent question is: What are
you doing for others?”

- Reverend Martin Luther King, Civil Rights activist

MLK



The Defense Equal Opportunity Management Institute proudly announces the availability of original artwork for download for the 2024 Department of Defense observance of Martin Luther King, Jr. Day, from its public website, www.deomi.mil.

The continuing DOD theme for the observance is, “Remember! Celebrate! Act! A Day On...Not A Day Off,” in commemoration of Dr. King and in support of a call to action through personal service.

Together, we keep King's legacy alive by getting involved and working together to strengthen the values of the communities we serve.

The first official MLK Day was observed in 1986. Less than a decade later, Congress designated the third Monday in January as the Martin Luther King, Jr. Day of Service. This year's observance marks the 30th anniversary of the National Day of Service.

This year's poster commemorates the 60th anniversary of King receiving the Nobel Peace Prize in 1964 for his nonviolent struggle in the pursuit of civil rights and social justice.

King advocated for nonviolent resistance to overcome injustice as a means of lifting racial oppression. He created change with organized sit-ins, marches, and peaceful demonstrations that highlighted issues of inequality.

On April 4, 1968, at the age of 39, he was assassinated in Memphis, Tennessee, where he was to lead a march in support of striking sanitation workers.

Today, we remember Dr. Martin Luther King as a husband, father, friend, and fierce advocate for the betterment of all people.

We celebrate his legacy by building upon the contributions he made to impact civil rights.

We act in his memory by organizing, volunteering, and making it a day on and not a day off!

Clyde

Massive crane extends depot’s production capability

BY ED WEDGE

The 180-foot-tall, 80-ton gantry crane called “Clyde” sits like a giant in the middle of Anniston Army Depot.

“Clyde” is not a nickname. Its name is derived from the American Clyde Corporation which manufactures the mega-lift cranes.

Since 1985, “Clyde” has been a centerpiece of the depot due to its megalithic size and massive capability.

Reggie Tyus, deputy chief, Defense Logistics Agency, and Chris Palmer, supervisor of crane operations, expressed the importance of having Clyde as one of its tools for production.

Sitting on rails and operating out of two rail-road spurs, this massive crane has an increased capacity to handle up to 32 M1 Abrams tanks at a time.

Palmer explained that while most of the tanks received at Anniston are repaired and returned, some undergo minor inspections and require only a few replacement parts. Others, however, necessitate a complete overhaul.

“It takes under two hours for a staff of nine to unchain and offload 16 tanks,” he said. “This accomplishment would be impossible without Clyde.”

According to Tyus, that capability was increased when Clyde underwent a major overhaul in 2010.

“This \$2.7 million refurbishment and modernization project upgraded the original lift capacity from 75 tons to 80 tons,” he said.

“While Southeastern Industries performs monthly preventative maintenance and Crane Works provides annual services, the operators perform daily inspections, utilizing preventative maintenance worksheets,” Palmer said. “They perform these inspections before and after each tour while climbing the four stories to the cab.”

The advanced welding and inspection company, Royal Ark of Flat Rock, Michigan, provides operators and support personnel hands-on training every three years like that experienced by riggers in the field, focusing on safety and skills.

On an average day, this massive machine enables crews to load and unload over 100 train cars, each carrying two M1 tanks using two colossal diesel engines.

“Given these capabilities, Clyde is an indispensable part of our team at ANAD,” Palmer said. “It’s here to stay.”



**THINK
TYPE
POST**

Online misconduct undermines dignity and respect.
It is inconsistent with Army Values.

U.S. ARMY PHOTO BY MARK CLEGHORN



A \$2.7 million refurbishment and modernization project upgraded Clyde’s original lift capacity from 75 tons to 80 tons, enabling crews to load and unload over 100 train cars each carrying two M1 tanks.

Preservation shop

Preservation for servicing and transport

BY ED WEDGE

Marcus Woods, supervisor and heavy mobile equipment mechanic of 18 years, oversees the preservation shop that handles serviceable and unserviceable incoming and outgoing vehicles from Anniston Army Depot.

A serviceable asset is a tank that has been repaired or restored and readied for shipment or sale. An unserviceable asset is a heavy vehicle received from a combat zone such as Iraq or Afghanistan, and which needs to be repaired.

Some of these recent tanks arrived from Hawthorne Army Depot and are being rebuilt and sent to Poland.

“Hawthorne Army Depot is a U.S. Army Joint Munitions Command ammunition storage depot located near the town of Hawthorne in western Nevada,” he said.

Woods explained the process.

When a tank comes in, the first step is to conduct an ammunition inspection. If any ammo is found anywhere within the tank, an explosive ordnance team comes in to disarm it.

“Ninety-nine percent of the time, it’s a dummy round or a training round,” Woods said.

The second step includes draining the diesel fuel out of the tank’s 400-gallon fuel tank. This consists of bringing the tank into building 504 where the fuel is pumped or drained into a holding tank, then into an above-ground tank.

Step three of this process moves the tank to a storage location, then into building 400 where it can be repaired or rebuilt. Once rebuilt, the tank is returned as a serviceable asset.

This preservation process includes grease and oil lubrication, taping up, and closing all holes that can be accessed inside the tank. All doors and hinges must be greased. All rubber seals are given a coat of talcum powder to keep them from sticking, and all access points into the tank are covered up to prevent dirt and dust from contaminating the vehicle.

At this point, the tank is ready to be sent out via the depot’s rail network. If the asset is earmarked for delivery to a foreign country, it usually goes through the port of Charleston, South Carolina.

According to Woods, his team so far has repaired or rebuild eight M1A1 Abrams tanks and nine M88A2 tank recovery vehicles for the Poland mission.

Woods has a team of 13 doing preservation services.

A checklist of end-item components is attached before each tank is shipped. This list includes field changeable parts and supplies such as extra sprockets, tracks, fuel, and oil tanks.

Additionally, a checklist for basic issue items such as shovels, picks, and hand tools used in repair and maintenance of the asset in the field is included with the tank.

These tanks are field serviceable because of all the extra parts and equipment included with the asset upon return to service.



Marcus Woods, supervisor and heavy mobile equipment mechanic, the depot’s tank preservation process enables tanks to be put back in service and back into the hands of the warfighter.

U.S. ARMY PHOTO ED WEDGE

Welders

Let the sparks fly!

BY ED WEDGE

For approximately two months, Caleb Hendrix has been a welder with Anniston Army Depot.

He is the youngest and newest recruit of welders here on the depot.

A second-generation employee, Caleb joins his father who is also a welder.

“The toughest part of the job is working the tight angles and corners in and around the M1 Abrams,” the younger Hendrix said. “It is sometimes challenging to reach the hard-to-get-at angles.”

He explained that it’s important to listen to the advice of his co-workers and supervisors.

“They’ve taught me many things about how to do my job better and more easily,” he said. “I like working at the depot because of the career benefits, annual and sick leave.”

According to Jody Owens, welding shop supervisor, “welding is a fabrication process that joins materials by using high heat to melt the parts together and then allowing them to cool, causing fusion.”

Carl (Bo) Smith, a 5-year veteran of the welding shop, spends his days welding, grinding, and burning parts to fabricate the M1 Abrams tank.

“The most challenging part of the job is the bottoms of the battery boxes and overhead welding,” Smith said.

“The worst part of his job is the heat, though it’s not so bad this time of year. However, in the summertime, it’s very, very hot in the personal protective equipment.”

The PPE includes long sleeves, a welder’s hood, fireproof gloves, and fireproof overalls.

“They’re uncomfortable, dirty and hot,” Smith added. “Nothing is free. If you want something, you have to work for it.”

The best advice he ever received was to “work hard and prove yourself.”

The youngest welder in the shop, Caleb Hendrix, welds a part on the M1 Abrams tank.

David Spooner also commented on the job.

“The job is very physically demanding,” he said. “It’s dusty and dirty.”

He advises Hendrix to keep his mouth shut and ears open; learn.

“Take 90% of what you already know and forget it,” he said. “Listen to your co-workers and supervisors, and you will do well in this job.”



U.S. Army Photo by Ed Wedge

Away from the job, Smith is a father of four and a part-time “soccer-mom,” spending his free time taxiing his children to and from practice and softball, baseball, and volleyball games or cross-country track meets.

Anniston Army Depot Mentorship Program

BY ANAD MENTORSHIP PROGRAM TEAM

Committed to the professional development of its workforce, Anniston Army Depot is aligning its vision and mission to ensure global readiness through the Mentorship Program.

This program creates an unbiased environment for individuals to share knowledge in pursuit of professional growth, unlocking their full potential.

Throughout the mentoring relationship, the mentor and mentee share common goals, interests, and expectations; a commitment to the mentoring practice; showing mutual respect; extending and receiving trust.

The relationship of the mentor and mentee is a collaborative effort of self-discovery, goal setting, character building, and enhancement of the current network of inspiring people.

Throughout two sessions, feedback from mentees has been a resounding message of impacting personal and professional growth. Mentees have gained a greater understanding of the depot mission and how they fit into serving the global readiness effort.

Feedback from mentees include: “The program taught me that I matter. That I’m a catalyst for my personal development and it opened my eyes to other opportunities on the depot. I learned to face my fears.”

Mentors and mentees who have completed the program have gained a newfound perspective of themselves and the importance of their contributions to the warfighter.

The ANAD Mentorship Program is a formal 6-month program. Participants must commit to a minimum of one hour and not exceed three hours per month in the program.

Mentees will be paired with a mentor who is strong in the categories they hope to improve, gaining the knowledge and confidence in their strengths.

Applicants will be randomly paired based on the mentor’s strengths and the mentee’s professional areas of interest.

One important aspect of the program is that it is not promotion based, and there is no guarantee of a promotion when an applicant finishes the program.

Session 3 of the Mentorship Program is set to kick-off in early 2024.

Individuals wishing to participate in the program should watch for all-user emails, tier meetings, Morning Show announcements, and posters throughout breakrooms and cafeterias announcing the application process.



U.S. ARMY PHOTO BY MARK CLEGHORN

Through the mentorship program, mentees gain a greater understanding of the depot mission and how they fit into serving the global readiness effort.