

THE 10TH SPECIAL FORCES *The Originals*

NEWSLETTER
VOLUME 3 - AUGUST 2026



*THE ORIGINALS: CELEBRATING 74 YEARS
A MOUNTAIN, A MISSION, A TRADITION*

*MILITARY FAMILY DAY AT THE
PIKES PEAK OR BUST RODEO*

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A U.S. Army Soldier assigned to the 82nd Chemical Reconnaissance Detachment, 10th Special Forces Group (Airborne), examines a mock chemical lab during a nighttime training exercise at Camp Red Devil, Fort Carson, Colorado, April 8, 2026. During the exercise, the detachment collected a sample of a simulated chemical warfare agent as part of specialized counterproliferation training focused on weapons of mass destruction. (U.S. Army photo by Sgt. Casey Dinnison)

COMMAND GROUP



COMMANDER
COL NATHANAEL JOSLYN

COMMAND SERGEANT MAJOR
CSM ROBERT HAMMONS

CHIEF WARRANT OFFICER
CW5 BLAINE WOODMAN

DEPUTY COMMANDER
COL JASON DUFFY

EXECUTIVE OFFICER
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UPCOMING
EVENTS

LABOR DAY
WEEKEND

SEPTEMBER

4-7

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COMMANDER'S CORNER

COL NATHANAEL JOSLYN



Originals,

As summer winds down, I want to recognize the pride and energy across the formation. The past several weeks have showcased the best of the 10th Special Forces Group (Airborne) and reminded us why we are known across the Regiment as *The Originals*.

Originals Week brought the Group together in the best way; competition, teamwork, and shared purpose. Whether on the combatives mats, in the Thorne events, battling it out in dodgeball, or pushing for the title of the Fittest Original, you brought the energy and camaraderie that define this formation.

We carried that spirit into our 74th Anniversary Ball, held just weeks before our nation celebrated 250 years of American freedom. It was a powerful reminder of the legacy we stand on, from the OSS and Jedburgh teams to our activation in 1952, and of the generations of Soldiers and families who built this Group's reputation for trust, discipline, and character.

Our history gives us pride, but your actions give us momentum. Whether deployed forward, building partner capacity, or sustaining readiness at home, your quiet professionalism keeps this Group at the forefront of the Regiment.

This summer, we've welcomed dozens of new Soldiers and families into the formation, and they are quickly becoming part of this team. Keep checking in, keep reaching out, and keep taking care of one another. Strong teams are built intentionally, and caring for our people remains one of our greatest strengths.

As always, I need everyone to stay conscious of safety, on duty, off duty, and everywhere in between. Small decisions matter. Your well-being protects readiness, and readiness protects the mission.

To our families and alumni: Your support and continued connection remain central to who we are. You carry forward pieces of our legacy that extend well beyond those currently in uniform, and your impact continues to shape this Group.

Thank you for honoring our history, strengthening our legacy, and carrying forward the spirit of The Originals with pride and purpose.

De Oppresso Liber.

CSM'S DESK

CSM ROBERT HAMMONS



Originals,

This is my first opportunity to address the entire 10th Group community through this publication. I want to begin by recognizing the responsibility that comes with serving in this formation.

Every Soldier who wears the 10th Group flash inherits something built long before their arrival. We inherit a reputation and a standard. We also inherit a legacy established by generations of Originals who served in difficult places under demanding circumstances.

We often think of legacy through important dates and battlefield accomplishments. Those things matter, but legacy also lives in the daily actions that rarely receive recognition.

It lives in the standards enforced when no one is watching.

It lives in the experienced Soldier who develops a younger teammate.

It lives in the family that supports years of deployments, missed milestones, and uncertainty.

It lives in the veteran who remains connected and continues to invest in those who follow.

Throughout my career, I have learned that the moments that stay with us are rarely about ourselves. We remember the teammates. We remember knowing that the people beside us would do anything for one another.

That trust is not created through slogans or ceremonies. It is earned through competence and consistency. It is strengthened through shared hardship and a willingness to place the team above self.

Our faces change. The mission evolves. The organization adapts. Our obligation remains the same: to be worthy of the teammates beside us and the reputation entrusted to us.

For today's formation, legacy is not something we simply admire. It is something we create through our actions. It is reflected in how we train and how we lead. It is also reflected in the standards we uphold, the way we care for our families, and how well we prepare the next generation.

We inherited an extraordinary organization. Our responsibility is to preserve what is worth preserving, improve what can be improved, and leave 10th Group stronger than we found it, not for ourselves but for those who will inherit it next.

De Oppresso Liber.

A high-angle, top-down photograph of a U.S. Army Green Beret in mid-air, having just exited the open side door of a UH-60 Black Hawk helicopter. The soldier is wearing a camouflage uniform, a helmet, and a large orange parachute pack. They are in a free-fall position with arms and legs spread. The helicopter's landing gear and fuselage are visible on the right side of the frame. The background is a vast, arid, desert landscape with light brown sand and sparse vegetation. The overall tone is dramatic and action-oriented.

A U.S. Army Green Beret assigned to the 2nd Battalion, 10th Special Forces Group (Airborne), exits a UH-60 Black Hawk during a military free-fall jump as part of the Apollo Nexus training exercise at Dugway Proving Ground, May 27, 2026. The exercise was designed to enhance the Green Berets' tactical capabilities and operational readiness, ensuring they are prepared to respond effectively to complex and dynamic mission environments. (U.S. Army photo by Staff Sgt. Liseth Espinel)

BEST OF THE QUARTER

CW2 KAYLA DAVIS

BEST OF THE QUARTER - OFFICER

Chief Warrant Officer 2 Kayla Davis, Group Mobility Warrant Officer assigned to the 10th Special Forces Group (Airborne), was named the 2026 Transportation Warrant Officer of the Year for her technical expertise, leadership and impact on the Transportation Corps mission.

Davis credited the recognition to the teamwork and support of those around her. As the Group's lead mobility planner, she coordinated nine strategic deployments and numerous training rotations while leveraging partnerships with Air Force National Guard and Reserve units to generate more than \$5 million in cost savings.

"The teams here really make you feel part of the unit and family," Davis said. "It makes me want to give back to them even more."

Beyond the Group, Davis hopes the recognition highlights the work of its Soldiers.

"I really want to represent 10th Group to the rest of the Army and show people that we're working just as hard, if not harder than anyone else," Davis said.



CSM ISTVAN MEZEI

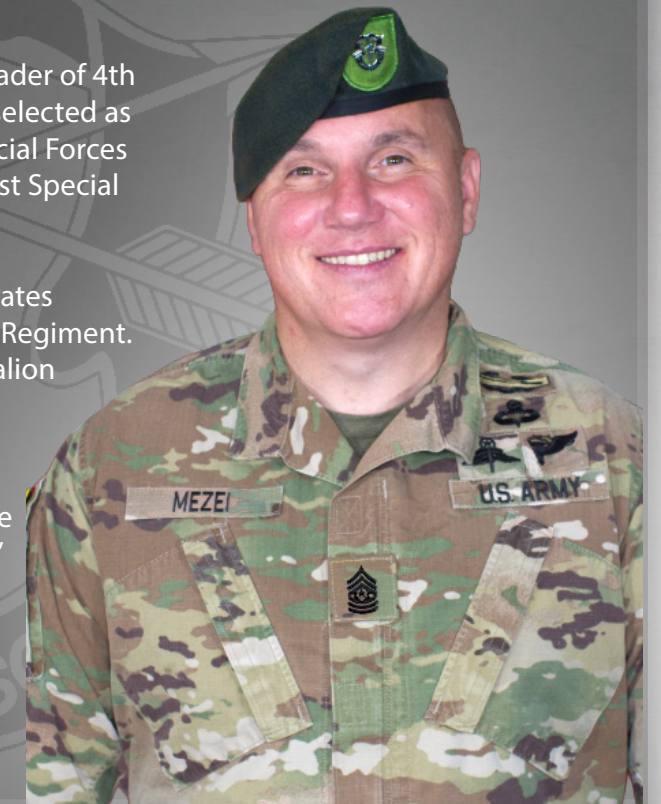
BEST OF THE QUARTER - ENLISTED

Command Sgt. Maj. Istvan Mezei, former senior enlisted leader of 4th Battalion, 10th Special Forces Group (Airborne), has been selected as the 2026 U.S. Frederick Award recipient, the U.S. Army Special Forces Noncommissioned Officer of the Year, presented by the First Special Service Force Association.

The award recognizes a Special Forces NCO who demonstrates exceptional leadership, professionalism and service to the Regiment. Mezei was nominated for his leadership in improving battalion readiness, strengthening the organization and supporting operational requirements.

"This award reflects the Soldiers and leaders who put in the time and effort every day to make the organization better," Mezei said.

After more than 17 years with 10th SFG(A), Mezei emphasized that the recognition represents the organization rather than individual achievement.



SPC MERCEDEZ GROVE

BEST OF THE QUARTER - PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICE

Since arriving at the 10th Special Forces Group (Airborne) Public Affairs Office in October 2025 as a Private First Class, Specialist Mercedes Grove has established herself as a standout "go-getter." As a 46V Visual Information Specialist, SPC Grove consistently demonstrates remarkable initiative, routinely stepping up to lead high-visibility projects and direct complex missions documenting critical training exercises.

Her technical expertise and sharp eye for detail recently earned national acclaim when she was named the Army Public Affairs Association's Photographer of the Month for April. This prestigious recognition highlights her dedication to visual storytelling and her mastery of the craft.

SPC Grove's drive, leadership, and professional excellence continue to elevate the 10th SFG(A) public affairs mission, making her a vital asset to the unit.



JENNIFER ANDERSON

BEST OF THE QUARTER - STAFF

Jennifer Anderson, the personal financial counselor supporting 10th Special Forces Group, helps Soldiers and their families build healthy financial habits and prepare for major life milestones. She works one-on-one with clients to develop realistic financial plans that balance current goals with long-term financial security.

Anderson helps Soldiers prepare for marriage, the birth of a child, home purchases, divorce and permanent change of station moves. Planning for these transitions can reduce reliance on high-interest credit cards and help prevent long-term debt. Financial readiness contributes to mission readiness.

"By learning to manage money and not just spend money, we reduce financial stress, which is one of the top two reasons for marital strife," she said.

Reducing financial stress allows Soldiers to focus on their duties while protecting their security clearances and careers. Through financial education and planning, Anderson strengthens the readiness, resilience and long-term success of 10th Special Forces Group.



Green Berets assigned to the 10th Special Forces Group (Airborne) lead a convoy back to the start line following the completion of the Pikes Peak International Hill Climb in Colorado Springs, Colorado, June 22, 2026. The convoy marked the conclusion of the unit's support for the annual "Race to the Clouds," the third consecutive year the 10th SFG (A) has partnered with race organizers to help facilitate one of the nation's premier motorsports events. (U.S. Army photo by Sgt. Oniel McDonald)

BATTALION HIGHLIGHTS

1ST BATTALION



U.S. Army Green Berets assigned to the 10th Special Forces Group (Airborne) conduct a covert beach landing during annual combat diver requalification training at Marine Corps Base Camp Pendleton, California, on July 15, 2026. (Picture source: U.S. Department of War/Defense)

From left, U.S. Army Lt. Col. Michael DiPietro, incoming commander of 1st Battalion, 10th Special Forces Group (Airborne), Col. Nathanael Joslyn, commander of 10th SFG (A), and Lt. Col. Owen Broom, outgoing commander of 1st Battalion, 10th SFG (A), stand at attention as the colors are presented during a battalion change of command ceremony at Baumholder, Germany, July 28, 2026. The presentation of the colors, signifying the transfer of command and the dedication of the Soldiers to their new leader, marks the formal beginning of the change of command ceremony. (U.S. Army National Guard photo by Spc. Skylin Simpson)



2ND BATTALION



Green Berets with 2nd Battalion, 10th Special Forces Group (Airborne), U.S. Special Operations Command Europe, guide an unmanned aerial system during a live-munitions strike as part of Exercise Deep Strike in Grafenwöhr, Germany, Feb. 22, 2026. The system delivered a precise strike with an armor-piercing payload, concluding Deep Strike, a nine-day training exercise that began with a 150-kilometer movement through simulated hostile environments while remaining undetected and evading opposing aerial drones and conventional forces. SOCEUR conducted the first iteration of special operations deep strike lanes, a pivotal training initiative designed to enhance force readiness by operating in geographically dynamic and complex scenarios, including denied environments and contested electronic warfare spaces. (U.S. Army National Guard photo by Sgt. Glenn Brennan)

U.S. Army Lt. Col. Philip Swintek, outgoing commander of 2nd Battalion, 10th Special Forces Group (Airborne), delivers a speech during a change of command ceremony at Fort Carson, Colorado, July 2, 2026. The ceremony marked the transfer of command from Lt. Col. Swintek to Lt. Col. Samy Fouda, ensuring continuity of leadership within the battalion. (U.S. Army photo by Pfc. Mercedes Grove)



3RD BATTALION Assumes Responsibilities in Europe



This deployment would not be possible without the support of military families. Their resilience, patience and sacrifice at home allow Soldiers to remain focused on their responsibilities overseas. Family readiness remains an essential part of overall mission readiness.

As 3rd Battalion begins its rotation, the team looks forward to a successful deployment built on professionalism, cooperation and shared purpose. By working together across units, agencies and nations, the battalion is prepared to strengthen partnerships and continue the mission in support of Operation Atlantic Resolve.

The 3rd Battalion, 10th Special Forces Group (Airborne), assumed day-to-day operational responsibilities from the 19th Special Forces Group (Airborne), marking the beginning of a new rotation in support of Operation Atlantic Resolve.

The transition ensures continuity of operations while allowing the incoming team to build upon the relationships and progress established by the outgoing unit. During the deployment, 3rd Battalion will operate alongside U.S. military units, government organizations, NATO Allies and partner nations in a joint, interagency, intergovernmental and multinational environment.

Mission success depends on the entire formation. Green Berets are supported by enablers who provide critical intelligence, communications, logistics, medical, maintenance and administrative capabilities. Paratroopers also contribute when additional personnel and capabilities are required. Together, these Soldiers and supporting professionals ensure the force remains prepared, connected and capable of accomplishing the mission.



4TH BATTALION



U.S. Army Command Sgt. Maj. Benjamin Kauffman accepts responsibility as the senior enlisted advisor of the 4th Battalion, 10th Special Forces Group (Airborne), from U.S. Army Command Sgt. Maj. Istvan Mezei during a change of responsibility ceremony at Fort Carson, Colorado, July 1, 2026. The ceremony transferred responsibility, authority and accountability from the outgoing command sergeant major to the incoming command sergeant major, ensuring continuity of enlisted leadership throughout the organization. (U.S. Army photo by Sgt. Zachary Myers)

British Army Maj. Kev Carter, assigned to the U.K. Commando Force, briefs U.S. Army Lt. Gen. Kevin D. Admiral, commanding general of the III Armored Corps, and 10th Special Forces Group Leaders on British forces' role during Project Convergence Capstone 6 at Fort Irwin, California, July 19, 2026. Project Convergence Capstone 6 is a joint and multinational experiment designed to test emerging technology and strengthen interoperability among joint and partner forces. (U.S. Army photo by Sgt. Christian Dela Cruz)



GROUP SUPPORT BATTALION



U.S. Army Command Sgt. Maj. Ian Squires, outgoing command sergeant major, Group Support Battalion, 10th Special Forces Group (Airborne), embraces U.S. Army Command Sgt. Maj. Kevin Gantt, incoming command sergeant major, during a change of responsibility ceremony at Fort Carson, Colorado, Aug. 13, 2026. The ceremony marked the transition of responsibility for GSB from Squires to Gantt. (U.S. Army photo by Sgt. Shelby Jones)

U.S. Army Command Sgt. Maj. Keith Gantt, incoming command sergeant major, Group Support Battalion, 10th Special Forces Group (Airborne), stands with his family during a change of responsibility ceremony at Fort Carson, Colorado, Aug. 13, 2026. The ceremony marked the transition of responsibility for GSB from Command Sgt. Maj. Ian Squires to Gantt. (U.S. Army photo by Spc. Cheyenne Mayer)



82nd Chemical Reconnaissance



A U.S. Army Soldier assigned to the 82nd Chemical Reconnaissance Company, 10th Special Forces Group (Airborne), escorts a simulated enemy during a chemical, biological, radiological, and nuclear (CBRN) certification exercise in Pueblo, Colorado, Jul. 28, 2026. The certification evaluated Soldiers' ability to safely contain hazardous materials and prepared them to identify, respond to, and operate effectively in chemical hazard environments. (U.S. Army photo by Spc. Cheyenne Mayer)



U.S. Army Soldiers assigned to the 82nd Chemical Reconnaissance Detachment, 10th Special Forces Group (Airborne), establish a decontamination area during a nighttime maneuver exercise incorporating chemical, biological, radiological and nuclear (CBRN) operations and wounded personnel exfiltration at Fort Carson, Colorado, May 14, 2026. The training reinforced operational readiness and lethality by refining contamination mitigation, casualty management and exfiltration procedures in complex environments. (U.S. Army photo by Sgt. Shelby Jones)

92ND CIVIL AFFAIRS BATTALION



U.S. Army Lt. Col. Bradley W. Roush, outgoing commander of the 92nd Civil Affairs Battalion (Airborne), passes the battalion colors to Col. Nathanael Joslyn, commander of the 10th Special Forces Group, during the battalion's change of command ceremony May 29, 2026. The passing of the colors, during a change of command ceremony, is a military tradition symbolizing the transfer of leadership, authority and responsibility from the outgoing commander to the incoming commander. (U.S. Army photo by Pfc. Guinevere Honaker)

U.S. Soldiers with the 92nd Civil Affairs Battalion, 95th Civil Affairs Brigade (Special Operations) (Airborne) and Greek special operations forces soldiers react to simulated hostile contact and perform first aid during Trojan Footprint 26 near Oropos, Greece, May 16, 2026. Exercise Trojan Footprint is a multinational, joint-combined exercise that provides an opportunity to test the capabilities and interoperability of the Special Operations Forces elements of NATO Allies and partners. (U.S. Army National Guard photo by Sgt. 1st Class Brandon Nelson)



Photo Highlight

This photo of 3rd Battalion Green Berets after a HALO jump in White Sands Missile Range, New Mexico, as part of Exercise Diesel 26, was posted on both the Department of War and U.S. Army social pages. Exercise Diesel 26 assessed how Special Operations Forces can integrate into the Army's Next Generation Command and Control (NGC2) architecture while operating in austere, communications-contested environments. (U.S. Army photo by Staff Sgt. Rhianna Ballenger)





THE ORIGINALS: CELEBRATING 74 YEARS

STORY BY SPC MERCEDEZ GROVE



U.S. Army Soldiers assigned to the 10th Special Forces Group (Airborne), compete in a combatives competition as part of Originals Week at Fort Carson, Colorado, June 10, 2026. The event promoted teamwork, resilience, and warrior ethos while honoring the unit's Special Forces heritage. (U.S. Army photo by Cpl. by Marie Paul)

A Soldier assigned to the 10th Special Forces Group (Airborne) shoots an M4A1 at Range 43 during the 74th annual "Originals Week" Thorne Competition on Fort Carson, Colorado, June 9, 2026. The Thorne Competition event was designed to test operators and support soldiers from 10th SFG (A) in both technical and tactical proficiency. (U.S. Army Photo by Sgt. Alec Brueggemann)



FORT CARSON, Colo.

After decades of operational service, the 10th Special Forces Group (Airborne) celebrated its 74th Anniversary Originals Week at Fort Carson, Colorado, June 8-11, culminating with the 10th SFG (A) 74th Anniversary Ball on June 12. Originals Week brought together Soldiers, families and civilians to reflect on the unit's history while participating in a week of traditions and competitions designed to strengthen the bonds that continue to define the organization.

Since its activation on June 19, 1952, 'The Originals' have built a legacy embedded in courage, resilience, and mission success. Over the years, the Group's Soldiers have operated across the globe, earning an honorable reputation as some of the Army's most capable and versatile warriors. Originals Week serves as a tribute to that legacy, honoring the Green Berets who paved the way for the Soldiers who carry the standard forward today.

Throughout the week, Soldiers participated in a series of challenging competitions designed to test their physical and mental limits. Events tested everything from physical endurance and marksmanship to problem-solving and teamwork. Whether competing on the soccer field, in the boxing ring, navigating terrain, or competing in the "Fittest Original," participants demonstrated the grit and determination that define the Special Forces Regiment.

"This week is about competition, teamwork, and celebrating the spirit that's defined 10th Group for 74 years," stated Col. Nathanael Joslyn, commander of the 10th SFG (A).



Beyond the competitions, Originals Week provided opportunities for remembrance and celebration. Opening and closing ceremonies highlighted the group’s rich history and honored its many accomplishments. Family Day allowed a relaxed and festive atmosphere, giving loved ones a chance to connect with the unit and experience a glimpse of the Special Forces community. A sense of pride filled the compound as stories, laughter, and remembrance were shared.

“This is our chance to come together, compete hard, and enjoy some well-earned time as a Group,” said Joslyn.

During the closing ceremony, selected service members and spouses were recognized with awards presented by Joslyn for their outstanding service and unwavering support to the unit and its members. These awards highlighted that the strength of the 10th SFG (A) goes beyond the battlefield and is built on the commitment of both Soldiers and their families.

More than a week of competition and celebration, the 74th Annual Originals Week served as a powerful reminder of what it means to be part of the 10th SFG (A). It honored the legacy of those who came before and those who gave their lives in service. It celebrated the achievements of today’s fighting force while inspiring the next generation of Green Berets and Soldiers to carry forward the traditions, values, and spirit that have defined the organization for more than seven decades.



Soldiers assigned to the 10th Special Forces Group (Airborne) compete in a soccer match at Fort Carson, Colorado, June 8, 2026. The event was part of the 74th annual Originals Week which brings together all the Battalions within 10th SFG (A) to compete in friendly competitions to enhance morale and build camaraderie. (U.S. Army photo by Sgt. Alec Brueggemann)

The 10th Special Forces Group (Airborne) command team contributes to the grog during the 74th Anniversary Ball at the Polaris Hotel, Colorado Springs, Colorado, June 12, 2026. The annual tradition brings Soldiers, veterans, families and supporters together to celebrate the history and legacy of 10th SFG(A). (U.S. Army photo by Sgt. Casey Dinnison)



A Green Beret assigned to 10th Special Forces Group (Airborne) establishes security during exercise Ridge Runner at Lake Lynn, West Virginia, April 21, 2026. Ridge Runner is a joint multinational training exercise that provides realistic, scenario-based training to strengthen readiness, sharpen unconventional warfare skills and enhance the ability of participating forces to operate in complex environments. (U.S. Army photo by Sgt. Zachary Myers)

Photo Highlight





A MOUNTAIN, A MISSION, A TRADITION

STORY BY SGT CASEY DINNISON

Green Berets assigned to the 10th Special Forces Group (Airborne) arrive at the Pikes Peak Summit in All-Terrain Vehicle during the Pikes Peak International Hill Climb race in Colorado Springs, Colorado, June 21, 2026. The event marked the third consecutive year the unit supported the race by delivering the checkered flag to race officials, reinforcing 10th SFG(A)'s connection to the Colorado Springs community while taking part in a longstanding local tradition. (U.S. Army photo by Staff Sgt. Luis Solorio)



COLORADO SPRGS, Colo.

Across the arid switchbacks of Pikes Peak, a crowd of onlookers began to cheer as a series of engine sounds reverberated through the mountains. As the vehicles came into view, a caravan emerged, complete with a trail of Army-green vehicles, bright flags, and some of America's most elite fighters. This was the signal to begin the race.

For the third consecutive year, the 10th Special Forces Group (Airborne) was given the honor of delivering the checkered flag to the top of the 14,000-foot mountain, which would later welcome drivers at the finish line.

"On behalf of the Soldiers and families of the 10th Special Forces Group (Airborne), it is an honor to be here once again with the Pikes Peak International Hill Climb community," said Col. Nathanael Joslyn, commander of the 10th Special Forces Group (Airborne). "Every year, this event brings together civic leaders, first responders, business partners, athletes, military families, and supporters from across the region. Just standing in this room, you can feel how deeply this event is woven into the identity and spirit of Colorado Springs."

Joslyn spoke inside the Broadmoor Hotel, a 109-year-old historic building closely tied to the heritage of the city. The Pikes Peak International Hill Climb is a staple of Colorado's motorsports heritage. Thousands of locals and visitors stay up all night to make the arduous trip up the dark mountain for a chance to watch the race.





Green Berets assigned to the 10th Special Forces Group (Airborne) pose for a photo with a race official after delivering the checkered flag to the summit of Pikes Peak before the start of the Pikes Peak International Hill Climb in Colorado Springs, Colorado, June 21, 2026. The annual event, known as the “Race to the Clouds,” challenges competitors to ascend the 12.42-mile course to the 14,115-foot summit of Pikes Peak and marks the third consecutive year the 10th SFG (A) has supported the historic race. (U.S. Army photo by Sgt. Oniel McDonald)



The Pikes Peak International Hill Climb started in August 1916 after the completion of the 19-mile Pikes Peak Highway. It is known in the motorsports industry as “The Race to the Clouds.” It is notorious among race enthusiasts as one of the most dangerous competitions in the world because of its 156 turns and very few runoff areas, meaning a driver could face catastrophe if they miss a single turn. The race is spread across 12 miles and almost 5,000 feet of elevation.

The event has become an integral part of the culture and community of Colorado Springs. For the 10th Special Forces Group (Airborne), it is an honor to be granted the privilege to participate in the local culture of their home station.

“At the Hill Climb, success requires teamwork — drivers, crews, organizers, safety officials, volunteers, and champions across this community,” Joslyn said during his speech at the Broadmoor. “It mirrors exactly how our military operates: our missions rely on preparation, discipline, and trust, qualities that are built through teamwork and shared commitment. No mission is accomplished alone. Every step toward the summit depends on the teammates beside you.” Joslyn emphasized the deep connection the unit feels to the region and the event’s iconic backdrop.

“We are honored to be part of this celebration, and we look forward to standing with you as the flag rises on America’s Mountain,” he said.

For three years, the unit has led the charge to the summit to kick off Colorado Springs’ most famous weekend. As the drivers sped past the starting line, the 10th SFG(A) proved once again that whether on a deployment or on the rugged slopes of pikes peak, they are an inseparable part of the local team.

Photo Highlight

A U.S. Army Green Beret assigned to 10th Special Forces Group (Airborne) prepares to re-enter a boat during annual dive requalification training at Marine Corps Base Camp Pendleton, California, July 17, 2026. Special Forces Combat Divers requalify each year to maintain proficiency in waterborne infiltration, a capability that allows teams to reach objectives inaccessible by land or air. Faces have been obscured for security reasons. (U.S. Army photo by Staff Sgt. Landon Carter)





MILITARY FAMILY DAY AT THE PIKES PEAK OR BUST RODEO

STORY BY SSG LISETH ESPINEL

FORT CARSON, Colo.

Green Berets from the 10th Special Forces Group (Airborne) participated in the Military Family Day matinee performance at the Pikes Peak or Bust Rodeo at Norris Penrose Event Center in Colorado Springs, July 17, 2026.

The Originals introduced themselves to the audience with a video highlighting its capabilities, fast-moving tactical operations and Soldiers maneuvering in challenging environments, capturing the grit, heritage and relentless spirit of the 10th SFG (A).

"It's a powerful reminder that whether on foot, on skis, on a helicopter fast rope, or on horseback, our Soldiers adapt, innovate and excel wherever the mission takes them," said Lt. Col. Nicholas Tallant, deputy commander of the 10th SFG (A), during his opening remarks. "Our Soldiers have trained partners across Europe, carried out humanitarian missions that saved lives, and operated in some of the most demanding environments on earth, quietly, professionally and always with absolute commitment to the mission."



U.S. Army Lt. Col. Nicholas Tallant, deputy commander of the 10th Special Forces Group (Airborne), poses for a photo with Laurie Carroll, president of the Pikes Peak or Bust Rodeo, after presenting her with a 10th SFG (A) belt buckle during Military Family Day at the Pikes Peak or Bust Rodeo in Colorado Springs, Colorado, July 17, 2026. Military Family Day recognizes service members and their families while celebrating the longstanding partnership between the local military community and the rodeo. (U.S. Army photo by Staff Sgt. Liseth Espinel)

Riders perform during the Pikes Peak or Bust Rodeo in Colorado Springs, Colorado, July 17, 2026. Military Family Day recognizes service members and their families while celebrating the longstanding partnership between the local military community and the rodeo. (U.S. Army photo by Staff Sgt. Liseth Espinel)





U.S. Army Sgt. Maj. Timothy Paone, assigned to the 10th Special Forces Group (Airborne), sings the national anthem during the Military Family Day matinee performance at the Pikes Peak or Bust Rodeo in Colorado Springs, Colorado, July 17, 2026. (U.S. Army photo by Staff Sgt. Liseth Espinel)

Command Sgt. Maj. Robert Hammons, command sergeant major of the 10th Special Forces Group (Airborne), and his family watch the rodeo during the Military Family Day matinee performance at the Pikes Peak or Bust Rodeo in Colorado Springs, Colorado, July 17, 2026. Military Family Day recognizes service members and their families while celebrating the longstanding partnership between the local military community and the rodeo. (U.S. Army photo by Staff Sgt. Liseth Espinel)



Competitors traveled from across the country and around the world to participate in the rodeo and joined Military Family Day in honoring the families who make military service possible.

“The Pikes Peak or Bust Rodeo, now in its 85th year, has honored service members and supported military families since 1946, and your continued support means more than you know,” Tallant said. “Reminding our Soldiers and families that their service matters and that this nation is proud of them.”

Following the remarks, Sgt. Maj. Timothy Paone performed the national anthem on behalf of the 10th SFG (A), honoring service members, military families and rodeo attendees gathered for the event.

Throughout the rodeo, Green Berets staffed a static display near the vendor area, showcasing military equipment and engaging with attendees by answering questions about the unit’s mission, capabilities and service opportunities.



Photo Highlight

A Green Beret assigned to 3rd Battalion, 10th Special Forces Group (Airborne) descends during a nighttime airborne operation as part of Ivy Mass at Pinon Canyon Maneuvering Site, Colorado, May 4, 2026. Ivy Mass was the division’s culminating exercise that integrated Special Forces and Conventional Forces to validate large scale combat operations and reinforce readiness for future operations.(U.S. Army photo by Sgt. Christian Dela Cruz)

CHAPLAIN'S NOOK



CHAPLAIN MAJ Dennis Stene

As we consider the history and legacy of The Originals, we have the opportunity to remember the countless individuals who have served in this Group throughout the years and shaped it, and the Special Forces Regiment, into what it is today. I'm sure we each would acknowledge that none of us would be here were it not for those who paved the way throughout our Group's history. Personally, I am amazed every day that I have the privilege of serving in such a phenomenal organization alongside some of the best Soldiers and Leaders in the United States military and I am filled with deep gratitude. As you peruse this edition of The Originals Newsletter, I trust you, too, are filled with a balance of pride and gratitude.

This reminds me of the quote "If you see a turtle on the top of a fence post, you know it didn't get there by itself." As I researched the origin of this quote, I found no concrete attribution to an original author. The picture you currently have in your mind of a turtle sitting on a fence post, accompanied by the thought of "how did that little guy get there," will hopefully cause us to reflect on where each of us currently are in our lives and wonder the same thought, "How did I get here?"

This reflective question could be interpreted in various ways. Primarily, it is good for us to remember all the people in our lives who have invested in us in positive ways and helped us to get where we are. On our own, we would in no way have made it to where we are and be doing what we are doing in life without the relatives, teachers, coaches, mentors, Soldiers, and teammates along the way. The Apostle Paul stated in the New Testament "But by the grace of God I am what I am:" (1 Corinthians 15:10). Not only will it do you good to take a few moments to dwell on this, and remember those who have invested in you in the past along your journey, but you may also realize that it's the person who currently works with you on a daily basis who is deserving of your thanks. The Soldier on your left or right is, hopefully, helping you get an important job done, and you in turn are doing the same for them. Express your appreciation to your fellow Originals as we are all, together, stewarding the legacy of this incredible organization.

Please let me know if the Group Unit Ministry Team can assist you in any way.

- Chaplain (MAJ) Dennis Stene

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☎ 719-271-9311

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IF YOU HAVE SPECIAL RELIGIOUS NEEDS OR QUESTIONS ABOUT RELIGIOUS SUPPORT, EMAIL THE RSO TEAM AT FCCORSO@ARMY.MIL.

FOR **EMERGENCY** RELIGIOUS SUPPORT, CONTACT THE EMERGENCY ON-CALL DUTY CHAPLAIN: **719-291-9619**.

10TH SPECIAL FORCES GROUP (AIRBORNE) OBITUARIES

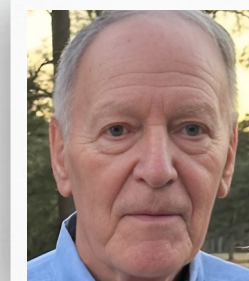
We honor the memory of all United States Army service members who have passed away—whether in combat, in service, or after returning home. Their dedication to duty, commitment to the nation, and their sacrifices—both seen and unseen—will never be forgotten. May their service be remembered with gratitude and their lives honored with dignity. They will be remembered not only for their service, but also for the legacy of strength and selflessness they leave behind. May we never forget the cost of freedom, and may their memory live on in the hearts of all who knew and loved them.



HOWARD HUBBS

10/14/62-05/01/26

<https://www.ellisonfh.com/obituaries/Howard-Hubbs?obld=48288183>



CSM(R) TRIVETT "TIM" LLOYD

06/21/26

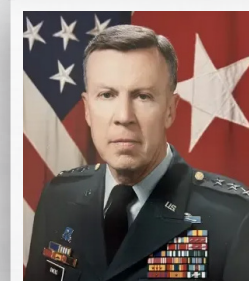
<https://specialforcestaps.com/f/csmr-trivett-tim-lloyd>



CSM(R) JAMES VERNON STEPHENSON

10/31/39-06/04/26

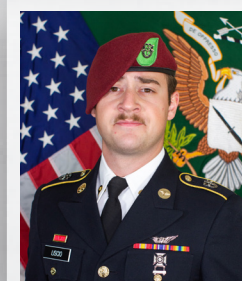
<https://specialforcestaps.com/f/csmr-james-vernon-stephenson-1>



LTG (R) IRA CHARLES "CHUCK" OWENS

07/31/36-06/25/26

<https://specialforcestaps.com/f/ltg-r-ira-charles-%E2%80%99Chuck%E2%80%99-owens>



SGT ALEXANDER LISCIO

10/18/01-06/06/26

<https://specialforcestaps.com/f/sgt-alexander-liscio>



HOWARD C. CHAPMAN

01/12/48-07/08/26

<https://specialforcestaps.com/f/howard-c-chapman>



Continue to be the nation's most elite and trusted irregular warfare force,
relied on for conflict preparation, competition, and high-end conflict.