



THE CECOM DASH



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Perna Commands CECOM's Attention at Quarterly Briefing

ABERDEEN PROVING GROUND, Md. – Inclement weather did not stop the U.S. Army Communications–Electronics Command from delivering a productive, insight–filled quarterly briefing to Gen. Gus Perna, commander of U.S. Army Materiel Command, on Thursday, Feb. 13. Through a video teleconference in lieu of an in–person briefing, Perna praised CECOM for its progress in pursuing his priorities such as 100 percent supply availability. “Three years ago, our first reaction was, ‘That can’t be done,’” he said. “Today we’re saying, ‘let’s dig in and figure out how to get it done.’”



Soldier Helps Others Visualize Future, Wins Award

TOBYHANNA ARMY DEPOT, Pa. – It’s up to Sgt. 1st Class Samuel Rodriguez to help Soldiers visualize a future in the Army. Rodriguez was named Tobyhanna Army Depot’s Warfighter of the Quarter for the first quarter of 2020 during a ceremony at the Wilkes–Barre/Scranton Penguins’ hockey military appreciation event on Feb. 8. He is an Army Reserve Career Counselor for the Army Reserve Careers Brigade in Pennsylvania. The 20–year veteran serves as the primary career counselor, supporting hundreds of Soldiers assigned to 10 reserve units scattered throughout the state.



BEYA Honors Three Decades of Mentoring

WASHINGTON – It had been nearly 15 years since Lt. Gen. Bruce Crawford had last seen her, and Maj. Crystal Ernst had been a young specialist back then. But Crawford recognized his former Soldier from Iraq immediately and remembered her name when he saw her again at the Command and General Staff College. “Watching (then–Lt. Col.) Crawford and the way he looked out for the entire battalion, he was very personable,” Ernst said. “He knew me personally even though I was only a junior Soldier. He probably had 600 Soldiers, but he knew (us).”



Kilgo Gives “State of APG” Address to Harford County Council

BEL AIR, Md. – Maj. Gen. Mitchell Kilgo, the senior commander of Aberdeen Proving Ground and commanding general of U.S. Army Communications–Electronics Command, delivered a “State of APG” address to the seven elected leaders of the Harford County Council during their Feb. 11 legislative session open to the public. Kilgo discussed several recent and upcoming initiatives, projects, and events that gave the council a snapshot of the economic impact and contributions that APG has as the county’s largest employer.

For information on stories or submissions, contact Ann Gonzalez at ann.c.gonzalez.civ@mail.mil or 443-861-6719.

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African Americans in the U.S. Army Signal Corps

ABERDEEN PROVING GROUND, Md. – William Hallett Greene, the first African American to graduate from the College of the City of New York, attempted to enlist in the U.S. Army Signal Corps in April 1884. Chief Signal Officer Brig. Gen. William B. Hazen rejected Greene's initial application due to Congress restricting black Soldiers to infantry and cavalry regiments. The decision was later overruled by the son of President Abraham Lincoln, Secretary of War Robert T. Lincoln.



Depot Employees Build a Better Battery Pack

TOBYHANNA ARMY DEPOT, Pa. – Battery packs assembled at Tobyhanna Army Depot will power tens of thousands of identify friend or foe transponders used by America's warfighters. Five employees are producing more than 900 battery packs every month by employing continuous improvement processes. A number of revisions since the workload arrived in 2016 resulted in reducing the unit-funded cost by more than \$20 to date. Cost variations so far this year are expected to save the customer about \$80,000.



Pentagon Spokesman Discusses Coronavirus Response Assistance

WASHINGTON – “The Defense Department is standing by to provide assistance to the Department of Health and Human Services to combat the coronavirus,” Pentagon spokesman Jonathan Rath Hoffman said today. Hoffman said DOD is housing 198 people at March Air Reserve Base, California, and has identified housing support for up to 1,000 people at four bases who may need to be quarantined upon arrival from overseas travel, he said during a Pentagon news conference.



Elite Team Delivers Quick Response, Screens Hundreds of Radios

TOBYHANNA ARMY DEPOT, Pa. – In a matter of days, Army organizations formed a rapid response team to screen hundreds of Combat Service Support Automated Information System Interfaces at Tobyhanna Army Depot. Subject matter experts from the depot, Communications–Electronics Command's Integrated Logistics Support Center at Aberdeen Proving Ground, MD, and Combat Service Support Lab at Fort Huachuca, Arizona, were tasked to test a percentage of radios being stored by the Defense Logistics Agency to confirm future sustainability of the assets.



Army Seeks \$2B Boost in Budget for Modernization

WASHINGTON – The Army proposes to add over \$2 billion to its modernization efforts next fiscal year that will help continue to develop hypersonic missiles, future aircraft, and combat vehicles. The fiscal year 2021 budget request released Feb. 10 asks for \$10.6 billion for the Army's six modernization priorities, a jump from this fiscal year's enacted budget of \$8.5 billion. Of those priorities, long-range precision fires will receive \$1.7 billion if the budget is approved as is.



CECOM Presents at BEYA

WASHINGTON – U.S. Army Communications–Electronics Command Commanding General and APG Senior Commander Maj. Gen. Mitchell Kilgo, shares a laugh with members of the CECOM team during the 2020 Black Engineer of the Year Award, Feb. 14.

Upcoming Events in March

- 4th Army Emergency Relief Run (APG)
- 9th Senior Leader Lunch
- 12th Installation Town Hall
- 24–26th CIO/G6 – AFCEA Signal Conference
- 25th Women's History Observance