A Message from the Corps Chief

Greetings Fellow Medical Service Corps Officers.

In January I had the opportunity to speak with you during our DCS to the Field. I encourage you all to log onto the MSC website and review the minutes and slides as there is pertinent information regarding broadening assignments and effective talent management. I continue to stress how important it is for you to do the best you can at your current position and strive for success. Many of you asked some great questions, all highlighted in the minutes, and we appreciate this. The Office of the Chief team is here for you. Please do not hesitate to contact them as needed.

The United States Army Medical Service Corps is an important national resource with a long and distinguished history. During World War I, the requirement for a considerable number of officers who were not physicians resulted in the establishment of the ‘Sanitary Corps’ on 30 June 1917. This Corps modernized the Army Medical Department relieving physicians from a wide variety of administrative and scientific specialties. The war also demonstrated the need for a Medical Administrative Corps (1920) and a Pharmacy Corps (1943). On 4 August 1947, The Surgeon General, Major General Norman T. Kirk, proposed the establishment of a Medical Service Corps (MSC) that would consolidate the officers of the Sanitary Corps, Medical Administrative Corps, and Pharmacy Corps and on 24 September 1947, a board appointed by The Surgeon General selected Colonel Othmar Goriup, MSC, as the first Chief of the Corps. An unbroken chain from 1917 to present day links the Sanitary Corps as the oldest direct antecedent of the MSC and is the cause for our celebrating its establishment as the MSC birthday.

This year, 30 June 2017, marks the 100th Anniversary of our outstanding Corps. We are planning and entire day of events at Joint Base San Antonio to include a prayer breakfast that morning, followed by a MEDEVAC Demonstration on Mac Arthur Field. We will then move to the museum for our traditional cake cutting ceremony, and then immediately following everyone will be released to go get ready for the 100th MSC Ball at the McNay Museum which will begin at 1700 with a cocktail hour. The event will be catered by Absolutely Delicious Catering, and I can tell you the food will be awesome. More details and times will be made available, but I just wanted to give you an idea of where we are headed. I look forward to hearing about the events you have planned at your installations and honoring the Corps as it deserves to be.

We truly have a remarkable story to tell because of you and the many sacrifices you make for our Soldiers, our Corps, and the Nation. Thank you!

One Team...One Purpose! Conserving the Fighting Strength Since 1775!

Major General Patrick D. Sargent
18th Chief, Medical Service Corps
**Soldiers**

Soldiers from Charlie Company, 4th Brigade Support Battalion (4BSB), 1st Stryker Brigade Combat Team, 4th Infantry Division, exposed their selfless service by conducting three separate environmental conservation acts within six weeks. The ‘Guardians’ of the 4BSB adopted Hayme’s Reservoir as part of a cleanup program headed by 2LT Lisenka Wunder, Preventive Medicine OIC. The Adopt a Reservoir Program allows Soldiers to volunteer and assist in cleaning litter that could potentially infiltrate and diminish wildlife and aquatic resources. These reservoirs serve as a tranquil escape for many Soldiers and their families as they provide a pavilion for fishing and picnics areas, while also providing training opportunities for Soldiers with water purification, maritime operations and aviation bucket drops to aide in battling wildfires. The adoption of this reservoir has provided company pride, camaraderie, and selfless service to the installation. Soldiers were eager to partake in this event and the lessons learned from the clean-up activities left a lasting impact on them. “It felt good to clean up our environment and take care of the place that we live in”, said SPC Andrew Strickland, treatment medic, Charlie Company, 4BSB.

As a result of their efforts, Charlie Company was presented with a sign from the Department of Public Works’ Forestry and Natural Resources section chief, Mr. Roger Peyton, for officially adopting Hayme’s reservoir. Now that the Guardians are caretakers of the reservoir, they realize they are charged with a mission to continue their efforts over time with frequent visits in order to preserve a valuable natural resource.

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**MEDCOM observes Security Awareness Month during April**

By Barry England, MEDCOM OPSEC Program Manager

April marks the annual U.S. Army Medical Command (MEDCOM) Security Awareness Month. Throughout the month the intent is to place emphasis on remembering to sustain a heightened security awareness to help protect Service members, U.S. Government civilians/contractors, and Family Members working and living within MEDCOM communities.

This year’s theme is "Cleared and Present: The dangers of not reporting” remind all MEDCOM personnel of the consequences of not reporting security violations, and suspicious incidents. From employees with or without security clearances not reporting adverse life events, suspicious packages, sensitive information online or even suspicious individuals the dangers of not reporting can adversely affect a unit’s mission, or cause harm to personnel.

Whether at work or at home MEDCOM personnel are prime targets for scams, phishing attempts, insider threat, and terrorist attacks. By reporting security violations and suspicious events all MEDCOM personnel can foil adversaries’ pre-operational planning attempts before they ever get started. Family members can also help to prevent security violations, as they may see something on base, or on the internet, and can report the information. Suspected security violations or incidents should be reported as soon as possible to your local security office.

If your local security office is unavailable reporting can also be accomplished by reporting incidents to the Army’s Threat Awareness and Reporting Program at 1-800-CALL-SPY or visiting https://www.inscom.army.mil/isalute/

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**“Guardians” of more than just Soldiers**

By 1LT Giovanna Camacho

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Order of Daedalians United States Army Exceptional Pilot Award

Congratulations to 1LT Matthew Norcia, Charlie Company, 3rd Battalion, 25th Aviation Regiment, 25th Combat Aviation Brigade, for being named the winner of the Order of Daedalians United States Army Exceptional Pilot Award for his outstanding performance in mission accomplishment and display of extraordinary leadership in support of air operations during Calendar Year (CY) 2016.

1LT Norcia served as a Forward Support MEDEVAC Platoon Leader and aeromedical evacuation pilot, in direct support of over 1,300 ground troops in Thailand (Operation Hanuman Guardian) and Indonesia (Operation Garuda Shield), during Pacific Pathways (PPW) 16-02. PPW is the Army’s contribution to the nation’s rebalancing to the Indo-Asia-Pacific region and typically consists of consecutive theater security cooperation (TSC) exercises in multiple countries, providing leaders at every echelon unique problem sets both in mission execution and logistical support.

Not only is 1LT Norcia an excellent pilot, but he is also a great mentor to his young Warrant Officers. He consistently works with junior pilots and crew to improve their aviation knowledge and skillsets. 1LT Norcia has recently been selected as a Pilot-in-Command (PC) as he prepares to take his Platoon to the Joint Readiness Training Center (JRTC) in Ft. Polk, Louisiana. His platoon is full of professional officers and NCO’s capable of great things as they deploy for the second time in less than six months. The capability and professionalism of his platoon is a direct reflection of the high caliber of its leader. 1LT Matthew Norcia is undoubtedly a future senior leader within the ranks of Army Aviation and the Army Medical Department.

The MSC Leader Development FaceBook Page: Social Media as a Force Multiplier

The Medical Service Corps Leader Development Facebook page provides a network of ideas that enhance collective knowledge and understanding of our world and profession. Specifically, it addresses leadership development, military history, strategy, current events, military writing, geopolitics, and issues impacting the medical community. The page also introduces a myriad of tools for MSC officers to remain abreast of world events, current TTPs, lessons learned, and evolving doctrine. This content, coupled with unit and individual participation and engagement, creates a forum of professionals who learn and collaborate routinely to build a more professional, capable Corps.

Facebook is a common social media platform that reaches the scope of the corps. There is no learning curve or indoctrination process required to convince officers to check Facebook; they already do it. Great ideas and functional knowledge are useless if no one shares or learns it. Individuals and official unit pages can easily and rapidly share content posted by the Medical Service Corps Leader Development page. This enables leaders to easily integrate the content into self-development plans, mentorship plans, and unit Leader Development Programs with minimal effort.
The job of a 70 Charlie/Health Service Comptroller cannot be taken at face value. Tasks include reviewing the organization's mission, identifying external environmental factors, assessing internal capabilities and seeking innovative opportunities to find efficiencies to sustained health services. Research is also necessary to support the Total Force in enabling readiness, conserving the fighting strength and caring for our Soldiers for Life and Families. In order to remain relevant and learn from the industry, the 70C community coordinated the first annual Army Medicine Comptroller Leadership Summit. MAJ Philip Kaberline, a 70C and Baylor resident, originally thought of the idea. COL Derrick Flowers immediately put things in action to gain support from both the AMEDD and Methodist Healthcare Leadership.

On 7 February 2017, six aspiring comptroller interns received briefings from MHS leaders on their best practices in the following areas: Next Generation of Growth (MHS $100M plan for market expansion), Supply Chain Management, the Operating Budget Analysis Tool and an explanation of MHS's Baldrige Journey. The exchange of information was both enlightening and inspiring. CPT Peter Houloulis, 70C intern, stated Jaime Wesolowski, the CEO of MHS, inspired him. Mr. Wesolowski said, "If we find an effective, evidenced based best practice at one facility, it is immediately implemented across the entire system." During the tour at Stone Oak, the interns witnessed an executive huddle, where representation from the entire hospital's leadership openly discussed targets and objectives for that particular day. Dr. Bob Griffith, the 70C Intern Program Manager stated, "I was amazed to see the synchronization across all levels, from the national headquarters all the way down thru the divisions (our regions) to their individual employees-everyone knew what needed to be done, they were in agreement and knew their place'.

This synchronization and focus on mission was evident during the afternoon sessions where the MHS President and Chief Financial Officer (CFO) spoke to the interns about the balance of taking care of patients and meeting financial obligations. The 70C Consultant and CFO for Army Medicine, COL Derrick Flowers stated, "It's amazing how the 'for-profit' motive eliminates bureaucratic processes, achieves synchronization and emphasizes a focus on what's important-taking care of patients, minimizing costs, and maximizing revenue." MAJ Philip Kaberline stated, "the Methodist Healthcare System has treated me like a family member since day one of my arrival and they are a role model organization. I coordinated this event to highlight some of the 'best practices' that the commercial sector is doing, so we can infuse and leverage them back into Army Medicine.'

The event culminated with MG Patrick Sargent, the Deputy Command General for Operations and 18th Chief, MSC, presenting a certificate of appreciation to both the CEO and CFO. The certificate celebrated their military counterparts and their support in this event that allowed the civilian and military financial management community to merge.