AMEDD NCO/Enlisted History

On 27 July 1775, Congress authorized the establishment of a “an hospital” or Medical Service. This date is known as the Anniversary of the Army Medical Department. This important step made provisions for a Director General and Chief Physician (Surgeon General), four surgeons, one apothecary, 20 surgeon’s mates, one clerk and two storekeepers. It also provided one nurse to every 10 sick, and laborers as needed.

Follow the medical Soldiers as they evolved from these beginnings to the many faceted, highly trained Soldiers of today.

Warrior Medic Memorial

The AMEDD Regiment designed the Warrior Medic Memorial to honor our fallen comrades who have made the ultimate sacrifice. The memorial resides at the Army Medical Department Museum located at Fort Sam Houston, Texas. A second, traveling memorial is available and is set up at select events across the country. A virtual Warrior Medic Memorial is available on our web site.

Additional Web Site Items

We list Army awards for valor and their criteria, General Orders for the establishment of the Hospital Corps in 1887 and the establishment of the AMEDD Regiment in 1986. We have downloadable Moral Posters suitable for printing including the Soldiers Creed, the NCO Creed, the Civilian Corps Creed and the Combat Medic Prayer. We also have AMEDD music and lyrics and information on Regimental Affiliation.

When in San Antonio, please visit the U.S. Army Medical Department Museum.

US Army Medical Department Museum
http://ameddmuseum.amedd.army.mil
Office of Medical History
http://history.amedd.army.mil

THE U.S. ARMY MEDICAL DEPARTMENT REGIMENT

“... As our troops gained the summit, a heavy concentration of artillery, mortar and machinegun fire crashed into them, inflicting approximately 75 casualties and driving the others back. PFC Doss refused to seek cover and remained in the fire-swept area with the many stricken, carrying them one by one to the edge of the escarpment and there lowering them on a rope-supported litter down the face of a cliff to friendly hands. On 2 May, he exposed himself to heavy rifle and mortar fire in rescuing a wounded man 200 yards forward of the lines on the same escarpment; and two days later he treated four men who had been cut down while assaulting a strongly defended cave, advancing through a shower of grenades to within 8 yards of enemy forces in a cave’s mouth, where he dressed his comrades’ wounds before making 4 separate trips under fire to evacuate them to safety…”

So reads a portion of the Medal of Honor citation for Company Aidman PFC Desmond T. Doss, the only known conscientious objector to receive the Medal of Honor in World War II.

These courageous deeds inspire, motivate, foster esprit, and provide us a window in which to view our history. A proud history of scientific as well as valorous achievements. Achievements that are still made today.
The U.S. Army Medical Department (AMEDD) was formed on 27 July, 1775, when the Continental Congress authorized a Medical Service for an army of 20,000 men. It created the Hospital Department and named Dr. Benjamin Church of Boston as Director General and Chief Physician. Numerous times over the course of the Army’s history, reorganization has occurred to keep up with current tactics. As a result, however, some Army units lost their identity— their history—their lineage. This loss did not go unnoticed and the US Army Regimental System was created.

The U.S. Army Medical Department Regiment was activated on 28 July, 1986, during ceremonies at Fort Sam Houston, in San Antonio, Texas.

The mission of the AMEDD Regiment is to enhance combat effectiveness by developing loyalty and commitment, fostering an extended sense of belonging, improving unit esprit, and institutionalizing the warrior fighting ethos. To that end, the AMEDD Regiment provides a number of services to perpetuate our history, heritage, traditions and sense of belonging.

**AMEDD Medal of Honor**

The Medal of Honor takes its place in our country’s heritage as the highest award for military valor. This prestigious honor is awarded only to individuals who have “distinguished themselves conspicuously by gallantry and intrepidity at the risk of their lives, above and beyond the call of duty.”

We display the history of the Medal of Honor on our web page. 52 Medal of Honor Recipients were serving with the U.S. Army Medical Department when they earned the nation’s highest honor. All are displayed on the Regiment’s web site along with their full citations and downloadable images. There you can read the citation for Dr. Mary E. Walker, the only female to earn the award to date.

We also proudly display over 600 AMEDD Distinguished Service Cross citations dating from the Indian Wars to the present day conflicts. We have nearly 400 Silver Star recipient citations listed and have only just begun.

**AMEDD Heraldic Items**

The AMEDD Regimental Distinctive Insignia (RDI) was designed by the Institute of Heraldry and is one of the oldest crests in the Army today. We display its description and symbolism and include a high definition downloadable image suitable for printing on our web site. We also display the same information for the AMEDD Regimental Flag, the Regimental Crest, the Combat Medical Badge, and the Expert Field Medical Badge.

Two videos also appear on our web site to inspire and educate. “The Gallery of Courage” and the “Spirit of Courage” show some of the memorable and heroic contributions of AMEDD Soldiers.

**Historic Uniform Program**

The Commander of the AMEDD Regiment sponsors the historical uniform loan program which enables medical units to obtain various period uniforms for use during military ceremonies and events. Commanders may request the Office of the AMEDD Regiment arrange for the delivery of historical uniforms to the desired location.

Historical uniforms are available to all Active, Reserve, and National Guard medical activities. Some of the uniforms available are Revolutionary War, Civil War, Indian Wars, WW I, WW II, Korea, Vietnam, Desert Storm, BDU and DCU.

Female uniforms are available from WW II to present.

**Traveling Regimental Flag Program**

The Commander of the AMEDD Regiment sponsors the Traveling Flag Program which enables medical units to obtain the Regimental flag for use during military ceremonies and events. Commanders may contact the Office of the AMEDD Regiment via electronic mail to arrange for the delivery of a Regimental flag to the desired location.

**Regimental Recognition Program**

To help perpetuate the history and traditions of the Regiment and enhance unit morale and esprit, Army Regulation 600-82, The US Army Regimental System, provides for the recognition of individuals who have contributed to the Regiment. To ensure all deserving individuals are recognized, this program is divided into three separate categories, Distinguished Member of the Regiment (DMOR), Honorary Member of the Regiment (HMOR), and Friend of the Regiment (FOR).

The DMOR is reserved as a retirement recognition for AMEDD Soldiers (Active, Reserve, National Guard, or retirees) and civilians with a long AMEDD career who have significantly contributed to the proud heritage of the Army and the AMEDD Regiment.

The HMOR is designed to recognize individuals who are not affiliated with the AMEDD Regiment but have made significant contributions to the AMEDD.

The FOR program was designed by the Surgeon General as a means to recognize individuals, groups, or businesses which have made contributions to, or performed a service for the AMEDD Regiment.

**The Surgeons General and the Command Sergeants Major**

We include information on all of the Surgeons General through a link on our web site to the Office of Medical History. On our site, we have pictures and biographies for all of the Command Sergeants Major of MEDCOM.