

PHOENIX PATRIOT

Help for Heroes

A road to recovery

Military
medical
innovations

Plan for a
successful
transition

Where's
Kilroy?



University of Phoenix®
Military Division

As I welcome you to the first edition of our newly redesigned *Phoenix Patriot* magazine, I do so with a deep sense of gratitude for the sacrifices you have made for our country.

Having served in the U.S. Army for 28 years, I know first-hand the excitement, chaos and fulfillment that define military life. Whether you are currently deployed, have proudly worn a uniform in the past or are raising your family while a loved one serves, your contributions to our freedom have not gone unnoticed.

Our call to support you

At University of Phoenix, our appreciation for your service is what drives us to do our very best to support members of the broader military community. This magazine is part of that effort. With it, we strive to provide you with information that is relevant to you and your unique lifestyle and hopefully, in some small way, will improve your life. In the *Phoenix Patriot*, we'll highlight your accomplishments so your success may inspire others, and we'll also give you a reason to laugh, wherever you are.

A culture of evolution

Any member of the military knows that change is a defining characteristic of this calling. In this edition of *Phoenix Patriot*, we introduce a series of stories on transitioning from military to civilian life, something every member of the military will face one day.

I recently went through that transition, myself. In 2009, I retired from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers after nearly three decades of service. When I began my transition, I thought I was set because I have my Ph.D. While that certainly opened doors for me, my retirement coincided with a period during which defense contractor jobs dried up pending federal budget approval. As often happens in life, that obstacle opened a new opportunity in the University of Phoenix Military Division, a group I didn't even know existed.

A team just for you

Today, I'm excited and proud to be part of this team, which was created to address the unique needs that members of the U.S. Armed Forces have in regard to higher education. We know that military learners are at-risk students because of the nature of their jobs. At University of Phoenix, we have graduation teams to guide them through the entire process, from the day they enroll to the day they receive their degrees. Though I have attended a lot of school in my day, I have never seen this kind of support for military students. It is with great pride that I join this effort to help members of the military community achieve their dream of earning a degree, paving the way for a better life after military service.

Until next time,



FAST FACTS

GARLAND H. WILLIAMS
Colonel (Retired), Ph.D.

BRANCH:
U.S. Army

YEARS OF MILITARY SERVICE:
28

RETIRED:
2009

HOMETOWN:
Atlanta, Georgia



GARLAND WILLIAMS, Ph.D.
USA COL (ret), Associate Regional Vice President, Military



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for
Heroes**

Non-profit veteran organizations help returning service men and women ease back into civilian life.

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Military Medicine:
A history of innovation**

Some of medicine's newest discoveries were initiated by a need for quick, life-saving treatments on the battlefield. We can thank the U.S. Military for innovations that have found their way into mainstream healthcare.

Former U.S. Marine **Mason Poe** (left and cover) hopes to inspire fellow veterans through the Wounded Warriors Project Soldier Ride.

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SOMEWHERE
IN GERMANY
February 19, 1945

From D-day until the war in Europe ended in May, 1945, American soldiers fought on the beaches, hills, fields and forests of France while the folks at home waited for news from their loved ones. Toward the end of 1944, it seemed the war was almost over. In fact, Gen. Eisenhower had privately bet a friend that the Germans would surrender by Christmas. But Hitler had other plans. On December 16, the German Army launched a counteroffensive that led to the war's toughest European battle. For six weeks, American troops fought both the German Army and brutal winter weather, ultimately prevailing and setting the stage for victory in Europe.



Read the transcript of Banks' letter at phoenixpatriotmagazine.com

Somewhere in Germany
Feb-19-45

Dear Bob and John:

I'm taking your advice finally and combining two letters in one ... chief reason - my correspondence is outdistancing me ... I'm receiving more mail than I could possibly answer unless I devoted 5 or 6 hours a day to it. Another reason is that I now have a new job ... commander of Battery D ... now I have more than enough to do, with very little time to devote to writing and such. It's quite a responsible job ... involves the care and safety of about 150 men and 5 officers. Many problems come up ... decisions must be made immediately and correctly ... there's no room for mistakes in this racket. The lives of my men are at stake and I don't want to lose a single man if I can possibly help it.

I really love this new job ... a command is something I always wanted ever since I became an officer. Now that I have one, I don't think I could be happier.

But enough about me. This letter is in answer to your small V dated ... (there ain't no date, John), and your Kansas card. Bob, first, I want to thank you for keeping alive our correspondence, John, but, how about making your a bit more active, Bob?? Yes, John, I got 2 more of your pamphlets ... the you Remember, Lord by Rooney and you've a right to be happy by Lord. I've gotten into the latter a bit and it's really good. Freshened me up on quite a few forgotten principles.

Yes, that was quite an upheaval Dec 16, and we got into the middle of it shortly afterwards.



Paul Banks (left and above) was a captain in the 474th Anti-Aircraft Artillery Automatic Weapons Battalion during World War II. The unit shot down enemy aircraft during the fighting at Utah Beach, Cherbourg, and the Ardennes Forest in one of the war's bloodiest conflicts: The Battle of the Bulge. The swastikas painted on the side of the gun represent the enemy planes his unit shot down.

THE INITIAL GERMAN ATTACK
AND OPERATIONS, 16-25 DECEMBER
1944

"We called it 'the bulge' and it was one of the toughest campaigns we've yet encountered."

We called it "the bulge" and it was one of the toughest campaigns we've yet encountered. Old Jerry used his best there ... 55 and fingers ... and they showed no mercy ... neither did we for that matter. Old man Winter was the biggest obstacle and he was awful mean.

Those oral exams on the whole ... of philosophy promise to be pretty tough also ... so good luck, Bob & John ... may God be with you thru the many mental hazards in front of you.

What do you think of the latest addition to the Banks clan ... little Mike?? I feel kinda proud of his little name ... Paul. Guess the folks at home really miss the boys who are away.

Please write as often as you can, fellows?? I really look forward to your mail. God bless you. Paul

ONLINE EXTRAS Visit phoenixpatriotmagazine.com to see additional letters.

Ready, Aim, Retire

PLAN FOR SUCCESSFUL TRANSITIONS

By Julie Wilson

In this edition of *Phoenix Patriot*, we introduce a series on how to make a successful transition from military to civilian life. According to Garland Williams, associate regional vice president of the Military Division at University of Phoenix, the key is starting to prepare two years or more before your desired retirement date. "You've got to think through how your valuable military experience can translate into a civilian career," advises Williams, who retired from the U.S. Army in 2009 after 28 years of service. "It's a tough job market out there, and proper planning can make all the difference."

Eighteen to 24 months prior to retirement, military personnel should give serious thought to what they want to do after they get out. "This includes evaluating the job market and which industries are hiring, as well as determining the skills and education required to land the position you want," Williams adds.

On the following pages, **Peter Burch**, who served in the U.S. Air Force, Air Force Reserves and Army Reserves, shares his own story of retirement, including how he laid the

FAST FACTS

PETER BURCH
MSN 2011

BRANCHES:
U.S. Air Force, U.S.
Air Force Reserves,
U.S. Army Reserves

ENLISTED:
1975

RETIRED:
2009

**YEARS OF
MILITARY SERVICE:**
34

**TRANSITION
TIMELINE:**
Started two
years out

**MILITARY
HIGHLIGHTS:**
Security police,
medical technician,
flight nurse, ejection
systems technician

COMMENDATIONS:
Three
Commendation
Medals, two Air
Force Meritorious
Service Medals, two
Bronze Stars for
service in Desert
Storm and Desert
Shield

CURRENT JOB:
Endoscopy nurse

TOP TRANSITION TIP:

“You have to be really motivated and a good juggler. You have to prioritize what is important to you and have a strong family support system.”

groundwork for a fruitful career after serving his country for more than three decades.

Charting a course for success

When Peter Burch joined the U.S. Air Force in 1975, he did so out of a deep sense of pride in his country and a desire to do more. With his mother and brother raising him—and college not in the budget—the GI Bill was a welcome benefit. But what began as a gesture of patriotism and sensible way to secure his future turned into a surprising lifelong passion. “I never realized how much I would love it once I got in,” he says.

Early adventures

Like so many before him, at the onset of his military career, young Burch was focused on the excitement of starting his service, with retirement the farthest thing from his thoughts. He began as a member of the security police, guarding F-4 Phantoms and weapons of mass destruction in England.

In 1981 when he joined the U.S. Air Force Reserves, he trained to be a medical technician, his first foray into healthcare. A few years later, he became a registered nurse and was assigned as a flight nurse for 12 years. He was deployed to serve in both Desert Shield and Desert Storm. “The Army would patch them up,” he remembers. “When they were stable, we would pick them up and fly them out.”

“In 2006, I went to Homestead Air Reserve Base in Florida where I was cross-trained as an ejection systems technician for F-16s,” he explains.

A new chapter

More than three decades after he began his military career, the time had come for Burch to retire. Two years before he left the military, he began to evaluate what he wanted to do with the rest of his life. “I looked at the economy and made a choice to stay in nursing,” he says. A friend who is a doctor added incentive to his decision,

offering him a job if he would complete his master’s degree in nursing, which he decided to pursue at University of Phoenix. “As soon as I was finished, I had a job waiting for me,” he adds.

Today, Burch knows he made the right decision to stay in a career that allows him to help others, which is his true calling. “If you don’t nurse from the heart, then you are in the wrong line of business,” he says. “It’s like a dream job [for me].”

Unexpected challenges

Transitioning to civilian life after a long military career was not without its obstacles. “The hardest thing when you come back from war, after carrying a gun 24/7 and relying on your buddies and them on you, is that it feels like your head is on a swivel,” he says, of being sensitive to loud noises. After seeking treatment, he was diagnosed and treated for post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD), which helped him ease back into civilian life.

Burch has also had to adjust to living and working in a world that doesn’t necessarily share in the strong work ethic that is a keystone of military life. “[In the military,] we do the best that we can with our jobs, showing up on-time or early,” he says. Sometimes he finds himself frustrated with co-workers who do not give 100 percent while on the job.

A future of giving back

Despite the challenges Burch has faced during his transition to civilian life, he finds great satisfaction in his current job as an endoscopy nurse at Florida Hospital in Orlando. Still, he has his eye on the future and how he can continue to serve his country beyond his retirement. “I want to go to the Veteran’s Administration and take care of my fellow veterans,” he says. “That way I’d have one hand in the military and another in medicine, my two loves.” ★



TRANSITION TIMELINE:

Plan for a successful transition to civilian life

Though you can’t apply for retirement from the military until 12 months prior to your desired retirement date, there are plenty of things you can do to set the stage for a successful departure from the U.S. Armed Forces.

24-18 MONTHS PRIOR

- Begin to think about what skills and experience you offer future employers and what you would like to do after you retire.
- Evaluate the job market to see which industries are hiring.
- Research companies and organizations you want to work for.
- Do a self-gap analysis to determine the training, education or certifications you will need to get a job after you leave the military.
- Investigate your tuition assistance options.

18-12 MONTHS PRIOR

- Meet with your superiors to discuss the possibility of applying for retirement.
- Evaluate your finances and create a plan to pay off any debt prior to your desired retirement date.
- Prepare a mock budget that reflects your expenses after retirement. Consider expenses you might have to pay yourself once you retire, such as health insurance, housing or a work wardrobe.
- Apply for retirement 12 months prior to your desired retirement date.

12-9 MONTHS PRIOR

- Begin attending job fairs to gauge the market and make contacts.
- Post your resume on job search websites and with recruiters in your chosen industries.
- Check your clearance level and get copies of related paperwork.

9-6 MONTHS PRIOR

- Begin the process of collecting your military medical records.
- Sit down with a financial planner to evaluate your investments and make adjustments, as needed.
- Continue to network and participate in job-hunting activities, such as attending career fairs and submitting your resume to job search websites and recruiters.

6-3 MONTHS PRIOR

- Begin your disability evaluation, which will factor into your final retirement compensation.
- Start the job interview process with prospective employers.
- Revisit your projected budget and your finances and make adjustments, as needed.

3-0 MONTHS PRIOR

- Begin transitioning your military duties to your successor.
- Use your leave days to give yourself free time to secure post-military housing, attend job interviews and move.
- Have your final military physical.
- Celebrate your military accomplishments and the new life ahead of you.

DATES TO REMEMBER



JANUARY

The U.S. Congress creates the Coast Guard on January 28, 1915, when it combines the Life-Saving Service and the Revenue Cutter Service to form a single maritime force dedicated to enforcing U.S. maritime laws and saving lives at sea.



DoD photo by TSgt. David McLeod.

FEBRUARY

The 100-hour ground war of Desert Storm concludes as Allied troops enter Kuwait on February 27, 1991, four days after launching their ground offensive against Saddam Hussein's Iraqi forces.



MARCH

Texans shout the famous rally cry, "Remember the Alamo," after the fort falls to Mexican troops, led by General Santa Ana, on March 6, 1836. The Texans defeat Santa Ana the next month at the Battle of San Jacinto.



U.S. servicemen congregate around the refreshment bar at the Oswego, New York USO canteen in 1943.

Library of Congress, Prints & Photographs Division, FSA/OWI Collection.

USO Still Serving

By Sally Benford

In February 1941, the U.S. was busy getting back on track after the Great Depression. Although the country hadn't entered the war, the government began drafting millions of young men to prepare for our national defense, and those troops needed a little R&R during their off-duty hours. President

Franklin Roosevelt challenged private organizations to come up with a way to entertain the growing number of GIs. Enter the United Service Organization, better known as the USO.

Roosevelt's idea behind the USO was to provide emotional support for the

troops, so the organization opened canteens across the country. Offering a warm welcome as a home-away-from-home, canteen hostesses spent time with servicemen, dancing, playing games, chatting, sharing stories and serving snacks.

Early on, popular Hollywood entertainers put on USO camp shows for the troops, which took place at military bases around the world in far-flung places like Burma, North Africa and Sicily. Bob Hope became the USO ambassador, an unofficial title he held for the rest of his life.

In February, the USO marks more than 70 years of service to U.S. military men and women. For more information, visit www.uso.org. ★



Words to Remember

"I wish to have no connection with any ship that does not sail fast for I intend to go in harm's way."
— Captain John Paul Jones

"There is many a boy here today who looks on war as all glory, but boys, it is all hell."
— Major General William Tecumseh Sherman

"Unfortunately, many people do not consider fun an important item on their daily agenda. For me, that was always high priority in whatever I was doing."
— General Chuck Yeager

Did you know?



The Curtiss Warhawk, Lockheed Lightning and Wildcat fighters weren't the only American war birds put into action during World War II. At Camp Crowder in Missouri, the U.S. Army Signal Corps trained more than 50,000 homing pigeons to carry coded messages when it was important to maintain radio silence, providing a lifeline to troops fighting on the front line.



During the Vietnam War, U.S. soldiers put a popular American toy, the Slinky, to good use. They stretched the coiled wire between two trees to serve as radio antennas.



Lotteries have more history with the U.S. Military than just the draft lottery. In 1776, the Continental Congress authorized a lottery to finance the Colonial army. The funds collected helped buy cannons and artillery for the soldiers.



WHERE'S KILROY?

by Leo W. Banks

Kilroy was here. And even if he wasn't, he's not going anywhere. For more than 70 years, he's been a phenomenon of American military culture, a figure and a phrase that has worked its way into our collective imagination.

But who was Kilroy really? And why do Americans still care?

In stories told by *The New York Times* in 1946 and *The Boston Globe* in 2005, the search reaches back to the early 1940s and the Fore River Shipyard in Quincy, Massachusetts. There, an inspector named James J. Kilroy had the job of crawling through ships to check on labor done by the shipyard's riveters. When Kilroy's bosses suspected him of slacking off, he began to mark his work, in hard-to-miss yellow wax crayon, with his retort, "Kilroy was here."

"KILROY GAVE THEM A FEELING OF COMFORT WHEN THEY WERE SCARED TO DEATH AND THEY WANTED TO SPREAD IT AROUND."

In the early years of World War II, ships were built at such a frenzied pace that they were put into service with the interiors unpainted, sending Kilroy's visible inscriptions around the world with our troops.

Soon, the phrase appeared alongside a comic drawing—most likely a British creation—of an onion-headed character with a drooping nose gripping a fence as he peers over the top of it. This cartoon became Kilroy as the image was married to the words. As part of American history, both the phrase and the image adorn the World War II Memorial in Washington, D.C.



James J. Kilroy

The real Kilroy—the most authentic one at least—wasn't revealed until 1946, when the American Transit Authority (ATA) held a radio contest to find the origin of the famous Kilroy phrase. Ship inspector James told his story to ATA and was announced the originator of the phrase. By then, his handiwork had toured the world, showing up all over the Pacific and European theaters on ships, tanks and trucks; on the walls of bombed-out buildings; and in GI latrines.

Even Adolf Hitler became obsessed with Kilroy. In 2001, the BBC reported a rumor that during the war, the Nazi Chancellor had his men hunt for Kilroy. Suspecting he might be a canny spy, Hitler ordered his henchman to find the scribbling menace and shoot him on sight.

Another Kilroy story comes from the 1945 Potsdam Conference where Harry Truman, Winston Churchill and Joseph Stalin met to decide the fate of defeated Germany. The amenities available to these powerful leaders included a temporary bathroom built especially for the occasion. As the story goes, Stalin, who was the first to use it, emerged from the room, summoned an aide, and demanded to know, "Who is Kilroy?"

This story, and many others, come from Kilroywashere.org, a website operated by retired air traffic controller Pat Tillery. Hoping to preserve this slice of Americana, he has collected hundreds of such accounts, as well as what he believes is the true origin of the phenomenon—the James

Kilroy story—told in a videotaped interview with several of Kilroy's children.

The most intriguing bit of Kilroy family lore comes from James' son, Robert, who confirmed two oft-rumored Kilroy sightings: one on the Eiffel Tower and one on the Arc de Triomphe in Paris. How could he possibly know this? Well, Robert admits to scrawling the inscriptions in 1959, when he worked at the American Embassy.

But the legend has a serious side, too. Tillery, a former Marine, explains that servicemen always marveled at finding Kilroy's words in the darkest, most inaccessible parts of ships. It meant that no matter where they went, he'd been there first and had survived.

"They lived in a world gone mad and needed to know they'd survive wherever they were going, too," says Tillery. "Kilroy gave them a feeling of comfort when they were scared to death, and they wanted to spread it around."

There are thousands of Kilroys, and each continues to make the phantom figure's presence known in the oddest places.

Those three words of hope from home are still at work in Iraq and Afghanistan today, and if Tillery has his way, they'll stick around long into the future. He and others, including Kilroy family members, are working to win approval for a Kilroy commemorative stamp.

"I've forwarded thousands of letters to the U. S. Postal Service's Citizens' Stamp Advisory Committee in support of the idea," says Tillery. "It's important to keep this great tradition going."

Certainty isn't a requirement for legends and after a fashion, it misses the point. When a story fits the character of a people, it holds fast through generations of retellings, each one adding another layer that might actually be true. Or it might not. Is the Kilroy inscription written on the windswept peaks of Mt. Everest? In the dust of the moon?

We can only wonder. ★

ONLINE EXTRAS
Want to share photos of your Kilroy sightings?
Upload them at phoenixpatriotmagazine.com

Military medicine:

A history of innovation

By Keely Grasser

In 1865, Private Columbus Rush lay wounded on the battlefield at Fort Stedman, Virginia. A shell fragment fractured both his legs, which were amputated later that day. The next year, he was fitted with two artificial legs at St. Luke's Hospital in New York City.

More than a century later, Oscar Pistorius uses prosthetic legs, too. He uses them to run—fast. The South African athlete is so quick; he qualifies to run against world-class, able-bodied racers.

From Private Rush's early artificial legs to Pistorius' technologically advanced prosthetics, medical innovation owes much to techniques discovered through military research. And Rush and Pistorius aren't alone: Many of the medical treatments and processes that take place at doctors' offices, clinics and hospitals throughout the world each day have roots in military medicine.

"It's a long, huge and rich history," says Dr. Dale Smith, senior vice-president of the Bethesda, Maryland-based, federally run





The wars in Iraq and Afghanistan also have advanced prosthetic care and innovation.

surgery photo to come

Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences.

That history of influence within mainstream medicine in the United States can be traced back to the Civil War, as well as other U.S. battlefield experiences that spurred military research.

Surgical advances

Many surgical advances came out of the Civil War “because it was such a brutal and bloody war,” explains Robert Kistenberg, co-director and prostheses coordinator at Georgia Institute of Technology’s prosthetic and orthotic program.

The Civil War also spurred advances in prosthetics, and the military undoubtedly has made an impact on the field’s development. Kistenberg points out that the war pushed Confederate Army veteran James Edward Hanger to start his own prosthetics company. It’s reported that Hanger became one of the war’s first amputees after a cannonball struck him. He created his own prosthesis, and founded his company, which continues today as Hanger

Prosthetics and Orthotics, the largest prosthetics company in the country.

Progress for prosthetics

The world wars, Kistenberg continues, had a very fundamental impact on prosthetics.

The U.S. didn’t get involved in World War I until near the war’s end, he explains. European countries, involved in the war longer, developed more advanced ability to take care of patients needing prostheses. Some American amputee vets had to depend on these countries for treatment.

After World War II, it was recognized that the United States wasn’t keeping pace with these countries, Kistenberg says, so surgeons were sent overseas to learn. Two notable post-WWII innovations include sockets for above-the-knee and below-the-knee amputations.

The wars in Iraq and Afghanistan also have advanced prosthetic care and innovation.

“There has been a very significant establishment of funding for prosthetics

research [as a result of Iraq and Afghanistan],” Kistenberg says, adding that the pool of funds, from both military and government sources, is the largest since WWII.

One example of recent research is the advancement in arm prostheses. Kistenberg notes that the technology for these prostheses hadn’t changed much since the mid-20th century because there are fewer arm amputees than leg amputees and from a business perspective, larger markets prevail.

New research means there is work currently being done on an artificial arm “that would as close as possible be like the arm they lost,” Kistenberg explains, including its size, weight, movement, function and control. That progress will “enhance the quality of life not only for veterans, but for anyone with an arm amputation,” he says.

Reconstructive surgery

Military influence has also impacted the field of reconstructive and plastic surgery,

according to Ida Fox, a professor with the plastic and reconstructive surgery unit at Washington University in St. Louis.

This influence can be traced back to the world wars. One of the field’s forefathers, Dr. Vilray Blair, treated World War I soldiers who suffered with facial injuries. He wrote a study on facial reconstructive surgery that has become the touchstone in the field. His student, Dr. James Barrett Brown, was involved in the first skin grafts for burn victims. Brown later brought together a team of surgeons to treat World War II veterans, resulting in more advances to the field of plastic surgery.

Blair and Brown went on to become the first chairs of the plastic and reconstructive surgery division at Washington University. The school says plastic surgeons who trained under the pair went on to work on other important innovations, including improved cleft-lip repair.

Impact of Iraq and Afghanistan

Fox explains that some soldiers in Iraq and Afghanistan have suffered injuries that

damaged peripheral nerves. These nerves carry information from the brain and spinal cord to the rest of the body.

There has been a call for research projects on methods of treating nerve injuries. Fox’s program was awarded funding to create a website, nervesurgery.wustl.edu, which educates practicing surgeons about nerve surgery. “So people are more aware of what these injuries entail,” she says.

The information found on the website can be used by all surgeons to help them treat injuries from car accidents or gunshot wounds, Fox explains.

Current research

Dr. Smith says the full impact of medical advancements from the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan hasn’t been completely established. “Not yet because we are still processing data from the wars,” he explains. However, he notes a few examples of new technologies being used on today’s battlefields that could potentially have an impact on medicine within the U.S.

There has been a call for research projects on methods of treating nerve injuries.

The military has played an important role as a leader in medical research.

One technology currently being used on the front lines is the handheld sonogram, a diagnostic imaging device. "In civil life, this would be a very expensive thing to put in an ambulance," Smith says, adding that it may not make sense because in most cases, an ambulance trip is not usually long, unlike battlefield evacuations. Yet, handheld sonograms are currently being tested where there are long travel times to hospitals.

"We also have built a better tourniquet in this war that can be used one-handed," Smith says. Tourniquets were used for a long time, he explained, but in the 1950s, questions arose about whether or not they were a good idea. By the 1980s, tourniquet use had gone away.

"The military has begun to bring it back," he said, adding that one-handed tourniquets may be introduced to mainstream medicine very quickly, where EMTs can use them to save the lives of accident victims.

"It truly does keep people from bleeding to death," says Smith.

The military is making gains on numerous fronts, including pain management; concussion management; regenerative medicine and burn care; and gauze dressings designed to stop massive bleeding, according to the U.S. Army Medical Command. But mainstream adoption of modern wartime medical technologies takes time. Smith explains that civilians usually won't benefit from proven military techniques for a decade or longer.

No matter how long it takes for battlefield treatments to reach hospital trauma centers, the military has played an important role as a leader in medical research. For now, it remains to be seen which cutting-edge advancements will join the long tradition of military medical innovations that have benefited civilians around the world. ★

photo to come

A History of Military Contributions

By Teresa Bitler

Wounded warriors in Iraq and Afghanistan have a 95 percent chance of surviving their battlefield injuries—the highest survival rate in the history of warfare—if they receive immediate care and are transported to an advanced-level treatment facility within the "golden hour," the initial 60 minutes following trauma.

These combat-tested medical innovations have upped the troop survival rate over the last century and have saved lives on the home front, as well.



WORLD WAR I (1914-1918)



Triage

The French introduced the concept of triage—prioritizing the wounded in an attempt to maximize survivors—to the battlefields of World War I, where United States soldiers quickly adopted the practice. After the Korean and Vietnam wars, U.S. forces became so proficient in its application that triage became standard practice in U.S. hospital emergency room care.

fermentation process, American companies began mass-producing penicillin for the battlefield. Penicillin entered the combat arena in the spring of 1943, and achieved incredible success in treating infections for the remainder of the war and thereafter.



Blood banking

With the German invasion of Great Britain seemingly imminent in 1940, the U.S. stepped up to perfect the separation of blood into plasma, as well as its transport from blood collection centers to battlefields and hospitals. Dr. Charles Drew implemented a blood-banking process that helped save lives on World War II battlefields, and laid the foundation for a modern day blood-banking system.

WORLD WAR II (1939-1945)



Penicillin

Although Sir Alexander Fleming discovered penicillin in 1928, it wasn't manufactured until World War II, when the need for a wartime antibacterial agent was great. Using a unique

VIETNAM WAR (1954-1975)

Wound adhesives

The super-sticky compound cyanoacrylate debuted in spray form during the Vietnam War, when medics used it to seal wounds long



enough for soldiers to reach a treatment facility. However, the substance caused skin irritations, so researchers discovered another variation, 2-octyl-cyanoacrylate, which formed stronger bonds with fewer side effects. In 1998, the U.S. Food and Drug Administration approved its medical use and today it is used worldwide.

OPERATION DESERT STORM (1991)



Hemostatic bandages

Since approximately 50 percent of those who die in combat bleed to death in minutes, blood-clotting bandages can literally mean the difference between life and death. QuickClot, a product that uses the mineral kaolin, led the way in the early days of Operation Desert Storm. As the war progressed, hemostatic bandages became a military staple and in 2005, the U.S.

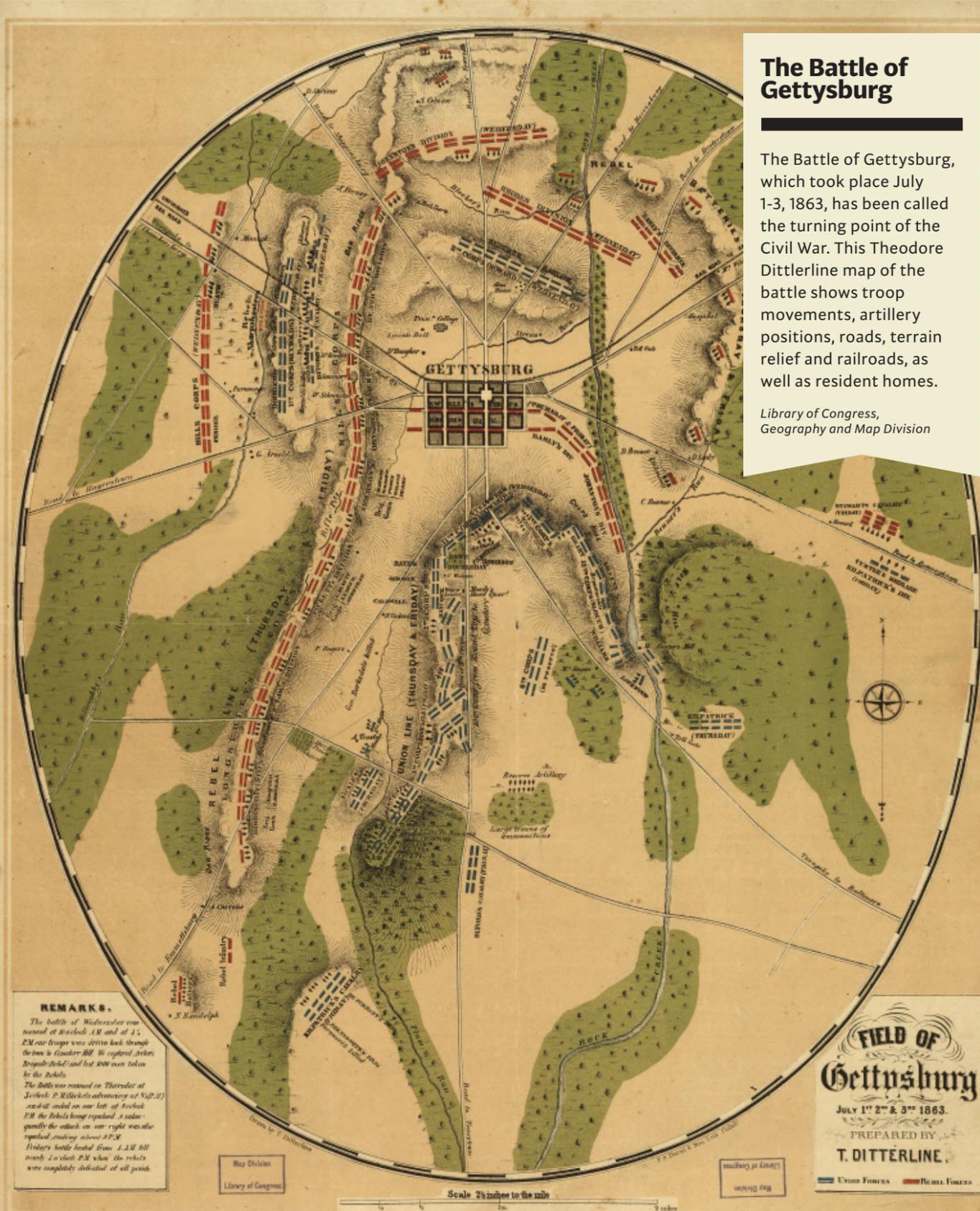
Army Surgeon General mandated that all soldiers serving in Iraq or Afghanistan carry at least one hemostatic bandage.

IRAQ AND AFGHANISTAN (2002- Present)



One-handed tourniquet

Tourniquets date back to the Romans, but to successfully apply one on the upper extremities, you need two hands. Advances in tourniquet technology have changed that, though. The Combat-Application-Tourniquet, or C-A-T, can be applied with one hand. The device consists of a band that slips onto the extremity and a windlass rod that easily twists to constrict blood flow to the limb. In addition to hemostatic bandages, the one-handed tourniquet is now standard issue in soldiers' first aid kits, and it has made its way into mainstream medicine, where EMTs, police and other first responders use it.



The Battle of Gettysburg

The Battle of Gettysburg, which took place July 1-3, 1863, has been called the turning point of the Civil War. This Theodore Dittlerline map of the battle shows troop movements, artillery positions, roads, terrain relief and railroads, as well as resident homes.

Library of Congress, Geography and Map Division

▶ **7** minutes



The average time it takes to walk between any two points in the Pentagon, which, at 6.6 million square feet and containing more than 17.5 miles of corridors, is one of the world's largest office buildings. It is three times larger than the Empire State Building and twice the size of the Chicago Merchandise Mart.



▶ **12**
THE AVERAGE NUMBER OF LIVES SAVED DAILY BY THE U.S. COAST GUARD.



3,468

The number of Medals of Honor awarded to United States servicemen since its inception in 1861. Of those, **2,403** were earned by Army soldiers; **747** earned by Navy sailors and airman; **297** by Marines; **17** by Air Force airmen; and **one** by a Coast Guardsman.

Approximately **3,000**

active duty Navy SEALs serve on nine SEAL teams. In response to a request from President John F. Kennedy, the U.S. Navy established Navy SEAL teams One and Two 50 years ago, in January 1962.



▶ **2,004,613** lbs.

The amount of non-perishable food donated by Department of Defense employees in the 2011 "Feds Feed Families" food drive.



Help for Heroes

By Marilyn Hawkes

Non-profit veteran organizations help returning service men and women ease back into civilian life.

In 2004, military doctors thought United States Marine Corps Staff Sgt. Mason Poe would never walk again. In April 2004, Poe suffered critical injuries when he was hit by an IED. He lay comatose for 31 days as a result of his injuries, and although he recovered, Poe's leg was amputated in June 2010. Since he was hit, the veteran Marine has endured 34 surgeries.

Poe, now 31, became involved with the Wounded Warrior Project, an organization devoted to rehabilitating veterans and helping them transition back into civilian life. He was asked to be a peer mentor for Soldier Ride, a WWP initiative that provides adaptive cycling opportunities to help wounded warriors restore their physical and emotional well-being.

An avid runner before his injuries, Poe now focuses on cycling. "I got on a road bike and fell in love with it," he says. "It has rebuilt my confidence and let me realize I can do more."

Poe says newly injured warriors can relate to him because he has "been there and done that." He gives

them suggestions about ways to adapt to their challenges. "I'm telling them what works for me," he says. "I let them know that they're not going at this alone."

Poe's story illustrates what many veterans returning from Iraq and Afghanistan experience. For some, transitioning from military to civilian life can be challenging. Many who have returned from active duty ease the transition by working and volunteering for nonprofit organizations run by veterans who assist other veterans.

Wounded Warrior Project

The Wounded Warrior Project (WWP) was founded with the goal of honoring and empowering the nation's wounded warriors who were injured on or after Sept. 11, 2001, according to Daniel Schnock, a 22-year U.S. Army veteran and director of the organization's Soldier Ride.

Based in Jacksonville, Florida, the WWP has 16 free programs and initiatives to help veterans, including the Peer Mentoring program that develops one-on-one

Wounded Warrior Project's Soldier Ride helped former Marine Staff Sgt. Mason Poe rebuild his confidence after being severely injured in Iraq.

friendships with fellow warriors who are further along in the recovery process. Project Odyssey is a four-day retreat where warriors receive combat-stress counseling while doing physical activities such as fishing, hunting and mountain climbing.

Held in 12 cities across the country, the four-day Soldier Ride helps male and female veterans battle the physical and psychological damages of war. Warriors ride alongside fellow injured service members, encouraging each other to succeed.

Poe has participated in three Soldier Rides and says it's uplifting to see the people who come out to support the veterans. They clap their hands and yell, make signs and wave flags, Poe says. "It boosts your morale."

The Mission Continues

The Mission Continues, a nonprofit organization founded in 2007 by United States Navy SEAL Eric Greitens, helps returning veterans continue to serve their country by becoming citizen leaders in their communities.

The St. Louis-based organization offers veterans a chance to convert their military experience into civilian skill-sets through The Fellowship Program, which engages post-9/11 veterans in service projects with nonprofit organizations serving the community; and the Service Projects program, that brings together veterans, civilians and active-duty volunteers through community service projects.

Mike Pereira, U.S. Army veteran and research coordinator at The Mission Continues, came to the organization through the fellowship program. After a downward spiral and diagnosis of post-traumatic stress disorder, he tried to volunteer with an organization that helped children in Bellingham, Washington. When they discovered his diagnosis of PTSD, he was denied the opportunity. Devastated, but not defeated, Pereira began



The four-day Soldier Ride helps male and female veterans battle the physical and psychological damages of war. Warriors ride alongside fellow injured service members, encouraging each other to succeed.

volunteering at a community volunteer center and eventually organized a service project engaging more than 60 veterans to help the elderly, ill and disabled with household chores and yard work.

When Pereira got the service project up and running, he applied for and was granted a fellowship with The Mission Continues, which allowed him to continue his volunteer efforts. When the fellowship ended, Pereira went to work for The Mission Continues as director of the fellowship program, and is now a research coordinator.

Pereira says he's been approached by numerous veterans in the program who say that The Mission Continues has saved their lives. When veterans express that, Pereira says it makes him feel like a sergeant in the Army again, contributing to the well-being of his troops. "These individuals have

gone through incredible experiences and continue to drive forward with a desire to help others because we offer them the ability to do so. I know we change lives, because The Mission Continues has changed mine."

Grace After Fire

Another nonprofit organization, Grace after Fire, offers support to women veterans returning from active duty and helps them re-engage in civilian life. Grace After Fire also serves the needs of women veterans from all eras and branches of the military.

Retired U.S. Air Force Colonel Kimberly Olson, executive director of Texas-based Grace After Fire, says the core military structure is built around the male model. "A 30-year-old woman coming out of a combat experience has different needs than the 60-year-old Vietnam vet," she says.

"Women veterans have a unique experience and they want someone they can talk to who understands that experience."



Photo caption here

"We have nearly half a million women who have seen combat and experienced the heartbreak that is war."

Grace After Fire provides women veterans with resources to help them through the transition, including an 800-number they can call to talk with someone from their branch of the military. The organization also offers web-based support through its Facebook page, website and "Grace's Garden," an online community of women veterans offering peer-to-peer support.

Grace's Garden is successful, Olson says, because when a woman veteran talks to a peer who has "walked in those combat boots," it validates her feelings. "If you've been there, you don't have to explain," she says. Mental-health professionals monitor the blog and alert Grace After Fire if they identify someone who needs help, Olson says.

Sophia Stanton, a Grace After Fire outreach coordinator and 9-year U.S. Navy veteran, says she helps women veterans find a happy medium between military and civilian life. She offers assistance to women who suffer from PTSD, have domestic violence issues and childcare concerns, military sexual trauma and drug and alcohol dependence.



Stanton measures success by the feedback she receives. "Women veterans have a unique experience and they want someone they can talk to who understands that experience," says Stanton. After working with them, she says, "They still call and tell me about their plans and successes. That's how we know we're successful."

Poe, Schnock, Pereira, Olson and Stanton are among the more than 22 million military veterans in the United States today. With the help of organizations like Wounded Warrior Project, The Mission Continues and Grace After Fire, veterans have more opportunities than ever before to transition to civilian life and re-engage in their communities through volunteering, civic service and lending each other a hand in support. ★

ONLINE EXTRAS
For a list of other organizations that serve veterans, please visit phoenixpatriotmagazine.com

A Mind of His Own

By Leo W. Banks

Amir Johnson uses his diverse background as a roadmap to success for himself and others.

Amir Johnson's life has been a travelogue. As the child of military parents, he was never in one place for more than two years. During his senior year of high school, he attended classes in four different countries—the United States, the Netherlands, Great Britain, and Germany.

Wasn't that difficult? Disruptive? Stressful? None of the above.

"I had the opportunity to meet a lot of people and experience different cultures," says Johnson, who earned his Bachelor of Science in Management at the University of Phoenix.

"I saw and did things growing up that people typically wouldn't get to do in a lifetime. It wasn't stressful at all. It was actually exciting."

Johnson doesn't exactly have a sit-around personality. He's goal-oriented, highly motivated and a bit of a self-admitted perfectionist who puts his heart and soul into a project.

When *Phoenix Patriot* caught up with the 37-year-old, he had just stepped off a helicopter at Homestead Air Reserve Base, south of Miami. He was working as a translator between dignitaries from Saudi Arabia, the United Arab Emirates and their American military hosts.

New recruit

He speaks fluid Arabic. Johnson studied the language as a student in Germany, throwing himself into the task and ultimately mastering it. He also speaks German.

Johnson was born in Ann Arbor, Michigan, to parents who were Army through-and-through. They expected their son to follow the same military tradition, but Johnson had always loved the Marines.

When he graduated high school in Germany, where there are no Marine recruiters, he told his folks he was flying to the States to join the Army and they agreed. But he pulled a fast one. As soon as Johnson landed, he made a beeline for the Marine enlistment office.

The recruiter wasn't exactly sold on the idea of Johnson enlisting. The entrance exam had shown that he'd do well in a clerical job or performing administrative tasks; however, Johnson insisted on being in the infantry or special operations, admitting now that he might've seen too many movies.





When he's not traveling the world as a language interpreter for *The Washington Post*, Amir Johnson and his wife, Beatriz, mentor young people through a non-profit they founded, called Reflective Perceptions.

The recruiter warned that he was making a mistake and recommended that he sleep on it. Yet in the morning, when the recruiter picked him up, Johnson hadn't budged. Infantry it would be. He was 18.

Headstrong?

"That's a good word to describe me," says Johnson. "But it was something I really wanted and it turned out to be one of the best decisions I've ever made. Physically and mentally, I did a lot of growing up in the Marine Corps."

For the next four years, he added to his list of visited countries as he served in the Mediterranean, the Arctic Circle, Columbia and Chile. Johnson was honorably



"Don't ever say you're not able to do something. Set a realistic goal and, when you don't think you can go on anymore, push yourself beyond that."

discharged from the Marines in 1997, and then spent two-and-a-half years as a police officer in Brunswick, Georgia, before feeling the itch to return to the military.

National Guard airman

He enlisted again—this time in the Michigan Air National Guard—and spent four more years on active duty, when his unit was deployed after 9/11. During his time in the Middle East, Johnson describes being aboard a blacked-out C-130 transport plane as it descended from the night sky over the region, nose down at a sharp angle, to land in a poppy field. As loadmaster, he was responsible for picking up and dropping off troops and equipment, sometimes under enemy fire.

"It was dangerous and exciting and I'm proud of it," he says. "It was my way of responding to the people who attacked us on 9/11."

The student

Prior to his honorable discharge in March 2010, Johnson turned his attention to his educational goals. The workload gave him pause. He knew several military people who were taking classes at University of Phoenix, some about to graduate, and he wondered how they managed to do it all.

He credits Enrollment Advisor Brian Turchiano with helping him find his way during a challenging time.

Johnson's third child, Ayden, was born in November 2009, three months after he began taking classes. He also has two daughters, Kadhia, 14, and Amanda, 11, but Johnson took the leap and completed his degree program in just 20 months, graduating in April 2011.

The graduate

Now he works as an interpreter for *The Washington Post*, which keeps him extremely busy traveling from post to post. In addition to his day job, Johnson and his wife, Beatriz, are throwing themselves into starting a nonprofit organization called Reflective Perceptions—a program that mentors young people, which will be fully operational by early 2012. The couple, who lives in South Carolina, plan to serve at-risk youths by teaching them the skills they will need to become well-functioning adults. The two believe everyone has the resources within themselves to be self-sufficient.

"Don't ever say you're not able to do something," Johnson says. "Set a realistic goal and, when you don't think you can go on anymore, push yourself beyond that. My Marine recruiter taught me that, so did my drill instructor and my parents. I want young people to learn that, too." ★

SO YOU THINK YOU KNOW YOUR MILITARY HISTORY?

Well, we're putting you to the test. Take the *Phoenix Patriot* Military Trivia Quiz to see how you stack up. You can also join the competition with our online version.



U.S. ARMY

- The first tactical use of an Army aircraft against an enemy took place in 1916. What was the target?**
 - (A) Pancho Villa's Raiders in Mexico
 - (B) The Spanish Army in Cuba
 - (C) The German Army in France
 - (D) General Santa Ana in Mexico
- The U.S. Army Golden Knight Parachute Demonstration Team was officially formed in 1961 for what reason?**
 - (A) Olympic competition
 - (B) End Russian sky-diving dominance
 - (C) Companion to other service demonstration teams
 - (D) Suggested by President Eisenhower

U.S. AIR FORCE

- What is the longest combat mission distance ever flown?**
 - (A) 20,000 miles
 - (B) 16,000 miles
 - (C) 14,000 miles
 - (D) 10,000 miles
- Current engineering analysis shows the B-52 life span could extend beyond what year?**
 - (A) 2020
 - (B) 2025
 - (C) 2030
 - (D) 2040

U.S. COAST GUARD

- The U.S. Coast Guard claims to be America's oldest continuous seagoing service. It was founded by Alexander Hamilton in what year?**
 - (A) 1765
 - (B) 1775
 - (C) 1783
 - (D) 1790
- Under the direction of the Coast Guard, the largest maritime evacuation in history transferred approximately 500,000 people out of danger during what event?**
 - (A) Hurricane Andrew
 - (B) Flooding of New Orleans
 - (C) Indonesian tsunami
 - (D) 9-11 attack on New York

U.S. MARINE CORPS

- The Marine Hymn contains the phrase "to the shores of Tripoli," commemorating the Marines' first battle on foreign soil. That battle is known as what?**
 - (A) The Battle of Chapultepec
 - (B) The Battle of Derna
 - (C) The Battle of Casablanca
 - (D) The Battle of Gibraltar
- Which of these ladies was the first woman Marine?**
 - (A) Ruth Cheney Streeter
 - (B) Anne Lentz
 - (C) Lucille McClarren
 - (D) Opha Mae Johnson

U.S. NAVY

- In 1907 President Theodore Roosevelt initiated a special round-the-world peace mission consisting of 10 battleships and 16 auxiliary vessels. What was the name attached to that fleet?**
 - (A) Roosevelt's Folly
 - (B) Speak Softly and Carry a Big Stick
 - (C) Great White Fleet
 - (D) America Rules the Waves
- What was the name of the first nuclear-powered warship?**
 - (A) Savannah
 - (B) Nautilus
 - (C) Enterprise
 - (D) Sculpin

GENERAL U.S. MILITARY

- Under fire and surrounded, which U.S. senior officer remarked, "They're on our left, they're on our right, they're in front of us, they're behind us ... they can't get away this time?"**
 - (A) General Douglas MacArthur
 - (B) Lt. General Lewis "Chesty" Puller
 - (C) Admiral Chester Nimitz
 - (D) General Nathan Twining
- Who is the only woman to earn the Medal of Honor?**
 - (A) Harriett Beecher Stowe
 - (B) Mary Quant
 - (C) Eve Arden
 - (D) Mary Edwards Walker

ANSWERS: 1A, 2B, 3B, 4D, 5D, 6D, 7B, 8D, 9C, 10B, 11B, 12D

ONLINE EXTRAS
Visit phoenixpatriotmagazine.com for more trivia questions.

From Cockpit to Classroom

By Leo W. Banks

“I joined expecting to serve four years, and use the educational benefit to finish my degree in accounting,” says Aaron Saul, now stationed at Luke Air Force Base in Phoenix, Arizona. “But I became an F-16 fighter pilot and instructor and I can’t believe how lucky I am.”

Luck has certainly played a role, as it often does in life. But luck is also a product of commitment and hard work.

Family tradition

Saul’s journey began at Greenup County High School in northeast Kentucky in 1991. As a senior, he followed a family tradition and signed up for the Air Force’s delayed enlistment program to become an airman in March 1992. Saul’s dad served two years in Vietnam, and three of his uncles were military men as well, all with the Air Force.

He enjoyed military life immensely, becoming a brigadier general’s personal security officer in the wake of the 1996 terrorist bombing of the Khobar Towers in Saudi Arabia. Saul says the men and women he served with “were like family—the brothers and sisters I never had.” That’s when he began considering the military as a career.

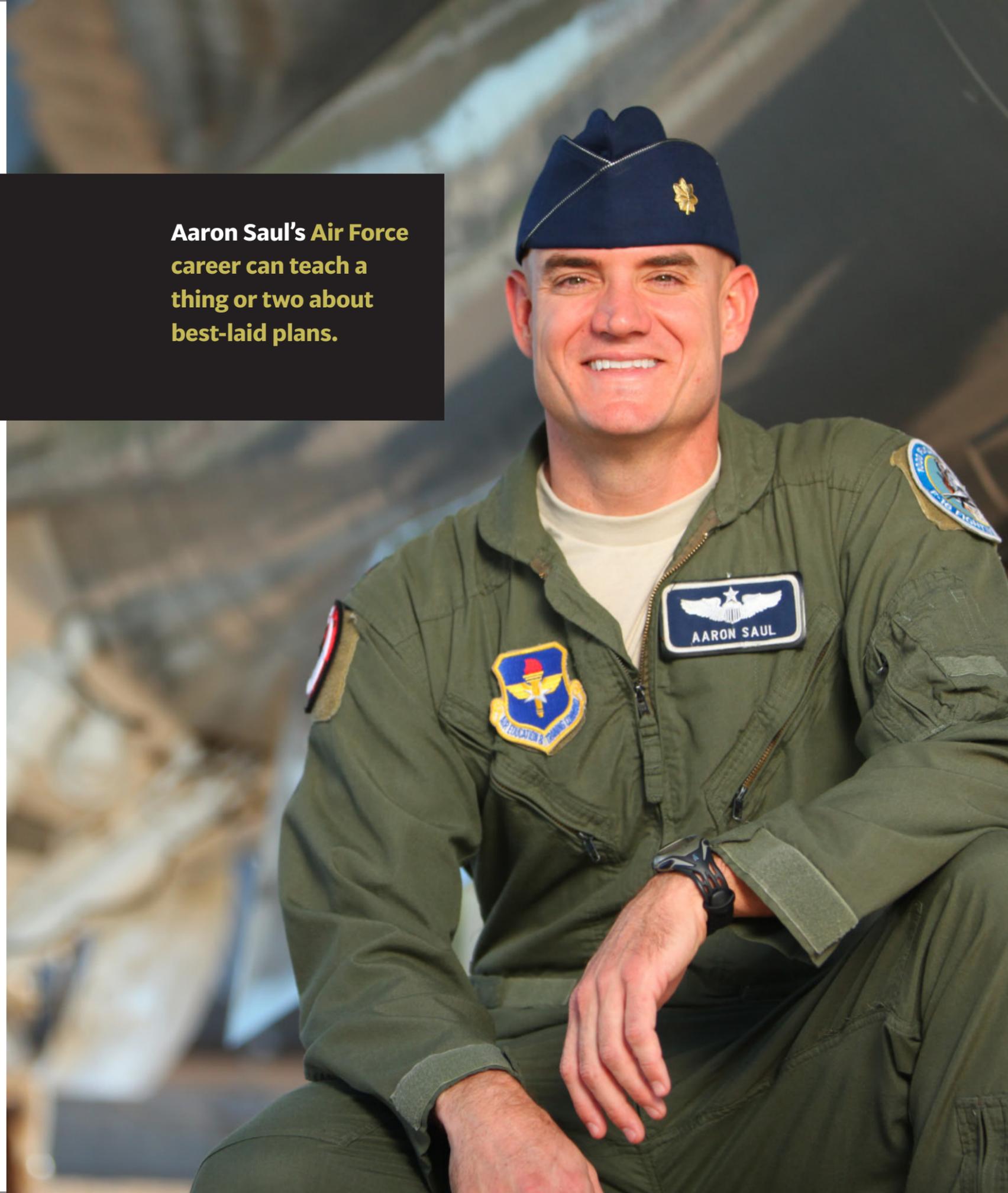
Perfect timing

He credits great mentors with guiding him toward leadership. Following the advice of that same brigadier general, Saul decided to pursue his educational goals at the University of Wisconsin at Whitewater, where he joined the ROTC program to become an officer.

He emerged from the university in 2001 as a Second Lieutenant with a new career goal in mind. In the aptitude exams required of officer hopefuls, Saul tested well as a potential pilot—at just the right moment.

“At the time I got selected, they were short of pilots,” he says. “I was really excited, but nervous, too. I think, maybe, I lacked confidence, didn’t recognize my own capabilities.”

Aaron Saul’s Air Force career can teach a thing or two about best-laid plans.



Aaron Saul wants his students to experience what he faced during training: the hardest, most rewarding year of their lives.

Having already served seven years in the Air Force, plus two more at Wisconsin, he was older than the other flight school candidates, and most of them had technical or engineering degrees, while Saul had earned a business degree.

Common ground

So, how does someone transition from a buttoned-down numbers-cruncher to brash pilot? The stereotype amuses Saul, who is often asked if a pilot's life is similar to that portrayed by Tom Cruise in the hit movie, *Top Gun*.

"First of all, *Top Gun* was the Navy, not the Air Force," says Saul, chuckling at the unpardonable sin of confusing the two military branches.

More importantly, though, he says most pilots don't conform to the image in the film—of swaggering, super-confident personalities in a high-risk, high-competition world. Saul says the most important skill is intelligence, the ability to process data at a rapid rate, which demands that candidates trust their training enough to not over-think tasks. And yes, there is competition, but it's tempered by a can-do optimism, the realization that everyone is working toward a common goal.

In that way, Saul says, pilots and businessmen have much in common.

"In flight school we learned to not look at things that bring us down, but to look at things that bring us up together, as a team," he says. "The same is true for an accountant working in a business. You have to work together to capitalize on strengths and minimize weaknesses."



From cockpit to classroom

In 2006, Saul was stationed at Aviano Air Base outside Venice, Italy, when he began studying for his MBA. But he only managed one class before taking a break of almost three years. The work of an F-16 pilot often means 12-hour days and frequent deployments, which make for a highly unpredictable schedule. Saul also acknowledges succumbing to the temptations of travel, spending weekends visiting nearby Croatia and Austria, and enjoying the food and ambiance of Italy, especially Rome.

His next posting in Ankara, Turkey, eventually allowed him more free time and he buckled down, falling back on a pilot's discipline to get the job done. "I stopped making excuses," says Saul. "Especially with online classes, you just have to sit down and do it. It's not like a traditional classroom."

He earned his MBA from University of Phoenix last August.

Now an Air Force major with more than 17 years of service, Saul's life has returned to where it began—in the classroom. In his work at Luke, he is teaching newly-minted second lieutenants how to fly F-16s, and the opportunity excites him as much as any he's undertaken.

He wants his students to experience what he faced during training: the hardest, most rewarding year of their lives. And he wants them to emerge holding true to the character trait he sees most often in pilots—humility.

"Everybody wants to fly and we're humbled at the opportunity to do it every day," Saul says. "But it isn't just flying, it's being in the military. We're all very proud to serve." ★

Air Force Maj. Aaron Saul's career has come full-circle. He trains F-16 pilots at Luke Air Force Base in Arizona.

At University of Phoenix, we're on a mission to make higher education accessible to underserved populations. This includes members of the U.S. military, whether they're serving in harm's way, are stationed on American soil or are adjusting to life after retirement.

As the president of one of the largest providers of higher education to the military, I am very proud to be able to offer this opportunity to the men and women in the U.S. Armed Forces who are sacrificing so much of themselves. My own two sons served in the U.S. Marine Corps, the younger one in Iraq, and because of this, I feel a strong connection to and a great responsibility for our military students. They deserve the very best, and that is what we strive to give them.

In the military, the culture is precise and unambiguous, and its unique language reflects that directness. After all, there's no room for doubt when the stakes are so high. In the end, it all comes down to accountability, a value we share at the University. The military is accountable for the defense of our nation just as we at University of Phoenix are accountable for our students, something we take very seriously.

We hold ourselves to the highest standards when it comes to serving all our students, and those in the military are no exception. That's why we established a Military Division eight years ago. Today, Military Division Associate Regional Vice President Garland Williams and his team are devoted to supporting our military students every day, from their initial contact with University of Phoenix to their ultimate success at graduation.

Whether you're a current student, are considering enrolling at University of Phoenix or are a member of the extended military community, we thank you for your contributions to our great nation and wish you much health, happiness and success.



BILL PEPICELLO, Ph.D.
President, University of Phoenix

QUICK BITS

This past summer, the University of Phoenix Military Division celebrated the graduation of its 50,000th student. Kudos to both students and staff on reaching this milestone, and here's to the next 50,000 UOPX military grads.

University of Phoenix has signed the Department of Defense Memorandum of Understanding and is listed on the DOD website as a signatory. This important step the DOD has taken provides uniform access to the military installations across the country and ensures that our students continue to have access to active duty military Tuition Assistance (TA) beginning in 2012.

Wounded Warrior Project Scholarships



University of Phoenix has awarded full scholarships leading to master's degrees to seven men and women under a partnership between the University of Phoenix and the Wounded Warrior Project (WWP).

The Wounded Warrior Project is a non-profit organization whose mission is to honor and empower wounded service men and women. The scholarships are awarded to the wounded service personnel who are WWP participants, their spouses and their primary caregivers, enabling them to complete the University of Phoenix master's degree program of their choice.

The following WWP participants were presented 2011 scholarship awards.

- Mary Alaniz, San Antonio, Texas, wife of a wounded warrior
- Jason Craft, U.S. Army, Jacksonville, Florida
- Whitney Dickinson, Vilonia, Arkansas, wife of a wounded warrior
- Patrick Glavey, U.S. Marines, San Diego, California
- Joseph Nyzio, U.S. Army, Bordentown, New Jersey
- Brian Orczeck, U.S. Air Force, Greensburg, Pennsylvania
- Christopher Yasher, U.S. Army, Boiling Springs, Pennsylvania

"The University of Phoenix is proud to work with the Wounded Warrior Project and provide each scholarship recipient an opportunity to help accomplish his or her educational goals," says Dr. Garland Williams, USA Colonel (ret.), associate regional vice president, military. "These scholarships represent an appreciation of the sacrifices these service members have made to secure our country's freedom and symbolize a chance for each recipient to acquire professional skills to further assist in his or her transition to civilian life."

The recipients will complete their studies at one of the more than 200 University of Phoenix locations throughout the U.S.

For more information on University of Phoenix WWP scholarship program, visit <http://bit.ly/vv7e8S>

AMVETS Scholarships



Continuing a five-year partnership with AMVETS, the University of Phoenix has awarded 50 scholarships to active duty service members, veterans and eligible family members. The \$7,000 individual scholarships will enable the awardees to pursue a degree of their choice at the University of Phoenix.

Appropriately, the 2011 annual scholarships were announced on Veterans Day. The winners come from throughout the United States, as well as from off-shore posts.

"The University of Phoenix recognizes the critical need for America's active duty service members, veterans and their families to increase their individual and professional strengths to further contribute to the 21st century workforce both in the military and beyond," said Garland Williams.

AMVETS National Commander Gary L. Fry called the most recent scholarship awards a highly appropriate and timely means of recognizing military service and sacrifice, especially as Operation Iraqi Freedom draws to a close and more military men and women seek to successfully transition to civilian careers.

From Enlisted to Employed: Educating Military Veterans for Civilian Careers



Veterans of the wars in Afghanistan and Iraq face multiple barriers to entering civilian careers. Physical and psychological injuries, lack of higher education, and insufficient career coaching and support are just some of the obstacles preventing otherwise qualified job seekers from transitioning into civilian employment. Last fall, University of Phoenix Research Institute sponsored a webcast hosted by The Chronicle of Higher Education. The webcast featured experts who examined how colleges and universities can better prepare service members for post-military careers and how employers can benefit from the training, skills and work attributes that veterans bring to the civilian workforce. You can view this presentation by visiting <http://bit.ly/vKV1Zj>

All content presented during the event was provided by University of Phoenix Research Institute.

UOPX Among Military Friendly Schools

University of Phoenix has been named to GI Jobs 2012 List of Military Friendly Schools.

The Military Friendly Schools list represents the top 20 percent of the nation's schools that are doing the most to embrace military students, veterans and their families. Schools are chosen through a process of exhaustive research by the GI Jobs Military Friendly Schools team. This research includes information gathered from government agencies, private entities that administer education benefits, and a comprehensive survey of more than 8,000 schools.

Woman of Action

By Jackie Dishner

As a military spouse, Vickey Guiles focuses on her family, while making time for her own goals and dreams



Visit military spouse **Vickey Guiles** on any given day, and you'll witness her hectic schedule. Like a rechargeable Energizer Bunny, she's running back and forth inside her home, situated on five acres of land in South Carolina. Most days, Vickey, dressed in stylish leggings and long blouses, high heels and painted toenails, will probably ignore you. Her family comes first.



Multi-tasker

When Vickey's not chasing three toddlers around, she's picking up toys, reading stories and changing diapers. When the toddlers nap, she takes a seat at the kitchen table with her older kids—both nearly teenagers—to help them with schoolwork. Vickey's other chores, such as laundry, housecleaning and cooking, get done in-between her children's needs.

On most nights after 9 p.m., when all the kids are tucked in bed and the house is quiet, it's Vickey's time—time for her to hit the books. Despite all that she has going on at home, Vickey makes time for graduate school. She's near the end of a two-year, online program with the University of Phoenix.

Military spouse

Vickey, who is finishing her master's in psychology, isn't a single parent, but some days she may feel like it. Her husband, Howard, is a U.S. Army sergeant stationed in Virginia, a little more than three hours away. In 2010, he was deployed to Afghanistan for a year—his second deployment to the Middle East—and couldn't watch over his family. Before he left, he knew he wanted Vickey and the kids to be near relatives, so they bought a home near where both he and Vickey grew up.

Referring to her two-year-old son and one-year-old twins as "like triplets," she says it's only after they are in bed that she settles on the couch with notebook,



SPOUSE'S CORNER / Vickey Guiles

printer and laptop to attend to her studies. "I don't ever attempt to do my work while the babies are awake—only if I'm behind," she explains.

Around midnight, she calls it a day.

"I don't have any trouble falling asleep at all. A few hours of sleep, and I'm good," she says.

Raised in a large family—her parents had nine children, and she's a fraternal twin—she says she's used to the noise and chaos a large family can create.

"I like to be busy," she says, "My husband calls me a 'busybody,' but I love taking care of business."

That doesn't mean life is all sugar and spice for this military spouse.

"She takes good care of the children. She keeps a good house. She pays the bills. She's got a lot on her plate," says Howard.

But it's her faith that keeps her going. Ask Vickey how she maintains any sense of sanity amid all her responsibilities, and she offers one word: "God."

Psychology major

Vickey chose psychology for her graduate degree program.

"I always was interested in why individuals act the way they do," she says. It's a curiosity that may stem from her childhood, a time when she fell victim to bullies on the school bus. They teased her and her siblings, calling them names. A spiritual upbringing and strict parenting set her on an early course of high expectations. As the middle child, she watched her mother take care of all the kids and learned determination from her.

In fact, her next goal is already in the works; she hopes to become an online instructor, which would allow her to utilize her education, be able to take care of her family and, maybe, get more sleep. This 33-year-old mother of five—now homeschooling her two oldest—has achieved an impressive 3.85 grade point average (GPA).

Vickey's academic counselor, Katie Ryan, has no doubt her student will accomplish whatever's next.

"I hear excuses all day long, yet Vickey has none. She's always on the ball, never complains," says Ryan, "...Of all the worries that go along with being a military wife, she's still focused on her family, as well as her own goals and dreams. I'm blown away by her."

On most nights after 9 p.m., when all the kids are tucked in bed and the house is quiet, it's Vickey's time—time for her to hit the books.



Family ties

If it helps to have faith, you also need people in your life who have faith in you. In addition to Howard and Katie, there's Vickey's younger sister, Sarah Bostick. Sarah, who lives two hours away, is a mother also, and she's taking nursing courses.

"My sister lifts my spirits," Sarah says of Vickey, "No matter what she's going through, all we do is laugh."

Howard calls her a role model for other military spouses and plans to turn her graduation into a big family party.

"It's a pretty big deal," he says, "I'm so proud of her." ★

Vickey Guiles and her husband Howard (far right) juggle family and military responsibilities.

"IT" HAPPENS

IN 1998 AND 1999 NATO FORCES HELPED CONDUCT AN AIR WAR OVER THE SERBIAN PROVINCE OF KOSOVO. THE KOSOVO LIBERATION ARMY WAS FIGHTING FOR FREEDOM AGAINST THE SERBIAN POLICE AND YUGOSLAV MILITARY.

WRITTEN AND ILLUSTRATED BY MICHAEL PENICK
COLORS BY JOHN RAUCH



IN THE WAKE OF THE CONFLICT, U.S. PEACEKEEPING FORCES WORKED WITH THE KOSOVO CONSERVATION CORPS TO HELP REPAIR AND REBUILD THE COUNTRY'S INFRASTRUCTURE.



LTC. GARLAND WILLIAMS, A BATTALION COMMANDER WITH THE 16TH ENGINEERS, 1ST ARMORED DIVISION, WAS TASKED TO BRING DOWN A SERBIAN BARRACKS BUILDING THAT HAD BEEN BOMBED DURING THE CONFLICT.



IT SAT ON A HILLTOP OVERLOOKING THE VILLAGE OF UROSEVAC.



THE BUILDING WAS RIGGED WITH 650 LBS. OF C-4 AND DETONATED.



WHEN THE SMOKE CLEARED, TO THE ASTONISHMENT OF EVERYONE INVOLVED...



...THE OUTER WALLS HAD SLUMPED BUT THE BUILDING STILL STOOD.



UNAWARE THAT PHONE CALLS HAD ALREADY STARTED POURING IN TO BRIGADE HEADQUARTERS, LTC. WILLIAMS RIGGED THE BARRACKS BUILDING WITH **ANOTHER** 600 LBS. OF C-4 AND TRIED AGAIN.

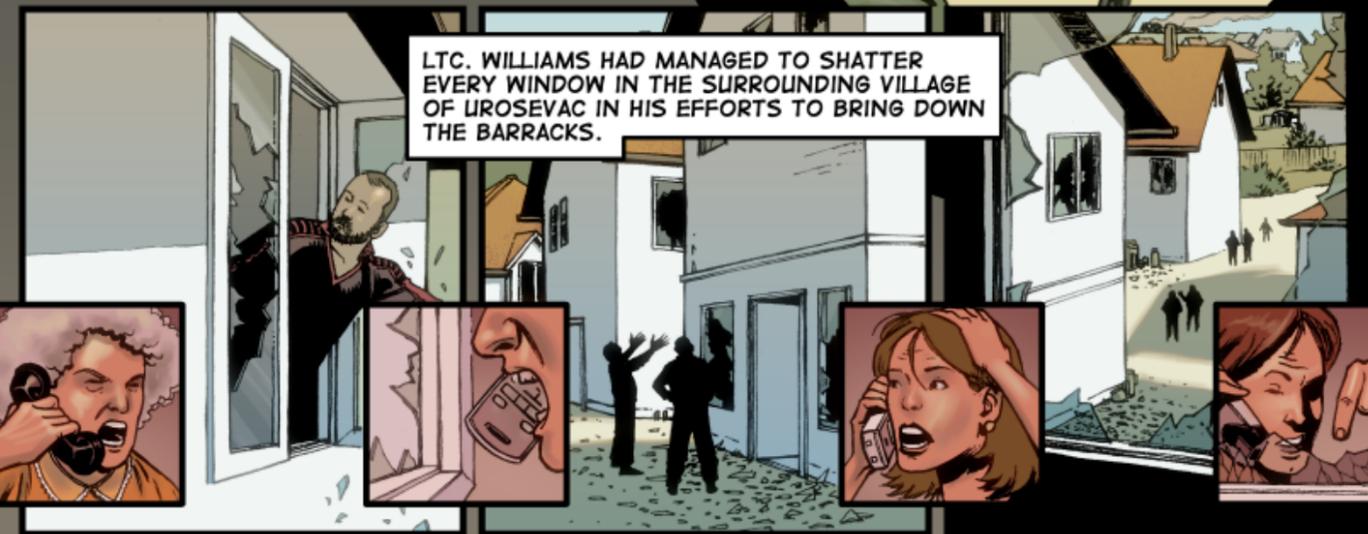


TO NO AVAIL.



THAT'S WHEN THE CALL CAME DOWN FROM BRIGADE HEADQUARTERS.

WHAT THE HELL DID YOU JUST BLOW UP?



LTC. WILLIAMS HAD MANAGED TO SHATTER EVERY WINDOW IN THE SURROUNDING VILLAGE OF UROSEVAC IN HIS EFFORTS TO BRING DOWN THE BARRACKS.



CLOSE INSPECTION REVEALED THE BUILDING'S SECRET:

REINFORCING BAR.

REBAR, AS IT'S COMMONLY CALLED, IS USED TO GIVE TENSILE STRENGTH TO CONCRETE BUILDINGS. THE OFFENDING BUILDING HAD REBAR EVERY FOUR INCHES, EASILY TWO TO THREE TIMES THE NORMAL AMOUNT.

THE BARRACKS WERE EVENTUALLY BROUGHT DOWN WITH BULLDOZERS AND BY HAND AND LTC. WILLIAMS WAS LEFT WITH THE KNOWING EXPERIENCE THAT --



IT HAPPENS!

Q&A

University of Phoenix Military Division answers your questions

Associate Director of Training Rebecca Beltran answers your questions about higher education.

Q I'm a veteran, and I'm interested in using my GI Bill benefits to complete my education. Is University of Phoenix approved to use VA funding?

A Yes. Many of our students use a variety of VA funding programs to pursue their education at University of Phoenix. In fact, the University has a special Military Division that supports our military students. Staffed mainly by former military or military reserves, the Military Division's employees have been specially trained and certified to understand and offer direction when a student is interested in activating and using any chapter of the GI Bill.

Visit <http://bit.ly/ta6UPR> to learn more about the veteran benefits for which you may qualify.

Q I am an active duty service member and a current University of Phoenix student attending classes on campus. I may be deployed overseas soon. Can I still attend University of Phoenix?

A Yes. Because University of Phoenix offers online courses, you can attend the University from anywhere as long as you have an Internet connection. In addition, we have a number of campuses in Europe and Asia for students who prefer to take their courses at a ground campus.

University of Phoenix also offers 24/7 phone support for military students so they can reach military enrollment, academic and finance staff regardless of what time zone they are calling from. In addition, University of Phoenix offers many other resources for members of the military who want to continue their education while deployed or on TDY.

Visit Phoenix.edu for more information.

Q Does University of Phoenix accept military transfer credits?

A Yes. University of Phoenix is a Servicemembers Opportunity Colleges (SOC). Because of this partnership, members of the military (active duty, veterans or reserves) may be eligible to receive college credit at University of Phoenix for any military training that is evaluated by the American Council on Education (ACE). Service members are encouraged to take CLEP and DANTES tests to see if they qualify for additional credits. In general, these credits typically apply toward interdisciplinary or elective courses for undergraduate degrees.

It's easy to determine if your military training is eligible to count as college credit. Once you obtain an unofficial transcript of your military training from your enrollment advisor, you can submit it to your enrollment advisor who will work with you through the process of determining if you qualify for college credit.

In addition, you may qualify for college credit through our Prior Learning Assessment for any civilian training you have undergone.

Learn more at <http://bit.ly/rP7ouz>



Who is Rebecca Beltran?

Rebecca Beltran is the associate director of training for the Military Division and a retired member of the U.S. Army. Beltran is passionate about making sure members of the military community have the information they need to make good decisions about higher education, and her team is committed to supporting military students from the day they enroll until the day they graduate.

Have questions?

We have answers. Submit your military-related inquiries about higher-education to militaryrelations@phx.edu



PARTING
Shot



An aircraft director guides an F/A-18C Hornet onto a catapult aboard the aircraft carrier USS Harry S. Truman in the Atlantic Ocean on Feb. 1, 2011.

Department of Defense photograph by Petty Officer 2nd Class Kilho Park, U.S. Navy

Parting Shot call for photos:

We want to see your unique military images. For consideration, please upload your photos to phoenixpatriotmagazine.com, and we'll publish the editors' favorite in each issue of *Phoenix Patriot*.



WE WANT YOU

...to share your story and photos

Submit your stories, letters and photographs online at phoenixpatriotmagazine.com.

America the Beautiful

Framed by ponderosa pine boughs, Yosemite Falls provides a dramatic backdrop for a frosty landscape along California's Merced River. Photograph by Jack Dykinga



University of Phoenix®
Military Division