

## FORT GEORGE G. MEADE NEWS RELEASE

PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICE

4409 Llewellyn Ave. FORT MEADE, MD 20755 www.ftmeade.army.mil

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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## Fort George G. Meade app puts you in the right direction

FORT GEORGE G. MEADE – The Fort George G. Meade app, first launched in April, 2017, now has the ability to help you find your way around post. The new "Directions," button puts Google Maps turn-by-turn directions at your fingertips.

The "Directions" button lists locations like the ID card office, The Leisure Travel Office, the Youth Teen Center and many other locations that may be hard to find. By selecting the location you need from the list, Google Maps is opened and is preprogrammed for the desired address, saving you from having to find and input the information yourself.

"I admit, I stole the idea from Fort Polk," said Mary Doyle, chief of Media Relations at Fort Meade. "Fort Polk uses the same application platform. When I saw the way they were providing directions to public and service locations on post, I knew I had to make that available in our app."

"People get lost around here all the time, especially people who come for the first time," said Doyle. "As long as you're already on post, the Google Maps interface will help you get to where you need to go. It's just one more way we hope the app will make navigating the installation easier."

While the app has been in use since 2017, this year has seen a marked increase in downloads.

"There were 1,200 downloads of the app in February alone," said Chad Jones, Fort Meade Public Affairs Officer. "From weather alerts, installation status and access to the 24/7 Command Line, the app is a useful tool. Now, the "Directions" button will save you from having to search for an address and get you there whether you're in a car or on foot."

Users are reminded not to program or use the app while driving. "Pull over to program your phone," said. Jones. "The app puts the assistance at your fingertips, but we want you to use it safely."

The Fort George G. Meade app can be downloaded from any app store. The app is also approved for government phones and can be downloaded from the government app store.

## **BACKGROUND**

Fort Meade stands at the forefront of national security through its cyber defense and offense efforts and continues to grow in importance in the technology universe. With more than 100 years of service, we are the nation's platform for intelligence, information and cyber operations. The installation is the largest employer in the state of Maryland with a joint force of 56,000 civilian and military professionals working around the clock in defense of the nation. We are the second largest Army installation in the continental United States in terms of personnel and home to all branches of military service. We have 119 partner organizations located on our installation including U. S. Cyber Command, the National Security Agency, the Defense Information Systems Agency, and the Defense Information School, as well as federal agencies such as the Environmental Protection Agency Environmental Science Center.

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FOR MORE INFORMATION, please contact: Mary Doyle in the Fort Meade Public Affairs Office at 301-677-5592 or mary.l.doyle14.civ@mail.mil or

For more about Fort Meade, visit the Fort Meade website at <a href="https://www.ftmeade.army.mil">www.ftmeade.army.mil</a>, or go directly to the Fort Meade Press Center at <a href="https://www.ftmeadepresscenter.com">www.ftmeadepresscenter.com</a>. You can also check out Fort George G. Meade on Facebook and Twitter.