

MARNE WEEK 2021



May 15-21

FORT STEWART-HUNTER ARMY AIRFIELD



MARNE WEEK

MAY 15-17, 2021

the kickoff

Rockin' the Marne



Photos by Daniel Malta

Country artists Big & Rich perform on Fort Stewart's Donovan Field May 15. The concert was attended by over 1,700 people and was one of the first events to see a relaxation in COVID-19 mitigation policies. The event was the official kick off of the 3rd Infantry Division's Marne Week.



Families spread out on Donovan Field to maintain social distancing requirements during Big & Rich concert, May 15 on Fort Stewart.

Cover: The 3rd Combat Aviation Brigade performs a flyover at the conclusion of the national anthem at the Twilight Tattoo during Marne Week, May 18 on Fort Stewart. The Twilight Tattoo, held annually during Marne Week, marks the constitution and organization of 3rd ID through performance and music, sharing the stories of the division's history for all past and present members of the Marne community. (Photo by Sgt. Lance Hartung)



BY THE GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF GEORGIA

A PROCLAMATION

MARNE WEEK

WHEREAS: The United States Army's 3rd Infantry Division was activated at Camp Greene, North Carolina, on November 21, 1917. Since its founding, it has evolved into a premier fighting force. Known as the "Armored Fist" of XVIII Airborne Corps, the 3rd Infantry Division is the only Armored Division east of the Mississippi River; and

WHEREAS: During World War I, as a member of the American Expeditionary Force to Europe, the division earned its name as the "Rock of the Marne" when surrounding units retreated, but the 3rd Infantry Division remained. The division boasts a storied history of valorous service in World War I, World War II, Korea, the Gulf War, Iraq, and Afghanistan; and

WHEREAS: The 3rd Infantry Division is based at Fort Stewart, Fort Benning, and Hunter Army Airfield, Georgia. Its current organization includes two Armored Brigade Combat Teams, one Combat Aviation Brigade, one Division Artillery Brigade, and one Sustainment Brigade; and

WHEREAS: During Marne Week 2021, the 3rd Infantry Division will continue to remember and honor the "Dogface" Soldiers currently deployed to South Korea, various locations in the Middle East, and in continued support of COVID-19 Vaccination Task Force Missions across the United States; and

WHEREAS: In the annual tradition of commemorating the achievements, history, and esprit de corps of the Marne Division, Marne Week will be commemorated at Fort Stewart and Hunter Army Airfield from May 15-21, 2021. The week includes sports competitions, public concerts, a military ball, historical preservation events and fun educational events for "Dogface" Soldiers, families, 3rd Infantry Division Alumni, and the Coastal Georgia community; now

THEREFORE: I, BRIAN P. KEMP, Governor of the State of Georgia, do hereby proclaim May 15-21, 2021, as MARNE WEEK in Georgia.

In witness thereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the Executive Department to be affixed this 9th day of April in the year of our Lord, Two Thousand and Twenty-One.

B. Kemp
GOVERNOR

ATTEST

Shannon R. Stephens
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Dogface Soldiers celebrate Marne Week

Sgt. Javiera Scott
50th PAD

For many of the 3rd Infantry Division Soldiers on Fort Stewart and Hunter Army Airfield, Marne Week is the most anticipated week of the year.

"Marne Week has taken on a much more special meaning this year than it has in the past," said Maj. Gen. Antonio Aguto, commanding general of the 3rd Infantry Division. "Marne week has always been a way for us to connect the Soldiers of today with the heroes that served before us in this Division. It is a way for us to stop, and celebrate each other through healthy competition, social events and also celebrate our past."

Instead of the typical Division run, this year's opening ceremony was followed by a Bed Race.

Units from Fort Stewart and Hunter Army Airfield built their own beds on wheels, which were manned by five people in total- four pushers and one rider. The first-ever winners of the bed race were the Soldiers from 1st Battalion, 9th Field Artillery Regiment, 2nd Armored Brigade Combat Team.

The day was followed by the start of many other sporting and competition events. Competition events are a test of grit and toughness, foster readiness and esprit de corps, and are a fundamental part of the Division's Marne Week celebration.

The Twilight Tattoo, held annually during Marne Week, featured a concert provided by the 3rd Infantry Division



oldiers assigned to 2nd Armored Brigade Combat Team, 3rd Infantry Division, stand in formation before a close out ceremony for Marne Week 2021 May 20 on Fort Stewart, Georgia. The closing ceremony is the culminating event of Marne Week, which was an opportunity for Dogface Soldiers past and present to celebrate being a member of the Rock of the Marne.

Band. It also included 103 soldiers reenlisting and reaffirming their commitment to the United States Army, as well as six recruits from the Hinesville Recruiting Center reciting their oath of enlistment into the military. During the ceremony many volunteers were also recognized for their service to the Division.

The Family Day event brought together currently serving Dogface Soldiers, Veterans, Family members, and the community to celebrate the Division's legacy. Attendees played various outdoor games and units of the Division provided static displays of the many different tactical vehicles.

On the morning of May 20, the Division dedicated their garden for special ceremonies to Sgt. 1st Class Alwyn Cashe. The ceremony was attended by Family members of the Silver Star Medal recipient, Maj. Gen. Aguto, Command Sgt. Maj. Quentin Fenderson, the 3rd ID

senior enlisted advisor, and many other Soldiers from throughout the Division.

The closing ceremony concluded the celebrations and recognized the event winners from throughout the week. This year, the winners of the Marne Cup and owners of bragging rights as the best brigade were the Spartan Soldiers of the 2nd Armored Brigade Combat Team. The title of "Best Battalion" was taken by the Soldiers of the 1st Battalion, 28th Infantry Regiment, which is stationed at Fort Benning.

Finally, the Society of the 3rd Infantry Division hosted a military ball for Soldiers and Family members at the Jekyll Island Convention Center. The guest of honor was retired Lt. Gen. James E. Rainey.

"Thanks for everyone participating; thanks to everyone for being here," said Aguto, "I can't tell you how great it is to see everyone out here and for us to actually be able to do this, this week."

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MARNE WEEK

Marne Week kicks off with Bed Race

Spc. Jose Escamilla
50th PAD

The 3rd Infantry Division kicked off Marne Week with its first ever bed race, May 17. Every year on Fort Stewart, the 3rd ID celebrates Marne Week.

Marne Week is usually celebrated on the third week of November to commemorate the division's birthday. The 3rd ID founded their reputation as the "Rock," as the division held the Marne River against ferocious German attacks while other allies were forced to retreat. Marne Week showcases the "Rock of the Marne" division, honoring past and present Dogface Soldiers, Family members, and communities.

All of these events build team cohesion and promote friendly com-

petition. Overall the division's goal is to bring together currently serving Dogface Soldiers, Veterans, Family members, and the community to celebrate the division's legacy.

The division usually kicks off Marne Week with a division run, but due to the current pandemic, 3rd ID came up with a new event to begin the week of camaraderie and esprit de corps.

"It's something different," said commanding general of the 3rd ID Antonio Aguto. "I think we had a great time and this is just the beginning."

The 3rd ID bed race tasked each battalion to build a bed on wheels. These beds were manned by teams of four pushers and one bed rider. The teams raced down a mile-long track stretching from Gulick Avenue to 18th Street. Teams earned points

on a number of categories including: best bed, best theme, and best time.

As each battalion raced to the finish, the first three to cross the finish line were 1st Battalion, 9th Field Artillery Regiment; 6th Squadron, 8th Cavalry Regiment; and 3rd Battalion, 15th Infantry Regiment. All three top finishers were from the 2nd Armored Brigade Combat Team.

After crossing the finish line, Sgt. Clayton Gibson, a competitor from the 1-9 FA team said, "Our theme was Hawaiian, because 1-9 was founded in Schofield Barracks in Hawaii." Gibson's team took the most points overall for the Bed Race.

The 3rd Combat Aviation Brigade's 3rd Squadron, 17th Cavalry Regiment took the most points for most creative and best overall theme.



Photo by Spc. Savannah Roy

Dogface Soldiers of the 1st Battalion, 9th Field Artillery Regiment, 2nd Armored Brigade Combat Team, 3rd Infantry Division push their decorated bed towards the finish line during the bed race, May 17 on Fort Stewart. The bed race kicks off this Marne Week, standing in as a fun alternative to the traditional division run.

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Marne Week kicks off with Bed Race



Above: Soldiers assigned to 3rd Squadron, 17th Cavalry Regiment, 3rd Combat Aviation Brigade, 3rd Infantry Division, push their squadron's bed during the Bed Race, May 17 on Fort Stewart.



Photos by Staff Sgt. Brian Ragin
Dogface Soldiers assigned to 9th Brigade Engineer Battalion, 2nd Armored Brigade Combat Team, 3rd Infantry Division, push their battalion's bed during the Bed Race, May 17 on Fort Stewart.



Right: Soldiers assigned to Fort Stewart's U.S. Army Medical Department Activity push their unit's bed during the Bed Race, May 17 on Fort Stewart. The bed race kicked off Marne Week standing in as a fun alternative to the traditional division run.

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MARNE WEEK

Day 1 | May 17



Photo by Sgt. Reva Catholic
Soldiers assigned to 1st Battalion, 28th Infantry Regiment, 3rd Infantry Division, from Fort Benning, compete in a tug-of-war event during Marne Week, May 17 on Fort Stewart.



Photo by Spc. Canaan Wright
Top right: A Soldier representing 1st Battalion, 28th Infantry Regiment, 3rd ID, from Fort Benning, Georgia, climbs a 20-foot rope during the Marne Week CrossFit Competition May 17 on Fort Stewart.

Photo by Spc. Jose Escamilla
Left: a Dogface soldier reaches for the basketball during the Marne Week basketball competition, May 17 on Fort Stewart. Competition events are a test of grit and toughness, foster readiness and esprit de corps, and are a fundamental part of the division's Marne Week celebration.

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Day 1 | May 17



Photo by Spc. Summer Keiser

Above: Sgt. Chance Trull, assigned to 92nd Engineer Battalion, 3rd ID, prepares to throw a dodgeball during a game, May 17 on Fort Stewart.



Photo by Spc. Summer Keiser

Spc. Antonio Morales, left, Spc. William Martin, middle, and Spc. Nicholas Johnson, right, all assigned to 3rd Infantry Division, celebrate Morales for single-handedly earning a win for their team during a dodgeball competition as part of Marne Week, May 17 on Fort Stewart



Photo by Pvt. Josue Mayorga

Right: Soldiers with 3rd Infantry Division play in an Ultimate Frisbee tournament during Marne Week, May 17 on Fort Stewart.

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MARNE WEEK

Day 2 | May 18



Photo by Sgt. Prosper Ndown

Pvt. Jocer Pillot, assigned to the 603rd Aviation Support Battalion, spikes the ball over the net during the volleyball event, May 18 as part of Marne Week on Fort Stewart.



Photo by Sgt. Reva Catholic

Spc. Nicholas Bertram, an infantryman assigned to 1st Battalion, 28th Infantry Regiment, 3rd Infantry Division from Fort Benning, low crawls through the mud as part of the Marne Mudder competition, May 18 on Fort Stewart.



Photo by Staff Sgt. Brian Ragin

Spc. Samuel Boyee, a culinary specialist assigned to 2nd Battalion, 69th Armor Regiment, 2nd Armored Brigade Combat Team, 3rd ID, anticipates heading a soccer ball at a soccer match during Marne Week, May 18 on Fort Stewart.

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Division hosts Twilight Tattoo



Photos by Sgt. Lance Hartung

Above: Soldiers from 3rd Infantry Division participate in a Twilight Tattoo dress rehearsal during Marne Week, May 18. The Twilight Tattoo, held annually during Marne Week, marks the constitution and organization of 3rd ID through performance and music, sharing the storied division's history for all past and present members of the Marne community.



Left: Members of the 3rd Infantry Division Band set the stage with their musical stylings during the Marne Week Twilight Tattoo, May 18 on Fort Stewart.

Below: Maj. Gen. Antonio Aguto, commanding general of the 3rd Infantry Division, re-elists 103 Soldiers during the Twilight Tattoo, May 18, on Fort Stewart.



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MARNE WEEK

Day 3 | May 19



Photo by Sgt. Lance Hartung

Above: Soldiers assigned to 9th Brigade Engineer Battalion, 2nd Armored Brigade Combat Team, 3rd Infantry Division, participate in a golf scramble during Marne Week on Fort Stewart.

Photo by Pvt. Josue Mayorga

Top right: A Soldier prepares to strike his opponent during a combatives match during the 3rd ID, Marne Week, May 19 on Fort Stewart.

Photo by Spc Aaron Lundgren

Bottom right: Staff Sgt. Jose Norat, assigned to 1st Battalion, 9th Field Artillery Regiment, 2nd Armored Brigade Combat Team, 3rd ID, tags out a runner at second base during a Marne Week softball game, May 19 on Fort Stewart.

Photo by Sgt. Lance Hartung

Below: Dogface Soldiers review the race route prior to the Marne Week 10K race, May 19 on Fort Stewart.



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Family Day



Photo by Sgt. Javiera Scott

Above: Volunteer members of the USO serve Soldiers lunch during the Marne Week Family Day celebration, May 19 on Fort Stewart.



Photo by Pfc. Anthony Ford

Left: An Army spouse Amy Burris pitches during a kickball game as a part of Marne Week's Family Day event, May 19 on Fort Stewart.



Photo by Sgt. Javiera Scott

Soldiers and their Families partake in a cornhole tournament the USO hosted during the Marne Week Family Day celebration, May 19 on Fort Stewart.

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MARNE WEEK

Day 4 | May 20



Photo by Spc. Summer Keiser

Spc. Taufaiula Mavaega, assigned to 603rd Aviation Support Battalion, 3rd Combat Aviation Brigade, 3rd Infantry Division, bats a softball during a softball competition as part of Marne Week, May 20 on Fort Stewart. Marne Week is a time to bring Dogface Soldiers together and test their tenacity and build esprit de corps through various competitions.



Photo by Sgt. Reva Catholic

Soldiers assigned to the 3rd Infantry Division compete in the wheelchair basketball tournament during Marne Week, May 20 on Fort Stewart.

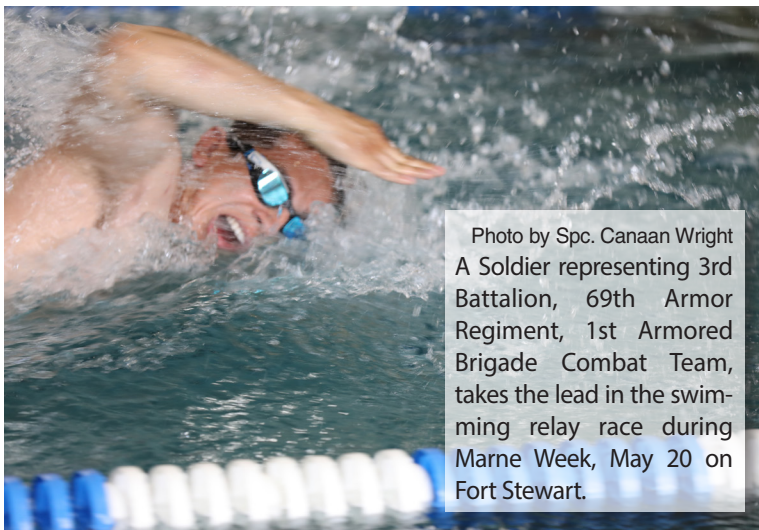


Photo by Spc. Canaan Wright
A Soldier representing 3rd Battalion, 69th Armor Regiment, 1st Armored Brigade Combat Team, takes the lead in the swimming relay race during Marne Week, May 20 on Fort Stewart.



Courtesy photo

Command Sgt. Maj. Quentin Fenderson, 3rd ID command sergeant major, addresses the audience at the Cashe Garden dedication as part of Marne Week, May 20 on Fort Stewart. During Marne Week, the Division dedicated the Sgt. 1st Class Alwyn C. Cashe Garden to honor the Dogface Soldier, leader and Silver Star Medal recipient, and to inspire others to emulate his example.

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Cashe Garden dedication

Staff Sgt. Todd Pouliot
50th PAD

The 3rd Infantry Division honors its many heroes in memorials throughout Fort Stewart - Hunter Army Airfield. Fort Stewart's most prominent memorial garden was officially renamed May 20, to honor the selfless sacrifice of a leader killed in Iraq.

Marne Garden, located just outside the division headquarters, was renamed and dedicated to Sgt. 1st Class Alwyn C. Cashe, in a ceremony that highlighted the division's Marne Week.

"Marne Week has always been a way for us to connect Soldiers of today with the heroes who served before us in this division," said Maj. Gen. Antonio Aguto, 3rd ID commanding general. "We are very excited to do this; the Cashe Garden dedication is absolutely the most important thing we will do during Marne Week. More importantly, we are very excited that his Family, friends, and Soldiers with whom he served could join us to help celebrate and honor him."

Command Sgt. Maj. Quentin Fenderson, 3rd ID command sergeant major, deployed with Cashe, and said he

knew him to be a selfless leader who always put the needs of his Soldiers above his own.

"For the many of us who knew and served with Sgt. 1st Class Cashe, we know he wouldn't want any of this - he didn't need anything named for him," Fenderson said. "He believed the only acknowledgement he needed was that his boys were safe."

On October 17, 2005, Cashe, a platoon sergeant assigned to 1st Battalion, 15th Infantry Regiment, 3rd Brigade, 3rd ID, extracted six Soldiers and an Iraqi interpreter from a burning Bradley Fighting Vehicle in Salah Ad Din Province, Iraq. Cashe's platoon had been tasked to clear a route for a resupply convoy when a roadside bomb exploded beneath their vehicle, causing it to quickly become engulfed in flames. Cashe returned to the burning BFV multiple times to remove his team and move them to safety. All of the Soldiers on that vehicle, including Cashe, sustained significant burn injuries and were evacuated to Brooke Army Medical Center in San Antonio, Texas. Ultimately, four of the Soldiers perished from their wounds; Cashe was the last to die, succumbing to

injuries November 8, 2005.

"This memorial garden is where we do all our important events, like promotions and ceremonies," Fenderson said. "Whenever our Soldiers come here in the future, they will think of the heroism of one of our own Dogface Soldiers."

Kasinal Cashe White, Alwyn's sister, spoke on behalf of the Cashe Family, who were greeted and honored with applause.

"To me, he was known as Al, my baby brother," recalled White. "He was a country boy from Florida, loved the outdoors and loved his Family. Not only his blood Family, but the Army Family he gained while serving the Nation."

Cashe, who grew up in Oviedo, Florida, deployed in support of the Gulf War in 1991, participated in the 2003 invasion of Iraq, and returned to Iraq in 2005. He was posthumously awarded the Silver Star Medal for his brave and heroic actions, the third highest award exclusively for military operations involving conflict.

"When we looked at recognizing Sgt. 1st Class Cashe and his service and his heroism, we wanted to find a spot that everybody knows, everybody comes to, and is truly at the heart of our organization," Aguto said.

For Cashe's Family, the 3rd ID has become a special part of their lives. The Family travels to Fort Stewart every year to remember Cashe and share his story with others.

"We're honored that you have chosen a happy place for Soldiers to remember our Al, and we hope that his story inspires 3rd Infantry Division Soldiers for years



Kasinal Cashe White, the sister of Sgt. 1st Class Alwyn C. Cashe, delivers a speech during the Cashe Garden dedication ceremony, May 20 on Fort Stewart.



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MARNE WEEK

Spartans dominate, games come to a close



Photo by Spc. Savannah Roy

Dogface Soldiers assigned to 2nd Armored Brigade Combat Team, 3rd Infantry Division, celebrate winning 'The Marne Cup' during the 3rd Infantry Division Marne Week Closing Ceremony, May 20 on Fort Stewart. Marne Week displays the fighting spirit, tenacity and warrior ethos that is the Dogface Soldier, carrying on the unit's proud history and lineage.



Photo by Sgt. Calab Franklin

Dogface Soldiers assigned to 1st Battalion, 28th Infantry Regiment, 3rd Infantry Division, celebrate winning the title 'Marne Week Battalion Champions' during the Division Marne Week Closing Ceremony, May 20 on Fort Stewart.

Sgt. Reva Catholic
3rd Infantry Division

Units throughout the 3rd Infantry Division participated in competitions and sporting events throughout Marne Week, May 17-20, with the goal of earning bragging rights and accruing points to win the Marne Cup.

The events kicked off with the first ever bed race with the 1st Battalion, 9th Field Artillery Regiment, 2nd Armored Brigade Combat Team, team winning the race.

The days that followed included events such as The Marne Mudder, basketball, tug-of-war, volleyball, softball, soccer, combatives, a golf scramble, and many more.

The 3rd Battalion, 69th Armor Regiment, 2nd ABCT, won the swimming relay competition while the Fort Stewart Soldier Recovery Unit won the wheelchair basketball tournament.

The 2nd ABCT won in several competitions during Marne Week. The 1st Bn., 9th FAR took home the win in basketball, soccer, the cornhole tournament, golf scramble and volleyball. The 3rd Battalion, 15th Infantry Regiment won in archery and The Marne Mudder, while 9th Brigade Engineer Battalion secured the win in softball and 6th Squadron, 8th Cavalry Regiment triumphed in paintball.

The 3rd Combat Aviation Brigade units competed as well, finishing with 4th Battalion, 3rd Aviation Regiment winning in the functional fitness challenge and dodgeball and the 2nd Battalion, 3rd General Support Aviation Battalion winning in ultimate Frisbee.

Soldiers assigned to 1st Battalion, 28th Infantry Regiment, dominated in tug-of-war, the video-game competition, combatives, the Army Special Operation Forces challenge, flag football, and the 10K team race.

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closing ceremony



Courtesy photo

Dogface Soldiers assigned to 3rd Battalion, 15th Infantry Regiment, 3rd Infantry Division, earned the third place title for 'Marne Week Battalion Champions' during the Division Marne Week Closing Ceremony, May 20 on Fort Stewart.



Photo by Sgt. Calab Franklin

Dogface Soldiers assigned to 1st Battalion, 9th Field Artillery Regiment, 3rd Infantry Division, earned the second place title for 'Marne Week Battalion Champions' during the Division Marne Week Closing Ceremony, May 20 on Fort Stewart.



Courtesy photo

Soldiers assigned to 2nd Armored Brigade Combat Team, 3rd Infantry Division, stand in formation before a close out ceremony for Marne Week, May 20 on Fort Stewart. The closing ceremony is the culminating event of Marne Week, which was an opportunity for Dogface Soldiers past and present to celebrate being a member of the 'Rock of the Marne'.

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MARNE WEEK

3rd ID Ball celebrates 104 years of history



Photos by Sgt. 1st Class Jason Hull

Above: Soldiers, veterans and Family members of the 3rd Infantry Division attend the Division Ball, hosted by the Society of the 3rd ID, May 21 on Jekyll Island. The ball was the final event of Marne Week, which is an opportunity for Dogface Soldiers past and present to celebrate being a member of the "Rock of the Marne" and part of its 104-year history.

Left: Lt. Gen. James E Rainey, the commanding general of the Combined Arms Center and Fort Leavenworth, Kansas, provides advice on being successful leaders to attendees of the 3rd Infantry Division Ball, May 21 on Jekyll Island. Rainey, the guest of honor, is a former 3rd ID commander and led the Division throughout a deployment in support of Operation Freedom's Sentinel in Afghanistan.



Pauline Conner, spouse of World War II veteran and Medal of Honor awardee 1st Lt. Garlin Conner, gifts her late husband's medal to the 3rd Infantry Division at the Division Ball, hosted by the Society of the 3rd ID, May 21 on Jekyll Island. Lt. Garlin Conner received the Medal of Honor for his heroic actions on Jan. 24, 1945, when he risked his own life to direct artillery onto a German battalion, even onto his own position after being surrounded, eventually forcing their retreat. Maj. Gen. Antonio Aguto and Command Sgt. Maj. Quentin Fenderson, the command team of the Division, with John Potter, curator of the 3rd ID Museum, accepted the medal before the ball's attendees.