



Congratulations to C Battery 1st Battalion, 320th Field Artillery Regiment (101st Airborne Division, Fort Campbell) for being awarded the 2017 Field Artillery Henry A. Knox Award. The United States Army Field Artillery School would also like to thank the unit leaders who took the opportunity to highlight their Soldiers and units to show how they lead the way within our branch.

KNOX 2017

The 2017 Field Artillery Henry A. Knox Award has been awarded to: **C Battery 1st Battalion, 320th Field Artillery Regiment (101st Airborne Division, Fort Campbell).**

This award recognizes the outstanding active duty Army Field Artillery Battery of the Year for superb mission accomplishment and overall unit excellence.

During their deployment during Operation Inherent Resolve (OIR), C BTRY 1st BN, 320th Field Artillery Regiment (101st Airborne Division, Fort Campbell) massed 2,079 rounds against enemy forces in Mosul and Northern Iraq. In addition to their critical support during OIR, during that same deployment, Charlie Battery impressively earned the coveted "Gold Air Assault streamer" for achieving higher than a ninety percent Air Assault qualification rate. Upon returning from their deployment, C Battery quickly reset and initiated an intensive training regimen driven

by the lessons learned from their previous deployment. Beginning in May and ending in September 2017, the battery conducted two platoon Air Assault Artillery Raids, one Battery Air Assault infiltration operation, Table VI through XV certifications, a Battery FTX, and a Battery Artillery Readiness Test (BART) that was conducted concurrently with an Emergency Deployment Readiness Evaluation (EDRE).

In keeping with the Battery's high level of excellence and commitment to the mission, SSG Nicholas Davis stands out as an individual whom embodies this Battery's call to community service. SSG Davis received the Soldier's Medal after he saved the lives of two civilians, with no regard for his own well-being. C Battery stands out as a testament to its high level of dedication to mission, high standards, and adherence to the Army Values.

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The Knox Award is named after the first Chief of Artillery and first Secretary of War, Major General Henry A. Knox. Originally called the Knox Trophy and Medal, the award was established in 1924 in order to recognize the best Field Artillery Battery and best

Enlisted Soldier. The award was lost during World War II, but reinstated in 2002 for Active Duty FA units, with the individual Soldier award being replaced with the Gruber Award.

HAMILTON 2017

The winner of the 2017 Field Artillery Alexander Hamilton Award has been awarded to: **A Battery, 1st Battalion, 129th, Field Artillery Regiment (Missouri Army National Guard).**

This award recognizes the outstanding U.S. Army National Guard Field Artillery Battery of the Year for superb mission accomplishment and overall unit excellence.

2017 was an outstanding year for A Battery, 1-129th FAR. The unit's excellence in all duties exemplify the outstanding traits and characteristics for which Alexander Hamilton stood. A Battery was awarded the Battalion's coveted "Thunder-Stick" award for demonstrating superiority in all objectives and outperforming all other units in the 1-129th FAR.

A Battery continuously met and exceeded the demands of its higher headquarters by completing all mandatory tasks, online training requirements, annual briefs, Warrior Tasks and Battle Drills in addition to

Howitzer section and crew training. When A Battery is not putting steel on target in the field, it is accomplishing assigned missions at home station during individual duty training (IDT) weekends. Preparation and robust training is the unit's focus during IDT weekends, which drives excellence and high levels of morale and retention. The unit excelled in all Organizational Inspections, including a Commendable rating on its S1 Combined Staff Inspection (CSI) and a Satisfactory rating on the Training Management inspection.

A Battery is an organization that is extremely proud, motivated, and determined to face any challenge and to produce remarkable results. The Soldiers of Battery A live up to the Battalion motto of "Send Your Mission."

The Hamilton Award is named after the First Secretary of the Treasury and Continental Army Artilleryman, Alexander Hamilton.

GRUBER 2017

The winner of the 2017 Field Artillery Edmund L. Gruber Award is: **SFC Jaime M. Castro, assigned to the 5th Battlefield Coordination Detachment, USARPAC.**

This award recognizes an outstanding Field Artillery Soldier for superb individual thought, innovation and overall excellence that results in significant contributions to or the enhancement of the Field Artillery's warfighting capabilities.

SFC Castro's performance as the Senior Fire Control NCO for the 5th Battlefield Coordination Detachment (BCD) during FY17 has been nothing short of exceptional. Through his own initiative, he worked directly with Advanced Field Artillery Tactical

Data System (AFATDS) Field Support Representatives (FSRs) to improve the functionality and capability of the AFATDS software that will be incorporated in future versions. His progress and abilities to work through current technological deficiencies has been noticed, highlighted and his implementations have been provided to the Fires Center of Excellence (FCoE), the FSRs, and AFATDS software designers, to ensure the progressive efficiency of the Field Artillery's force operating equipment.

Considering his understanding and expertise within the realm of the Field Artillery and its applica-

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tion, SFC Castro has a truly advanced understanding of his craft and has worked at great lengths to make our “inter-service” cooperation more efficient.

SFC Castro’s efforts to integrate the Army and Air Force mission command systems on Global Command and Control System-Joint (GCCS-J) ensured that the Joint Forces Land Component Commander (JFLCC) was able to transmit their requirements to the Joint Forces Air Component Commander (JFACC) and ensure targets were collaboratively and holistically serviced, regardless of domain or lethal/nonlethal effects.

The Gruber Award is named after a noted Field Artillery Officer, who as a First Lieutenant in 1908 composed the “Caisson Song” which was later adapted to the “Army Song” in 1952, Brigadier General Edmund L. Gruber. The award was established in 2002, but was originally part of the Henry A. Knox Award from 1924.

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Wally Rugen, will be based at Redstone Arsenal, AL, home to the Aviation and Missile Research, Development and Engineering Center.

The Network CFT, headed by Maj. Gen. Pete Gallagher, will be located at Aberdeen Proving Ground, MD.

The Assured Position, Navigation and Timing CFT will be based at Redstone Arsenal. The team has been led by Willie Nelson, a member of the Senior Executive Service, since the Feb. 28 departure of its initial director, Kevin Coggins.

The Air and Missile Defense CFT, led by Brig. Gen. Randall McIntire, will be located at Ft. Sill.

The Soldier Lethality CFT will be based at Ft. Benning, GA. The CFT is led by Brig. Gen. C.D. Donahue, who is also commandant of the infantry school at Ft. Benning. Donahue is set to become deputy director for special operations and counterterrorism

(J-3) on the Joint Staff, and will be succeeded in both his current roles by Brig. Gen. David Hodne, deputy commanding general (maneuver) of the 4th Infantry Division at Ft. Carson, CO.

The Synthetic Training Environment CFT, led by Maj. Gen. Maria Gervais, will be based in Orlando, FL, home to the program executive office for simulation, training and instrumentation.

Ultimately, the commander of Army Futures Command, to whom the CFTs will report, will have the discretion to alter the headquarters locations when the command reaches full operational capability in summer 2019. Senior leaders are in the process of determining a location for the new four-star command headquarters.

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For the complete list of books on the Chief of the Field Artillery/
CSM of the Field Artillery Reading List go to
<https://www.us.army.mil/suite/doc/49894181>

