

CSM Brian Flom salutes Veterans

By Brian Flom, US Army War College Command Sergeant Major 10 November 2020



Happy Veterans Day.

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November 11th marks the 101st anniversary of Veterans Day. Originating as Armistice Day in 1919, this day was meant to honor those who served in the “Great War,” the war to end all wars. In 1954, Armistice Day was officially renamed Veterans Day and honors the brave men and women who answered the call to defend our Nation and its values throughout our storied history.

A Veteran is not described by race, religion, or gender. A Veteran is not defined by political identity or socioeconomic status.

Veterans are distinguished by the fact that, when called upon, they stepped forward and took an oath to support and defend the Constitution of the United States of America against all enemies foreign and domestic. Our Veterans represent a diverse society of men and women who believe in something bigger than themselves.

This year marks a milestone in that we now have more than 17 million living American Veterans who served in at least one war. Additionally, since the U.S. has been at war for more than 19 years, we now have the largest

population of young Veterans since the Vietnam War.

As Veterans, we all have a story to tell. A story of service and sacrifice. A story of laughter and tears. But most importantly, a story of honor and pride. It is a story that would not be possible without the support of the many who may have never worn the uniform, yet whose service was essential to the success of our military.

On this day, I invite you to take a few minutes and hear the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff Gen. Mark A. Milley share his thoughts on the idea behind America and the oath that service members take. [see link]

MG Maranian and I are extremely grateful for not only your service, but what you do to care of our #1 asset, our PEOPLE: our Service members, our Veterans, and their Families. We are proud to serve alongside such a great team of professionals.

Strength and Wisdom!

CSM Brian Flom