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Soldier gate guards to wear Cold War-era headgear during MP Corps' regimental week

FORT LEONARD WOOD, Mo. – Commuters to Fort Leonard Wood will have the opportunity to view a piece of military operational history as Fort Leonard Wood observes the 72nd anniversary of the Military Police Corps Regiment, Sept. 22-28.

Military police soldiers working on duty at the post's gates will wear Cold War-era headgear, which was worn by military police while performing garrison law enforcement missions from the 1940s to until the 1980s.

According to Lt. Col. Michael Henshaw, U.S. Army Military Police School chief of staff, and director of plans and operations, wearing the headgear is a symbolic way to remember military police soldiers who have forged the way for the current force, and allows the regiment to pay tribute to their proud history.

Several other events are scheduled throughout the week including: a memorial tribute to honor fallen military police warfighters, a regimental run and regimental retreat, the State of the Regiment, the Military Police Hall of Fame induction ceremony and photo hanging, a golf tournament, and the annual Military Police Regimental Ball, said Henshaw.

The memorial tribute takes place at 7:45 a.m., Sept. 23, on the Military Police Memorial Grove, located at the intersection of Nebraska avenue and Pine street. The Waynesville High School choir is scheduled to provide music during the ceremony, which is open to the public.

Military police will observe the 72nd anniversary of the corps with a three-mile regimental run at 6 a.m., Sept. 24, starting from Gammon Field. Following the run, members of the corps are scheduled to attend a State of the Regiment address from 9 a.m. to noon, in Thurman Hall, Room 3518.

The time-honored military tradition of a regimental retreat is scheduled to take place at 4 p.m., Sept. 25, on the Maneuver Support Center of Excellence Plaza.

Four individuals will be inducted into the U.S. Army Military Police Corps Hall of Fame, during a luncheon from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., Sept. 26, in the Pershing Community Center. This year's inductees are: retired Brig. Gen. Rodney Johnson; retired Regimental Command Sgt. Maj. Jeffrey Butler; retired Command Sgt. Maj. Mark Farley; and retired Regimental Chief Warrant Officer Philip Tackett. Photos of the inductees will be unveiled in the Military Police Corps Museum at 1:30 p.m., immediately following the induction ceremony.

The Military Police Regimental Association plans to host a golf tournament for the regiment at 10 a.m., Sept. 27, on the Piney Valley Golf Course.

Regimental week concludes with the annual Military Police Regimental Ball at 5 p.m., Sept. 28, in Nutter Field House.

The theme of this year's regimental week observance is: "Forging the Future: Professional, Ready, Resilient."

The purpose of the regimental week is to gather lessons learned in support of current operations to prepare the future force, promote esprit de corps, and pay tribute to those who have made significant contributions to the Military Police Corps Regiment.

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Photo outline MP_Helmet.jpg: During the 72nd anniversary of the Military Police Corps Regiment, Sept. 22-28, military police soldiers working on duty at the post's gates will wear Cold War-era headgear. The headgear, which is made of nylon, with a typical World War II paint scheme, was worn by military police while performing garrison law enforcement missions from the 1940s to until the 1980s. Courtesy photo/Released

Military Police Regimental week events include:

Sept. 22

6 p.m., Military Police Regimental Association Reception, by invitation only, Hampton Inn

Sept. 23

7:45-9 a.m., Military Police Memorial Tribute, MP Memorial Grove, near the intersection of Nebraska avenue and Pine street, open to the public

Sept. 24

6-7 a.m., Military Police Regimental Run, Gammon Field
9 a.m.-noon, State of the Regiment, Thurman Hall, Room 3518

Sept. 25

4-5 p.m., Regimental Retreat, Maneuver Support Center of Excellence Plaza, open to the public

Sept. 26

11 a.m.-1 p.m., Hall of Fame Induction, Pershing Community Center, advance registration required
1:30-2 p.m., Hall of Fame Photo Hanging, Military Police Corps Museum, open to the public

Sept. 27

10 a.m., Military Police Regimental Association Golf Tournament, Piney Valley Golf Course

Sept. 28

5 p.m., Military Police Regimental Ball, Nutter Field House

About Fort Leonard Wood

Fort Leonard Wood is a thriving and prosperous installation that has evolved from a small basic training post 70 years ago to a premier Army Center of Excellence that trains 80-90,000 military and civilians each year.

Home to the Maneuver Support Center of Excellence, Fort Leonard Wood now trains and educates service members and develops doctrine and capabilities for the Training and Doctrine Command's U.S. Army Chemical, Biological, Radiological, and Nuclear School, U.S. Army Engineer School, and U.S. Army Military Police School, three gender integrated Initial Military Training brigades, one of only five reception stations in the Army, and the Army's largest Non Commissioned Officers Academy.

Over the past several years, Fort Leonard Wood has received numerous additional responsibilities to include supporting the 4th Maneuver Enhancement Brigade, a large Forces Command unit that is responsible for all deployable capabilities at Fort Leonard Wood. A colonel-commanded Marine Corps Detachment and an Air Force Detachment, which are both the largest on any Army installation, are located on Fort Leonard Wood; a large Navy Seabee Detachment and elements of the Coast Guard train here as well.

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