



The Military Order of Foreign Wars of the United States

The Ohio Commandery

Newsletter

June 2019

Upcoming Event

Flag Day 2019

US Army Birthday Anniversary

Naturalization Ceremony

Date: 14 June 2019
Time: 12:00 p.m.
Location: Rock and Roll Hall of Fame
1100 E. 9th Street
Cleveland, Ohio

Sponsored By:

Joint Veterans' Council of Cuyahoga County
Association of the United States Army
Newton D. Baker Chapter, Cleveland, Ohio
US Army Recruiting Command
Rockstar Battalion, Cleveland

Hosted By:

Rock and Roll Hall of Fame and Museum

In this Newsletter

Commander's Comments	Page 2
D-Day Invasion Remembrance	Page 3
Summary of Presentation of 13 April 2019 Commandery meeting	Page 8

The Seven Purposes of the MOFW:

1. Honor and perpetuate the names of brave and loyal men and women.
2. Keep in mind the memory of their martial deeds and the victories which they helped gain.
3. Strengthen the ties of fellowship among the Companions of the Order.
4. Foster the cultivation of military and naval science ..
5. Bear true allegiance to the United States of America, based upon a paramount respect for, and fidelity to, the National Constitution and laws.
6. Aid in maintaining national honor, union and independence.
7. Foster and encourage the study of American history and particularly of American military history, to the end that the memory of brave men and women may freely be enshrined and that we and our children may learn from the past to formulate sound policies for the present and future.

The Commander's Comments

I hope you had an opportunity to watch the news coverage of the D-Day Invasion 75th Anniversary Celebration. It was nice to see how the focus was on those who participated in the invasion and the recognition of those D Day veterans who were in attendance. As MOFW Companions we need to find opportunities to recognize military personnel, former or active, in their martial deeds and the victories which they helped gain.



LTG Dana T. Atkins, (USAF, ret.), President and CEO of the Military Officers Association of America, wrote in the June 2019 Military Officer Magazine: “Today, less than 15% of young adults have a parent who has served, compared to 40% in 1995. DoD now identifies this as an impediment to the sustainability of the all-volunteer force and national security. This is compounded by the fact more than 70% of 17—to 24—year-old's are ineligible for military service due to physical, medical, academic, or other factors.”

LTC Atkins also wrote: “To help the growing military-civilian divide, consider connecting with your local media to encourage them to highlight service, history, homecomings, and local deployments. Many people don’t know about the details of military missions and the work of our uniformed services. We have to share stories of sacrifice and service”

LTC Atkins wrote this message to the members of the Military Officers Association, but it applies to us, the companions of the Order. Our primary purpose is stated in the second purpose of the Order:

“Keep in mind the memory of their martial deeds and the victories which they helped gain.”

Continued on page 3

The Commander's Comments

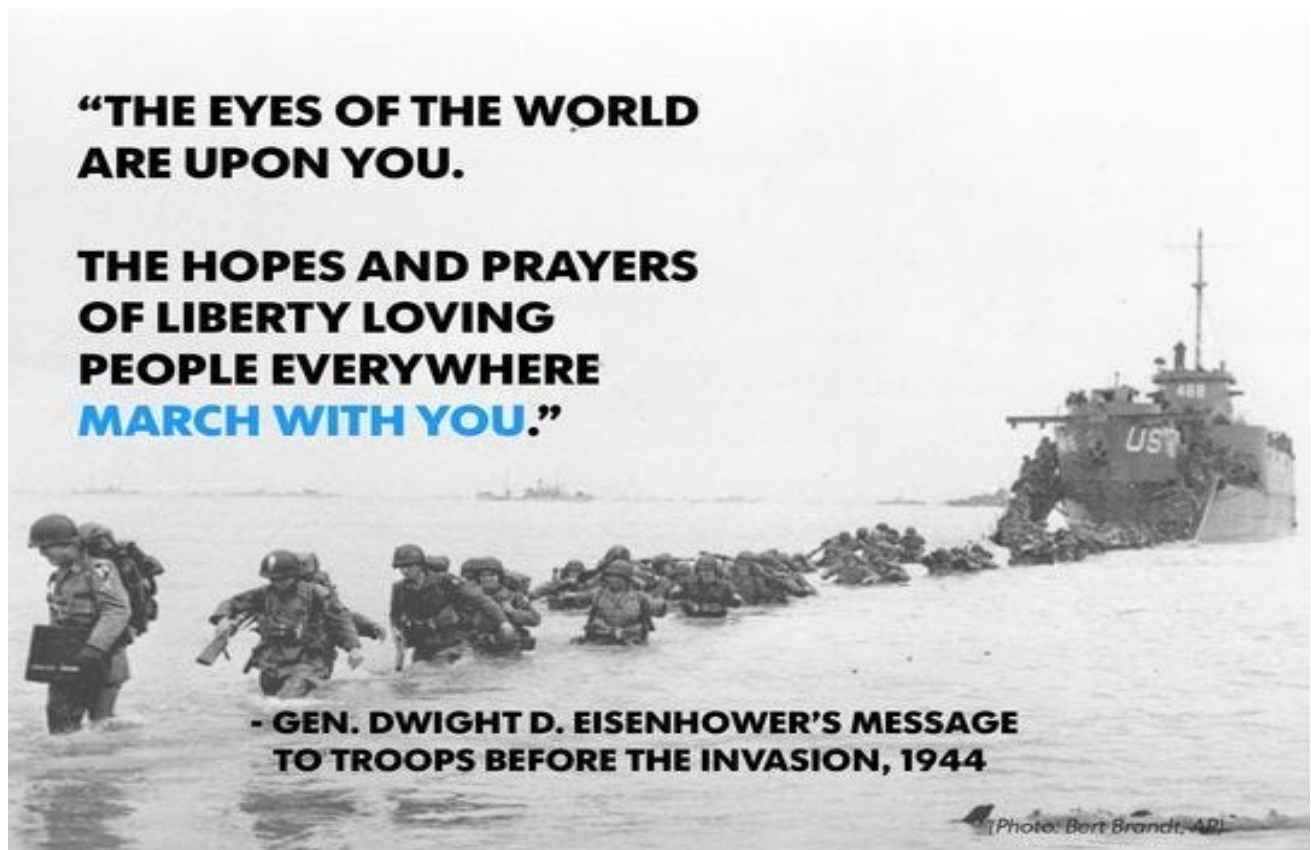
(Continued from page 6)

Our companion, Major Tom Jenks, (USA, ret.), is involved in many organizations to benefit veterans and to help advance the purposes of the Order. The current project he is involved in is the US Flag Day 2019 event 14 June 2019. The details are on the first page of the newsletter.

I plan to be in attendance to support Companion Jenks's effort. If you are able, please consider attending this event.

"Deus et Libertas,"
Donald Bratton

D-Day Invasion 6 June 1944



Continued on page 4

D-Day Invasion 6 June 1944



Continued on page 5

D-Day Invasion 6 June 1944

D-DAY IN NUMBERS



4,413

ALLIED DEATHS

2,499
AMERICANS



1,914
OTHER ALLIES

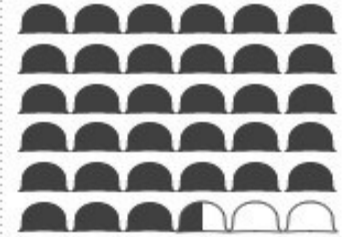


4,000-9,000
GERMAN DEATHS



156,000

TROOPS DEPLOYED



10,250 CASUALTIES

6,603 U.S

2,700 UK

946 CANADA



Source: D-Day Museum and The National D-Day Memorial | Picture: AFP/Getty | Graphic: Nural Choudhury



Continued on page 6

D-Day Invasion 6 June 1944



Continued on page 7

D-Day Invasion

6 June 1944



**13 April 2019 Ohio Commandery Meeting
Medina, Ohio**

Guest Speaker: Lieutenant Colonel (USA-Ret) Dominic J. Giordano

Presentation: “From Complicated to Complex: Technology and Global Risk”



Summary by: COL (USA-Ret) Dave Taylor
Senior Vice Commander

**LTC (USA-Ret) Dominic J. Giordano
MOFW Companion— Ohio Commandery**

Biographical Sketch:

Dominic J. Giordano (Medina, Ohio) retired from the U.S. Army as a Lieutenant Colonel with 28 years of active and reserve service including assignments in Civil Affairs, Psychological Operations and Information Operations. He commanded a Special Operations Forces Civil Affairs company in Afghanistan, and also deployed to the Balkans, Egypt and Africa. He is a graduate of the U.S. Army Command and General Staff College and has a Masters of Operations Research from North Carolina State University and a Master of Science in Industrial Engineering from Cleveland State University. During his military career his awards and decorations include the Combat Action Badge, Bronze Star Medal, Ranger Tab, Pathfinder Badge and Senior Parachutist Badge.



Continued on page 9

“From Complicated to Complex: Technology and Global Risk”

(Continued from page 6)

LTC Giordano’s excellent presentation took our members into a world of high technological sophistication. What had been a complicated world of sophisticated national defense technology considerations (high level of difficulty) has now grown into a complex system of considerations requiring an adaptive defense environment with multiple components. This is brought on by the fact we are living in an increasingly complex world. As Giordano noted, the world was Bi-Polar when he started his military career (superpowers were the USA and Russia) and we now live in a more sophisticated environment with multinational forces at work.

Giordano notes, “After the Berlin Wall came down, “global battle lines” became blurred... our adversaries were less defined...we moved from an analog world to a digital world”. During his many tours of active duty, LTC Giordano met Ukrainian military personnel who told him the USSR had to steer their ‘best and brightest’ in the army to the artillery units because of all the sophistication necessary to have a modern indirect fire force. He noted, the USSR was on the verge of collapse in its artillery forces because of the rapid computerization required to remain viable as a force to be reckoned with.

Giordano saw it all in the world’s military transformation; for example, the Israeli’s versus their hostile neighbors, particularly Saddam Hussain’s war of Scuds fired into Israel, the Kosovo-Bosnia conflict, and then in 2001 into Afghanistan as a commander of a Civil Affairs Company working in tandem with the Army’s 3rd Special Forces Group. The complex technological growth he witnessed in the worlds military’s also included an increasingly complex world of defining battle lines and one’s enemy. In Afghanistan he worked with local tribal groups to build trust, realizing each tribal group had their own agenda. The whole adversarial environment in Afghanistan was tribal...made even more complex from what was once a standard Pashtunwali Code of tribal honor which then morphed into an extremism.

Continued on page 10

From Complicated to Complex: Technology and Global Risk”

(Continued from page 7)

In 2006 Giordano deployed to Africa (Uganda & Kenya) to work in environments of very low levels of standards of living and, in many cases, extreme poverty. He returned to Afghanistan in 2008 to witness Information Operations at its highest level...an explosion of technology that had grown exponentially... that included an emphasis on computer modeling of enemy systems and studying the effects of extremism on the internet, as a vital component of the Army’s Psychological Operations.

Giordano notes that in world history, we existed for hundreds of years with no change, then innovations, such as the long bow would change combat for the next hundreds of years. But in even in his own service history, only the first fifteen years of his army service remained relatively constant. For example, today he notes, seventy percent of the Army’s fighting capability is dependent on Air Force Space Operations. He fully supports the further establishment and expansion of DOD space capabilities, noting “Our presence in space is critical, the Russians are there and, more critical, the Chinese are there.” Giordano firmly believes what a nation has in space will determine its success or failure in future conflicts. He foresees the day when “we have continual boots on the Moon.”