

21 APR 2019



1. Situation:

a. Enemy Forces:

- i. Weather: Late September Washington, D.C.: Average highs in high-70's, lows in the mid 50's. Our Arlington National Cemetery and Mt. Vernon events will occur outside rain or shine so dress appropriately.
- ii. Location & Terrain: Northern VA & Washington, D.C. is mostly flat, rising gradually from the banks of the Potomac River, to be eventually surrounded by low hills in the North, and rolling land in the South.
- iii. Traffic: Metro D.C. area continues to be ranked the worst for traffic in the US, thus plan appropriate lead times for travel.
- iv. Activity: This time of year is high volume for tourists and could possibly include activity related to terrorist threats. Our planning team will monitor news and Homeland Security threat level (<https://www.dhs.gov/national-terrorism-advisory-system>), and the alumni group will need to stay vigilant and maintain flexibility in order to respond to conditions on the ground.

b. Friendly Forces:

- i. Mission of Next Higher: *Establish Alumni Operations for 1st, 2nd, 3rd & 4th Battalions of the 37th Armor Regiment. We expect attendance from all 4 battalions – please help us spread the word about the reunion.*
- ii. Planning Team 19:
 - Scott Bicksler: CSC & S3 '82 -'85
 - Kevin King: D Company & HHC '90 -'94
 - Cliff Wheeler: BNS3 & BN XO '01-'03
 - William Fitzhugh: HHC & HHC Commander, '00 - '03
 - Marcus McPhearson: BNS1 '81-'83
 - Scott Sobataka: HHC Maint '95 - '96
- iii. Assigned Forces: All 37th Armor Alumni are invited to the reunion, and any 37th Armor Veterans who are not yet Alumni Members should register on the alumni page <http://www.courageconquers.com/> to be added before registering.
- iv. Attachments: Spouses and dependents are welcome. If participating in any mandatory or paid options, reunion tickets must be paid in advance.

2. Mission: TF 37 (Alumni) execute ABRAMS OPERATION REGIMENTAL RECALL II on 26-29 September 2019 in vicinity of Washington, D.C., to re-connect with fellow Alumni from the unit.

3. Execution:

- a. Honorary Regimental Commander's Intent: Have a safe, fun, memorable event with the brothers and alumni of 37th Armor; Conduct a wreath laying ceremony at the Tomb of the Unknown soldier on America's most hallowed ground at the Arlington National Cemetery; tour the homestead of our First President George Washington at Mt Vernon and dinner at the Ft Belvoir Officers Club (Mandatory); Encourage R&R through excursions to The Pentagon/Caisson Stable Tour (optional) or Washington, D.C. Hop-On Hop-Off Tour bus (optional)
- b. Concept of the Operation: This operation will consist of four phases:
 - i. **Pre-Deployment:** Alumni conduct individual planning and make reservations for deployment to link up near Springfield, VA NLT 1900 26 September 2019. Registration can occur online via the following link: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/2019-washington-dc-fall-reunion-regimental-recall-tickets-61341020644>
 - ii. **Deployment:**
 - Day 1, 25 SEP: ADVON arrives
 - Deployment Day, 26 SEP. Arrive Springfield, VA. Hotel does not have a direct shuttle service, proceed on own to Hilton Springfield, VA. Washington National Airport (DCA) is 10 miles from the hotel. Washington Dulles International Airport (IAD) is 23 miles from the hotel. Baltimore/Washington International (BWI) is 45 miles from the hotel. Hotel has free parking. Registration (called Private Room within Houlihan's) and Regimental no host social in Houlihan's Restaurant followed by dinner on own. Check reader board in hotel for timely information. See Annex A for detailed timelines.
 - iii. **Event Operations:**
 - Day 2, 27 SEP: See Annex B for detailed timelines
 - a. Early Morning: Breakfast at hotel. Bus to Arlington National Cemetery (Mandatory).
 - b. Mid-day: Lunch at DFAC Ft Myer 3rd Inf Regiment (Old Guard).
 - c. Afternoon: Visit historic home and grounds of George and Martha Washington.
 - d. Evening: 37th Armored Regiment Alumni Grog Ceremony & Toasts, Regimental program and buffet at the Belvoir Officers Club. Return to Springfield Hilton for no host social at Houlihan's Restaurant.
 - Day 3, 28 SEP: See Annex C for detailed timelines
 - a. Breakfast at hotel.
 - b. Option 1: Bus to the Pentagon/Caisson Stables tour. Lunch on your own.
 - c. Option 2: Bus to Union Station to start Hop-on Hop-Off Tour of Washington, D.C. Lunch on your own.
 - d. Evening: No host gathering at Springfield Hilton Houlihan's Restaurant. Dinner on own.
 - iv. **Re-Deployment:** Day 4, 29 SEP – No formal activities planned, redeploy to home station on own.
- c. Coordinating Instructions:
 - i. \$200 Non-Refundable payment for Alumni and \$175 for dependent due no later than (NLT) 15 August 2018. Payment covers mandatory events such as Shuttle transportation, Wreath for TUS, 37th Armor Alumni Awards and Banquet, and T-Shirt for alumni.
 - ii. Payment and acceptance of Event terms can be made through the alumni website only. Online

payment processing supported for major credit cards & PayPal.

- iii. Hotel Coordination is to be completed by the Alumni Member directly with the Springfield Hilton. See para 4.
- iv. Dress: The alumni uniform for Day 1's wreath laying ceremony at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier & Arlington National Cemetery will be Khakis/slacks and a polo shirt. We ask that alumni guests please also dress appropriately for the occasion and venue.
- v. Certain Personally Identifiable Information will be required during the registration process to gain access to Ft Belvoir, VA and Ft Myer, VA.
- vi. Key Milestones:
 - 15 JAN Draft WARNO Published w/ Hotel Info
 - 1 May OPORD Published & Registration Opens <https://abramsstandards.com/>
 - 15 AUG Registration Closes
 - 26-29 SEP OPERATION REGIMENTAL RECALL
 - 15 OCT Event AAR & Lessons Learned Document Published
 - 15 NOV Wise Men Planning Meeting, three-year Reunion Plan for 2020, 2021, 2022
 - Updates will be provided to this OPORD as necessary

4. Service Support:

- a. Hotel Accommodations: Hilton Springfield, 6550 Loisdale Road, Springfield, VA 22150 (703) 971-8900
- b. Lodging Instructions: Alumni can call hotel to make reservations or self-service via link below.
 - i. Sep 26-29, 2019.
 - ii. Last day to book: 15 AUG 19.
 - iii. Hotel rate of \$119.00 USD per night plus taxes, includes breakfast all mornings. Market prices in effect once our block of rooms are reserved.
 - iv. Reservation link: <http://www.hilton.com/en/hi/groups/personalized/S/SPRSHHF-AR0926-20190926/index.jhtml>
 - v. Guests may also call the Reservations Center at 1-703-971-8900 and **mention 37th Armor Regiment Reunion Room Block** to reserve a room at our group rate.
 - vi. Terms: A credit card is required at the time of reservation in order to hold the room. The hotel does not charge a deposit. The cancellation policy is 72 hours prior to arrival. Cancellations within 72 hours of arrival will forfeit one-night Room & Tax. The hotel will also honor the group rate if guests would like to book additional nights, but they will need to call to call sales department directly ask for Jason or Dana.
 - vii. Nearest pet friendly hotel: Homewood Suites by Hilton; 7010 Old Keene Mill Road, Springfield, VA 22150, TEL: (703)866-6045.
 - viii. If the Hilton Springfield fills up, we'll identify alternate Lodging: TBP in FRAGO updates.
 - ix. Campsites 11 miles of Event Hotel:
 - <https://www.campgroundviews.com/listing/burke-lake-park-campgrounds/>
- c. Deployment Transportation: Alumni provide their own transportation to the hotel. TF Members should arrive in Washington, D.C. by 26 SEP 2019 in order to participate in the evening registration (follow signage posted in hotel) & Regimental no-host social.
- d. Event Transportation: 37th Armor Alumni will provide ground transportation for mandatory and optional weekend events.
- e. Services:
 - i. Hotels, meals (except hotel breakfast & awards banquet dinner) and alcoholic beverages will be paid individually. Optional tour (Hop On Hop Off DC Tour) may be booked for an additional discounted group rate through the Eventbrite Registration process.

- ii. Attire: Khakis/Slacks and a polo for Day 1 activities (except four individuals designated to lay wreath at the TUS. Day 2 activities street Casual, Regimental & Patriotic gear welcome. Warm and temperate clothing recommended, including wet weather gear for rain or shine.

5. Command and Signal

a. Reunion POCs:

- i. J. Scott Bicksler. sbicksle@aerotek.com or (951)543-8161
- ii. Kevin King. kevinking@godaddy.com or (202)669-6233
- iii. Kevin Seidl. kevinseidl@msn.com or (860)318-1974

b. Signal:

- i. Frequencies and Call Signs: Smart Phone/Cell Phone will be the primary means of communications. Alternate means of communication are text message, email & alumni Facebook page postings. For reunion updates, please subscribe to our Remind group 37AR: www.remind.com/join/37ar or text @37ar to 81010.
- ii. Challenge and Password: N/A for this operation.
- iii. Code Words: Identify yourself as 37th Armor Reunion Alumni and qualify for the group rate until discounted room block is exhausted.



Annex A Detailed Event Schedule (Be Flexible as we'll be coordinating multiple locations and events)			
Thursday September 26, 2019			
When	What	Where	Who
1700	Event Registration	Hotel - main lobby	All Attendees
1900	Initial Event Briefing	Briefing room will be announced	Entire Regiment
Friday September 27, 2019			
When	What	Where	Who
630	Breakfast on own	On own	
700	Buses begin departure from Springfield Hotel	ANC stage busses along Memorial Ave. Photo Op of Armored Forces Monument.	Entire Regiment
800	Enter Arlington National Cemetery, proceed to Sections 66. Specific activities will be announced during in-brief.	ANC Section 66	Entire Regiment
945	Report to Tomb Guard Headquarters	Memorial Amphitheater	4 designated 37 th AR dignitaries
1015	Wreath Laying Ceremony at Tomb of the Unknown Soldier	Steps between Tomb of the Unknown Soldier and Memorial Display Room	Entire Regiment
1045	Load busses from ANC to Ft Myer Dining Facility	Dining Facility	Entire Regiment
1100	Joint Base Myer Dining Facility	Ft Myer	Entire Regiment
1200	Buses depart Ft Myer en route to Mt Vernon		
1400	Arrive Mt Vernon		
1430	Group One Mansion Tour	Mansion	Group One 29 people
1445	Group Two Mansion Tour	Mansion	Group Two 23 people
1500			
1530	Group Three Mansion Tour	Mansion	Group Three 75 people
1545	Group Four Mansion Tour	Mansion	Group Four 73 people
1600			
1630			
1645	Depart Mt Vernon return to hotel to clean up	Mt Vernon to Springfield Hilton	Entire Regiment
1800	Depart Springfield, VA Hilton	Ft. Belvoir Officers Club	Entire Regiment
1830	Happy Hour Reception (cash bar)	Potomac Room	Entire Regiment
1900	Awards and Speeches	Potomac Room	Entire Regiment
1930	Dinner Buffet		
2130	Load buses and deploy back to hotel	Ft Belvoir Officers Club to Hotel	Entire Regiment
Saturday September 28, 2019			
When	What	Where	Who
900	Hop-On-Hop-Off tour begins	Union Station, D.C.	Group A
	Pentagon/Caisson Stable Tour	Pentagon/Ft Myer Caisson Stable Tour	Group B
1300	Pick-up Ft Myer	Ft Myer	Group B
1730	Pick-up Union Station return to Hotel	Union Station	Group A
1800	Dinner on own		
Sunday September 29, 2019 - Redeploy to home station			