

Inside Virgin Islands National Guard

November 13, 2011

Vol. 1 Issue 1



Virgin Islands National Guard guidon bearers during the Veterans Day Parade in Frederiksted.
Photo by Sgt. Juanita Philip

Honoring Our Veterans

Sgt. Juanita Philip-Mathurin

Members of the Virgin Islands National Guard took part in a very historic event this Veterans' Day parade. This year's commemoration was held on 11th day of the 11th month of the 11th year of this new century. This date will not come again for another hundred years.

The units of the VING, local schools, marching bands and scout groups were well represented in their support of the Office of Veterans Affairs and American Legion's 10th District in observing the holiday.

This year's theme — "Honoring America's Veterans; past and present" resonated in the words of all the speakers.

"Virgin Islanders have stood out and served in combat. Herbert H. Heywood and Henry E. Rohlsen served in the European theater in World War II with the 332nd Fighter Group, known as the Tuskegee Airmen," said Col. Daryl Jaschen, vice chief of staff, Joint Force Headquarters, VING.

Jaschen brought the connection full circle to today. "The legacy continues with the Detachment 2/ D-126th Aviation Company flying missions using the C-23 Sherpa in Iraq."

Delegate to Congress, Donna Christensen, remarked on the thanks that we owe our veterans for their many sacrifices. "No one has paid a higher price or sacrificed more for the liberties that we currently enjoy than our military vets,"

In Nov. 1919, President Woodrow Wilson proclaimed the first commemoration of Armistice Day with the following words: "... the reflections of Armistice Day will be filled with solemn pride in the heroism of those who died in the country's service and with gratitude for the victory..."

It is for that reason, Nov. 11, 1918, is generally regarded as the day that marked the end of "the war to end all wars."

In the aftermath of World War II and the Korean War, Armistice Day became Veterans Day, a holiday dedicated to American veterans of all wars.

On a national level, a Veterans Day National Ceremony is held each Nov. 11 at Arlington National Cemetery in Va. It commences precisely at 11 a.m. with a wreath laying at the Tomb of the Unknowns and continues inside the Memorial Amphitheater with a parade of colors by veterans' organizations and remarks from dignitaries.

Inside 104th Troop Command

November 13, 2011

Vol. 1 Issue 1



LTC Deborah Lobbenmeier
104th Troop Command BN CDR

As the 104th Troop Commander, I am excited to reinstitute the newsletter, Inside 104th Troop Command. It will serve to ensure that every Soldier is aware of the requirements for the next drill and all other events. It will be published and distributed drill weekend. I look forward to working with each and every one of you to ensure that the soldiers in this command are well trained and ready to perform and accomplish their mission safely. On behalf of the Troop Command family, I would like to pay final respects to the family of Chief Warrant Hugh Forte, retired, formerly of the 651st Surface Maintenance Company on his untimely passing. Whenever, we lose a family member, we all feel the loss. Godspeed and may he rest in peace. On a softer note; Let me take this opportunity to wish everyone a Happy Thanksgiving and remember to please be safe.

Next IDT: December 3 (MUTA 2) **Event:** TA 50 Showdown Inspection
S4: Focus for December – SOPs and improving workflow processes

Honorable Service



Retirees (from right) Sgt. 1st Class Leonard Frett, Master Sgt. Edgardo Sanes, Command Sgts. Maj. Hollis McIntosh and Eugenie Santos and Lt. Col. Stanley Jones stand before the audience after receiving their flags, Saturday, Nov. 12 at the St. Croix Educational Complex auditorium. The retirees represent 200 years of cumulative military service with each serving more than 26 years. Photo by Sgt. Thomas Tharrington.