

Military and Veteran Culture



HUMILITY TO HONOR

Humility



- Humility is not thinking less of yourself, it's thinking of yourself less

C.S. Lewis

Honor



- No person was ever honored for what he received. Honor has been the reward for what he gave.

FUBAR-FIDO-FRED-REMF-BUFF



Warning: This presentation may contain military language, that you may confuse with profanity. Don't be alarmed, they are just words with a new frame of reference.



Why do we join?



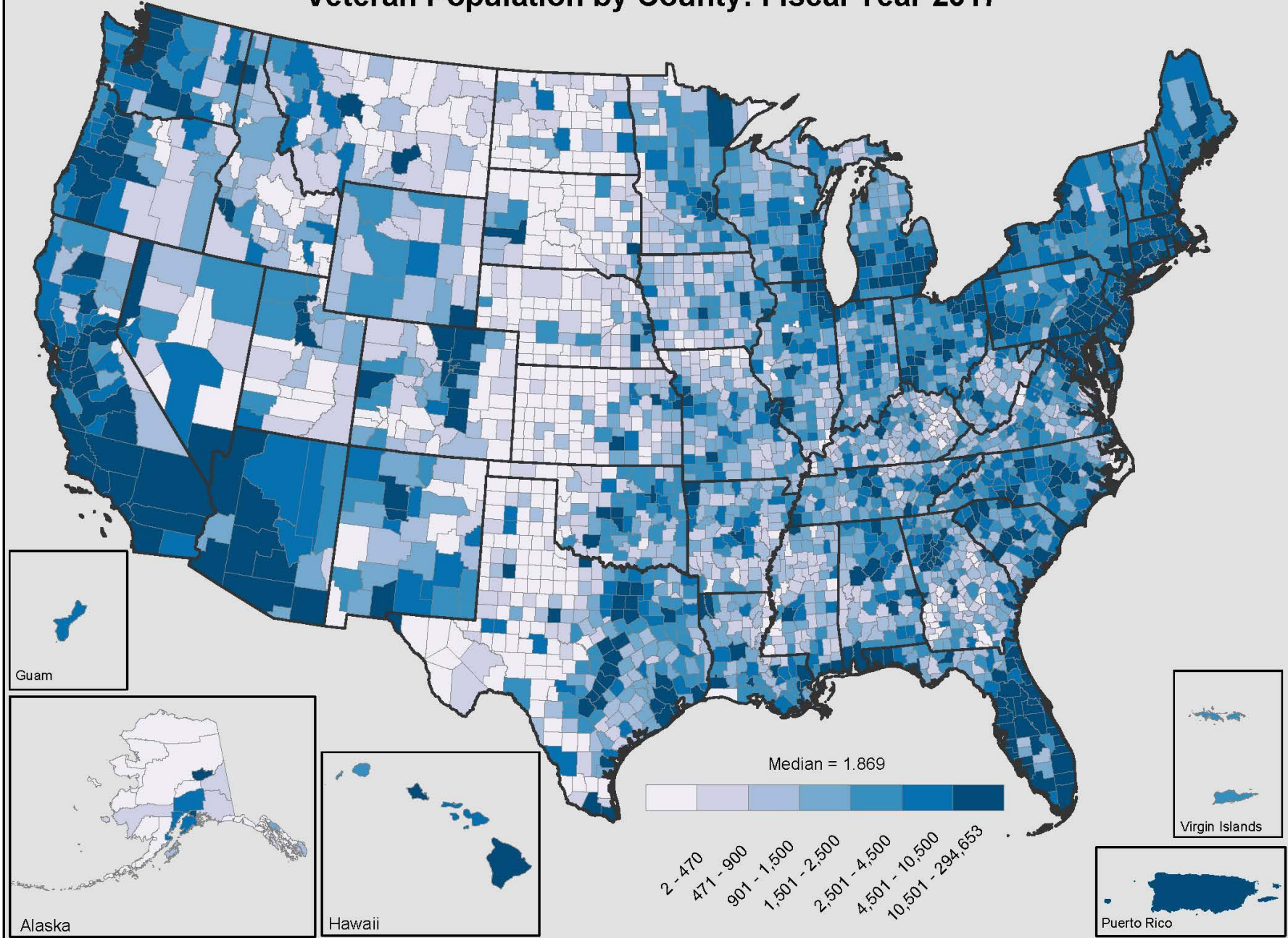
- Service
- Job
- College
- Patriotism
- Lineage
- Anywhere but here
- Warrior
- Ultimate Challenge

How many Veterans?



- 20 Million Veterans (9.4 % Female)
- 2.6 million plus, deployed to combat zones in Iraq and Afghanistan since 2001
- 52,892 Wounded, as of 19 August 2019 (145 in 2018)
- 7,001 Killed, as of 19 August 2019 (37 in 2018)
- Operation Inherent Resolve (Iraq) and Freedom Sentinel (Afghanistan) replaced Operation New Dawn and Enduring Freedom

Veteran Population by County: Fiscal Year 2017



How do you interact with Veterans?



- What do you ask them?
- What may be triggers for veterans?
- Who do you consult with?
- What tools do you have?
- What if I say something stupid?
- Don't pretend or say you understand
- No, combat is not, just like Call of Duty!
- Vets can be very informative
- We are people that have more similarities than differences
- You will say something stupid

Bottom Five Questions



- Did you kill anyone?
- Do you have the PTSD?
- Was it hot in Iraq?
- Have you ever been to the front?
- Are you over it yet?

- WTF?
- Do you have VD?
- No
- There has not been a front line since Korea
- Over you now!

Top Five



- Did you serve in the US Military?
- What service branch were you in?
- What did you do in the military?
- Thank you for your service!
- Can I connect you to benefits or services?
- Yes
- US Air Force
- C-5 Loadmaster
- Your Welcome
- I'm good thanks

Cultural Humility



- **Culture** is the way of life for a society. As such, it includes codes of :
 - *Manners, dress, language, religion, rituals, norms of behavior such as law and morality, and systems of belief as well as the arts and gastronomy.*
- **Cultural Competence** refers to an ability to interact effectively with people of different cultures.
- Developing cultural competence results in an ability to understand, communicate with, and effectively interact with people across cultures.

Military Culture = History+Training+Experiences



There is no unified Military Culture



- Numerous Sub-cultures
 - Branch, deployment, combat.....
- Collectivistic vs. Individualistic
- Why you join
- What is your role
- Combat vs. Support
- Deployed
- Which Generation
- Length of Service

Explicit Culture vs. Implicit Bias



- Uniform
- Ranks
- Laws
- Services
- Experiences

- Customs
- Worldviews
- Knowledge base
- Values incorporated into identity



Service Branch and Recruit Decisions



- US Army
 - 14 June 1775
- US Navy
 - 13 October 1775
- US Marine Corp
 - 10 November 1775
- US Air Force
 - 8 September 1947
- US Coast Guard
 - 4 August 1790
- US National Guard
 - 1636-1933
 - ✦ Army Guard
 - ✦ Air Guard
- Service Branch
- Service Type
- Job or Classification
- Officer
- Enlisted

US Military - Wars and Operations



- American Revolution
- Barbary War
- War of 1812
- US Civil War
- Banana Wars
- World War I
- World War II
- Korean War
- Vietnam War
- Urgent Fury
- Beirut, Lebanon
- El Dorado Canyon
- Operation Just Cause
- Desert Shield and Storm
- Restore Hope (Somalia)
- Allied Force (Kosovo)
- Noble Eagle
- Enduring Freedom
- Iraqi Freedom
- Neptune Spear

Oath



- I do solemnly swear that I will support and defend the Constitution of the United States against all enemies, foreign and domestic; that I will bear true faith and allegiance to the same; and that I will obey the orders of the President of the United States and the orders of the officers appointed over me, according to regulations and the Uniform Code of Military Justice. So help me God.
- Oath initiated 14 June 1775

Why is this person yelling at me?



- **Uniforms**-BDU-ACU-BAG
- **24 hour time** –O Dark 30
- **Language** - FUBAR
- **Laws** - UCMJ
- **Medical** – Sick Call to GG shots
- **Food**- DFAC to MRE
- **Rank Structure**-Zero to NCO
- **Dream Sheet**- I'm going where?!
- PCS/TDY/LES/OIF/OEF/FIDO/Short/IED/SNAFU



REALIZATION

It was at that point when Timmy realized that wasn't the bus to summer camp...



**BASIC MILITARY
TRAINING**

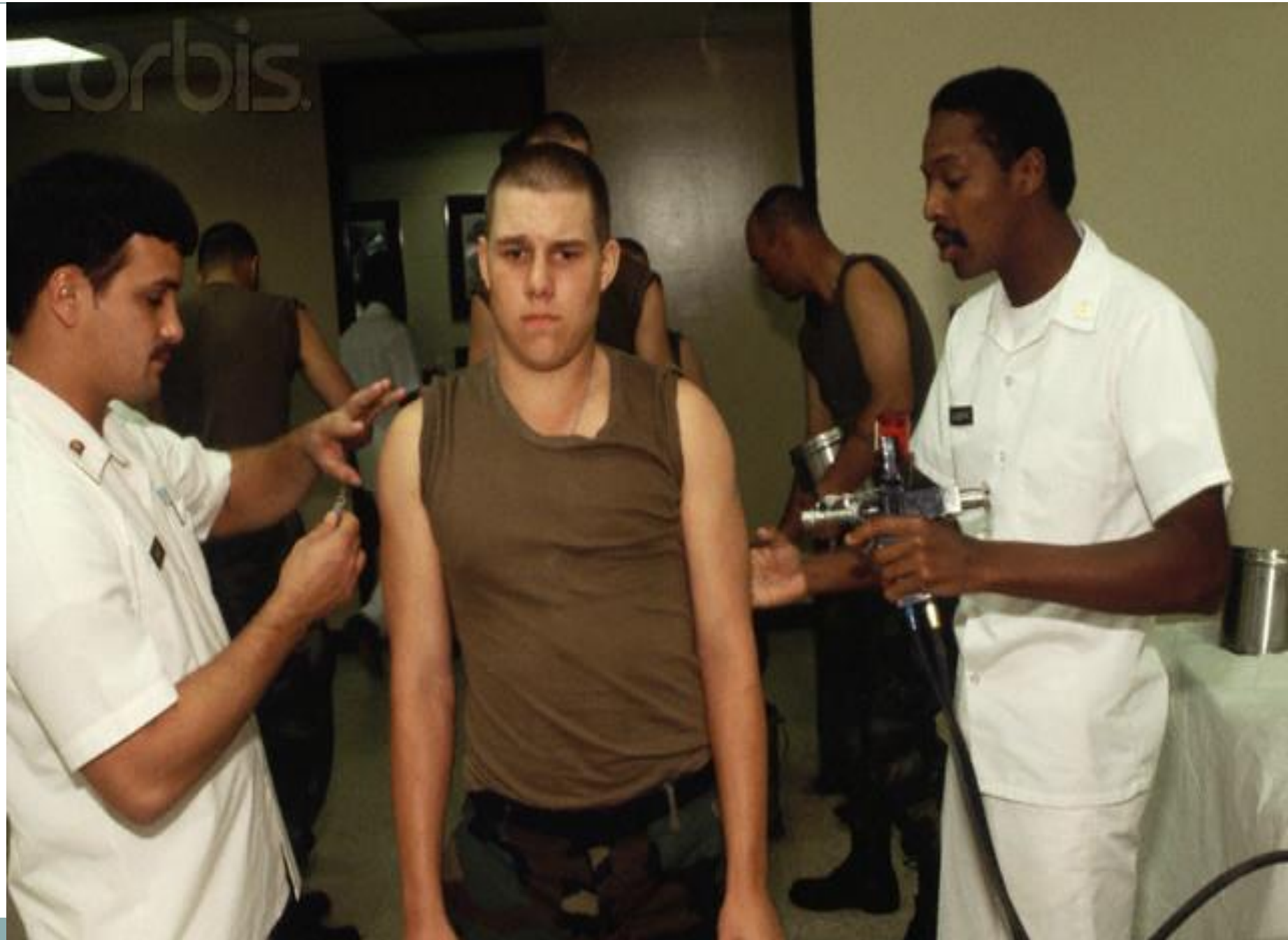
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U.S. AIR FORCE



















Ranks and Titles and Class



- There are three general categories of rank/rate:
 - Enlisted personnel (E1-E9) and Non-Commissioned Officers
 - Warrant Officers (WO1-CW5)
 - Commissioned Officers (O1-O9).
- All commissioned officers "out-rank" all warrant officers and enlisted members. All warrant officers "outrank" all enlisted members.
- There are some operational anomalies:

A brand new commissioned officer in the grade of O-1, would "out-rank" an E-9, Army Sergeant Major, (however, any 2nd lieutenant (Butter Bar) stupid enough to unnecessarily "pull rank" on an E-9 would quickly find him/herself having a talk with his/her own boss).



THE FOBBIT

Milspec 101



- DOD - OEF – Provide Comfort – OIF – TRASH - IED
- PCS – Noble Eagle – LES – AT – LSA –BCG - DFAC
- TDY – Bag – 203 – MOS – Head – Speaker Monkey
- Difac – Ramp – BX – PX – NEX – FOB - HR - LLMF
- DOS – Cover- Short – 214 –GWOT – TOC Roach - AMF
- CIB – JDAM – B-2 – F-15 – Salad Suit – COP - MRAP
- Fobbit – Buddha – Fred – Grunt – DPP – Bravo Foxtrot
- DNIF – FIGMO – BOB – FIDO – 11Bravo - VBIED
- Digi World – Butter Bar – REMF – SH – ISAF - FNG

Warrior Ethos



WARRIOR ETHOS

I WILL ALWAYS PLACE THE MISSION FIRST

I WILL NEVER ACCEPT DEFEAT

I WILL NEVER QUIT

I WILL NEVER LEAVE A FALLEN COMRADE



U.S. ARMY

Warrior Ethos - The Honor Code



- “Some say that self-preservation is the strongest instinct of all, not only in humans but in all animal life. Fear of death. The imperative to survive. Nature has implanted this in all living creatures.
- The Warrior Ethos evolved to counter the instinct of self-preservation. Against this natural impulse to flee from danger ”

Warrior Ethos – Before During After



- Sense of purpose
- Identity
- Morality
- Belonging
- Honor
- Sacrifice

- Prevent asking for help
- How does the Warrior become the Veteran
- Suffer in Silence
- Pride in “Embracing the Suck”

Experience





AIR MOBILITY COMMAND

164769

RS

Sandbox



In the last 3,421 years of recorded history.....only
268 years have not seen war!

Why do we forget so quickly?

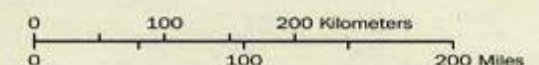




Afghanistan

- International boundary
- Province (*velāyat*) boundary
- ★ National capital
- Province (*velāyat*) capital
- Railroad
- Road

The existence of two new provinces of Nurestan and Khowst has not been confirmed.













ATTITUDE

A Sense of Humor Can Help Make Even the Toughest Job Easier

WASHINGTON AVENUE

STOP

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For more information

- Scott R. Swaim, USAFV, LMHC
MilSpec Advisory Group, LLC
Phone – 206-909-4745
Email – scottswaim@milspecvets.com