



ARKANSAS DEPARTMENT OF THE MILITARY
OFFICE OF THE ADJUTANT GENERAL
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NORTH LITTLE ROCK, ARKANSAS 72199-9600



ASA HUTCHINSON
GOVERNOR

KENDALL W. PENN
MAJOR GENERAL
THE ADJUTANT GENERAL

NGAR-HRO-EEM

1 November 2020

MEMORANDUM FOR All Arkansas National Guard Personnel

SUBJECT: National American Indian Heritage Month 2020

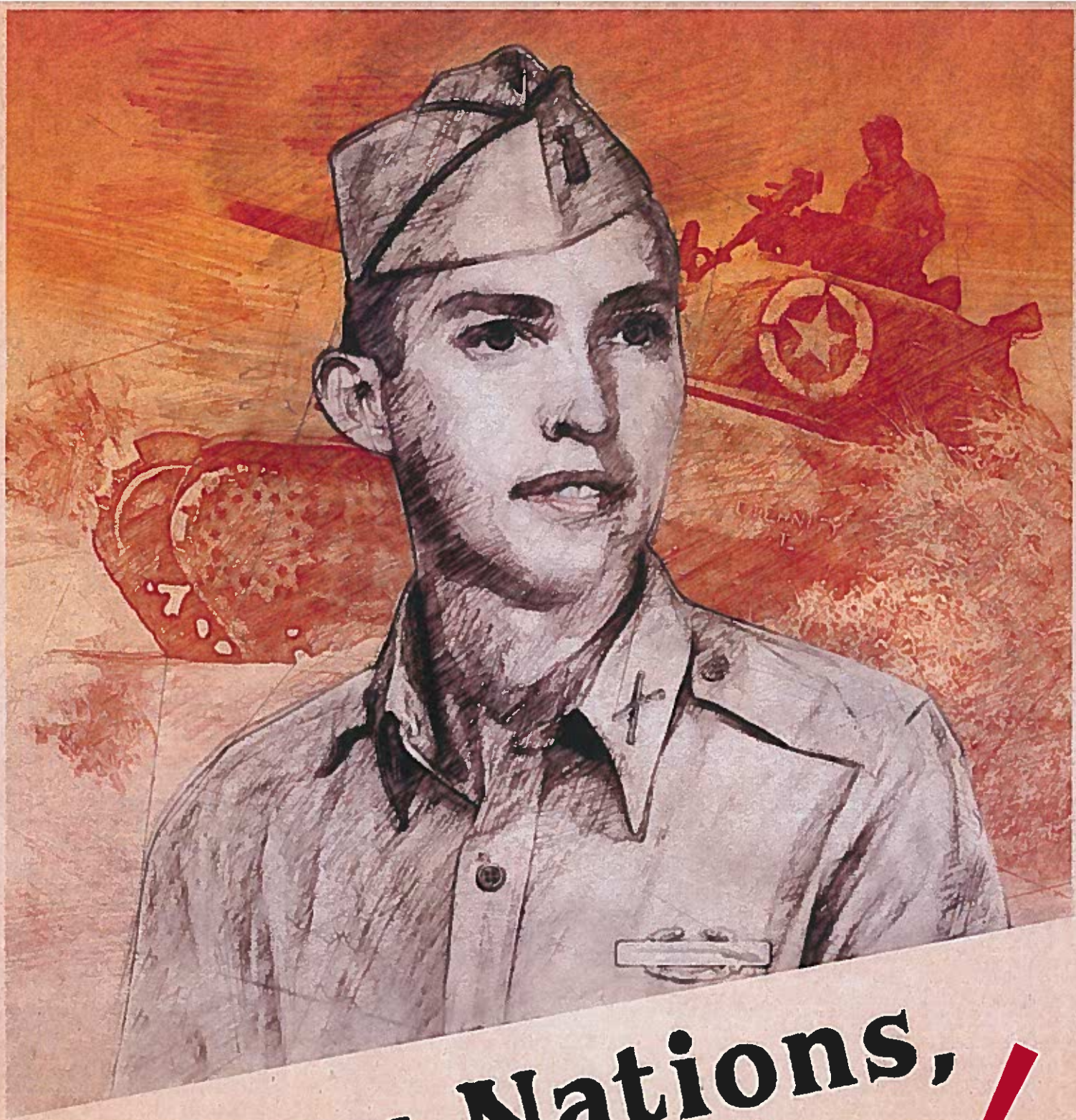
1. November is designated as National American Indian Heritage Month. This year's theme is "Honoring the Past, Securing the Future." Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Arkansas National Guard will not be conducting any speaking engagements, but we do encourage you to take this opportunity to educate yourselves individually on the heritage, history, art, and traditions of the American Indians.

2. National American Indian Heritage Month celebrates and recognizes the accomplishments of the peoples who were the original inhabitants, explorers and settlers of the United States. This observance month recognizes American Indians for their respect for natural resources and the Earth, having served with valor in our nation's conflicts, and for their many other distinct and important contributions to the United States. During World War I and World War II, the U.S. military employed a number of American Indian servicemen to use their tribal languages as a military code that could not be broken by the enemy; known as "Code Talkers," they played a pivotal role in attaining victory in both wars.

3. In 1924, Congress enacted the Indian Citizenship Act. In 1986, Congress passed Public Law 99-471 and President Ronald Reagan signed the proclamation authorizing American Indian Week. And in 1990, Congress passed Public Law 101-343 which authorized and requested President George H. W. Bush to issue a proclamation designating the month of November 1990 as National American Indian Heritage Month. Since 1995, every United States President have issued annual proclamations which designate November as National American Indian Heritage Month (or since 2009 as National Native American Heritage Month). These proclamations celebrate the contributions of the American Indians, and I urge each of you to learn more about the American Indian cultures.

4. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact CW2 Patrick Jacob, EEO Specialist, at 501-212-4222 or DSN 962-4222.

KENDALL W. PENN
Major General
The Adjutant General



**Many Nations,
One *fight!***

HONORING THE PAST, SECURING THE FUTURE!

National American Indian Heritage Month

