

# We Support Our Troops for ARMED FORCES DAY



## Trump lifts tariffs on Mexico, Canada, delays auto tariffs

BY PAUL WISEMAN, TOM KRISHER, KEVIN FREKING AND ROBB GILLIES  
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

WASHINGTON — Boggled down in a sprawling trade dispute with U.S. rival China, President Donald Trump took steps Friday to ease tensions with America's allies — lifting import taxes on Canadian and Mexican steel and aluminum and delaying auto tariffs that would have hurt Japan and Europe.

By removing the metals tariffs on Canada and Mexico, Trump cleared a key roadblock to a North American trade pact his team negotiated last year. As part

of Friday's arrangement, the Canadians and Mexicans agreed to scrap retaliatory tariffs they had imposed on U.S. goods.

"I'm pleased to announce that we've just reached an agreement with Canada and Mexico, and we'll be selling our product into those countries without the imposition of tariffs, or major tariffs," Trump said in a speech to the National Association of Realtors.

In a joint statement, the U.S. and Canada said they would work to prevent cheap imports of steel and aluminum from entering North America. The provision appeared to target China, which has long been accused of flooding world markets

with subsidized metal, driving down world prices and hurting U.S. producers. The countries could also reimpose the tariffs if they faced a "surge" in steel or aluminum imports.

In Washington, some were urging Trump to take advantage of the truce with U.S. allies to get even tougher with China.

"China is our adversary," said Sen. Ben Sasse, R-Neb. "Canada and Mexico are our friends. The president is right to increase pressure on China for their espionage, their theft of intellectual property, and their hostility toward the rule of law. The president is also right to

be deescalating tension with our North American allies."

Earlier Friday, the White House said Trump is delaying for six months any decision to slap tariffs on foreign cars, a move that would have hit Japan and the Europe especially hard.

Trump still is hoping to use the threat of auto tariffs to pressure Japan and the European Union into making concessions in ongoing trade talks. "If agreements are not reached within 180 days, the president will determine whether and what further action needs to be taken," White House press secretary Sarah Sanders said in a statement.

## ABORTION

FROM PAGE A1

He cited extensive "legislative findings" included in the bill about fetal development that are aimed at backing up the state's interest in limiting abortion if the measure is challenged, as well as new judges appointed to the 8th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals by President Donald Trump.

If courts don't allow Missouri's proposed eight-week ban to take effect, the bill includes a ladder of less-restrictive time limits that would prohibit abortions at 14, 18 or 20 weeks or pregnancy.

"While others are zeroing in on ways to overturn Roe v. Wade and navigate the courts as quickly as possible, that is not our goal," Schroer said. "However, if and when that fight comes we will be fully ready. This legislation has one goal, and that goal is to save lives."

Kentucky, Mississippi, Ohio and Georgia also have approved bans on abortion once fetal cardiac activity can be detected, which can occur in about the sixth week of pregnancy. Some of those laws already have been challenged in court, and similar restrictions in North Dakota and Iowa previously were struck down by judges.

Missouri's bill also includes an outright ban on abortions except in cases of medical emergencies. But unlike Alabama's, it would kick in only if Roe v. Wade is overturned.

If courts don't allow Missouri's proposed eight-week ban to take effect, the bill includes a ladder of less-restrictive time limits that would prohibit abortions at 14, 18 or 20 weeks or pregnancy.



British Maj. Gen. Gerald M. Strickland, center with black beret, was welcomed to his new assignment at Fort Hood on Friday. Strickland will assume duties as III Corps deputy commanding general for support.

## CEREMONY

FROM PAGE A1

Friendship is never always smooth, a friendship involves being able to tell each other honest truths. And, that's something I'm sure we'll continue with each other as we go ahead."

Strickland went on to say, America's Hammer — a nickname for III Corps — "is an awe inspiring organization. Made up of the finest people ... and I look forward to serving with you over the next few years."

Born in Hong Kong and educated in England, Strickland comes to Fort Hood following his previous assignment as head of operations in the U.K. Ministry of Defence, with responsibility for shaping political direction, crisis management and issuing direction for the conduct of all U.K. military operations.

During the ceremony, the corps also bid farewell to the current III Corps chief of staff Col. Brett Sylvia, who will continue serving at Fort Hood as a deputy commander of the 1st Cavalry Division.

**BATTERY WAREHOUSE BY CONTINENTAL**

WHOLESALE | RETAIL | COMMERCIAL | SALES & SERVICE

**YOUR BATTERY SPECIALIST**

- ▶ FREE BATTERY CHECK
- ▶ FREE CHARGING SYSTEM CHECK
- ▶ FREE INSTALLATION ON MOST VEHICLES

600 E. Centex Expy | Killeen, TX 76541  
**254-634-2287**  
Family Owned & Operated since 1932

**Proudly honoring those who serve.**

We're dedicated to serving the courageous men and women who protect and defend our freedoms. Rely on your Dignity Memorial® professionals to help you plan ahead for a personal, meaningful tribute that honors your legacy of service and commitment.

**Brown's Temporary Apts.**  
*"It's Almost Home"*

Very nice fully equipped 2 & 3 bdrm 800-1800 sq. ft. units, with washer/dryer & all utilities paid! Waiting for quarters, buying, building, or selling a home or on corporate assignment? This is the place to stay! Everything except the food is in there, plus free Hi-speed Internet!

All units less than on post.  
Rent 30 days (more or less)!  
Serving the area for over 23 yrs.  
Nothing else comes close!  
Let us show you!

Visit: [www.brownstempapts.com](http://www.brownstempapts.com)  
or e-mail: [tjb8170@aol.com](mailto:tjb8170@aol.com)  
or call 254-634-8554 now!

**VFW Post 3892 SALUTES OUR SOLDIERS**

**Come join us in May for these special events!**

**3rd Annual "Karaoke Voice" Contest**  
Every Saturday in May at 7:30PM  
**Starts May 4th ★ Cash Prizes ★ \$10 Entry Fee**

**"In Honor of Our Heroes" Memorial Day Dinner**  
Sunday, May 26th at 1:00PM

VFW Post 3892 • 254-699-7139  
201 VFW Dr. • Harker Heights, TX 76548

**CRAWFORD-BOWERS FUNERAL HOMES**

**Killeen**  
CrawfordBowersFuneralHome.com  
254-634-2638

**Copperas Cove**  
CrawfordBowersCopperasCove.com  
254-547-1275

**Temple**  
CrawfordBowersTemple.com  
254-773-3999

**Dignity MEMORIAL**  
LIFE WELL CELEBRATED™



# We Support Our Troops for **ARMED FORCES DAY**



## A separate war: Pioneering black Marines endured, prevailed

BY TOM FOREMAN JR.  
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

GREENSBORO, N.C. — It was the dress blue uniforms that drew John Thompson to join the U.S. Marines, where black men were not welcome, so he could defend a country that denied him the rights he wanted to fight for.

"I said, 'Wow, that's a real pretty uniform,'" recalls Thompson, now 94.

It took President Franklin Roosevelt's 1941 executive order banning discrimination in government and defense industry employment because of "race, creed, color, or national origin" to give the teenage son of black South Carolina sharecroppers a chance to serve as a Marine during World War II.

Just not alongside whites.

The first African Americans admitted to the Marine Corps after Roosevelt's order were put in segregated units, starting with their training. At a swampy, bug-infested camp called Montford Point, adjacent to but separate from Camp Lejeune in North Carolina, they endured indignities — but they also paved the way for others who came after.

Thompson, who enlisted in 1943, was among them. The Marines were the only military branch for him, after he saw their uniforms on newsreels at the black theater where he sold popcorn and after two of his friends joined the Corps themselves.

"The Marine Corps is an elite



PHOTOS BY CHUCK BURTON | AP  
ABOVE: Former Montford Point Marine John Thompson talks about his training during an interview at his home in Greensboro, N.C. BELOW: Thompson displays his Congressional Gold Medal.

group. I wanted to belong to an elite group. That was my feeling," said Thompson, who lives in Greensboro, North Carolina.

Thompson, now a retired teacher, is one of an estimated 400 still living from among the approximately 20,000 men who trained at Montford Point.

In Jim Crow-era Kannapolis, North Carolina, where Thompson was raised, black men were mostly relegated to low-paying jobs at a textile mill and black women weren't hired at all, he recalled. Blacks had to go to a restaurant's back door to be served.

As his friends were drafted, one by one, Thompson told his father he wanted to join the service.

But racial segregation ruled out Marine training for black recruits at Parris Island, South Carolina, where whites were trained.



"During that time, they didn't want blacks to belong to elite groups," Thompson said. "I wanted to belong to an elite group because, at the time, I didn't think there was a teenager anywhere in the nation any more physically fit than I was."

Thompson and the other black would-be Marines were sent to Montford Point. Separated from Lejeune by railroad

tracks that they weren't allowed to cross, Thompson said it was like the racial separation back at home.

"Mind you, I was in a segregated society," Thompson said. "I knew nothing else. It was a way of life."

The new recruits' fatigues weren't folded and didn't fit, Thompson said. When their first day's training was done, they had no real barracks either.

"We had huts to live in. The walls were one board thick, and they looked as if you could ram your fist through a wall," Thompson said. "In the middle of the hut was one oil stove. We had to supply that stove with buckets to keep it going."

When their training began, the black recruits served entirely under the command of white men.

Yet in a training course notorious for weeding out all but the strongest, Thompson endured their rough tutelage and even thrived.

The black Marines' duties in World War II were confined mainly to dispensing ammunition and retrieving the wounded from the front lines. Thompson didn't see combat, but others did.

Historians say the government initially planned to discharge the black Marines after World War II. But in 1948, President Harry Truman issued an order fully desegregating the U.S. armed forces. Today the Marine Corps is about 11 percent black.



KABC-TV VIA AP  
An F-16 fighter jet crashed into a warehouse just outside of Riverside, Calif., on Thursday.

## Site of F-16 crash, including freeway, remains off-limits

RIVERSIDE, Calif. (AP) — A wide area including a freeway around an F-16 fighter jet crash site in Southern California remained off-limits Friday as military and civilian authorities investigated.

An explosive ordnance team was at the scene but officials would not say whether there were any armaments aboard the jet.

The aircraft crashed Thursday afternoon through the roof of a warehouse near March Air Reserve Base southeast of Los Angeles.

There was no explosion or major fire and no serious injuries among workers at the business.

The pilot, whose name was not released, ejected safely before the crash and was in good condition, McNamara said.

Authorities cordoned off an area for three-quarters of a mile around the scene, including a section of heavily traveled Interstate 215.



# HAVE FUN AT EASE!

Enjoy Luxury Recliner Seating • Food Delivered to Your Seat  
Fully-Loaded Game Room • Laser Tag • Beer & Wine  
Happy Hour Mon-Fri 3-7pm • Discount Tuesday

MILITARY DISCOUNT

Discount TUESDAY  
ALL SHOWS - ALL DAY TUESDAY

Sensory Friendly SCREENINGS

CINERGY ELITE



Discount TUESDAYS \$5.50

402 CONSTITUTION DR | COPPERAS COVE | (254) 542-4900 | CINERGY.COM

OUR FAMILY TRADITION IS TAKING CARE OF YOURS SINCE 1936

**GEICO** LOCAL OFFICE

geico.com/killeen | killeenagent@geico.com

254-526-6696 | 3310 East Central Texas Expressway, Killeen

Some discounts, coverages, payment plans and features are not available in all states, in all GEICO companies, or in all situations. GEICO is a registered service mark of Government Employees Insurance Company, Washington, DC 20076; a Berkshire Hathaway Inc. subsidiary. © 2019 GEICO