



Media Release

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Army Medical Service Corps celebrates 97th anniversary

By Patricia Deal, CRDAMC Public Affairs

FORT HOOD, Texas – Carl R. Darnall Army Medical Center celebrated the U.S. Army Medical Service Corps (MSC) 97th anniversary with a traditional cake cutting ceremony here June 30.

The Medical Service Corps is comprised of a wide diversity of medical administrative, scientific, and provider specialties ranging from the management and support of the Army's health services system to direct patient care. Administrative officers manage various aspects of Combat Health Support and the allied science officers directly impact the health of the Soldiers and their families.

In her opening remarks, CRDAMC Commander, Col. Patricia Darnauer, a Medical Service Corps officer commissioned in 1986, acknowledged the vital role MSC officers play in Army medicine. "Ninety-seven years of valued service and support is an achievement we can all be proud of," she said. "Medical Service Corps officers today are the most professional and experienced in Army medicine and continue the proud tradition of providing the world's finest Combat Casualty Care ensuring we have a Ready and Healthy Force and Healthy Families and Retirees."

The 1st Medical Brigade Commander, Col. Allan Darden, Sr., an MSC officer since 1988, was the keynote speaker. "Never forget as we celebrate today our history and the part you are playing as it continues to be written," he said. "Never forget our brothers and sisters who have given the ultimate sacrifice wearing the Silver Caduceus."

"2nd Lt. Jessica Growney and Maj. Ellis Moffett, the youngest and oldest Soldiers respectively out of the more than 60 MSC officers currently at CRDAMC, cut the cake to serve attendees.

Although the MSC was established Aug. 4, 1947, consolidating the Sanitary Corps, Medical Administrative Corps and Pharmacy Corps into one permanent Army Corps, the MSC celebrates the anniversary of its corps as June 30, 1917. According to "The History of the U.S. Army Medical Service Corps," precursors such as Revolutionary War apothecaries and officers of the Civil War Ambulance Corps evolved into the World War I Sanitary Corps which was established on June 30, 1917, as a temporary part of the Medical Department based on authority provided by an act of Congress.



Col. Patricia Darnauer (right), Carl R. Darnall Army Medical Center commander, 2nd Lt. Jessica Growney, Col. Allan Darden, Sr., 1st Medical Brigade commander and Maj. Ellis Moffett cut the cake at a ceremony at the hospital commemorating the U.S. Army Medical Service Corps (MSC) 97th birthday June 30. (U.S. Army photo by Patricia Deal, CRDAMC Public Affairs)