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A photograph showing several Marines in silhouette, wearing helmets and carrying equipment, walking through a large, dimly lit tunnel. The tunnel has a curved concrete ceiling and some structural elements visible. The light is coming from the far end of the tunnel, creating a strong backlight effect.

## Beneath the surface

Troops train for North Korean tunnel threat  
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Marines with 3rd Reconnaissance Battalion, 3rd Marine Division, enter a tunnel during an exercise at Camp Stanley, South Korea, on March 10.

KENDRICK JACKSON/U.S. Marine Corps

## COVER STORY

# Troops move underground for training

US, South Korean forces honed their tunnel combat skills at Freedom Shield

BY DAVID CHOI  
*Stars and Stripes*

SEOUL, South Korea — U.S. and South Korean troops honed their underground combat skills using drones and breaching tools as part of a recent large-scale joint military exercise across South Korea.

More than 370 soldiers from both countries trained for four days at an underground facility in Paju, about 20 miles from the North Korean border, to defend against subterranean threats, according to a South Korean army news release.

South Korean multilegged robots searched for entrances and exits to underground bunkers before troops equipped with explosives and power tools deployed to destroy a mock enemy's water supply and ventilation access, the release said.

The allies also used micro unmanned aerial vehicles, about the size of a human hand, to sniff out enemy positions and improvised explosive devices, according to the release.

"South Korean and U.S. soldiers were able to work as a single team," South Korean army Lt. Col. Hwang Hyun-cho said in the release. "In particular, it was a good opportunity to gain various combat experiences in underground facilities and come up with improvements."

The underground training was part of Freedom Shield, an annual, 11-day joint exercise that ended March 20. More than 19,000 South Korean troops and an unspecified number of U.S. personnel participated in drills across the country.

U.S. and South Korean conventional and special operations forces train regularly for underground warfare. South Korea's military estimates that since the 1950-53 Korean War, North Korea has secretly dug thousands of tunnels in preparation for future conflict.



PHOTOS BY CORNELIUS MCLEAN/U.S. Army

South Korean soldiers clear an underground facility as part of Freedom Shield drills in Paju, South Korea, on March 17.



A robot picks up a simulated improvised explosive device during a Freedom Shield drill in Paju.

These tunnels could serve as storage sites for weapons of mass destruction or as subterranean transport routes for North Korean troops, the release said.

South Korea has discovered and either destroyed or converted some tunnels into tourist attractions.

On Nov. 20, 1974, U.N. Command troops patrolling the southern side of the Demilitarized Zone discovered a tunnel crossing the border. As they

probed further inside, North Korea detonated an explosive device, killing two and wounding six U.N. Command personnel.

Four months later, the Military Armistice Commission — the U.N. Command body responsible for investigating armistice violation — accused the North of constructing the tunnel.

"The North Koreans responded that the alleged tunnel incidents were fab-

ricated," a U.N. Command report to the U.N. Security Council stated on Oct. 31, 1975.

In 1978, South Korea discovered a tunnel a mile long and 12 feet wide about 30 miles north of Seoul. The site was later converted into a tourist attraction.

choi.david@stripes.com  
@choibboy





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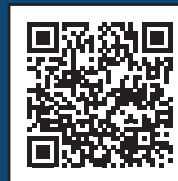
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## MILITARY

# Boeing awarded \$20B to build F-47 fighter jet

6th generation aircraft in development since 2018

By COREY DICKSTEIN  
*Stars and Stripes*

Boeing will build the next generation U.S. fighter jet, President Donald Trump announced this month from the Oval Office.

The aerospace giant was awarded an estimated \$20 billion initial contract to build the Pentagon's 6th Generation fighter jet, a replacement for the short-lived F-22 Raptor stealth fighter program, which was built by Boeing competitor Lockheed Martin. Boeing beat out Lockheed as the two finalists in the program that could grow to be worth hundreds of billions of dollars, officials have said.

Trump announced the new aircraft will be called the F-47. The aircraft has been in development since 2018 under the Air Force's Next Generation Air Dominance program. The manned jet is expected to feature advanced stealth and artificial intelligence capabilities and work together with paired drones capable of penetrating air defense systems undetected.

"We're confident that it massively overpowers the capabilities of any other nation," Trump said March 21. "America's enemies will never see it coming. Hopefully we won't have to use it for that purpose, but you have to have it. And if it ever happens, they won't know what the hell hit them."

Trump said prototypes of the future aircraft have been secretly flying in recent years. The U. S. hopes the F-47 will be the first 6th generation fighter aircraft to enter military fleets, as China has reportedly also been flying prototype versions of its next generation stealth fighters.

The contract marks a huge win for Boeing, which has been plagued in recent years by safety issues with their aircraft, quality control problems and production delays, including in the company's new Air Force One program and its KC-46 Air Force tankers.

It also marks a boost to the Next Generation Air Dominance program, after it was briefly halted last year under former President Joe Biden's administration over concerns about cost and necessity. Reviews of the program showed it was necessary to continue given advancements in Chinese air defenses, Air Force officials have said in recent months.

Defense Secretary Pete Hegseth said



U.S. Air Force

**Shown is a graphical artist rendering of the Next Generation Air Dominance platform. The rendering highlights the Air Force's 6th-generation fighter, the F-47. Boeing was awarded an estimated \$20 billion initial contract to build the F-47, a replacement for the short-lived F-22 Raptor stealth fighter program.**

the F-47 would prove a dramatic step over the fifth generation F-22 and F-35 Lightning II stealth fighters now highlighting the Pentagon's fighter jet inventory. The Lockheed-built F-35 remains the most combat capable fighter jet in the world, but it is the most expensive weapons system in history, costing the Pentagon more than \$1 trillion for about 700 aircraft. Defense officials plan to purchase hundreds more and fly the plane into the 2080s, according to the Defense Department.

"Now we have the F-47, which sends a very direct, clear message to our allies that we're not going anywhere and to our enemies that will be able to project power around the globe unimpeded for generations to come," Hegseth said alongside Trump.

Air Force Gen. David Allvin, the service's chief of staff, said that the new aircraft will be "the crown jewel" in the service's inventory. He said the aircraft would be built to adapt quickly to advancing tech-

nology, including increases in enemy capabilities. But its design as a sort-of-mothership capable of controlling semi-autonomous wingmen drones might mark its greatest advantage over existing aircraft.

"We believe that this provides more lethality, it provides more capability, more modernized capability," Allvin said from the Oval Office. "... This is allowing us to look into the future and unlock the magic that is human-machine teaming. And as we do that, we're going to write the next generation of modern aerial warfare with this. This enables us to do it."

Trump and the other officials declined to say precisely how much the F-47 program was expected to cost American taxpayers or when the first F-47s might arrive to the fleet. The Navy is expected to award a separate contract for a Next Generation Air Dominance program fighter jet later, Pentagon officials said.

Sen. Roger Wicker, R-Miss., chairman of the Senate Armed Services Committee,

said the announcement amounted to a "great day for American airpower."

"I am delighted that President Trump has made the decision to move forward on NGAD/F-47, and I congratulate the Boeing Company," he said in a statement. "The NGAD/F-47 is a vital platform that would allow the United States to rule the skies for years to come."

Eric Fanning, the president and CEO of the Aerospace Industries Association and a former Army secretary, said in a statement that he was pleased to see the Next Generation Air Dominance Program proceeding.

"Continued investment in this program protects America's strategic superiority in the skies, bolsters businesses of all sizes that make up the supply chain, and provides our armed forces with effective, lethal capabilities to deter and defeat emerging threats anywhere in the world," he said.

dickstein.corey@stripes.com





## MILITARY

# Army tackling vessel 'gap' with leased craft

BY WYATT OLSON

*Stars and Stripes*

FORT SHAFTER, Hawaii — U.S. Army Pacific is tackling a watercraft shortage by maintaining and repairing vessels overseas and augmenting its fleet by leasing privately owned boats.

"There is a gap in our ability to conduct intra-theater lift and movement," Maj. Gen. Jeffrey VanAntwerp, deputy chief of staff for the command, recently told reporters during a conference call from his headquarters at Fort Shafter, Hawaii.

"We have a lack of Army watercraft and the ability to move everything that we would like to be able to move and have the type of agility we'd like to have, particularly in the first island chain, but in the second island chain as well," he said.

The first island chain, which includes the Japanese archipelago, Taiwan and the northern Philippines, lies closest to China, a potential adversary.

"The major step that we're taking is to be able to repair forward in Japan," he said. "In the future, we'd like to be able to repair forward in Japan, Korea, even out in Australia. So, we're taking steps to be able to do that, rather than have to send them all the way back to

the East Coast to make repairs."

The Army trimmed its watercraft fleet by half over six years ending in May 2024, according to a report issued by the U.S. Government Accountability Office in October.

By that point, the Army's fleet had shrunk to 70 vessels from 134 in 2018, the office found.

The Army's fleet moves supplies, equipment and personnel in deep ocean, shallow coastal waters, inland waterways and rivers.

The fleet's vessels are also plagued by maintenance issues, with the "fully mission capable rate" for watercraft steadily declining from 75% in 2020 to less than 40% in 2024, the GAO reported.

Undertaking repair work within the Indo-Pacific, however, is not a cure-all for increasing mission-ready capability in an aging fleet, VanAntwerp said.

"What we're not going to be able to do is instantly make them newer, so repair issues and wear and tear will continue to be an issue," he said. "But I think being able to repair forward will drastically decrease the downtime and increase the overall [readiness] rate. And we're seeing that already as we've begun to repair some of these for-



MICHAEL GRAF/U.S. Army

**USAV Calabozza, a U.S. Army landing craft utility vessel, is moored at Yokohama North Dock, Japan, in December.**

ward."

The Army is also experimenting with the use of leased vessels as a means of reaching anticipated need in the event of conflict.

"We're just not going to be able to build enough Army watercraft to be able to meet the need," VanAntwerp said.

"I think the key for us will be the ability to ramp up capacity during conflict through a combination of Army watercraft and leased vessels," he said.

"We're finding that leased vessels provide a pretty phenomenal capability and a pretty high level of readiness,"

he said.

They have also proven to be "incredibly flexible," VanAntwerp said.

"They've made modifications upon request and done it really rapidly to install, like, a front-loading ramp in order to roll-on, roll-off your equipment onto a beach per se or somewhere where there's not a standing pier," he said.

"You start to weigh out the cost of leasing a vessel versus owning it full time," he added. "It really starts to look like a favorable mix going forward."

olson.wyatt@stripes.com  
@WyattWolson

## US troops leaving tents for new barracks in Poland

BY JOHN VANDIVER

*Stars and Stripes*

STUTTGART, Germany — U.S. soldiers are moving out of tents and into new barracks this month as part of a broader effort by Poland to upgrade facilities for American troops.

The Polish-built barracks at Drawsko Pomorskie Training Area in the country's northwest can accommodate more than 1,700 soldiers, the Army's V Corps said in a statement. About 1,000 troops are scheduled to move in by the end of the month.

The new arrangements provide a better living standard and a morale boost, Col. Adam F. Latham, commander of 3rd Brigade, 1st Armored Division, said in a recent statement.

"We're setting the conditions for a

long-lasting and permanent relationship with our Polish allies," Latham said.

The Army has been rotating tank brigades and other units through Poland and other locations along NATO's eastern flank ever since Russia's initial attack on Ukraine in 2014. The rotations increased following Moscow's 2022 full-scale invasion of Ukraine.

Meanwhile, Warsaw has spent hundreds of millions of dollars in recent years to enhance military training grounds and housing facilities.

The projects are part of a bilateral security agreement that requires Poland to pick up a large amount of the infrastructure costs needed to support U.S. troops in the country.

Marcus Fichtl, a spokesman for U.S.

Army Garrison Poland, said Monday the aim is to get most U.S. troops in Poland into barracks and buildings by the end of the year.

Deployments over the years to Poland have involved getting by in austere conditions. At Drawsko Pomorskie, that has meant tents and temporary shower facilities.

Besides the new bathrooms, the barracks provide soldiers with better heating and air conditioning, as well as "more space to call their own," the V Corps statement said.

The accommodations house six soldiers apiece and provide more privacy than the previous tents, the Army said.

"At the end of the day, quality of life impacts (combat) readiness," said Command Sgt. Maj. James R. Pyle, the

senior enlisted adviser of 3rd Brigade, 1st Armored Division.

One of the largest ongoing projects in Poland involves a \$93 million initiative to build new Army barracks and a dining facility at a base in Powidz, which has emerged as a major aviation and logistical hub for the U.S. military.

Such investments, along with Warsaw's status as NATO's biggest defense spender as a percentage of its gross domestic product, have elevated Poland's stature in the alliance.

Defense Secretary Pete Hegseth described Poland as a "model ally" during a stop in Powidz in February to meet with U.S. troops.

vandiver.john@stripes.com  
@john\_vandiver











## MILITARY

# Group works to aid Afghan interpreters

## Efforts more difficult amid changing US immigration policies

By COREY DICKSTEIN  
*Stars and Stripes*

As an Army company commander in Afghanistan in 2013, Andrew Sullivan struck a special relationship with his translator — an experienced interpreter who had been supporting U.S. forces across the country for nearly a decade.

Having Ahmadi — an interpreter who Sullivan would only identify by his surname — by his side was “like having a second company commander,” during his time leading a rifle company from the 2nd Battalion, 2nd Infantry Regiment of the 1st Infantry Division’s 3rd Brigade Combat Team. It marked Sullivan’s third combat rotation after previously serving in Iraq, he said.

The pair worked together masterfully and forged a friendship, which sparked Sullivan to help Ahmadi in his quest to secure a Special Immigrant Visa to the United States under a program for Afghan and Iraqi translators and interpreters who worked for the U.S. military during the Global War on Terror.

“He’d already worked for like five years [to receive an SIV] and it still took him another two years to get here,” Sullivan said of Ahmadi, who immigrated to the United States in 2016 and settled in Seattle with his family. “I think [it] just speaks to how kind of crazy the SIV system is, but, thankfully, he made it here.”

Thousands of other Afghan translators who worked together with U.S. military personnel remain in Afghanistan or other countries waiting to receive their SIV or are awaiting travel even after having their visas approved. But federal funding cuts under a January executive order from President Donald Trump and an expected travel ban on Afghans have thrown the status of SIV holders into uncertainty, according to nongovernmental organizations and lawmakers who have worked to help translators come to the United States.

Sullivan’s relationship with Ahmadi led him to his current work as the executive director for No One Left Be-



ANDREW SULLIVAN

**Then-Army Capt. Andrew Sullivan, who is now executive director of the nonprofit No One Left Behind, is pictured in Afghanistan on a deployment with the 1st Infantry Division in 2013. Sullivan’s Afghan translator, Ahmadi, is pictured in the rear of the photo helping the Afghan National Army question villagers.**

hind. He joined the group after leaving the Army in 2017 as a captain after nine years of military service and then pursued a master’s degree and went into nonprofit work primarily on veterans issues. Sullivan joined No One Left Behind in 2023 and became its executive director in January.

The nonprofit was founded in 2013 by Janis Shinwari, a former Afghan interpreter for American forces. It was the first nongovernmental organization dedicated solely to supporting former Afghan and Iraqi translators. The Virginia-based group of American veterans, Afghan and Iraqi SIV recipients, and volunteers are positioned throughout the United States to help translators navigate the bureaucratic SIV application process and establish new lives.

When SIV recipients’ flights were canceled earlier this year from locations including Pakistan, Qatar and Albania, No One Left Behind stepped in and secured more than 740 flights for SIV holders to come to the United States, Sullivan said. The SIV holders who are flown to the U.S. by No One Left Behind do not have to pay for their flights, he noted. The organization relies on donations to support SIV recipients. The organization reported last year in tax documents that it has about \$12 million in assets — almost all

via donations — after taking in between \$2 million and \$3 million in donations in recent years. Its donations spiked in 2021 amid the Afghanistan withdrawal crisis, when it reported receiving some \$18 million.

Now Sullivan is focused on ensuring that the United States maintains its promise to accept former Afghan translators into the country, even under an administration taking a hard look at immigration policies, including a potential travel ban for citizens of certain countries, including Afghanistan.

Sullivan said he is working to ensure the Trump administration will continue to accept Special Immigrant Visa holders, even if it bars travel to the U.S. from Afghanistan.

“We know that our SIVs are a special population,” Sullivan said. “There are voluminous records of their service to the U.S. There are incredible records on [their] counterintelligence screenings that happen to them, and they were just trusted day in and day out by U.S. service members. So, if there are changes coming to U.S. immigration, it shouldn’t include them.”

The State Department has issued about 117,000 Special Immigrant Visas to Afghan translators since 2009, granting them permanent legal resident status in the United States, according

to department statistics. Since 2021, No One Left Behind has helped more than 25,000 SIV holders reach the United States and settle in their new country, according to the organization.

Still, some 5,752 Special Immigrant Visa applicants and holders remain outside the United States, including in Afghanistan, according to Sen. Jeanne Shaheen, D-N.H.

Thousands of them have lived in limbo in Pakistan, Qatar, Albania and other countries since they were shuttled hastily out of Afghanistan during the chaotic U.S. withdrawal from the country in 2021 as the Taliban retook control of Kabul. The pullout of U.S. forces after 20 years of war left thousands more SIV applicants and holders stranded in Afghanistan, where officials have said more than 300 have since been killed by the Taliban.

In a letter to Secretary of State Marco Rubio on March 19, Shaheen demanded Afghan translators be exempted from any halt of travel into the United States.

“Should they return to Afghanistan, these individuals are at direct risk of reprisal from the Taliban for their service in support of the United States,” the senator wrote. “This grim reality has been borne out by the many who have been killed since August 2021. They risked their lives and died for us and in return, we promised to protect them and their families. We must stand by this promise.”

She said ensuring the allies that helped American forces could enter the United States, as they were promised, was a “matter of moral responsibility” and a national security imperative because it would show “that we stand by our commitments during the most challenging of moments.”

Sullivan said it was critical that SIV applicants and holders in Pakistan are moved soon into the United States, as the government in Islamabad has ramped up deportations of Afghans back to their home country.

“There are folks there, thank God, who are still getting issued their visas,” he said. “And we’re going to continue to buy flights as we can from Islamabad, but that’s one where I don’t have a ton of fidelity on how many people we have there.”



MILITARY

# Uniform shortage sends airmen scrambling

AAFES can't keep all items in stock before ramped up inspections

By ZADE VADNAIS  
*Stars and Stripes*

KAISERSLAUTERN, Germany — Some airmen are scouring thrift stores and other outlets to find proper attire as the Air Force ramps up uniform inspections ahead of a new policy requiring quarterly checks.

Quarterly inspections begin March 31 and unit commanders began scheduling inspections shortly after receiving the Jan. 30 memo from Lt. Gen. Scott L. Pleus, Air Force director of staff. That led to a surge in demand for certain required uniform items.

The Army and Air Force Exchange Service, which sells uniforms on Air Force bases worldwide, has struggled to keep up. Some locations have run out of stock of various items and all stores have seen a marked increase in sales in recent weeks, according to Chris Ward, an AAFES spokesman.

At Ramstein Air Base, Germany, AAFES has seen a 94% spike in sales of



SAMUEL KING JR./U.S. Air Force

**Airmen conduct an open ranks inspection at Eglin Air Force Base, Fla., in October. Some airmen are scouring thrift stores and other outlets to find proper attire as the Air Force ramps up uniform inspections.**

the service dress uniform over a recent four-week period compared to the same period last year, Ward said.

Similar shortages have been reported at other locations and some uniform

items are sold out online as well. Air Force service dress trousers, in particular, are on backorder, Ward said. He didn't specify how long it would take to meet demand.

With required uniform items unavailable through AAFES, airmen have turned to thrift stores, eBay, and other secondhand sources.

"I've noticed a huge influx of people coming in, in the past two months," said Timothy Whalen, a volunteer at Ramstein's Airman's Attic, a donation-based store that offers free clothing and household goods to junior enlisted service members and their families.

Whalen sees anywhere from 20 to 50 airmen visit the Airman's Attic in search of secondhand uniform items each day, many of them "panicked" by the widespread lack of availability as unit inspections loom. He often sees the same people returning multiple times per week in hopes that additional items have been donated.

"I've even heard people say they went to Stuttgart to get stuff, which is smart on their behalf but also crazy that they have to drive an hour away or longer to acquire those items that they need," Whalen said.

Despite the shortages, the Air Force has not announced any adjustments to the inspection schedule or the enforcement of uniform standards.

vadnais.zade@us.af.mil  
@zadevadnais

# Army establishes mountaineering badge for active-duty soldiers

By BRIAN ERICKSON  
*Stars and Stripes*

The Army has announced the establishment of the Mountaineering Badge, making a long-recognized achievement available to wear for the first time for active-duty soldiers.

The badge recognizes mountaineering proficiency and also is aimed at promoting retention and professional development, an Army administrative message said March 13.

The Vermont National Guard operates the Army Mountain Warfare School from the Ethan Allen Training Site in Jericho, Vt. Active-duty soldiers have been able to attend the school and graduate, but they haven't been able to wear the badge.

The school also offers a range of courses that cover topics like moving small units over hazardous terrain, medical evacuations and marksmanship skills.



LINKEDIN/U.S. Army

**A screenshot of a possible Mountaineering Badge rendering posted by the U.S. Army on LinkedIn.**

The current Ram's Head device, first introduced in the 1950s, is worn by eligible members of the Vermont National Guard. It has been tied to graduation from the basic mountaineering course since the school opened in 1983.

The design process is still underway



WHITNEY HUGHES/U.S. Army

**A student at the U.S. Army Mountain Warfare School uses a locator beacon to find a simulated casualty during avalanche rescue training.**

on the revised badge, and the Institute of Heraldry has until May 12 to complete the new design.

The badge will be included in the Group 4 classification and be worn in

the same manner as special skill categories such as parachutist and pathfinder.

erickson.brian@stripes.com





EUROPE

# Priscilla's tale: School days and the King

## Presley reflects on American base life in Cold War Germany

By PHILLIP WALTER WELLMAN  
*Stars and Stripes*

BAD NAUHEIM, Germany — Priscilla Presley has fond memories of studying at a U.S. Air Force-run high school in Wiesbaden, Germany, in the late 1950s and early '60s, although she admits she wasn't in class often.

After attendance was taken in the mornings at H. H. Arnold High, Priscilla Beaulieu, as she was known at the time, and her friends often "got on a bus that took us in town, stayed there for about three hours, then went back. It was a lot of fun," Presley told reporters this month during a visit to the region.

Presley was speaking about 25 miles north of Wiesbaden, in Bad Nauheim, where 14-year-old Priscilla met her future husband, Elvis Presley, for the first time.

Elvis lived off-post in the historic spa town of Bad Nauheim from 1958 to 1960 while stationed with the Army in nearby Friedberg.

Bad Nauheim has capitalized on its Elvis connection in recent decades, hosting the European Elvis Festival each summer. During the 2021 event, a bronze statue of Elvis dressed in his Army uniform was unveiled in a park. Presley saw it for the first time this month.

"This is very important to me," she said. "Being back brings back so many



PHILLIP WALTER WELLMAN/Stars and Stripes

**Priscilla Presley gazes at a bronze statue of her former husband, Elvis Presley, in Bad Nauheim, Germany, on March 20. Priscilla met Elvis in the spa town in 1959, when she was 14.**

memories of that time."

Presley's stepfather, Joseph Paul Beaulieu, was an Air Force officer whose career meant frequent relocations for the family.

The teenager was "crushed" when she learned she would be moving from Austin, Texas, to Germany, as she was about to enter high school and didn't want to leave her friends behind.

"The teenagers that I knew back in Texas would all say, 'Oh, you're going to where Elvis Presley is. He's over there at the same place that you're going to go to,'" Presley recalled. "I never in my imagination thought that I would meet him."

But just weeks after arriving in Germany, a mutual acquaintance who was in the Air Force introduced the two at a party at Elvis' rented home.

In 2016, Presley tried to visit the home, but the owner didn't seem to share the community's general enthusiasm for Elvis and his former wife.

"I knocked on the door and the woman who owns the place wouldn't let me in," Presley said, giggling. "I told her ... I was Priscilla and I had very, very wonderful memories of the home and I just wanted to take a look at it, and she absolutely would not let me in."

Elvis' deployment ended about six months after he met Priscilla, when he returned to the United States.

"I did not hear from Elvis till about 14 days after he left," she said. "I thought he was not going to call me anymore

and then on that day, when he called, it was like my life came back together. Then I thought, 'I haven't lost him.'"

Over the next three years, Elvis and Priscilla kept in regular contact as he continued his movie and music career in Hollywood, and she continued attending classes at H. H. Arnold High School, or at least some of them.

In the summer of 1963, as a 17-year-old about to start her senior year, Presley moved to Memphis at Elvis' invitation — with her parents' reluctant approval and under strict conditions set by Elvis and his manager, Col. Tom Parker.

There, she enrolled at Immaculate Conception High School, where she graduated.

Presley said she keeps in contact with some of her classmates from her school days in Germany and empathizes with military children.

"Just when you get to know someone, and really like them, and you want them as friends, they leave," she said. "That was the hardest thing for me, to know that this friend I won't have very long because they're going to be going to another base."

H. H. Arnold High School was demolished to make way for a new facility that opened in 2017. It was named Wiesbaden High School but maintains the history and legacy of H. H. Arnold High. The original crest mosaic was preserved and incorporated into the new building.

When asked if she had any advice for students at the school today, Presley smiled and said she was probably not the best person to ask, considering her behavior when she was a student.

Over the years, Presley has spoken positively about the military. In a 2021 video message shared by the USO, she encouraged people to support U.S. troops by signing the organization's thank-you card.

During her visit this month, Presley said that in the end, Elvis was happy he had served.

"It was very hard for him to leave, of course, and (he) didn't understand why he had to go in the military," she said. "But (he) did, and served, and actually, he was glad. That sorrow of going in was erased by the people he met here."

Robert H. Reid, Editor in Chief  
Brian Bowers, U.S. Edition Editor  
Scott Foley, Revenue Director

### CONTACT US

633 3rd Street NW, Suite 500, Washington, D.C. 20001

Editorial: (202) 886-0005  
Advertising: (202) 886-0014

Additional contact information: [stripes.com](https://www.stripes.com)

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wellman.phillip@stripes.com  
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1 CHECKING CASH PROMOTION OFFER TERMS AND CONDITIONS

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Offer available for new USAA Classic Checking accounts from USAA Federal Savings Bank, also known as USAA Bank, applied for between January 15, 2025, and April 24, 2025, by 11:59 PM Central Time. The account is not eligible for this offer if: 1) the primary account holder currently has, or has had, primary, secondary, or any other ownership of a USAA Bank checking account (including USAA Youth Spending accounts) in the 12 months prior to account opening; or 2) the account is titled as a trust account, estate account, Uniform Transfers to Minors Act account, or any other representative or fiduciary account. The primary account holder is the account holder whose U.S. taxpayer identification number is used for tax reporting purposes on the new account. The account must remain open and in good standing through the time we attempt to deposit any earned bonus payment.

**Bonus Requirements and Payment:**  
To qualify for the bonus, apply for a new USAA Classic Checking account between January 15, 2025, and April 24, 2025, by 11:59 PM Central Time, open your account, and receive a qualifying direct deposit of at least \$100 into the account within 180 calendar days after account opening. Note that your account open date may not be the same as your application date. A qualifying direct deposit is a single Automated Clearing House, also known as ACH, electronic deposit of \$100 or more. An electronic transfer initiated from your new USAA Bank checking account that instructs USAA Bank to pull funds from another financial institution into your account does not qualify as a direct deposit. Internal transfers between USAA Bank accounts do not qualify. We will attempt to deposit the \$200 bonus into your qualifying new USAA Classic Checking account within 60 calendar days after the first qualifying direct deposit amount has been received. You are responsible for any federal, state, or local taxes due on the bonus and we will report the bonus as income to the tax authorities if required by applicable law. Consult your tax advisor.

**Additional Terms and Conditions:**  
All account applications are subject to approval prior to opening and may be subject to a \$25 minimum opening deposit. For USAA Classic Checking accounts with a daily ledger balance of \$1000 or more, the APY is 0.01%, accurate as of January 15, 2025. For current annual percentage yield or APY, refer to [usaa.com/checking](https://usaa.com/checking). Rates may change at any time. Fees may reduce earnings. Offer can't be paid without a valid U.S. taxpayer identification number or combined with any other offer related to checking accounts. This offer limited to one bonus per account, on first eligible account only. Offer cannot be reproduced, purchased, sold, transferred or traded. See the Depository Agreement and Disclosures for terms and conditions of your USAA Classic Checking account. Offer may be discontinued or changed at any time without notice.  
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# Military & veteran families get the best price vs. Verizon and AT&T

## 4 lines unlimited talk, text & data for \$25<sub>mo./line</sub>

T-Mobile puts veterans and military spouses first with employment initiatives, exclusive plan discounts, and ongoing community investments and support. Visit [T-Mobile.com/Military-Discounts](https://www.t-mobile.com/Military-Discounts) to learn more about our commitment.

**Best Price:** Based on cost of 1–6 lines of Essentials Military vs. comparable plans including discounts, taxes, and regulatory fees. **Verify military status for account holder within 45 days and maintain valid military line on account; otherwise plan becomes Essentials (additional cost up to \$20/line per month).** During congestion, customers on this plan using >50GB/mo. may notice reduced speeds until next bill cycle due to data prioritization. Video typically streams in SD. With Autopay; debit or bank account required. +\$5/line w/out Autopay. **Unlimited talk & text** features for direct communications between 2 people; others (e.g., conference & chat lines, etc.) may cost extra. Some messages, including those over 1MB, use data and may be unavailable internationally. \$35 per device connection charge due at sale. Credit approval & deposit may be required. Monthly Regulatory Programs (RPF) & Telco Recovery Fee (TRF) totaling \$3.49 per voice line (\$0.50 for RPF & \$2.99 for TRF) and \$1.40 per data only line (\$0.12 for RPF & \$1.28 for TRF) applies; taxes/fees approx. 4–38% of bill. Capable device required for some features. Not combinable with certain offers. Switching plans or canceling lines may cause you to lose plan/feature benefits; ask a rep for details. Roaming: U.S. roaming and on-network data allotments differ: includes 200MB roaming. High-speed data is US only; in Canada/Mexico, unlimited at up to 128kbps; additional purchase required for data elsewhere. Calls from 215+ countries and destinations, including over Wi-Fi, are \$.25/min. (no charge for Wi-Fi calls to US, Mexico and Canada). Service may be terminated or restricted for excessive roaming. Not for extended international use; you must reside in the U.S. and primary usage must occur on our U.S. network. Device must register on our U.S. network before international use.