

Gunner's Seat: Assignments, Leadership

Armor Ready!

First, I would like to welcome BG Thomas Feltey, the 53rd Chief of Armor and commandant of the U.S Army Armor School. His vast knowledge and experience in both Armor and Cavalry formations and unvarnished love for the Armor Branch will ensure "Armor" remains the combat arm of decision! I look forward to our time together, including collaboration with our infantry teammates to enable brigade combat teams (BCTs) to dominate in large-scale combat operations today and into the future.

The year/month available (YMAV) to move and the Assignment Satisfaction Key-Enlisted Module allows enlisted Soldiers more control over their assignment. Although there are guidelines regarding knowledge, skills, attributes/behaviors, the module does not account for Department of the Army Pamphlet (DA PAM) 600-25 proponent guidance. I highly encourage leaders to track their Soldier's YMAV and provide counsel on the Armor career map and the branch guidance outlined in DA PAM 600-25. By doing so, Soldiers will fully understand the implications of their assignment decisions, especially when the decision does not align with promotion guidance. For more information, contact SGM Eric Hayes, Armor Branch sergeant major, Enlisted Personnel Management Directorate, Human Resources Command.

The centralized evaluation boards for staff sergeant, sergeant first class, master sergeant and command/sergeant major have concluded. The Office of the Chief of Armor is compiling the information and analyzing the data to inform the field. Evaluation reports are the most important documents within a Soldier's file. I encourage leaders at all levels to properly enumerate and delineate talent, "MQ" deserving leaders when profiles support and super-strong verbiage when profiles do not. Please remember, several command sergeant major billets (including BCTs) are competed against several career-management fields, prioritized from the Order of Merit List. It is important for our Army to choose the right leaders to fill these important roles. We've got to get this right!

Lastly, we have released the second Armor School podcast, <https://m.soundcloud.com/armor-school/armor-school-podcast-episode-2>, available on our social-media platforms. Please tune in and let us know of any topics you would like for us to cover. To borrow a phrase from a dear friend, "Never underestimate the power of your leadership!"

Forge the Thunderbolt!

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Acronym Quick-Scan

BCT – brigade combat team

DA PAM – Department of the Army Pamphlet

YMAV – year/month available (to move)