



Memorial Day 2025

NORTH AFRICA AMERICAN CEMETERY

May 26, 2025 | 10:00

26 mai 2025 | 10h00



The American Battle Monuments Commission operates and maintains 26 cemeteries and 31 federal memorials, monuments and commemorative plaques in 17 countries throughout the world, including the United States. The three memorials in the United States are: the Honolulu Memorial located within the National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific in Honolulu; the West Coast Memorial located within the Presidio National Park in San Francisco; and the East Coast Memorial located within the Battery in New York City. Since March 4, 1923, the ABMC's sacred mission remains to honor the service, achievements, and sacrifice of more than 200,000 U.S. service members buried and memorialized at our sites.

These cemeteries and memorials, most of which commemorate the service and sacrifice of Americans who served in World War I and World War II, are among the most beautiful and meticulously maintained shrines in the world.

To learn more about ABMC, we invite you to explore our website www.abmc.gov, or follow us @usabmc on Facebook, X and Instagram.

L'American Battle Monuments Commission (ABMC) gère et entretient 26 cimetières et 31 mémoriaux fédéraux, monuments et plaques commémoratives dans 17 pays à travers le monde, y compris les États-Unis. Les trois mémoriaux aux États-Unis sont : le Mémorial d'Honolulu situé dans le Cimetière national du Pacifique à Honolulu; le Mémorial de la côte Ouest situé dans le Parc national du Presidio à San Francisco ; et le Mémorial de la côte Est situé dans Battery Park à New York. Depuis le 4 mars 1923, la mission sacrée de l'ABMC reste d'honorer le service, les réalisations et le sacrifice de plus de 200 000 membres des forces armées américaines enterrés et mémorialisés dans nos sites.

Ces cimetières et mémoriaux, dont la plupart commémorent le service et le sacrifice des Américains qui ont servi au cours de la Première et de la Seconde Guerres mondiales, sont parmi les sites de mémoire les plus beaux et les plus méticuleusement entretenus du monde.

Pour en savoir plus sur l'ABMC, nous vous invitons à explorer notre site internet www.abmc.gov, ou suivez-nous @usabmc sur Facebook, X et Instagram.





GUEST OF HONOR
Congressman Dr. Ronny Jackson,
Representative for Texas'
13th Congressional District

Dr. Ronny Jackson was raised in Levelland, Texas where he learned the value of family, faith, and hard work. After working as a roustabout in the West Texas oilfields, he paid his way through undergraduate school at Texas A&M University. Following graduation from medical school at the University of Texas Medical Branch, he began active-duty service in the United States Navy.

With unique training in undersea medicine, he utilized his talents while assigned to locations ranging from Panama City, Florida to Sigonella, Italy. Dr. Jackson would later complete his residency in Emergency Medicine, finishing at the top of his class. Soon thereafter, he deployed to Iraq to lead Resuscitative Medicine efforts on the battlefield for a combat Surgical Shock Trauma Platoon.

While serving in Iraq, he was called back to the states to serve in the White House Medical Unit during President George W. Bush's Administration. Dr. Jackson ultimately led the White House Medical Unit as Director of the White House Medical Unit and Physician to the President during the Obama Administration. In December 2014 he ended his duties as Director and continued being Physician to the President. He was also Physician to the President under the Trump Administration, and in January 2019, President Donald J. Trump appointed him as Chief Medical Advisor and Assistant to the President.

In December 2019, after 25 years of distinguished service to his country, Dr. Jackson retired from the United States Navy as a Rear Admiral. He returned to the great State of Texas and ran for U.S. Congress. Dr. Jackson was elected to serve Texas' 13th Congressional District in November 2020. His committee assignments include the House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence, the House Agriculture Committee, the House Armed Services Committee, and the House Foreign Affairs Committee.

Dr. Jackson is happily married to his wife of over 30 years, Jane. The couple has three children. Their oldest, Libby, holds an MBA from Mount St. Mary's University and works in the national security sector. Their middle child, Ben, is a Navy Officer and proud graduate of the U.S. Naval Academy. Their youngest, Matthew, is a senior at West Texas A&M University.



**Major General Robert B. Sofge Jr.,
United States Marine Corps Forces, Europe and Africa, United States Africa
Command**

Commander, United States Marine Corps Forces Europe and Africa

Major General Sofge Jr. became the seventh Commander of U.S. Marine Corps Forces, Europe and Africa in 2023.

Headquartered in Stuttgart, Germany, he commands designated Marine Corps forces assigned or attached to U.S. European Command and U.S. Africa Command; advises both joint-service geographic combatant commanders, and other component commanders, on the capabilities and proper employment of U.S. Marine Corps forces; conducts planning in support of operations, exercises, and theater engagements; validates and facilitates the deployment, sustainment, and redeployment of all designated forces; and sets conditions through naval integration to rapidly establish the Joint Force Maritime Component Command during crisis or contingency in order to accomplish assigned missions and tasks.

As a General Officer, he most recently served as the Director for Strategy, Plans, and Policy (UCJ5), United Nations Command/Combined Forces Command/U.S. Forces Korea. Major General Sofge has also served as the Deputy Commander for Marine Corps Forces, Pacific in Hawaii; Deputy Commanding General for Operations, Combined/Joint Forces Land Component Command during Operation INHERENT RESOLVE; Director of the Combined Joint Operations Center in Baghdad, Iraq; and as the Assistant Wing Commander, 3rd Marine Aircraft Wing in Miramar, CA.

Enlisting in the Marine Corps in 1982, Major General Sofge served with the 3rd Force Service Support Group in Okinawa, Japan, and subsequently deployed to Korea and the Philippines with the 33rd Marine Amphibious Unit before commissioning and designation as a Naval Aviator.

In the A V-8B Harrier, he has flown combat missions in Bosnia-Herzegovina, Kosovo, Kuwait, and Iraq from both shipboard and land bases, deploying with the 24th Marine Expeditionary Unit (Special Operations Capable) in support of Operations DECISIVE ENDEAVOR, DELIBERATE FORCE, and ALLIED FORCE. Major General Sofge has also deployed in support of Operations SOUTHERN WATCH and IRAQI FREEDOM, and with the 31st Marine Expeditionary Unit. He has served as Commander of Marine Attack Squadron 311 and Marine Aircraft Group 14.

He has also filled multiple staff assignments at Headquarters Marine Corps including: Head of Aviation Plans, Policy and Budget, Department of Aviation; Strategic Assessments Branch, Programs and Resources; Weapons Systems Requirements Branch, Department of Aviation. He also served on the Joint Staff as a Defense Resource Analyst; as a Senior Watch Officer in the 3rd Marine Aircraft Wing (FWD) Tactical Air Command Center in Al Asad, Iraq; and as a Weapons and Tactics Instructor at Marine Aviation Weapons and Tactics Squadron 1.

Major General Sofge holds a Political Science degree from the U.S. Naval Academy, a Master of Business Administration from Touro University, and a Master of Strategic Studies from the U.S. Army War College. He has also completed Harvard Business School's Advanced Management Program. His personal decorations include the Defense Superior Service Medal, two Legion of Merit Medals, the Defense Meritorious Service Medal, five Meritorious Service Medals, seven Air Medals, two Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medals, and two Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medals.



SEQUENCE OF EVENTS

WELCOME REMARKS

- Ms. Maram Mahfoudhi, Interpretive Guide, North Africa American Cemetery, ABMC

INVOCATION

- Chaplain (Colonel) Douglas Mikkelsen, Chaplain, Wyoming National Guard

PRESENTATION OF COLORS

- U.S. Marine Corps Security Guard Detachment, Tunis

PLAYING OF THE NATIONAL ANTHEMS

- Tunisia - Humat Al-Hima
- United States - The Star-Spangled Banner

MEMORIAL DAY REMARKS

- The Honorable Joey R. Hood, U.S. Ambassador to the Republic of Tunisia
- Congressman Dr. Ronny Jackson, Representative for Texas, 13th Congressional District
- Major General Robert B. Sofge Jr., Commander, U.S. Marine Corps Forces, Europe and Africa
- Sergeant Major Michael P. Woods, Command Senior Enlisted Leader, U. S. Africa Command

WREATH LAYING

- The Honorable Joey R. Hood, U.S. Ambassador to the Republic of Tunisia
- Sergeant Major Michael P. Woods, U.S. Marine Corps
- Superintendent Adrien Adams, North Africa American Cemetery, ABMC

PLAYING OF TAPS AND A MOMENT OF SILENCE

- (TAPS plays, followed by three bells signifying a moment of silence)

CLOSING REMARKS AND CONCLUSION OF THE CEREMONY

- Ms. Maram Mahfoudhi, Interpretive Guide, North Africa American Cemetery, ABMC





L'ORDRE DES ÉVÈNEMENTS

REMARQUES DE BIENVENUE

- Mme. Maram Mahfoudhi, Interpretive Guide, North Africa American Cemetery, ABMC

PRIÈRE D'OUVERTURE

- Aumônier(Colonel) Douglas Mikkelsen, Garde Nationale du Wyoming

PRÉSENTATION DES DRAPEAUX

- Détachement de garde de sécurité du Corps des Marines des É.U.

HYMNES NATIONAUX

- Tunisie - Humat Al Hima
- Les États-Unis - La bannière étoilée

ALLOCUTIONS :

- L'honorable Mr. Joey Hood, Ambassadeur des États-Unis
- Représentant du Congrès, Ronny Jackson
- Général de division Robert B. Sofge Jr., Commandant des Forces du Corps des Marines des États-Unis pour l'Europe et l'Afrique
- Mr. Adrien Adams, American Battle Monuments Commission, Directeur du Cimetière Américain d'Afrique du Nord

PRÉSENTATION DES COURONNES

- L'honorable Joey R. Hood, Ambassadeur des États-Unis
- Sergent-Major Michael P. Woods, Corps des Marines des États-Unis
- Directeur Adrien Adams, Cimetière américain d'Afrique du Nord, ABMC

SONNERIE AUX MORTS ET MOMENT DE SILENCE

- (TAPS sonne, suivi de trois cloches signifiant un moment de silence)

REMARQUES FINALES ET CONCLUSION DE LA CÉRÉMONIE

- Mme. Maram Mahfoudhi, Guide interprète, Cimetière américain d'Afrique du Nord, ABMC



Thanks

With deep appreciation, we thank the governmental and non-governmental organizations that support our Memorial Day ceremonies, including:

The U.S. Department of Defense, State, and Veterans Affairs, specifically the efforts of the U.S. Embassy in Tunis.

The Tunisian Ministries of Defense, Foreign Affairs, Culture, and Interior, including regional and communal governments.

And our partner: The American Battle Monuments Foundation.

Remerciements

Nous tenons à remercier toutes les organisations gouvernementales et non gouvernementales qui soutiennent nos cérémonies du Memorial Day, notamment :

Les ministère américain de la Défense, d'Etat, et des Anciens Combattants, et tout particulièrement les ambassade américaine dont nous saluons les efforts.

Les ministères tunisiens de la Défense, des Affaires étrangères, de Culutre, et de l'Intérieur, ainsi que les autorités régionales et communales.

Et notre partenaire: The American Battle Monuments Foundation.



AMERICAN BATTLE
MONUMENTS COMMISSION

“Time will not dim the glory of their deeds.”

GENERAL OF THE ARMIES JOHN J. PERSHING

www.abmc.gov