

## Once More Unto the Breach

It is with great awe and privilege that I am assigned as the 40th Editor of *ARMOR*. Since my days as a young lieutenant, I have been impressed with this journal. I have always had my eye on the job; luck would have it that I am at the helm. This professional journal is renowned throughout the Army and the world for its professional dialogue, well-written articles, and candor. I intend to maintain the high standards of excellence and strive to expand the landscape of professional knowledge.

This journal has earned its reputation because of the talent and wisdom of our readers and contributors. Continue to support the magazine by inspiring those around you to articulate their thoughts, ideas, and lessons learned into words. Now more than ever, as the Army strategically transitions to meet future requirements, we need your opinions and experiences. Change is here, and the Armor force cannot afford to be left behind — reacting to change instead of leading the charge into a new era.

Throughout the illustrious history of this journal, one thing has remained constant; that is the poignant, relevant, and thought-provoking articles written by individuals doing their part in contributing to the Armor force. Keep it up! If you've got something to say, send it to us. You can be sure I will not censor or stifle honest and thought-provoking opinion and debate. It is, in large, why this professional journal exists. For example, see J.D. Dunivan's "Letter to the Editor." *ARMOR* has cultivated a great deal of latitude in its open exchange of ideas over the past 114 years.

An old adage says, "The more things change, the more they stay the same." One of the benefits of this job is the ability to read the earliest editions of *The Cavalry Journal*, the predecessor to *ARMOR*. I am fascinated with the articles published during the turn of the century. In the first edition, printed in March 1888, 1st Lieutenant Eben Swift, 5th Cavalry, wrote an article titled "Sabers or Revolver"? If Lieutenant Swift was alive today, I assume he would be opining on what the interim and objective force should look like. During 1898, one young cavalry captain wrote an analysis on lead-

ership and what the cavalry force must do to remain an integral part of the Army. His insight and wisdom on the topic is as pertinent today as it was then.

I must elaborate on an administrative note — awards, specifically the Order of St. George. I am entrusted by the Armor Association to guard this tradition. The Order of St. George was created in 1986 to honor outstanding Armor officers and soldiers. Throughout the years, this has been done effectively. However, there has been confusion over eligibility. To end the confusion, the Armor Association Executive Council voted in May to change the criteria to the following: For *Armor branched* officers who demonstrate successful command of an armor or cavalry unit. Note, "Armor branched officer." For enlisted, this includes CMF 19 soldiers who have successfully been branch certified as a platoon sergeant, first sergeant, or command sergeant major. The Order of St. George will only be approved for those who meet the criteria outlined in the nomination process; for specific criteria, see [www.usarmor-assn.org](http://www.usarmor-assn.org). There are outstanding officers, warrant officers, and soldiers of other branches serving with Armor leaders. The Noble Patron of Armor was established to honor and recognize them.

Now unto the breach we go. LTC Steve Eden provided me quite an introduction to the job. His article on attrition warfare stirred quite the hornet's nest. Because of the enormous response to his piece, we obligated an unusual amount of "letters" space.

During the Armor Conference in May, several hundred Army leaders gathered at Fort Knox to discuss the Army's Transformation. Training was the focus of this year's conference and we have several articles on how the Armor School is responding to meet worldwide challenges. Changes are coming in the training of our officers and NCOs. These changes will cause a significant emotional reaction from some of you — read CPT Jason Slider's article on the preliminary details.

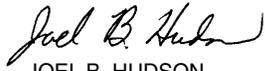
I am looking forward to the future with my eyes to the past.

— DRM

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