

# 10<sup>th</sup> Mountain Division Descendants, Inc.

www.10thMountainDivisionDescendants.org

#### **Summer 2023**

## Dear 10th Mountain Division Descendants and Friends,

Many of us returned from the incredible Italia 2023 trip a few weeks ago. Around 30 of us were on the pre-trip to Normandy, which was beautiful and such a moving experience. Then, around 120 were on the main trip in beautiful Italy learning about our 10th Mountain soldiers' time there during WWII. It was great to see our Italian family again and we thank them for their warm hospitality! We had all ages on this trip, including many young folks in their teens, 20s, and 30s. I loved hearing their insights and observing their interest in their grand- and great-grandfathers' histories in Italy.

The post trip was equally special as around 60 of us traveled through beautiful Slovenia, where the 10th was sent at the end of the war, then through Austria and Germany. It was fun to catch up with old friends and make new ones.

At this time, we need to start thinking about the scholarships, offered to all members, by the 10th Mountain Division Descendants and the 10th Mountain Division Foundation. To qualify, there is a process you must go through and other work to be done so if you're interested, please start looking into the application requirements now. Information can be found on the following websites:

#### 10th Mountain Division Descendants

## 10th Mountain Division Foundation

If you've been following along, or even if you haven't, Christian Beckwith's podcast "90 Pound Rucksack" is out with his 5th installment, Paradise. He is doing an incredible job telling the 10th Mountain story, so please support his special project and effort by going to <u>christianbeckwith.com</u>. You can also catch all of the previous episodes on his website if you haven't already heard them.

Lastly, let's keep our current 10th Mountain Division soldiers and their families in our forethoughts. Division Headquarters soldiers were recently deployed to Romania, the Division Tactical HQ is currently deployed to Poland, and soldiers are currently in Finland training to become Alpine Warriors. In December, the 1st Brigade Combat team returned from Kuwait, Syria, and Iraq as the only forward deployed combat unit in a combat area in the US Army. Later this summer, the 2nd Brigade team will be deployed for the same mission, again, being the only forward deployed combat unit in a combat area.

Fort Drum has about 18,000 soldiers at the ready. The 10th Mountain Division is the most deployed unit in the US Army being the first to be deployed to Afghanistan after 9/11 and the last to leave, not to mention the numerous deployments around the world since being reactivated in 1985. We are very proud of them.

To stay up-to-date with what's going on with the 10th Mountain Division Descendants, Association, Foundation, and Fort Drum, go to our website at 10thmtndivdesc.org and click on "News" on the top menu bar, then "Blizzard Newspaper" for the latest news.

Remember, "your voice matters" so please reach out with any thoughts or questions. I love hearing from you.

Sempre Avanti!

**Denise Taylor** 

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