



# PRESS RELEASE

## U.S. Army Garrison Fort Hunter Liggett

Building 238, California Avenue, Fort Hunter Liggett, CA

93928-7000

<https://home.army.mil/liggett> [www.facebook.com/forthunterliggett](http://www.facebook.com/forthunterliggett)

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### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

RELEASE # 2021-05-03

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## Fort Hunter Liggett Open House May 15

**FORT HUNTER LIGGETT, Calif.** – Have you ever wanted to know what goes on behind the fence of a military installation? Fort Hunter Liggett is opening up its doors to the public on May 15 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. for the chance to talk to Soldiers and Army Civilians, fire an M4 at a virtual target in an Army weapons simulator, check out Army equipment and vehicles, see inside a barracks, watch Soldiers demonstrate the latest physical fitness test, view historic buildings, learn how we support training and take care of our land and cultural resources, and much more.

The celebration falls on Armed Forces Day, and marks America's preparation to enter World War II by establishing Hunter Liggett Military Reservation on Jan. 10, 1941. All events are free to the public and celebrate the installation's 80 years of continuous service to the country.

Visitors will be greeted at the intersection of Jolon and Mission roads, and given passes, a map and schedule of events. Random security checks will occur throughout the day, and COVID-19 protocols will be in place, to include wearing masks outdoors when near others. All visitors 18 and older need to provide valid identification for access. Visitors are asked to only go to areas identified on the map and not wander into residential or training areas.

#### The main event highlights are:

10:30 – Fly-in of Betsy's Biscuit Bomber, WWII aircraft from Estrella Warbirds Museum in Paso Robles, at the Schoonover Airstrip on Mission Road

11:30 – Opening Ceremony with artillery salute by the 91<sup>st</sup> Training Division

11:45 – Future Joint Service Member Swearing-In Ceremony

#### On-going activities and attractions at the Hacienda/Tin Barn:

A guest speaker from the California Military History Museum will discuss the Central Coast military ramp-up for World War II (11 a.m., 1 p.m., and 2 p.m.). There will be displays from various installation

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*Fort Hunter Liggett provides installation services and sustains facilities to enable Total Force Readiness. It is the seventh largest Army installation and the largest Army Reserve installation in the country.*

## **PRESS RELEASE -- Headquarters, U.S. Army Garrison Fort Hunter Liggett**

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directorates, community organizations, and military recruiters, along with videos of training activities and cultural/environmental stewardship at Fort Hunter Liggett. The Army will also have a mobile Gaming Center staged at this location.

### On-going activities and attractions at Schoonover Airstrip:

Estrella Warbirds Museum showcasing WWII aircraft Betsy's Biscuit Bomber and vintage Army vehicles and radios.

World War II re-enactors from the California Historical Group will be camped out in period uniform to answer questions about equipment and weapons of that era.

Displays of current Army vehicles and equipment, and Soldiers to answer questions.

Fly-in of a Coast Guard Rescue Helicopter

A video of "The Future Behind Us" by Lt. Col. John Armstrong of the Army War College will be played throughout the day.

### On-going activities and attractions at Track & Field and Sports Center:

Demonstrations of the new Army Combat Fitness Test

Lt. Chance, the narcotics/therapy German shepherd will give demonstrations with his handler Chief Warrant Officer 4 Joe Hall

### Other attractions:

Sign up to shoot at virtual targets in the Weapons simulator, Building 299

Tours inside modern Army barracks will be given (it's not your granddaddy's barracks!), Building 3030

Tours of Lightfighter Chapel, Building 190

Commemorative souvenirs can be purchased at the Post Exchange, and food will be for sale at the PX and the Hacienda.

We are excited to showcase Fort Hunter Liggett, and honored that so many community partners such as law enforcement from the surrounding communities, the Estrella Warbirds Museum and Camp Roberts support our event.

**MEDIA OPPORTUNITIES:** The press is invited to the Open House as well as at Estrella Warbirds Museum when WWII Army vehicles are loaded for transport to Fort Hunter Liggett during the mornings of May 10-11. Contact Public Affairs Officer Amy Phillips to RSVP: [amy.phillips.civ@mail.mil](mailto:amy.phillips.civ@mail.mil), 831-386-2690, 831-269-9137 (cell).





Day of event: Media interested in covering event will read/sign FHL PAO Form 2 and have media identification clearly visible at all times. RSVP with Cindy McIntyre: [cynthia.j.mcintyre.civ@mail.mil](mailto:cynthia.j.mcintyre.civ@mail.mil), 831-386-2682, 831-484-4179 (cell). # # #

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## PHOTOS:

	<p>EST – The public can sign up to fire Army weapons the Engagement Skills Simulator used by Soldiers to get the feel of handling the weapons before they go to the firing range.</p>
	<p>Army Mobile Gaming – The Army will have its Mobile Gaming Center on hand for virtual combat</p>
	<p>C-47 Betsy's Biscuit Bomber will land on the dirt airstrip on Mission Road at 10:30 a.m.</p>
	<p>Lt. Chance and his handler Chief Warrant Officer 4 Joe Hall of the California State Guard will demonstrate the German shepherd's ability to sniff narcotics. Chance is also a therapy dog and welcomes scratches behind the ears.</p>

## VIDEOS:

80<sup>th</sup> Anniversary History of Fort Hunter Liggett

<https://www.dvidshub.net/video/779493/fort-hunter-liggett-80th-anniversary-story>

PSA by Garrison Commander Col. Charles Bell

<https://www.dvidshub.net/video/790880/80th-anniversary-open-house-psa-col-bell>

PSA by Maj. Christopher Lauff, HHC Commander

<https://www.dvidshub.net/video/793220/fort-hunter-liggett-open-house-maj-lauff>