



## DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF OF ARMOR  
1 KARKER STREET, SUITE 6600  
FORT MOORE, GEORGIA 31905

ATZK-CD

27 January 2025

### MEMORANDUM FOR RECORD

**SUBJECT:** The Major General Adna R. Chaffee Jr. Award Program Standard Operating Procedure

1. **Scope:** The Major General Adna R. Chaffee Jr. Award Program is an annual award which recognizes the finest Leaders, who have made long lasting contributions, within the Armored Force. This is the highest honor presented on behalf of all Armor and Cavalry Soldiers past and present, designating the awardees as Legends of Armor.
2. **Purpose:** To provide policies and procedures for the selection criteria, nomination, and recognition bestowed upon The Major General Adna R. Chaffee Jr. awardees.
3. **Eligibility:**
  - a. **Historical Figure:** Soldier, rank and country of service immaterial, who has contributed significantly to the Armor or Cavalry branch up to and through Vietnam.
  - b. Retired Officers or Noncommissioned Officers who served in the Armor or Cavalry Branch regardless of time period or component.
  - c. Nominees must be retired from active service for a minimum of five years, but waivable.
  - d. Nominees must have served admirably and retired in good standing. Historical nominees must have served in Vietnam or prior.
4. **Nomination:** The nomination board will consist of the Chief of Armor, the Armor School Command Sergeant Major, Armor School Deputy Commandant, the Director of the Office of the Chief of Armor (OCA), Office of the Chief of Armor Command Sergeant Major, and the Armor School Historian. The board will select at least two nominees for each category.
  - a. **Historical Figure:** Soldier, rank and country of service immaterial, who has contributed significantly to the Armor or Cavalry branch up to and through Vietnam.
  - b. **Officer:** rank and country of service immaterial, who has contributed significantly to the Armor branch since Vietnam.

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c. NCO: rank and country of service immaterial, who has contributed significantly to the Armor branch since Vietnam.

5. Criteria. Each nomination will be considered across the following criteria:  
Contributed to the transformation of the mounted force to fight and win in Armored combat.

a. Offered a vision for the future of the mounted warfighting force that significantly improved lethality, mobility, and survivability.

b. Developed innovations in equipment, materiel, or doctrine that significantly enhanced the effectiveness of the mounted element of the combat arms.

c. Exemplified professional excellence in demeanor, correspondence, and leadership on issues relevant to mounted warfare.

d. Displayed a zeal for Soldiering through leadership skills and recognized the sacrifice and achievements of subordinates.


6. Selection. All nominated personnel will be presented for review to select active Armor General Officers, nominative CSMs, and retired Armor personnel. Nomination packets, at a minimum, will include a biography and short explanation of noteworthy contributions made with the Armor and or Cavalry communities. Each selection stakeholder has the opportunity to vote for a nominee in each category, via phone or email to the contact below. The top vote getters for each category will be selected for enshrinement. Any ties will be decided by the senior member of the nomination board.

7. Enshrinement. Personnel selected for enshrinement will be officially announced during the annual Armor branch week at Fort Benning, GA during the month of February. Enshrinement will include the production a professional portrait, including significant contributions and a biography, which will be displayed amongst the Armor and Cavalry historical collection.

8. Point of contact is the Office of the Chief of Armor, (706) 626-8265, DSN: 626-8265, usarmy.moore.mcoe.mbx.armor-ocoa@mail.mil.

2 Encls

1. Enshrined Members, 16 SEP 20
2. 2021 Selection Board members

  
CHAD C. CHALFONT  
Brigadier General, U.S. Army  
Chief of Armor

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Enshrined Members as of 16 DEC 2024:

	<b>Name</b>	<b>Country</b>	<b>Date of Enshrinement</b>
1	GEN George S. Patton Jr.	USA	17-Jun-1995
2	MG Israel Tal "Talik"	Israeli Defense Forces	18-Jun-1996
3	MG Moshe "Musa" Peled	Israeli Armor Corp	19-Jun-1997
4	GEN Creighton W. Abrams	USA	20-Jun-1998
5	GEN Donn A. Starry	USA	27-Jun-2005
6	GEN Fredrick M. Franks	USA	9-Sep-2014
7	MG Adna R. Chaffee Jr.	USA	1-May-2015
8	GEN David D. McKiernan	USA	18-Aug-2015
9	BG Samuel D. Rockenbach	USA	2-May-2018
10	GEN William S. Wallace	USA	2-May-2018
11	SMA William A. Connelly	USA	2-May-2018
12	LTG Paul E. Funk	USA	1-May-2019
13	CSM Benjamin C. Palacios	USA	1-May-2019
14	BG Casimir Pulaski	USA/Poland	1-May-2019
15	CSM David L. Lady	USA	12-Jul-2020
16	COL Charles Young	USA	12-Jul-2020
17	GEN Crosbie Saint	USA	23-Apr-2021
18	MG Robert J. Sunell	USA	23-Apr-2021
19	SMA Jack L. Tilley	USA	23-Apr-2021
20	SSG Lafayette G. Pool	USA	23-Apr-2021
21	LTG Daniel Van Voorhis	USA	23-Apr-2021
22	Native American Soldiers	USA	23-Apr-2021
23	GEN John N. Abrams	USA	6-May-2022
24	CSM John Stephens	USA	6-May-2022
25	GEN Jacob L. Devers	USA	6-May-2022
26	GEN James D. Thurman	USA	4-May-2023
27	SMA Kenneth O. Preston	USA	4-May-2023
28	MSG Ernest R. Kouma	USA	4-May-2023
29	GEN Burwell B Bell	USA	2-May-2024
30	CSM Gilbert F Paez	USA	2-May-2024
31	Soldiers of the 761st AB	USA	2-May-2024
32	GEN Eric K. Shinseki	USA	12-Jul-2024
33	GEN Gordon R. Sullivan	USA	12-Jul-2024

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2024 MG Adna R. Chaffee Jr. Awards Program Selection Board Members:

Armor Generals (4 stars)
Armor Nominative CSMs (4 Stars)
Armor LTGs in command
Armor Nominative CSMs (3 Stars)
Former CSA/VCSA
Former SEAC/SMA
US Cavalry and Armor Association President