

MANEUVER CENTER OF EXCELLENCE

HENRY CARO

NONCOMMISSIONED OFFICER ACADEMY

INFANTRY ADVANCED  
LEADER COURSE – 11C



GRADUATION CEREMONY

CLASS 003-26

14 APRIL 2026

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**U.S ARMY MANEUVER CENTER OF EXCELLENCE**

MG COLIN TULEY  
CSM BRIAN D. HAYDT

COMMANDING GENERAL  
COMMAND SERGEANT MAJOR

**U.S ARMY INFANTRY SCHOOL**

BG PHIL KINIERY  
CSM CHRISTOPHER DONALDSON

COMMANDANT  
COMMAND SERGEANT MAJOR

**U.S ARMY ARMOR SCHOOL**

BG CHAD CHALFONT  
CSM RYAN W. ROUSH

COMMANDANT  
COMMAND SERGEANT MAJOR

**HENRY CARO NONCOMMISSIONED OFFICER ACADEMY**

VACANT  
SGM STEVEN J. ZEHENDER

COMMANDANT  
DEPUTY COMMANDANT

**GUEST SPEAKER**

CSM JOSHUA A. McDONOUGH

**HENRY CARO NCO ACADEMY CADRE**

1SG DENNIS J. GEARY  
SFC JOHN L. DIEHL

FIRST SERGEANT  
SENIOR INSTRUCTOR

**SMALL GROUP INSTRUCTORS**

SFC JONATHAN BECKMAN  
SSG JOHNATHAN RIGGS

# CLASS 003-26 GRADUATES

SGT PATRICK ARMSTRONG  
SSG ZACHARY BRAMBLE  
SGT NICHOLAS DALLACHIARA  
SGT ETHAN EDMONDSON  
SGT HUNTER HANNAH  
SGT BRANDEN HETZEL  
SGT JAKOB LAYTON  
SSG MATHEW MCKENNA  
SGT TREVOR NELSON  
SGT JOHN O'BRIEN  
SGT RYAN PAINCHAUD  
SGT KAYDEN VANDEGRIFT  
SGT DAVID WELCH

## **— CREED OF THE NONCOMMISSIONED OFFICER —**

**No one is more professional than I. I am a Noncommissioned Officer, a leader of Soldiers. As a Noncommissioned Officer, I realize that I am a member of a time-honored corps, which is known as "The Backbone of the Army". I am proud of the Corps of Noncommissioned Officers and will at all times conduct myself so as to bring credit upon the Corps, the Military Service and my country regardless of the situation in which I find myself. I will not use my grade or position to attain pleasure, profit, or personal safety.**

**Competence is my watchword. My two basic responsibilities will always be uppermost in my mind—accomplishment of my mission and the welfare of my Soldiers. I will strive to remain technically and tactically proficient. I am aware of my role as a Noncommissioned Officer. I will fulfill my responsibilities inherent in that role. All Soldiers are entitled to outstanding leadership; I will provide that leadership. I know my Soldiers and I will always place their needs above my own. I will communicate consistently with my Soldiers and never leave them uninformed. I will be fair and impartial when recommending both rewards and punishment.**

**Officers of my unit will have maximum time to accomplish their duties; they will not have to accomplish mine. I will earn their respect and confidence as well as that of my Soldiers. I will be loyal to those with whom I serve; seniors, peers, and subordinates alike. I will exercise initiative by taking appropriate action in the absence of orders. I will not compromise my integrity, nor my moral courage. I will not forget, nor will I allow my comrades to forget that we are professionals, Noncommissioned Officers, leaders!**

# THE ARMY SONG

**March along, sing our song, with the Army of the free.**

**Count the brave, count the true, who have fought to victory.**

**We're the Army and proud of our name!**

**We're the Army and proudly proclaim:**

**First to fight for the right,**

**And to build the Nation's might,**

**And the Army goes rolling along.**

**Proud of all we have done,**

**Fighting till the battle's won,**

**And the Army goes rolling along.**

**Then it's hi! hi! hey!**

**The Army's on its way.**

**Count off the cadence loud and strong;**

**For where'er we go,**

**You will always know**

**That the Army goes rolling along.**

# CSM HENRY CARO

Henry Caro Noncommissioned Officer Academy. Named in honor of Command Sergeant Major Henry Caro, first enlisted commandant of the Fort Benning Noncommissioned Officer Academy, 1936-1976.

CSM Henry Caro enlisted in the military in May of 1955. He was discharged in May of 1958. After 2 ½ months as a civilian, he re-entered the Army and for the next 18 years he served with: 101st Airborne Division, Ft Campbell, Kentucky, 2d Battalion Combat Team, Iceland; 1st Infantry Division Ft Riley, Kansas; 82d Airborne Division, Ft Bragg, North Carolina; Military Assistance Command, Vietnam; Infantry School, Ft Benning, Georgia; 173d BDE, Co N (Ranger), 75th IN, RVN; and 1st (Ranger), 75th IN Ft Stewart, Georgia. He served as the Infantry School Command Sergeant Major at Ft Benning, Georgia.

CSM Caro received an Associate's Degree. He graduated from Basic Airborne School, Jumpmaster School, Pathfinder School, Land Search Rescue School, Ranger School, Jungle Warfare School, Raider Course, Military Advisor Training Course, Defense Language Institute (Vietnamese), NCO Academy, ANCOC, and the Sergeants Major Academy.

CSM Caro's awards and decorations include the Legion of Merit, Bronze Star with V Device (4th OLC), Purple Heart (1st OLC), Meritorious Service Medal, Air Medal, Army Commendation Medal with V Device (3rd OLC), Good Conduct Medal (7th Award), National Defense Service Medal, Vietnam Service Medal (9 Battle Stars), Vietnam Gallantry Cross (Gold and Bronze Star), Vietnam Honor Medal (2nd Class), Republic of Vietnam Campaign Medal, Combat Infantry Badge, Master Parachutist Badge, Master Vietnamese Parachutist Badge, Pathfinder and Ranger Tab.



**Special thanks to the family and friends here to support their Soldiers and their achievements while in the Henry Caro NCO Academy.**