

# News Release

The U.S. Army Military District of Washington

*Guardian of the Nation's Capital*



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE 18-04**

**DATE: February 15, 2018**

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## **Department of Defense Celebrates George Washington's 286th Birthday** *Old Guard combines history with precision to honor the first American president*

**WASHINGTON** – The U.S. Armed Forces celebration to honor America's first president's 286th birthday is scheduled for Monday, Feb. 19 on the grounds of George Washington's Mount Vernon Estates & Garden, Mount Vernon, Virginia.

The U.S. Army Military District of Washington will conduct a Presidential Armed Forces Full Honor Wreath-Laying Ceremony at 10 a.m. at the Tomb of George Washington. Immediately after the wreath-laying ceremony, the 3d U.S. Infantry Regiment (The Old Guard) and the U.S. Army Old Guard Fife and Drum Corps will performed a selection of patriotic music followed by a military firing demonstration led by the Commander-in-Chief's Guard at 11:15 a.m.

The wreath-laying ceremony, patriotic music and military firing demonstration are *free* and open to the general public. Tickets are **not** required to attend these events. Space is limited to standing room only. Attendees are encouraged to be at George Washington's Tomb by 9:30 a.m.

**EDITOR'S NOTES:** The 3d U.S. Infantry Regiment, traditionally known as "The Old Guard," is the oldest active-duty infantry unit in the Army, serving our nation since 1784.

As the U.S. Army's official ceremonial unit and escort to the President, The Old Guard represents the U.S. Army and the nation in official arrival ceremonies at the White House and the Pentagon for visiting heads of state and other foreign dignitaries.

Service members from the teams will be available for public and media inquiries before the patriotic music and military firing demonstration.

Interested media may contact the U.S. Army Military District of Washington Media Relations Office at 202-497-2011 or [shaunteh.d.kelly.civ@mail.mil](mailto:shaunteh.d.kelly.civ@mail.mil) to set-up interviews.