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ELIJAH MAGAÑA/U.S. Army

Soldiers serve breakfast during the U.S. Army Pacific validation for the 59th Annual Philip A. Connelly competition at Joint Base Lewis-McChord, Wash., on Sept. 29. Soldiers executed field feeding support in a simulated combat environment and ensured successful execution of the field training exercise.

Army turns up heat on cooks

New designation part of service's new food modernization effort

BY JOHN VANDIVER
Stars and Stripes

Just being an Army cook no longer cuts the mustard.

Culinary specialists are now "tactical field feeding specialists," the Army recently announced in a statement, a move apparently meant to evoke something more warlike than spatulas and aprons.

The redesignation was necessary "because the character of war has changed," Col. Stacy Moore-Callaway, commandant of the Army Quartermaster School, said Tuesday.

The new title applies to soldiers in the Army's 92G military occupational specialty, whose responsibilities include preparing meals, managing food supplies and operating mobile kitchens.

The new designation is part of an Army food modernization effort intended to shift military cooks away from routine garrison duties and open more time to train for combat operations.

On a modern battlefield of drones, sensors and long-range fires, soldiers responsible for putting food on plates could find themselves in the enemy's crosshairs, even if they are removed from the front lines.

For that reason, Moore-Callaway said "we must shift the mindset of every single Soldier in our formation towards survivability and true lethality."

As the Army adapts to incorporate lessons learned during the Russia-Ukraine war, it has warned that large stationary logistics sites are vulnerable to attack and must become more mobile.

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Trump eyes Iran strikes amid time, party strain

BY MICHAEL WILNER
Los Angeles Times

WASHINGTON — Just days ago, a resumption of war with Iran appeared inevitable, regardless of the outcome of the midterm elections. U.S. diplomats urged their Arab counterparts to prepare for an intense period of fighting. Nonessential foreign service and intelligence personnel across the Middle East were ordered home, while senior officials at the Pentagon debated the strategic objectives renewed hostilities could realistically achieve, two U.S. officials told The Times.

Now, the sharpest electoral rebuke in half a century is forcing a reckoning for President Donald Trump, who insisted the day after the vote that his war against Tehran was worth the political cost. The U.S. carried out limited strikes on Iran on Friday, and a renewal of all-out attacks remains a distinct possibility, the officials said.

But a sudden bipartisan push to oust Defense Secretary Pete Hegseth over his handling of the conflict, coupled with a statement of brazen defiance from his own vice president, JD Vance, opposing the war, could constrain Trump's ability to resume the fight before Democrats take control of Congress next year.

A Republican lawmaker from Kentucky, Thomas Massie, plans to present impeachment articles against Hegseth this week over his role overseeing the war effort — a measure expected to gain enough support from Republicans to pass.

House Democratic leader Hakeem Jeffries said Sunday that he backs impeaching Hegseth, saying he's a "hard yes," Bloomberg News reported.

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