

Introduction to Appendix

From its opening in 1909, the campus of Walter Reed Army Medical Center has changed remarkably. The name of the institution that was the hospital and is now the medical center has changed but has also remained the same, in that it has always honored the extraordinary Army doctor sent to Cuba in 1900 following the Spanish American War “for the purpose of pursuing scientific investigations with reference to the infectious diseases prevalent on the island of Cuba and especially yellow fever.” (“Surgeon General, US Army. Memorandum to The Adjutant General of the Army. Washington, D.C., May 23, 1900,” Records of the Office of The Surgeon General (Army), Record Group 112, National Archives and Records Administration). Major Walter Reed died just 19 months after his return from Cuba and before he could fully realize the world-changing significance of his discoveries. After Reed’s death in 1902 from complications of appendicitis, his surgeon and close friend, Major William Cline Borden, dedicated himself to honoring Reed’s life and work. Borden’s story of seeking and finally winning congressional approval and funding for his “dream” is well known. However, having commanded the Army hospital at Washington Barracks (now Ft. Lesley J. McNair) since 1898, Borden was well past the usual rotation date and was not to realize the complete fulfillment of his dream nor ever have the honor of commanding the new facility named for his close friend. Borden received orders for the Philippines in 1907. Just a year later, he returned to Washington to meet the examining board for lieutenant colonel, during which he unfortunately suffered a heart attack and was immediately retired from active duty. The nascent Walter Reed General Hospital’s first commander was Colonel William H. Arthur.

During the course of its 102 years, the medical facility has been known as Walter Reed U.S. Army General Hospital, Walter Reed General Hospital (the name that appears on the facade of Building 1), Walter Reed Army Hospital, Walter Reed Army Medical Center, and Walter Reed Health Care System, which encompasses the hospital facility and several clinics and treatment centers in the National Capital Region. Regardless of its official name, during the past century it has been known to most simply as Walter Reed, an enduring and noble institution of military and American medicine.

The following gallery of portraits shows the lineage of Army Medical Department officers who have had the honor and privilege of commanding Walter Reed. For many it was a capstone of a long and distinguished career; for others, a stepping stone to promotion and greater responsibility. For all, it was an unforgettable experience!

Contributors to Appendix

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Commanders

Walter Reed General Hospital/Walter Reed Army Medical Center

Historical Background

The U.S. Army medical commands located on the Walter Reed campus have evolved during its nearly 100-year history. The Army had established a hospital at Washington Barracks (Fort Lesley J. McNair) in the 1880s. In 1902 Major Walter Reed, MC, died at this hospital. In 1905 Congress approved the funding to establish and construct a general hospital in the northwest portion of the District of Columbia. The new hospital was officially designated as Walter Reed U.S. Army General Hospital in honor of the famous Army physician. However the command was also formally known in correspondence and records as Walter Reed General Hospital. In December 1908 the construction of the original hospital, now known as Building 1, was completed on the original 43 acres. On May 1, 1909, the first ten patients were moved from Washington Barracks to the new hospital. In 1923 the Army named or redesignated the campus, eventually comprising 113 acres, as the Army Medical Center once the Army Medical School and other related schools moved to the installation. The hospital, medical school, and other subordinate units of the medical center were under one officer who commanded all these entities until 1960, when separate commanders for some commands were appointed. Walter Reed General Hospital was redesignated as Walter Reed Army Hospital on July 1, 1950. On September 13, 1951, during the centennial anniversary of Walter Reed's birth, the Army redesignated the Army Medical Center as Walter Reed Army Medical Center (WRAMC) as it is known today.

On September 14, 1960, the Army established the hospital as a separate and subordinate command under WRAMC. In March 1972, the hospital as a subordinate command was inactivated, and the commanding general of the Army hospital became the deputy commander of WRAMC.

In the 1990s the Army organized medical support areas and regions. The North Atlantic Region Medical Command encompassed ten Army hospitals or treatment centers in the mid-eastern United States, including WRAMC. In 1995 the Army created the Walter Reed Health Care System, which encompasses WRAMC and several clinics and treatment centers in the National Capital Region.

Commands, Subordinate Commands, and Command Relationship Outline

- 1909 Walter Reed U.S. Army General Hospital established.
- 1923 Army Medical Center, Washington D.C., established; Walter Reed General Hospital continues; Army Medical School and other related schools move to Walter Reed campus.
- 1950 Walter Reed General Hospital redesignated as Walter Reed Army Hospital.
- 1951 Army Medical Center redesignated as Walter Reed Army Medical Center (WRAMC).
- 1955 Armed Forces Institute of Pathology established as a tenant activity on Walter Reed campus. The Army Medical Museum, established 1862, is consolidated into the new institute.
- 1959 Walter Reed Army Institute of Research (WRAIR) established at Walter Reed campus and affiliated with the Army Medical School.
- 1960 Walter Reed Army Hospital activated as subordinate command of WRAMC.
- 1973 Walter Reed Army Hospital inactivated; hospital commander becomes deputy commander of WRAMC.
- 1993 US Army Medical Command (Provisional) establishes Health Services Support Areas; in 1996 they are renamed Regional Medical Commands.
- 1995 Walter Reed Health Care System established as a subordinate command to WRAMC.
- 1996 North Atlantic Regional Medical Command (NARMC) established; WRAMC is a subordinate command to NARMC; WRAMC and NARMC are commanded by the same officer.
- 1999 WRAIR moves from Walter Reed campus to Forest Glen annex.
- 2005 WRAMC is placed on the BRAC list.
- 2007 Warrior Transition Brigade activated.

Walter Reed General Hospital

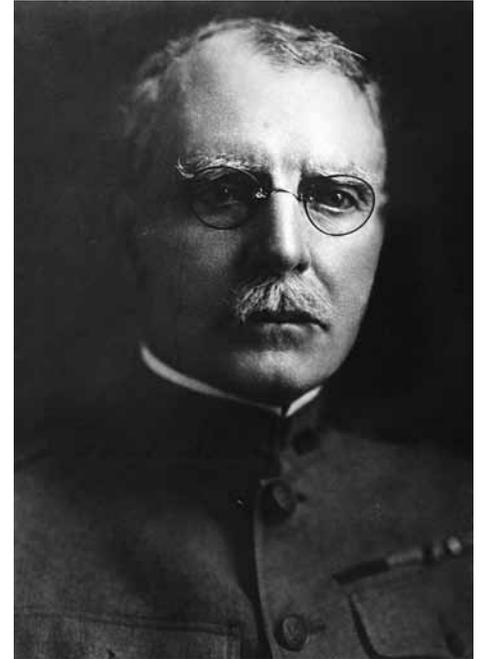
Established May 1, 1909



COL William H. Arthur
Jun 1908 – Jul 1911



COL Charles Richard
Sep 1911 – Sep 1912



COL E. P. Birmingham
Oct 1912 – Aug 1913



COL Henry C. Fisher
Aug 1913 – May 1914



COL John L. Philips
May 1914 – Sep 1915



MAJ Percy M. Ashburn
Sep 1915 – Oct 1916



COL Charles P. Mason
Oct 1916 – Nov 1917



COL Willard F. Truby
Nov 1917 – Aug 1918



COL Edward R. Schreiner
Aug 1918 – Mar 1919



BG James D. Glennan
Mar 1919 – Mar 1923

Army Medical Center, Washington D.C.

Established September 1, 1923



BG James D. Glennan
Aug 1923 – Mar 1926



BG James M. Kennedy
Mar 1926 – Dec 1929



BG Carl R. Darnall
Dec 1929 – Dec 1931



BG Albert E. Truby
Jan 1932 – Jul 1935



BG Wallace C. DeWitt
Aug 1935 – Dec 1939



BG Raymond F. Metcalf
Dec 1939 – Jan 1941



MG Shelley U. Marietta
Feb 1941 – Feb 1946



MG George C. Beach
Mar 1946 – Nov 1948



MG Paul H. Streit
Jan 1949 – Sep 1951

Walter Reed Army Medical Center

Established September 13, 1951 (General Order #80, DA)



MG Paul H. Streit
Sep 1951 – Mar 1953



MG Leonard D. Heaton
Apr 1953 – May 1959



MG C. F. St. John
Jul 1959 – Apr 1961



MG Clinton S. Lyter
May 1961 – Sep 1962



MG Achilles Lacy Tynes
Sep 1962 – May 1965



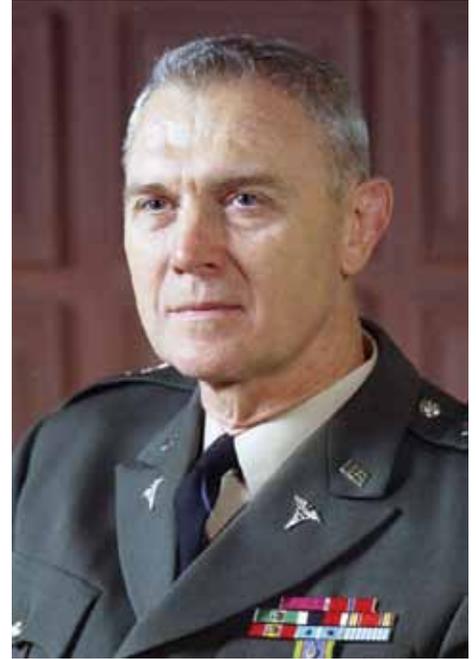
MG Douglas O. Kendrick
Jun 1965 – Mar 1967



MG Philip W. Mallory
May 1967 – Jun 1969



MG Glenn J. Collins
Jun 1969 – Oct 1970



MG Carl W. Hughes
Nov 1970 – Jan 1971



MG Colin F. Vorder Bruegge
Jan 1971 – Mar 1972



BG William H. Meroney
Apr 1972 – May 1972



MG William H. Moncrief
May 1972 – Apr 1973



MG Robert Bernstein
Jun 1973 – Feb 1978



MG George I. Baker
Mar 1978 – Jun 1980



MG Bernhard T. Mitemeyer
Jun 1980 – Sep 1981



MG Enrique Mendez Jr.
Oct 1981 – Jun 1983



MG Lewis A. Mologne
Jun 1983 – Aug 1988



MG James H. Rumbaugh
Aug 1988 – Mar 1989



COL James E. Hastings
Mar 1989 – May 1989



MG Richard D. Cameron
May 1989 – Oct 1992



MG Ronald R. Blanck
Oct 1992 – Nov 1996



MG Leslie M. Burger
Nov 1996 – May 1999



MG Harold L. Timboe
May 1999 – Jun 2002



MG Kevin C. Kiley
Jun 2002 – Jun 2004



MG Kenneth L. Farmer
Jun 2004 – Aug 2006



MG George W. Weightman
Aug 2006 – Mar 2007



MG Eric B. Schoomaker
Mar 2007 – Dec 2007



MG Carla Hawley-Bowland
Dec 2007 –

Walter Reed Army Hospital

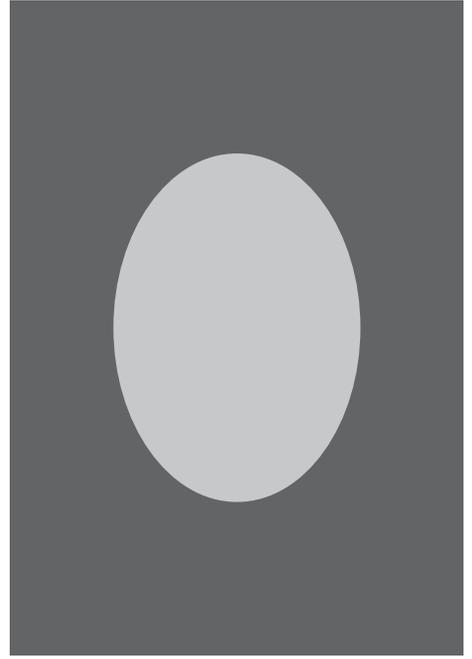
Activated September 14, 1962 (Separate commander from WRAMC)



BG Clinton S. Lyter
Sep 1960 – Apr 1961



MG Floyd L. Wergeland
May 1961 – Apr 1962



COL Emmett L. Kohoe
Apr 1962 – May 1962



BG Henry Murphey
May 1962 – Oct 1965



BG Philip W. Mallory
Nov 1965 – Aug 1967



BG Frederick J. Hughes Jr.
Aug 1967 – May 1969



BG Carl W. Hughes
May 1969 – Feb 1971



BG William H. Meroney
Feb 1971 – Mar 1972

Walter Reed Health Care System

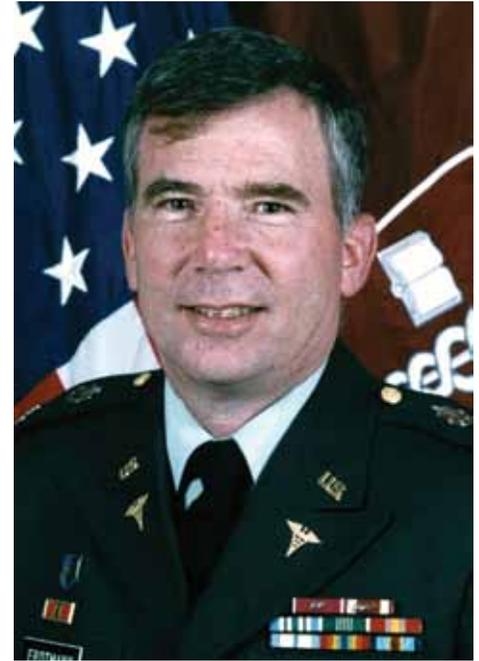
Activated October 1995



BG George J. Brown
Oct 1995 – Jan 1996



BG Michael J. Kussman
Jan 1996 – Mar 1998



COL Frederick J. Erdtmann
Mar 1998 – Sep 1999



COL Michael A. Dunn
Sep 1999 – May 2002



COL Jonathan H. Jaffin
May 2002 – Jun 2004



COL James Gilman
Jun 2004 – Jun 2005



COL Virgil T. Deal
Jun 2005 – May 2007



COL Patricia Horoho
May 2007 – Jun 2008



COL Norvell V Coots
Jul 2008 – Aug 2011

