

MEDIA ADVISORY

Fort Lee Public Affairs Office



MA #07-009-1

January 09, 2007

Raven 42 Silver Star exhibit

Exhibit features first female to receive Silver Star for direct combat action

WHAT: The U.S. Army Women's Museum at Fort Lee, Virginia, will open a new exhibit on February 3, 2007, which recognizes the contributions of women Soldiers during the Global War on Terrorism. The event is by invitation only and begins at noon. The exhibit will open to the public beginning on February 4.

The exhibit will feature Army Sergeant Leigh Ann Hester, the first woman awarded the Silver Star for direct combat action, and the 9 other team members from her Military Police squad, called Raven 42. Every member of Raven 42 exhibited the core values and attributes of U.S. Army Soldiers in the Army Strong manner.

WHO: Raven 42 was the call-sign for a Kentucky Army National Guard Military Police squad who counterattacked an insurgent ambush in Iraq on 20 March 2005. For their actions every member of the squad was honored for heroism in combat. In addition to Sergeant Hester, 2 soldiers received the Silver Star, 3 the Bronze Star with the Valor ("V") device, 3 Army Commendation Medals with "V" device and 4 Purple Hearts. This team of 10, included 2 women soldiers, 1 Hispanic soldier and 1 African American soldier is a true reflection of today's Army.

Sergeant Hester and members of Raven 42 are currently scheduled to attend the Grand Opening on 3 February 2006, along with the Kentucky Army National Guard command and dignitaries from the State of Kentucky.

The U.S. Army Women's Museum tells the story of women's contributions to the Army from the colonial period to present day. It serves as the central repository for historical source material pertaining to women in the Army, including thousands of artifacts, photographs, personal papers, books, periodicals and several hundred oral histories. It is the only museum in the world dedicated to Army women.

For more information about the US Army Women's Museum visit us on the World Wide Web at <http://www.awm.lee.army.mil>

WHEN: Saturday, February 3, 2007 starting at noon.

WHERE: U.S. Army Women's Museum, located at the corner of Lee and A avenues.

CONTACT: Fort Lee Public Affairs Office, 804-734-7451 to make coverage arrangements for the unique event. Media representatives need to meet a Fort Lee PAO representative at the Lee Avenue Gate visitors parking area NLT 11:30 a.m. the day of the event. Please RSVP NLT than Thursday, Feb. 1.