Army & Air Force Exchange Service Public Affairs

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Milestone for Military Exchanges—Veterans Have Ordered More Than 1.1 Million Items Online

DALLAS – In the 15 months since Veterans became eligible to shop military exchanges online, the benefit continues to thrive for the good of the military community.

Honorably discharged Veterans have ordered more than 1.1 million items by shopping online with the Army & Air Force Exchange Service, Marine Corps Exchange, Navy Exchange Service Command and Coast Guard Exchange since the benefit launched on Veterans Day 2017. Veterans shop tax-free for life with military-exclusive pricing at ShopMyExchange.com, myNavyExchange.com and ShopCGX.com.

"The military exchanges are privileged to serve our Nations Veterans—our heroes," said Army & Air Force Exchange Service Director/CEO Tom Shull, a Vietnam-era Army Veteran who worked to secure the change in Department of Defense policy to give all who served with honor online shopping privileges at military exchanges. "More than 1.1 million items ordered is a milestone for this benefit. Word continues to spread among Veterans: The exchanges have welcomed them home and are honored to provide a tangible thank-you for their service."

Since Veterans Day 2017, more than 80,000 Veterans have placed more than 305,000 orders through their military exchanges online, saving nearly \$5 million in sales tax. Veterans' shopping now accounts for 10 percent or 12.5 percent of sales at ShopMyExchange.com, myNavyExchange.com and ShopCGX.com.

The online exchanges offer more than 2 million items, including brand names. Home electronics, computer hardware and furniture are among top sellers for Veterans and traditional shoppers.

"We are honored to be able to serve our Veterans and thank them for their service," said retired Rear Adm. Robert J. Bianchi, NEXCOM CEO. "This online shopping privilege not only benefits the Veteran, it also supports our active duty military community as well. It's a win-win for everyone.

Earnings from the military exchanges support Quality-of-Life programs on installations critical to recruiting, retention and readiness. The shopping benefit recognizes the service of all who served honorably, allowing them to remain Soldiers, Airmen, Sailors, Marines and Coast Guard members for life.

"This benefit makes a difference to Veterans," said Capt. Bruce C. Brown, Commanding Officer of the Coast Guard Community Services Command. "It is such an honor to serve them again."

Since 1895, the Army & Air Force Exchange Service (Exchange) has gone where Soldiers, Airmen and their families go to improve the quality of their lives by providing valued goods and services at exclusive military pricing. The Exchange is the 61st-largest retailer in the United States. Its earnings provided \$2.4 billion in dividends to support military morale, welfare and recreation programs over the last 10 years. The Exchange is a non-appropriated fund entity of the Department of Defense and is directed by a Board of Directors. The Exchange is a 50th Anniversary Vietnam War Commemorative Partner, planning and conducting events and activities that recognize the service, valor and sacrifice of Vietnam Veterans and their families in conjunction with the United States of America Vietnam War Commemoration. To find out more about the Exchange history and mission or to view recent press releases please visit our website at http://www.shopmyexchange.com or follow us on Twitter at https://twitter.com/ExchangePAO.

About NEXCOM

The Navy Exchange Service Command (NEXCOM) oversees 100 Navy Exchange (NEX) facilities and nearly 300 stores worldwide, 39 Navy Lodges, the Ships Store Program, the Uniform Program Management Office, the Navy Clothing and Textile Research Facility and the Telecommunications Program Office. NEXCOM's parent command is the Naval Supply Systems Command. NEXCOM's mission is to provide authorized customers quality goods and services at a savings and to support Navy quality of life programs for active duty military, retirees, reservists and their families. NEXs and Navy Lodges operate primarily as a non-appropriated fund (NAF) business instrumentality. NEX revenues generated are used to support Navy Morale, Welfare, and Recreation (MWR) programs. Since 1946, NEXCOM has given \$3.6 billion to Navy MWR quality of life programs. Shop online at myNavyExchange.com.

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Media Notes:

For more information or to schedule an interview with an Exchange representative please contact Julie Mitchell, 214-312-3327 or mitchelljul@aafes.com.

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