



DEOMI

Defense Equal Opportunity Management Institute
'READINESS... Is Our Guiding Principle'



IMMEDIATE RELEASE

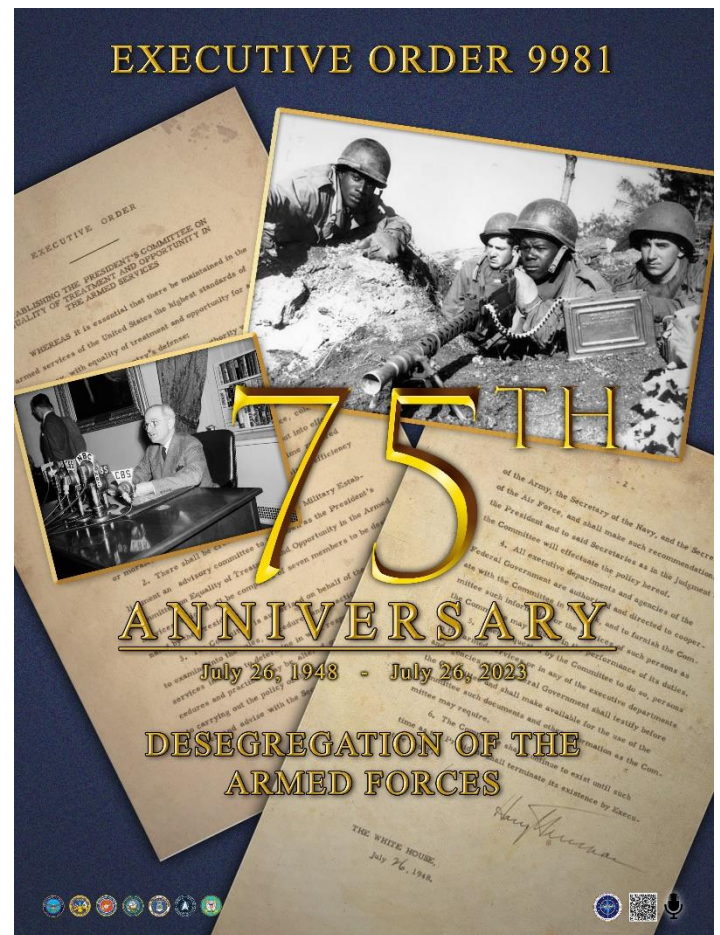
DEOMI Releases Executive Order 9981 75th Anniversary Poster

July 26, 2023

PATRICK SPACE FORCE BASE, Fla.— In honor of the 75th anniversary of the signing of Executive Order (EO) 9981, the Defense Equal Opportunity Management Institute (DEOMI) proudly announces the availability of original artwork available for download from DEOMI's public website, www.defenseculture.mil.

On July 26, 1948, President Harry S. Truman signed EO 9981, desegregating the Armed Forces. Prior to EO 9981, African Americans fought bravely in every war waged by the United States, despite racial segregation. Following EO 9981, most of the military had integrated by the end of the Korean War—to include terminating the enlistment cap of 10 percent for African Americans—which opened positions, units, and facilities to African Americans who qualified to serve. Today, EO 9981 continues to provide African Americans access to military careers and life-changing advancement opportunities.

The U.S. military has led the way in promoting equal opportunity. EO 9981, issued 75 years ago, was a major step in advancing desegregation and civil rights in the United States at large. The Department of Defense (DoD) continually strives to promote an inclusive culture that enables differences among personnel to improve DoD business practices, readiness, and lethality, and supports an individual's ability to contribute to the mission.



All DEOMI poster files are in the public domain. All DEOMI special observance poster images are high resolution and may be used to print posters up to 30 x 40 inches. DEOMI does not print posters or mail them out to requestors. Users, however, must credit the Defense Equal Opportunity Management Institute when using them.¹ In addition, please check out our website for a wide variety of new products we have prepared to help our Equal Opportunity/Equal Employment Opportunity and Command Climate Professionals in the Field, Fleet, Wing and Agency. DEOMI develops and delivers innovative education, training, research, and collaborative solutions to optimize total force readiness. For more details, contact DEOMI Public Affairs Office: 366 Tuskegee Airmen Dr., Patrick SFB, FL 32925, Email: deomipa@us.af.mil.

1Note: The posters may not be used in any manner that would reflect negatively on the DoD; degrade the name, reputation, or public goodwill of the DoD Components; or be contrary to DoD community relations objectives. Furthermore, use by non-federal entities may not create the appearance of DoD endorsement, affiliation, or sponsorship.