

ARMED FORCES DAY

On the third Saturday in May, the United States of America honors the people who served and who are currently serving in all of the branches of the U.S. military.

This day is called Armed Forces Day. Before 1949, each of the main branches of the United States military had its own day to honor its members. Armed Forces Day is a way to honor all United States military personnel at once, and to thank them for their work protecting and serving the nation.

The first Armed Forces Day was celebrated on Saturday, May 20, 1950. The celebration in Washington, D.C. was attended by 10,000 troops from all branches of the military. It was celebrated throughout the country with parades, air shows, open houses, and receptions. Thousands of U.S. citizens and government leaders also attended the celebration.

The members of the U.S. military support and defend the U.S. Constitution against enemies at home and abroad. People across the United States show their support for the members of the military by joining together to honor the troops on Armed Forces Day.



NAVY



COAST GUARD



AIR FORCE



ARMY



MARINES

Name _____ Date _____

ANSWER THE QUESTIONS ABOUT *ARMED FORCES DAY*

1. When was the first Armed Forces Day, and how was it celebrated?

2. Who attended the first Armed Forces Day?

3. How were the celebrations to honor America's military members different before 1949?

4. When is Armed Forces Day currently celebrated in the U.S.?

5. What important work do members of the Armed Forces do?

6. How do you think your life would be different if the United States' Armed Forces were not present in America and in other countries?

ANSWERS TO ARMED FORCES DAY

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1. It was held on Saturday, May 20, 1950. There were parades, receptions, open houses, and air shows.
2. It was attended by 10,000 members of America's Armed Forces, and thousands of U.S. citizens and government leaders.
3. Before 1949, each branch of the Armed Forces had its own day to honor its members.
4. Armed Forces Day is now celebrated on the third Saturday in May.
5. The members of the U.S. Armed Forces are responsible for the protection and defense of our nation.
6. Answers will vary.