

美軍軍醫院設置

「國家無畏卓越中心」簡介

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壹、前言

今年年初因公赴美國華盛頓特區參加「美國軍醫協會2024年會」，參訪美軍「華特里國家軍事醫學中心」（Walter Reed National Military Medical Center），並由美軍介紹醫院成立的「國家無畏卓越中心」（National Intrepid Center of Excellence, NICoE）（如圖1），該中心取名源於美軍無畏號航空母艦（USS Intrepid），無畏號係於1941年開始建造，因日本偷襲珍珠港，美國正式參與第二次世界大

戰，並加速建造無畏號等航空母艦，1943年無畏號正式服役並參與太平洋戰爭。

其實美軍建置「國家無畏卓越中心，NICoE」主要係治療軍人於作戰期間遭受創傷性腦損傷（Traumatic Brain Injury, TBI），取名無畏及卓越，象徵軍人因公受傷後，經過軍醫院治療照護後，能像無畏號航空母艦快速即時返回戰場，並在戰場上能有更卓越的表現。

美軍針對因作戰受傷官兵投入無限資源以妥善的治療及照顧，實在令人印象深刻難以忘懷，以下將介紹該中心成立的背景、歷史、目的及達成的成就。



圖 1 華特里國家軍事醫學中心國家無畏卓越中心總部

貳、成立背景

自從2000年以來，超過41萬3千人的美軍服役官兵，遭受至少一種類型的創傷性腦損傷，其中40%（16萬5千人）併發精神上的問題，包含患有創傷後壓力症（Post-traumatic stress disorder, PTSD）、憂鬱症或焦慮。

美國防部針對上述患有創傷性腦損傷的官兵調查研究後發現，這些官兵的持續症狀難以治癒，甚至導致影響後續的生活品質及無法勝任工作崗位，美軍評估如果未能加以改善將影響美軍的戰備整備任務。

2008年，美國國會通過的國防授權法案，指導美國國防部建置全方位的計畫，針對於作戰期間遭受創傷性腦損傷、創傷後壓力症或其他精神健康問題的官兵，提供預防、診斷、治療及復健等醫學方面的協助。

美國國會進一步要求美國國防部，啟動研究治療創傷性腦損傷等疾病的創新方式並執行，在此同時，美國國防部透過「大無畏殞落

之星基金」（The Intrepid Fallen Heroes Fund）設置國家無畏卓越中心。

參、美軍國家無畏卓越中心回顧及成就

美軍國家無畏卓越中心於2010年6月24日開幕啓用，致力於改善遭受創傷性腦損傷官兵及其眷屬家庭的生活，醫院藉由與病人家庭的通力合作及針對個案採取各別式的治療模式。國家無畏卓越中心的跨學科（醫學、藝術及科技等學科）治療模式，包括傳統醫學、輔助治療、先進影像診斷及研究與教育，已經成功的讓無數的受傷官兵返回工作崗位繼續服役執行任務，也挽救了很多瀕臨絕望的家庭。

自2010年成立到2022年期間，美軍國家無畏卓越中心已經陸續在美國各地成立13個分布中心（如圖2），持續利用獨創的跨學科治療模型作為其基礎，治癒許多美軍官兵因作戰任務遭受創傷性腦損傷及其衍生的症候疾病。

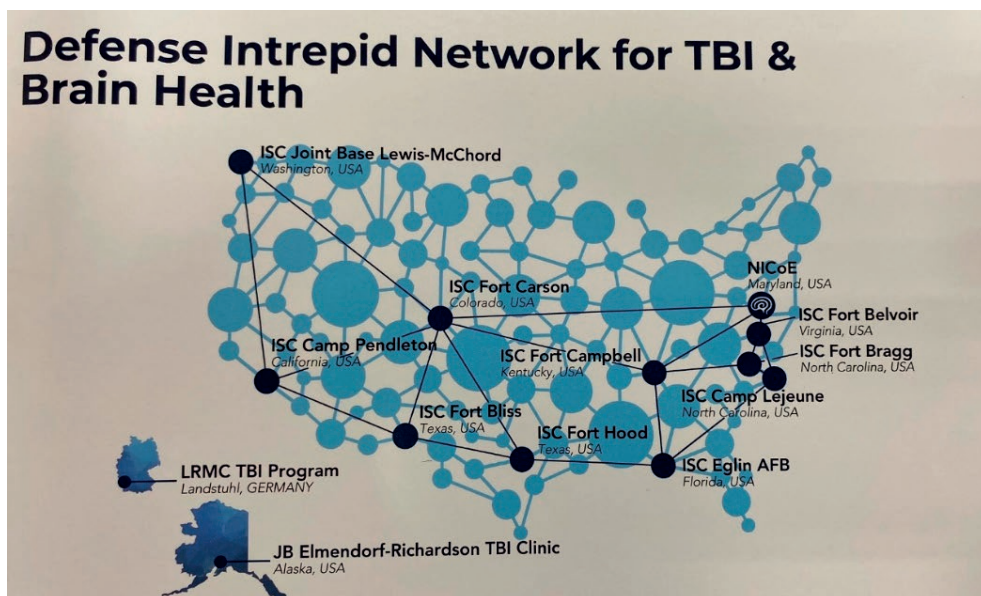


圖 2 全美國家無畏卓越中心分布情形

美國國防部分析美軍每年因作戰任務遭受創傷性腦損傷官兵約2萬4千餘人，統計至2022年，仍有18萬3千餘名官兵尚未治癒，其中在全美13個國家無畏卓越中心已經收治了9萬4千餘官兵，收治比率達51.7%。

肆、結 語

2018年期間我陸軍航特部上兵秦良丰，在執行空降跳傘操演時，從1300英尺（約396公尺）高空墜落地面，這段急救、治療到復健的路上，國軍醫院以具體的方式實現了美軍軍醫院設置「國家無畏卓越中心」的目的：堅持不放棄任何一位服役官兵的生命，並積極治療及復健，讓因作戰任務受傷的官兵能痊癒返回部隊及家庭，繼續堅守他的崗位並能再度回到家庭及社會。

今年秦良丰服役期滿退伍並能回到社會繼續發揮鋼鐵傘兵的精神貢獻所長，我們何其有

幸見證這場奇蹟，給予官兵帶來強大的鼓舞與正面能量，讓我們深信國軍不會放棄任何一位同舟共濟的弟兄們，讓我們可以無後顧之憂的面對各項任務挑戰。

值此各行各業面臨少子化、人力荒之際，我國軍主財領導管理人員可以參考美軍對於殞落之星、折翼英雄的大無畏精神，不放棄任何一位官兵的領導風格塑造主財的管理風範，讓所有主財人員在無後顧之憂的前提下，盡心盡力展現卓越的工作表現。

參考文獻

1. 2022 Annual Report of National Intrepid Center of Excellence Published by Walter Reed National Military Medical Center.
2. Feb 14th 2024 Briefing by National Intrepid Center of Excellence in Bethesda, Maryland.

Introduction to the National Intrepid Center of Excellence (NICoE), U.S. Military Hospital

1. Introduction

Earlier this year, I traveled to Washington, D.C., to attend the 2024 Annual Meeting of the Association of Military Surgeons of the United States (AMSUS). During my visit, I toured the Walter Reed National Military Medical Center and was introduced to the "National Intrepid Center of Excellence" (NICoE). This center takes its name from the U.S. Navy aircraft carrier USS Intrepid, which began construction in 1941. Following Japan's attack on Pearl Harbor, the United States formally entered World War II and accelerated the construction of vessels like the Intrepid. The ship was commissioned in 1943 and played a key role in the Pacific Theater.

The NICoE was established to treat military personnel suffering from Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI) sustained during combat. The name Intrepid symbolizes the resilience of service members who, like the Intrepid, can quickly return to duty after receiving medical care, with the expectation of even greater excellence on the battlefield.

The U.S. military's unwavering commitment to providing comprehensive care for its wounded soldiers is truly remarkable. Below, I provide

an overview of NICoE's founding background, history, mission, and notable achievements.

2. Background of NICoE's Establishment

Since 2000, more than 413,000 U.S. service members have experienced at least one form of Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI). Of these, 40% (or approximately 165,000 individuals) developed mental health issues, including Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD), depression, or anxiety.

A study conducted by the U.S. Department of Defense (DoD) revealed that these lingering symptoms significantly impacted service members' quality of life and their ability to continue serving. The DoD determined that, unless these issues were addressed, they could undermine military readiness.

In response, Congress passed the 2008 National Defense Authorization Act, which directed the DoD to establish a comprehensive program offering prevention, diagnosis, treatment, and rehabilitation for service members suffering from TBI, PTSD, and other mental health conditions related to combat.

Congress also mandated that the DoD explore and implement innovative treatments for these conditions. As part of this initiative, the NICoE was established with the support of the Intrepid Fallen Heroes Fund.

3. Achievements of the NICoE

The National Intrepid Center of Excellence officially opened its doors on June 24, 2010, with a mission to improve the lives of service members suffering from TBI, along with their families. By collaborating closely with families and adopting individualized treatment plans, NICoE employs an interdisciplinary approach that integrates traditional medicine, complementary therapies, advanced imaging, and cutting-edge research.

This holistic model has helped countless injured service members return to duty, saved many families from despair, and restored hope to those facing the challenges of combat-related injuries.

From its founding in 2010 to 2022, the NICoE has expanded to include 13 centers across the United States. These centers continue to employ NICoE's interdisciplinary treatment model to address TBI and related conditions. According to DoD statistics, approximately 24,000 service members suffer from TBI each year due to combat missions. By 2022, of the 183,000 service members who had not fully recovered, more than 94,000 had received treatment at one of the 13 NICoE centers, representing a treatment rate of 51.7%.

4. Conclusion

In 2018, during a military parachute training exercise, Lance Corporal Qin Liang-feng of Taiwan's Army Aviation and Special Forces Command fell from an altitude of 1,300 feet (about 396 meters). Throughout his journey from emergency care to rehabilitation, our military hospitals exemplified the NICoE's guiding principle: never give up on any service member. Through persistent medical care and rehabilitation, service members who suffer from combat injuries can fully recover, return to their units, and rejoin their families and society.

Lance Corporal Qin recently completed his service and reintegrated into civilian life, continuing to exemplify the spirit of a steel-willed paratrooper. Witnessing his recovery has been a profound inspiration, offering a powerful reminder that the military will never abandon its own. This spirit strengthens our resolve as we face every mission without hesitation or fear.

As various sectors grapple with declining birth rates and workforce shortages, our military's financial management leaders can draw inspiration from the U.S. military's fearless commitment to its fallen heroes. By shaping a leadership style that mirrors the Intrepid spirit—never giving up on any soldier—our financial management personnel can lead with confidence, allowing them to focus on excellence without concern for the well-being of their team members.