



84th DIVISION ALUMNI BUGLER



84th Division Alumni Association Ltd.

February 24, 2005

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From the President's Corner

By COL (Ret) Glen Armstrong



The transformation of the 84th USARRTC has become a reality. As a result, the 84th USARRTC has been allowed to retain the 84th Division colors and to display the division flag. Assigned soldiers will continue to wear the 84th Division shoulder patch. However, the Center for Military History has ruled that the unit may not display the battle streamers of the 84th Division. The Commanding General is to be located at Fort McCoy, but at present most of the headquarters staff and elements remain at the Silver Spring complex.

I want to encourage all of you to attend our annual Dining In to be held Saturday, April 9 at the Western Racquet Club in Elm Grove. This is always a fun event and a time to enjoy each other's company in the Mess. We are again offering you a great event and a real value for the price of admission. We have always enjoyed the support of the 84th Division in past years and wish to continue with the 84th USARRTC this year.

Our featured speaker this year will be COL Jill Morgenthaler, Director, Joint Interagency Multinational Training Directorate (JIM-T). COL Morgenthaler was the Commander of 6th Brigade (PD), 84th Div (IT), Waukegan, IL prior to being deployed to Iraq to serve as a Task Force PAO. She is in much demand on the speaker circuit and will be sharing her experiences and perceptions of the conflict in Iraq with us, as well as timely insights about the direction of the 84th USARRTC. You will enjoy good company and a good time - I promise.

New Members During the Year

Former or present 84th Division soldiers who have joined the Association during the past year:

SGM (Ret) Charles W Andrews	CSM William R Blanchard
SFC Shawn T Berry	LTC Steven C Darrah
BG David L Evans	SFC Leon J Glowacki
MG Gregory J Hunt	CW4 Rosa B Jackson
MAJ Stephen H Kassens	SFC Patricia M Kebbekus
CW4 (Ret) Edward Leonhardt	1SG Kurt E Loesche
SFC Robert G Mueller	CSM Ned C McWhorter
COL Robert P Steensland	LTC Lawrence F Thoms
CSM Thomas G Williamson	

Has Anyone Seen These Soldiers?

Your help is needed in locating the following soldiers. Their newsletters have been returned for various reasons, but none of them have left a forwarding address. They are as follows:

MAJ Richard Rasmussen
CW4 James Chojnacki
LTC Thomas W Buhrandt
LTC James W Diliberti

If you know the whereabouts of any of them, please contact MSG (Ret) Kenn Ziebell at zkenn@execpc.com with any pertinent information. Also, if you know of a present or former 84th Division soldier who is not an Association member, please encourage him/her to join.

Health and Welfare

New TriCare for Life (TFL) claims: Wisconsin Physicians Service (WPS) is being phased in as the new centralized processor for all TriCare regions and the TriCare for Life (TFL) beneficiaries. You may contact them at WPS TFL (866) 773-0404 or reach their Internet web site at <http://www.tricare4you.com>

Association Membership - We Want You!

Our fourth mission tenet states, *"To promote fellowship among former and present members of the 84th Division"*

With current transformation and changes in the 84th Division and the 100th Division, we need to emphasize the urgent need to recruit and retain members from our division units and the new 84th US ARRTC. Only paid members receive this newsletter and mailings on our membership meetings and other functions. Your Board has also adopted a change effective this coming June to renew your membership for three (3) years. We hope this will allow you to continue your membership without risk of falling off our mailing list.

Please contact any board member for more information. A membership form is enclosed for new members or may be used for renewing membership if you have fallen behind on your dues. NOTE: The new membership form (including the 3 year option) will be mailed in the June mailing.

Alumni Board Looking for a Photographer

The Board is looking for a volunteer who can help out at our Alumni functions by taking photographs of the events. These events would include our Dining In (held in April) and our Steak Fry (held in September). We want to document these events with photographs of our Alumni members in attendance. If you can help, please contact any board member or send an E-mail to MSG (Ret) Kenn Ziebell at zkenn@execpc.com.

Wristband sales help US troops and their families

Freedom bands, Inc. has donated \$10,000 to the Armed Forces Relief Trust (AFRT) to provide emergency funds for soldiers and their families, making good on its promise to donate all after cost revenue to the AFRT. Terry Thomas, director of the Navy-Marine Corps Relief Society, accepted the check December 1, 2004.

"This check is just the tip of the iceberg", said Steve Cloward, president and chief executive officer of Freedom bands, Inc. "We are confident that, as Freedom Bands become more and more popular, there will be more and more of these checks to present to the AFRT."

Marked with the word "FREEDOM" the wristbands are a simple yet powerful reminder of the sacrifices made each day by service members to preserve the American way of life. After covering manufacturing and administration costs, the creators of Freedom Bands have pledged to donate 100% of their revenue to the AFRT to aid soldiers and their families.

The wristbands come in both youth and adult sizes and can be purchased in packages of ten for \$10, or four packages of three with red, white and blue bands for \$10. For more information about Freedom Bands, go to www.freedombands.us or call (866) 217-5595.

AFRT (www.afitrust.org) is a non-profit fund created to collect donations that in turn support the men and women of the US armed forces and their families. It distributes 100% of the money it raises among the five armed services.

Unlimited Commissary Privileges for Guard and Reserve Hits One Year Mark

If you're a "gray area" retiree or family member, you recently celebrated your first anniversary of unlimited commissary shopping and Defense Commissary Agency (DeCA) officials want to make sure you know about it.

Previously, Guard and Reserve members had been authorized only 24 commissary shopping days per year. The FY04 National Defense Authorization Act granted members of the Guard and Reserve, authorized family members and "gray area" retirees unlimited commissary shopping privileges.

These families are discovering average commissary savings of 30% or more can help their grocery budgets now that there are no limits to their shopping days.

Unlimited shopping privileges also eliminated the additional costs of producing and administering the pink Commissary Privilege Cards, which were initiated by commissary employees whenever Guard and Reserve personnel shopped.

To find out more about commissary shopping, check out the frequently asked questions (FAQ) link in the upper right hand corner of www.commissaries.com.

Upcoming Events

Place these future events on your calendar:

9 April 2005 - Dining In at the Western Racquet Club in Elm Grove. This is always a fun and entertaining affair for all involved. We will be looking for a suitable Mister or Miss Vice again this year to help with the traditions and fellowship of the Mess. Price of admission for this event will be \$29 per person or \$55 per couple.

30 May 2005 - Memorial Day

8 June 2005 - Annual Membership Meeting at the Stenz - Griesell - Smith American Legion Post #449 in Brookfield, WI.

4 July 2005 - Independence Day

84TH DIVISION ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL/NEW MEMBER APPLICATION 84TH DIVISION ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

Enclosed is my check for: ☐ \$15 New Member Initiation and Dues
 ☐ \$10 Current Member Dues

Please keep/place my name on the roster of active members.

Rank: _____ Status: _____ Name: _____
(Status: Retired, USAR, AGR) (First, Middle, Last)

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Telephone: (Home) _____ (Business) _____

I WOULD ____ WOULD NOT ____ BE INTERESTED IN SERVING ON THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS.

Make checks payable to: 84th Div Alumni Association

Mail to:

ROBERT STAFFARONI
1710 MOHAWK LN.
WAUKESHA, WI 53186

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Changes in Reserve retirement proposed

Senator Lindsey Graham (R-SC) will introduce legislation in the US Senate to change the retirement pay structure for Guardsmen and Reservists, according to the February 21 edition of the Army Times. Senator Graham is proposing a sliding scale to reflect age and years of creditable service toward retirement. Basically, the proposed system would allow an eligible Reservist to begin collecting a pension each year under age sixty (60) for every two (2) years of creditable service over twenty (20) years. For example, a retired Reservist could begin collecting his pension at age 59 with 22 years service, age 55 with 30 years service and all the way down to age 53 with 34 years service.

Senator Graham claims to have seventy (70) other Senators on board supporting his proposed legislation. Estimates in the House are less than that number.

Senator Graham is currently on a fact finding tour in Iraq and Afghanistan visiting the troops with Senator McCain (R-AZ), Senator Clinton (D-NY) and Senator Feingold (D-WI).

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