



84th Division Alumni Bugler

Newsletter of the 84th Division Alumni Association

August 2012



Upcoming Special Events

08 September 2012 Annual Steak/Chicken Fry

10 Feb 2013 Valentine Dinner

Apr-May 2013 Dining Out



2012 Annual Meeting

On Thursday, 14 June 2012, the association held its annual meeting. As with last year's meeting, it was held on the Army's birthday. This year we held it at the Stenz-Griesell American Legion, Post # 449. The Post Army members and the local AUSA Chapter were invitees. Out guest speaker, the Secretary of the Army's Wisconsin representative, outlined the current and projected force structure of the U.S. Army.

84th Sunshine

Members knowing of any member or spouse, who should receive a get-well or sympathy card, please call Jan Berzowski at 262-468-4928. Please remember to spell the member's name and give a brief description of the problem when leaving a message.

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5 Travel-SpaceA Tips, Space Shuttle moves to NYC

2013 TRICARE Prime Fees

This week, the Department of Defense announced how much TRICARE Prime enrollees will pay in enrollment fees for FY2013.

The fees for FY2013 were limited by a MOAA-championed provision, along with the other members of the Military Coalition, in the FY2012 Defense Authorization Act that capped annual Prime fee adjustments at the retired pay COLA percentage. The new law limited the Prime fee hike for next year to 3.6% – the same rate as the 2012 COLA.

The new fees for retirees, survivors and family members under 65 will be as follows, effective October 1, 2012:

	<u>Annual</u>	<u>Quarterly</u>	<u>Monthly</u>
Individual	\$269.28	\$67.32	\$22.44
Family	\$538.56	\$134.64	\$44.88

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Walgreens Rejoins TRICARE

On Thursday, Walgreens announced it had come to an agreement with TRICARE Retail Pharmacy's contractor, Express Scripts on a new multi-year contract agreement. Beginning on September 15, TRICARE beneficiaries and other Express Scripts participants will once again be able to fill their prescriptions at Walgreens locations. Walgreens is the nation's largest retail drugstore chain, and previously served as the largest TRICARE network pharmacy.

This ends a long stand-off between the two sides which prevented TRICARE beneficiaries from using the popular pharmacy chain for more than six months. MOAA is pleased to see both sides reach a long term agreement that will preserve broad access to retail pharmacies in the future.

MOAA Legislation

20 Jul 12 MOAA Legislative News

www.84thdivalumni.com

The 84th Division Alumni Association is pleased to provide its members a place to go for information about the Rail Splitters. If you have an idea for something you want to see on the website, please contact me at:

ppochowski@wi.rr.com

Peter (Skip) Pochowski

Sequestration. Watch out now, America! If you have not heard the term before, you will soon. Sequestration was part of the 2011 Budget Control Act. It was intended to be the scare tactic to motivate the Joint Select Committee on Deficit Reduction, often called the "Super Committee," to find ways to reduce the federal budget. To the surprise of many, congress agreed to task the committee with reducing \$1.2 trillion dollars from the federal budget, with sequestration as the motivation for all parties to compromise (the axe hanging over their collective heads to perform). If the committee could not agree to budget cuts, then the Department of Defense would automatically face a reduction in its budget of \$500 million dollars. I know. I know. I didn't believe it the first time I read this either. Why the Department of Defense? Why so much of the pain placed on one part of the massive federal budget? And yes, this \$500 million would be on top of the \$587 million in military cuts already proposed over the next ten years. You gotta love these congress folks, ain'ta?

Secretary of State Leon Panetta has warned that if the automatic cuts take effect, the number of ground troops would fall to pre-1940's level, the Navy would have the fewest number of ships since 1915, and the Air Force would be the smallest it has even been. Four-star General Mark Welsh of the Air Force said, "The cuts in personnel and aircraft are simply not sustainable." The Chairman of the Joint Chiefs, Army General Martin Demsey added that "This will have an impact on our ability world-wide." In addition to a severely weakened military, making these cuts could also impact our already weakened economy. Without immediate action by the congress, businesses will begin layoffs, orders for military related equipment will slow, and cuts in personnel will start this summer.

Watch out now, America!
You can count on me to bring you the status of this process in future articles. Or you can call your representatives and say something to those who can prevent this disaster. Your um, call.

Skip Pochowski

CSA Odierno advises lawmakers of the dangers of sequestration

It's possible the Army could be cut to 400,000 if the sequestration option spelled out in the Budget Control Act of 2011 goes into effect, the Army's chief of staff said May 17. The Army is already planning to cut 80,000 active duty soldiers from the force over the next five years, which will bring the active end strength down to 490,000 soldiers. Were sequestration to kick in, Army leaders expect the cuts it brings could mean the loss of an additional 100,000 soldiers. Those soldiers would come from both the active and reserve components.

"If we have sequestration, it will affect both the active and reserve component," the Army chief of staff, Gen. Raymond T. Odierno, said. Adding, "It depends on what balance we pick. But what I talk about a lot is: 70,000 out of the active, 30,000 out of the reserve; 80,000 out of the active, 20,000 out of the reserve. Some number around there is what we would expect." With that, he said, he expects the active component of the Army could be reduced to anywhere between 400,000 to 425,000 soldiers.

The National Guard might lose an additional 20,000 soldiers, and the Army Reserve might lose an additional 10,000. "It would be quite significant," he said, speaking on Capitol Hill before an audience at a Senate Caucus breakfast. "If we have sequestration, the problem we have is with this balance between end strength, readiness and modernization," he said. "I think it's going to be really hard for us to create this right balance we need, and secondly I think it's going to impact not only end strength, [but] it'll impact our ability to train and be ready. And it will significantly impact our modernization programs. It's a template for hollowing out the force."

As part of the Budget Control Act of 2011, lawmakers who were part of a "super committee" last year were tasked with finding \$1.2 trillion in savings, or risk across-the-board reductions in funding. Because a resolution was not reached, as much as half that amount could now automatically be cut from the Department of Defense through sequestration. "The thing about sequestration that is also bothersome, even though the amount of cuts are in my mind unreasonable, it's the fact that we don't have any choice on where those cuts are directed," Odierno said. "It's a percentage cut out of every line item that we have. And so it would completely have significant impact on our modernization programs," he added.

AUSA July 2012

84th Training Command Ft. Knox, Kentucky

Fellow Rail Splitters,

The past 90 days have been an extremely busy period for the 84th. In early April, I had the privilege of accompanying MG Talley to the United States Military Academy at West Point to meet one of the 84th's most prestigious alumni, Dr. Henry Kissinger.

The day started with lunch in the Cadet Dining Facility, where MG Talley presented Dr. Kissinger with an 84th Commanders Coin. His reply was, "I have such fond memories of the 84th". After lunch as we moved to the lecture hall Dr. Kissinger was given an 84th lapel pin and he asked to have it pinned on his suit right then and there. There was a question and answer period with the Cadets and Dr. Kissinger where he reminisced about his service with the 84th. The most noteworthy discussion was about Dr. Kissinger being assigned to the 84th and sent to Louisiana to train for deployment. They were in a field training exercise and CG 84th, LTG Bolling happened across PVT Kissinger and asked him if he could read a map. PVT Kissinger replied, "Yes Sir". LTG Bolling asked PVT Kissinger "why are you in the infantry"? Ninety days after the Battle of the Bulge, SGT Kissinger was reassigned to the Div G-2 (intelligence). I felt truly privileged to have had the ability to listen to Dr. Kissinger talk about the history of the 84th in WWII. LTG Bolling became more than just a picture on the wall, thanks to Dr. Kissinger.

After the Q&A, MG Talley presented Dr. Kissinger with a framed picture of two 84th soldiers in WWII, a 84th lineage & honors plaque and a lifetime membership in the 84th Alumni Association. Dr. Kissinger said the picture and plaque would be above his mantle that night. It was truly a memorable event.

14 April 2012, the 84th Training Command hosted a Commanders Conference, Military Ball and Change of Command. At the Commanders Conference, MG Talley spoke about the vision of collective training exercises and the future. We were particularly pleased to have the 84th Div Alumni Association represented during the conference. COL Pochowski, CSM Brunner and CSM Gramins attended and manned the Alumni display. During the course of the day, six new members including MG Talley and CSM Zebrauskas (84th CSM) joined 84th Alumni Association. This begins the steps to make the 84th Alumni Association a nationwide organization.

15 April was the Change of Command on Brooks Field. All the 84th subordinate commands were in attendance. It included cannons and all the pomp and circumstance befitting a Major General Change of Command Ceremony. MG David W. Puster assumed command of the 84th Training Command. MG Puster comes to us via 302nd Maneuver Enhancement Brigade where he was the Commander. MG Puster brings over 30 years of experience in both the operating and generating force. He and his former unit have been participants in 84th exercises. He will lead the 84th as we emphasize technical skills training in tactical environments.

In May, MG Talley was promoted to LTG and was sworn in as the 32nd Chief of the Army Reserve and CG USARC. It was quite an experience to see a former CG, 84th sworn in as the CAR. There were a lot of past 84th personnel present for the weekend. By coincidence, SFC Ian Chin, former 84th G2/6 manned the CAR flag during the uncasing by LTG Talley. We wish LTG Talley and his wife, Linda all the best in their new journey.

Special Congratulations to MG Marcia Anderson, Deputy Chief Army Reserve, former 84th member and the highest ranking African American female in the military. She received the NAACP's 2012 Benjamin L. Hooks Distinguished Service Award for promoting equal opportunity during a ceremony in July.

The last quarter was a historical period for all Rail Splitters. To capture it, we are having pictures framed to display in the hallways of the Headquarters. As always, if in the Ft. Knox area, please stop in, the doors are always open to all 84th members past and present!

Strike Hard!

Ted Jendusa
Command Executive Officer
84th Training Command



CSM(R) Brunner, COL(R) Pochowski,
MG Talley, CSM(R) Gramins L-R



84th Tng Cmd, Ft. Knox, KY

Retiree Appreciation Days

Fort McCoy, WI – September 7, 2012, 0745 – 1500.
Sign in starts at 0700. Bldg 905 (a.m.) &
Bldg 90 (p.m), Fort McCoy, WI 54656.
For additional information please call, 608-388-3716.

Midwest RETIREE APPRECIATION DAY (RAD) REGISTRATION FORM

http://www.mccoy.army.mil/Services/ACAP_Documents/2012_RAD_Registration.pdf

Submit No Later Than: August 30, 2012. You may also submit your registration via email at william.g.walters4.civ@mail.mil

Retiree Appreciation Days (RADs) are designed with you in mind. They're a great source of the latest information for retirees and Family members in your area. RADs vary from installation to installation, but, in general, they provide an opportunity to renew acquaintances, listen to guest speakers, renew ID Cards, get medical checkups, and various other services. Some RADs include special events such as dinners or golf tournaments. For more information, contact the Retirement Services Officer (RSO) sponsoring the RAD.

Other dates listed on the signup form (nominal cost):
Des Moines/Altoona, Iowa-August 15, 2012

Twin Cities, Minnesota-August 24, 2012

Camp Ripley – Little Falls, Minnesota-August 25, 2012

Twin Ports/Duluth, Minnesota-September 14, 2012

Twin Cities, Minnesota (Mystic Casino)-September 22, 2012

Selfridge, Michigan-September 22, 2012

Great Lakes, Illinois-October 6, 2012

Rock Island, Illinois-October 27, 2012

Schofield Barracks, HI- October 6, 2012

Heidelberg, Germany-October 13, 2012

Vicenza, Italy- October 17, 2012

Current HONORS retirement newsletter

http://www.mccoy.army.mil/Services/ACAP_Documents/HONORS_2012.pdf

***Note:** The Army no longer will mail a hard copy edition of the ECHOES newsletter to soldiers who

retire after January 1, 2012. They will have to receive it through "E-Echoes".

11th Quadrennial Review of Military Compensation

Study Recommendations Would Harm Reserve Component

In late June, the 2012 Quadrennial Review of Military Compensation (QRMC) study was released recommending changes on how individuals in the Reserve Component are paid. "These recommendations are unacceptable," said Major General Andrew B. Davis, USMC (Ret.), Executive Director of the 57,000 member Reserve Officers Association. "If the Pentagon forwards this to Congress for consideration, our organization will fight such a change." The QRMC study recommends modernizing the reserve compensation system by transitioning the reserve components to a total force pay structure under which a member receives full pay and allowances for each day of duty regardless of the type or purpose of duty. Currently, Reserve and Guard members are paid a day's income for a four hour drill. If two drills are scheduled on a weekend day, it gives the appearance of double pay.

"These reforms would prove catastrophic," said Major General Davis. "Not only would it hollow out the Reserve Force, but undercut the all-volunteer Total Force."

The proposed changes to reserve compensation are among the opening shots in what may be an impending fiscal assault on the military personnel system. Even without sequestration cuts, current Pentagon leadership are looking at further reducing the defense budget by another \$100 billion over the next 10 years (accumulative cuts of over \$687 billion, an average of about a 12 percent cut from the base budget). *ROA July 3, 2012*

(Excerpted from the QRMC Executive Summary)

Recommendation: Reserve Compensation

Transition reserve compensation to a "total force" pay structure:

- Pay Regular Military Compensation to reserve members for each day of reserve service, regardless of the type of duty. Augment with incentive pays to sustain and shape the force.
- Align reserve and active duty retirement systems more closely by allowing guard and reserve members to receive retired pay upon their 30th anniversary of service (having attained 20 qualifying years of service).

(QRMC) Table 6-1. Size of the Ready Reserve by Component

Reserve Component	Selected Reserve	IRR/ Inactive NG	Total Ready Reserve
Army National Guard	361,561	3,608	365,169
U.S. Army Reserve	204,803	83,890	288,693
U.S. Navy Reserve	64,792	38,223	103,015
USMC Reserve	39,772	60,681	100,453
U.S. Marine Corps Reserve	105,685	0	105,685
U.S. Coast Guard Reserve	71,321	35,493	106,814
U.S. Coast Guard Reserve	7,933	1,593	9,526

ADVENTURES IN TRAVEL



No jet way to the aircraft



C-130 first class seating

When attempting to fly Space Available, or getting SpaceA lodging, you are always in for an adventure! June 18, 2012, the Minnesota Air Force Reserve flew a team to compete in the annual USAFR Aerial Port competition at Dobbins Air Reserve Base in Marietta, GA (25 miles NW of Atlanta). The north end of the MSP airport is home to the 934th AW (Flying Vikings), USAFR, along with the 133rd AW, MANG (both commands fly C-130s).

When flying out of a Reserve or National Guard base, you have to be flexible with signup, parking, lodging and rental cars. Minneapolis ARB and Dobbins ARB both have great lodging facilities-at the usual Air Force \$39.00 rate! Flying on a C-130 is considerably slower and noisier than a commercial jet, but the flight crews take great care of SpaceA travelers.

My wife had never experienced flying on a military aircraft, so this was a SpaceA trip with training wheels; one day down, and the next day return. Our friend John D., who took the photos of the 84th Farewell Dinner, flew with us. His daughter lives in Marietta, and she was seven months pregnant (great timing). When I signed up for the flight, I didn't realize there would be 20 plus Air Force Reserve teams competing that week. Fortunately, I had checked out alternative lodging off base, which is always a good idea. Note: The 934th won the Air Force Reserve completion.

Air Force, Navy, and Army flights are mission related and will allow SpaceA travelers, if possible. In June, 128th ANG Refueling Wing out of Milwaukee was scheduled to fly to Munich, Germany. We were signed up to take the one-way trip, but it was cancelled (I think they ended up supporting the forest fires out west). In July, We were on our way down to Mitchell Field to take a round trip to Andrews AFB, MD, when my cell phone rang. The flight was cancelled that morning (the major power outages on the east coast that week). So if you want save money on trips around the country, or around the world, try SpaceA travel.
World Traveler Jerry

Space Shuttle moves to New York City



Space Shuttle headed to Intrepid



Ft. Wadsworth Guest Quarters

Since 1982, the USS Intrepid has become both a New York City and an American icon; and a museum dedicated to building awareness and understanding of history, science, and service through its collections, exhibitions, and public and educational programs. Today, August 3, 2012, marks Intrepid Sea, Air & Space Museum's thirtieth year fulfilling its mission to: honor, educate, and inspire.

<http://intrepidmuseum.org/>

There are various space available lodging opportunities in the New York City area.

Fort Wadsworth Guest Quarters

Reservation Phone: Call MWR C-718-354-4407, Call C-718-354-4410, for more information. Reservation E-mail: mwrres@actny.uscg.mil Reservation Website:

<http://www.uscg.mil/mwr/lodging/FtWadsworth.as>

Guesthouse: The guesthouse is a former family housing unit, comprised of two- and three-bedroom apartments. Each unit is fully furnished with CATV, private bath, fold-out couch, fully equipped kitchen, telephone. Rates: Two-bedroom \$90; Three-bedroom \$95. The parking is shared with the Navy Lodge. No smoking.

Staten Island Navy Lodge

Reservation Phone: C-1-800-NAVY-INN. Lodge number is C-718-442-0413 Reservation Email:

navylodge.newyork@nexweb.org Reservation Website:

www.navy-lodge.com Reservation Address: Navy Lodge, Bldg 408, North Path Road, Staten Island, NY 10305-5000.

Directions to Reservations: Take I-95 to NJ Turnpike.

Then, take exit 13 east to Goethals Bridge (I-278 east) to Staten Island. Take the last exit (exit 15) before Verrazano Narrows Bridge (Lily Pond Avenue). At light, go left onto School Road, follow School Road to next light, go right onto Bay Street to Main Gate. NMC: New York City, within city limits. Note: Bridges usually require tolls, \$13.

Ft. Hamilton: Hamilton Inn

Reservation Phone: C-718-439-2340, 24 hours daily. Fax C-718-439-2359 Reservation Website: www.ihg.com

Reservation Information: We will try to accommodate all military personnel however there is no priority given.

Reservations may be made up to one year in advance.

Reservation Address: Bldg 107, Schum Avenue, Brooklyn, NY 11252-7201.

84th Division Alumni Association, LTD

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Home of the 84th Alumni Association



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