

# Blue Devil

WINTER 2012

The Magazine of the 88th Regional Support Command







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**COVER** 88th Regional Support Command missions encompass many areas of support from base operations to Army Reserve affairs, and from community relations to Soldier support. These missions create a sense of purpose in overall Soldier support.

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Mr. Darrin McDufford

### PUBLIC AFFAIRS NONCOMMISSIONED OFFICER

Sgt. 1st Class Osvaldo P. Sanchez



The 88th Regional Support Command conducts an Army Reserve Day for the legislators and their staff to view what the Army Reserve does at Pier 23 in Tacoma, Wash., showing a very small portion of the Army fleet that supports national security and the economy for the state. Photo Credit: Sgt. 1st Class Darrin McDufford.

*Blue Devil is an authorized unofficial publication, published bi-annually. Under provision of AR 360-1, the 88th Regional Support Command Public Affairs Office publishes the Blue Devil to provide information for the staff and Soldiers of the 88th Regional Support Command. Contents are not necessarily the views of or endorsed by the U. S. government, Department of Defense, Department of the Army or the 88th Regional Support Command.*

**Submissions:** Blue Devil invites articles, story ideas, photographs and other material of interest to members of the 88th Regional Support Command. Contributions can be sent to: Editor, Blue Devil, 88th Regional Support Command, 60 S. O St., Fort McCoy, WI 54656. Phone: (608) 388-0549, Email: darrin.mcdufford@usar.army.mil. All articles must be submitted electronically, on CD or by email. Please indicate if items need to be returned.



# COMMANDERS CORNER

## Maj. Gen. Glenn Lesniak

As the second half of 2011 unfolded, the 88th Regional Support Command continued its pursuit of performance excellence through focusing on the needs of our customers.

Our Yellow Ribbon and Strong Bonds teams are the best in class for the support they provide to service members and families. We are known DoD wide as leaders in this critical service.

The 338th Army Band performed at the Michigan 400 NASCAR Sprint Cup in August to the biggest venue of the second half of 2011. The reaction from the crowd was fantastic.

On a more personal level, the 85th Army Band supported the 88th Infantry Division's 64th reunion in Washington, D.C. Those veterans of battles of the North Apennines, Po Valley and Rome-Arno campaigns reminded me, once again, of the great heritage we are all a part of and what a privilege it is to wear the 88th's patch.

The 312th Army Band was nominated in 2011 for the Reserve Officer Association Outstanding Unit Award. It won! That's two-for-two for the 88th RSC. The 85th received the award in 2010.

We are now in the final stages of the Base Realignment and Closure reconstruction program. Our Directorate of Public Works has shifted focus since the September deadline to disposals, relinquishments and lease

termination. As a result, the 88th is now responsible for more facilities and total acreage than any other RSC.

Our Directorate of Logistics support is not limited to our 19-state region. It also provides Force Modernization Equipment Fielding for units in California, Nevada and Arizona. This is a result of our New Equipment Fielding Facility (NEFF) in Ogden, Utah, being closer than the other RSC's NEFF located in Little Rock Ark.

The Directorate of Human Resources is leading from the front as well. In August, they conducted the first ever electronic Senior Enlisted Promotion Board that reviewed 2,253 promotion packets and recommended 963 Soldiers for promotion.

Brig. Gen. Berry and our Ambassador Coordinator continue to expand and refine the effectiveness of our Army Reserve Ambassador corps. Our Reserve Ambassadors are proactively engaged across the region. They attend numerous events including the Yellow Ribbon and Employer Partnership programs and are continuously engaged with our government representatives.



## Command Sgt. Maj. Michael Koszuta

The 88th Regional Support Command is comprised of Commissioned and Warrant Officers, Soldiers and The Army Civilian Corps. All entities are expected to live by the Army Values and display agility, adaptability, and flexibility in support of current conflicts and to prepare for unseen future threats arising from the uncertainty of a highly complex security environment. As an Army Center of Excellence, our professional status is marked by education, training and certification.

Every Army professional moves through three stages: oath-taking as an entry level member; to an aspiring and then practicing professional for the remainder of their career; and finally to the status of a non-practicing, retired professional. In the third stage, many retired professionals are still influential members of the Army profession, particularly in its relationship with its client, the American people.

Ours is a profession unique to mankind: we are charged with the awesome responsibility of the legal application of violence in the protection of our nation. As such, it is our duty to develop and foster that professional standing through ethics, foundational values, and strong personal and moral character. We

must be ever vigilant in maintaining a culture that espouses and respects the rule of law, virtue, and sacred American values.

The 21st century and the post 9/11 world offer unprecedented challenges for today's military. Yet, the core concepts of what constitutes a professional Soldier remain the same. As long as we stay true to the tenets of that profession, we will all be well served and prepared for any challenge.

As we practice the profession of arms, it is incumbent on us all to stay technically and tactically proficient, dedicated to the hierarchical structure of our military, and vigilant in our moral and ethical approach towards the defense of the Nation.

Our work is on constant display not only to the United States, but to the citizens of the world. We must always strive to uphold the highest ideals of who we are as Americans and do so in a professional manner befitting the legacy of those who have gone before us.







## 312TH ARMY BAND RECEIVES OUTSTANDING UNIT AWARD

This year, the 312th Army Band from Lawrence, Kan., was nominated for the Reserve Officers Association Outstanding Unit Award in the "Small Unit" category and subsequently won the award.

The 312th Army Band Commander Chief Warrant Officer 4 Rob Claggett and 1st Sgt. Renee Joyce accepted the award Jan. 31 at the ROA National Convention.

The 88th Regional Support Command (RSC) bands have won the ROA Outstanding Unit Award two years in a row. The 85th Army Band won last year.

The Chief Warrant Officer 4 Michael J. Novosel Award for the ROA Outstanding Warrant Officer of the Year is also awarded annually. This award is open to warrant officers in the grade of warrant officer, chief warrant officer 2 and chief warrant officer 3 who has displayed excellence in achievement and service to our nation and national security.

This year, the 85th Army Band Commander Chief Warrant Officer 2 James Walker was one of three finalists who competed for the award.

The ROA is a professional association for all uniformed services of the United States. Chartered by Congress and in existence since 1922, the ROA advises and informs the President, the Congress, and the American people on national security, with unique expertise on issues that affect the 1.5 million men and women now serving in America's reserve components.

Annually, the ROA recognizes the top Army Reserve units who are selected as best in their respective class (small, medium, large and flight facility) for awarding of the ROA Outstanding Unit Award.

**For more information on the 88th RSC Army Bands, contact the 88th RSC Military Personnel Division (MPD):**

Mr. Kevin Zavala at 608-388-0319  
CW2 Pamela McFarlane at 608-388-0543  
MSG Tim Anderson at 608-388-0482



The 312th Army Band Commander Chief Warrant Officer 4 Rob Claggett and 1st Sgt. Renee Joyce appear with Chief Warrant Officer 5 James Anderson at the Reserve Officer Association Outstanding Unit Award annual ceremony accepting their award from Lt. Gen. Jack Stultz, chief, Army Reserve. This is the second year that an 88th Regional Support Command Army Band has won the award. Photo by Kevin Wolf/AP Images.







# 85TH ARMY BAND PLAYS FOR THE 88TH INFANTRY DIVISION

Sgt. Shari Albrect  
85th Army Band

**T**he 85th Army Band headed to Washington, D. C., on Labor Day weekend, Sept. 1, 2011, epitomizing the spirit of the American holiday supporting the 64th annual reunion of the 88th Infantry Division.

It was from this generation of veterans present, who in World War II served an integral role in North Apennines, Po Valley and Rome-Arno campaigns where the 88th received the nickname 'Blue Devils.'

They are the roots that the Soldiers of today have grown from. Having big boots to fill, today's Blue Devils have been well on the way

providing homeland defense against terrorism and serving deployments to Afghanistan, Kuwait and Iraq in support of Operation Enduring Freedom, Operation Iraqi Freedom, Operation Noble Eagle, and Operation New Dawn.

Executing seven missions in five days, the 85th Army Band provided a variety of musical support. On Friday, Sept. 2, the concert band honored the 66th anniversary of the Ally victory in Japan at the national World War II memorial with a two-hour public performance.

The audience numbered in the thousands on a beautiful, sunny afternoon. A highlight of the event included Brig. Gen. Alton G. Berry promoting a

Soldier to his new rank, Staff Sgt. William Young, assisted by Command Sgt. Maj. Michael B. Koszuta.

The remaining appearances were directly related to the 88th Infantry Division's activities and included a jazz combo, solo trumpet and voice, as well as a patriotic concert for the reunion's memorial service. Far from retired, the members of the 88th Division still serve the United States today.

Throughout 2011, the group has donated more than \$500,000 to children's medical facilities for the disadvantaged through their foundation.

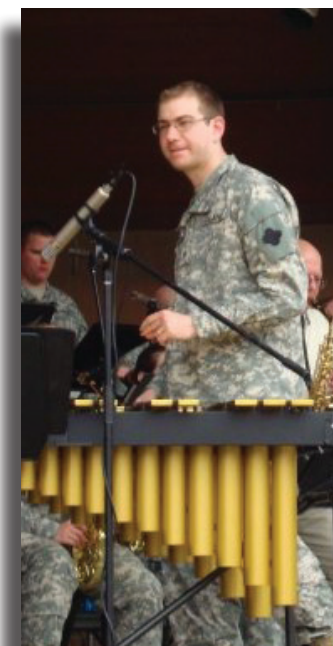
"It is true that these veterans are the greatest generation. That 150 individuals can give so much

at their age is an inspiration to us all," said Sgt. Jason Landaiche.

The 85th Army Band was honored to support this mission, and only hope to one day radiate as much loyalty, duty, respect, selfless-service, honor, integrity and personal courage shining from the heart of each of these veterans.



The 85th Army Band from Arlington Heights, Ill., near Chicago, perform at the World War II veterans memorial in Washington, D. C. as part of the 64th reunion of the 88th Infantry Division. Photo by Sgt. 1st Class Darrin McDufford.

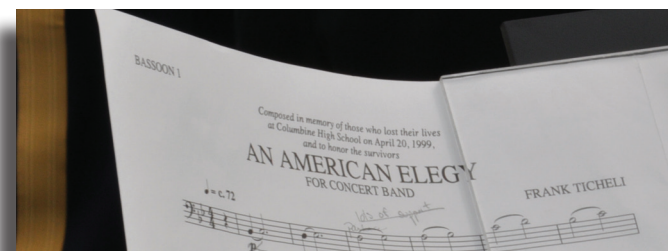


Sgt. Jordan Lynch, 338th Army Band

**R**ecently, two of the members of the 88th Regional Support Command's 204th Army Band and the 338th Army Band were nominated in recognition for exhibiting exceptional musical and leadership qualities and for demonstrating great potential for continued outstanding military service.

Spc. Charles Nickles (204th Army Band) and Sgt. Jordan Lynch (338th Army Band) were nominated for the Col. Finley R. Hamilton Outstanding Military Musician Award.

Their outstanding skills, dedication and leadership exemplifies their efforts in their continued success.







# THE ROLE OF THE CHAPLAIN

Nurture the Living, Care for the Wounded  
and Honor the Fallen



**For God and Country**

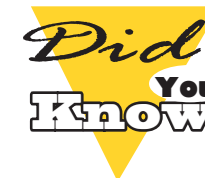
It seems that a lot of people are puzzled by the role of the chaplain. Many claim to have “never seen a chaplain.” And an executive officer of mine actually said, “So what is that you DO?”

While many Soldiers may regard the chaplain as the nice person who comes to visit, has the coffee pot, or brings candy, the Army Chaplain Corps mission is deep, historical and is responsible for the spiritual care of the Army’s greatest strength; our Soldiers and Families.

The historic roots of the chaplain corps lie with the Citizen-Soldier ministers of the American Revolution who accompanied their local militias into battle against the British. The chaplains were responsible for providing services to the Soldiers throughout draining campaigns. Chaplains lived and served with troops, taking part in the hardships of military life. Chaplains were also responsible for assisting in advising commanders in the many moral and ethical challenges that arise in periods of armed conflict.

Chaplain (Maj. Gen.) Donald Rutherford was sworn in as the 22nd Chief of the Army Chaplain Corps July 2011. Rutherford upholds the historic role of the Chaplain Corps, emphasizing that chaplains are religious leaders. As such, chaplains are ordained/endorsed for ministry by a particular faith group. While chaplains remain clergy of this faith group, our ministry is to all Soldiers. Chaplains perform or provide religious services. Chaplains partner with commanders to ensure the free exercise of religion within the Army system. We also seek to strengthen Army Families through relevant training programs that promote Family and Soldier spiritual resiliency. Another key role for chaplains is serving as an adviser to commanders on moral and ethical issues much as our Revolutionary predecessors have done.

The Chaplain Corps has the highest privilege of accompanying our Soldiers and Families through the rigors of military life. We have the joy of baptizing children and performing wedding ceremonies. We have the charge of leading worship, connecting Soldiers to God and God to Soldiers. We have the heartbreaking honor of seeing our fallen heroes laid to rest. Day in and day out, chaplains across our region are working to serve our Soldiers and Families. Ours is truly the “greatest job in the Army.” We do it to serve the sons and daughters of our nation, who are part of the few that have joined together as guardians of our nation’s freedoms.



Chaplains are commissioned officers in the U. S. Army. However, they are unique as they are always addressed as “Chaplain”—regardless of rank. So even though a chaplain wears a rank, and is due the courtesy of that rank, they are always addressed as “Chaplain.” This is true for the Chaplain (Maj. Gen.) Donald Rutherford, Chief of Chaplains, or the newest first lieutenant; we all have the honor to be called “Chaplain.”



**Strong Bonds** is a unit-based, chaplain-led program that assists commanders in building individual resiliency by strengthening the Army Family. The core mission of the Strong Bonds program is to increase individual Soldier and Family member readiness through relationship education and skills training. Strong Bonds is conducted in an offsite retreat format in order to maximize the training effect.

The retreat or “get away” provides a fun, safe, and secure environment in which to address the impact of relocations, deployments, and military lifestyle stressors.

## How to Register for a Strong Bonds Event

If you are interested in attending Strong Bonds training, go to [www.strongbonds.org](http://www.strongbonds.org) to find out the schedule of events in the 88th RSC. Registration forms can be requested by contacting the Strong Bonds coordinator at 608-388-0541 or [RSC088ChaplainStrongBonds@usar.army.mil](mailto:RSC088ChaplainStrongBonds@usar.army.mil). Soldiers attend in duty status, travel cost for all eligible participants are covered by the Strong Bonds program. There are training events available for Single Soldiers, Married Soldiers, and Families.





# RECORDING HISTORY: SOLDIER DEPLOYS, CAPTURES MOMENTS

**Ward Zischke**

**88th Regional Support Command Historian**

In January 2011, I was mobilized for a deployment to Iraq as the commander of the 20th Military History Detachment. During my deployment preparation, I was still able to do some things which dealt with the 88th Regional Support Command (RSC) and its history.

One of the first things I was able to do was to go to the Center of Military History at Fort McNair in Washington, D.C., for some refresher training on military history detachment tasks. While I was at Fort McNair, I visited the Old Guard historian and I delivered historical materials of the 3rd Battalion, 3rd Infantry Regiment. These items helped connect the history of the regiment as its Army Reserve component history was incomplete.

The 3rd Infantry Regiment was part of the 205th Infantry Brigade. The 205th was one of only three infantry brigades in the Army Reserve before it was inactivated in 1994.

While at Fort McNair, I was able to get a hold of the book entitled "The Tip of the Spear." One chapter of this book is entitled "Good Friday Ambush" and featured the 724th Transportation Company of the 88th Regional Readiness Command (RRC), and provides details on the actions on April 22, 2004, that eventually lead to the death of Staff Sgt. Matthew Keith Maupin. The Wall of Heroes and paintings in honor of Maupin are in the back entry of the 88th RSC headquarters at Fort McCoy, Wis.

After completion of my training at Fort McNair I went to Fort Jackson, S.C., which is also the home of the 81st Regional Support Command. At Fort Jackson, I took photographs of many of the signs on the installation that commemorated Army Reserve units and historical events. For example, the 1961 Berlin crises when 60,000 Army reservists were mobilized in 1961-62.

Next, I went to the mobilization station at Fort Dix, N.J., where I continued to add to Army Reserve history by photographing signs and plaques that represented memorable Army Reserve moments.

I continued capturing Army Reserve history when I arrived at Camp Buerhing in

Kuwait. This feat would be intensive since nearly 400,000 Army Reserve Soldiers have been mobilized since 2001. Singularly I would not be able to capture every moment but I can add to the extensive history already captured.

Units would paint barricade walls known as "t-walls" for their shape and purpose was to create a shield for service members. One good shot of a t-wall was the 96th Support Brigade. This unit was what the 96th Regional Readiness Command transitioned into after it inactivated in 2009 and the 88th RSC took over base operations from them.

In Tikrit, Iraq, at Contingency Operating Base (COB) Speicher, I was attached to the 4th Infantry Division. There my main focus was on the 4th ID. I was able to work in Army Reserve history by interviewing Army Reserve Soldier Sgt. Josh Tverberg about his experiences as a member of the 88th Regional Readiness Command Soldiers Readiness Processing Team at Fort Snelling, Minn., and his deployments.

In addition, there were several Soldiers who were attached to civil affairs units from Minnesota. Finally, I was able to interview several Soldiers located on COB Speicher who were part of the 256th Combat Support Hospital out of Ohio.

One of my duties in Iraq was to make sure that memorials were recorded and

then paint over t-walls or some units shipped the walls home if the camp was closing.

I traveled down to Joint Base Balad and met with the 23rd Military History Detachment which was covering the 103rd and 310th Expeditionary Sustainment commands. I was able to recover the banner for the 457th Transportation Company from Fort Snelling and obtain some of their historical items, which are on display at the 88th RSC. The battalion came under mortar attack more than 260 times but there were no deaths and no major injuries among Soldiers in the 457th.

I have updated the 88th RSC historical collection and the museum is open operational. Books can be checked out for intellectual curiosity or for Soldiers in the Intermediate Level Education class in building 50 at Fort McCoy.



Lt. Col. Ward Zischke stands next to paintings of Army Reserve Units' patches that were painted on a t-wall commemorating their service but soon these would be painted over and the memory would be relegated to the history books as the mission in Iraq is completed. Photo provided by Lt. Col. Ward Zischke





# BEFORE YOU SEE THE I.G. ➡ READ THIS!

### **Eyes, ears, conscience Of the commander**

#### **Be Sure You Have a Problem, Not Just A Pet Peeve.**

"Example: Are the cooks turning out lousy chow or was it just one bad meal?"

#### **Give Your Chain Of Command A Chance To Solve The Problem.**

Because many problems must be addressed through the chain of command for resolution anyway.

#### **If IG Assistance Is Needed, See Your Local IG First.**

IG's at higher headquarters will normally refer the case to the local IG for action.

#### **Be Honest; Don't Provide Misleading Information.**

IG's will discover the truth quickly in most cases and there are penalties for knowingly providing false information.

#### **Keep In Mind That IGs Are Not Policy Makers.**

If a policy is flawed you can submit proposed changes on a DA Form 2028.

#### **Keep In Mind That IGs Can Only Recommend.**

Not order a resolution. Only Commanders can order; the role of the IG is to advise the Commander.

#### **Remember IGs Can Only Resolve A Case On The Basis Of Fact.**

"Example: Your claim that a supervisor has violated the rules doesn't make it a fact. A claim must be supported with evidence."

#### **Don't Expect Instant Action on Your Request... Be Patient.**

Investigations take time and IGs tend to have heavy workloads.

#### **Be Prepared To Take "No" For the Answer.**

In any case, "yes" or "no," the IG will explain why.

### **Changes in the Office of the Inspector General**

The Office of the Inspector General has gone through some changes since the last edition of the Blue Devil. First, we would like to thank Lt. Col. Andrea Shealy for her service over the past year. Shealy was mobilized with the Office of the Inspector General for the past year. Her guidance and insight will be sorely missed.

Also please welcome two new personnel to the Office of the Inspector General. First, Master Sgt. Jason Heiner comes

to us from the Army Reserve Careers Division, where he served as an area leader. Heiner is looking forward to spending time with his family at Pineview enjoying our Wisconsin winter. We also want to welcome Mrs. Leslie Guttenberg. Guttenberg is our new civilian and is working as an assistant inspector general. Previously, she worked with the Directorate of Human Resources in the Enlisted Management Branch and as the First Sergeant for Headquarters and Headquarters Company.

The Office of the Inspector General moved its office in the spring to building 1245. The new building provides us more office space and a larger waiting area. All the Inspectors General maintain their current contact information.



### **The Role of the Inspector General**

- The Inspector General is an extension of the eyes, ears, voice, and conscience of the commander
- Fair and impartial fact-finders
- IGs are responsible for assisting commanders with improving readiness and war-fighting capability

### **Contact Us**

If anyone has any questions or issues they would like to discuss with the Office of the Inspector General, please contact us at 608-388-3733 or by e-mail [RSC088InspectorGeneralAllUsers@us.army.mil](mailto:RSC088InspectorGeneralAllUsers@us.army.mil).

## **BENEFITS**

### **education**

#### **SCOLARSHIPS FOR YOU, YOUR FAMILY**

Now's the time to apply for scholarships. Deadlines and requirements vary, keep checking and you or your family's education may be virtually free.

Some of these sites also have scholarships available for military spouses. A copy of the handbook can be obtained by going to [www.legion.org/education/needalift](http://www.legion.org/education/needalift) and click "Get started."

#### **These sites will help get you started:**

<a href="http://collegenet.com/mach25">collegenet.com/mach25</a>	<a href="http://nmfa.org">nmfa.org</a>
<a href="http://fafsa.ed.gov">fafsa.ed.gov</a>	<a href="http://military.com">military.com</a>
<a href="http://Militaryscholar.org">Militaryscholar.org</a>	<a href="http://milspouse.org">milspouse.org</a>
<a href="http://fastweb.com">fastweb.com</a>	<a href="http://finance.prepusa.net">finance.prepusa.net</a>





# THE DANGERS OF HAZARDOUS WASTE DISPOSAL



In the spring of 2011, a Soldier at an Army Reserve center in the 88th Regional Support Command's 19-state region discovered to his detriment that hazardous waste can be detrimental in many ways.

The Soldier was transporting scrap metal to a Defense Logistics Agency Dispositions Services (DLA-DS) site in his privately owned vehicle (POV). DLA-DS (formerly known as DRMO) is a proper organization to receive surplus material like scrap metal from Army installations. Its mission is to dispose of excess property received from the military services.

However, in addition to the scrap metal, the Soldier was also transporting two plastic pails that were marked "Hazardous Waste." These pails contained a corrosive solution that constituted hazardous waste under environmental rules and regulations. DLA-DS is also a proper organization to dispose of hazardous waste like the solution in the Soldier's pails. One of the missions of DLA-DS is to manage the disposal of hazardous property for DoD activities. Its instructions for disposing of hazardous waste may be found at this website: [www.dispositionservices.dla.mil/newenv/hwdisposal.shtml](http://www.dispositionservices.dla.mil/newenv/hwdisposal.shtml).

Unfortunately, when he arrived at the DLA-DS site, the Soldier was informed that that particular site did not

accept hazardous waste, so they did not accept his pails for disposal, and he left the site with them still in his custody. Later the two pails were found abandoned in a construction debris dumpster, and they ultimately found their way to the 88th RSC's local Area Environmental Protection Specialist (aEPS), who, of course, had to report the matter to the local environmental authorities.

Needless to say, this

Soldier's actions were improper for several reasons:

- The hazardous waste was not processed through the aEPS and proper documentation was not completed for waste disposal through DLS-DS.
- The Soldier was not trained or licensed to transport hazardous waste, and he certainly could not legally transport such waste in his POV.
- He did not have a Uniform Hazardous Waste Manifest, which is required by EPA and state regulations.
- Those regulations also say that a generator must not abandon hazardous waste.

The incident was investigated by both the 88th RSC and the county environmental authorities, and the Soldier received appropriate disciplinary action from the Army for his misconduct. He is still facing potential prosecution by local authorities.

The teaching point of this incident for others is simply this: The disposal of hazardous waste is a serious matter that can be hazardous in more ways than one—hazardous to the environment and hazardous to the military careers of those who would violate the rules of hazardous waste disposal. The appropriate action for this Soldier would have been to contact his servicing aEPS to process the disposal of this hazardous waste.

## Hazardous Waste What to look out for

### Potential hazardous waste and related wastes.

- **Electrical Shops:** Solvents, oils, PCB's
- **Metal Shops:** Cutting oils, metal shavings
- **Energy Production Operations:** Boiler blowdown, feedwater chemicals
- **Hospitals:** Expired medical supplies, chemicals, x-ray fixer
- **NBC Storage:** DS-2, STB, decon kits, detector kits, filters, batteries
- **Weapons Storage:** Excess ammo, cleaning fluids, contaminated rags
- **Dry Cleaners:** Perchloroethylene, filters
- **Printing Plants:** Solvents, inks, contaminated rags
- **Incinerators:** Heavy metals, ashes
- **Warehouses:** Expired hazardous materials, spill residues
- **Battery Shop:** Battery acid, alkaline fluids, batteries, battery cells, spill residues
- **Carpentry Shop:** Varnishes, stains, adhesives, sealants, aerosols, spill residue, office/housing maintenance, solvents, oils, paints, adhesives, aerosols, fluorescent light bulbs
- **Paint Operations:** Paints, thinners, epoxies, filters, blast residue, spill residue
- **TASC:** Solvents, photo chemical, inks, blast residue, spill residue
- **Vehicle Maintenance:** Solvents, brake fluid, off-spec JP-8, antifreeze, batteries, battery acid, paints, paint strippers, paint thinners, epoxies, degreasers, mineral, spirits, tank bottom water & sludge, oils & lubricants, oil filters, asbestos brake pads, spill residue, oily rags, waste MOGAS, solvent rags, adhesives/sealants





## WORKING FOR YOU, SURGEON SEEKS YOUR ASSISTANCE

### Case Management initiative in place for medically not ready Soldiers

The 88th Regional Support Command Surgeon Office has implemented a case management initiative for Soldiers in the 88th RSC area of operations who are medically not ready and who have not yet reached their Medical Retention Determination Point. The MRDP is the point when the Soldier's progress appears to have medically stabilized; the course of further recovery is relatively predictable; and where it can be reasonably determined that the Soldier is most likely not capable of performing the duties required of the military occupational specialty, grade, or rank.

Seven registered nurse case managers, two enlisted case reviewers, and one nurse practitioner have been brought on to supplement the full-time Surgeon staff and provide this important service. The case management mission is to work directly with Soldiers and units to resolve medical issues.

The primary emphasis is on Soldiers who have received a "3" in their PULHES following a recent Periodic Health Assessment, but case management services are also available following submission of an RSC Profile Request Packet or upon referral from unit medical personnel.

Permanent physical profiles will no longer be written without specific medical documentation. The case management staff works directly with Soldiers to ensure the required documentation is available to validate the profile. The case management staff will assess medical needs and will develop and implement a plan of care in

collaboration with the Soldier. The case manager will help the Soldier navigate the Army medical system, will provide referral assistance, and will provide information on available resources.

For more information on the 88th RSC Case Management program or to refer a Soldier for case management services, contact Maj. John Evan, Nurse Administrator, at 608-388-0337 (email [John.Evan@usar.army.mil](mailto:John.Evan@usar.army.mil)) or the main 88th RSC Command Surgeon line at 608-388-1958.

### Psychological Health Low or no cost resources available

Research has shown that trouble with personal relationships and finances are two of the leading causes for a decline in psychological health. Too often, access to quality care is blocked by either a lack of insurance, being under insured and/or high cost. The 88th RSC Psychological Health Program is ran out of the Surgeon's Office and exists to assist service members, their Families and commands to find appropriate mental health resources. The program has been working to develop local community resources within the 88th RSC area of responsibility, often at low or no cost. In addition, the program has put together a list of financial resources available to all reservists, regardless of deployment history. For additional information, contact Mr. Jerry Nelson, 88th RSC Director of Psychological Health, at [Jerry.Nelson@Ceridian.com](mailto:Jerry.Nelson@Ceridian.com).

### Rules for Blogging on NCO NET

#### Blogging Shoes (to Elvis Presley's rendition of Blue Suede Shoes)

Well, it's one to make entries  
Two for the posts,  
Three to make comments,  
Now remarks, discussions about  
experiences go  
But don't you discuss classified or  
sensitive information.

You can do most anything  
make constructive entries,  
contribute to the professional  
debate  
But don't divulge planned or  
ongoing operations.  
Well, you can knock down less  
than factual statements,  
Step up and educate readers  
But don't slander, belittle or use  
derogatory commentary all over  
the place.  
Do anything that you want to do,  
but uh-uh,  
NCO, lay off violating the UCMJ  
Don't step on other's rights to  
post too

You can do anything but lay off  
the political posts  
You can't burn your leaders  
Do honor the ethics laws  
Drink up the knowledge  
Share in the experience  
Do anything that you want to do,  
but uh-uh,  
NCO, lay off of the copyrights  
Don't you step on intellectual  
properties  
You can do almost anything when  
wearing blogging shoes  
Well, it's one for communication  
Two for the camaraderie,  
Three to get smart  
Now go, NCO, go.  
But don't step on a blogger's shoes.



See these references to help you  
communicate better and effectively:  
Uniform Code Of Military Justice (UCMJ)  
"Hatch Act", 5 U.S.C. 7321-7326  
(Political Activity)  
DoD Joint Ethics Regulation -  
DoD 5500.7-R.  
Combined Arms Center Commanders  
Policy on blogging, #19-08 dated  
9 April 2008





# RECOGNIZE, REPORT SUSPICIOUS BEHAVIOR



Over the past three decades terrorist groups have committed acts of extreme violence for supposed political reasons. Often it seems as if these acts are committed at random and without reasons by lunatics who have no regard for the maiming and killing of innocent human beings or the violent destruction of property. If we look a little deeper into the problem, however, we will find that the individuals who commit these acts are human beings who are deeply committed to a cause. So deep is this commitment, they feel they are morally justified and are willing to go to any extreme in ensuring the achievement of their goals.

As citizens of the United States, we all become symbolic or official representatives of our government when traveling. Regardless of our status, as representatives of the United States, we become valuable targets to terrorist groups. Just as terrorists consider themselves to be Soldiers in the fight against capitalist oppression and imperialism, they also consider us to be legitimate targets, whether we are members of the military or innocent school children.

Antiterrorism is the defensive measures used to reduce the vulnerability of individuals and property to terrorist acts. You and your fellow Army community members can report behaviors and activities that do not look right. It is your awareness reported to local law enforcement that can help predict and prevent attacks before they happen.

## RECOGNIZE AND REPORT UNUSUAL OR SUSPICIOUS BEHAVIOR:

YOU are the first line of defense against terrorism. Be aware of your surroundings. Write down license plate numbers of suspicious vehicles; note description of occupants. Report anything unusual to your chain of command, local authorities, or the FBI.

## WHAT ACTIVITIES DO I REPORT?

Here are examples of behaviors and activities to report:

- People drawing or measuring important buildings.
- Strangers asking questions about security forces or security procedures.
- A briefcase, suitcase, backpack or package left behind.
- Cars or trucks left in "No Parking" zones in front of important buildings.
- Intruders found in secure areas.
- A person wearing clothes that are too big and bulky and/or too hot for the weather.
- Chemical smells or fumes that worry you.
- Questions about sensitive information such as building blueprints, security plans, or VIP travel schedules without a right or need to know.
- Purchasing supplies or equipment that can be used to make bombs or weapons or purchasing uniforms without having the proper credentials.

## WHAT TO REPORT?

- What type of activity?
- When did suspicious activity occur?
- Where did activity occur?
- How many people involved?
- How many vehicles involved?
- Describe what you saw.

## HOW DO I REPORT?

Call your local military police station or local law enforcement. In an emergency, call 911. If it doesn't LOOK right, report it! If it doesn't SMELL right, report it! If it doesn't SOUND right, report it!





# ELECTRONIC SENIOR ENLISTED BOARDS

## ENLISTED MANAGEMENT BRANCH

The 88th Regional Support Command (RSC) led the way again by conducting the first ever U. S. Army Reserve electronic Senior Enlisted Promotion Board during the period August 2011. Nine panels, consisting of 45 officers, command sergeants major, and sergeants major reviewed 2,253 promotion packets and recommended 963 Soldiers for promotion. This board was a very positive experience for all involved. They felt that the electronic files were more efficient way to review files versus the old hard copy packets.

Representatives from the other three RSCs and U.S. Army Reserve Command were present and took away several good ideas to be implemented into their boards later in the month.

The content of the promotion packets themselves was determined to be sub-standard. Soldiers still are not taking the appropriate time to ensure they present themselves in the best light to the promotion board. Many packets were missing required documents such as their official photo, Non-Commissioned Officer Evaluation Report (NCOER), and awards. Soldiers' commands are still not emphasizing the importance of NCOERs in the furthering of their careers; many were poorly written without bullets justifying "excellence" marks.

The next boards will be in August. Soldiers should get with their unit PSNCO or unit administrator now and review their iPERMS files and make sure all of their required documents are present for the August board. The suspense will be 1 July 2012.

Starting with the August 2011 Senior Promotion Board, Soldiers are only authorized to be boarded by the RSC in which they live. The February board includes a Time in Grade change to 36 months for all ranks. The Time in Service requirement has also changed to nine years for consideration to sergeant first class, 12 years for master sergeant, and 17 years for sergeant major.



## Non-commissioned officers

Non-commissioned officers (NCOs) are specialists in their areas. They can be craftsmen and/or supervisors and can provide education and training to both enlisted service members and officers.

### Who are the non-commissioned officers?

Enlisted service members in certain pay grades have special status. Those in grades E-5 through E-9 are considered non-commissioned officers in the Army, Air Force, and Marine Corps. A corporal (E-4) in the Marine Corps and Army is an NCO. In the Navy, service members in grades E-4 through E-9 are called "petty officers."

### Positions held by non-commissioned officers.

The NCOs specialize in specific occupations much like the junior enlisted personnel. However, they are more experienced and often provide leadership to others. An NCO could be compared to the line supervisor in a factory—performs the job, but also serves as trainer and supervisor. Senior NCOs (E-7 and above) are like the assistant managers of a company.

### How to recognize non-commissioned officers.

NCOs wear insignia of chevrons with or without added emblems.

## History Outtake

### 88th Infantry Division

**August 1917 - September 1918**

Camp Dodge in Des Moines, Iowa

**September 1918 - November 1918**

WWI France

**November 1918**

88th Division patch authorized

**June 10, 1919**

Deactivation at Camp Dodge, Iowa

**1921 - 1942**

Organized Reserves, Fort Snelling, Minn.

**1942 - 1945**

World War II: the division is activated at Camp McGruder, O.K.

Departs to North Africa. Enters combat in Italy in February 1944 until May 1945

**1945 - 1947**

Trieste, Italy

**1968 - 1996**

88th Army Reserve Command

Vietnam, Desert Shield, Desert Storm, Bosnia

**1996 - 2003**

Regional Support Command

Operations Enduring Freedom and Noble Eagle

**2003 - 2009**

Regional Readiness Command (RRC)

Enduring Freedom and Iraqi Freedom

**2009 - Current**

Regional Support Command

Operations Enduring Freedom, Iraqi Freedom, Noble Eagle and New Dawn





# EQUIPMENT UTILIZATION IS THE HEART MODERNIZATION

## Force Modernization

The Army Reserve's Force Modernization goal is to ensure that units have the newest authorized equipment to execute their assigned mission as they progress through the readiness cycle.

The 88th Regional Support Command Directorate of Logistics Force Modernization Program currently has two fully engaged Equipment Transition Sites (ETS) fielding a variety of new equipment. One is located at Fort McCoy, Wis., and the other in Ogden, Utah. Both are dedicated to receiving and de-processing new equipment, hosting New Equipment Training (NET) and the subsequent equipment hand-off to units within the 88th RSC base operations area of responsibility. These sites provide an environment complete with the capabilities to meet all the necessary requirements to properly field new equipment to Army Reserve units.

The ETS managers work with U. S. Army Reserve Command Supply System Integrators and Army Material Command (AMC) Item Managers in coordinating timelines for receiving and securing new equipment for select units. Equipment is controlled by each site until AMC program managers send in personell to de-process and field to the gaining units. Some equipment being fielded requires that units undergo NET before taking possession. Both sites have dedicated classrooms and maintenance bays to facilitate all procedures to successfully complete each fielding. Once the gaining units have received their new equipment and associated NET, the ETS assists with transportation requests and/or coordinating long term storage.

## Today's modernization is tomorrow's readiness

In some cases, the 88th RSC ETS in Utah field units from California, Nevada and Arizona which are located in the 63rd RSC's region. This is due to their primary ETSs being located at Fort Smith and North Little Rock, Ark.



(LEFT) Classroom where students go for maintenance training in Ogden, Utah, more than 200 are trained here.



Nearly 400 M-1165A1 High-Mobility Multipurpose Wheeled Vehicles (HMMWV) at Fort McCoy, Wis., await to be serviced and brought up to standards before Soldiers receive training and have them issued to their units. Photo provided by the 88th Regional Support Command Directorate of Public Works.



(RIGHT) Family Medium Tactical Vehicles (FMTV) at Fort McCoy, Wis., await to be serviced and issued to gaining units within the 88th Regional Support Command's area of operations.





# No RUSTY SABERS: BASE REALIGNMENT AND CLOSURE EVOLVES

## BRAC 2005 Progresses

The 2005 Defense Closure and Realignment Commission was authorized by Public Law 107-107 and amended P.L. 101-510 (Defense Closure and Realignment Act of 1990), which authorized Base Realignment and Closure (BRAC) in 1991, 1993, and 1995. BRAC 2005 served as an extension to the provisions which expired in 1995 and a combination of those included in the 2005 version.

BRAC was signed into law in 2005 as a process to restructure and cut expenditures for Department of Defense facilities in order to better support the needs of the ever changing U. S. military forces. Though there were no major closures of Army installations in the 88th Regional Support Command (RSC) area of operations, the Department of Defense did realign Fort Snelling, Minn., and re-established the 88th RSC at Fort McCoy, Wis. The commission initially identified approximately 42 facility closures across 15 states in the 88th RSC area of responsibility.



Faribault Armed Forces Reserve Center (Faribault, Minn.), BRAC project led by Minnesota Army National Guard, Project Cost - \$17 million, Soldiers moved into facility in 2010. Photo provided by the Directorate of Public Works



Vancouver Armed Forces Reserve Center (Vancouver, Wash.), BRAC project led by U. S. Army Reserve, Project cost - \$29 million, Soldiers moved into facility in 2011.

## 32 projects finished

As a result of BRAC 2005, the 88th RSC completed 32 new construction projects from 2007-2011. In the latest round of BRAC, the DOD shifted its focus away from personnel strength and more towards unit capabilities to support joint operations. In an effort to support joint operations, approximately 27 of the 32 projects conducted were joint projects shared by the U.S. Army Reserve and National Guard. The total cost of the 32 new construction projects is estimated at \$646 million. Also, BRAC 2005 mandated the closure and disposal of underutilized and older facilities. The 88th RSC has completed or scheduled 41 BRAC facility closures and four facility realignments. Of the 41 facilities identified for closure, 18 have been disposed, while the remaining 23 are being processed for disposal.

## Focus refined

Following the September 2011 deadline, the 88th RSC's focus shifted to disposals, relinquishments, transfer of Army Reserve facilities, and lease terminations. The 88th RSC was successful in transferring six facilities in four states to various school systems, municipalities, and government agencies. Nine of the 41 closures were terminated leases, which

stretched across five states in the 88th RSC area. The total cost of these leases had estimated value of \$184,000 a year, five of which were no cost leases.

As a result of BRAC 2005, the 88th RSC is now responsible for more facilities and total acreage than any other RSC in the Army Reserve. The 88th RSC Directorate of Public Works area spans 19 states, with 352 facilities, consisting of 15.8 million square feet of facility space and more than 11,427 square acres of land. Also, the 88th RSC now has 40 Area Maintenance Support Activities, 20 Organizational Maintenance Support facilities, and 18 Base Maintenance Activity facilities.

## ACOE Metrics

### Internal Compliance Assessments and SAVs:

FY11 – 140.8% of target (887 vs. target of 630)

FY11 Environmental Findings Identified in the Installation Corrective Action Plan (ICAP):

FY11 – 80.3% of target (241 vs. target of 300)

## Environmental Training:

FY11 – 109.2% of target (1,337 vs. target of 1,224)

## ICE (Customer Service responses)

### CSS Ticket Customer Response:

FY11 – 4.66 (target of > 4.50)

### Facility Support Customer Response:

FY11 – 4.47 (target > 4.25)

### Environmental Training Customer Response:

FY11 – 4.76 (target > 4.50)

### Environmental Compliance Customer Response:

FY11 – 4.80 (target > 4.50)

## CSS Ticket Closure Timeliness

### Closed within 30 days:

FY11 – 56.2% (target > 55%)

### Closed within 60 days:

FY11 – 81.3% (target > 75%)

### Closed within 90 days:

FY11 – 91.2% (target > 85%)





# NEED UNIT TRAINING?

SITE REQUESTS ARE EASY TO MAKE, DON'T DELAY, SPRING TRAINING IS SOON

## Do you know and use RFMSS?

RFMSS, or Range Facility Management Support System, is a web application used to request a training sited for your unit. In addition, it may be used to create usage numbers for justification of funds use for improvements and maintenance.

As the spring approaches and units think about annual combat training, unit trainers and commanders may want to look at the Local Training Areas (LTA) owned and operated by the 88th Regional Support Command. These are facilities with varying degrees of support on site. These sites can be reviewed and scheduled through the Digital Training Management System (DTMS) and RFMSS software links <https://rfmss.belvoir.army.mil>.

Get trained up! It is recommended that brigade or battalion level units send personnel to the RFMSS class to be the trainer for their subordinate units. For more information on the class contact Directorate of Plans and Training (DPT).

DPT is in the process of getting improvement projects approved and built on a LTA near you. For information on LTA locations and what they have to offer, or if you have a recommended training need for a specific LTA contact DPT.

Contacts: Adam Shultz at 608-388-0509 or Staff Sgt. Kyle Drube 608-388-0568.

## New HRC website goes 'live' to better serve Soldiers, veterans

Visit U.S. Army Human Resources Command: [www.hrc.army.mil](http://www.hrc.army.mil)

FORT KNOX, Ky. -- Today, the U.S. Army Human Resources Command launched a new website, [www.hrc.army.mil](http://www.hrc.army.mil), designed to increase Soldier awareness of and interest in HRC programs, policies and initiatives.

The website redesign better serves the customer by offering a streamlined, user-friendly site that makes information readily available and easy to find.

HRC's redesigned homepage is perhaps the most visible step forward in this project. Some of the website's new features are:

- **Advanced Search Capability.** "Keyword" search will direct users to relevant pages on a particular subject of interest.
- **Top Navigation Menu and Dynamic Content.** View the command's "enduring" items of interest and track the constantly changing "most popular" (most viewed) items visited on the website.
- **New emphasis on social-media integration** with a "YouTube" feed on the home page featuring HRC videos.
- **Survey for website/web-page feedback.** Rate each page you view and use. Comments will enable the website to better serve our worldwide customers.

The second phase of the HRC website redesign effort is scheduled for completion in May. The biggest feature to be added during this phase is the ability to customize and save "My HRC Page" to tailor your HRC website experience to fit your needs.



## How and What to Report

When you are interviewed by Army Counterintelligence, give as many details as you can. Here is a checklist to help.

- ☒ **Size:** Number and detailed description of people and vehicles. Identifying information such as unique distinguishing characteristics and license plates are important.
- ☒ **Activity:** What are the people/vehicles doing? What is suspicious? Provide as many details as possible.
- ☒ **Location:** Location(s) of people, vehicles, or activities. Include direction of travel and names of roads (if known).

- ☒ **Unit:** What unit they belong to, any markings, or insignias? Other identifying information on clothing or person such as brands, names, pictures, numbers or tattoos.
- ☒ **Time:** Time and date you observed the behavior. Include timeline of activities during observation. How long did you observe in total? Note time of any significant events or changes during observation.
- ☒ **Equipment:** Describe with as much detail as possible any equipment observed; such as cameras, writing/sketching instruments, tools, communications equipment, computer equipment, or weapons present.



# 338TH ARMY BAND RACES CHORDS AT NASCAR

Story and photos by Sgt. 1st Class Osvaldo P. Sanchez  
88th Regional Support Command Public Affairs

CAMBRIDGE TOWNSHIP, Mich.—As the sky cleared and the sun shined, the 338th Army Band played the Canadian and U.S. national anthems Aug. 21 during the pre-race of the Pure Michigan 400 NASCAR Sprint Cup Series at the Michigan International Speedway, Mich.

The band is an Army Reserve unit of the 88th Regional Support Command (RSC) and performs at various public events throughout the year to promote patriotism and the Army.

“It was a great opportunity for the band to be exposed to the community,” said Brig. Gen. Alton G. Berry, the deputy commanding general of the 88th RSC. He said it was good for the community to see how the military supports public events.

Stock car fans thanked the Soldiers for their service, others waved and some asked to take pictures.

Chief Warrant Officer 5 James G. Anderson, the command chief warrant officer of the 88th RSC, said audience members that were Soldiers, veterans and retirees approached the leadership and band members.

Anderson said, “We had hundreds of Soldiers come up to us, talked to us about the Army Reserve and told us they had Family members in Iraq and Kuwait. That’s just outstanding.”

He continued, “I encouraged band commanders to step outside the box, take on new assignments, and go to new places. Taking the 338th to Michigan (International Speedway) was over a year project. I think it turned out to be a great event for them today and I’m hoping that they are allowed to do it next year.”

The finale of this summer race season ended with an exciting split-second win by Kyle Busch. The U.S. Army stock car, driven by Ryan Newman, placed fifth.

The 338th Army Band is comprised of two elements based out of Michigan and Ohio, and it is a medium-sized band. It is, however, the largest band in the Army Reserve. The 88th Regional Support Command has six Army bands spread throughout the 19-state Northwest region of the United States.

**Visit the 338th Army Band on the internet:**

**<http://www.338tharmyband.com/>**

**<http://www.facebook.com/338thArmyBand>**



The 338th Army Band plays in front of more than 100,000 people during the pre-race of the Pure Michigan 400 NASCAR Sprint Cup Series at the Michigan International Speedway, Mich.



Members of the 338th Army Band pose with U. S. Army stock car driven by racer Ryan Newman at Pure Michigan 400 NASCAR Sprint Cup Series at the Michigan International Speedway, Mich.





# JAPANESE-AMERICAN VETS TOUR ARMY VESSEL

Story and photos by Sgt. 1st Class Osvaldo P. Sanchez  
88th Regional Support Command Public Affairs

TACOMA, Wash. —Did you know the U.S. Army has watercraft? Not small boats but vessels that are 314 feet in length, deck area of nearly 11,000 sq. ft., and a payload of 2,000 short tons.

To witness this modern marvel, Washington state representatives, Japanese-American (or nisei) veterans and other dignitaries toured the U.S. Army Staff Sgt. Robert T. Kuroda Logistics Support Vessel-7, or LSV-7, after a recognition ceremony held at the Chief Warrant Officer 4 Richard "Rick" Bishop Army Reserve Center in Tacoma, Wash., Aug. 24, 2011.

The Logistics Support Vessel-7, or LSV-7, named after the Medal of Honor recipient Kuroda, is docked outside the Reserve center at the Osman, Arnold, Kramer "OAK" Pier 23 and maintained by the Dept. of the Army Area Maintenance Support Activity #137.

Members of the Nisei Veterans Committee, or NVC, a group preserving the legacy of Japanese-American Soldiers who served in the highly decorated 100th/442nd Regimental Combat Team and Military

Intelligence Service during World War II, were recognized and later taken to board the LSV-7.

"We were very touched about what went on here today," said Thomas Y. Kometani, the commander of Seattle Nisei Veterans Committee. "It told the story of how the sacrifice of one G.I. who gave his all for the sake of freedom for our country. It's not just a Japanese-American story but I think it's a story for everybody."

Credit for the event went to Spc. Albert Audette, a watercraft operator of the 805th Transportation Detachment based here, who also works as a journal clerk in his civilian job at the House of Representatives. He said he sailed from Baltimore to Hawaii a year ago and, during the trip, he read the story of Kuroda on the plaque in the vessel.

He found that the local nisei veterans represented the unit Kuroda belonged to, so he informed the veterans through Rep. Sharon Tomiko-Santos of the 37th Legislative District, who observes a day of remembrance with the nisei.

"I looked up to see if [Kuroda] was in the 442nd, which he was and a nisei veteran," he said.

"[The NVC] came up to the capitol and so I brought it up to [Tomiko-Santos] that the vessel was going to be here. I thought it would be nice for [the nisei] to be able to take a tour."

Chief Warrant Officer 4 Tom M. Dike, the commander of the 805th, said he found that it may be the only opportunity these nisei veterans would be able to see the vessel.

"It sounded like a great idea," Dike said. "I thought it was important for my Soldiers to meet some veterans considering we're getting ready to deploy. I



U.S. Army Staff Sgt. Robert T. Kuroda Logistics Support Vessel-7 docked at the Osman, Arnold, Kramer "OAK" Pier in Tacoma, Washington, Aug. 24, 2011.

thought they needed that linkage."

"You need these veteran support groups because only a vet knows what a vet has been through—especially the combat veteran," he said. "So, that linkage between these veterans groups is important for all of us."

The Staff Sgt. Robert T. Kuroda LSV-7 will be used as a unit training platform, but its purpose is for worldwide and intra-theater transport of combat vehicles and sustainment cargo.



Washington state representatives, Nisei Veterans Committee members and other dignitaries tour the U.S. Army Staff Sgt. Robert T. Kuroda Logistics Support Vessel-7 docked at the Osman, Arnold, Kramer "OAK" Pier in Tacoma, Wash., Aug. 24, 2011.

**For more information on the Nisei Veterans Committee, go to [www.seattlencv.org](http://www.seattlencv.org). Historical facts on Staff Sgt. Robert T. Kuroda may be found at [www.army.mil/asianpacificSoldiers/moh/ww2/kuroda.htm](http://www.army.mil/asianpacificSoldiers/moh/ww2/kuroda.htm)**



## Army, Marine Corps, and Navy Reserve Units Host IOWA LEGISLATORS GET VISION OF RESERVE FORCES

Story and photos by Sgt. Daniel Lucas  
203rd Public Affairs Detachment

FORT DES MOINES, Iowa—The reserve component is continually transforming to meet the needs of each of the services. In an effort to keep Congress informed of the latest changes, leadership from the Army Reserve, Navy Reserve and Marine Corps Reserve units in Iowa joined together to host a Reserve Component Day for Iowa Congressional officials on Jan. 23 at Fort Des Moines.

Representatives from the offices of Sen. Charles Grassley, Sen. Tom Harkin, Rep. Leonard Boswell, Rep. Tom Latham and Rep. Steve King attended the event, which was facilitated by Maj. Gen. Glenn Lesniak, commanding general, 88th Regional Support Command (RSC), based at Fort McCoy, Wis. The 88th RSC is responsible for Army Reserve facilities across a 19-state region, including Iowa.

“The messages coming out of our command are being heard on the hill,” said Lesniak. “This is a chance to show off about what [the Army, Navy and Marines] do.”

The day began at the 103rd Expeditionary Sustainment Command (ESC), which hosted the Army Reserve portion of the event. Lesniak started the agenda with a general overview of the reserve component followed by a current state of the Army Reserve and a geographic overview of Army Reserve command structure. Brig. Gen. Mark Corson, commanding general, 103rd ESC, followed Lesniak and spoke about the 103rd ESC’s mission, recent deployment to Iraq, and the changes ahead for the command.

Leadership from the 300th Military Police Brigade, 402nd Engineer Company, 94th Division, and 4224th U.S. Army Hospital as well as the Employer Partnership of the Armed Forces were on hand to help answer questions.

The event also provided an opportunity for attendees to experience a little of the Army Reserve as, in the true spirit of sustainment, a lunch was prepared by 103rd ESC food service specialists. The 4224th U.S. Army Hospital showcased the vehicles and equipment they use as part of their homeland disaster response



1st Lt. Tanee Nimsakont, 4224th U.S. Army Hospital, shows Michele Mustain, representative from Rep. Tom Latham, and Marine Sgt. George Schaub, 24th Marine Regiment, the inner workings of a medical simulator, while Brig. Gen. Mark Corson, commanding general, 103rd Sustainment Command (Expeditionary) looks on.

mission as well as demonstrated several techniques used to treat patients by first responders.

“Every Reserve Soldier has a civilian career and background that allows him to bring certain higher level skill sets to his military career,” said Corson. “[The Army Reserve] is trained, ready and equipped.”

Attendees spent the afternoon in the historical Fort Des Moines building which houses the Navy Operational Support Center and Echo Company, 2nd Battalion, 24th Marine Regiment, for the Navy Reserve and Marine Corps Reserve presentations, respectively. The Navy Reserve continued the event with a tour of the shared facility, provided an introduction to nautical flags and a briefing on the capabilities of the Navy Reserve in Iowa.

Lt. Christopher Smith, commander, Navy Operational Support Center, quipped about the lack of large bodies of water in Iowa. “While we don’t have boats, we have manpower. The Reserve is a force multiplier that takes the pressure off our active component.”

“What do [Marine Reserves] have to offer?” asked Col. Gary Johnston, commander, 24th Marine Regiment, U.S. Marine Corps Reserve. “Manpower and the readiness to help out. We don’t have all the answers, that is why we have this venue to talk with everyone.”

The day concluded with a demonstration by the Marine Corps on the type of equipment and firepower they use in combat. Each attendee was given an opportunity to personally fire an M-9 pistol, a M-16A2 rifle, and a M-249 squad automatic weapon on a weapons simulation system. The simulator allows the Marines to maintain proficiency on their weapon systems.

The day served as an opportunity to educate, but also build an enduring relationship and continue communication between the reserve component in Iowa and community officials. “No matter what happens, just know that we are here,” said Lt. Col. Rosanna Dolphin, legislative liaison, 88th Regional Support Command. “And we can help.”



A Sailor, from the Navy Operational Support Center, explains to Reserve Component Day attendees the significance and tradition of the U.S. Navy Signal Flags and how they are used as an international language on the open sea.





# JOINT FORCES POPULATE IN ONE CENTER



Wisconsin Lt. Gov. Rebecca Kleefisch, the Civilian Aide to the Secretary of the Army, the Honorable Paul E. Lima, the Wisconsin Adjutant General, Maj. Gen. Donald P. Dunbar, and Wisconsin Army Reserve Ambassador, the Honorable Max Oleson, cut the ribbon opening a \$33 million armed forces readiness center in Madison, Wis., that houses four services in one location and designed to save millions in operating costs by combining five former facilities.

## **Story and photos by Sgt. 1st Class Darrin McDufford 88th Regional Support Command Public Affairs**

A \$33 million armed forces readiness center opened recently in Madison, Wis., that houses four services in one location and designed to save millions in operating costs by combining five former facilities.

The facility is part of a six-year old policy called the Base Realignment and Closure Act of 2005 the function of which is to assure an efficient force while following through on fiscal responsibility by reducing costs.

The center which will be home to about 1,000 service members, is designed to accommodate more service members from the Wisconsin Army National Guard, Army Reserve, Navy Reserve and Marine Reserve and culminates a nearly two-year project.

The combined square footage of the center is 178,000 square feet and sits on 40 acres of land. It allows for vehicle maintenance, marksmanship training, service member support that includes general training, mobilization sustainment, administrative as well as a host of other support activities allowing service members to focus on their specialties.

Dignitaries who came to officially open the center Saturday of Wisconsin's newest

training center at the state-owned facility on the city's far east side included, but were not limited to, Lt. Gov. Rebecca Kleefisch; the Wisconsin Adjutant General Maj. Gen. Donald P. Dunbar; the Honorable Paul E. Lima, Civilian Aide to the Secretary of the Army; and the Honorable Max Oleson, Army Reserve Ambassador for Wisconsin.

"This facility demonstrates the success of a project that began in 1990 that facilities be used for joint usage among reserve forces," said Lima, "I'm glad to see it implemented here today."

The sentiment of joint cooperation is echoed by Wisconsin's lieutenant governor. Kleefisch said, "I am proud of the service members who make sacrifices to serve. The collaboration of all services here will be able to train and unite in a 21st century facility. It will enhance training and cooperation."

"Citizen Soldiers, Airmen, Sailors and Marines citizens suit-up, go defend and return to train and this facility will help as they pursue those endeavors," said Dunbar.



# COMMUNITY COVENANT HIGHLIGHTS RESERVE CENTER OPENING

Story and photo by Sgt. 1st Class Ray Calef

103rd Sustainment Command (Expeditionary) Public Affairs

**A**RDEN HILLS, Minn.— A ribbon-cutting ceremony for a new Army Reserve Center was held in Arden Hills on Nov. 19, providing a state-of-the-art facility for the 203rd Transportation Company (Inland Cargo).

Community leaders, including Rep. Betty McCollum, D-Minn., and Army Reserve personnel, were on hand for the event which included an Army Community Covenant signing.

“The ceremony provided an excellent opportunity for the Army Reserve to develop a partnership and work more closely with the state of Minnesota and Arden Hills community,” said Col. Glenn Kolin, assigned to the 103rd Sustainment Command (Expeditionary) in Des Moines, Iowa. “The covenant reaffirms the bond between the military and the local community.”

McCollum spoke highly of the new facility. “It’s fantastic. It’s also an opportunity for the Army Reserve to bring civilians and Soldiers together. It is a significant asset to both the Army and the community,” she said.

The facility is so new, some finishing touches were still being done hours prior to the ceremony. It houses a weapons simulator, as well as a workout room, numerous offices, a computer lab, and a gymnasium.

Sgt. William Dullea, who joined the unit nearly a year ago, was pleased at the result of all of the hard work to facilitate the new building. “Amazing, big, it’s everything we need. You don’t have to go to another building to do training, and it has a huge parking lot. Plus, everything is solar.”

The “solar” refers to solar panels which are estimated to save the Army \$12,000 a year in power costs.

Command Sgt. Maj. Michael Koszuta, command sergeant major, 88th Regional Support Command, explained the process that brought the facility to Arden Hills. “The commander of the 88th, Maj. Gen. Glenn Lesniak, oversees the [Directorate] of Public Works,” he said. “That means that we are the landlords of the base operations including lights, land and water. This facility is a part of the Grow the Army campaign, which is essentially the downsizing of the ‘Big Army.’”

The Grow the Army program is a transformation and restationing initiative of the United States Army, which was announced in 2007 and scheduled to be completed by fiscal year 2013. Now that the Army Reserve has transformed from a Strategic Reserve to an Operational Reserve, the Grow the Army project will ensure that force capabilities are balanced in accordance with the Secretary of Defense’s guidance.

“In order to meet the demands, the Grow the Army initiative was enacted. Minnesotans and Congresswoman McCollum answered the Army’s call and the 203rd Transportation Company was born,” said Kolin.

The 203rd Transportation Company activated on Sept. 16, 2010, in Arden Hills, Minn. The unit is responsible for loading and transferring cargo at air, rail and truck terminals.

The new facility will enable the 203rd Transportation Company to maintain a high level of readiness in order to perform their mission. “Just from a storage and maintenance standpoint, it gives us more capabilities,” said Chief Warrant Officer 2 Robert Theobald, commander of the 203rd Transportation Company. “It addresses all of our training needs and beyond. We have room to expand and incorporate whatever the Army might throw at us.”

The new building also provides additional benefits. Koszuta said the Reserve center was made to make the unit to feel comfortable. “With their weapons simulator and workout facility, it will be a great recruiting and retention tool for them,” he said.

About 150 Soldiers are currently assigned to the 203rd, up from 30 a year ago. “This great facility will do well for the Soldiers, and what they face in the future,” said Kolin.



The 203rd Transportation Company hosted a ribbon-cutting ceremony for their new facility on Nov. 19. The ceremony included an Army Community Covenant signing. Signers pose with a copy of the covenant. The covenant signers (from left to right) Lt. Col. John Hahn, 457th Transportation Battalion; Rep. Betty McCollum, D-Minn.; Col. Michael Corrivealt, 644th Regional Support Group; Chief Warrant Officer 2 Robert Theobald, 203rd Transportation Company; Col. Glenn Kolin, 103rd Sustainment Command (Expeditionary); Army Reserve Ambassador Tom Haugo; Arden Hills Mayor David Grant; Amanda Kirby, 203rd Transportation Company; Lake Johanna Fire Department Fire Chief Tim Boehlke; Ramsey County Sheriff Matt Bostrom; and Capt. Wojciech Zajac, Minneapolis Army Recruiting Battalion.





# REINTEGRATION, RESILIENCE BUILDS SOLDIERS, TIGHTENS BONDS

Story and photo by Sgt. 1st Class Darrin McDufford  
88th Regional Support Command Public Affairs

Soldiers' toolboxes contain many items for them to do their jobs. The impact of their performance is far reaching and often goes unnoticed by the general public as they attend to their daily lives.

The Yellow Ribbon Reintegration Program (YRRP) is a fairly new tool that Army Reserve and National Guard Soldiers have to help them with their reintegration. During the past 10 years, more than 100,000 Army Reserve and National Guard Soldiers have served in combat and experienced the stressors of war.

Recently, the highest ranking enlisted member of the U.S. armed forces visited a Yellow Ribbon Reintegration Program event in Denver, to see what the event offers. These Soldiers and their families over this two-day period discuss reuniting, prevention techniques, and other valued resources.

"Much of the focus has been on exhausting every effort in providing the service member all the tools and capabilities so they are ready, relevant and capable of accomplishing their objectives and goals both on the battlefield and at home," said Marine Corps Sgt. Maj. Bryan B. Battaglia, the senior enlisted advisor to the chairman of the joint chiefs of staff. "Deployments impacts families."

"The active force has the resources right there when they return. He added that the Yellow Ribbon Reintegration Program for a Reservist has to also serve as a transition program. Regardless of service component, reintegration brings a common denominator - challenges and stressors. "Our men and women need additional avenues and best practices to help adapt to a civilian lifestyle," Battaglia stressed.

The program began just over four years ago through the National Defense Authorization Act and it has benefitted tens of thousands of service members from all branches. It assists in dealing with prevention of suicide, domestic violence, alcohol and drug use and other interruptive areas that impact the health of the force and distract from good order.

"The program assists in providing services and



Maj. Gen Glenn Lesniak, right, and Command Sgt. Maj. Michael Koszuta of the 88th Regional Support Command meet with Sgt. Maj. Brian Battaglia, the senior enlisted advisor to the chairman of the joint chiefs of staff, to discuss the Yellow Ribbon Reintegration Program and its role in helping reintegrate Army Reserve Soldiers return to civilian status.

helping reintegrate through education, awareness, resilience, and resources for both the family and the service member," Battaglia said. The Yellow Ribbon Reintegration Program also offers civilian employment and education counseling. Battaglia added, "But it's not a one size fits all program."

One recent venue program was held in Denver by the 88th Regional Support Command and offered support resources to nearly 800 Army Reserve Soldiers from across 37 states.

"With many deployments throughout my career, Lisa (Battaglia's wife) and I continue to reintegrate. We understand the importance of resilience programs such

as this and the needed resources to make a positive impact," Battaglia said.

The program doesn't begin when service members return from a deployment; rather, before they leave and covers all the parts of the deployment cycle: (1) pre-deployment; (2) deployment; (3) demobilization; and (4) post-deployment-reconstitution (which consist of three tracks: 30, 60, 90 days.) More importantly, reintegration does not cease upon the 90 day period marking the end of the Yellow Ribbon Reintegration Program agenda. "It's been three years since I redeployed but will tell you that Lisa and I still find ourselves mildly reintegrating in order to maintain a resilient lifestyle."



# Japanese-American veterans honor one of their own

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