



# READY RIFLES and the Regulars "SITREP"

Official Newsletter of the  
Veterans of the 52nd and 6th Infantry Regiments Stationed in Bamberg Germany 1972 to 1990



Vol 9 Issue 10

## Contents

<b>THE ORIGINS OF VETERANS DAY .....</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>ARMISTICE DAY CHANGED TO HONOR ALL VETERANS    2</b>	
<b>NATIONAL CEREMONIES HELD AT ARLINGTON NATIONAL CEMETERY    2</b>	
<b>PROCLAMATION 3071—VETERAN'S DAY, 1954 .....</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>7 THINGS THAT YOU PROBABLY DID NOT KNOW ABOUT THANKSGIVING AND THE MILITARY .....</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>SOME VETERANS DAY QUOTES .....</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>TAPS.....</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>COLONEL ANTHONY M. JEZIOR (RET.) 5</b>	
<b>THE PURPOSE OF OUR NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION .....</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>VETERANS OF THE 52ND AND 6TH INFANTRY REGIMENTS STATIONED IN BAMBERG GERMANY 1972 TO 1990.....</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>2023 WASHINGTON D.C. REUNION .....</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>ARLINGTON NATIONAL CEMETERY    6</b>	
<b>SCOOTER IN NEED OF A GOOD HOME .....</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>WHAT DID YOU DO WHILE IN THE 1/52 OR THE 7/6.....</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>SUCCESSION LIST .....</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>HELPFUL TIPS - EAT WISELY .....</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>MEMBERSHIP DONATIONS.....</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>VA INFORMATION .....</b>	<b>9</b>
<b>HELPFUL VA PHONE NUMBERS.....</b>	<b>9</b>
<b>WEBSITES AND CONTACT INFO. ....</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>SPECOPSNET.ORG .....</b>	<b>10</b>

## The Origins of Veterans Day

<https://www.va.gov/opa/publications/celebrate/vetday.pdf>

In 1921, an unknown World War I American soldier was buried in Arlington National Cemetery. This site, on a hillside overlooking the Potomac River and the city of Washington, D.C., became the focal point of reverence for America’s veterans.

Similar ceremonies occurred earlier in England and France, where an unknown soldier was buried in each nation’s highest place of honor (in England, Westminster Abbey; in France, the Arc de Triomphe). These memorial gestures all took place on November 11, giving universal recognition to the celebrated ending of World War I fighting at 11 a.m., November 11, 1918 (the 11th hour of the 11th day of the 11th month). The day became known as “Armistice Day.”

Armistice Day officially received its name in America in 1926 through a Congressional resolution. It became a national holiday 12 years later by similar Congressional action. If the idealistic hope had been realized that World War I was “the War to end all wars,” November 11 might still be called Armistice Day. But only a few years after the holiday was proclaimed, war broke out in Europe. Sixteen and one-half million Americans took part. Four hundred seven thousand of them died in service, more than 292,000 in battle.

## **Armistice Day Changed To Honor All Veterans**

The first celebration using the term Veterans Day occurred in Birmingham, Alabama, in 1947. Raymond Weeks, a World War II veteran, organized "National Veterans Day," which included a parade and other festivities, to honor all veterans. The event was held on November 11, then designated Armistice Day. Later, U.S. Representative Edward Rees of Kansas proposed a bill that would change Armistice Day to Veterans Day. In 1954, Congress passed the bill that President Eisenhower signed proclaiming November 11 as Veterans Day. Raymond Weeks received the Presidential Citizens Medal from President Reagan in November 1982. Weeks' local parade and ceremonies are now an annual event celebrated nationwide.

On Memorial Day 1958, two more unidentified American war dead were brought from overseas and interred in the plaza beside the unknown soldier of World War I. One was killed in World War II, the other in the Korean War. In 1984, an unknown serviceman from the Vietnam War was placed alongside the others. The remains from Vietnam were exhumed May 14, 1998, identified as Air Force 1st Lt. Michael Joseph Blassie, and removed for burial. To honor these men, symbolic of all Americans who gave their lives in all wars, an Army honor guard, the 3rd U.S. Infantry (The Old Guard), keeps day and night vigil.

A law passed in 1968 changed the national commemoration of Veterans Day to the fourth Monday in October. It soon became apparent, however, that November 11 was a date of historic significance to many Americans. Therefore, in 1978 Congress returned the observance to its traditional date.

## **National Ceremonies Held at Arlington National Cemetery**

The focal point for official, national ceremonies for Veterans Day continues to be the memorial amphitheater built around the Tomb of the Unknowns. At 11 a.m. on November 11, a combined color guard representing all military services executes "Present Arms" at the tomb. The nation's tribute to its war dead is symbolized by the laying of a presidential wreath. The bugler plays "taps." The rest of the ceremony takes place in the amphitheater.

Veterans Day ceremonies at Arlington and elsewhere are coordinated by the President's Veterans Day National Committee. Chaired by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs, the committee represents national veterans organizations.

Governors of many states and U.S. territories appoint Veterans Day chairpersons who, in cooperation with the National Committee and the Department of Defense, arrange and promote local ceremonies.

## **Proclamation 3071—Veteran's Day, 1954**

<https://www.presidency.ucsb.edu/documents/proclamation-3071-veterans-day-1954>

October 08, 1954

*By the President of the United States of America*

### **A Proclamation**

*Whereas* it has long been our custom to commemorate November 11, the anniversary of the ending of World War I, by paying tribute to the heroes of that tragic struggle and by rededicating ourselves to the cause of peace; and

*Whereas* in the intervening years the United States has been involved in two other great military conflicts, which have added millions of veterans living and dead to the honor rolls of this Nation; and

*Whereas* the Congress passed a concurrent resolution on June 4, 1926 (44 Stat. 1982), calling for the observance of November 11 with appropriate ceremonies, and later provided in an act approved May 13, 1938 (52 Stat. 351), that the eleventh of November should be a legal holiday and should be known as Armistice Day; and

*Whereas*, in order to expand the significance of that commemoration and in order that a grateful Nation might pay appropriate homage to the veterans of all its wars who have contributed so much to the preservation of this Nation, the Congress, by an act approved June 1, 1954 (68 Stat. 168), changed the name of the holiday to Veterans Day:

Now, Therefore, I, Dwight D. Eisenhower, President of the United States of America, do hereby call upon all of our citizens to observe Thursday, November 11, 1954, as Veterans Day. On that day let us solemnly remember the sacrifices of all those who fought so valiantly, on the seas, in the air, and on foreign shores, to preserve our heritage of freedom, and let us reconsecrate ourselves to the task of promoting an enduring peace so that their efforts shall not have been in vain. I also direct the appropriate officials of the Government to arrange for the display of the flag of the United States on all public buildings on Veterans Day.

In order to insure proper and widespread observance of this anniversary, all veterans, all veterans' organizations, and the entire citizenry will wish to join hands in the common purpose. Toward this end, I am designating the Administrator of Veterans' Affairs as Chairman of a Veterans Day National Committee, which shall include such other persons as the Chairman may select, and which will coordinate at the national level necessary planning for the observance. I am also requesting the heads of all departments and agencies of the Executive branch of the Government to assist the National Committee in every way possible.

*In Witness Whereof*, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the United States of America to be affixed.

DONE at the City of Washington this eighth day of October in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred and fifty-four, and of the Independence of the United States of America the one hundred and seventy-ninth.



DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER

By the President:

JOHN FOSTER DULLES,

*Secretary of State*

## 7 Things That You Probably Did Not Know about Thanksgiving and the Military

<https://taskandpurpose.com/history/thanksgiving-military-history-facts/>

*Editor's note: This article was originally published in November 2016*

One hundred and fifty six Thanksgivings. That's how many our country has celebrated since the holiday's national recognition. During that time, our armed forces have fought in numerous wars and conflicts, and many service members have spent Thanksgiving Day deployed in foreign countries or behind enemy lines.

And despite huge nutritional and logistical challenges, the spirit of Thanksgiving has been alive and well in the armed forces for over a century.

Here are seven things you probably didn't know about Thanksgiving and the military:

### 1. The first nationally recognized Thanksgiving wasn't observed by the military because of resources.

In October 1863, Abraham Lincoln was the first president to proclaim a national Thanksgiving, with the Civil War in full swing. But the Army's commissary didn't have the necessary food, both in type and quantity, to provide a full Thanksgiving meal for the troops. Awkward.

### 2. Abraham Lincoln is kind of responsible for Black Friday

Lincoln's Thanksgiving Proclamation of 1863 stipulated that the American people "set apart and observe the last Thursday of November next, as a day of thanksgiving." This means, as a nation, we're permanently #blessed with Friday following Thanksgiving Day. Leave it to us to pair extra days with more excuses for capitalism.

### 3. Add Spain to your list of Thanksgiving blessings

The Spanish-American War was the first overseas war fought by the United States. Transporting food was extraordinarily difficult, with many rations spoiling before reaching their destination. But American ingenuity

prevailed by 1905, with the establishment of a cooking school at Fort Riley which made future military Thanksgivings possible.

#### **4. Americans were guilt-tripped into rationing**

During World War I, rations for “doughboys” were greatly improved. A greater and fresher array of food was made available, even to troops serving on the front lines. Camps provided a hot turkey dinner for their service members. Despite this, citizens at home were instructed by the government to “Eat less wheat, meat, fats, sugar. Send more to Europe or they will starve.”

#### **5. Even Nazis couldn't stop Thanksgiving**

World War II presented a hugely intricate logistics challenge in supplying our troops with food. During this time, soldiers subsisted largely on canned goods, dried fruit, and powdered eggs. But for Thanksgiving the supply chain went to extraordinary lengths by transporting over 1.6 tons of turkey to ensure the troops ate a traditional hot dinner.

#### **6. Vietnam incepted the MRE**

By the time the Vietnam War rolled around, advances in food preservation and transportation made it possible for the majority of soldiers to eat two hot meals per day. To serve the traditional Thanksgiving meal, soldiers were rotated off the front lines. The amount of food being prepared necessitated standardized guidelines, which gave birth to the Armed Forces Recipe Service in 1968, which means we get chili mac today.

#### **7. Four branches means four different Thanksgiving meals**

The present-day Army, Navy, Air Force, and Marine Corps create individual Thanksgiving menus for their forces. But the recipes are standardized by the U.S. Army Natick Soldier Systems Center, aka USSC. USSC food technologists have created over 1,500 standardized recipes, including ones for a traditional Thanksgiving dinner. (Roast turkey can be found under L-161-00.) This means that our deployed troops will enjoy a dinner like they would at home, with I-013-00, aka pumpkin pie, included.

## **Some Veterans Day Quotes**

<https://www.womansday.com/life/inspirational-stories/g29711962/veterans-day-quotes/>

ARTHUR ASHE

“True heroism is remarkably sober, very undramatic. It is not the urge to surpass all others at whatever cost, but the urge to serve others at whatever cost.”

ALEXANDER HAMILTON

“There is a certain enthusiasm in liberty, that makes human nature rise about itself, in acts of bravery and heroism.”

Douglas MacArthur

“The soldier above all others prays for peace, for it is the soldier who must suffer and bear the deepest wounds and scars of war.”

Mark Twain

“Courage is resistance to fear, mastery of fear — not absence of fear.”

Michel de Montaigne

“Valor is stability, not of legs and arms, but of courage and the soul.”

Claudia Pemberton

“America without her soldiers would be like God without his angels.”

Elmer Davis

“This will remain the Land of the Free only so long as it is the Home of the Brave.”

Abraham Lincoln

“Honor to the soldier and sailor everywhere, who bravely bears his country's cause. Honor, also, to the citizen who cares for his brother in the field and serves, as he best can, the same cause.”

## Taps

Bothers that have recently passed away.

### Colonel Anthony M. Jezior (Ret.)



Colonel Anthony M. Jezior, USA (Ret.), age 88, passed away on October 14, 2022. Son of the late Thaddeus and Victoria Jezior. Husband of Barbara (Bonnie), Cary, NC. Father/Father-in-Law of Susan Jezior Slane and Brian Slane of Temecula, CA, Deborah A. Jezior of San Diego, CA, and Kathryn Jezior and Ronald Lattanze of Morrisville, NC. Grandfather of Patrick Slane, Andrea Slane, Samantha Lattanze, and Alexa Lattanze. Brother of Elizabeth Buckley of Cape Cod, Massachusetts, Michael of Washington Township, New Jersey, and Lucia of Parma, Ohio. Colonel Jezior graduated from Cathedral Latin High School in Cleveland, Ohio; United States Military Academy (B.S), West Point, New York, and Georgia Institute of Technology (M.S.), Atlanta, Georgia. He served for 23 years in the U.S. Army Infantry in locations throughout the United States, Europe, and Asia. In Vietnam he served in the 1st Battalion, 16th Infantry Division (the Big Red One). Among his numerous awards were the Legion of Merit, Silver Star, Bronze Star with Second Oak Leaf Cluster, Purple Heart, and Combat Infantry Badge. He was qualified as a Paratrooper and Ranger. After retiring from the U.S. Army, Colonel Jezior was employed by Digital Equipment Corp. in a variety of management positions. After retiring from Digital, he did management consulting in Washington D.C. and Ohio. The memorial service and burial will take place at a later date at Arlington National Cemetery. It is suggested that any contributions be made to the 1st Infantry Division Scholarship Fund, P.O. Box 607, Ambler, PA 19002 Attn: General Scholarship Fund [(215) 740-0669].

<https://obits.cleveland.com/us/obituaries/cleveland/name/anthony-jezior-obituary?id=36884871>

## The Purpose of our Nonprofit Organization

### Veterans of the 52nd and 6th Infantry Regiments Stationed in Bamberg Germany 1972 to 1990

- Locate former members of the battalion and increase the active membership.
- Provide remembrances and memorials for members that have passed.
- Expand the battalion succession roster; you can help by adding names and dates to the roster. More information is in this SITREP.
- Gather information on the history of the battalion during the Cold War years. We are looking for Annual Historical Report(s) for the years 1972 to 1990 (so far, we have the one from 1978), look in your files, you might have a copy, as well as soliciting information on activities (exercises, competitions, trips) that involved members of the battalion during those years.
- Funding. Nonprofit Organizations cannot operate without funds; we can all help by soliciting corporate donations, making individual annual donations, and suggesting fund raising opportunities.
- September 2023 Reunion. Although the next reunion in the Washington, DC area is 13 months away planning began back in 2021 before the San Antonio reunion had concluded. More information is in this SITREP

Board Members:

Dennis Barletta - President

Robert Pruitt - Vice President

Mike Steff - Treasurer

Bill Burt - Secretary

Bob Domenici - Board Member

Bill Patterson - Board Member

Zak Kozak - Board Member

## 2023 Washington D.C. Reunion

<https://www.arlingtoncemetery.mil/Explore/History-of-Arlington-National-Cemetery>

Veterans of the 52<sup>nd</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> Infantry Regiments Stationed Bamberg reunion will be held Wednesday through Sunday, September 13-17, 2023, in Washington DC area.



Our reunion hotel will be the Crowne Plaza Hotel Crystal City-Washington, D.C, which is in Crystal City, 1480 Crystal Drive, Arlington, Virginia 22202. We will make an announcement when the hotel is ready to receive your reservations. The basic hotel rate is \$99 a night, with taxes extra

### **Arlington National Cemetery**

Arlington Estate was established by George Washington's adopted grandson, George Washington Parke Custis, to be a living memorial to the first president. Custis's daughter, Mary, married U.S. Army 1st Lieutenant Robert E. Lee in 1831. When he died, Custis left the estate to his daughter Mary Custis Lee for the duration of her life, and upon her death, her eldest son would inherit the property. Robert E. Lee served as the executor of his father-in-law's will and never owned the property.



ARLINGTON  
NATIONAL CEMETERY  
HONOR • REMEMBER • EXPLORE

After the Lees abandoned the property at the start of the Civil War, the U.S. Army seized Arlington Estate on the morning of May 24, 1861 to defend Washington, D.C. From the property's heights, rifled artillery could range every federal building in the nation's capital. The estate was seized not to punish the Custis-Lee family, but rather for its strategic value. Three forts were built on the property during the Civil War: Fort Cass/Rosslyn, Fort Whipple/Fort Myer and Fort McPherson (currently Section 11 of the cemetery). Beginning in June 1863, a large Freedman's Village, established for freed and escaped slaves, was established in what today are Sections 3, 4, 8, 18 and 20.

On May 13, 1864, the first military burial was conducted for Private William Christman. Brigadier General Montgomery Meigs, Quartermaster General of the U.S. Army, who was responsible for the burial of soldiers, ordered Arlington Estate used for a cemetery. The existing D.C.-area national cemeteries (Soldiers' Home and Alexandria National Cemeteries) were running out of space — both closed on the day that burials began at Arlington.

Arlington officially became a national cemetery on June 15, 1864, by order of Secretary of War Edwin Stanton. The original cemetery was 200 acres, and has since grown to 639 acres (as of early 2020). Arlington became a segregated cemetery, just like all national cemeteries at the time, and remained segregated by race and rank until 1948, when President Harry S. Truman desegregated the military. The primary burial ground for white Civil War soldiers became Section 13. Meanwhile, Section 27 became the area for African American soldiers and freed people; more than 3,800 freed African Americans are buried in Section 27.

Initially, being buried at a national cemetery was not considered an honor, but it ensured that service members whose families could not afford to bring them home for a funeral were given a proper burial. The first official "Decoration Day," later renamed Memorial Day, was held at Arlington National Cemetery on May 30, 1868. This tradition continues today, and is one reason why Arlington transformed from being one of many national cemeteries into the premier national military cemetery. The event was so popular that in 1873, an amphitheater was constructed to hold the official ceremonies. (Renamed the James Tanner Amphitheater, it reopened in 2019 after restoration.) Beginning in the late 1870s, high-ranking veterans began requesting burial in the Officers' Sections (Sections 1, 2 and 3).

In 1899, the U.S. government began repatriating, at its own expense, service members who died overseas in the Spanish-American War. Arlington National Cemetery consequently expanded to include Sections 21, 22 and 24. In 1900, Congress authorized a designated section for Confederate soldiers, at a time when the nation was trying to reconcile after the Civil War. The Confederate section (Section 16) contains the graves of 482 veterans and spouses. After World War I, more than 2,000 U.S. service members were repatriated to Arlington National Cemetery, and interred in Sections 18 and 19.



The Tomb of the Unknown Soldier was dedicated on November 11, 1921, with interment of the Unknown from World War I. President William Howard Taft was buried at Arlington in 1930, making him one of only two presidents buried here. President John F. Kennedy became the second on November 25, 1963. For years after President Kennedy's televised state funeral, the number of requests for burial at Arlington grew exponentially. By the 1980s, to prevent the cemetery from running out of space, the U.S. government authorized expansion and established new regulations to restrict eligibility for in-ground burial. Columbarium courts were also created for above-

ground inurnments.

Today, approximately 400,000 veterans and their eligible dependents are buried at Arlington National Cemetery. Service members from every one of America's major wars, from the Revolutionary War to today's conflicts, are interred at ANC. As a result, the history of our nation is reflected on the grounds of the cemetery.

## Scooter in need of a Good Home



Chuck Paulson has approached the Board of Directors with request. Chucks dad passed away earlier this year. His dad had a scooter that Chuck has inherited. Chucks knows his dad would love it if his scooter went to a veteran. He would like to donate it to someone in the group that needs help getting around or has a scooter in need of a lot of repairs. The Board of Directors are willing to cover shipping cost. Please let me, Bill Burt, know if you are in need or have any questions.

## What Did You do While in the 1/52 or the 7/6

We are looking for what you did as a squad, platoon, company, or battalion. Things like what Mike Ferguson said in his Roll Call Bio, was on a rifle team and the Nijmegen Team. We are looking for dates (specific or best guess) when companies went to ranges, REFORGERS, PCT training, Miesau guard duty, company trips, field problems, Celebration (Remagen Bridge Anniversaries), 100-mile marches, and anything else that one can remember. Please send anything you can think of nothing is too trivial. The more we collect the more others remember. Please send information to [Bill.Burt@152-76inf-coldwarvetsbamberg.org](mailto:Bill.Burt@152-76inf-coldwarvetsbamberg.org), reply to the email that the Sitrep came from or send Bill Burt a Facebook message.

## Succession List

By Zak Kozak

Background: The succession list became a project at the Atlanta reunion when several 70s era Ready Rifles got together and tried to remember who served in what capacity when. We brought what we had to the San Antonio reunion hoping others would weigh in and remember more of the soldiers next to them in formation, on a vehicle with them, working with them in the motor pool, eating with them in the mess hall, or sharing pup tents or hot bagging sleeping bags.

Mission: Capture the names of as many as possible of the ~15,000 soldiers who served in 1-52 and 76 Inf in Bamberg during the Cold War.

What We Need:

1. We ask every soldier to look at the list and help us move names from below the grid into the grid. We also hope everyone will remember names we do not have and pass that to Bill Burt, along with whatever other information about their time in Bamberg, or their current contact information you might have.

2. About a third of the names on Bill Burt's roster do not identify the year or unit of service. As a result, we left those names of the succession list entirely. So, if you get a SITREP from Bill but your name isn't on the roster please let him know the years you served and what positions you held in sequence and the year so we can put your name where it belongs.

3. Try to remember two names of fellow soldiers in your squad/section/platoon and if they aren't already on the succession list send in names to Bill Burt with as much information as you can recall. POC is: Bill Burt <bill.burt@152-76inf-coldwarvetsbamberg.org>

4. Look for copies of old promotion orders, assignment orders, training courses, other documents that have your name and that of fellow soldiers. maybe TMP drivers training, gunner qualification, Nijmegen March...etc. Anything you have that documents soldiers in the battalion will be useful

5. We are looking for a couple of volunteers to help Bill track down the whereabouts of soldiers we identify.

## Helpful Tips - Eat Wisely

<https://www.myhealth.va.gov/mhv-portal-web/helpful-tips-eat-wisely>

Try using these five (5) Strategies for Eating Wisely:

### Strategy 1: Be Flexible!

Go ahead and balance what you eat and the physical activity you do over several days. No need to worry about just one meal or one day. Eating right, while enjoying favorite goodies is a bit of a balancing act but not a tough act to follow when you keep the big picture in mind.

### Strategy 2: Be Sensible!

Enjoy all foods, just do not overdo it. Eating is meant to be a pleasure. To enjoy foods that are higher in fat, salt, or sugar, just keep portion sizes sensible.

### Strategy 3: Be Realistic!

Make small changes over time in what you eat and the level of activity you do. After all, small steps work better (and are safer) than giant leaps. All good things take time, including achieving a healthful lifestyle. Take it slow and watch those small steps add up to good health.

### Strategy 4: Be Active!

Walk the dog, do not just watch the dog walk. Being physically active is a great way to burn off high-calorie treats. Plus, you will look better, feel better, and reduce your risk for heart disease, high blood pressure, diabetes, and osteoporosis.

### Strategy 5: Be Adventurous!

Expand your tastes to enjoy a variety of foods. More than 15,000 new food products arrive on supermarket shelves each year, yet many people eat only eight or ten core foods most of the time. Expand your culinary horizons by trying foods you have not had before. You just might find some new favorites.

## Membership Donations

There is no membership fee to belong. We do ask that if you can afford a \$10 annual donation. This goes straight to cover cost of printings and mailings of reunion information, annual cost to register the non-profit group and other organizational cost. Once again this is not a requirement of being a member but would be greatly appreciated.

As of right now the organization has not set up any electronic payment options, we can only accept checks. We are looking into that currently and will update you as I receive more information. If you care to send in a donation, please make checks payable to "**Veterans of the 52nd and 6th Infantry Regiments**"

The address to send them to is:

**Veterans of the 52nd and 6th Infantry Regiments**

**25 South Pointe Lane**

**Moneta, VA 24121**





# READY RIFLES and the Regulars "SITREP"

Official Newsletter of the  
Veterans of the 52nd and 6th Infantry Regiments Stationed in Bamberg Germany 1972 to 1990



October 2022

Vol 9 Issue 10

## VA Information

### Helpful VA phone numbers

#### [Find a VA location](#)

Main VA phone numbers

MyVA411 main information line

[800-698-2411](tel:800-698-2411)

Hours: 24/7

Telecommunications Relay Services (using TTY)

[711](tel:711)

Hours: 24/7

### VA health care

VA health benefits hotline

[877-222-8387](tel:877-222-8387)

Hours: Monday through Friday,

8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. ET

My HealtheVet help desk

[877-327-0022](tel:877-327-0022)

Hours: Monday through Friday,

8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. ET

Civilian Health and Medical Program of the  
Department of Veterans Affairs (CHAMPVA)

[800-733-8387](tel:800-733-8387)

Hours: Monday through Friday,

8:05 a.m. to 7:30 p.m. ET

CHAMPVA Meds by Mail

[888-385-0235](tel:888-385-0235)

Hours: Monday through Friday,

8:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. MT

[866-229-7389](tel:866-229-7389)

Hours: Monday through Friday,

8:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. ET

Foreign Medical Program (FMP)

[877-345-8179](tel:877-345-8179)

Hours: Monday through Friday,

8:05 a.m. to 6:45 p.m. ET

Quit VET (get help from a counselor to stop  
smoking)

[855-784-8838](tel:855-784-8838)

Hours: Monday through Friday,

9:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. ET

MISSION Act

[800-698-2411](tel:800-698-2411), Select 1

Hours: 24/7

Spina Bifida Health Care Benefits Program

[888-820-1756](tel:888-820-1756)

Hours: Monday through Friday,

8:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. ET

Caregiver support line

[855-260-3274](tel:855-260-3274)

Hours: Monday through Friday,

8:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m. ET, and

Saturday, 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. ET

### VA benefits

VA benefits hotline

[800-827-1000](tel:800-827-1000)

Hours: Monday through Friday,

8:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. ET

GI Bill hotline

[888-442-4551](tel:888-442-4551)

Hours: Monday through Friday,

8:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. ET

Students outside the U.S.

[+1-918-781-5678](tel:+1-918-781-5678) This isn't toll-free.

Hours: Monday through Friday,

8:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. ET

VA loan guaranty service

[877-827-3702](tel:877-827-3702)

Hours: Monday through Friday,

8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. ET.

National pension call center

[877-294-6380](tel:877-294-6380)

Hours: Monday through Friday,

8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. ET

Support for SGLI or VGLI

[800-419-1473](tel:800-419-1473)

Hours: Monday through Friday,  
8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. ET

All other VA life insurance programs

[800-669-8477](tel:800-669-8477)

Hours: Monday through Friday,  
8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. ET

Special issue hotline (Blue Water Navy Act, Gulf War, Agent Orange, and other information)

[800-749-8387](tel:800-749-8387)

Hours: Monday through Friday,  
8:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. ET

## **Burials and memorials**

National Cemetery Scheduling Office

[800-535-1117](tel:800-535-1117)

Hours: Every day, 8:00 a.m. to 7:30 p.m. ET

Headstones and markers

[800-697-6947](tel:800-697-6947)

Hours: Monday through Friday,  
8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. ET

## **Other VA support**

Women Veterans hotline

[855-829-6636](tel:855-829-6636)

Hours: Monday through Friday,

8:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m. ET, and  
Saturday, 8:00 a.m. to 6:30 p.m. ET

eBenefits technical support

[800-983-0937](tel:800-983-0937)

Hours: Monday through Friday,  
8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. ET

Debt Management Center (collection of nonmedical debts)

[800-827-0648](tel:800-827-0648)

Hours: Monday through Friday,  
7:30 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. ET

Vets Center call center

[877-927-8387](tel:877-927-8387)

Hours: 24/7

White House VA hotline

[855-948-2311](tel:855-948-2311)

Hours: 24/7

## **Veterans Crisis Line**

[800-273-8255](tel:800-273-8255), Select 1

Hours: 24/7

## **Websites and Contact Info.**

We have 3 websites. Our main website for distribution of information is <https://www.152-76inf-coldwarvetsbamberg.org/>. This is also the one that you can register for the reunion on. Also we are on Facebook, search the groups for 1st Battalion 52nd Infantry Bamberg Germany. The Facebook group is a public group. The other site is on the Ning network at <http://deltacompany-52nd-inf.ning.com/>, which is a private site where you need to have served in 1-52 to be able to enter. Please answer the question when requesting to enter these groups. My contact information is either by phone at 507-696-8429 or Email at [Bill.Burt@152-76inf-coldwarvetsbamberg.org](mailto:Bill.Burt@152-76inf-coldwarvetsbamberg.org). You can also contact us through our main website <https://www.152-76inf-coldwarvetsbamberg.org/>.

## **SpecOpsNet.org**

SpecOpsNet.org is a NO FEE job list announcing positions primarily in the defense industry. Most, but not all, positions require some form of clearance.

The list began in 1994 as an effort to help military special operators find work at the end of their military careers. Since then, the range of jobs announced has expanded to include positions in intelligence, information technology, logistics, transportation, aviation, medicine, training, program and project management and other work veterans of all services might find valuable. If a veteran conceivably would take the position, we generally launch it.

We keep no records. We do not have a position database. We 'fire and forget' announcements. They are launched FIFO - first in, first out. We use the following general convention for our announcements: One announcement per message. The message subject is: the position title, the location, and any clearance requirement. For example: Communications Specialist (Afghanistan)(TS/SCI req'd). The announcement is in the text of the message, not as attachment. The POC information is clearly stated at either the beginning or end of the announcement.

If you see something of interest, forward a message directly to the POC listed in the message - not to me nor the list. We hire no one. We merely run the list. Delete all messages you don't care to read.

The list is my free-time, volunteer effort and that of my good friend who performs the system administration. We reiterate this is a NO FEE list. We charge no one. We ask for no compensation. Decisions on what gets sent to the list are entirely mine - for better or worse.

Additional list information can be found on the Frequently Asked Questions page at <http://www.specopsnet.org/faq.html>

To subscribe to the mailing list, complete the online form at <https://lists.specopsnet.org/list/jobs.lists.specopsnet.org>. Experience shows that .mil and some company domains reject mail from specopsnet.org causing automatic unsubscription. To help avoid this issue put 'specopsnet.org' in your whitelist, and/or don't subscribe an email address with a .mil domain. Opt instead for other email providers, such as gmail, hotmail, or yahoo email addresses.

Information on how to submit job announcements for posting to the list can be found on the website at [http://www.specopsnet.org/posting\\_jobs.html](http://www.specopsnet.org/posting_jobs.html)

We do not sell or share the subscriber list nor will we every sell or share the list. Our only interest is hearing of successes from employers who find employees and list members who find work. Knowing this list connects people and jobs is sufficient.

If you have any questions, comments, or feedback please feel free to send email to [zak@specopsnet.org](mailto:zak@specopsnet.org). I'll attempt to answer it as quickly as I can.

Thank you. May God bless all those who serve and all those who care for them.  
De Oppresso Liber.

**G.M. "zak" Kozak**  
**USA Special Forces, Retired**  
**SFA D-4379-L**  
**[zak@SpecOpsNet.org](mailto:zak@SpecOpsNet.org)**

DISCLAIMER: SpecOpsNet.org does not warrant or guarantee the accuracy, completeness, adequacy or currency of the information contained in any announcement. Your use of the information is entirely at your own risk. SpecOpsNet.org, its owners and operators DO NOT (a) make any warranty, express or implied, with respect to the use of the information provided; or (b) guarantee the accuracy or completeness of any announcement information from any of the individuals or companies mentioned in any announcement.